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Fraser roads force motorists onto the beach

Fraser Island visitors are being forced to drive on beaches due to the crater-strewn internal roads of Fraser Island, the State Opposition said today.

LNP Environment spokesman Glen Elmes said the Bligh Labor Government's failure to maintain the island's internal roads was putting lives at risk.

"The 43 accidents that have occurred in the past 6 years should raise some very serious questions about the Bligh Labor Government's mismanagement of the island's roads.

"We have all heard talk about regulating tour companies and licence restrictions but safe routes need to be maintained.

"For years in dry weather, a system using water trucks and filling in road holes with tree bark has kept the sand based roads usable for four wheel drive vehicles.

"I visited Fraser recently and it is clear that this successful management program is not longer in use.

"Local tour operators have expressed their concerns that the appalling state of the internal roads are forcing visitors out on to the sometimes dangerous, unpredictable beach areas.

"If Queensland Parks and Wildlife cannot maintain these roads than it should be put out to tender to find someone who can.

"The tragic accidents that are occurring on Fraser Island need to stop and providing safer internal roads for residents and visitors is the first step."

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