

DANGER. Rip currents

Each year people get into difficulty because they do not understand beach dangers, especially rip currents, which are a body of water moving out to sea.

Identifying features of a rip

- 1 Calm patches on surf with waves breaking each side
- 2 Rippled or criss cross water
- 3 Discoloured water because sand is stirred up
- 4 Foamy water with debris

Note: Rip currents are hard to see on a windy day

If you get caught in a rip:

- 1 Stay calm, relax and float. The rip will not pull you under the water
- 2 Raise your arm and call and signal for help
- 3 Remain floating until the rip loses power. Then swim to the side or to the nearest breaking waves

