

North Entrance Beach erosion Frequently Asked Questions



Who is responsible for the emergency response?

The NSW Government has appointed a Recovery Coordinator, Lee Shearer, to oversee the recovery. Council will work with the Coordinator.

Council is undertaking works at North Entrance Beach in consultation with expert coastal engineers.

What is Council doing about coastal erosion? Why couldn't something be done sooner?

Council has been working to address erosion on North Entrance Beach for a long time. Council has over time used sand nourishment techniques as well as sand scraping to speed up the natural process of recovery along the beach.

Following the February 2020 storms Council again conducted beach scraping activities to assist this process. These have also occurred this week, following the most recent erosion event.

Council has now received the required approvals, along with expert coastal engineer advice to allow maintenance works to be undertaken on existing coastal protection structures on North Entrance Beach.

Leading coastal engineering consultancy Royal Haskoning DHV is providing advice and designs for works on North Entrance Beach.

For the longer-term protection of the beaches, Council is preparing Coastal Management Programs in accordance with the NSW Coastal Management Framework. These will be completed prior to the end of 2021. As part of

that process, there will be significant consultation with our community to finalise those plans.

What exactly are the maintenance works? What will I see on the beach?

The expert advice for North Entrance Beach is to maintain the existing coastal protection structure, using large rocks strategically placed at the base of the dunes.

Over time these rocks may be naturally buried and uncovered as the beach recovers and then experiences natural erosion patterns.

The maintenance work has begun.

Will the rocks just wash onto the beach like the ones there already?

No. The current works will follow a professional engineering design, with the rocks placed in a specific manner to ensure they provide protection for the base of the dune and will not be undermined by further storm surges.

The rocks placed on North Entrance Beach in the past were not done in this manner.

How many properties have been impacted at The Entrance North?

12 properties, amounting to 54 residences are impacted. No residents have been evacuated.

I'm concerned the maintenance works will affect my property, what can I do?

Council has engaged professional coastal engineers to ensure the maintenance work has no unintended impacts on neighbouring properties.

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We encourage you to contact us on 1300 463 954 if you would like to discuss further.

Can I visit the impacted area?

If you do not need to be in the area or any other beach area where barriers are in place, PLEASE stay away. Sightseers and other non-resident or non-essential visitors make it difficult for residents and essential services to do their work. They also endanger their own and others' safety if they enter or go near eroded areas. They also cause unnecessary traffic which can hinder essential services' access to the area.

Do not try to breach any beach access barriers. You may endanger not only yourself, but may create further damage to the weakened dune system.

To stay up-to-date on the situation as it evolves, visit

centralcoast.nsw.gov.au/council/council-news/news/coastal-erosion-emergency-and-recovery

If Council has to cover the cost of any remediation to the beach at Wamberal or North Entrance how will this affect my rates? Do I have to pay for it even though I am not affected?

Rates are levied on the land value (as determined by the Valuer General) of the property and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993. External influences such as severe weather do not impact residents' rates.

Council held an Extraordinary Meeting on 20 July 2020 and has called on the State

Government to declare a natural disaster for our region which will enable affected residents to seek assistance and support to recover, while Council would be able to access funds to repair infrastructure impacted by the storms.

Any other questions or feedback?

Please contact Council on 1300 463 954 during business hours.