

North Entrance Beach erosion Frequently Asked Questions - community members



Who is responsible for the emergency response?

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

Council was directed by the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) to undertake emergency protection works for one section of the coastline on North Entrance Beach.

Council is also undertaking maintenance works on the existing ad-hoc toe protection in this area.

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 under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (1979), 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? Are you building a seawall? What will I see on the beach?

The expert advice for North Entrance Beach is to maintain the existing coastal protection works, 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 with 1,100 tonnes of rock placed along a 150m stretch. Further maintenance on the existing ad hoc rock placement will begin on the area in front of the houses along the southern end of Hutton Road on Thursday 30 July 2020.

Once complete, the toe protection measure will stretch from the Hargraves Street beach access to the Karagi Reserve beach access.

This not a seawall, rather maintenance of existing toe protection measure. Long-term management of North Entrance beach will be considered through the Coastal Management Program.

North Entrance Beach erosion Frequently Asked Questions - community members



How many properties have been impacted at The Entrance North?

12 properties, amounting to 54 residences are in the area most impacted by coastal erosion. No residents have been evacuated, one property has emergency orders directly associated with it.

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

Who is paying for the emergency work?

The emergency response and the 'emergency toe protection works' were directed by the Local Emergency Controller (LEOCON) under the authority of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act (1989).

When works are completed in accordance with the directions of the LEOCON, Council will be

seeking to recover costs associated with the works through the State Government.

Any other questions or feedback?

Please contact Council on 1300 463 954 during business hours.