

# Tasman Coastal Group



## Greetings

Since the initial Tasman Coastal Group workshops [[LINK](#)] last year, Council has been quietly working on several new projects to both respond to issues raised in those workshops and to gather information required to plan for the coastal marine area. In this newsletter we provide an update on what we are currently working on, what is planned for the future and further opportunities for your help / input in developing the coastal environment provisions.

A significant task that has recently been approved by the Council is the initiation of a Coastal Strategic Plan process and we would like your input into this as set out below.

## Coastal Strategic Plan

The New Zealand Government provides Council with guidance on how the Tasman Coastal Environment should be managed through the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) [[LINK](#)].

Under NZCPS Policy 7 Council needs to consider where, how and when to provide for development and activities in the Tasman Coastal Environment, including identifying activities and developments that are appropriate and inappropriate. This high-level strategic planning will continue throughout the development of the Tasman Environment Plan process and will build on the research and consultation that is being undertaken over the next few years and through various Council workstreams. Ultimately the strategic plan for the Tasman Coastal Environment will drive what we are trying to achieve and where.

An initial part of the Coastal Strategic Plan is to capture what the community wants for the Coastal Environment. Council has undertaken initial consultation with the community in 2020 as part of the Tasman Environment Plan development, and we have followed up with more targeted consultation through the Tasman Coastal Group workshops. We have received a lot of feedback to date on these issues but are looking to confirm and consolidate that information. We are also seeking feedback on what activities people think will place pressure on the Coastal Environment in the coming years.

### **Vision and Values Survey – coming soon...**

The survey will be uploaded to the Council's website shortly and we will email you the link to this when it is available. As people or groups closely connected to the coastal space, we are very keen for you give us input on this and help formulate the vision for what we want to achieve in the Coastal Environment.

We will keep you updated as we develop the strategic plan/ vision for the coastal environment. If you wish to involve more extensively in this piece of work please let us know.







# Tasman Coastal Group

August 2022

## Pānui - Newsletter

### Progress Update

#### **The Coastal Environment Line and Coastal Natural Character** (NZCPS Policies 1, 13 and 14)

The objectives and policies in the NZCPS apply to the “Coastal Environment”. One of the first projects undertaken by Council to inform the Tasman Environment Plan was to work out exactly where the Tasman’s Coastal Environment is using the guidance provided in NZCPS Policy 1. At the same time as identifying where the coastal environment is located Council commissioned work to assess and identify the natural character of the coastal environment in order to apply NZCPS Policies 13 and 14. The first draft report for this work was released in March 2021 [[LINK](#)] and has had an extensive engagement process.

Following community feedback, revisions to the study and maps are currently underway and are intended to be released publicly in September 2022. Once this work is completed the Coastal Environment line will determine where the plan provisions apply to the coastal space and objectives, policies and rules will be drafted to avoid or limit adverse effects on coastal natural character values.

Keep an eye on this site [[LINK](#)] for the updates.

#### **Marine Indigenous Biodiversity Project** (NZCPS Policy 11)

Stage One of this project was awarded to Cawthron in conjunction with NIWA, Davidson Environmental and Salt Ecology. Stage One involves a literature/data review of published marine indigenous biodiversity information for the Tasman and Nelson regions. The information will be mapped and summarised in accompanying reports and will be completed by the end of this year.

Stage Two of the project (timetabled for 2023) will further assess the information gathered and identify areas of significant biodiversity. Stage Three (the final stage) will involve the policy response to protecting identified significant areas. Beyond the immediate Tasman Environment Plan requirements our intention is to maintain this information and add to it as further information becomes available.

Council has taken the opportunity to collect additional information through the Stage One literature/data review for other NZCPS workstreams. We have asked for information to be collected regarding past sites of significance, areas identified for restoration (policy 14) and areas where water quality (policy 21), public access (policy 19), and vehicles (policy 20) are impacting on environmental values.



#### **Aquaculture** (NZCPS Policy 8)

Council is looking for co-funding from central government to progress the next study in the series of studies required to review our aquaculture provisions. This project will investigate the effects of various forms of aquaculture in Tasman (both current and proposed) and will consider the effects of climate change on the industry. This study follows the first study completed in June 2021 [[LINK](#)]. NZCPS

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## Progress Update

### Port Motueka Masterplan

Through the first round of public consultation and Tasman Coastal Group workshops it was identified that Port Motueka is not functioning particularly well for all users, some desired facilities are missing, there is a shortage of and poorly used space, and concerns have been raised regarding environmental impacts. Council is taking the opportunity to develop a Master Plan for Port Motueka and to align Council infrastructural spending and community leases with future planning provisions to support the Master Plan.

Council is in the process of arranging external consultants to undertake the Master Plan. The project brief is still being finalized but so far, the intention is to consult with iwi and key stakeholders, including the Tasman Coastal Group to determine what needs to change, undertaken engagement and analysis, and then draft the master plan and consult with community before adopting the Master Plan. The Port Zone rules will be developed in conjunction with Port Tarakohe after the Master Plan is finalized.

Tasman Coastal Group members will be contacted by the appointed consultant later this year to participate in identifying issues, constraints, opportunities etc for the Port. If you use the Port, commercially, recreationally or have environmental concerns please take the time to think about what you like about the Port, what you would like to change, what you would like to see more of and what facilities are needed for Port Motueka.



### Port Tarakohe Structure Plan

There has been extensive consultation regarding the future development of Port Tarakohe over the last decade, particularly with the growth of aquaculture and the provincial growth fund application. Development of the Tasman Environment Plan provides the opportunity for the development of a Structure Plan, followed by planning provisions which will align with the Coastal Strategic Plan.

This project is initially being undertaken inhouse by Council staff using existing reports and previous feedback to narrow down the issues and options. Initial work will include opportunities/constraint mapping and engagement with iwi, landowners, stakeholders and the community. It is anticipated that the Tasman Coastal Group will be brought into this process as it progresses.

### Biosecurity (NZCPS Policy 12)

Council is considering applying for central Government funding for a study identifying issues around harmful aquatic organisms in Tasman, and what our policy response might need to be.





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**Coastal Structures** (NZCPS Policies 6 and 7 and MACA (Takutai Moana) Act obligations)

Council is required under the NZCPS (policy 6) to provide for appropriate activities and discourage inappropriate activities in the coastal environment. The NZCPS places emphasis on providing for activities that need to occur in the coastal environment and the clustering of new development around existing locations. Under the Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011, Council is also encouraged to determine ownership of coastal structures and in conjunction with the Resource Management Act 1991 remove structures that are illegal or abandoned.

Council is currently trying to find out what activities/ structures we have in the coastal marine area including abandoned and derelict structures. To this end we are pooling what data we have spread throughout the organisation and back filling with information where we can. Beyond the immediate Tasman Environment Plan needs our aim is to develop better records regarding what, where and who of coastal structures.

In addition to the work on quantifying what coastal structures we have, we would also like to map how the coastal marine area is being used, identifying what potentially could affect that use and providing protection, if required.

In the next few months, we will be asking the Tasman Coastal Group questions regarding coastal use and threats. So far it has been suggested that we should map the anchorages & navigational routes, boat access (ramps), surf breaks, best dive sites, coastal cliff climbing, fishing grounds etc.



**Public Access** (NZCPS Policy 20)

The NZCPS requires Council to control the use of vehicles (apart from emergency vehicles), on beaches, foreshore, seabed and adjacent to public land. This control is to apply to areas where there is damage or harm to sites of significance to tāngata whenua, dunes, ecological systems (or to indigenous flora and fauna), other beach users, historic heritage, and habitats of fisheries resources (of significance to customary, commercial or recreational users). We are currently investigating the extent of this issue and possible options.

**Natural Hazards** (NZCPS Policies 24-27)

Council has an ongoing work programme to better understand Tasman's natural hazards, including coastal inundation and erosion, sea level rise, slope instability, earthquake faults and liquefaction. A key part of this process is the Coastal Management Project. For more information on these projects please refer to these webpages [[Geological Hazards](#), [Coastal Hazards](#)]

### Final Comments

We appreciate your time and support to this group and to the Tasman Environment Plan project outcomes. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us if you would like more information about the Coastal Group or the Coastal Portfolio.

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