



Tasman Coastal Group

February 2023

Pānui - Newsletter

Happy New Year

We hope you had a safe and relaxing break over Christmas and New Year and that you have spent time in our wonderful coastal spaces.

Since the last Coastal Group Newsletter in mid-2022, work has progressed on many of the coastal workstreams, and some new workstreams have got underway. In this newsletter we provide an update on what we are currently working on, what is planned for the future and further opportunities for you to have your say and help in developing the coastal environment provisions.

The resource management Bills that were released publicly in November 2022 are obviously a significant change in the planning space, and will lead to new legislation guiding Council plans and new requirements for management of land, freshwater, and coastal environments. While finalisation of the proposed legislation is some time away, Council is working through what this may mean for our work programmes in the coastal space and our current projects are continuing as planned.

Spotlight on... Activities and Structures

Council is required under policy 6 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (NZCPS) to provide for appropriate activities and discourage inappropriate activities in the coastal environment. We need to be sure we know where the important structures and activities are located to protect them and provide for ongoing use.

Council has been working through a process of documenting activities and structures and we have started mapping everything that we already know. This includes a wide range of information from various sources and seeks to collate the wide-ranging activities, uses and structures that are located on the coastal edge and within the coastal marine area. We will be adding to this over time.

We will shortly be reaching out to you and your networks to help us review and add to this information. Can you please help us with the following:

- Review the layers that we have used to categorise structures and activities in the map and provide commentary on any errors that you see.
- Let us know of any missing or new information that you hold e.g. good fishing locations, surf breaks, access locations, navigation routes, anchorages, etc. Anything that you have like data layers, old maps, documents, articles etc. that the Council can use to inform the map would be helpful.

We will send you an access link in the next couple of weeks and please feel free to pass this link on to others in your network who can assist with this data gathering and mapping exercise. We appreciate your help with this.

[Note: this piece of work relates to the structures and activities rather than natural character values which are covered by a separate workstream.]





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Progress Update

Port Tarakohe Structure Plan

The development of a Structure Plan for Port Tarakohe is an opportunity to better understand how the port itself can function in coordination with the surrounding land, including options for growth and expansion.

Initial phases of this project have commenced with Council staff using existing reports and previous feedback to narrow down the issues and options. A programme of engagement with iwi, stakeholders and the wider community has been scoped.

Initial engagement is planned for March/April 2023 and will focus on mapping opportunities and constraints and analysing initial options with iwi and key stakeholders. This will be followed by a wider community engagement process to look at what activities are appropriate (and where) and what facilities are necessary in the short, medium and longer term.

It is anticipated that the Tasman Coastal Group will be brought into this process as it progresses. If this work is of interest to you, please start thinking about what you think needs to be provided at Port Tarakohe and what needs to change.



Port Motueka Masterplan

Council has commissioned external consultants WSP to assist Council staff with a Masterplan process for Port Motueka.

This process will involve engagement with all users of the Port and the immediate surrounding area, and shortly a request will be sent out to the Group for any of you who have an interest in the area to help provide input. The intent is to gather data and information, produce a draft masterplan and then engage further on the draft, with a view to producing a masterplan by the middle of 2023. This masterplan will then be used to influence zoning and rule development in the Environment Plan process, as well as other Council decisions on facilities and uses at the Port.

If you would like to be involve more closely in this Masterplan process, please get in touch with us.

Visit www.environmentplan.tasman.govt.nz Email environmentplan@tasman.govt.nz



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Coastal Strategic Plan (NZCPS Policy 7)

The purpose of the Coastal Strategic Plan is to provide an overview of what activities and developments are appropriate and inappropriate within the Coastal Environment.

Step One was to ask the wider community for feedback on their vision for the Coastal Environment, key values they hold and their views on pressures being placed on the area. Feedback received indicates that:

- **Visions** largely involve restoration, enhancement and protection of environmental values and a restriction on human activity in coastal spaces.
- Most people agree with the **values** listed and the main additions relate to public access, and marine and estuarine values including habitats and biodiversity.
- There are many concerns over **pressures and change** in the coastal area with a particular focus on human behaviour and private use of public space.

The next step in this work is to take the feedback and develop high-level vision and values statements, and to start to document the strategic response to the pressures identified.



Marine Indigenous Biodiversity (NZCPS Policy 11)

The NZCPS Policy 11 requires the Council to have a better understanding of indigenous biodiversity in the marine area and to achieve this Council have initiated a staged programme. There is a lot of information on areas of marine biodiversity, however some of it is quite old now and it is scattered in many places. Determining areas of significance is necessary to ensure a strong policy response that provides protection to areas of special value.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, **Stage One** of this project was awarded to Cawthron in conjunction with NIWA, Davidson Environmental and Salt Ecology and was largely a literature/data review of published information for the Tasman and Nelson regions. That work has been delayed due to covid impacts and the report is now expected to be available in March/April.

The Government, through the proposed legislative changes, has indicated that a national criteria will be used to identify how significant sites are, so the second stage of this project has been placed on hold until Government provides that direction. Until then Council intends to use the time to back fill and improve the information held on the sites identified through Stage one.

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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