

### 13. SOUTHSHORE SPIT DEVELOPMENT PLAN OUTCOME

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Corporate Plan Output: Plans and Policy Statements 9.4.39 and Capital Works Foreshores Development 9.4.57	

The purpose of this report is to inform Board members of the outcome of public consultation regarding the draft Southshore Spit Development Plan. The report has been referred to the Parks and Recreation Committee.

Overall, the response to the draft Southshore Spit Plan was favourable. Respondents made positive comments regarding the content of the Plan. Most of the suggestions that were made can easily be incorporated into the Plan. A summary of the submissions received is outlined below with comments and recommendations on each topic.

#### SUMMARY

Total number of submissions received = 10

<b>The Plan</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Support/like plan	7	1,2,3,6,7,9,10
Suggestions/comments re wording of plan	2	1,6
Continue public consultation	1	9
Support Spit as Scenic Reserve	2	2,9
Reference to Regional Coastal Environmental Plan rules	1	4
Identified bird roosting area (Fig 2) does not exist	1	2
Figure 1 coastal hazard line incorrect	1	4,10

#### COMMENTS

Six submitters expressed support for the Plan. Two submitters made comments on wording in the plan. One person requested that public consultation to continue. Two people expressed their support for the Spit as a Scenic Reserve. One person made reference to the Regional Coastal Environmental Rules. Two changes were requested to the figures. One suggested the Council raise land within the Coastal Hazard zone and commission an independent a strategy for sea level rise.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

##### **Wording**

‘Beach Toe’ to remain - is derived from coastal report.

Management Plan - not to be used as is a statutory term.

Para 2 Summary - agree to simplify language.

‘Small estuarine inlet’ - change to small tidal inlet.

‘tauhinu’ change to cassinia (*Ozothamnus leptophyllus*).

6.2 para 3 - insert ‘be’.

6.2 para 3 - change ‘estuarine inlet’ to ‘tidal inlet’.

References - Nd means not dated.

Wording will be changed to indicate closure of the legal road, not accreted land.

With regard to erosion periods, will change wording in 2.1 to be consistent with 5, para 3 ie 1940-1949, the combination of two periods referred to by Kirk.

## References

The reference list is not exhaustive, but fulfilled the need to gather relevant background information about the Spit.

## Consultation

Agree consultation to continue for major works including the car parks and toilets

## Regional Coastal Plan

Will include reference to Chapter 9 of Regional Coastal Plan.

Will correct Fig 1(Coastal Hazard line 1) key.

Purchase of land within hazard line beyond scope of this plan.

## Bird Roosting

No change needed in fig 2 – sec 2.3 paragraph 2 already notes that high tide roosting areas changes with tides and the beach and dune system.

## Sea Level Rise

Agree, spit tip identified as likely to be affected in sea level rise report. Reinforces plan not to build structures on edge of spit tip.

Facilities	No	Reference
Doubt need for bird hides	1	1
Support viewing platform and interpretation	1	7
Offer of help for interpretation	1	6
Suggested eco tourism brochure	1	7
Include details of facilities	2	1,8
Request seating	1	7
Suggested footbridge to Sumner	1	3
Need signs to restrict movement on landward side of birds	1	1

## COMMENTS

Two submitters requested that the proposed facilities be detailed in the Plan. Two people expressed support for viewing hides and interpretation while one person doubted the usefulness of the hides. There was a request for seating, another for a footbridge to Sumner, and also a request for signs to restrict people's movement around birds. A brochure outlining eco-sites in Christchurch was suggested.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Bird Hides

Not being promoted.

### Viewing Platform

Because of the dynamic nature of this coastal area, constructed platforms are not supported here, but agree with need for more interpretative information and beach viewing areas, with some seating.

### Eco Tourism Brochure of Wetlands

Agree, but beyond scope of this plan, will pass on suggestion.

### Facility Details

Plan showing facility details will be included.

### Seating

Simple bench seats will be provided near entrance, overlooking ocean, and estuary.

### Footbridge

Not considered because of cost and potential impact.

### Wildlife Signs

Agree – to minimise bird disturbance.

Emergency Management	No	Reference
Don't support vehicles on salt marsh	1	1
Support maintenance of fire breaks	1	2

### COMMENTS

One person suggested that the firebreak around the houses should be maintained. Another submitter expressed concern about vehicles on the salt marsh.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Vehicles on Salt Marsh

Agree location of turning area will not affect salt meadow.

Wildlife	No	Reference
Comments re fauna and flora	2	1,2

### COMMENTS

Comments were made by two submitters regarding birds and plants on the spit and their protection.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Plants

Restoration of native plant communities is meant in a broad sense, and reflects knowledge of less modified dune communities.

*Atriplex prostrata* is present in salt meadow, add to paragraph.

Plant list to be developed as part of detailed planting plan.

Salt marsh does need weed control – grasses and thistles are present.

#### Animals

Disturbance of roosting birds will be minimised through the use of information signs, location of tracks and publications.

Stormwater Pipe	No	Reference
Concerns/suggestions over stormwater pipe	1	1

## COMMENTS

One submitter had concerns about proposals for the removal of a stormwater pipe and made some suggestions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Stormwater Pipe

Discuss with Water Services Unit.

Recreation Reserve	No	Reference
Add land to recreation reserve	1	4

## COMMENTS

One person made suggestions for possible land additions to the recreation reserve. However, this is subject to proposed land exchanges currently under negotiation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Land Additions

Negotiations continue for eastern area. Agree that western area could be added to reserve in the future, but extensive consultation with adjacent residents would be needed.

Plantings/Stabilisation	No	Reference
Priority on weed eradication, planting and protection	1	5,10
Plant trees for shade, stabilisation	1	8
Use native, locally-sourced plants in revegetation	1	2
Avoid engineering solutions, allow natural erosion	2	5,6

## COMMENTS

There were two comments that some of the natural erosion was uncontrollable and suggestions made to place emphasis on planting rather than engineering solutions.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Shade Trees

Plan proposes planting of shade trees near tracks.

### Revegetation

Agree on use of locally sourced indigenous plants.

The use of existing exotic trees and shrubs as nurse plants will be considered in the planting plan.

### Erosion

Agree with avoiding engineering works.

Salt Meadow	No	Reference
Include salt meadow in plan between drain and Tern Street	1	6

## COMMENTS

Reference was made to a salt meadow between the drain and Tern Street, asking for it to be included in the plan.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **Saltmeadow**

This area is outside plan area.

Note: Not contained in the plan but related to it:

The Rocking Horse Road frontage to the Spit Reserve is proposed to be increased by a possible land exchange. This will provide a better layout for the proposed car park and toilets. If an agreement with the landowners can be reached a separate public advertisement and report process will follow in the next few months.

**Recommendation:** That the draft Plan be amended in line with the recommendations contained in this report and a final plan be produced and distributed.

### **Chairperson's**

- Recommendations:**
1. That the aforementioned recommendation be adopted.
  2. That the Parks Unit continue to investigate the redesignation of the Spit as a reserve.