



Otago  
Regional  
Council

**Have your  
say!**

# Otago's coast

## Issues and opportunities

Discussion Document 2026



## Have your say!

**Attend a drop-in session**  
(find session details  
on page 24)  
**or go online at**  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)



**Survey closes 10 August 2026**

Got questions?

Email [policy@orc.govt.nz](mailto:policy@orc.govt.nz)

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# Introduction

Otago Regional Council (ORC) is responsible for managing how natural resources are used, protected, and improved in Otago's coastal marine area (CMA), as well as activities and resources outside this area that may affect coastal values and the wellbeing of coastal communities.

We are currently considering how the CMA should be managed in the future. We're keen to learn how people connect with the coast, and what they enjoy, value and are concerned about.

Your insights into the coastal places and issues that matter to you will help guide future decisions about how these areas are cared for.

By sharing your views, you'll help shape plans that protect and enhance the coast. The Otago coast is a special place, valued for its natural

beauty, wildlife, cultural and historic sites, and the many ways people use and enjoy it.

From beaches and cliffs to harbours and wetlands, it supports local communities, recreation, tourism, fishing and important infrastructure like ports and transport networks.

Together, these features all play a big role in shaping Otago's identity and contribute to the wellbeing of residents and visitors.



Erosion, Ōamaru



Port Chalmers



Shellfish, Te Hākapupu / Pleasant River



Tautuku Bay from Florence Hill Lookout, The Catlins



# Otago's coast

Otago's coastal marine area extends from the line of mean high water springs (the highest line that regular high tides reach) to the outer limits of the territorial sea at 12 nautical miles (22.2 kilometres), from the Waitaki River in the north to Wallace Beach in the south. It includes the sea, the airspace above it, the seabed and those parts of the foreshore covered and uncovered by the tide.

## Coastal marine area

Otago Regional Council's coastal area of responsibility



# Who is responsible for coastal management?

Looking after the coast involves many different laws, plans and organisations, which can make it complex.

Regional councils manage the use and protection of natural resources in the coastal marine area, including coastal water quality, natural hazards, structures and coastal biodiversity and ecosystems.

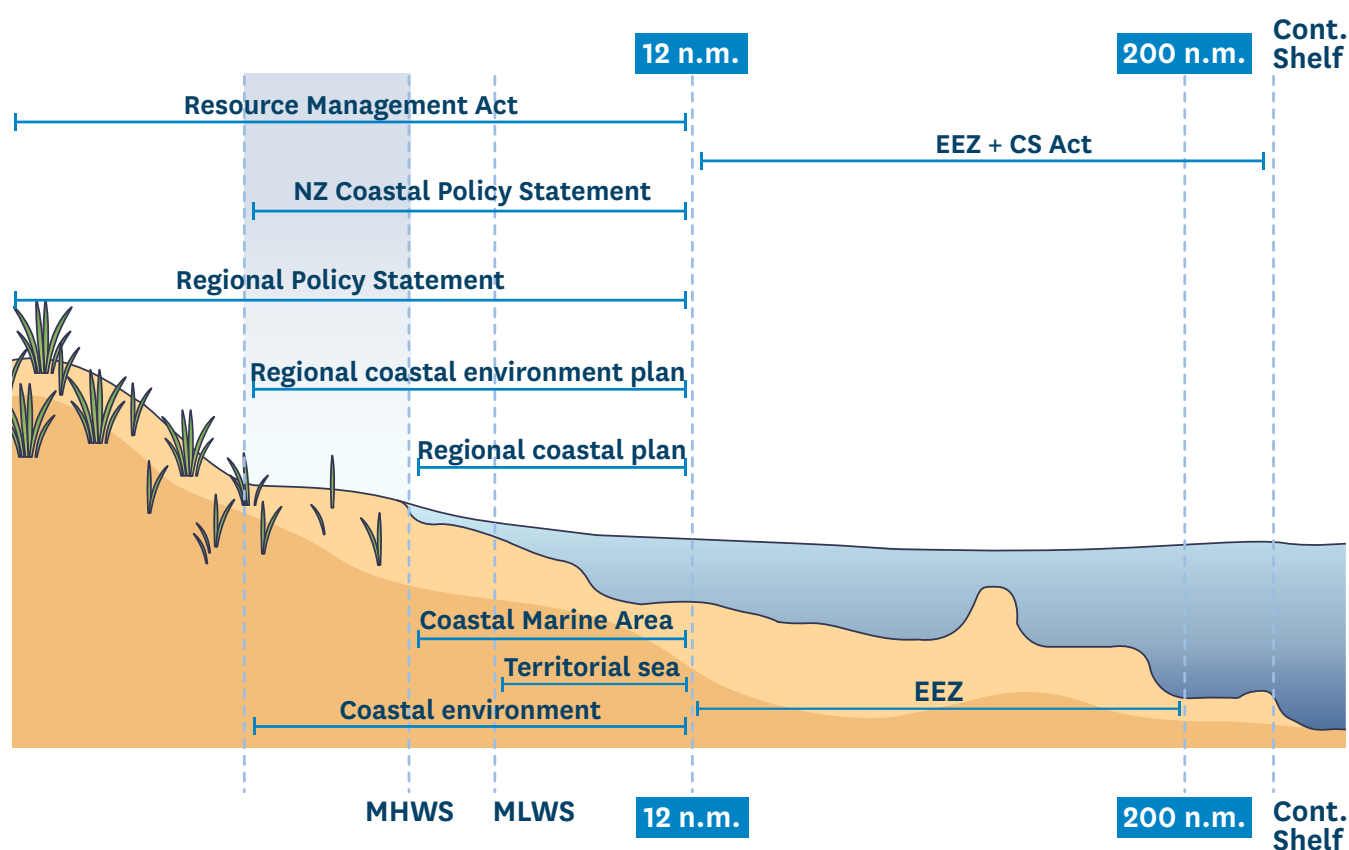
They also manage freshwater and

some land-use activities, recognising that what happens on land can affect the coast.

District and city councils manage how nearby land is used and developed. Central government agencies also have roles, such as protecting conservation areas, managing fisheries, ensuring maritime safety and safeguarding heritage.

Regional councils can manage the effects of fisheries, but fishing resources are controlled by the Fisheries Act 1996.

## RMA coastal management jurisdictions



### Key

MHWS = Mean High Water Springs  
MLWS = Mean Low Water Springs  
EEZ = Exclusive Economic Zone  
Cont. Shelf = Continental Shelf

EEZ + CS Act = Exclusive Economic Zone + Continental Shelf (Economic Effects) Act 2012  
n.m. = nautical miles

Source: Department of Conservation

# Kāi Tahu values and relationship with the coast

## Kāi Tahu have a close, enduring connection to the Otago coast.

This connection comes from whakapapa (ancestral links), mātauraka (knowledge and understanding) and pūrākau (traditional stories), and continues today through activities like mahika kai (food gathering) and kaitiakitaka (guardianship).

Kāi Tahu are traditionally coastal people, with settlements along the shore and inland areas used seasonally for gathering food.

Over time, especially after land sales in the 1800s, access to inland areas declined, making coastal resources even more important for sustaining communities and cultural practices.

The mana whenua authority that hapū and whānau hold in relation to coastal land is accompanied by mana moana authority in the adjoining coastal waters.

These responsibilities include caring for the environment, helping guide decisions about

how coastal areas are used and ensuring there are enough healthy resources to support manaakitaka (hospitality and care for others).

While some areas are formally recognised for customary fishing, this does not always ensure abundant resources, especially when pollution, habitat damage or poor management affect the coast.

In addition, barriers such as complex regulations and climate risks can make it harder for Kāi Tahu to live on and use ancestral lands.

Supporting Kāi Tahu leadership, recognising their knowledge and authority, and protecting coastal ecosystems will help restore and strengthen these important relationships for current and future generations.

## What is the consultation about?

### We have identified a number of issues and opportunities based on our current knowledge of the coast.

This discussion paper outlines the main issues and opportunities for the Otago coast we have identified so far. We are now seeking feedback to ensure they reflect what matters most to the people in Otago, and if we've missed anything.

Please comment on any issues and/or opportunities you consider relevant and

let us know if you think we've missed something.

Your feedback will help shape future coastal management, ensuring the Otago coast is safeguarded and resilient for current and future generations.

**If you would like more information, go to [orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**



In this discussion document, we have included the questions we are asking so you can give them some thought as you read through each topic. You can answer these questions at **[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**

## Initial questions

?

### Question 1: What do you value most about the coast and marine area?

- Nature and scenery
- Open spaces and fresh air
- Recreation activities
- Access to the water
- Local culture
- Historic heritage
- Jobs
- Tourism
- Protection from natural hazards
- Food gathering
- Unsure/don't know
- Other

### Question 3: How often do you visit Otago's coastal areas (e.g. beaches, estuaries)?

- Never
- Rarely (once or twice a year)
- Occasionally (less than once a month)
- Monthly
- Weekly
- Daily

Answer these questions at  
**[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**



### Question 2: Why do you visit the coast?

- Work
- Water-based recreation
- Horse riding
- Social activities
- Beach walks / running
- Cycle / walkways
- Peace and relaxation
- Customary practices
- Other



Carey's Bay

# Topics covered

ORC has identified the following topics to represent the range of values, issues and opportunities present in Otago's coastal areas.

We would like to understand what is important to you and whether we have missed anything.

**Land use and urban development**



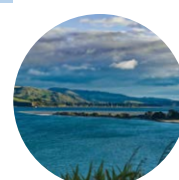
**Natural hazards and climate change**



**Public access**



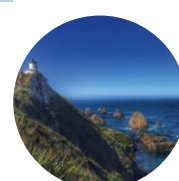
**Water quality**



**Occupying space**



**Historic heritage**



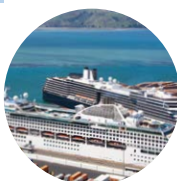
**Taking and depositing natural material**



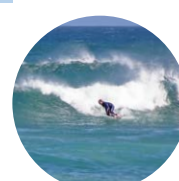
**Natural character, features, landscapes and seascapes**



**Infrastructure, including ports**



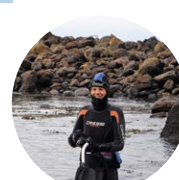
**Surf breaks**



**Marine aquaculture**



**Biosecurity**



**Biodiversity**





# Land use and urban development

**Otago's coastal settlements and urban areas provide opportunities to support thriving communities, such as transport routes, harbours, employment and recreation, while maintaining the environmental, cultural and landscape values that make the coast distinctive.**

Managing future growth and development in a coordinated way can help strengthen community wellbeing, improve resilience, support economic development, and enhance connections between people and the coast.

Coastal settlements support a wide range of opportunities through economic activities and connections people have to the coast and its values.

Economically, the coast supports activities such as ports, tourism, recreation, hospitality, marine industries, fisheries and aquaculture-related services.

Appropriate urban development can help provide the infrastructure, services and workforce needed to support these activities while ensuring that growth occurs in a way that recognises environmental and cultural values.

Our coastal towns and communities each have distinct histories, landscapes, cultural values and relationships with the sea.

New development and redevelopment create opportunities to reinforce these characteristics, celebrate local identity, and maintain the qualities that make individual coastal places unique. This can contribute

to a stronger sense of place for residents and visitors and help retain the diversity of Otago's coastal communities.

Thoughtfully planned development can improve public access to coastal environments, create new recreational opportunities, support active transport networks, and enhance community wellbeing. Coastal settlements can be designed to celebrate local character and strengthen people's connection to the coast.

Urban development can be used to create attractive, compact and connected coastal communities that make efficient use of land and infrastructure while protecting important coastal values.

Good urban design can enhance public access, improve amenity, strengthen community identity and support vibrant coastal towns.



# Public access

**Public access to the coast is highly valued and plays an important role in supporting quality of life and community wellbeing.**

Not all the coast is able to be accessed at all times by the public. Access to coastal open space can be constrained by structures, natural barriers or occupation by other users. In some locations, restrictions on access may be necessary to protect coastal values or address health and safety concerns.

Careful management is required to ensure that access to the coast is provided, especially in locations that have increasing visitor numbers or in places where access could disturb sensitive wildlife.

Vehicle access to the coast is sometimes required for boat launching, access to public facilities or for the operation of existing commercial activities. However, vehicle use can harm wildlife, destroy dunes, weaken natural coastal defences, and reduce safety and enjoyment for others.

There may be areas and times where it is appropriate for recreational vehicle use on beaches, as long as the likelihood of damage or harm is avoided, or can be suitably managed.

In Dunedin city, driving or parking on beaches is prohibited except for launching or retrieving boats or in emergencies.

In Clutha District, driving on beaches is restricted except in emergencies. Waitaki has a bylaw making it an offence to cause damage to a public place, which includes parks, reserves and beaches.

**Question 4:** On a scale of 1–5, how important is access to the coast for you?

**Question 5:** Have you ever experienced restrictions to access to the coast?

- Yes
- No

**If yes to the above question:** What prevented you from accessing the coast? Where?

- Erosion
- Structures
- Steep dunes
- Wildlife
- Private development
- Other users
- Other

**Question 6:** If there are any areas along the coast where public access could be improved, please tell us where.

**Question 7:** Do you consider vehicle use to be a problem along the Otago coast? If so, where?

- No
- Yes
- Unsure / don't know

**If yes to the above question:** What concerns do you have about vehicle use on beaches and in coastal areas?

- Disturbing wildlife
- Damage to dunes
- Safety of other users
- Enjoyment of other users
- No concerns
- Other
- Unsure / don't know



**Answer these questions at  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**



# Occupying space

**The ability to use coastal space is important to Otago communities.**

Many activities in the coastal marine area (CMA) are temporary, and have no or only minor effects, but others, such as ports, marinas, aquaculture and certain recreational or cultural activities, need to occupy coastal space to function.

These activities can support local jobs, provide recreation opportunities and help communities connect with the coast. Structures such as boatsheds, boat ramps, marinas and port facilities can play an important role in recreation and regional development.

At the same time, exclusive or long-term occupation of the CMA can affect the natural character of the coast, limit public access and change how people experience coastal areas.

Structures and activities can disturb seabed habitats, alter natural coastal processes and reduce water quality through shading, sediment disturbance or contaminants.

As the CMA is public space, exclusive occupation needs to be managed to provide a balance between private use and public access and enjoyment.

Conflicts can occur when recreational, cultural, commercial and industrial activities compete for the same coastal space, affecting safety, enjoyment or economic value for different users.

**Question 8: What are your views on the impacts of structures and activities that require exclusive occupation in the coastal environment (e.g. buildings, marinas, jetties, ports)?**

- No particular views
- They support how people use and enjoy the coast
- They fit well within the coastal environment
- They help with access or safety
- They change the look of the coast
- They affect how I use or enjoy the coast
- They affect the natural environment
- There are too many in some places
- They can limit access to the coast
- It depends on what the structure is
- Other
- Unsure / don't know

**Answer this question at  
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Otago Peninsula

# Taking and depositing natural material

**Taking (extraction) and deposition of material in the coastal environment can bring both benefits and environmental pressures.**

Removing sand, shingle, shell or other natural material from the seabed or foreshore can support construction, coastal protection works, and harbour operations, which contribute to local economies and community infrastructure.

For example, dredging improves navigation and port efficiency which supports economic growth and development. It can also help control coastal erosion through beach nourishment and reduce flood risk.

In addition, some of these materials are finite, and their removal can disturb coastal ecosystems, reduce water quality and change natural sediment movement. This may affect shoreline stability, marine habitats and species that rely on the seabed for feeding or breeding.

Extraction can also disturb cultural or archaeological sites and alter the seabed in ways that affect navigation.

Depositing material, such as sand or gravel, can also have positive and negative effects. It is often used to replenish eroded beaches, support erosion protection or provide a controlled way to dispose of dredged material.

Reclamation creates new land along the coast for things such as ports, roads and marinas. It can improve public access and support local economies by providing more usable coastal land.

At the same time, deposition of material can smother seabed habitats, create sediment plumes that reduce water clarity, and affect fish and shellfish. It can also change natural sediment patterns and, if the material contains contaminants, reduce water quality.

**Question 9:** What do you see as the issues and/or opportunities regarding the extraction of material from the Otago coast?

**Question 10:** What do you see as the issues and/or opportunities regarding the deposition of material within the Otago coast?

**Answer these questions at [orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**



*Blackhead Beach*

# Infrastructure, including ports

**Some infrastructure needs to be located within the coastal environment, and this provides benefits to the people, communities and the regional economy of Otago.**

This includes public assets such as walkways, roads and recreation facilities, as well as commercial infrastructure such as ports, marinas and tourism spaces.

Port Otago and its associated transport networks play a key role in regional and national trade, supporting economic growth and connectivity.

However, infrastructure and port activities can also create challenges for the coastal environment. Structures such as seawalls, bridges and wharves can alter natural coastal processes — for example, sediment movement, tidal flows and wave patterns — sometimes leading to habitat loss and reduced water quality.

They can also interfere with the safe and efficient operation of important infrastructure. This can increase maintenance costs and the risk of damage or failure.

Infrastructure can also limit public access to coastal areas and contribute to risks such as the establishment of marine pests and contaminated runoff.

Careful planning is therefore needed to balance the benefits of coastal infrastructure with the need to protect environmental, cultural and community values.



## Question 11: What infrastructure helps you when using Otago's coast?

- Roads
- Rail
- Ports
- Navigation infrastructure
- Seawalls
- Walkways and cycleways
- Public facilities
- Other
- Unsure / don't know

## Question 12: What concerns, if any, do you have about how infrastructure affects the coastal environment?

- No concerns
- Changes to coastal processes
- Impacts on landscapes and seascapes
- Impacts on wildlife and habitats
- Access to the coast
- Other
- Unsure / don't know

Answer these questions at  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)





# Marine aquaculture

Marine aquaculture involves farming fish, shellfish and seaweed. It occurs either inshore, in coastal waters influenced by tides, or offshore in the open ocean.

Inshore aquaculture is well established in Aotearoa New Zealand, while offshore aquaculture is still developing. Recent proposals for offshore salmon farming in Otago highlight a potential opportunity for our regional economy.

Aquaculture brings jobs and economic benefits, and it also creates challenges. It can affect water quality, disturb the seabed and impact marine life, for example, animals getting tangled in equipment.

Waste from marine farms can add nutrients to the water, which the environment may not always be able to handle. Marine farms also take up coastal space, which can limit other users' access to the coast. While farms can attract fish, they can also increase the risk of diseases or parasites spreading to wild fish.

The potential impacts of marine farming can be addressed by managing the location, type and scale of farms, the species and methods used, and the stage of production, and by understanding the sensitivity of the surrounding environment.



**Question 13:** What are your views on the opportunities that aquaculture in Otago can bring?

**Question 14:** What are your views on the challenges that aquaculture in Otago can bring?

Answer these questions at  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)



# Biodiversity

**Coastal biodiversity includes the plants, animals and habitats found in the sea and along the coast, such as saltmarshes, sand dunes and the land next to the shore.**

It includes species such as tuna/eels that migrate between freshwater and coastal waters, and penguins and marine mammals that depend on both the sea and coastal land margins.

Otago's coast has a remarkable diversity of habitats and species, making its coastal systems unique.

However, coastal habitats and wildlife are under pressure. Structures and activities such as reclamation, drainage and removing sand can damage or destroy habitats, limit food availability to wildlife and disrupt animals' movement.

Pollution from land and vessels can wash into the sea, bringing contaminants, chemicals and nutrients that harm water quality and smother habitats. Rubbish and plastics can also harm wildlife.

Measures to protect biodiversity from structures and activities can lead to an increase of social, cultural, economic, recreational and ecological values.



**Question 15:** What do you value about Otago's coastal biodiversity?

- Healthy ecosystems
- Dune habitats
- Estuary habitats
- Marine habitats
- Native wildlife
- Native vegetation
- Other

**Question 16:** Based on your observations, where on the coast are plants and animals thriving or doing well, and why?

**Question 17:** Based on your observations, where on the coast are plants and animals under threat or declining, and why?

Answer these questions at  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)



# Natural hazards and climate change

The natural dynamic coastal processes that support coastal values are also responsible for processes such as erosion and flooding that pose hazards to wellbeing.

These natural hazards will likely worsen due to climate change. The impacts of these risks could have serious consequences for water quality, biodiversity, human health and cultural values, while insufficient or inappropriate mitigation options can themselves disrupt coastal processes.

In addition, existing coastal structures and human activities, such as seawalls, transport infrastructure, sediment extraction and river damming, can exacerbate natural hazards by altering sediment movement and coastal dynamics.

Reliance on hard protection structures can further compound the problem by limiting the coast's ability to adapt naturally, often creating unintended environmental impacts and long-term management challenges.

We have the opportunity as a community to continue working to better understand these changes and risks so that information can inform effective planning responses for our use of the coast.

This in turn will identify and support adaptation to meet future challenges and let us continue to enjoy the many experiences our coastal areas offer.

**Question 18:** What coastal hazards are you concerned about in Otago? Where?

- Erosion
- Flooding
- Sea level rise
- Storms
- Tsunami
- Ocean warming
- Ocean becoming more acidic
- Exposing contaminated sites
- Other
- Unsure / don't know

Answer this question at  
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# Water quality

Good coastal water quality keeps the estuaries and seas around our coast healthy, makes it safe for people to swim and play, supports jobs and tourism, provides ecosystem services, and protects food sources such as shellfish.

However, many activities can affect water quality. Runoff from farms, forests and towns can carry nutrients, bacteria, sediment, plastics and other contaminants into the sea.

Activities in the sea, such as shipping, aquaculture and dredging, can also add pollution or stir up contaminated sediment. These pressures can cause problems such as algae blooms, low oxygen, cloudy water and damaged habitats, which can harm marine life.

Most of Otago's open coast has good water quality because waves and currents keep the water moving, but sheltered places, such as estuaries, harbour edges, and river mouths, are more at risk, as contaminants can build up there.

With better awareness of how human activity is impacting our coast, and efforts to reduce these impacts, we can protect and enhance human health, recreation, fisheries and cultural practices.

**Question 19:** On a scale of 1–5, rate the water quality along the coast.

**Question 20:** How does water quality impact on your use of the coast?

**Question 21:** Where on the coast have you noticed water quality to be poor?

Answer these questions at [orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)



# Historic heritage

**Historic heritage helps people understand and appreciate Aotearoa New Zealand's history and cultures.**

The Otago coastal marine area and wider coastal environment contain a large concentration of historic heritage. This reflects the coast's long-standing Māori occupation, early European settlement, and the economic and strategic importance of coastal settlements.

Historic heritage sites are often visited by tourists and locals for their cultural and heritage values and can also be a focal point for recreational activities, such as diving at shipwreck sites.

There are many coastal settlements in Otago that have historic waterfront areas: for example, Ōamaru has Aotearoa New Zealand's only surviving authentic Victorian/Edwardian deepwater port.

This port enhances the experience in the Ōamaru historic precinct and provides opportunities for the local economy in the form of tourism and recreation.

Coastal development, earthworks, dredging and other activities can damage or destroy heritage sites, reduce their historical value or disturb previously unknown archaeological sites.

Coastal erosion and climate change-related hazards also pose risks, particularly to archaeological sites. In some cases, protecting coastal heritage may require public access to be restricted.

**Question 22: What historic places along the coast are important to you?**

- Archaeological sites
- Historic buildings or structures
- Shipwrecks or old boats
- Places important to Māori
- Historic coastal areas
- I am not aware of any
- Other

**Question 23: Do you think that the historic heritage of the coast is adequately protected?**

- Yes
- No

**If no to the above question: Why do you think the historic heritage of the coast is not adequately protected?**

**Answer these questions at [orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**



Kākā Point Lighthouse

# Natural character, features, landscapes and seascapes

**Natural character refers to how natural a place looks and feels.**

Natural features, landscapes and seascapes are the visible elements, such as landforms and scenic views. The Otago coast has a diverse range of high scenic values which contribute to the local economy by attracting visitors and tourism.

The natural character of these locations is sought after for residential and urban development. Carefully planned development will ensure that impacts such as increased development on landscapes and seascapes with high value are protected.

Natural character can be impacted by climate change, storms and erosion. Places valued for their scenic or cultural importance need to be managed carefully, as more people visit and new facilities are built. Over time, these pressures can reduce the quality, naturalness, and cultural and visual values of Otago's coastal environments.

Coastal natural character includes the land and sea and the natural processes that shape them, such as the rise and fall of tides, sediment movement, and the formation and functioning of estuaries, lagoons, beaches, dune systems, sand bars, sand spits and surf breaks.

The natural character of the coast can be affected by the modification of natural systems by structures, reclamation, or the infilling and drainage of low-lying coastal areas, including estuaries.

Many industries rely on areas with high natural character, as coastal areas that are less modified support more resilient habitats that support resource use.

**Question 24:** On a scale of 1–5, how important to you are Otago's natural character, features, landscapes and seascapes.

**Question 25:** What do you consider to be the greatest risks or threat to Otago's natural character, features, landscapes and seascapes?

- Infrastructure
- Tourism and recreation pressure
- More development or structures along the coast
- Resource use
- Pollution or contamination
- Climate change
- Infill or reclamation of land
- Other
- Unsure / don't know



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Moeraki Boulders



# Surf breaks

**Surf breaks are an important component of coastal natural character and a valued recreational resource for New Zealanders and attracting international visitors.**

They are also culturally important, as Otago's iwi have a strong knowledge of and connection to all processes within coastal environments and the values they support.

Otago has four surf breaks of national importance: the Spit, Karitāne, Whareakeake and Papatowai.

Their integrity, accessibility and enjoyment are vulnerable to adverse effects from activities and development on land and within the coastal marine area. Structures such as seawalls, groynes and offshore installations can interfere with waves by blocking or changing swell patterns and sediment movement.

Activities such as dredging and sand extraction can alter the shape of the seabed, which is critical for good surf. Land-based development can also reduce water quality through runoff and pollution, making access to surf breaks more difficult and potentially damaging their reputation.

Together, these pressures can diminish the recreational, cultural and economic value of these important coastal features.

**Question 26:** What do you value about surf breaks in Otago?

- Quality of waves
- Natural setting
- Accessibility
- Other

**Question 27:** What do you consider to be a risk or threat to surf breaks, if any?

- Coastal development, such as structures and infrastructure
- Natural hazards
- Sea level rise
- Access
- Water quality
- Dredging/dumping of spoil
- Other
- Unsure / don't know

**Answer these questions at [orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**



# Biosecurity

Otago's coastal environment is vulnerable to biosecurity risks from invasive pests and diseases.

Activities such as shipping, boating, fishing, dredging and aquaculture can carry and spread unwanted species.

Coastal structures, such as marinas and seawalls, can also help these pests establish and spread, while climate change and already stressed environments make it easier for them to take hold and outcompete native species.

Effective biosecurity management helps to protect the coast's biodiversity and ecosystems and the customary, recreational and commercial activities in this environment.

However, once introduced, marine pests can be difficult or impossible to remove. Therefore, timely prevention and early management of biosecurity risks is often critical in the management of marine pests.

While the current coastal planning framework for Otago does not provide a quick pathway for implementing biosecurity measures in response to marine pest incursions, a future planning system provides an opportunity to enable more effective biosecurity management in Otago's coast.

However, care needs to be taken to ensure a more agile response framework does not create unanticipated adverse impacts on the health of our coast.

Discharges associated with biosecurity measures, such as the application of herbicide or pesticide to control invasive marine pests, can have unintended adverse impacts on marine life and surrounding ecosystems. For example, these herbicides or pesticides can harm non-target species, reduce water quality through the decay of treated organisms, and affect sensitive habitats or species through toxicity or disturbance.

**Question 28:** On a scale of 1–5, how concerned are you about biosecurity in the coastal area?

Answer this question at  
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## Summary questions

?

**Question 29:** Are all the topics listed on page 9 relevant?

- Yes, they all feel relevant
- No, some are not relevant
- Some important issues are missing
- Not sure / don't know

**Question 30:** Is there anything else you would like to share about the issues and opportunities for the Otago coast?

Answer these questions at  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)



Tokatā / Nugget Point



# Next steps

## What are we going to do with this information?

Once we have all the feedback collated, it will give us a better understanding of those matters relevant to spatial planning and management of the Otago coast.

The feedback will be incorporated into an Issues and Opportunities Report and will inform further consideration on the management of coastal issues in Otago.

This report and a summary of the feedback received will be made available on the ORC website before the end of this year.

The current Regional Plan: Coast was prepared under the Resource

Management Act 1991 and remains the operative planning framework for managing activities in the coastal marine area (CMA).

However, this work is taking place during a period of significant national resource management reform. As a result, the process is not expected to simply lead to a like-for-like replacement 'Coast Plan'.

Instead, the coastal issues, values and management responses identified through this process will help inform how coastal management is carried forward into the new resource management system.

## Timeline



Report on feedback will be available on our website following Council approval:

**[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](http://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)**

# Drop-in sessions

Drop by at any time during an in-person session or tune in for a presentation and Q&A online and let us know what you think about Otago's coast. **Survey closes 10 August 2026.**

| Drop-in locations                                                                                | Date           | Time     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| <b>Balclutha:</b> Te Pou Ō Mata-Au   Clutha District War Memorial & Community Centre, 6 Clyde St | Tues, 21 July  | 3-6pm    |
| <b>Dunedin:</b> ORC Aonui Foyer, 180 High St                                                     | Thurs, 23 July | 3-6pm    |
| <b>Dunedin:</b> South Coast Boardriders Association, 1 Esplanade, St Clair                       | Sat, 25 July   | 10am-1pm |
| <b>Karitāne:</b> Puketeraki Marae, 520 Apes Rd                                                   | Tues, 28 July  | 3-6pm    |
| <b>Ōamaru:</b> Forrester Gallery, 9 Thames St                                                    | Wed, 5 August  | 4-7pm    |
| <b>Online:</b> <a href="https://orc.govt.nz/coastonline">orc.govt.nz/coastonline</a>             | Mon, 3 August  | 7-8.30pm |

## Have your say!

Attend a drop-in session or go online at  
[orc.govt.nz/otagocoast](https://orc.govt.nz/otagocoast)



**Survey closes 10 August 2026**

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Got questions? Email [policy@orc.govt.nz](mailto:policy@orc.govt.nz)  
or phone **0800 474 082**