

# Media Release

Monday, 8 April 2019 | Media contact: Paula Hopson 0436 402 370

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## Inverloch wet-sand fencing complete

Wet-sand fencing has been installed at two areas along the Inverloch Foreshore that have been affected by significant coastal erosion.

The wet-sand fencing has been installed adjacent to Cape Paterson-Inverloch Road (locally known as Bunurong Road) near the Surf Parade intersection and adjacent to the Inverloch Surf Life Saving Club along the Inverloch foreshore.

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Regional Manager of Land and Built Environment Programs Carole Macmillan said: "It is fantastic to see the wet-sand fencing in place after many months of discussions and planning between key stakeholder groups, beach users and the broader community."

"It will take several months, over the winter period and beyond, for the impacts of the wet-sand fencing to be realised. Monitoring and assessment of the areas will continue to be undertaken to measure the success of the wet-sand fencing installation," Ms Macmillan said.

"Over time, the design of the wet-sand fencing should provide a buffer to help protect these areas from further coastal erosion, making the beach areas accessible for continued public use."

Bass Coast Shire Mayor Cr Brett Tessari said that the wet-sand fencing was chosen as it is proven to help protect beaches and dunes from excessive erosion.

"It also helps with the accumulation of sand, particularly after storm events," Cr Tessari said.

"Although wet-sand fencing doesn't stop erosion altogether, it does help to reduce sand loss and recession rates."

Revegetation and sand renourishment will occur between now and September.

DELWP will continue to work with Bass Coast Shire Council, Parks Victoria, Regional Roads Victoria, the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, other stakeholders and members of the community to address coastal erosion along areas of the Inverloch foreshore.

The wet-sand fencing works has been funded by the Victorian Government's Protection of Victoria's Iconic Beaches and Coastline project, Bass Coast Shire Council, Parks Victoria and Regional Roads Victoria.

For further information regarding coastal protection works at Inverloch, please contact DELWP Traralgon on 03 5172 2111.

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