

# Inverloch Coastal Protection

Community Update – November 2019



## The Victorian Government has provided \$1.15 million in further funding towards addressing coastal erosion issues along the Inverloch foreshore

### Emergency erosion stabilising controls

Following a number of storm events over recent months, the eroding edges at the Bunurong Road and Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) areas have experienced further recession, with the distance from key assets breaching set thresholds for emergency protection works to occur.

The Victorian Government has provided \$450,000 to install a 70-metre sand-filled geotextile container wall to help protect the SLSC building area and complement the existing trial wet-sand fencing works.

The sand-filled geotextile container wall was selected as the most appropriate solution for the current protection measures required at the SLSC building area and has a design life of over 20 years.

Options for additional works at the Bunurong Road area are still being investigated.

### Longer-term planning

In addition to funding for emergency works, \$700,000 has been provided to form a pilot Regional and Strategic Partnership (RaSP) under the new *Marine and Coast Act 2018*, over the wider Inverloch marine and coastal area.

The RaSP will recognise and support the work of the existing Interagency Working Group and will build upon existing relationships between Government agencies and the community to develop a Local Coastal Hazard Assessment and undertake Community Resilience Planning. This will better inform and tailor strategic, long-term future investment into this coastal area and surrounds.



Image: Example of a sand-filled geotextile container wall

# Inverloch Coastal Protection

The announcement of a pilot RaSP is a key step in achieving the community's vision for a better understanding of coastal processes operating in this area and how they can adapt to a changing climate.

## Local Coastal Hazard Assessment and Community Resilience Planning

A Local Coastal Hazard Assessment and Community Resilience Planning will investigate the coastal processes of Inverloch and the surrounding coastal environment through data collection, analysis and modelling, in conjunction with community engagement and risk analyses.

The work will also support the volunteer efforts of the South Gippsland Conservation Society and their Inverloch Coastal Resilience Project, as well as the work already undertaken by the Inverloch Coastal Protection Working Group and the broader community.

## Community Consultation

Community consultation will occur throughout key milestones of the project.

## Next Steps

Works are anticipated to commence on installation of the sand-filled Geotextile Container Wall by the end of January 2020. This is to ensure protection is in place before the next storm season in March 2020.

The current project is designed primarily to provide immediate protection to the SLSC area. Following the end of winter 2020, the working group will evaluate the performance of the wet-sand fencing and the geotextile containers and determine the viability of extending either structure at that time.

Meetings are already underway to initiate the RaSP, establish governance and form a technical reference group.

A Project Officer will be employed to provide support services to the RaSP.

## Further Information

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



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ISBN 978-1-76077-886-6 (Print) ISBN 978-1-76077-887-3 (pdf/online/MS word)

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