

NRC coastal hazard mapping update

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 02 December 2020
Reporting officer: Katy Simon, Policy Analyst

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To provide an overview of Northland Regional Council's coastal hazard mapping programme, focusing on current work in the Kaipara District.

Context/Horopaki

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), the management of significant risks from natural hazards is a 'matter of national importance' that all councils need to take into account. Additionally, under the RMA both Northland Regional Council (NRC) and Kaipara District Council (Council) have statutory responsibilities for controlling the use of land for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating natural hazards.

The Northland Regional Policy Statement (RPS) has established a comprehensive regime for managing natural hazard risk in Northland. This includes NRC coordinating the gathering and collating of information on flood and coastal hazards at a regional scale. Identifying and mapping hazard zones is the primary method towards meeting this requirement.

The RPS stipulates that Council is required to gather and collate information on additional natural hazards and identify and manage natural hazards risks and impacts. It also requires all councils in Northland to work collaboratively to reduce natural hazard risk throughout the region. This involves clarifying roles and responsibilities to help ensure efficient and effective hazards management.

NRC is currently completing two coastal hazard mapping processes (coastal erosion and coastal inundation) and it is anticipated that maps to be publicly released in early 2021. These maps will have strong linkages to Council's District Plan review work and Climate Change work programme.

This briefing aims to provide Elected Members with an overview of NRC's coastal hazards mapping processes and methodology ahead of the publication of these maps and to provide an initial overview of Council's responsibilities and actions in relation to this. NRC's Natural Hazards Advisor will attend the briefing to provide a presentation on:

- NRC's coastal hazard mapping project
- The methodology used for the mapping process
- Next steps by NRC.

Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

All coastal hazards maps are still under review in draft form and have yet to be finalised and made public. Two kinds of natural hazards mapping will result from this process that will impact Council and landowners within our district - coastal flood hazard zones (CFHZ) and coastal erosion hazard zones (CEHZ). CFHZ maps will expand on [current CFHZ mapping](#) and there are several locations within the district that have already been mapped for coastal inundation. There are currently no CEHZ maps for the district.¹ This project is mapping CEHZ's for Mangawhai, Bayliss Beach, Glinks Gully and Whakapirau. Publication by the NRC of the maps on their website is required for the maps to come into effect, the impacts of which are discussed below. Notification is scheduled to

¹ It is important to note that coastal erosion is not a new, introduced hazard. Different coastal locations across Kaipara have historically experienced coastal erosion.

occur in February 2020 and is the responsibility of NRC. NRC's Natural Hazards Advisor will be able to speak to this notification process at the briefing.

KDC impacts

The RPS requires Council to incorporate finalised (coastal) hazard maps into our statutory planning framework, to inform policies and rules on land-use, subdivision, building requirements and consents processes. Once finalised and released by the NRC, these maps will therefore be considered for resource consent applications and our intention is to incorporate all hazard mapping into the current District Plan review process.

Once the coastal hazard maps are finalised, this information will be required to be identified on relevant LIMs and PIMs as it is information that is 'known to council' but not apparent from the district plan². This will be consistent with the existing processes that Council has in place for the current NRC coastal (inundation) hazard mapping information.

Staff also advise that Council needs to have a strong climate-related risk assessment and management process in place in order to reduce climate-related risk. These considerations are accounted for in the proposed Climate Change Work Programme and can be discussed at future Council presentations, once coastal hazards maps are finalised and published.

Next steps/E whaiake nei

A subsequent presentation will be scheduled for early next year to present the finalised maps to Council and detail the associated activities and responsibilities of Council regarding these maps.

² See section 44A(2) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, which sets out what must be included on LIMs.