

Coastal Conversations

Amberley Beach Consultation Document

Feedback required by:

8 July 2022

Engagement on draft objectives and the bund resource consent renewal.





Table of contents

Background and Draft Objectives	3
Resource Consent Renewal	4
Options considered	6
Feedback Form	8

Background

In 2020 Hurunui District Council (HDC) started a project assessing the current coastal hazards that affect the Amberley Beach community and how these hazards might change over a 30-, 50- and 100-years.

This information is available at www.hurunui.govt.nz/coastal

The project has four phases:

- What is happening?
- What matters most?
- What can we do about it?
- How can we implement the strategy?

Through community meetings held over the last two years we now have a reasonable understanding of what is happening and what matters to the community. The next step is to consider what we can do about it. These options will form part of a long-term adaptive plan to respond to an increasing level of risk.

A list of long-term adaptation options is currently being developed. A further community meeting will be held later this year to discuss some of these potential long-term options. In the interim, the bund consent is due to expire. The bund currently provides effective and affordable protection from coastal inundation and will continue to do so for the next 20-30 years.

A proposed scope for this application is outlined in this document including alternative options considered. Council is seeking your views on the proposed scope. This is your community, you are the experts, and solutions need to be yours.

Draft Objectives

Amberley Beach is important to everyone for different reasons. Once we understand what these values are, we can use them to build a decision-making framework – effectively those values become the lens in which we look through when assessing various options. They help ensure that what is important to you remains the priority.

From the feedback we received I have put together two draft objectives. These are:

- Ensure houses are kept free from water and remain insurable and serviceable.
- Retain the small-town community feels whereby residents can feel safe and close to the natural environment.



Resource Consent Renewal

The existing consent for the bund is due to expire and a new application needs to be lodged with Environment Canterbury by August 2022. The consent is likely to be granted for 20 years and any works that are going to be required within that period should be included in this application.

Jacobs has provided technical advice to the community regarding the types of options that could be considered when preparing this application.

This included various bund scenarios, rock revetment and interlocking concrete blocks. They concluded that the bund remained a good option.



Preferred Option

The preferred option is to seek renewal of the existing bund consent with provision for hard protection around the culvert.

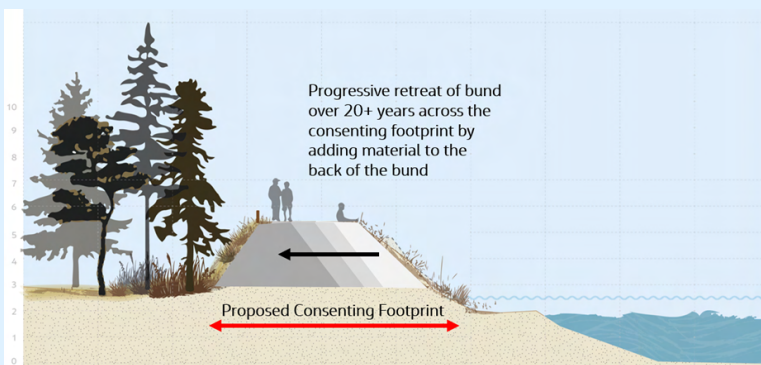
The bund is an effective, consentable and affordable option for preventing coastal inundation in the settlement for the next 20-30 years. Renewing the bund consent does not preclude a hard protection option, it allows us time to continue the discussion and ensure the right decision is reached. A 20-year consent does not mean the bund must remain for the full 20 years or alternatively that the bund will reach the end of its life in the next 20 years.

In the application we want to consent a footprint that allows maximum adaptability over the 20-year duration. This includes:

Length: The consent would extend north and south as shown in the map below. This closely aligns with what is already consented (but not fully constructed). This allows for the bund to be extended to cover the vulnerable pieces of coastline either side of the village and helps prevent water from entering the village from around the sides of the bund.

Width: The proposed width of the bund footprint is the current bund plus an additional 15 metres inland. The bund currently erodes at approximately 0.5 metres per year. It is proposed that the new application will allow a width of 15 metres. This allows for the current rate of erosion with some contingency.

Material: Same as the existing with some provision for hard protection around the culvert. We do not need detailed plans for this now and will propose a consent condition that will require us to obtain Environment Canterbury approval prior to undertaking the works. This enables a detailed conversation to occur around Golf Links Road prior to confirming an approach.



Options Considered

Eight options were proposed as feasible options to protect Amberley Beach from coastal inundation (with some coastal erosion benefit). These fit into three categories:

- Bund
- Rock revetment
- Interlocking concrete blocks.

The full design summaries are available at: www.hurunui.govt.nz/coastal

Continuation of the bund with various options considering location, elevation and footprint

Option 1A

Increase current bund alignment crest by 0.5 metres.

Option 1B

Bund in its current location with crest elevation increased by 0.5 metres (1km length), with addition 250 m extension along Golf Links Road.

Option 1C

Over its current length (1 km), bund relocated 5 m landward and crest elevation increased by 0.5 metres.

Option 1D

Over its current length (1 km) bund crest extended landward with a regrade of existing front slope and crest elevation increased by 0.5 metres.

Commentary

The proposed consenting strategy is a mixture of the above. It allows for a continuation of the status quo while providing for the bund to be relocated, if needed, over time. The material for the bund can be sourced locally, it can be easily repaired or topped up, and does not impede on access to the beach. It is supposed by the legislation and therefore less likely to be contested through the consenting process.

A bund is considered to be an effective, consentable and affordable option.

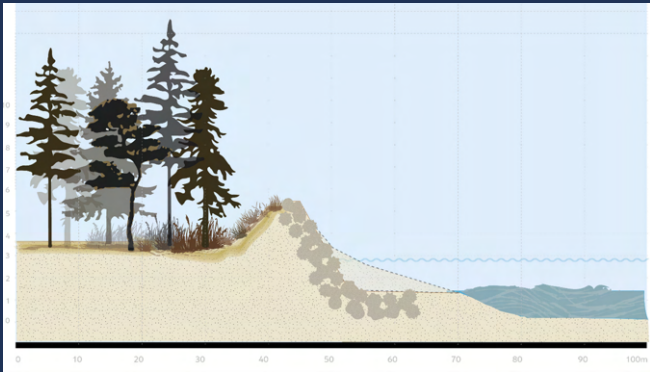
Rock revetment structure

Option 2A

Rock revetment along existing bund alignment (1 km length).

Option 2B

Same as 2a and extended 250 metres north.



Commentary

Rock revetment offers a longer life span and less maintenance than a bund. It needs a larger footprint than the bund, creates an unnatural look and comes at a significantly greater cost. Rock revetment is considered hard protection and not as readily supported by the legislation making the consenting pathway more difficult and expensive.

Given these factors rock revetment is not considered necessary in the short term but may be considered as part of longer-term adaptation options.

Interlocking concrete wall

Option 3A

Interlocking concrete seawall tiered into the front of existing bund (1 km length)

Option 3B

Interlocking concrete seawall tiered into the front of existing bund (1 km length) with extension along Golf Links Road (250m)



Commentary

Like rock revetment an interlocking concrete wall is hard protection. Hard protection generally offers longer term protection with less maintenance but comes at a greater environmental and financial cost. Such options are not readily supported by the legislation making the consenting pathway more challenging and expensive. It is also difficult and costly to remove hard protection once it has been installed.

Given these factors an interlocking concrete wall is not considered necessary in the short term but may be considered as part of longer-term adaptation options.

Amberley Beach Coastal Conversations Feedback Form

Name:

Address:

Email:

Phone:

Preferred contact method:

Draft Project Objectives

An adaptation plan will set out the long-term actions that need to occur to ensure the things you value most are protected. Objectives provide a framework to test adaptation options against.

	Agree	Disagree
Draft objective one: Ensure houses are kept free from water and remain insurable and serviceable.		
Draft objective two: Retain the small-town community feels whereby residents can feel safe and close to the natural environment.		

What changes would you like to these? Do we need to add a third objective?

Bund resource consent renewal

The preferred option is to seek renewal of the existing bund consent with provision for hard protection around the culvert. Do you support this approach?

Is there anything you would like to change?

Is there anything else we need to consider as part of the application?

General

Long-term adaptation options are currently being explored. Are there any options you have come across that you would like to be included?