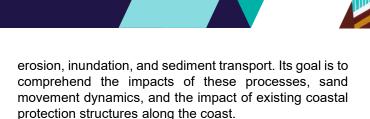
Silverleaves Coastal Adaptation

PROJECT UPDATE #1: August 2024



Coastal erosion and inundation are naturally

Over the past two years, the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) have been working with Bass Coast Shire Council in response to community concerns about coastal erosion at Silverleaves

What is happening at Silverleaves?

In recent years, the coastline at Silverleaves has been affected by coastal erosion. This has resulted in increased shoreline setback and loss of parts of the coastal reserve including established coastal banksias. In addition to the erosion, Silverleaves is also subject to significant storm tide and inundation (coastal flooding) hazards. Much of the potential inundation hazard is likely to originate from Rhyll Inlet.

These flooding events may become more frequent over the coming years due to the impacts of sea level rise and a changing climate.

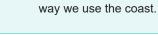


Silverleaves beach in February 2024

In response to community concerns regarding the erosion and changes to the shoreline, DEECA, working with Bass Coast Shire Council have implemented short-term sand renourishment works in August 2023 and engaged consultants FSC Range to undertake a Coastal Processes Study, completed in August 2024.

The study investigates how waves, tides, and winds influence the Silverleaves coastline, with a focus on

occurring coastal processes that become coastal hazards when they impact places we value and the



Investigating coastal processes and hazards

Understanding the coastal processes that occur in an area is crucial before considering any work near the coastline. This is to ensure that the potential impacts and extent of any coastal change are appropriately understood and planned for. Completing works without this information could worsen the erosion and move the issue further down the beach.

While further investigative work continues, land management agencies continue to monitor the area with on-site visits and drone monitoring.

Adaptation pathways planning

With this improved understanding of coastal processes, FSC Range will start working on adaptation pathways planning for the Silverleaves foreshore area.



Silverleaves beach in February 2024

The adaptation "pathways approach" helps determine what combinations of adaptation actions might be feasible where and when. This allows us to be planning

our adaptation from present day to longer-term, bringing together multiple actions in response to the risks and responding to changes over time.

When considering adaptation pathways, DEECA and other land managers are guided by the <u>Marine and Coastal Policy 2020</u> and <u>Victoria's Resilient Coast Guidelines</u>. Follow these links for more information.



Figure 1. Victoria's Resilient Coast - Adapting for 2100+ framework stages, we are at stage 5 and require important values information to progress

Hearing from the community

If you'd like to hear more about the Silverleaves Coastal Processes Study and next steps for adaption, we are holding a drop-in information session on **Friday August 30, from 10am to 12pm** at Berninneit Cultural Centre, 91-97 Thompson Avenue, Cowes.



Silverleaves beach in February 2024

Next steps

If you have questions for the project team, please email us at gippsland.coastalprojects@deeca.vic.gov.au

You can also visit the <u>Gippsland Coastal Projects</u> webpage for more information about this project and any upcoming engagement.

We acknowledge Victorian Traditional Owners and their Elders past and present as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters and commit to genuinely partnering with them and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.



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