



Long term plan for partner agencies

Term: 2016 - 2026
Amended: August 2016
Version 3



What is Coast Care BOP?

Coast Care is a partnership between communities and local government to protect, enhance and restore the natural coastal environment with a focus on dune systems.

In practice this has meant planting native dune species, managing dune access, controlling weeds and animals, raising awareness and education. Since 1994 about 55% of the 156 km of sandy coastline has been worked on by Coast Care staff, contractors and volunteers with considerable success. The programme is funded by the following six agencies: The Department of Conservation, Ōpōtiki, Whakatāne and Western Bay of Plenty District Councils, Tauranga City Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council.

Why does Coast Care exist?

Coast Care Bay of Plenty was formally created in 1994 in response to continuing degradation of natural dune systems. Dune degradation reduces their ecological value, which is significant because natural dune vegetation and animal communities are nationally threatened. Dune degradation also increases the risk to property and infrastructure from coastal processes and hazards. Finally, dune degradation can reduce the amenity value of beaches.

The programme is community led and joint agency funded to reflect the numerous interests in the coastal environment, and the value placed on beaches by the Bay of Plenty (BOP) community. Currently there are 29 Coast Care groups with varying levels of activity; about 900 associated Coast Care members registered with the programme and over 2,000 volunteers per year.

Purpose of this document

This document sets out the long term goals and objectives for the Coast Care programme. A Strategic Planning Group is in place to guide the work of the programme. The current Terms of Reference for the Group is included at Appendix 1. Appendix 2 sets out the governance and operational structure for the Coast Care programme.

Goals and objectives of Coast Care BOP

The purpose of the Coast Care programme is to protect, enhance and restore the natural coastal environment with a focus on dune systems. The four goals of the programme, in order of priority, are:

- 1 To educate those who manage, benefit from or use BOP beaches about natural dune ecosystems.
- 2 To promote tangata whenua and community involvement in the management of their beaches.
- 3 To protect and enhance the natural character and biodiversity of BOP beaches.
- 4 To maximise the resilience of dune systems to withstand coastal hazards and relevant climate change effects.

Objectives in place to achieve the four goals are provided below. These are less specific than the previous iteration of this plan, but this is to allow each operational area to create plans that are appropriate for their beach communities.

Goal 1: To educate those who manage, benefit from or use BOP beaches about natural dune ecosystems

- Focus on schools and a hands-on teaching approach through tools like Life's a Beach and activities like dune planting
- Maximise opportunities to work with partner agencies and other organisations to publicise Coast Care (e.g. Local or corporate clubs) and raise awareness of the importance of dunes
- Maintain a calendar of events with partner agencies
- Supply, install and maintain a series of appropriate signs at Coast Care sites

What does success look like?

- We have a clear sense of our target audiences and good/communications/relationships with them
- People value coastal ecosystems and want to protect them
- People feel motivated to become involved in Coast care work

Goal 2: Promote tangata whenua and community involvement in the management of their beaches

- Ensure community have an awareness of Coast Care through a range of media so they can get involved if they want to (newsletter)
- Maintain a calendar of events with partner agencies
- Coordinate public events and generate interest to ensure volunteers stay involved
- Identify opportunities for and support the involvement of iwi/hapū in Coast Care activities
- Share ideas and celebrate success through the region-wide Coast Care newsletter
- Seek feedback from volunteers on the Coast Care programme
- Ensure Health and Safety requirements for the Coast Care programme and all participating volunteers are met

What does success look like?

- Requests to organise Coast care events from the community
- Communities help with mitigating threats and actively care for their beach
- Iwi, hapū and whānau are engaged with the work of Coast Care

Goal 3: To protect and enhance the natural character and biodiversity of BOP beaches

- Increase the proportion of BOP dunes that are managed or restored
- Increase the distribution and abundance of threatened dune plants to re-build self-sustaining populations
- Monitor and report on dune condition including NERMN measures for biodiversity, research and test new techniques for dune restoration

What does success look like?

- Requests to organise Coast care events from the community
- Communities help with mitigating threats and actively care for their beach
- Iwi, hapū and whānau are engaged with the work of Coast Care

Goal 4: To improve the capacity of dune systems to withstand coastal hazards and relevant climate change effects

- Increase the proportion of BOP dunes that are managed or restored
- Monitor and report on dune condition including NERMN measures for coastal profiles
- Research and test new techniques for dune restoration

What does success look like?

- Reduced impact on dune systems from storm events
- Increased quantity of sand captured in dune system

Operations/Implementation

Operational Plans are in place for each of these areas which identify local issues and priorities. Each operational plan seeks to implement the four goals and desired outcomes in a way that is appropriate for each local beach community and commensurate with the resources available.

The operational plans, prepared by the Land Management Officer for each operational area together with stakeholders and the delivery contractors, do not need to be very detailed or sophisticated but they need to be sufficient to satisfy the funding partners in each operational area.

This plan will be reviewed by the Coast Care Strategic Planning Group, made up of representatives from each partner agency, at least every three years.

Operationally, the programme is delivered by partner agencies in three areas:

Tauranga Harbour Coast Care

Waihi Beach to Pāpāmoa East. Led by BOPRC Tauranga Catchments Team in partnership with Tauranga City and Western Bay of Plenty District Councils, and the Department of Conservation.

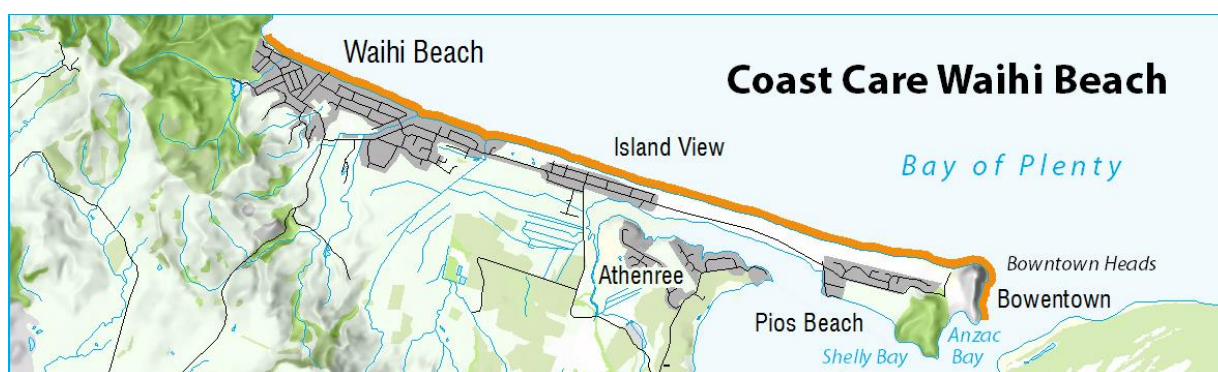


Figure 1 – Tauranga Harbour Water Management Area coastline (Waihi beach)

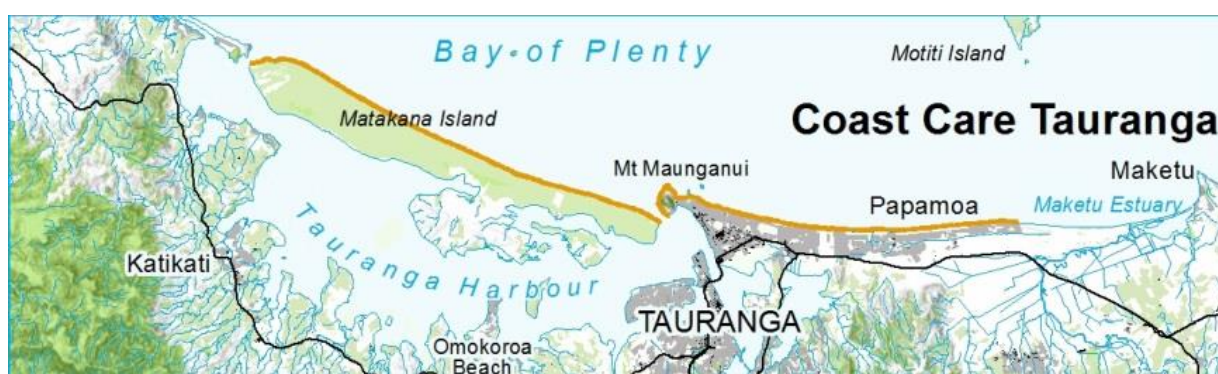


Figure 2 – Tauranga Harbour Water Management Area coastline (Tauranga City)

Kaituna Coast Care

Pāpāmoa East to Ōtamarākau. Led by BOPRC Kaituna Catchments Team in partnership with Western Bay of Plenty District and Tauranga City Councils, and the Department of Conservation.

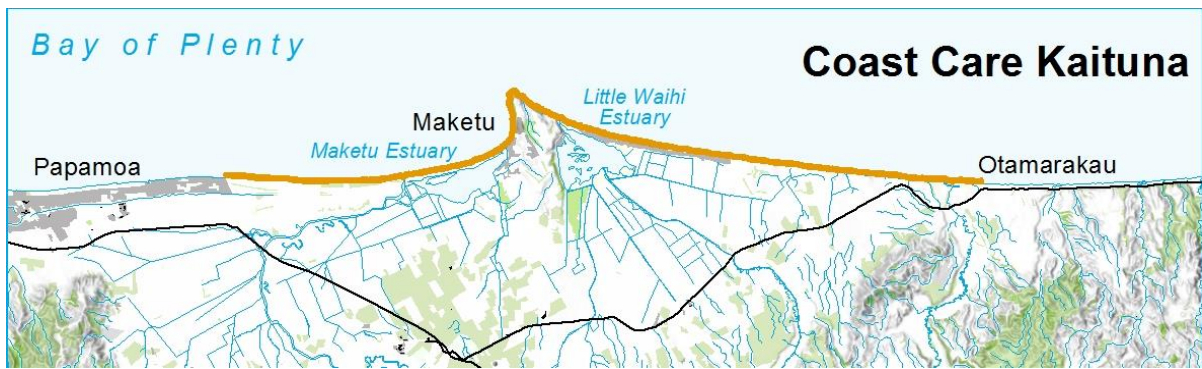


Figure 3 – Kaituna Water Management Area coastline

Eastern and Rangataiki Coast Care

Ōtamarākau to Whangaparaoa. Led by BOPRC Eastern Catchments Team in partnership with Whakatāne and Ōpōtiki District Councils, and the Department of Conservation.



Figure 4 – Eastern and Rangataiki Water Management Area coastline

Partner Agency Funding Contributions 2016/17

The annual funding levels for Coast Care BOP are as follows:

Table 1: Partner agency contribution per catchment

Agency	Agency Total Contribution 16/17	Funding split per catchment		
		Tauranga Coast Care	Kaituna Coast Care	Eastern Coast Care
Department of Conservation	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$500	\$500
Opotiki District Council	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
Whakatane District Council	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	\$15,000	\$9,000	\$6,000	\$0
Tauranga City Council	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	\$264,712	\$65,660	\$54,500	\$144,552
Total	\$337,712	\$120,660	\$61,000	\$156,052

Partner agencies also contribute to Coast Care by purchasing and maintaining assets such as fences and signs, buying extra plants for specific projects, and contributing in-kind support to events and through Communications.

Appendix 1 – Terms of Reference

Coast Care Strategic Planning Group Terms of Reference

Version 5 – as at August 2016

1.1 Background

The joint agency Coast Care BOP programme has been running since 1994, with the founding principle:

“The Coast Care concept is about community groups and local government working together to protect and enhance the coastal environs of the Bay of Plenty Coast”

In 2004 this was refined to:

“Working with communities to protect and enhance the natural coastal environment”

In practice this has meant the creation of many Coast Care Groups; planting native dune vegetation by these groups; education about dune form and function; and efforts to manage beach access. Partners in Coast Care are the Opotiki District Council, Whakatane District Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council, Environment Bay of Plenty and the Department of Conservation.

In July 2008 the Coast Care programme was reviewed and a recommendation made to formalise the structure and function of the programme, including a Terms of Reference for the Coast Care Strategic Planning Group.

1.2 Purpose

The Coast Care Strategic Planning Group exists to ensure the Coast Care programme is planned, delivered, monitored and reported efficiently and effectively by Bay of Plenty Regional Council in conjunction with the partner agencies.

1.3 Membership

Membership of the Coast Care Strategic Planning Group involves making decisions about resource allocation and policy implementation. Members of the group should therefore be of sufficient rank within their organisations to carry out these functions.

The current membership is:

Agency	Represented by
Ōpōtiki District Council	Reserves and Facilities Manager
Whakatāne District Council	Places and Open Spaces Manager
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Reserves and Facilities Manager
Tauranga City Council	Regional Parks & Development Manager
Department of Conservation	Community Relations Ranger

Agency	Represented by
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	Tauranga Catchment Manager Eastern Catchment Manager Kaituna Catchment Manager

1.4 Definitions of terms for the purpose of this forum

- **Coast Care Group:** any person or group of persons voluntarily working to restore the sand dunes and their native plant communities within the Bay of Plenty region. The group may be registered with Environment Bay of Plenty or another partner agency as a Care Group but that is not a requirement.

1.5 Responsibilities

- 1 To attend bi-annual Coast Care Strategic Planning Group meetings
- 2 Develop a ten year plan for Coast Care BOP that is consistent with relevant objectives and policies in regional and district planning instruments
- 3 Review and update the ten year plan at least every three years
- 4 Assist the Coast Care Coordinators with the preparation of an Annual Plan and budget including the setting of key performance targets. This includes confirmation of partner agency contributions to Coast Care for the following year.
- 5 Receive and review annual monitoring reports from Coast Care Coordinator specifically addressing the following:
 - (a) Physical results
 - (b) Emerging issues/risks
 - (c) Communication issues
- 6 Ensure Health and Safety requirements for the Coast Care programme and all participating volunteers are met
- 7 Promote and represent Coast Care and Coast Care Groups within agencies, including presentations to Council's Committees
- 8 With any partner agency policy, plan or strategy reviews relating to coastal management of dunes the strategic partners will ensure the wording and intent is checked for consistency with the goals and methodology of the Coast Care programme. The partner is to highlight action taken, or any proposed inconsistencies beyond their control, to the other partners through the Coast Care Coordinator.
- 9 To review draft publications produced by Coast Care.
- 10 Undertake review of these Terms of Reference in conjunction with the Coast Care Long Term Plan review.

As the coordinating agency, Bay of Plenty Regional Council will ensure accurate records of the following are maintained:

- Contact details of registered Coast Care volunteers
- Coast Care events and volunteer participation

- Areas worked on by Coast Care by activity (weeding, fencing, beach access management, signage, rabbit control, planting, fertilising, drainage management, trials, sand works)
- Monitoring records
- Plants, fertiliser and equipment requested and supplied to Coast Care volunteers
- Correspondence
- Financial records

1.6 **Resourcing**

Members of the Coast Care Strategic Planning Group are expected to cover their own costs in fulfilling their responsibilities under these Terms of Reference

1.7 **Deliverables**

- Ten year plan reviewed and accepted by CCSPG by 30 November 2016, and submitted to CE's group for approval
- Annual Plan received by CCSPG for approval by 30 November each year
- Annual Report received by CCSPG for approval by 30 November each year
- Bi-annual reports are submitted by the respective catchments LMO (Coast Care) preceding CCSPG meetings

1.8 **Linkages**

- City/District Plans
- City/District Council Reserve Management Plans
- BOP Regional Coastal Environment Plan
- DOC Conservation Management Strategy
- Dune Restoration Trust

Appendix 2 – Coast Care Structure

