

Pakefield Monthly Monitoring Report

Date and Time of survey: February 4, 2025 07:30

Time of Low Tide: 07:35

Height of Low Tide (m ODN): -1.0

Reason for Inspection: Scheduled



Comment on weather or water level events that may have impacted coastal change:

High tide levels were increased during the unsettled conditions of the first week of January, and a Flood Alert was issued by the Environment Agency for the Lowestoft area. Around this time, beach material was extensively reworked by seas and the more exposed cliff bases and dune faces were reached. The following several days saw much more settled conditions, until 17th and 18th January when high tide levels were again increased, but less significantly.

The weekend of 24th January saw the arrival of the extremely powerful Storm Éowyn, with the north of the UK worst affected by very strong winds and heavy rain. High tide levels were increased during the unsettled conditions, but tides at the time were neaps and winds were mainly not onshore.

Towards the end of the month there were further unsettled conditions, bringing more rainfall, and Storm Herminia was named by the Spanish Meteorological Service. Increases in high tide levels for the Lowestoft area were relatively modest.

On inspection, winds were moderate/freshening from the southwest. Seas were slight to moderate.

The beach north of Arbor Lane

Extension of beach cliffing alongshore: Negligible change since last inspection

Landward recession of beach cliff: Slight landward recession

Change in gradient of beach cliff face: Slightly flatter (accumulation or trampling)

Maximum height of beach cliff (m): 1.5

Beach photos looking north:



Beach photos looking south:



Change in beach level relative to exposed timber groyne opposite Grand Avenue: Negligible change

Photo of exposed timber groyne:



General impression of beach volume: Not significantly changed from previous inspection

Photos of beach north of Arbor Lane:



Comments on change in beach geomorphology: Levels relatively healthy above mean high water mark with shingle rich berm at base of the dune face. Trampling of the remaining dune face. Lower foreshore retains characteristic steep gradient.

Cliff Top Property

Changes to soft unconsolidated sand cliffs north of rock armour: Some areas of cliff toe recession and undermining, slumped material on cliff face, denuding and loss of vegetation, cliff-face steepening and overhanging, scree at base of cliff, fallen vegetation at base of cliff

Changes to soft unconsolidated sand cliffs south of rock armour: Some areas of cliff toe recession and undermining, slumped material on cliff face, denuding and loss of vegetation, cliff-face steepening and overhanging, scree at base of cliff, fallen vegetation at base of cliff

Comments on risk to cliff-top assets: Conditions remain similar to those noted in the December report. Early January conditions caused some disturbance to the more exposed cliff bases

Photos of soft unconsolidated sand cliffs:



Rock Armour

Packing of rock: Overall satisfactory

Cross-sectional profile: Satisfactory

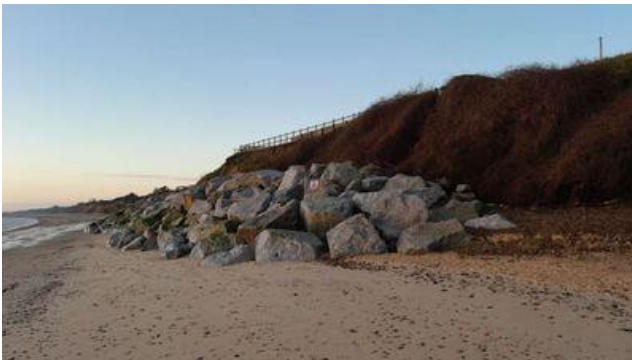
Beach levels surrounding rock armour: Average

Beach access around the rock armour: Dry access available past rock armour around times of low tide

Stability of cliff behind rock armour: As previous, no obvious change apparent behind the main body of the rock structure, as viewed from the beach (vegetation growth obscures part of the cliff face).

Asset condition grade: 2- Good; rock armour condition satisfactory; no change in protection

Photos of rock armour:





Signage

Signage in place, intact and fixings secure? - Yes

Adequacy of signage: Satisfactory

Provision of tidal information: Up to date and legible - Monitor

Comments on signage: No change from previous month's report

Photos of signage:

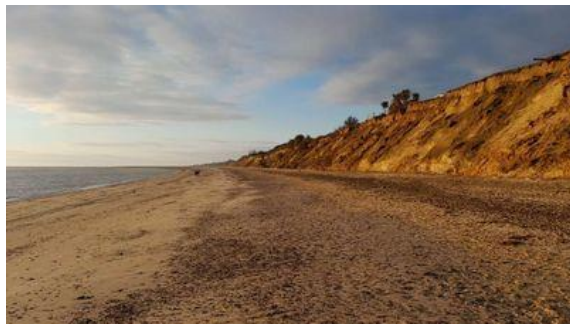




Southern Pakefield beach and cliffs

General impression of beach volume: No significant change from previous month's inspection

Photos of southern beach:



Comments on change to southern beach: Similar characteristics to northern beaches with relatively healthy level above high water mark at the base of the cliffs. At the south end of the rock beach levels are currently less favourable.

Changes to southern cliffs: Some areas of cliff top recession and undermining, slumped material on cliff face, denuding and loss of vegetation, evident cliff top recession, cliff-face steepening and overhanging, scree at base of cliff, fallen vegetation at base of cliff

Photos of southern cliffs:



Comments on cliff change and any risk posed: Southern cliffs continue to benefit from healthy beach levels. To the immediate south side of the rock, cliffs were potentially more exposed to seas.

Benacre Ness

Changes to beach geomorphology: Processes described previously continuing.

Comments on change at Benacre Ness: Very good spring low tide level on inspection revealing seaward Ness features. Impression is that beaches continue to widen from the south. Surface water outflow is being retained on the Ness.

Photos of Pontins frontage and Benacre Ness:



Kessingland Cliff top structure

Changes in cliff stability: No obvious change apparent from beach

Photo of cliff top structure:

