

Pakefield Monthly Monitoring Report

Date and Time of survey: March 5, 2025 06:57

Time of Low Tide: 07:10

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 seen through February have been relatively modest. The Neap high tides towards the end of the month were increased but there was no evidence to suggest there have been any significant effects. There were no coastal flood alerts issued by the Environment Agency for the Lowestoft area. The first half of the month saw some periods of light to moderate onshore winds. More recent conditions have been very settled and have probably resulted in the stable, or slightly improved, beach levels noted below. According to the Met Office, East Anglia recorded its wettest (and warmest) February on record. On inspection winds were light and variable, seas slight.

The beach north of Arbor Lane

Extension of beach cliffing alongshore: Negligible change

Landward recession of beach cliff: Negligible change

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: Overall, moderately increased
Photos of beach north of Arbor Lane:



Comments on change in beach geomorphology: There has been an extension seaward of the shingle rich berm around the spring high tide level. Its seaward edge has been 'cliffed' slightly by most recent conditions. The impression was of improvement of the foreshore levels and reduction in gradient.

Cliff Top Property

Changes to soft unconsolidated sand cliffs north of rock armour: Slumped material on cliff face; denuding and loss of vegetation; cliff-face steepening and overhanging; scree at base of cliff.

Changes to soft unconsolidated sand cliffs south of rock armour: 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: No clear evidence that seas have reached the cliffs during the past month, although in places they retain steepened faces. Beaches above Mean High Water are currently relatively healthy.

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 or significant mass 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: 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: Moderately increased

Photos of southern beach:



Comments on change to southern beach: Consistent with the beaches to the north, an increased berm has developed around spring high tide level. The beach level around the south end of the rock, and the concrete walling, has improved.

Changes to southern cliffs: 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.

Photos of southern cliffs:





Comments on cliff change and any risk posed: Continuation of processes recorded previously. Rainfall run-off can be seen to have affected some areas of the cliff face.

Benacre Ness

Changes to beach geomorphology: Processes described previously continuing.

Comments on change at Benacre Ness: Another good, low Spring tide level seen on inspection, revealing seaward Ness features. Impression remains that beaches continue to widen from the south. Surface water outflow from near the Pontins access continues to be retained on the Ness.

Photos of Pontins frontage and Benacre Ness:



Kessingland Cliff top structure

Changes in cliff stability: No obvious significant change apparent from beach.

Photo of cliff top structure:



Comments on cliff top structure: No obvious significant change apparent from beach.