

Disclaimer

Coastal hazard maps

Northland Regional Council's coastal hazard maps have been compiled using best practice, and in accordance with policy #24 of the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement (2010). These maps have been created from analysis of information using modern techniques and based on the best information currently available. However, they do not necessarily show the greatest extent of coastal flooding or erosion suffered in the past, or likely to be suffered in the future.

The coastal hazard maps indicate the extent of land that has been assessed as likely or potentially at risk of flooding or erosion by the sea, currently and over the next 50 and 100 years, taking into account coastal processes and potential sea level rise. The maps cover a number of sites along the Northland coastline where survey information is available. Outside of these surveyed areas, coastal hazard has not been assessed or mapped. For areas where only one type of coastal hazard (flooding / erosion) has been mapped, it should be assumed that any unmapped coastal hazard has not been assessed. For instance, the mapping of coastal erosion hazard is limited to open coast sites. Where only coastal flood risk has been mapped it should not be assumed that no coastal erosion hazard exists, and vice versa.

The extent of coastal flooding and wave run-up shown in the maps is based on the coastal topography at the time of survey. Changes in coastal landform that have occurred since the date of survey, as well as potential future landform change are not reflected in the coastal flood mapping. It is anticipated that if shorelines retreat, then wave run-up will extend further inland than the run-up extents shown in the maps.

The maps reflect flooding and erosion associated with coastal processes, and as such do not represent flooding and erosion caused by storm rainfall, including: surface run off, storm water network overflow, and river flooding. Furthermore, the coastal flood maps are based on an assessment of current and future storm surge risk, and do not show potential coastal inundation from tsunamis.

While the maps have been quality controlled, their accuracy cannot be guaranteed. Accordingly, these maps should not be relied upon as the sole basis for the making of any decision in relation to potential coastal hazard risk. Further, the maps should be interpreted only by an expert duly qualified to interpret these maps and when so interpreted, should not be utilised without reference to other source information and data.

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