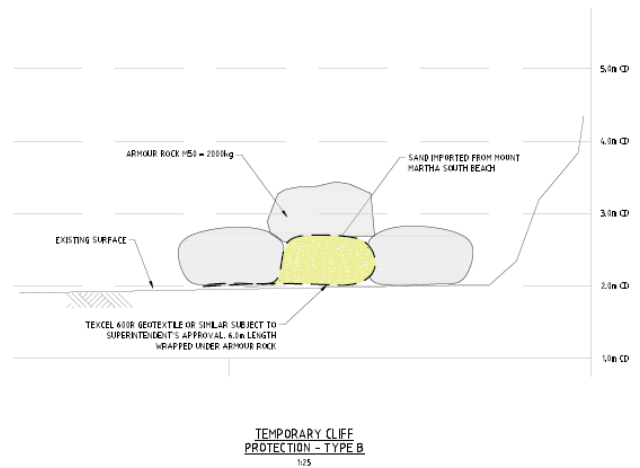
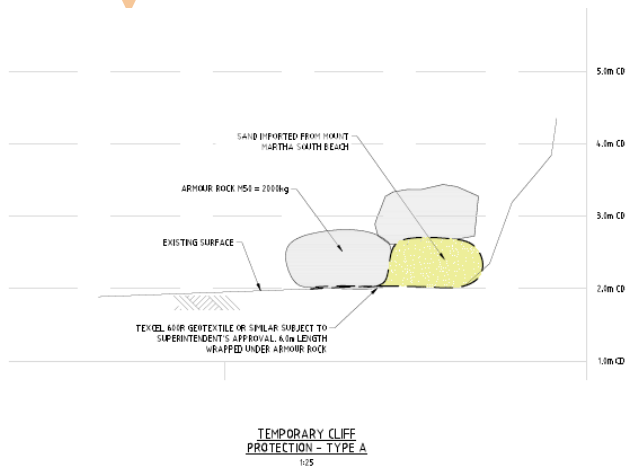


Mount Martha North Beach and Cliff

Stakeholder Update 25 July 2018



Temporary protection of the cliff toe

DELWP will commence temporary emergency works to protect the base of the cliff at Mount Martha North next week (30 July 2018), subject to finalising approvals with MPSC. The temporary works will involve placing large rocks and a geotextile 'sand tube' (one long sand bag) at the toe of the cliff. This will prevent high tides from further eroding the base of the cliff. The temporary works will also enable safe access to the beach once the sand begins to return after winter.

Engineers have determined that the most appropriate sand source for filling the sand tube is just north of the Balcombe Creek estuary. This location avoids having to transport the sand across the estuary mouth, and will reduce traffic on the beach and Esplanade. The sand tube needs approximately 150m³ of sand which will be acquired through shallow scraping across the area closest to the shore. This will ensure minimal impact to the beach face near the estuary.

The temporary works are weather dependent and should take approximately six weeks. A site compound with temporary fencing will be erected in the carpark north of the estuary to be used as the lay-down area for the rocks and equipment. Access to the beach, from the estuary to the end of the Mount Martha North beach boxes, will be restricted during the construction period.

No beach boxes will be relocated as part of the emergency works.

Options assessment of recommendations from Water Technology Report (2017)

Following strong support from stakeholders at the community meeting last year, DELWP will be appointing a consultant to undertake detailed modelling of the recommendations put forward in the 2017 Water Technology Report. The assessment will be used to guide a long-term strategy for protecting the Mount Martha North cliffs. We will begin the options assessment in the next month.

Permanent structure design and progress

Geotechnical engineering investigations will be carried out at the base of the cliff while machinery is on site for the temporary works. These investigations will inform the design of the permanent rock revetment that will be constructed in 2019. Once the design is finalised, the Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) will be developed to address the potential for Aboriginal cultural heritage to be found during the construction program.

When the permanent structure is installed, the temporary protection will be removed, the rock reused, and the sand released onto the beach to renourish it.

Further Information

To receive project updates, call DELWP on (03) 9210 9401 or email cass.philippou@delwp.vic.gov.au.

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