

Submission to Christchurch City Council

RMA/2023/3243

Southshore Inundation and South New Brighton Park Erosion Protection Project

3 September 2025

From Inger Perkins; inger.perkins@herengaanuku.govt.nz, +64 27 370 1876.

- This submission is on behalf of Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission
- We are neutral towards the application
- We are not a trade competitor
- We do not wish to speak in support of our submission.

Tēnā koutou

Introduction

1. Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, the Outdoor Access Commission, is the Crown agent responsible for providing leadership on outdoor access issues. Our role is to advise on and advocate for free, certain, enduring, and practical access to the outdoors.
2. The Commission plays a key role through its statutory leadership in negotiating, establishing and improving outdoor access for New Zealanders. This includes making people and organisations aware of where existing public access exists and ensuring that access endures over time.

The Project and public access

3. We acknowledge the consideration of recreational values throughout this project and the impacts that the project will have on public access, for example access into the estuary.
4. We understand that pedestrian access points to the estuary are proposed at several road ends. However, we understand many of the access points including a previously proposed jetty at Tern St are earmarked for removal apparently without thought to how the community have interacted or wish to interact with the estuary. This will create difficulty or risk for public access.
5. We acknowledge the need to protect sea and shore birds that rest or nest in the area.

Public access concerns and comments

6. Concerns have been raised with the Commission relating to this project and in previous years regarding public access to the estuary in this area.
7. Concerns include the loss of amenity for those who wish to access the estuary at high tide for activities such as sailing for beginners, paddleboarding and canoeing.
8. Concerns include separation of people from their environment, noting the health and wellbeing benefits of being out in and on green and blue spaces.
9. We ask that community interests and concerns about both the loss of existing access and the potential to create excellent new practical access are incorporated into final decision making and plans.

We hope our comments are helpful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Inger Perkins', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Inger Perkins

Regional Field Advisor
Kaitohutohu ā-Rohe

Herenga ā Nuku Aotearoa, Outdoor Access Commission

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