

From: Surfbreak Protection Society info@surfbreak.org.nz

To: Ed Atkin <e.atkin@ecoast.co.nz>,
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Date: 28 May 2017 at 13:18

GWRC Proposed Natural Resources Plan Hearing - avoiding adverse effects on surf breaks

Hi Shaw Ed, and Hamish.

I have attached Hamish's submission to the BOI to the NZCPS for convenience as I intend submitting this as part of our reasoning for removing the term minimising from objectives/policy referencing surf breaks in the PNRP.

Hamish, in your submission which was accepted by the BOI on page 9 you state:

"It is clearly preferable at present to avoid damage to natural surf breaks, as opposed to attempting to use artificial breaks to mitigate or provide remedies for their damage or destruction. This is not to suggest that there is not a place for multipurpose artificial reefs, especially where there are no existing natural surf breaks. However, given the time needed to adequately assess the effects of such artificial surf reefs, I do not consider they will be able to provide a proven means to mitigate or remedy damage of natural breaks in the next ten years. I will return to artificial surf breaks shortly."

Shaw could you please write me just a couple of paragraphs that I could submit that would update Hamish's statement, due to it being nearly ten years since the BOI, and perhaps any scientific advances in attaining remedy or mitigation for adverse effects on surf breaks Or whether the challenges that existed ten years ago are just as difficult today?

Kind Regards

Michael

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Date: 29 May 2017 at 18:32

Sure I can do that.

The main points are:

1. We know the science and have proved the concept (all but El Segundo produced the surfing waves as designed, albeit for limited time spans).
2. However, the construction technique was somewhat of an evolutionary dead-end – Sand-filled containers have some advantages, but the main disadvantage is that if one

bag fails the structure is still 'fluid' and it loses shape and no longer fulfils the design spec in terms of producing surfing waves (although coastal protection efficacy has in most cases been less effected).

3. More traditional construction techniques (i.e. rock, concrete, steel, etc.) have proven stable in recent years, although following the GFC and the previous ASR's that failed to maintain integrity, there have been no new ones built (3 are in the process of design).
4. In terms of replacement of natural breaks, the large scale of natural breaks must be recognized, as this translates to costs (only relatively small ASR's have been built to date).

Kind regards | Ngā mihi

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