



The Hon. Andrew Stoner MP
Deputy Premier of NSW
Minister for Trade and Investment
Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services

MEDIA RELEASE

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OPTIONS STUDY FOR NORTHERN BREAKWATER CONTINUES

Deputy Premier Andrew Stoner and Member for Coffs Harbour Andrew Fraser have thanked the local community for providing useful feedback on options to upgrade Coffs Harbour's Northern Breakwater.

Mr Stoner said community submissions had been received following a consultation meeting at Coffs Harbour with 14 stakeholders and a further public display and consultation day in November.

"Four options have been evaluated so far by GHD consultants to address public safety and property risks due to waves overtopping the northern breakwater," Mr Stoner said.

"Constructing a submerged artificial reef was a popular option amongst public submissions, however I'm advised that this option is by far the most complex and expensive to construct.

"In response to the feedback, the Government will now investigate other options, which are combinations of the original four, as well as dredging options involving local sand placement."

Member for Coffs Harbour Andrew Fraser said a raised barrier, with a restored slope in the highest hazard area, was also under consideration.

"The Government will facilitate an expert panel including GHD consultants, Crown Lands, Council, industry specialists and the local surfing community," Mr Fraser said.

"Each option will be considered against criteria including overtopping reduction, social impacts, environmental impacts, long-term coastal processes, impacts during construction, ongoing maintenance requirements, constructability, time to construct and, of course, cost.

"Given the breakwater is extremely popular with the public for access and visual amenity, the potential impacts on these will be an important consideration in further assessment.

"It is anticipated the study will be completed by early to mid this year, depending on the refinement of the options and physical modelling program."

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