

14 July 2023

TO: West Coast Regional Council & Westland District Council

FROM: Liam Anderson

SUBMISSION TO APPLICATION RC-2022-039 FOR A SEAWALL ON HOKITIKA BEACH

1. SUBMISSION

I make this submission as an affected party, as I am an adjacent land owner and occupier.

I oppose the application and wish to be heard.

I support the submission of HOKITIKA COASTAL PROTECTION ALLIANCE INCORPORATED.

2. BACKGROUND

I am generally opposed to this application as I believe it is not the best option for protecting property on the Hokitika beach front. The construction and ongoing presence will have significant negative impacts on the environmental, cultural and social values, access to the dune and foreshore offers. I believe there is no urgency to construct a significant barrier between Revell Street and the sea. A longer period of research and consultation will result in a more appropriate solution.

Below I have listed some key problems with the application:

- Large loss of existing vegetation including several healthy stands of native pingao. Pingao is culturally significant and environmentally important to a healthy dune ecosystem.
- Position of the rockwall will not offer maximum protection to private property. This position isn't consistent with guidance from **THE NZ COASTAL POLICY STATEMENT**. It should be as close to assets being protected as possible.
- Access to the foreshore will be significantly reduced for most people. Crossing the large rocks in the wall in front of town is very difficult.
- There will be increased occurrence of reflection waves forming off the seawall face in its current position. This has been proven many times to cause sand stripping from the beach. This will result in beach erosion.
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The future of our town (where ever it will be) will cost exponentially more than \$5 million. We need to take our time to come up with the best option with the next 100-200 years in mind. That's when will make a truly useful contribution to the future.

Yours sincerely

Liam Anderson

[Redacted signature block]