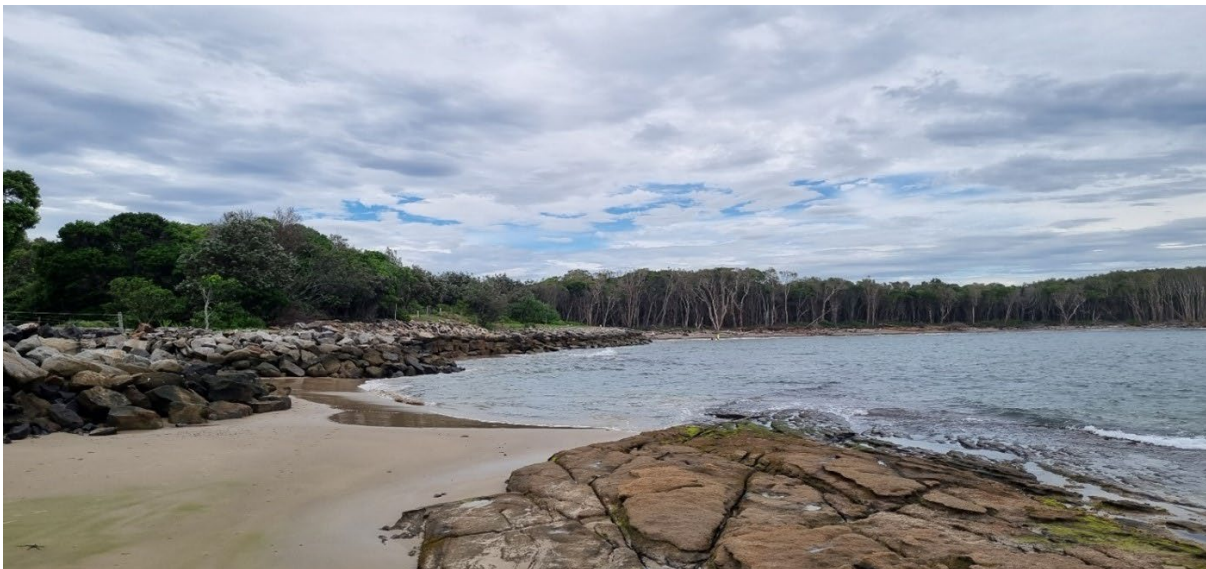




Draft coastal hazard response plan

Woody Head campground, Bundjalung National Park



Coastal hazards at Woody Head

Many NSW coastal areas already experience flooding during higher tides. Coastal erosion and the recession of sandy beaches are impacting coastal ecosystems and infrastructure.

The campground at Woody Head also faces these coastal hazard challenges, threatening the use of the campgrounds and the natural and cultural values. The natural features of the beach have made this area more susceptible to erosion and beach recession.

A hazard assessment and options report has been prepared for Woody Head campground. **Coastal erosion and recession are the major hazards** at Woody Head campground now and are expected to increase.

The main access road is currently impacted by extreme coastal erosion events and shoreline recession is expected to reach the access road before 2043. Coastal erosion and recession are currently impacting the beach access from the campground. Shoreline recession is expected to make the beach inaccessible from the campground before 2043.

Proactive planning for the future

The National Parks and Wildlife Service is taking proactive steps to manage coastal hazards at Woody Head campground and has prepared a draft coastal hazard response plan to assess and identify approaches to mitigate coastal hazard risks.

- Potential short, medium and long-term management options have been considered, and a preferred option recommended.
- A multi-criteria analysis of options has been completed considering environmental, cultural, social, recreational and financial factors.

Some protection options such as groynes have been found to be unsuitable for the location. Options that provide a temporary 'buffer' such as ongoing sand nourishment have been found to be unfeasible.

The preferred option recommended is to **extend the seawall with sand nourishment of the beach** while undertaking long-term retreat planning for the campground.

Mitigation approaches proposed at Woody Head



The draft coastal hazard response plan proposes a range of mitigation measures at Woody Head campground including:

- Extending the existing seawall to protect the access road and campground.
- Sand nourishment of the beach to enhance visual amenity, beach safety and protect against localised erosion from the seawall 'end effects'.

It is anticipated that these measures may extend the lifespan of the campground by (approximately) 30 years. This option will protect the south-eastern corner of Woody Bay including the campground access road. It will not slow down coastal recession in the larger Woody Bay.

NPWS will continue to work with stakeholders on long-term retreat planning for the campground. This will involve developing triggers and thresholds at which actions will occur.

The draft Woody Head Campground Coastal Hazard Response is available for public feedback until 29 July 2024. View the plan and make an online submission at www.environment.nsw.gov.au/coastal-hazard-response-plans or email: npws.carbonandrestoration@environment.nsw.gov.au

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Photo of Woody Head: Carly Roder/DCCEE; illustration of Woody Head mitigation measures: Hydrosphere Consulting

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