



Media Advisory

Bluecliffs State of Emergency

Number: 05

Date: 20 February 2024

Time: 12pm

Local State of Emergency extended for Bluecliffs erosion

This is an official message from the Civil Defence Controller Simon Mapp

Update – Bluecliffs state of emergency - #5

The state of emergency for the Bluecliffs area has again been extended.

Southland District Mayor Rob Scott signed off the extension at 8.15am this morning, which extends until 26th February 2024.

The threat to the Bluecliffs community has not diminished and work continues on both finding ways to clear the tip site and opening the mouth of the Waiau River.

“Works were progressing well on the cut in the Waiau River mouth, until work had to be paused on Sunday for safety reasons. We hope this will be able to be completed later this week,” Mr Mapp said.

The bar opening will hopefully reduce the erosion in front of the properties and the tip for a period of time, which will enable further conversations with the community about the future of the area.

“It is a highly complex and changing environment, and it’s unknown how well this opening may work or how much time this might provide the residents,” Mr Mapp said.

Emergency Management Southland will be restricting public access to the boat ramp and some roads in the area to manage access to the active work site for contractors and everyone’s safety.

“We’ve had reports of people visiting the area to have a look. Please avoid any unnecessary travel to the area while this state of emergency is in place. This is for the safety of residents and those working in the area.”

ENDS

This release has been issued by the Duty Public Information Manager on the authority of the Southland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Controller.

Contact Duty Public Information Manager, ph 027 384 0104

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