



Conference 2026

9-12 November
Ōtepoti Dunedin

Photo: DunedinNZ

Programme

Programme

Programme subject to change at the discretion of the event organisers.

Conference Venue Map - [Tūhura Otago Museum](#)
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Session Theme & Type Legend

Keynotes/Panel Discussion	Coastal Science & Hazards	Monitoring techniques & programs	Resilience, People & Mātauranga Māori (indigenous knowledge)	Marine Science & Coastal Ecosystems	Ports & Infrastructures	Student Presenters*	Networking Function
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Monday 9 November

6.00 – 7.00pm	Registration Tūhura Otago Museum
6.00 – 9.00pm	Icebreaker Function Tūhura Otago Museum

Tuesday 10 November

7.00 – 8.30am	Eric Verstappen Emerging Professionals Breakfast Theomin Balcony, HD Skinner Annex		
8.00 - 8.45am	Registration Welcome Tea & Coffee Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
8.45 – 9.30 am	Mihi Whakatau Welcome and Conference opening Plenary Hutton Theatre		
9.30 – 10.30 am	Keynote Hoani: Langsbury Plenary Hutton Theatre Title: Kōtare		
10.30 – 11.00am	Morning Tea Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
Session 1	Theme: Science & Coastal Hazards Room: Plenary Hutton Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Resilience, People & Mātauranga Māori Room: Barclay Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Marine Science & Coastal Ecosystems Room Kākāpō Room Chair - TBC
11.00 – 11.15 am	Assessing variability in shallow groundwater levels and salinity in North Canterbury: A case study of the Ashley Waimakariri and the Ōtākaro Avon regions Aaron Cayford*, University of Canterbury	Strengthening coastal resilience through mātauranga Māori: Insights from Rangitāne o Wairau Ruby Mckenzie Sheat, Earth Sciences New Zealand Te Whatu Ao	Beyond Protection: Integrating Ecology into Coastal Hazard Adaptation Becky Shanahan, Pattle Delamore Partners
11.15 – 11.30 am	Exploring Riverine Influences on Shoreline Change Across New Zealand Amirmahdi Gohari*, University of Auckland	The social context of coastal erosion management in New Zealand: What has changed in 16 years? Paula Blackett, Urban Intelligence	Climate Change Effects on Marine Habitats in the Bay of Plenty Cat Davis-Jones, SLR Consulting
11.30 – 11.45 pm	Closure, drainage, and saline incursion in a small intermittently closed river-mouth lagoon in Mid-Canterbury Sophie Horton, University of Canterbury	Uncertain Shores: An Assessment of Planning and Regulatory Approaches for Transitory Events and Activities on the New Zealand Foreshore. Eligh Ashby*, Lincoln University	Adapting with nature; a method for identifying ecological response to sea level rise to identify risks and opportunities within coastal ecosystems. Gareth Taylor, Collaborations
12.00 – 12.15 pm	Coarse clastic morphodynamics of Te Taero a Kereopa/Te Tahuna a Tama-i-ea The Nelson Boulder Bank Julion Wright, Otago Regional Council	Why Some Coastal Policy Objectives Endure While Others Fail: Lessons from Tasmania Daryl Connelly*, Tasmania's Central Coast Council/University of Tasmania	Kororā, Coastal Infrastructure and the Challenge of Biodiversity Compensation: Towards a Standardised Framework for Aotearoa New Zealand Marcus Cameron, Tonkin + Taylor

12.15 – 12.30 pm	Drivers of Coastal Erosion at Amberley Beach: The Role of Sediment Transport, Hāpua Morphodynamics, and Wave Climate. Louise McDermott*, University of Canterbury	Consenting for Change: Adaptive Management in a Coastal Consent Context Lara Clarke	Who let the water out? Tidal exchange impacts on the health and ecological value of two tropical coastal lagoons in Vava'u, Tonga Charlie Brinkhurst*, University of Otago
12.30 – 2.00 pm	Lunch Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
1.00pm – 2.00pm	NZCS AGM (all welcome) Hutton Theatre		
Session 2	Theme: Science & Coastal Hazards Room: Plenary Hutton Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Resilience, People & Mātauranga Māori Room: Barclay Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Marine Science & Coastal Ecosystems Room Kākāpō Room Chair - TBC
2.00 – 2.15 pm	Linking offshore wave climate to shoreline change: a multi-method assessment using statistical and machine learning approaches Mariana Cussioli, MetOcean Solutions	How the Past Informs the Future in Shaping Marine Reserve Boundaries Georgia Pendred, DML & University of Otago	Potential for heat hardening to enhance thermal resilience in early benthic juvenile <i>Jasus edwardsii</i> Lucy Coyle*, University of Otago
2.15 – 2.30 pm	The Missing Layer for Coastal Flood Mapping: Why Dunes Matter Kate MacDonald, Jacobs New Zealand	Managing the coastal marine area under New Zealand's new planning system David Falconer, Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport	Acoustic monitoring of Tikapa Moana Hauraki Gulf marine protected areas Zoe Starkey*, University of Auckland
2.30 – 2.45 pm	Linking Environmental Forcing to Coastal Cliff Erosion Hazards Raphael Krier-Mariani, Dunedin City Council - Scripps Institution of Oceanography	Recognition and Protection of Surf Breaks in Canterbury: Evaluating Natural Character and Seascape Frameworks Kaspar Hayes*, University of Canterbury	Knowing where detection fails: habitat-extrapolation validation of high-speed underwater imaging for exotic <i>Caulerpa</i> surveillance Brett Kettle, Flying Fish Technologies
2.45 – 3.00 pm	Improving Extreme Wave and Wave Runup Estimates for Coastal Hazard Assessment Along the Canterbury Coast, New Zealand Rafael Santana, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Closing the Research-to-Practice Loop: Translating Coastal Research into Social Media Science Communication Deirdre Hart*, University of Canterbury	(Plankto) Scoping Estuarine Plankton Communities as Bioindicators of Water Quality Anne Fleur van Leeuwen*, University of Auckland
3.00 – 3.15 pm	Improving Forecasting of Extreme Inundation Events at the Coast Shaw Mead, eCoast	Te Au Roa o Te Rakihouia: Establishing a Biocultural Co-management Model for Marine Protection in Te Tai-o-Araiteuru, the Otago Coastline TBC, Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai	Fit-for-purpose taxonomy: Does greater taxonomic resolution improve marine State of the Environment monitoring? Paul Wolf, Ocean Wolf
3.15 – 3.45pm	Afternoon Tea Poster Session One Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
Session 3	Theme: Science & Coastal Hazards Room: Plenary Hutton Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Monitoring Techniques & Programs Sponsored by DML Room: Barclay Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Marine Science & Coastal Ecosystems Room Kākāpō Room Chair - TBC
3.45 – 4.00 pm	When the Ocean Finds a Path: Improving Coastal Inundation Mapping for Storm Tide Hazards Ellorine Carle, Metocean Solutions/MetService	The power of integration: getting more from existing coastal monitoring Oliver Floerl, Land Water People	Dynamic systems requiring dynamic monitoring: Understanding environmental variability and ecological responses in Otago's Intermittently Closed Estuaries (ICEs) Kiriwana Dilhara*, University of Otago
4.00 – 4.15 pm	DiffSWE2d: a differentiable Shallow Water Equations solver Zhonghou Xu, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Why else are we monitoring? Lessons learned from Hawke's Bay João Albuquerque, Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Operational coastal pollution response: the Wellington sewage spill event Remy Zyngfogel
4.15 – 4.30 pm	The Kamchatka tsunami of 30 July 2025 in New Zealand: did we miss something? Jean Roger, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Reframing the “Why” of shoreline monitoring: Lessons from Waikato Regional Council's Regional Shoreline Monitoring Programme Shari Gallop, Beca	Navigating the Grey Zone: Classifying Coastal Outfalls under New Zealand's Wastewater Environmental Performance Standards Ryan Abrey, Stantec New Zealand, Sue Bennett, Stantec New Zealand
4.30 – 4.45 pm	Understanding the Role of Nature-based Solutions in Tsunami Hazard Mitigation – a Proof-of-Concept for Modelling Different Ecosystems as Manning's n Roughness Values Laura Hughes, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Unravelling Cycles, Trends, and Noise: A Multi Dataset Approach to Understanding Shoreline Change Bronwen Gibberd, 4D Environmental Ltd	Restore the Meadows' seagrass research programme: overview Anna Berthelsen, Cawthron Institute
4.45 – 5.00 pm	Managing Legacy Coastal Landfills in a Changing Climate: Integrating Contaminated Land Remediation with Nature-Based Coastal Resilience, Kettle Park, New Zealand Rebekah Haughey, Tonkin + Taylor		
5.00pm	Close of day one		
5.00pm	 PIANC Networking Function The Bog Corner of George and London Streets, Dunedin		

Wednesday 11 November

8.00 – 8.45 am	Registration Welcome Tea & Coffee Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
9.00 – 9.15 am	Day Two Conference Open Plenary Hutton Theatre		
9.15 – 10.15 am	Keynote: Dr. Kristen Splinter Plenary Hutton Theatre Shorelines, Models and Meaning: Building Resilient Coastal Futures Through Collaboration		
10.15– 10.45 am	Morning Tea Poster Session Two Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
Session 4	Theme: Science & Coastal Hazards Room: Plenary Hutton Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Monitoring Techniques & Programs Sponsored by DML  Room: Barclay Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Ports & Infrastructures Sponsored by Haskoning  Room Kākāpō Room Chair - TBC
10.45 – 11.00 am	Application of shoreline roll-over and wave inundation modelling to assess coastal hazards, risk, and adaptation options on a reef island airport Joshua Bagg, Tonkin + Taylor	Mapping Tomorrow's Coast Today Stuart Caie, Land Information New Zealand	Aramoana Mole Roundhead Renewal Cristian Flores Perez, Beca
11.00 – 11.15 am	Computational shoreline evolution modelling and economic evaluation to prioritise investment in coastal risk management Matt Balkham, Jacobs	Outcomes from nearshore surveying for coastal infrastructure redevelopment projects, Wellington Harbour Sam Davidson, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Physical modelling of the Aramoana Mole breakwater upgrades at Port Otago Thomas Fellowes, UNSW Water Research Laboratory
11.15 – 11.30 am	Designing and Stress-Testing an Adaptation Plan for Whangārei: the Whangārei Urban Flood Strategy Technical Assessment Andrew Allison, Urban Intelligence	From the Firth of Thames to Wharekawa: Expanding Long-Term Monitoring of Estuarine Sedimentation Iain MacDonald, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Marina Breakwater Construction Utilizing Glass Fiber Reinforced Polymer (GFRP) Rebars Peter Renshaw, Pultron Composites
11.30 – 11.45 am	Feasibility of nature-based coastal protection in remote atoll environments Michael Paine, Tonkin + Taylor	Integrating Field Measurements, Satellite Geodesy, and Hierarchical Modelling to Quantify Post-Earthquake Shore Platform Evolution at Kaikōura, New Zealand Sakaouth Hossain*, University of Otago	To dock at “The Rock” or not – the Niue Wharf Feasibility Study Richard Reinen-Hamill, Tonkin + Taylor
11.45 – 12.00 am	Collaborative Coastal Resilience Planning for Outer Atolls in the Marshall Islands João Castro, eCoast	Testing low-cost GNSS receivers against geodetic positioning and tide-gauges for coastal sea-level monitoring Joe Heng*, University of Otago	Broken waves, new rules? Rock revetment design with an unsubmerged toe Ben Batchelor-Cook*, University of Auckland
12.00 – 1.00pm	Lunch Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
1.00pm – 2.00pm	Panel Discussion Room: Plenary Hutton Theatre Speakers: TBC Topic: TBC		
1.30 – 2.00 pm	Afternoon Tea Otago Community Trust Conservatory		
Session 5	Theme: Science & Coastal Hazards Room: Plenary Hutton Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Monitoring Techniques & Programs Sponsored by DML  Room: Barclay Theatre Chair - TBC	Theme: Ports & Infrastructures Sponsored by Haskoning  Room Kākāpō Room Chair - TBC
2.00 – 2.15 pm	Towards a Deployable Search and Rescue Web Application for New Zealand Simon Weppe, Calypso Science	From Drone Data to Design Decisions: Coastal Resilience at Katiki Beach Lee Paterson, Stantec	Machine learning approaches for operational infragravity wave forecasts Alex Port, MetOcean Solutions / MetService
2.15 – 2.30 pm	CREST (Coastal Receiving Environment Scenario Tool) for Assessing How to Improve Ecological Health of Estuaries/Harbours Ben Tuckey, DHI	Developing a UAV monitoring capability for Auckland Council’s Coastal Monitoring Programme – Exploring recent changes at Te Henga and Waiwera in Tāmaki Makaurau Aidan McLean, Auckland Council	Reducing tsunami currents without compromising everyday marina performance: Integrated field measurements and modelling at Tutukaka Harbour Dougal Greer, ORCAS Consulting

2.30 – 2.45 pm	Coastal impacts-based warnings for severe weather events at a local and regional scale Celeste Davies-Calway, Waikato Regional Council	Seeing the Shore Differently: Auckland Council's Coastal Imagery Processing Toolbox Megan Tuck, Auckland Council Peter Quilter, Tonkin +Taylor	Engineering for Ocean and Mud Waves at Lyttelton Port Amy Sheppard, Haskoning
2.45 - 3.00 pm	Supporting Climate Resilience in Pacific Island Countries through Coastal Inundation and Sea-level Rise Risk Tools Andra Whiteside, Earth Sciences New Zealand	Insights on ebb tide delta dynamics from marine vessel journeys Richard Beauchamp, University of Auckland	Designing from ecology up: a bottom-up approach to eco-engineering port infrastructure Oliver Floerl, Land Water People
3.00 – 3.15 pm	A Virtual Reality Simulation Game to Build Ocean Stewardship Eleanor Chao, Geo Applied Realities	Image Perspectives for Rip Current Identification Education Rachel Irvine*, University of New South Wales	Trial of artificial rock pools at Lyttelton Port: from concept to implementation and evaluation Tommaso Alestra, Boffa Miskell
3.30 – 4.30 pm	Close of day two Awards Plenary Hutton Theatre		
5.45 – 6.00pm	Bus Transfers departs to Gala Dinner Venue Heritage Busses		
6.30pm – late	Gala Dinner Awards Tautuku Fishing Club		

Thursday 11 November

9.00 – 9.15am	Field Trips Meeting Point: Tūhura Otago Museum
9.30am	Field Trips Depart Tūhura Otago Museum
9.30 – 2.00pm	Field Trips commence Plenary Hutton Theatre
1.30 - 2.00pm	Estimated return time Tūhura Otago Museum
2.00pm	End of conference



Contact: Conferences@engineeringnz.org

Conference website: coastalsociety.org.nz/conferences/2026