



Figure 1: Management Unit 4A (Seasalter)

 Blue: Recycling Extraction Point
 Red: Recycling Deposition Area

Seasalter comprises a managed beach which is backed by partially developed low lying coastal grazing marsh, a large proportion of which is of international nature conservation value. Shingle towards the eastern section of the beach is coarse and plentiful. However, towards the western end (Castle Coote) shingle is lacking, revealing a sand base. The mud foreshore is considered very deep, due to its proximity to the mouth of the Swale Estuary. It is also understood that mussel fishing which is undertaken within the estuary heavily disrupts the seabed causing further siltation.

The bund located at rear of the beach is the main defence, as the majority of the timber groynes are dilapidated and subject to overtopping, making them inadequate for protection. Under rising sea levels and a limited supply of contemporary beach building sediment, it is anticipated that it will become increasingly difficult to maintain a beach along this frontage. If the current alignment were to be held in the long-term, coastal squeeze together with a diminished supply of natural beach building sediment would lead to substantial hard defences and/or significant beach management (Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP, 2007).

The area has been regularly replenished every other year up until 2005. In summer 2010 the Environment Agency undertook a replenishment scheme in front of the residential area of Faversham Road. This capital scheme involved a shingle recharge on the order of 6,000m³ as well as the installation of two new large groynes. A further 3,000m³ was recharged in front of the Sportsman Pub, along with four new groynes.

The short term plan is to continue protecting the low-lying assets. In the medium and long term the plan is to realign the defences. The second Epoch will see the management unit divided into two (at the Sportsman Pub), whereby the west will undergo managed realignment and the east will continue to maintain 'Hold the Line'. The third Epoch will witness the whole frontage undergoing managed realignment.

Survey Regime

Survey type	Frequency	Profile spacing/survey extent
Topographic baseline	Annual	50m to MLWS
Topographic interim profile	Spring and Autumn	150m to MLWS
Bathymetry	5 years	50m profiles to 1km offshore
Ortho-photography	5 years	MLW
Aerial photography	Ceased in 2008	MLW
Lidar	Rolling Programme	MLW
Habitat Mapping	5 Years	As Required

Full details of data availability and extents can be found on the Channel Coast Observatory Website (www.channelcoast.org)

Summary of Beach Operations

Date	Operation	Quantity (m ³)	Location/Notes
2010			
August	Capital Scheme	9,000	6,000m ³ in front of the residential houses on Faversham Road 3,000m ³ in front of the Sportsman Pub.
2005			
March	Annual Beach Recycling	500-1000	In front of the residential houses on Faversham Road
2003			
March	Annual Recycling Scheme	500-1000	In front of the residential houses on Faversham Road

Full details of beach operations can be obtained from Canterbury City Council (strategic.monitoring@canterbury.gov.uk)