

Our Ref: LD_5
Date: 09 September 2021

Dear Resident

Lydd Ranges Sea Defences Update – September & October 2021

The Lydd Ranges Sea Defences Scheme is one of a number of schemes that together form the Folkestone to Cliff End Strategy (FoCES), which when complete will better protect 14,500 homes throughout Kent and East Sussex from coastal flooding.

Construction will take place over 3 years, with works being undertaken during the spring, summer and autumn months each year. The on-site works commenced in July and works undertaken to date include:

- Preparation of the site compound area.
- Commencement of the installation of timber groynes on the beach: The first stage of groyne construction involves driving “piles” (vertical posts that provide support for the timber planks) into the beach, using a “movax” vibration piling machine. An impact hammer (a large hammer that creates a different, ‘banging’ sound) is only required to drive the pile to the final depth as the soil becomes more resistant during the pile driving operation, The impact hammer sound is intermittent and not continuous. This equipment was used during the emergency works at Lydd (50m east of the MOD lookout) in 2020. Piles for 7 of the 34 groynes have now been installed.
- Preparations for the works to improve the access road along the Green Wall embankment have commenced, which to date have involved temporarily removing some of the rock to provide access to the seaward edge of the road.
- Commencement of the interim beach nourishment operation in mid-August: This interim beach nourishment operation involves the importation and placement of approximately 46,000m³ of shingle to the 600m of beach to the east of the MOD lookout. A dredger collects the material from a licenced borrow area located 30 nautical miles off the coast of Eastbourne. The material is then loaded onto flattop barges, which bring it to the beach at high tide. Once delivered to the beach, bulldozers and wheel loaders distribute and profile the material. This operation on the beach takes place 24 hours a day 7 days per week, so you may have noticed some recent coming and going at the site compound area at all hours. The plant are fitted with modified reverse alarms to reduce noise.

This update provides details of the works proposed for September and October 2021:

- Timber Groyne Construction throughout September and October:
 - Timber for the groynes will continue to be delivered to the site compound at Jury’s Gap.
 - Timber preparation: Where possible, the timber will be prepared off-site to minimise the noise and disruption to those local to the Jury’s Gap compound. Where timber preparation is required at the Jury’s Gap compound, this will be during one high-tide 6-hour shift each weekday (during the day, not at night). The work involving chainsaws will not be continuous during the hours of high-tide as there will also be other works occurring. Acoustic fencing will be installed to reduce the noise and we will also have use of another site within the MOD ranges to try and minimise the impact.
- Groyne construction: works continuing to take place on the beach, mostly during low-tide, each weekday during daylight hours. In September and October we are working at groynes further down the beach away from properties (approx. 500 m east of the MOD lookout) and machinery and equipment for the groyne construction will be stored local to the working area on the beach, where possible. Deliveries of plant and equipment to the compound at Jury’s Gap and South Brooks (within the MOD ranges) will continue to use the sea wall to access the ranges to the east of the cottages. On average, less than one delivery per day is expected during September and October.

- Preparing for the construction of the access road from Jury's Gap lookout to Wicks will commence in September. To do this we will need to break out the existing road, starting mid-September and this is expected to take about 4 weeks, but these works are at least 250 m from properties.
- Beach recharge works are expected to be completed mid-September. The beach recharge works will be working over a 600m stretch of beach roughly from the MoD lookout working east – so working away from properties.

We hope the above provides sufficient information to you regarding our progress and proposed activity over the forthcoming period.

For further information on this scheme please visit the project website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/lydd-ranges-sea-defence-scheme/lydd-ranges-sea-defence-scheme> or scan the QR code below.

Or the citizen space page:

https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/ksles/lydd-ranges-sea-defences-scheme/consult_view/

If you have any queries about this, or the scheme in general, please contact us via our project inbox at lyddranges@environment-agency.gov.uk

If you would like to sign up to our email circulation list please contact me directly at the email address below.

Thank you for your support and understanding during the works.

Yours faithfully,

Lydd Ranges Sea Defences Scheme, Project Team

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