

Your Comment on the Wellington International Airport Southern Seawall Renewal project draft conditions

Please include all the contact details listed below with your comments on the draft conditions and indicate whether you can receive further communications from us by email to substantive@fasttrack.govt.nz.

1. Contact Details			
Please ensure that you have authority to comment on the draft conditions on behalf of those named on this form.			
Organisation name (if relevant)	Wellington Conservation Board		
First name	Huia		
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Please provide your comments below, include additional pages or attachments as needed.

Submission from the Wellington Conservation Board on the Wellington International Airport Southern Seawall Renewal Project Draft Decision and Conditions (Fast-Track Approvals Act 2024)

The Wellington Conservation Board appreciates the opportunity to comment on the draft decision and proposed conditions for the Southern Seawall Renewal Project. The Board recognises the importance of strengthening airport resilience and acknowledges the work undertaken to address ecological effects. Consistent with its earlier submission, the Board considers that this project should deliver enduring environmental benefits alongside infrastructure protection.

The Board does not oppose the project in principle but considers suggests conditions could be strengthened to ensure a clear and measurable net biodiversity gain. Defined success criteria, robust monitoring, and enforceable contingency measures where outcomes are not achieved in perpetuity is desirable.

The Board emphasises the importance of securing long-term monitoring, maintenance, and funding commitments. These should be clearly defined, appropriately resourced, and aligned with the life of the asset and the timeframes required for ecological success, ensuring that biodiversity gains are sustained over the long term.

Strong coastal and marine protections, clear thresholds for managing coastal erosion effects and a precautionary approach to marine ecology effects need to be explicit. This should be supported by well-defined triggers for action and funded response mechanisms.

Finally, the Board supports meaningful involvement of mana whenua in monitoring, management, and decision-making processes, including the incorporation of mātauranga Māori and cultural health indicators.

In conclusion, the Board supports the intent of the project and considers that, with strong conditions in the areas mentioned, it can better deliver lasting biodiversity outcomes alongside infrastructure resilience.

Thank you for your comments