



CITY OF CAPE TOWN | ISIXEKO SASEKAPA | STAD KAAPSTAD

THIS CITY WORKS FOR YOU

City of Cape Town's Coastal Zone Management Strategy
Coastal Zone Management Review and State of the Coast
Year Two: November 2004 - October 2005

SUMMARY REPORT





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Prepared for:

The City of Cape Town's Coastal Zone Technical Co-ordinating Committee

Prepared by:

Environmental Resource Management Department, City of Cape Town

Thanks to interns from the City's 2005 Intern Programme.



Vision for our coast

“To be a City that leads by example through recognising the coastal zone as a unique and significant natural asset in the City. To commit to the management of this resource in an innovative and integrated manner that will ensure the environmentally sustainable functioning of the natural systems while optimising the economic and social benefits.”

Foreword



The people of Cape Town are fortunate to live along one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world. This extraordinary coastline is one of our greatest assets, which underpins our economy, provides endless social and recreational opportunities and supports a diverse range of coastal and marine species. This is the second annual State of the Coast report for the City of Cape Town, which once again highlights the need for the City to work with the people of Cape Town to enhance, protect and manage this wonderful asset. As the City of Cape Town, we are committed to acknowledging where there are poor standards, whilst showcasing areas of success, and by comparing successive years' reports, continuously work towards ongoing improvement.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nieuwoudt".

Councillor Marian Nieuwoudt
Mayoral Committee Member for Planning and Environment, City of Cape Town



This second annual State of the Coast Report highlights many coastal management successes over 2005. We added another full Blue Flag beach to our existing two and we have another three beaches running as Pilot Blue Flag beaches, which we hope will become fully fledged Blue Flag beaches at the end of 2006, we have funded the shark spotting programme, seen a great improvement in coastal signage and started to see the benefits of integration across City departments in our beach cleaning, water quality monitoring and coastal resort management. A strategic development framework for the resorts is being developed, which will identify development options, including management arrangements.

This report also highlights the challenges we still face and the much needed improvement still required in the quality of our coastal ablutions. Our sensitive dune systems are under greater threat than ever before, safety and security on our beaches needs to be improved and the standard of facilities, especially in disadvantaged areas, must be upgraded. We accept these challenges and commit to working continuously to reverse them and make them future successes.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lokiwe Mtwazi".

Ms Lokiwe Mtwazi
Executive Director: Community Development, City of Cape Town

Introduction

The geographical area administered by the City of Cape Town is home to one of the world's most beautiful and unique natural environments. Cape Town has over 300km of coastline that varies between rocky and sandy shores. The coastline supports an immensely diverse range of marine and coastal ecosystems, which are home to rare and endangered species, and contain 84 Red Data Species. Cape Town's coastal zone is also an area of dense recreational activity for both local people, as well as national and international tourists. For these reasons, the coastline of Cape Town is one of its greatest ecological, social and economic assets.

In October 2001 the City of Cape Town adopted the Integrated Metropolitan Environmental Policy (IMEP) as an over arching framework for guiding the sustainable development of the City. One of the key implementation strategies to evolve from IMEP was the Coastal Zone Management Strategy, adopted by Council in October 2003. The focus of this Management Strategy is on an integrated approach to ensuring the health, efficient management and optimisation of the City's Coastal Zone.

The Coastal Zone Management Strategy is an ongoing long-term approach to Local Government management of the coastal zone. Periodic reporting and review of the implementation of this Strategy, as well as the current state of the coastal zone is an important component, as it provides decision-makers with up to date and practical information about progress that has been made and directs the future implementation of effective management plans. Further, periodic reporting and review provides an opportunity for the City of Cape Town to openly report back to the communities of Cape Town on the progress made and the management actions taken in terms of managing the coastal common good (as defined by the National Policy for Sustainable Coastal Development).

This Report

This report is a summary of the full length City of Cape Town 2004/2005 Coastal Zone Management Review and State of the Coast Report. The full report is available from the Environmental Resource Management Department on request. The purpose of this summary report is to provide the public with information about the management of Cape Town's Coastal Zone by reporting on a range of qualitative and quantitative indicators. In doing so, it presents an integrated and holistic view of the coast. This is the second annual Coastal Zone Management Review and State of the Coast Summary Report, and compares results with the previous year's assessment.

Scope of the Summary Report

a) Geographic extent

This report details the state of the coast for the area from Silverstroom Strand in the north to Kogel Bay in the east, but excludes the coastal area administered by, and that which falls within, the Table Mountain National Park. National Harbours and Ports are also excluded from this report.

b) Strategic City-wide and local area coastal issues

This report assesses progress, and the current state of the coast, from both a City-wide strategic overview (coastal management overview) as well as for each local coastal area. Local coastal areas are reported on according to the 43 coastal zone management units as defined in the Coastal Zone Management Strategy.



Summary Report Structure

This report presents a summary of the key findings for each of the following key coastal issues:

- Coastal Zone Management Review
- State of Coastal Facilities
- State of Coastal Ablutions
- State of Coastal Signage
- State of Coastal Water Quality
- State of Coastal Dunes
- State of Coastal Boardwalks and Access Points
- State of Stakeholder Consultation and Participation
- State of Operational Coastal Management Plans



Coastal facilities at St James Beach

Coastal Zone Management Review

The City has made significant progress over the last three years in implementing coastal management as a key function and management responsibility. Key issues identified during 2004/2005 include:

1. The ongoing functioning of the City of Cape Town's Coastal Zone Technical Coordinating Committee (CZTCC)

The CZTCC and the appointment of two Coastal Coordinators is one of two components of the institutional model outlined in the Coastal Zone Management Strategy. As part of this institutional model the CZTCC is required to meet monthly in order to coordinate activities among the various line functions that play a role in coastal zone management, as well as communicate with other spheres of government and non-governmental role players and stakeholders.

The appointment of Coastal Coordinators is currently underway as part of the City of Cape Town restructuring process. The appointment of Coastal Coordinators will ensure that coastal management is facilitated throughout the city and across the various line functions involved. It will also ensure that coastal management is recognised as an important environmental management priority, thus allowing the City to address a number of problems facing Cape Town's coastal zone.

2. Coastal Management Budget

Cape Town's beaches and coastal recreation facilities are amongst the best in the country. The coastal zone is therefore, one of Cape Town's greatest social, economic and environmental assets. Well managed beaches provide an important tourist

attraction both locally, nationally and internationally, as well as providing members of the public in Cape Town with an affordable means of recreation.

Cape Town's coastal zone also acts as a receiving environment for many of the waste products associated with a large metropolitan urban environment. Treated effluent and wastewater, stormwater, and industrial and agricultural runoff enter the coastal system, often impacting negatively on the biophysical environment.

In order to manage this impact on the coastal environment a dedicated coastal budget is required for the ongoing maintenance and upgrading of coastal facilities and environments. To this date there is still no dedicated coastal management budget, although funds are allocated to coastal management projects.

3. Achieving Blue Flag Status

Blue Flag is an international programme aimed at awarding Blue Flag Status to beaches that meet a range of environmental, social and educational standards.

Six Cape Town beaches applied for Blue Flag Status for the 2005/2006 season. Two of these beaches – Clifton 4th Beach and Mnandi – had been awarded Blue Flag status for the 2004/2005 season. The other four – Muizenberg, Strandfontein, Camps Bay and Bikini Beach – had been operating under pilot



Clifton 4th Beach

Blue Flag Status during 2004/2005. This meant that although the beaches were managed according to strict Blue Flag criteria, they had not yet passed the stringent tests required in order to gain full Blue Flag status.

Both Clifton 4th Beach and Mnandi successfully reapplied and were awarded Blue Flag status for 2005/2006, while Bikini beach achieved full Blue Flag status for the first time. Muizenberg, Camps Bay and Strandfontein however remain as Pilot Blue Flag Beaches, and will reapply again for the 2006/2007 season.

4. The ongoing preparation and implementation of Sustainable Coastal Management Plans

In order to effectively and efficiently manage the coastal zone in a sustainable manner a number of Sustainable Coastal Management Plans (SCMPs) were developed. These management plans are intended to provide co-ordinated management for a number of sensitive coastal areas in Cape Town.

The City of Cape Town has already developed and implemented management plans for coastal Unit 34 (Muizenberg to Wolfgat), and Unit 10 (Clifton to Camps Bay). SCMPs have been developed for Unit 30 (Fish Hoek), Unit 43 (Kogel) Bay, Unit 15 (Hout Bay) and Unit 3 (Melkbosstrand).

5. The preparation of Draft Coastal Zone Development Guidelines

Cape Town's coastal zone is a sensitive environment that has already been negatively impacted in a number of ways. Chief amongst these is inappropriate development in the coastal zone which leads to disruption of natural coastal processes. Whereas appropriate development can enhance the beauty and amenity of the coastline, inappropriate development has the potential to increase coastal erosion, impact negatively on the coastal sense of place and limit public access to an area of public open space.

In order to ensure the correct functioning of coastal processes, it is necessary to limit development in the coastal zone. Coastal zone development guidelines that will address this issue are currently under formulation, and a final draft is expected by the end of 2006.

6. Participation in National and Provincial Forums and Initiatives

The coastal zone in Cape Town is managed not only by local

government (the City of Cape Town) but also by provincial and national government. Similarly, entities of these different spheres of government are key institutions in the management, policy setting and regulation of the coastal zone.

In order to ensure effective co-ordinated coastal management it is imperative that coastal initiatives and programmes are communicated and shared among the three spheres of government. As such, City officials have represented and participated in a number of coastal initiatives of national and provincial importance.

7. Managing and Enhancing Coastal Recreation

Cape Town's coastal zone provides a host of opportunities for recreation. Not only does this provide an important amenity for national and international tourists, it also provides an affordable means of recreation for Cape Town's local residents.

However, increasing numbers of beach users has placed strain on the coastal resources, resulting in areas of high daily usage and conflict between different beach user groups. Therefore, in order to provide safe and operational coastal recreational facilities, it is necessary to implement coastal recreation programmes and regulate coastal events.

During 2005, the City of Cape Town developed draft guidelines for the management of Dogs in the Coastal Zone, as well as developing draft Jetski Use Zones. Once reviewed, these guidelines will be put to the public for comment.

8. Managing Sharks in the Coastal Zone

The presence and occurrence of White Sharks within the inshore coastal areas of Cape Town appears to have increased with wider and greater reporting of interactions between coastal users and these apex predators. A critical, valuable and protected species occurring in Cape Town's waters, the white shark has attracted significant media coverage over 2005. The City has recognised the need to proactively develop safety and awareness strategies with the intention of lowering the risk of attack and minimising misinformation surrounding sharks and their threat to coastal users. As such the City has:

- Convened the City Shark Working Group with representation from MCM, PAWC, TMNP, Iziko Museums, NGO's, SA Lifesaving, and NSRI
- Continued to monitor and record all shark sightings
- Worked with the AfriOceans Conservation Alliance in developing shark awareness signage
- Provided R400 000 funding to finance the shark spotting programmes at Fish Hoek and Muizenberg and initiating similar programmes at Monwabisi, Mnandi, Blue Waters, Sunrise and Macassar beaches.

9. Meeting National Legislation: Permitting Boat Launching Slipways

The Off-Road Vehicle Regulations (National Environmental Management Act, 1998 No. 107) promulgated by National Government require that all boat launching sites and slipways be permitted. Permit applications for each slipway were submitted to the Provincial Government for assessment and Records of Decision. All slipways that are not permitted are required to be closed.

To date, only two Records of Decision have been received from the Provincial Government (Millers Point and Kommetjie Slipways), and many slipways in the City of Cape Town remain without permits. In February 2005, an audit was undertaken of all 11 slipways for which permits were submitted, to determine whether they meet the Operational Management Requirements

(OMR) of Boat Launching Sites. Slipways not complying with the OMR were recorded and necessary corrective actions highlighted.

10. Beach Profiling

The coastal zone within the City of Cape Town is subject to continuous alterations as a result of development and the interruptions of natural coastal processes. Furthermore, predicted climate change may result in sea level rise. It is imperative therefore that the City develop appropriate monitoring programmes to assess changes in the coastal zone.

Beach profiling continues within the City of Cape Town however some beaches are profiled on a monthly basis, whereas others are profiled on a quarterly basis (owing to capacity and resource constraints).

11. Beach Cleansing

Natural waste products from the marine environment (e.g. kelp and redbait), together with terrestrial waste carried by the sea, ultimately come ashore. These natural waste products play a vital role in the functioning of the coastal ecosystem but can also cause problems on beaches where there is high density recreation.

The Environmental Resource Management Department together with the Cleansing Department have developed a Beach Cleansing Policy that both Directorates have adopted as a way of finding a balance between creating a coastal environment that is conducive to a high standard of recreation and one that supports and maintains natural ecosystem processes and functions.



Beach cleansing

12. Waste Water in the Coastal Zone

The marine environment is the receiving environment for all of the City of Cape Town's Waste Water Treatment Works. This wastewater enters the ocean through wastewater outfalls or via rivers and coastal estuaries.

Unfortunately, rapid development in the City of Cape Town area means that the increasing population has outstripped the growth in capacity of the City's Waste Water Treatment Works. This has resulted in increased amounts of poor quality waste water entering the marine environment.

In 2003/2004, the Wastewater department committed itself to the implementation of Environmental Management Systems at all of their Waste Water Treatment Works. However, as of 2005 there is still a lack of capacity for wastewater treatment in Cape Town. As a result, poor quality wastewater effluent continues to be discharged into the coastal environment. This is a cause for concern.

13. Coastal Education and Awareness Programmes



Environmental education on the beach

Coastal management can only be effectively achieved if the responsibility is shared not only by government organisations but by the individuals who utilise the coast for their own purposes. Therefore, coastal awareness and education programmes are vital to coastal management.

In 2004 the City of Cape Town Environmental Resource Management Department partnered with Marine and Coastal Management for National Marine Week (18–22 Oct). The theme of this partnership was "Mountains, catchments, rivers and streams to the ocean floor". During this week the City displayed 16 exhibitions in the Maritime Museum at the V&A Waterfront and 1 364 learners were given the opportunity to visit the exhibition.

The City of Cape Town also ran programmes at the Blue Flag Beaches, as well as Strandfontein and Camps Bay Beaches, which were facilitated by the Western Cape Education Department: Centre for Conservation Education in Wynberg. The Atlantis and Mamre Eco-schools also participated in a beach clean up on Monday 18 October.

In 2005, the City of Cape Town celebrated the Blue Flag Beaches. The theme of this celebration was "Protect our Marine Resources for the benefit of all". At Mnandi, Strandfontein, Camps Bay & Bikini Beaches the relevant beach manager presented a programme to the learners. Among the topics discussed were Marine Protected Areas, Blue Flag Beaches, Water Safety, an introduction to the Adopt-a-Beach Programme, and Beach Signage. Lifesavers also gave the learners lessons in lifesaving and played educational games on the beach. Each group consisted of 60 learners from a school nearby to the beach, the idea being that the learners could adopt their nearest beach as well as educate others in the community about what they had learnt.

During Marine Week the City of Cape Town also organised for the Mitchell's Plain and Guguletu Eco-Schools to take part in a beach cleanup at Robben Island.

14. Conservation of Natural Coastal Areas

Formal protection and management of representative coastal environments and habitats is essential to the long-term health and well-being of the coastal zone.

A Spatial Development Framework and Management Plan for the Soetwater Resort has been drafted and will be finalised shortly. The draft outlines and defines the recreational zones into a caravan park, camping area and picnic area. It also defines the environmentally sensitive areas within the resort where camping is prohibited.



extreme and ongoing corrosive and erosive forces and therefore require ongoing assessment and maintenance throughout their lifespan.

Emergency maintenance of the sea wall in Sea Point has been completed. However, longer term ongoing maintenance is required and should be budgeted for. A number of weak and exposed areas continue to exist along the Sea Point sea wall.

Other sea walls across the City's coastline are in poor condition and require urgent maintenance and upgrading. The wall at Graaff's pool has been demolished but remnants of it still exist.

15. Engineering and Management of Hard Surfaces

Hard coastal surfaces within the littoral zone are subject to

Repairs to Sea Point Sea Wall

Coastal Facilities

The City of Cape Town is dedicated to providing coastal facilities of a high standard and ensuring continued annual improvement. Parking lots and resorts provide the public with important logistical and social amenities, and well maintained facilities contribute greatly to the overall amenity of a beach. In order to assess the progress made since the previous reporting period, the available public recreational and social facilities and amenities, including parking lots and resorts, have been rated according to a rating system adapted from Blue Flag SA. The summary of results for facilities is divided into two categories: parking facilities, and resorts, which includes pavilions, swimming pools and tidal pools.

Poorly maintained parking areas reflect negatively on the coastline and create a sense of poor management and neglect of the area.

All the parking areas were rated according to criteria adapted from Blue Flag SA. The provision of acceptable parking is not a complex issue, or difficult to achieve. The basics of what comprise a well managed parking area are simple: clearly demarcated bays, clearly defined edges of the parking areas, well maintained surface free of potholes, clear signage, cleanliness and security.

a) Parking Facilities

Parking facilities at the coast provide an important service to beach users, as most arrive at the beach by means of vehicular transport. This includes users of private cars, as well as tourist groups using tour buses. Few beaches are accessible by public transport such as trains or buses, and therefore it is vital that beaches provide a safe, secure and well maintained parking facility.

As such, this report suggests that the minimum standard that needs to be achieved by parking areas in Cape Town is not less than 50 points below the maximum possible score. Owing to the rating system used, some categories are not applicable to all areas, and as such the maximum possible score for those areas is reduced accordingly. Therefore, in some cases a rating will be out of 200 points, whereas in others it will be out of 170 points.

The following aspects are important in the provision of an acceptable parking facility:

- Cleanliness
- Well demarcated and organised parking areas
- Safety and Security

A total of 15 out of 64, or 23% of the parking areas that were rated did not meet the minimum standards as defined in this report.

Poorly demarcated parking areas have the potential to cause numerous negative impacts on the coastline, through creep and expansion of the parking lot into the beach area itself.

A total of 6 out of 64, or 9% of the parking areas that were rated were of an excellent standard. Overall, the majority (77%) of coastal parking facilities in Cape Town were of an acceptable standard.

Below is a table of all the parking facilities in the city that did not meet the minimum acceptable score.

CZM Unit	Location	Score	CZM Unit	Location	Score
3	Parking lot north of Klein Zoute River	87/170	30	Parking lot at Clovelly	97/170
3	Parking lot top of Harold Ashwell Rd	95/170	34	Parking lot at Sunrise Beach	108/170
7	Parking lot at Milnerton Lagoon Mouth	140/200	34	Parking lot west of Mnandi	80/170
11	Informal view points and parking lots - Bakoven	100/200	35	Parking lot at Wolfgat Nature Reserve	35/170
18	Forsythe Street parking lot	108/170	36	Parking at Swartklip	93/200
26	Parking lot at Long Beach Simon's Town	112/170	36	Macassar Pavilion parking lots	103/170
28	Glencairn parking	92/170	38	Strand Main Road Parking lots	117/170
29	Parking lot at Whale viewing site just north of Glencairn	107/170			



The parking areas that received the highest score and set the standard for the city are shown in the table below.

CZM Unit	Location	Score	CZM Unit	Location	Score
4	Parking lots 1 - 5 in the Blaauwberg Conservation Area	166/170	12	Llandudno Beach parking area	169/170
5	Parking lot next to "Ons Huisie"	158/170	25	Parking lot at Seaforth	163/170
5	Parking in Blouberg South	159/170	26	Parking lot at Simon's Town harbour /Jubilee Square	157/170



Excellent Parking Area at Simon's Town



Unacceptable Parking Facilities at Glencairn Beach

Trends since 2003/2004

In 2003/2004 a total of 32% of parking lots were below the minimum standard, while in 2004/2005 only 23% were below the minimum standard, a difference of 7 parking lots. Although this is an overall improvement, 9 of the 15 parking lots rated as

unacceptable during the 2004/2005 assessment were also rated as unacceptable in the previous assessment.

Although improvement and deterioration have been noted for each unit in the assessment, there appears to have been a slight improvement in the overall standard of parking offered by the City of Cape Town at its coastal areas.

Recommendations

Parking facilities along the Cape Town coastline are of a generally good standard. However, upgrading does need to take place at many parking lots in order to ensure that they provide a better standard of service.

The following serve as recommendations for all coastal parking facilities in Cape Town:

- Clear and updated signage must be present.
- The edges of the parking area must be clearly demarcated and fenced or otherwise controlled in order to prevent creep and uncontrolled vehicle access to the beach.
- Parking bays should be clearly demarcated in order to prevent confusion and maximise efficiency of space.
- Cleaning must take place on a regular basis.
- The problems associated with windblown sand need to be dealt with.
- Resurfacing and formalisation of surfaces must take place at all parking areas where this was deemed necessary.

b.) Resorts (including pavilions, tidal pools and swimming pools)

The City of Cape Town provides a number of amenities and resorts along the coastline. These range from overnight chalet accommodation, to camp sites and caravan parks, as well as day camps, pavilions, tidal pools and swimming pools.

These resort areas form key recreational nodes, especially along the False Bay coastline, and provide an affordable holiday destination for many Cape Town families. They are especially busy during the summer and festive seasons, but are often closed during winter.

Each facility was rated according to the system developed by

Blue Flag SA. The minimum standard for an acceptable level of service provision as defined in this report is a score of 120 out of 200, or no less than 80 points below the maximum possible score. Owing to the rating system used, some categories are not applicable to all areas, and as such the maximum possible score for those areas is reduced accordingly.

A number of these resorts were built without proper planning and as such were located in dynamic and often stormy coastal environments. As such, they experience problems of windblown sand, wind and water erosion, and flooding during storms.

A total of 8 facilities out of 36 rated did not meet the minimum standard. This equates to 22% of the facilities reviewed.

The following table lists all those coastal resorts that did not meet the minimum standard.

CZM Unit	Location	Score	CZM Unit	Location	Score
34	Bathing boxes at Muizenberg Beach	46/200	36	Monwabisi Resort – Day visitor area	70/155
34	Blue Waters Resort	90/200	36	Macassar Pavilion	50/200
34	Braai area next to Mnandi Resort	50/195	38	Harmony Day camp	65/200
34	Blue Waters braai and picnic area	99/200	43	Klippias Bay picnic area	108/200

Macassar Pavilion suffers from serious windblown sand problems



The following facilities are recognised for their excellence, and the high standard of service provided. These facilities set an example for the rest of the city.

CZM Unit	Location	Score	CZM Unit	Location	Score
4	Eerstestein Resort	166/170	23	Millers Point Caravan Park	196/200
9	Play park, Rocklands	156/170	30	Fish Hoek Caravan Park	187/200
9	Sea Point Swimming Pool	189/200			

A total of 5 out of 36 facilities rated, or 14%, achieved an excellent standard.



Excellent level of service at Sea Point Swimming Pool

Trends since 2003/2004

Since 2003/2004 there has been a slight increase in the number of resort facilities which did not meet the minimum standard, as well as a slight increase in the number of resort facilities which showed excellence in service provision.

Overall, the majority of coastal resort facilities (78%) in Cape Town are of a good standard. However, in 2003/2004 a number of urgent recommendations were made that were not implemented in 2004/2005.

It was recommended that Macassar Pavilion be demolished as it is no longer in use, and that the Blue Waters Pavilion undergo significant and immediate upgrading, and as of 2004/2005 neither of these recommendations had been implemented.

It was also recommended that the Soetwater Resort be upgraded in order to reflect the sensitive ecological nature of this coastline. As of 2004/2005 it appears that there has been a slight improvement in the standard of facilities at the Soetwater Resort, but significant upgrading is still required in order to provide a resort that is in keeping with the proposed conservation status of this coastline.

Recommendations

Overall, coastal resort facilities are of a good standard. In order to improve coastal facilities, the following recommendations must be taken note of:

- It is strongly recommended that Macassar Pavilion be demolished. It is an eyesore and a blight on the coastline, and it is beyond affordable repair. It is situated inappropriately, and as such is subject to a number of hostile coastal processes, making upgrading of this facility inappropriate.
- The Blue Waters Resort is in urgent need of upgrading and renovation in order to provide an acceptable level of service.
- The bathing boxes on Muizenberg beach are in need of urgent upgrading or removal.



Ablution Facilities

Ablution facilities are key aspect of coastal management, as (when of an appropriate minimum standard) they provide an important service to users of the coastline. Well maintained and clean ablution facilities have a positive effect on the beach in which they are situated, and encourage visitors to return. However, poorly maintained, broken and dirty ablution facilities have a negative impact on the beach in which they are situated, and deter people from lengthy beach visits.

As such, ablution facilities, including toilets and showers, have been rated according to a rating system adapted from Blue Flag SA. Ablutions are scored according to a number of criteria, including cleanliness of the ablution, physical condition of the equipment, functionality of the equipment, accessibility, and security. Well maintained and hygienic ablutions are a key aspect of successful coastal management.

The following facilities (in the top table below) received a score of "excellent" as they scored 160 points or more out of 200 possible points, and are presented here to set the standard and acknowledge excellence. These facilities provide a much needed service to the coastline, as they make a visitor's experience of a beach more comfortable and improve the recreational potential of a beach. A beach which has excellent ablution facilities is more likely to receive repeat visits, and

thus boosts the tourism potential of the management unit in which it is situated. All of the facilities listed below are situated at popular beaches, where ablution usage is high. Therefore, these ablutions have performed particularly well, as it is clear that regular maintenance and cleaning is required under high use conditions, to keep these ablutions at a high standard.

In the previous State of the Coast Report, ablution facilities required a score of 120 out of 200 points in order to meet the minimum acceptable standard. However, as the assessment team for 2004/2005 used more stringent assessment criteria, a score of 100 out of 200 points was identified as necessary to meet the minimum acceptable standard in this year's report.

Those ablutions which scored a low "average" or "poor" require significant upgrading or renovation in order to provide an acceptable standard of service. Equipment in many of these ablutions is broken or in poor condition and almost uniformly of a poor standard of cleanliness. Those ablutions that received a rating of "very poor" received a score of 50 or less out of 200 potential points due to significant problems identified at these facilities. Many of these ablutions constitute a health hazard or an eyesore, and all are failing in the provision of a useful service to the public. Therefore, all ablutions in this category are in need of urgent complete renovations or removal.

CZM Unit	Ablution Location	Score out of 200	Rating	CZM Unit	Ablution Location	Score out of 200	Rating
34	Abl7 - east of Mnandi Resort	190	EXCELLENT	9	Abl1 – Mouille Point Lighthouse	171	EXCELLENT
34	Abl6 - Mnandi Resort	189	EXCELLENT	10	Abl7 - Camps Bay tidal pool	166	EXCELLENT
30	Abl4 - Fish Hoek Caravan Park	184	EXCELLENT	33	Abl1 - St James	165	EXCELLENT
10	Abl6 - Camps Bay at beach office	177	EXCELLENT	10	Abl4.4 - Glen Beach	161	EXCELLENT
34	Abl8 - east of Mnandi Resort	177	EXCELLENT	7	Abl2 – Lagoon Beach Hotel	160	EXCELLENT

CZM Unit	Ablution Location	Score out of 200	Rating	CZM Unit	Ablution Location	Score out of 200	Rating
19	Abl1 – Soetwater Caravan Park	100	AVERAGE	43	Abl3+4 - Sparks Bay	66	POOR
38	Abl3 - Sand café	99	AVERAGE	12	Abl1 – Llandudno	64	POOR
42	Abl4-11 - Kogel Bay Camp Sites	96	AVERAGE	1	Abl 4 – Silwerstroom Tidal Pool	63	POOR
36	Abl 6 - west of Monwabisi Resort	96	AVERAGE	38	Abl7 - Harmony Beach	62	POOR
38	Abl1 - Strand Dune Park	93	AVERAGE	1	Abl1 - Silwerstroom Caravan Park	59	POOR
15	Abl2 – Chapman's Peak parking area	88	AVERAGE	5	Ablution 7 Blouberg	58	POOR
30	Abl3 - north of parking area at Fish Hoek Beach	87	AVERAGE	34	Abl5 - west of Mnandi	58	POOR
36	Abl1 - near Macassar Pavilion	85	AVERAGE	38	Abl8 - Harmony Caravan Park	58	POOR
42	Abl2+3 - Kogel Bay Caravan Park	84	AVERAGE	42	Abl1 - Kogel Bay	52	POOR
38	Abl6 - Strand Pavilion	81	AVERAGE	18	Abl3 – "Die Kom"	51	POOR
34	Abl1 - Muizenberg Circle	80	AVERAGE	43	Abl1 - Klippiess Bay	49	VERY POOR
5	Abl6 – opposite Spectrum Hotel	79	AVERAGE	28	Abl1 - Glencairn Beach	46	VERY POOR
18	Abl1 – Wireless Road	79	AVERAGE	36	Abl 4 - Macassar, near reception	45	VERY POOR
23	Abl1,2,3 – Miller's Point	79	AVERAGE	34	Abl9 - Blue Waters Resort	42	VERY POOR
36	Abl 3 - Macassar, near reception	78	AVERAGE	26	Abl3 -Simon's Town parking area	40	VERY POOR
23	Abl4 - Froggy Pond	74	POOR	1	Abl2 – Silwerstroom Lifesaver's Club	31	VERY POOR
42	Abl12 - picnic area	73	POOR	30	Abl5 - Clovelly	31	VERY POOR
18	Abl2 – Long Beach Kommetjie	72	POOR	36	Abl 5 - Monwabisi, at entrance	20	VERY POOR
1	Abl 3 - Silwerstroom	71	POOR	43	Abl 2 - Klippiess Bay	15	VERY POOR



Excellent ablutions at Mnandi Beach



Very poor ablutions West of Mnandi Beach



An abandoned ablution at Klippiess Bay

Additionally, the following ablution facilities were unavailable for assessment, and as such scored extremely poorly. Although these facilities may have been in good condition the assessment team was unable to determine this, and thus these facilities retain their score of "very poor" due to their lack of access. Access to ablution facilities is a critical issue, as those ablutions which are inaccessible to the public are essentially failing to provide a useful service.

Out of the 107 ablutions reviewed during this assessment period, 49, or 46%, did not meet the minimum acceptable standard, whilst 12, or 11%, were completely unavailable for assessment.

This means that more than half of the City's coastal ablution facilities are not providing an adequate, safe and healthy service to the public.

CZM Unit	Ablution Location	Score out of 200	Rating	CZM Unit	Ablution Location	Score out of 200	Rating
5	Ab18 - Blouberg	23	Very poor	15	Ab11 - Hout Bay	25	Very poor
9	Ab11.2* - Mouille Point opp. 2 Oceans Hotel	5	Very Poor	26	Ab12 - Long Beach south	34	Very poor
9	Ab11.3* - opposite Three Anchor slipway	13	Very poor	34	Ab10 - Blue Waters Resort	23	Very poor
9	Ab12.3* - Queen's Beach	5	Very poor	36	Ab12 - Macassar Lifesaver's club	20	Very poor
10	Ab11 - Clifton 1st Beach	5	Very poor	38	Ab19.2* - Hendon Park	9	Very poor
10	Ab14.2 - Maidens' Cove - bottom ablution	14	Very poor	38	Ab12 - east of Gordon's Bay	17	Very poor

Trends since 2003/2004

In the previous assessment period a total of 35 out of 89 ablution facilities that were rated were found to be below the minimum acceptable standard, equating to 39% of the coastal ablution facilities, as compared to 57% of coastal ablution facilities in 2004/2005.

In 2004/2005 an additional 18 ablution facilities were identified which were not rated in 2003/2004. The higher percentage of ablution facilities below the minimum acceptable standard can be explained by three contributing factors. Firstly, there appears to have been a general deterioration in coastal ablution facilities since the previous assessment. However, as this is not an across the board deterioration it cannot be attributed to the presence of a different rating team, but rather must be recognised as

a real decline in standards. Secondly, the assessment team in 2004/2005 adopted somewhat more stringent criteria than the previous assessment team. Finally, a greater number of ablutions were identified in 2004/2005 which may have been omitted in the previous assessment due to their especially poor or inaccessible condition and subsequent lack of identification as an ablution facility.

Significantly, 15 ablutions rated as being below the minimum acceptable standard in 2004/2005 were also rated as such in the previous assessment period, indicating little or no progress in these areas. Only 1 ablution rated as being below the minimum standard in 2003/2004, has achieved a significantly higher score during 2004/2005. This honour goes to Ablution 4 east of Strandfontein Pavilion which scored a dismal 74 out of 200 in 2003/2004, and due to ongoing renovations that have taken place subsequently, scores a respectable 140 out of 200.

Recommendations

Overall, ablution facilities along the City of Cape Town coastline require significant upgrading and maintenance in order to provide an acceptable level of service to the public.

Those ablutions which scored "excellent" and "good" require ongoing maintenance and upkeep in order to retain this positive assessment. Those which scored "average", "poor" and "very poor" are in need of various degrees of renovation and repair in order to provide a functional ablution facility to the public.

Coastal Signage

The provision of clear, easy to understand, and well maintained signage is a key aspect of coastal management. This signage allows the City of Cape Town to communicate with, educate, and regulate the activities of members of the public using the beach.

Well maintained signage creates the impression of a generally well maintained and cared for coastlines. However, out of date, broken, poorly maintained and graffiti ridden signage reflects poorly on the general state of management of the coastline, creating an impression of a coastline that is not actively managed and is thus open to abuse and neglect. As such, signage in each of the coastal zone management units was rated according to its physical condition, level of information, location and standardisation.

During the 2004/2005 assessment it was found that 51% of the 29 coastal management units surveyed were rated as good or excellent, with 24% rated as average, and 24% rated as poor or very poor.

The areas that received a score of "excellent" for their provision of signage are the following:

- Unit 4 - Blaauwberg Conservation Area
- Unit 12 - Llandudno Beach
- Unit 27 - Shelly Point Tidal Pool
- Unit 40 - Bikini Beach

	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor	Very Poor
Number of Coastal Zone Management Units per rating category	4	11	7	6	1

Trends since 2003/2004

The percentages of units rated as good or excellent, average, and poor or very poor remained the same as in the 2003/2004 reporting period. The overall finding remains the same as in the previous assessment - while some areas have experienced significant improvement in the provision of up to date and well maintained coastal signage, others continue to utilise old, outdated and incorrect signage.

It was recommended in the 2003/2004 assessment that a uniform design of coastal signage must be put in place. This signage was required to reflect the new City of Cape Town corporate identity and to have consistent regulatory icons that were easy to understand and did not require literacy or language proficiency. Since 2003/2004 this design has been implemented and upgrading of signage to reflect this is underway.

Recommendations

Much work is still required in order to ensure that coastal signage of a high standard is installed at all beaches in the City of Cape Town area. The following points serve as recommendations for achieving this:

- **The upgrading and replacement of old signage with new, updated signage, should continue.**
- **Old, incorrect and outdated signage must be removed as new signage is installed, in order to prevent confusion.**
- **Regular cleaning and maintenance of signage should occur in order to remove graffiti and other forms of vandalism. Graffiti artists and other vandals must be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.**



Excellent signage at Bikini Beach



Vandalised sign at Melkbosstrand

Slipways

Slipways provide an important service to the public by providing appropriate sites for launching boats and other water craft. Each of the 11 slipways for which the City has applied for permits was rated according to the level of service that it provides. Key aspects include access control, signage and demarcated parking.

These are factors which need to be addressed in the Operational Management Plans which are to be implemented as a requirement for the issuing of a permit by the Provincial Government of the Western Cape.

The City of Cape Town applied in March 2004 for permits to operate 11 slipways in the Cape Town area. To date, two positive Records of Decision have been received from the Provincial Government of the Western Cape for the slipways at Miller' Point and Kommetjie Beach. No records of decision have been yet obtained for the other 9 slipways.

The assessment of slipways in Cape Town indicates that currently only the slipway at Miller's Point (Unit 23) fully meets the permit requirements.

Trends since 2003/2004

In 2005 a complete audit of all the slipways in Cape Town was undertaken and shortcomings of each slipway were identified, as recommended in the 2003/2004 assessment.

The outstanding permit requirements have been identified, and an action plan for each slipway has been drawn up.

Recommendations

In order to ensure that all 11 slipways meet the permit requirements, the following recommendations should be taken note of:

- With regards to the results of the audit, those slipways which require upgrading in terms of signage, demarcated parking, and access control must be upgraded as a matter of priority.
- Those slipways for which no permit is being sought must be closed to the public.



Above:
This slipway at Three Anchor Bay does not meet the permit requirements, as there is no access control in place



Above right:
The Miller's Point Slipway has received a Permit

Right:
Appropriate Signage at Miller's Point Slipway



Water Quality

Water quality is an important issue in Coastal Zone Management, as poor water quality can negatively affect both beach users, as well as sensitive coastal ecosystems. Coastal waters are receiving environments for a number of urban pollutants including:

- Stormwater runoff
- Treated sewage effluent
- Screened raw sewage discharged through deep sea outfalls
- Solid waste (litter) both from the shore and from ships in the area.

Coastal water quality is assessed through the collection of samples at a number of designated points. These are collected fortnightly and are monitored for bacterial pollution. The indicator bacteria used by the City of Cape Town is *Escherichia coli* as this is an excellent indicator of faecal pollution. *E.coli* can also lead to the development of gastro-intestinal infections; therefore water that has high levels of *E.coli* contamination is unfit for human contact. The Guideline used to measure seawater quality (bathing and recreational) is the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry: South African Water Quality Guidelines for Coastal Marine Waters Volume 2 Recreational Use 1995. This guideline uses the 80th percentile (stringent) and 95th percentile (relaxed) values of *E.coli* counts to measure water quality. The 80th percentile guideline states that 80% of samples must contain not more than 100 *E.coli* bacteria per 100ml, while the 95th percentile guideline states that 95% of samples must not contain more than 2000 *E.coli* bacteria per 100ml.

In 2004/2005 18 out of 74 points, or 24%, recorded an exceedance of the 80th percentile (stringent) value for water quality during year round monitoring, while 15 out of 74, or 20% recorded an exceedance of the 95th percentile (relaxed) value during year round monitoring. During the summer period 12 out of 74, or 16% of sample points recorded an exceedance of the 80th percentile value.

a.) Atlantic Coast

Trends since 2003/2004

Water quality across Cape Town has experienced a significant decline since the 2003/2004 assessment period. While in 2003/2004 12 out of 73 (16%) sample points experienced an exceedance of the 80th percentile water quality guideline, in 2004/2005 this number had significantly increased to 18 out of 74 (24%) sites. Similarly, in 2003/2004 only 1 sample point experienced an exceedance of the 95th percentile guidelines, while in 2004/2005 this number increased dramatically to 12 out of 74 sites (16%).

Water quality along the Atlantic coast experienced a significant decline since the previous monitoring period, as is shown in the table below. This deterioration occurred in both the summer monitoring period, as well as during year-round monitoring.

It is important to note, that with the exception of Llandudno Beach and “Die Kom” at Kommetjie, those sample points which experienced an exceedance of the water quality guidelines are not areas of high recreational usage. Therefore, although the water quality on the whole seems to be poor for the Atlantic Coast, there is little public access to those affected sites, and therefore the public health risk is minimised.



Public access to the polluted waters in Unit 9 is limited by the presence of a sea wall



However, access to polluted waters in Unit 9 is still possible

b.) False Bay

Water quality along the False Bay coastline also experienced a significant drop in compliance during year-round monitoring, although an increase in compliance was noted during the summer monitoring period.

Unlike the Atlantic Coast, it must be noted that those sites which experienced water quality exceedances are areas that experience a high level of recreation and large numbers of visitors during peak seasons.

Therefore, poor water quality at these sites is a public health issues which needs to be investigated further in order to ascertain the causes and implement preventative measures.

Atlantic Coast

Percentage compliance for bathing areas	Year												
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
80th Percentile (All-year)	80	100	81	73	85	70	70	82	75	68	89	82	79
95th Percentile (All-year)	92	100	85	100	92	96	89	86	86	86	93	96	79
80th Percentile (Summer)	100	96	88	80	85	67	82	86	93	75	82	82	79

False Bay

Percentage compliance for bathing areas	Year												
	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
80th Percentile (All-year)	76	97	86	68	78	84	92	85	93	85	98	93	82
95th Percentile (All-year)	95	97	97	89	97	95	95	87	100	93	100	100	90
80th Percentile (Summer)	92	95	87	51	75	76	89	92	98	78	98	85	90

The following table lists those sites in Cape Town that experienced a water quality exceedance during the 2004/2005 monitoring period.

CZM Unit	Sample Point	All Year Monitoring			Summer (Oct 2004 - March 2005)	
		Number of samples examined	Ecoli/100ml		Number of samples examined	Ecoli/100ml
			Percentile 80% (stringent)	Percentile 95% (relaxed)		
9	Green Point Wastewater Outfall	25	273*	5850#	12	30
9	Green Point opp. Park Road	26	452*	15000#	13	32
9	Three Anchor Bay	26	2520*	15000#	13	1040*
9	Rocklands opp. Shoreham	26	263*	2660#	13	162*
9	Rocklands Beach	26	263*	3000#	13	194*
9	Graaff's Pool	11	40	9640#	10	42
9	Milton Pool - inside	26	154*	952	13	117*
9	Milton Pool - outside	26	174*	15000#	11	283*
9	Sunset Beach Pool - outside	26	551*	1700	13	31
9	Saunders Rocks Pool - outside	17	543*	7990#	11	283*
9	Saunders Rocks Beach	26	1090*	15000#	13	11000*
10	Bakoven Bungalows	26	75	2080#	13	16
18	Kommetjie, "Die Kom"	25	334*	15000#	14	2030*
30	Fish Hoek Beach	24	264*	5190#	13	242*
33	Sandown Hotel	22	1290*	15000#	11	731*
34	Muizenberg Station	21	326*	15000#	11	259*
34	Muizenberg Pavilion	23	46	2250#	12	16
34	Ribbon Parking Area	21	125*	266	10	29
34	Lifebox 30	22	107*	982	11	48
34	Mnandi Beach West	24	350*	550	13	273*
36	Macassar Beach	20	168*	813	10	39

* Exceeds WQG 80% limit (80% of values not more than 100) # Exceeds WQG 95% limit (95% of values not more than 2000)

Recommendations

Water quality along the Cape Town Coastline has experienced a significant decline since the previous assessment. It is necessary for the City of Cape Town to investigate the sources of the pollution and put preventative measures in place.

The following serve as recommendations for the upcoming assessment period:

- The stormwater outlet at Fish Hoek Beach must be diverted into the sewerage system.
- Water quality in Unit 9 needs to be improved through the upgrading of the aging stormwater system, as this unit has the most severe water quality exceedances.
- Solutions need to be found for the ongoing poor water quality at the Sandown Hotel Point.
- Causes for the deterioration in water quality at the following sample points need to be identified and preventative measures need to be put in place:

- o Bakoven Bungalows
- o Kommetjie, "Die Kom"
- o Muizenberg Station
- o Muizenberg Pavilion
- o Ribbon Parking Area
- o Lifebox 30
- o Mnandi Beach West
- o Macassar Beach
- Water quality monitoring must continue on a fortnightly basis
- Water quality sample points should be identified and monitored for the following units:
 - o Unit 4
 - o Unit 6
 - o Unit 27
 - o Unit 29
 - o Unit 31
 - o Unit 41
 - o Unit 43

Coastal Dune Management

Coastal dune systems within the City of Cape Town are foremost among the City's natural areas to have been negatively impacted by inappropriate urban development. Whereas appropriate development has the potential to increase the utility of a coastal area and make it more attractive to all users, inappropriate development has the potential for serious negative impact on the correct functioning of coastal ecosystems.

Sand dunes play an important role in terms of coastal defences, by protecting coastal areas from storm damage and erosion. Coastal dunes are also home to a number of sensitive indigenous plant and animal species including the vulnerable Sand Plain Fynbos, which is home to 84 Red Data species.

Development which disrupts the correct functioning of coastal dune systems inevitably has a negative impact on the coastline, including

- Loss of unique and rare coastal habitats and species, including Red Data species
- Increased coastal erosion, which threatens property and reduces recreational potential of a beach
- An increase in wind-blown sand and associated sand management problems.

In the Year Two (2004/2005) State of the Coast Report coastal dune systems were assessed and rated in terms of the level of impact and disturbance that dunes had undergone, as well as identifying causes for these disturbances. Areas that were rated as having a MODERATE or LOW level of disturbance require ongoing monitoring by the City of Cape Town in order to ensure that the further negative changes do not take place. Areas that were rated as having a HIGH or VERY HIGH level of disturbance require immediate and urgent intervention in order to rehabilitate and stabilise the dune system in question.

The following table shows those areas of the coastline which require urgent management interventions.

CZM Unit	Area	Impact Level	CZM Unit	Area	Impact Level
5	Blaauwberg - Central Beach	VERY HIGH	7	Woodbridge Island	HIGH
7	Woodbridge Island Golf course area	VERY HIGH	7	South of lagoon mouth	HIGH
7	Milnerton Lighthouse area	VERY HIGH	18	Kommetjie Beach	HIGH
15	Hout Bay Beach	VERY HIGH	19	Witsands	HIGH
28	Glencairn Beach	VERY HIGH	30	Fish Hoek	HIGH
34	Bluewaters	VERY HIGH	34	Strandfontein Resort	HIGH
34	Mnandi	VERY HIGH	38	Strand	HIGH
36	Swartklip parking to Monwabisi	VERY HIGH	38	Strand Developed section	HIGH
36	Wolfgat Nature Reserve to Eerste River mouth	VERY HIGH	38	Gordon's Bay	HIGH
5	Blaauwberg - Big Bay Beach	HIGH	40	Bikini Beach	HIGH
4	Melkbos Main Beach	HIGH			

Trends since 2003/2004

In general, few improvements to coastal dune systems have been made since the previous assessment period, although little deterioration has taken place.

Dune management is an ongoing problem for the City of Cape Town; inappropriate coastal development during the last century has destabilised some dune systems to the extent where they cannot be rehabilitated to a natural, functional state. In these cases all that can be done is to implement sand management measures in order to control the windblown sand problem.

Where improvements have taken place since 2003/2004 is in the area of the implementation of sustainable coastal management plans and dune management plans. Specifically, Dune Management Plans have been implemented in Unit 7 as well as Unit 19, which contains the ecologically sensitive Soetwater beach. Sustainable Coastal Management Plans, which include dune management plans, have been implemented in Unit 10 and Unit 34. SCMPs have also been developed for Unit 3, Unit 15, Unit 30 and Unit 43, and dune rehabilitation is ongoing in Unit 38.

Recommendations

Dune and sand management is, and always will be, a critical coastal management issue for the City of Cape Town, due to the heavily disturbed nature of many dune systems along this coastline. Ongoing dune and sand management is required for those areas identified as having dune systems with a "high" or "very high" level of disturbance.

Those SCMPs which have been developed but not yet implemented need to be implemented as a matter of priority. Those dune management plans and SCMPs which have been implemented in Unit 7, Unit 10, Unit 19 and Unit 34 should be audited in the 2005/2006 assessment period in order to assess progress made, and reviewed accordingly.



Controlled Dune Access at Melkbosstrand



Uncontrolled Dune Access has impacted Dune Systems in Hout Bay



Effective Dune Rehabilitation using Kelp at Kommetjie Beach (Unit 18)

Access points and boardwalks

Access points and boardwalks are a key component of effective coastal management, as they regulate the manner in which beach users access the coastline. Uncontrolled and informal access points are a primary contributing factor to coastal dune erosion and disturbance of sensitive coastal ecosystems. Well maintained and formalised access points and boardwalks provide the beach user with a more pleasant and user-friendly experience and promote a perception of good coastal management. Therefore, access points and boardwalks were assessed according to the level of service they provide.

Areas that were received a score of 5/5 or “excellent” are listed below. These boardwalks set the standard for the entire coastline, and are presented in recognition of excellence.

CZM Unit	Area	Rating	CZM Unit	Area	Rating
9	Rocklands beach	excellent	29	Jager’s Walk	excellent
9	Seapoint Pavilion and pool	excellent	33	St James Beach	excellent
9	Queens Beach, Saunders Rocks and Sunset Beach	excellent	33	St James Beach to Muizenberg	excellent
10	Maiden’s Cove	excellent	38	Harmony Beach	excellent
10	Glen Beach	excellent	40	Gordon’s Bay Beach	excellent
25	Seaforth Beach	excellent	40	Bikini Beach	excellent

The following table shows those access points which received a score of 2/5 or “poor”, as well as those which received a score of 1/5 or “very poor”. All of these access points and boardwalks are in

need of significant maintenance and upgrading in order to provide a better service to the public.

CZM Unit	Area	Rating	CZM Unit	Area	Rating
15	Hout Bay - entire beach (4 access points)	VERY POOR	18	Kommetjie Beach	POOR
26	Simon’s Town – Long Beach	VERY POOR	19	Soetwater Recreational Area	POOR
30	Fish Hoek Beach and Caravan Park	VERY POOR	27	Shelly Point Tidal Pool	POOR
34	Blue Waters resort braai area	VERY POOR	30	Clovelly	POOR
34	East of Mnandi Resort	VERY POOR	34	Sunrise Beach	POOR
36	Macassar Conservation Area	VERY POOR	38	Strand Dune Park	POOR
3	Melkbosstrand main Beach	POOR	42	Entire coastline	POOR
9	Granger Bay	POOR	43	Sparks Bay	POOR
9	Three Anchor Bay	POOR			

Out of the 67 access points and boardwalks that were identified as separate, distinct entities, 20, or 29%, received a score of 2 out of 5 or less. These boardwalks and access points did not meet the minimum acceptable standard required and as such are failing to provide a safe and user-friendly service to the public.

However, the majority (71%) of boardwalks and access points did meet the minimum required standard, and received a score of 3 out of 5 or more. Of these, 12, or 18%, showed particular excellence and received a score of 5 out of 5.

Trends since 2003/2004

The proportion of access points and boardwalks, which were rated as excellent, poor and very poor, was not reported on in the previous assessment. In 2003/2004, access points and boardwalks for some entire units had been consolidated to provide an overall score for those units. In the 2004/2005 assessment period, it was decided that this should not be done, in order to reflect better the different levels of service within each unit. Therefore, in many cases direct comparison is not possible.

However, in those cases where comparison was possible it was clear that little progress has been made since the previous assessment

period. Some minor upgrading in terms of cutting lawns and bushes had taken place, but few structural improvements had been made. It is also important to note that no significant deterioration was reported either, indicating that maintenance of access points and boardwalks is ongoing.

Two access points which did experience significant upgrading and improvement are worth noting. The first was a series of new boardwalks at Big Bay Beach (Unit 5) where none had existed before. These boardwalks were built as part of the general development taking place in Big Bay. The second was a railway crossing at Glencairn Beach (Unit 28) which was upgraded from a sandy railway crossing, to a well signposted, formalised concrete railway crossing.

Recommendations

Access points and boardwalks across the coastline generally provide an acceptable level of infrastructure and are generally well maintained.

As noted above, roughly 29% of boardwalks and access points along the coastline are in need of significant upgrading in order to provide an acceptable level of service. All boardwalks along

the coastline are also in need of regular maintenance to ensure a high level of cleanliness, and to deal with the common problem of windblown sand.

Finally, it is important that upgrading and renovation of boardwalks and access points takes place as part of an integrated dune management plan for the coastline. Coastal dune management and the provision of acceptable access points and boardwalks are two coastal issues which cannot be separated from each other and must be dealt with holistically.



Provision of wheelchair access at Bikini Beach



Unstable Dune Face at Hout Bay Beach, with children playing on the top



Chain Boardwalks at Fish Hoek Beach can be lifted as the Dune System grows

Stakeholder Participation

Active formal stakeholder participation has been recognised both nationally and internationally as a key aspect of coastal management. Community members have a vital role to play in coastal management by providing extra capacity, local knowledge, and particular dedication to local issues and problems. Stakeholder groups provide both a forum for consultation and communication, as well as means of facilitating community “buy-in” and ensuring dual responsibility for the management of an area.



The BCA has an active Friends Group

There are unfortunately a limited number of active coastal stakeholder participation forums in Cape Town. These are listed below:

CZM Unit	Location/Beach	Consultation Forum
4	Blaauwberg Conservation Area	Friends of BCA
6	Rietvlei	Friends of Rietvlei
18	Kommetjie Beach	Kommetjie Dune Management Forum
30	Fish Hoek Beach	Fish Hoek Beach Committee
34	Muizenberg Beach	Muizenberg Beach Action Group

Less than 20% of coastal areas have an active stakeholder group participating in the management and governance of coastal units.



Residents in Kommetjie formed the Dune Management Forum

Trends since 2003/2004

Since 2003/2004 the Milnerton Coastal Erosion forum has become defunct and has not met to discuss coastal issues. This is unfortunate as coastal erosion is a critical issue for that section of the coastline.

There have been no improvements in terms of the creation of new stakeholder forums.

Recommendations

There is very little active stakeholder participation in Cape Town with regards to coastal management issues. In order to encourage increased stakeholder participation the following recommendations should be noted:

- The beach manager for each coastal area should initiate and convene a quarterly forum with representatives from the associated community and user groups.
- The successful functioning of these forums need to be reported on by the beach managers concerned.

Operational Coastal Management Plans

Coastal Management Plans are in place in order to facilitate co-ordinated and sustainable management of the coastal zone. Coastal Management Plans allow various officials, across the line functions in the City of Cape Town that contribute to coastal management, to have access to a co-ordinated document detailing areas that require

special attention and management.

Approximately 33% of coastal management units in Cape Town have a one or more dedicated operational coastal management plans.

Coastal Area	Coastal Management Plan
Entire Coastline	Cleansing Coastal Management Plan
Clifton 4th Beach	Blue Flag 2005/2006
Mnandi Beach	Blue Flag 2005/2006
Bikini Beach	Blue Flag 2005/2006
Muizenberg Corner	Pilot Blue Flag 2005/2006
Camps Bay Beach	Pilot Blue Flag 2005/2006
Strandfontein Beach	Pilot Blue Flag 2005/2006
CZM Unit 10	Sustainable Coastal Management Plan
CZM Unit 34	Sustainable Coastal Management Plan
CZM Unit 3	Draft Sustainable Coastal Management Plan
CZM Unit 15	Draft Sustainable Coastal Management Plan
CZM Unit 30 (Fish Hoek Beach)	Draft Sustainable Coastal Management Plan
CZM Unit 43 (Klippies Bay and Sparks Bay)	Draft Sustainable Coastal Management Plan
CZM Unit 19 (Soetwater Resort)	Dune management, access control and coastal rehabilitation plan
CZM Unit 38 (Strand)	Dune rehabilitation and management Plan
CZM Unit 4 (Melkbos to Big Bay)	BCA Management Plan



The ecologically sensitive Soetwater Coastline (Unit 19)

Trends since 2003/2004

There has been an approximately 5% increase in the number of coastal management units with dedicated operational coastal management plans. Although this is a positive increase, this still needs to increase significantly if negative trends are to be halted and reversed.

Recommendations

- **Draft Sustainable Coastal Management Plans need to be implemented as a matter of priority.**
- **The City of Cape Town should continue to develop and implement Sustainable Coastal Management Plans for the rest of the coastline.**
- **These coastal management plans need to be audited and reviewed on a regular basis.**

Conclusion

In general, there has been both progress and deterioration in the standard of coastal management carried out by the City of Cape Town in 2004/2005. Much progress has been made in the preparation and implementation of Sustainable Coastal Management Plans which will pave the way for further progress and improvement in all aspects of coastal management in Cape Town.

However, if negative trends are to be halted and reversed it is necessary for the City of Cape Town to make a greater commitment to coastal management in terms of the provision of financial and human resources. Cape Town's coastline has much to offer in terms of recreational, ecological and aesthetic value, and as such attracts local, national and international tourists. Every effort must be made to preserve the unique character and natural beauty of this coastline.

Some of the key issues that must be addressed as a priority include:

- The continued preparation and implementation of Sustainable Coastal Management Plans.
- Coastal dune management and rehabilitation.
- Upgrading of signage to conform to a single standard.
- Renovation and upgrading of those coastal resort facilities, parking areas and ablution facilities that received a score below the minimum acceptable score.
- Ongoing monitoring of water quality and investigation into the causes of poor water quality in Unit 9 and Unit 34.
- Conservation of natural coastal ecosystems.
- Ensuring that all City of Cape Town slipways meet permit requirements.

Some of the most critical coastal areas that must be addressed with urgency include:

- Unit 7 - Coastal erosion and loss of dune systems due to inappropriate development is ongoing in this unit.
- Unit 9 - Investigation of the excessive water quality exceedances into this unit must be undertaken and preventative measures put in place. Urgent upgrading of the sea wall in this unit is also required.
- Unit 19 - Providing formal conservation status for the Soetwater Coastline is a matter of priority.
- Units 26 and 28 - Urgent dune and sand management plans are required in these units to address the negative impact of the railway line and the associated problems of windblown sand.
- Units 34, 35 and 36 - Urgent upgrading of parking, resort and ablution facilities in these units is required in order to provide an acceptable level of service.

The City of Cape Town is committed to ongoing improvement in its management of the coastal zone. As such, the same set of ratings and assessments will take place in October 2006, and will be compared with results from the previous two assessments.

However, it is imperative that individuals and communities play their part in management of the coastal zone, and recognise the responsibilities that accompany the use of coastal resources. As such, individuals and communities must abide by the relevant legislation and treat all coastal facilities with care and respect. The long term future of this unique and beautiful environment can only be ensured by ongoing co-operation between government agencies, the private sector, educational institutions, NGOs and CBOs, and members of the public.

The full technical State of the Coast Report is available from the City of Cape Town's Environmental Resource Management Department.









Cape Town's natural environment is known for its beauty and biodiversity, providing essential resources and offering natural assets on which much of our economy depends.



Our rich history of people and their culture, religious, political and economic practices has given us a particular and precious heritage in Cape Town.



Cape Town has an impressive and constantly evolving urban environment. We need to create a more equitable and harmonious living environment.



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