

# Jetties, ramps and other access structures

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## ■ Introduction

This fact sheet provides information for people who own, or are considering applying for consent to construct a jetty, ramp or other access structure on the coast in the Auckland region. It covers resource consent requirements, and information you need to consider in a proposal for a new structure.



## ■ Caring for Auckland's coast

It is important to avoid, remedy or mitigate adverse effects on the environment when building a new coastal structure.

To ensure the sustainable management of Auckland's coast, proposals for structures in the coastal marine area (CMA<sup>1</sup>) need to be assessed against the following:

- The Resource Management Act (1991) (RMA 1991)
- The Hauraki Gulf Marine Park Act (2000) (HGMPA 2000) (if on the East coast)
- The Auckland Regional Policy Statement (ARPS) and Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal (ARP:C)



The RMA states that the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment and the maintenance and enhancement of public access to and along the CMA are matters of national importance.

## ■ What consents do I need?

Most jetties, ramps and other structures that extend into the CMA require a coastal permit from the Auckland Regional Council (ARC).

A permit is usually required to build the structure, and to use and occupy the CMA. A current coastal permit should be kept up-to-date for any existing structure. The ARP:C outlines the policies and rules that govern coastal permits.

For works landward of the mean high water springs (MHWS<sup>2</sup>), you are likely to require resource consent from your local council. Your structure will also need to comply with the Building Act.

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<sup>1</sup> The coastal marine area includes the foreshore, the seabed, coastal water, and the air above the sea from the line of the mean high water springs (MHWS) out to the 12 nautical mile limit.

<sup>2</sup> The location of the mean high water springs can be estimated from the highest line of debris on a beach or toe of a cliff, but needs to be defined by survey for consent purposes.

## ■ What should I include in a coastal permit application for a structure?

Application forms are available at [www.arc.govt.nz](http://www.arc.govt.nz). Your application should include:

- Your details (and agent's details if applicable)
- Details of your proposal including: description of structure and its purpose, location and design plans, construction methodology, duration and dates of construction period and the intended life of the structure
- Assessment of environmental effects (AEE). Include a thorough assessment of any actual or potential effects that the structure (and construction methods), occupation and use may have on the environment. This should include ways in which you intend to reduce or mitigate any adverse effect

For coastal structures, the main things to consider in your AEE include:

- Effect on the natural character of the coastal environment e.g. how does the structure fit into the surrounding area? Will it be painted in recessive colours? Will you use piles instead of a solid structure to minimise the area of coastal occupation and effects on coastal processes? Is the structure similar to nearby structures?
- Effect on public access e.g. does your structure impede access to, from or along the CMA? How have you provided for public use of the structure?
- Effects on the coastal environment including: coastal processes (e.g. wave movement, sedimentation and erosion), ecology, wildlife habitat, landscape values, and cultural, historic, and archaeological resources. Are there significant ecological, natural or cultural features nearby?
- Effects on navigation e.g. would your structure extend into navigable waters or interfere with safe navigation? Will it be marked by lighting or buoys etc?
- Demonstration of a need for the structure, and consideration of alternatives
- A description of any consultation undertaken with interested parties and written approval from those potentially adversely affected by the proposal



You can get more details about an AEE from the ARC fact sheet "What to include in an Assessment of Environmental Effects for a Coastal Permit".

## ■ For more information

The ARC can advise you on the following:

- The suitability of your plans for the location
- What resource consents you require
- The supporting information and consultation you'll need to include with your application
- Whether maintenance, repair or reconstruction of an existing consented structure requires a coastal permit - in some cases it may not

The ARC has a range of fact sheets that relate to the use of the region's coastline. Copies are available at [www.arc.govt.nz](http://www.arc.govt.nz) or upon request. Topics include:

- Public Access to Auckland's Coast
- Managing Coastal Erosion
- What to Include in an Assessment of Environmental Effects for a Coastal Permit
- Moorings
- Our Coast and Sea – Who do I contact?

### How do I contact the ARC?

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