

BEACH STATUS

Aerial Observations - high tide
June 8, 2022



Ocean Point is now the only part of the beach that is inaccessible during high tide, this includes beach access #1a.



The new extension on Access 1b is being used a lot. The issue moving forward will be parking, note the parking area in the cul de sac is full. The eight golf cart spaces allotted fills early and remains full throughout the day.



The tide pool is closed off in the center but has opened up on the far end. This opening, located between access #2 and #3, is the only access for seawater to enter the tide pool.



Looking south at two large tide pools on the beach. The closest is a remnant from the shoal attachment trapping seawater and distant one formed from the sea water draining down the beach from the first.



The first of the two large pools. This tide pool was formed by the 2016 offshore shoal attaching to the beach and trapping water. It is now completely closed off and will likely shrink quickly from evaporation.



The second of the two large tide pools. This pool was formed by water draining down the beach from the first pool. The volume of water eventually overwhelmed the low spot and the excess carved a channel at the far end, back out to sea.



The view directly over access #4. The last shoal that came ashore came directly in front of this access, the new one appears to be forming further down the beach, closer to access #5, but because the shoal is still below the surface, it's subject to a lot of shifting and movement, and as such, it's too early to declare for sure.



View looking towards Beach Club and Captain John Fripp Villas shows how much vegetation exists in between the beach and the rock revetment. Sand continues to migrate down the beach and build in front of these areas.



Sand and dunes are forming almost to the south end. The wrack line continues to inch its way down to the corner.



These photos were taken at high tide. A person can walk all the way to the corner of Skull Creek Inlet and experience only a small area of damp sand, but no depth to the surf coming ashore.



Looking back up the beach reveals areas where sand dunes are converting to lush-green vegetation areas. Also, pockets of high traffic areas can be seen along the beach.



Bonito Road (access #21) in foreground, is the heaviest area of concentration. Note how heavy the sand trail through the dune is. The other high traffic area is Beach Club/Captain John Fripp Villas.



Access #13 and #14 bridge an older tide pool that has long been cut off from the sea. This area used to be all sand, with very little vegetation.



Another view shows the entirety of the water and the almost oasis-like condition of the vegetation around it in contrast to the stark beach.



Access #14. The water is concentrated on this end and is very shallow. It's conceivable that this whole area may be dry soon because of evaporation and water usage by the vegetation.



Access # 15. Closeup view. New sand dunes are forming at the end of the geo-webbing expanding the distance from the end of the access to the beach.



Access #15. Closeup view. People are walking/driving along the side of the geo-webbing for the last 100 feet or so. Less foot traffic on the webbing allows it to be taken over by encroaching sand dunes.