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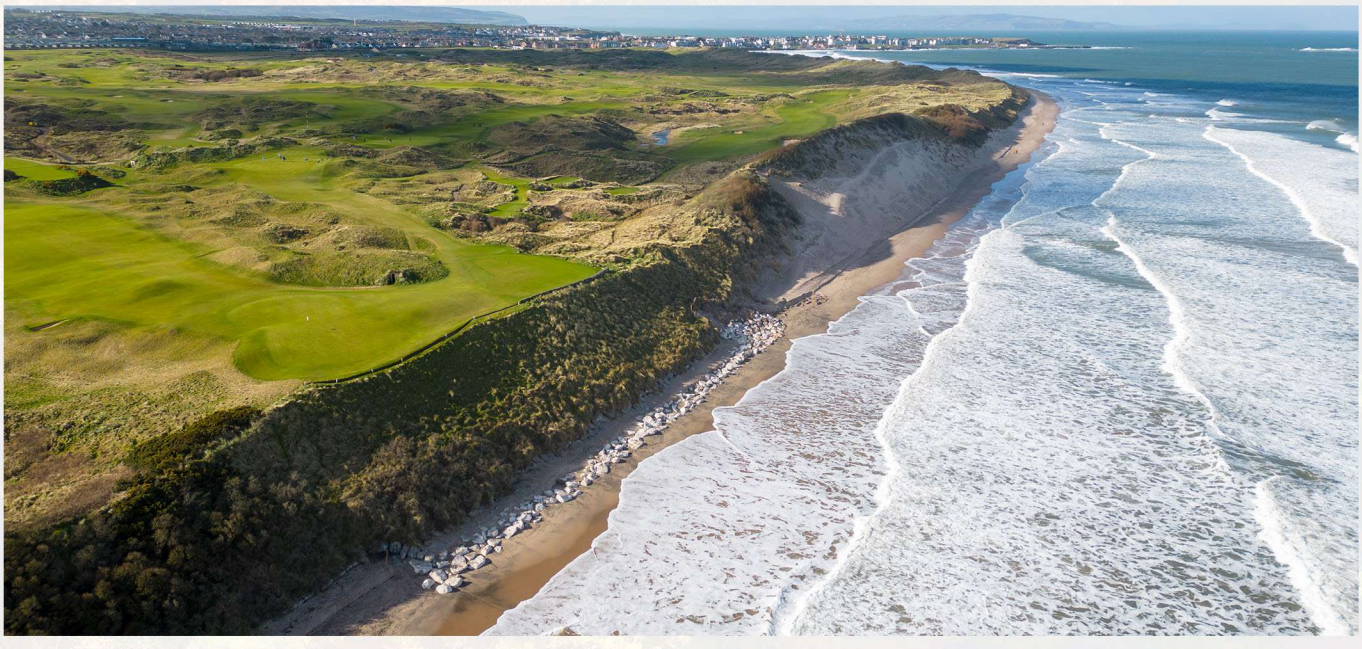
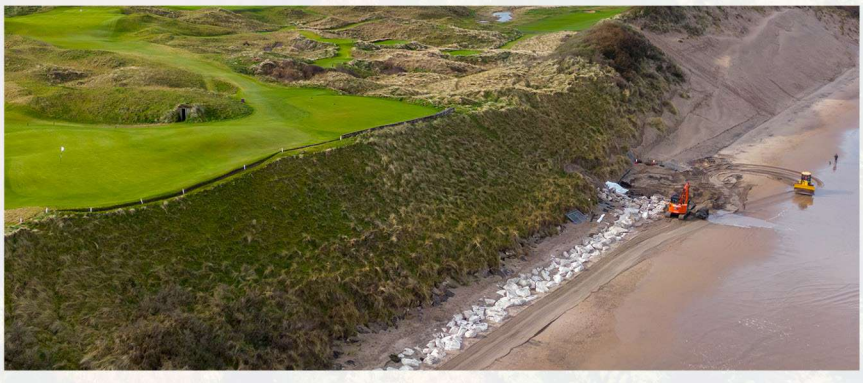
ROYAL PORTRUSH GOLF CLUB, COASTAL DEFENCE SCHEME, PORTRUSH





PROJECT LOCATION
Curran Strand/White Rocks Beach, Portrush

COMPLETION DATE
February 2024

PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR
Northstone Materials Limited

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CASE STUDY

ROYAL PORTRUSH GOLF CLUB, COASTAL DEFENCE SCHEME, PORTRUSH

PROJECT OVERVIEW AND CHALLENGES

The aim of this Coastal Defence Scheme was to reduce coastal erosion along a section of coastline to the east of the golf club at the Curran Strand dune system and to improve the longevity of the golf course. It will retain long term protection to the most vulnerable section of the golf course, in particular, the 5th green, 6th tees and the newly constructed 7th hole. Royal Portrush Golf Club attracts significant tourism to Portrush and so its protection is economically important for the whole town. The scheme was a 20m extension of the existing 90m long revetment.

WORKS ON THE SCHEME INCLUDED

- Setting up a storage compound in the existing White Rocks car park to stockpile the large basalt and limestone rock armour.
- Providing an access road/haul route onto the beach.
- Excavating the beach over the length of the new revetment down to formation level.
- Placement of high strength geotextile, filter layer of stone, primary layer of basalt (300kg – 1t), secondary layer of basalt (1t – 3t), finished layer of limestone (3t – 6t) and then infilling of voids with sand.
- Replenishing areas of the dunes with sand that had been washed out previously.
- Making good the access path to the beach.
- Returning the car park to its original condition.

OUR CHALLENGES

- Construction work in an environmentally sensitive location, within an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The works were carried out under the oversight of an Ecological Clerk of Works and Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs Marine (DAERA).
- Working within the tidal range of the sea.
- Members of the public having restricted use of car parking and having to use an alternative access to the beach.

OUR SOLUTION

We programmed the works to ensure completion before the start of the bird nesting season. Plant fuelling was carried out in the compound with a bunded bowser, drip trays and spill kits available. Marram grass removed to create the access road was replanted upon completion to avoid wind blow erosion.

The works were co-ordinated to take place when the tides left a suitable working window during the day, whereby the tide was going out in the morning and coming back in over the course of the afternoon.

We liaised with Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council to communicate with beach users about the project and potential disruption. This proactive approach was well received.

For further information see www.northstonematerials.com/sustainability