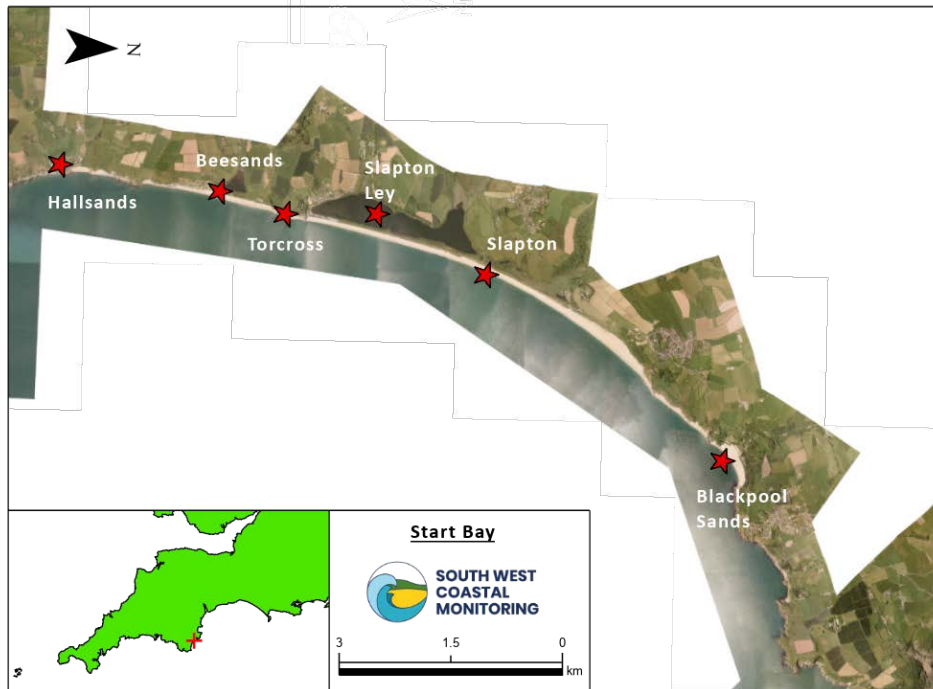


# The Dynamic Coast...

## Defending Torcross from the sea

1. Torcross is located in Start Bay at the southern end of Slapton Ley.



The aerial photo below shows the village of Torcross. It was taken at low tide.



(Source: [here](#))

(a) In what direction is the photo looking? \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Use labelled arrows to locate the following on the photo:

- Torcross
- Slapton Ley freshwater lagoon
- Barrier beach
- Car park
- High tide line

(c) Using the photo, suggest why Torcross is at risk from the sea.

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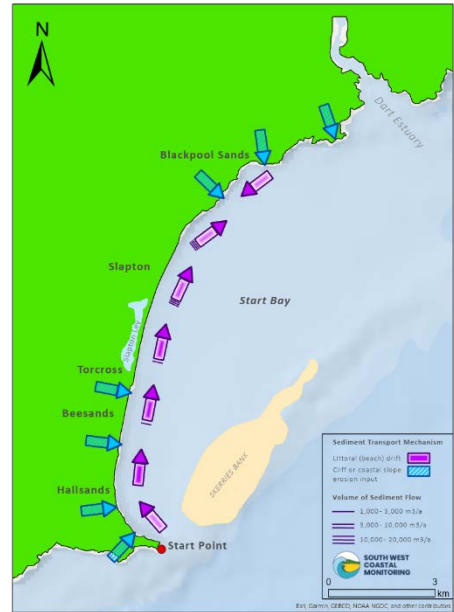


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2. The photo below is looking north towards Slapton Ley. It shows waves breaking on the seawall at Torcross during stormy weather. The map alongside shows the Start Bay sediment cell.



(Source: CoastSnap, Torcross)



Look at the map.

(a) Locate Torcross. Identify the sources of sediment to the south of Torcross?

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(b) What is the name of the offshore sediment sink (store)? \_\_\_\_\_

(c) What is the direction of sediment movement at Torcross? \_\_\_\_\_

(d) What process is responsible for the movement of sediment along the coast?

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(e) How does a wide beach help to protect the coast?

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(f) What is the evidence in the photo that the beach is not very effective in protecting Torcross?

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(g) Explain why the beach at Torcross has become narrower.

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3. The photo below shows Torcross in 1907.



(Source: The Cookworthy Museum)

(a) What is the evidence that the local community were involved in fishing?

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(b) Imagine that you lived in one of the seafront houses in the photo. How safe would you feel if a winter storm was forecast? Explain your answer.

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4. The photo below shows damage to Torcross following a winter storm in 1951.

(a) Describe the damage caused by the storm.

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(b) How has the height of the beach changed between 1907 and 1951?

*(Source: The Cookworthy Museum)*

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(c) Suggest how this might have contributed to the damage caused to the promenade.

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5. In 1979, sea defences were constructed to protect Torcross.



*(Source: The Cookworthy Museum)*

(a) What is the machine doing in the photo?

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(b) What name is given to this type of sea defence? \_\_\_\_\_



(c) How do the boulders help to protect the coast?

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(d) Despite further reinforcements, Torcross was struck by winter storms in the 1980s. As News Editor of the local newspaper, write a headline to accompany the photo below. Write the first paragraph of the news story using no more than 25 words.

**Headline:** \_\_\_\_\_

**1<sup>st</sup> paragraph:**

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(25 words max)



(Source: The Cookworthy Museum)

6. Following several largely unsuccessful attempts to patch up the coastal defences, in 2017 the base of the existing seawall was strengthened at a cost of £2.4m. So far, the seawall has successfully protected Torcross.

(a) The photo below shows the seawall strengthening in 2017. Annotate the photo to describe the coastal defences at Torcross.



(Source: [here](#))



(b) The photo below was taken in 2022. It is a close-up view of part of the seawall. Explain



why the concrete seawall is curved.

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(c) Coastal management at Torcross involves 'holding the line'. What does this mean?

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(d) Do you think this is the correct decision? Why?

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