

Proceedings of the 40th meeting of the Odisha Coastal Zone Management Authority held on 30.03.2022 at 11.00 am through Video Conferencing mode

A. The 40th meeting of OCZMA was held under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, Forest, Environment & Climate Change Department through video conferencing mode on 30.03.2022 at 11.00 am. The list of members present is attached as **Annexure-A**.

B. Confirmation of the minutes of the 39th meeting of OCZMA held on 17.12.2021

The 39th meeting of OCZMA was held under the Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary, FE&CC Department through video conferencing mode on 17.12.2021. The minutes of the meeting were sent to all the members of the Authority vide letter No. 288/OCZMA Dt. 21.12.2021. Since no response has been received, the minutes were treated as confirmed.

C. Compliance of the decision taken in the 39th OCZMA Meeting.

Sl. No.	Project / Project Proponent	Decision taken	Compliance
Previous proposals			
1	Laying of pipeline for City Gas Distribution by Gail Gas Limited Puri.	The proposal was placed in the 38th meeting held on 15.11.2021 and asked the certain clarification. The compliance submitted by the applicant was discussed by the authority in its 39th meeting held on 17.12.2021 and decided to grant Clearance to the proposal as per the provisions of CRZ Notification, 2019	Clearance order was communicated to the applicant vide Letter No.OCZMA/55/2021-292 dt. 23.12.2021
2	Construction of Beach Resort Building at Gopalpur over Plat no. 942 by Mrs. Santilata Sahani.	As per the decision of the Authority in its 38th meeting held on 15.11.2021, the proponent submitted the compliance raised by the authority. The expert members also submitted the observation before the authority in its 39th meeting held on 17.12.2021. Considering the compliance of the applicant and observation of the committee, Authority decided to grant clearance to the project.	Clearance order was communicated to the applicant vide Letter No.OCZMA/57/2021-294 Dt. 23.12.21

D. Fresh Proposal

1. Beach Road development and Extension including Acharya Harihar Squire redevelopment, construction of MLCP at Digabareni Chhak and Construction of on ground parking at Jatrika and Sipasarubuli in heritage city of Puri under ABADHA Scheme by Odisha Bridge & construction corporation Ltd. (OBCC), Puri.

The Director Environment-cum Member Secretary, OCZMA made a presentation on the proposal before the Authority.

The proposal was submitted by the General Manager, Puri Project Division-1 of Odisha Bridge & construction corporation Ltd (OBCC), Puri for CRZ Clearance.

The proposed project is under ABADA scheme of Govt. of Odisha for the development of Puri. The activity proposed from Sterling point to Acharya Harihara Square which is approximately 4.3 km.

- i. Activities proposed under this project includes Beach Road Development and Extension, Acharya Harihar Squire Redevelopment, construction of parking at Jatrika1 & 2 and Sipasarubuli area, pathways, pavement, road junctions, roundabout, surface parking and beach front development includes entry plaza, pathways, gabion wall for erosion control, palm plantation along the road and ground retaining plants, floating jetty, development of pedestrian areas and installation of signage's i.e. road safety and directional etc. The project cost is Rs. 65.41 Crore.
- ii. CRZ Permissibility: The proposed project is a permissible activity as per following clauses of CRZ Notification,2019:

Para 5.2 (ii) Construction of buildings for residential purposes, schools, hospitals, institutions, offices, public places, etc. shall be permitted only on the landward side of the existing road, or on the landward side of existing authorized fixed structures.

Para Para 5.2 CRZ-II (iii) Buildings permitted as in (ii) above, shall be subject to the local town and country planning regulations as applicable from time to time, and the norms for the Floor Space Index (FSI) or Floor Area Ratio (FAR) prevailing as on the date of this Notification," and

Para 5.1.2 CRZ-IB (i) (d) "measures for control of erosion"

Para 5.2 CRZ-II (v) "Development of vacant plots in the designated areas for construction of beach resorts or hotels or tourism development projects subject to the conditions or guidelines at Annexure-III to this Notification.

Para 5.4 CRZ IV (iii) "Activities related to water front or directly needing foreshore facilities such as ports and harbours, jettys, quays, wharvers, erosion control measures, breakwaters, pipelines, navigational safety facilities and like"

- iii. The project does not attract EIA Notification, 2006.
- iv. The DM & Collector Puri has requested to the Authority for another two activities like erection of Watch tower (6 nos) for the safety of tourist and one temporary wooden Aarti platform in front of Swargadwar for the spiritual purpose.

Authority discussed the proposal and decided to grant CRZ Clearance to the project as per CRZ Notification, 2019 with the following conditions:

1. The guideline issued by Central Water Commission (CWC) shall be referred while implementing the coastal protection measures.
2. The guideline issued for Blue Flag Beach, Puri shall be followed for safety, water quality and Environmental Management Plan.
3. All the conditions mentioned in the Annexure-III of the CRZ Notification, 2019 shall be followed.
4. No permanent structure is allowed in the beach area.
5. Minimal intervention in the beach area is suggested.
6. Watch towers should not be installed in the sand dunes area.
7. Considering the sensitivity of Puri beach, for carrying out coastal protection measures, a proper modelling study is suggested from a National Institute like NIOT or NCCR to study the impact of the proposed interventions like installation of gabions on the northern side of the coast based on the outcome of the study the proposed protection measures like gabion should be designed.
8. The recommendations of the shoreline management plan for the Puri coast prepared under ICZM Project and the data generated under coastal process study shall be referred to while designing the erosion control structures.
9. The members of OCZMA Dr. A. K. Patnaik and Dr. P.K. Mohanty to be consulted during the execution for ensuring fragile surrounding ecosystem is not disturbed.

The CRZ Clearance is subject to final plan approval of the Puri-Konark Development Authority.

2. Rectification of CRZ Classification on CZMP Map No. OD 90 (Sheet No. F 45-P6/SW) under CRZ Notification, covering areas of Subarnarekha Port.

The Director Environment-cum Member Secretary, OCZMA made a presentation on the proposal for Rectification of CRZ Classification on CZMP Map No. OD 90, areas covering within Subarnarekha Port.

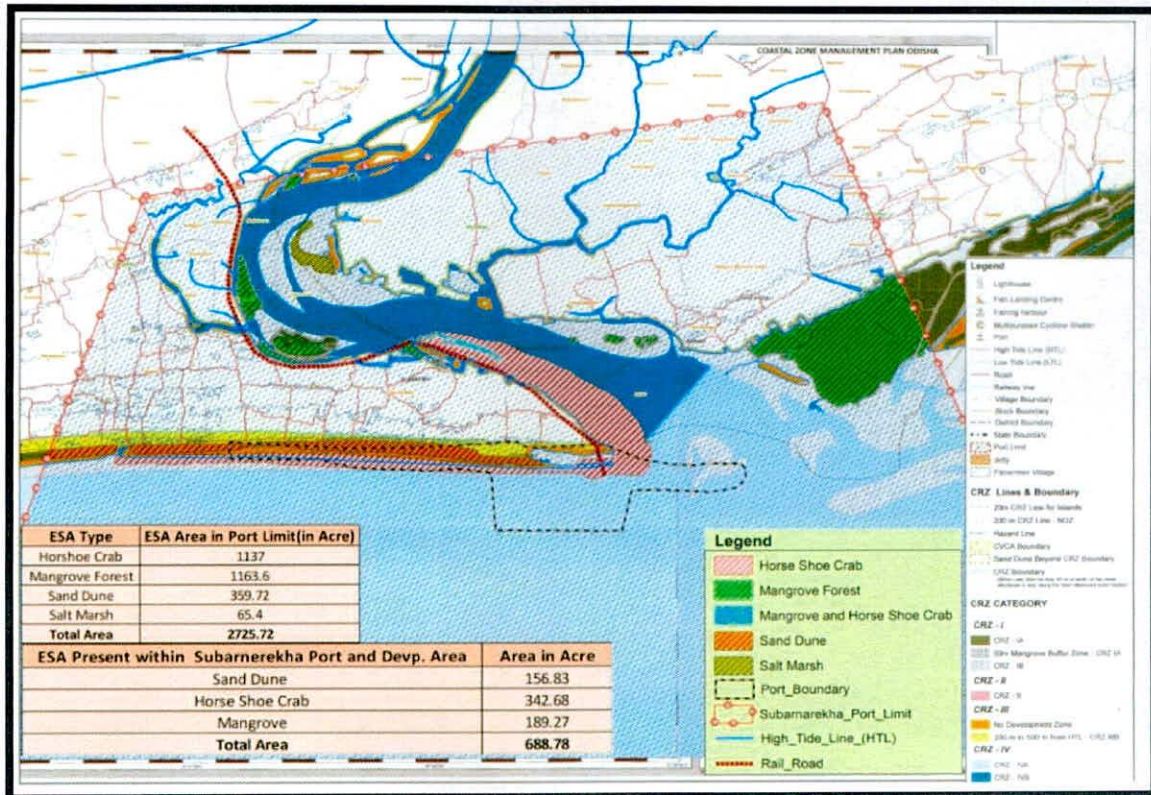
He apprised that, the Chief of Projects of Subarnarekha Port Pvt. Ltd has submitted a representation on 18.02.2021 for rectification of CRZ Classification in the draft CZMP Map No.OD 90, sheet No. F 45-P6/SW in relation to Subarnarekha Port area, prepared based on CRZ Notification, 2019.

Odisha Coastal Zone Management Authority appraised the Subarnarekha Port proposal for CRZ Clearance under CRZ Notification, 1991/2011 based on the mandatory documents and the CRZ Map in 1:4000 scale prepared by National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), an Authorised agency of Govt. of India. Odisha Coastal Zone Management Authority recommended the proposal to MoEF& CC, Govt. of India on 31st March 2011 for grant of CRZ Clearance.

The Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change accorded EC & CRZ Clearance for development of Subarnarekha Port on 21st March, 2012 initially for a period of 7 years and was further extended till March 2023.

Recently OCZMA and ORSAC have prepared the Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for the entire Odisha based on CRZ Notification 2019 & the ESA maps prepared by NCSCM. Based on the CZMP it has been noted that a substantial part of the port area i.e about 692 acres out of the 915 acres of the allotted land for port development, master plan and the road connectivity falls in CRZ-IA area i.e. Ecologically Sensitive Area due to the presence of Sand Dunes, Mangroves and Horseshoe Crab Habitat as per the ESA maps of NCSCM.

NIO, Goa an authorised agency of MoEF &CC, did the demarcation of high tide line, low tide line and CRZ mapping commissioned by the Subarnarekha Port Authority. In the report prepared by NIO during 2010, for the propose of CRZ clearance of Subarnarekha Port states that the proposed port construction area does not fall under environmentally sensitive areas like Natural parks, Sanctuaries, Mangroves, Coral reefs or areas rich in genetic diversity.



During the preparation of CZMP-2019, the project proponent submitted a representation on 22.02.2021 requesting for rectification of the above CRZ-IA area falling under the allotted port area as they did not feature in the CZMP-1991 and also in the CZMP Map in 1:4000 scale prepared by NIO, Goa based on which MoEF&CC accorded the CRZ & EC. In their representation they also reiterated that it is implicitly mentioned in the report of NIO Goa, prepared in 2010 that there are no environmentally sensitive areas like Natural parks, Sanctuaries, Mangroves, Coral reefs or areas rich in genetic diversity in the proposed port construction area.

The matter was placed before the Technical Scrutiny Committee constituted by MoEF&CC for preparation of CZMP-2019 in their meeting held on 10.3.2021. The committee recommended that the matter may be taken up further on case by case basis.

Keeping in view, that the project already has a valid Environmental and CRZ clearance granted by MoEF&CC, as per CZMP 1991 and since as per NIO report, the project site falls on sandy beach and the port development area does contain any ESA areas, the Forest Environment & Climate Change Department, GoO (vide letter no. FE-ENV1-ENV-0035-2021-16769/FE&CC dated 20th Sep 2021) has

formed a team comprising representatives of Commerce & Transport (Commerce) Department, GoO; ACF, Wildlife Division, Balasore; Director-ZSI; Head-Department of Geography, Fakir Mohan University, Balasore; Scientist from ORSAC and Scientist from OCZMA to make a visit to Subarnarekha Port area and to study in detail the existing geomorphological characters/ ecologically sensitivity of the area vis-à-vis the characters that has been considered to classify the area as CRZ-I A. The mandate of the team includes submission of the report with photographs and satellite imagery to substantiate the claim for change in relevant CZMP Map, if any.

The team conducted a Field survey on 28th and 29th October 2021 and submitted the findings to the FE&CC Department, Govt. of Odisha.

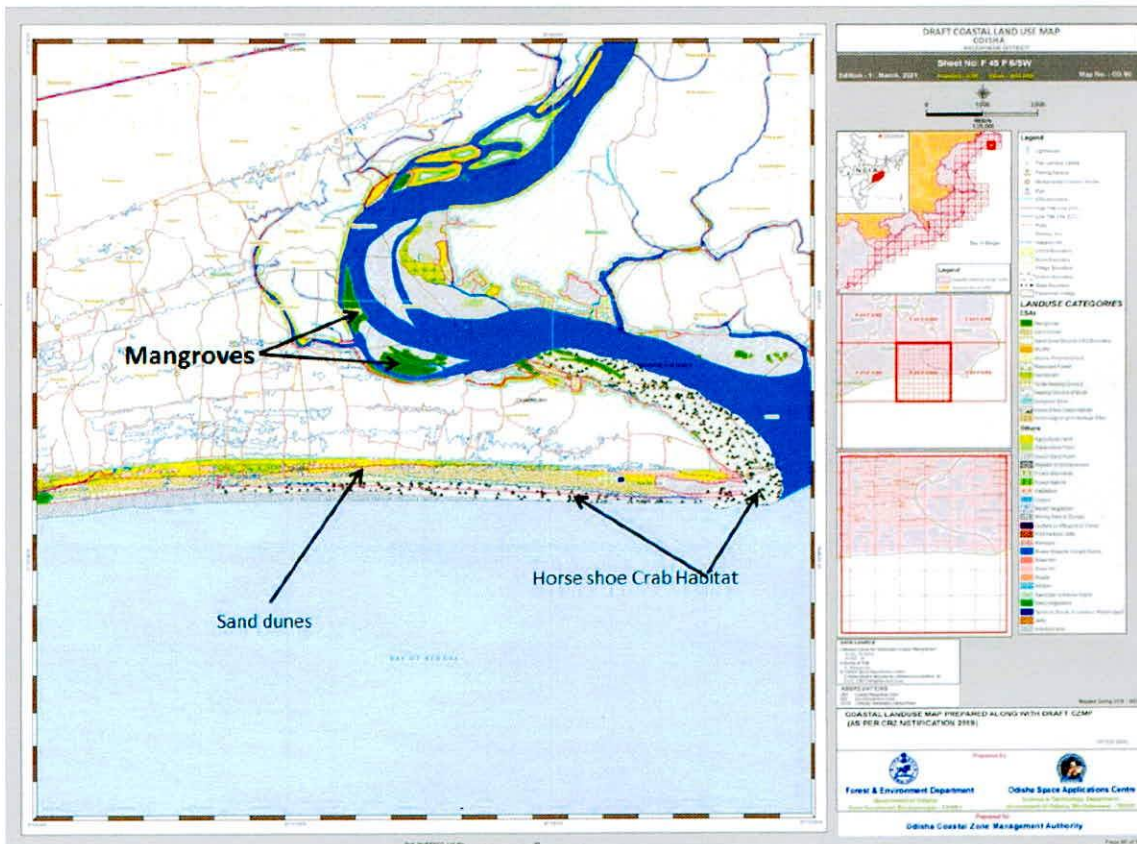
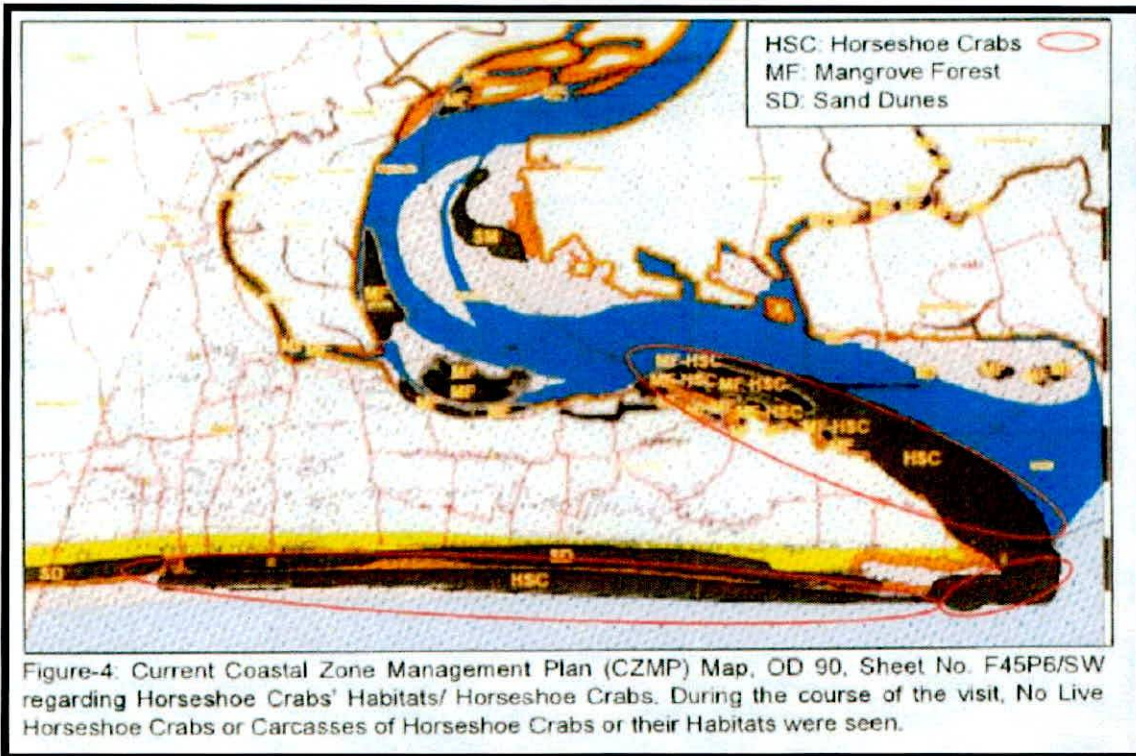
The brief of the observations of the team are as follows:

A. Horse Shoe Crabs:

CZMP 2011 & 2019: In the CZMP 2011 & 2019 map the area from Dagara Beach to Chaumukh Beach marked as IA due to the presence of Horse Shoe Crabs and their habitat.

Observation of the Team:

The team during their field visit did not notice any live horse shoe crabs or carcasses of Horseshoe Crabs or their habitats along the sea coast from Dagara Beach to Chaumukh Beach and on the riverbed of the right bank of the Subarnarekha River up to Kankadapal. During the course of discussion with the local villagers and fisherman they confirmed that they have never witnessed horseshoe crab in the above mentioned study area. In the published papers and report there is mention that Horse Shoe Crabs might have renounced the area due to disturbance to the habitat.

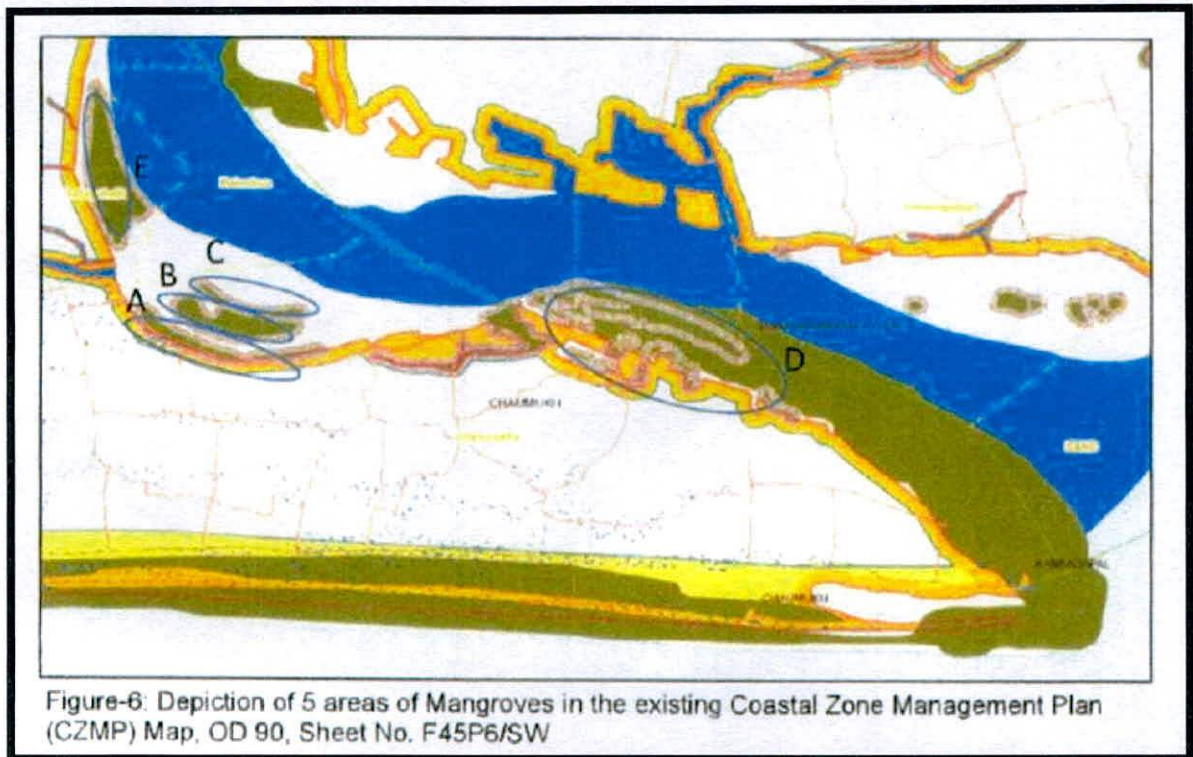


B. Mangroves

CZMP 2011 & 2019: In the CZMP 2011 & 2019 map OD-90, Sheet no. F45P6/SW the patches of area from the river bank of Subarnarekha demarcated as blue circle marked as A, B, C, D & E of the study area are classified as CRZ-IA due to the presence of Mangroves.

Observation of the Team:

Based on the observations made by the team during site visit, no mangroves were found in the area marked as A,D&E patches and only few mangrove saplings were observed in B & C patches.



Google map showing the Mangroves patches marked in the CZMP Map



A. Sand Dunes

CZMP 2011 & 2019: In the CZMP 2011 & 2019 map the area from Dagara Beach to Chaumukh Beach marked within yellow circles are classified as IA i.e. Ecologically Sensitive Area due to the presence of Sand Dunes.

Observation of the Team:

- During site visit the observations made by the team from Dagara Beach to Chaumukh Beach and up to the mouth of Subarnarekha River, the beach is devoid of any active sand dunes but there are flattened beach ridge running parallel to shoreline. The flattened land has developed on the Palaeo beach ridge and are becoming flatter over the years and no active sand dunes were observed. The team also mentioned that the beach ridge might have been marked as sand dunes based on the interpretation from satellite imagery and classified as CRZ 1A.

- However, the team observed one small stretch of 200m of accumulated sand at approximately 2km from the Subarnarekha River Mouth which may be classified as Sand Dune. The leeward side of the dunes has a typical slip face and the windward side is apparently steeper.

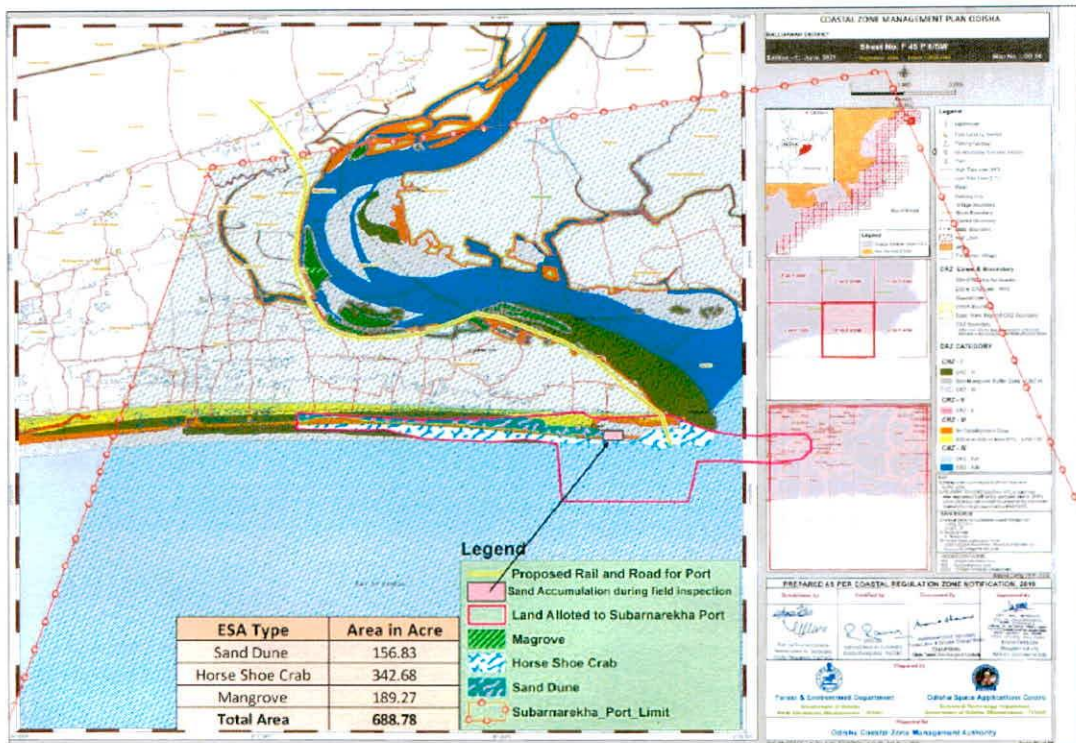


Figure-8: Sea coast showing patch of sand accumulation (shown in red colour)

The Authority deliberated on the proposal and the observations made by the team in their report based on the field visit to the area and decided to recommend the proposal to National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management (NCSCM) for further verification and ground truthing as per the Annexure-IV Para (7) "revision of Coastal Zone Management Plan" of CRZ Notification, 2019.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair and the members present.



**Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.,
Forest & Environment Department and
Chairman, OCZMA**

40th meeting of the Odisha Coastal Zone Management Authority

Venue: - Virtual Mode (Ms Team)



Date: 30th March, 2022

Time: 11:00 AM

Sl. No.	Participants
1.	Addl. Chief Secretary to Govt. Forest & Environment Department Government of Odisha - CHAIRMAN
2.	Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (WL) and Chief Wildlife Warden, Odisha
3.	Special Secretary to Govt., Fisheries & ARD Department
4.	Additional Secretary to Govt., H&UD Department
5.	Director Environment-cum-Special Secretary to Govt., F&E Department and Member Secretary, OCZMA
6.	Dr. Ajit Pattnaik Retd. PCCF, Odisha
7.	Dr. K.V. Thomas Former Director, National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS)
8.	Representative of CCF, Regional Office, MoEF&CC, Bhubaneswar
9.	HoD, Marine Science Berhampur University