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Level 3

Handbook for the examination of Structures Part 6: Coastal, Estuarine and River Defences

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1 Purpose

The purpose of this part of the handbook is to define the particular requirements and recommendations for examination of Coastal, Estuarine and River Defences.

2 Scope

This part of the handbook applies to all Network Rail owned or managed, Shared or Outside Party Coastal, Estuarine and River Defences and other Structures that have been assigned to Structure Category F in accordance with [NR/L1/CIV/032: Managing existing Structures](#)¹.

Coastal, Estuarine and River Defences assigned Structure Category F include:

Linear Coastal and Estuarine Defences:

- sea walls;
- embankments (dykes or bunds);
- revetments (rock armour, concrete blocks, gabions, asphaltic blankets);
- apron;
- beach ridge;
- piling;
- pitching;
- toe piling.

Beach control Structures:

- groynes;
- breakwaters (shore connected, detached);
- sills.

Estuarine defences:

- surge or tidal barrier;
- salt marshes.

¹ This provides information on managing Structures for all Structure Categories.