Wollongong Coast NSW02.04.02

Regional Setting

The dominant regional processes influencing coastal geomorphology in this region are the humid warm to cool temperate climate, micro-tides, south-easterly Tasman Sea swells, easterly seas, dominantly quartz (terrigenous) sediments with northerly longshore transport in the northern part, and the El Nino Southern Oscillation (driving beach erosion/accretion cycles, cyclone frequency).

Regional hazards or processes driving large scale rapid coastal changes include: East Coast Lows (extra-tropical cyclones), mid-latitude cyclones (depressions), and storm surges (<1m).

This compartment extends from Bellambi Point to Red Point.

Justification of sensitivity

Sensitivity rating is a 3 overall, although some places are likely to erode and earn a higher rating of 4.

Other comments

Corrimal and Fairy Meadow Beaches appear relatively stable, with sand accumulation since 1974. However, Chapman et al. (1982) report erosion with medium confidence. The shoreline is protected by a seawall in the vicinity of Port Kembla.

Red Point marks the southern end of this secondary compartment.

Confidence in sources

Medium confidence: There has been little study of this area since Chapman et al. (1982).

Additional information (links and references)

Chapman, D.M., Geary, M., Roy, P.S., Thom, B.G., 1982. Coastal Evolution and Coastal Erosion in New South Wales. Coastal Council of New South Wales, Sydney.