



Kiama Coast NSW02.04.04

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 Bass Point to Black Head.

Justification of sensitivity

Sensitivity rating is a 3. There are relatively few places where erosion is considered a problem.

Other comments

The rocky Kiama coast contains several pocket beaches. There are concerns about erosion at Jones (Boyd's) Beach. Werri Beach has experienced overwash; the narrow foredune was reshaped and revegetated in the 1980s and remains dynamic. Minnamurra estuary has experienced some erosion issues.



Confidence in sources

Medium confidence: There has been little study of this compartment 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.