



## Wreck Bay NSW02.05.04

### 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 St Georges Head to Red Head (Bendalong).

### Justification of sensitivity

Sensitivity rating is a 3, although erosion is inferred by Chapman et al. (1982).

### Other comments

Wreck Bay comprises a series of beaches facing south and southeast. Bherwerre Beach, the longest and highest energy beach on the South Coast, fronts a large transgressive dune barrier that impounds St Georges Basin (not considered further). The dunes have been stabilised and appear stable, although Chapman et al. (1982) inferred erosion with low confidence.

Transgressive dunes occur at the eastern end of Cudmirrah Beach, with several large blowouts. The entrance to Swan Lake is intermittently closed. The bluffs north of Berrara Creek are subject to erosion. The beaches south to Red Head at Bendalong are generally backed by bedrock or well-developed foredunes.



### **Confidence in sources**

Medium confidence: There has been little research on 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.