Scorpion Bight WA01.01.02

Regional Setting

This sandy coast compartment extends from Red Rocks Point to Scorpion Bight.

The dominant regional processes are the Mediterranean to humid cool-temperate climate; southern annular mode (driving dominant south-westerly swells and storms), micro-tidal; high energy south-westerly swells; westerly seas; carbonate sediments; and interrupted swell-driven longshore transport.

This coastline is susceptible to mid-latitude cyclones (depressions), storm surges and shelf waves.

Justification of sensitivity

Sensitivity rating is a 3 as the shoreline is stable and likely to remain stable. At present, active dunes have migrated landward over an old coastal plain, exposing limestone platforms and low bluffs along the shore.

Other comments

This compartment has a SSE aspect.

Variable-width sandy beaches have formed in areas protected by offshore reefs and may include some beachrock as low cliffs or headlands (100%). Other geomorphological features include limestone platforms, seagrass banks, and dunes.

Confidence in sources

Low confidence: Interpretation of landform assemblages comes from satellite imagery and aerial photography. There is limited or no information available describing landforms or coastal landform change over the historical period.

Additional information

Australian Beach Safety & Management Program (ABSAMP) database of over 12,000 beaches can be accessed at http://www.ozcoasts.gov.au/coastal/beach_intro.jsp (also see Surf Life Saving site)

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