



Baxter Cliffs WA01.02.01

Regional Setting

This rocky coast compartment extends from Twilight Cove to Point Dover.

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. High natural resilience to erosion is linked to the Baxter Cliffs, which are comprised of limestone and have a boulder ramp at shore

Other comments

This compartment has a SE Aspect.

The geomorphology is dominated by undercut steep cliff faces eroding cainozoic sedimentary material (100%).

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);

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). (2006) Oil Spills Response Atlas. Australian Government Canberra. Available at <https://www.amsa.gov.au/environment/maritime-environmental-emergencies/national-plan/general-information/OSRA/index.asp>

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Sharples C, Mount R, Pedersen T, Lacey M, Newton J, Jaskierniak D & Wallace L. (2009) The Australian Coastal Smartline Geomorphic and Stability Map. Version 1: Project Report. Geoscience Australia & Department of Climate Change, www.ozcoasts.gov.au/pdf/SmartlineProjectReport_2009_v1.pdf

Short AD. (2005) Beaches of the Western Australian Coast: Eucla to Roebuck Bay: A guide to their nature, characteristics, surf and safety. Australian Beach Safety and Management Program. University of Sydney Coastal Studies Unit and Surf Life Saving Australia. Sydney University Press. Sydney, New South Wales

Richardson L, Mathews E & Heap A. (2005) Geomorphology and Sedimentology of the South Western Planning Area of Australia: Review and synthesis of relevant literature in support of Regional Marine Planning. Geoscience Australia Report Record 2005/17.