



## **Bilbunya** WA01.03.01

### **Regional Setting**

This sandy coast compartment extends from Point Culver to Wattle Camp.

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 4 as the shoreline is currently stable but likely to start eroding. Active dunes are retreating landward over old coastal plains and leaving beachrock exposed along the shore. A lower local rating (3) may be given to Bilbunya Dunes as a sediment sink for the compartment.

### **Other comments**

This compartment has a SE aspect.

Geomorphological features include rock platforms, seagrass banks, beach, dunes, coastal lagoons, and limestone cliffs. Most of the coast is comprised of broad, gently-sloping, coarse-grained sandy beaches; some with active dunes and unstable blowout areas (65%), others with an undercut steep cliff face eroding cainozoic sedimentary material (25%). Broad, gently-sloping, coarse-grained sandy beaches are also present (10%). These feature low primary dunes, extensive vegetation cover, and barriers that may include marshes, swamps or echelon lake systems in swales.



### **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](http://www.ozcoasts.gov.au/coastal/beach_intro.jsp) (also see Surf Life Saving site)

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