



Wray Bay WA03.01.03

Regional Setting

This mixed sand and rock coast compartment extends from Cape Knob to Groper Bluff.

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 regional hazards, including mid-latitude cyclones (depressions), storm surges and shelf waves.

Justification of sensitivity

Sensitivity rating is a 4 overall as the shoreline is currently stable but likely to start eroding.

Much of the shore is rocky near the barred Pallinup Estuary, and there is evidence of dune erosion near and fronting the large active dunes in the east of the compartment.

Other comments

This compartment has a SSW aspect.

Geomorphological features include rocky headlands, arcuate beaches, dunes, and the Beaufort Inlet.

A major proportion (41%) of the coastline contains broad arcuate sandy beaches, which may be cusped or crenulate, formed between or in association with resistant headlands. The coastline also features broad, gently-sloping, coarse grained sandy beaches with some active dunes and unstable blowout areas (31%). The remainder of the compartment consists of exposed high energy shorelines with eroded igneous or metamorphic rocks associated with overlying beachrock or eolian limestone (28%).



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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