



## Flinders Bay WA04.03.02

### Regional Setting

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.

This sandy coast compartment extends from Black Point to Cape Leeuwin.

### Justification of sensitivity

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

Much of the coast is broad sandy beach backed by high dunes which are increasingly active in the eastern part of the compartment. The coast affected by the Blackwood River is unstable, with the outer barrier of a dual system truncated by migration of the river mouth after extreme flood events.

### Other comments

This compartment has a SSW aspect.

Geomorphological features include granite islands, rocky headlands, beaches, foredune plains, and the Blackwood Estuary.

The majority of the coastline features broad, gently-sloping, coarse grained sandy beach with some active dunes and unstable blowout areas (88%). The remainder of the coastline comprises narrow sandy beach backed by continuous, stable, well-vegetated high dunes which may include calcarenite (12%). These are without extensive beachrock.



### **Confidence in sources**

Moderate confidence. There is little information available describing landforms or coastal landform change for the coast east of the Blackwood River estuary over the historical period.

Interpretation of landform assemblages comes from site visits, satellite imagery and aerial photography.

### **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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