



## Port Denison WA07.02.04

### Regional Setting

The dominant regional processes are the Mediterranean to arid climate; the El Nino Southern Oscillation (driving sea-level variability); Southern Annular Mode (driving south-westerly swells and storms); strong sea breezes; micro to meso tidal, mainly diurnal; south-westerly swells; southerly seas; and carbonate sediments with moderate northerly longshore transport.

This coastline is susceptible to regional hazards, including extra-tropical cyclones, mid-latitude cyclones (depressions), storm surges, and river flooding (sub-regions only).

This mixed sand and rock coast compartment extends from Cliff Head to Leander Point.

### Justification of sensitivity

The sensitivity rating is a 4 as the shoreline is currently stable but likely to start eroding. This is a mainly (>90%) sandy coast with active foredunes and unstable blowout areas in lee of reefs >5 Km offshore.

### Other comments

Common landform assemblages:

Broad, gently-sloping sandy beach with some active dunes and unstable blowout areas (92%). Beachrock dominates beach with occasional sandy sections; may have a low undercut beachrock cliff face (8%).

Geomorphological features include offshore limestone platforms, narrow beaches and parabolic dunes.



This compartment has a WSW aspect.

### **Confidence in sources**

Moderate: Coastal landforms are well described in available management literature. However, neither the volume of sediment movement along or across the rocky coast nor the sediment budget for the coast is well known. Interpretation of landform assemblages comes from satellite imagery and aerial photography, as well as site visits and published information.

### **Additional information (links and references)**

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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