



## Zuytdorp Cliffs WA09.01.02

### 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 rocky coast compartment extends from Nunginjay Spring Coast (N) to Steep Point.

### Justification of sensitivity

The sensitivity rating is a 3 as the coast is currently stable and likely to remain stable. High natural resilience to erosion is linked to the Zuytdorp Cliffs, which are comprised of limestone and have a platform close to sea level. The cliffs and platform drop into deep water.

### Other comments

Common landform assemblages:

Undercut steep cliff face eroding Cainozoic sedimentary material (94%).

Geomorphological features include high limestone cliffs.

This compartment has a SW aspect.

### Confidence in sources



Low confidence: Limited or no information describing landforms or coastal landform change over the historical period is available, except close to the mouth of the Murchison River. Interpretation of landform assemblages comes from satellite imagery, aerial photography, and a site visit to Steep Point.

#### **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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