



South Bejaling Hill WA09.04.03

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 Dorre Island to Bernier Island.

Justification of sensitivity

The sensitivity rating is a 3 as the shoreline is currently stable and likely to remain stable. Dorre and Bernier Island have mainly cliffed coast. Bay beaches on the east coast of Bernier Island may have a higher susceptibility rating (4).

Other comments

Common landform assemblages:

Dorre Island is surrounded by a predominantly cliffed, limestone coast. Bernier Island has cliffs and rock platforms along its western shore; its eastern shore has rocky headlands and sandy bay beaches flanking cliffs and bluffs.

Geomorphological features include the offshore Dorre and Bernier Islands.



Confidence in sources

Low confidence: Limited or no information describing landforms or coastal landform change over the historical period is available. Interpretation of landform assemblages comes from satellite imagery and aerial photography.

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 (also see Surf Life Saving site)

Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). (2006) Oil Spills Response Atlas. Australian Government Canberra. Available at <https://www.amsa.gov.au/environment/maritime-environmental-emergencies/national-plan/general-information/OSRA/index.asp>

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Short AD. (2005) Beaches of the Western Australian Coast: Eucla to Roebuck Bay: A guide to their nature, characteristics, surf and safety. Australian Beach Safety and Management Program. University of Sydney Coastal Studies Unit and Surf Life Saving Australia. Sydney University Press. Sydney, New South Wales.

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