



Quobba WA10.01.01

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 Point Quobba to Cape Cuvier

Justification of sensitivity

The sensitivity rating is a 3 as the shoreline is currently stable and likely to remain stable. Deep water gives way to rock platforms close to sea level, undercut bluffs or cliffs, and an exposed, high rock platform. A sandy beach near Quobba Station has dune ridges perched on an intertidal rock platform.

Other comments

Common landform assemblages:

In a landward sequence, deep water gives way to rock platforms close to sea level, undercut steep cliff face in eroding Cainozoic sedimentary material, and an exposed rock platform approximately 5m above sea level. Near Quobba Station in the centre of the compartment, a small narrow sandy beach flanks two dune ridges perched on an intertidal rock platform.



Geomorphological features include low limestone cliffs, beaches and dunes.

This compartment has a W aspect.

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, site visits 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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Eliot I, Gozzard B, Eliot M, Stul T and McCormack G. (2012c) The Gascoyne Coast, Western Australia: Shires of Shark Bay to Exmouth. Geology, Geomorphology & Vulnerability. Damara WA Pty Ltd and Geological Survey of Western Australia, Innaloo, Western Australia. http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/mediaFiles/marine/MAC_R_ShiresOfSharkBayAndExmouthFullReport.pdf.



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Gozzard JR. (2011d) WACoast –Gascoyne. Geological Survey of Western Australia

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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