



## Eighty Mile Beach (south) WA12.02.01

### Regional Setting

The dominant regional processes are the sub-tropical arid climate (Trade winds), El Nino Southern Oscillation (driving sea-level variability), mega to meso semi-diurnal tides, waves dominantly seas, episodic high river sediment discharges, mixed carbonate-terrigenous sediments, and tidal sediment transport.

This coastline is susceptible to regional hazards, including tropical cyclones, storm surges and river flooding.

This sandy coast compartment extends from the Shoonta Well to Eight Mile Beach Caravan Park (NE).

### Justification of sensitivity

The sensitivity rating is a 3 as the shoreline is stable and likely to remain stable. The stability of the beach is a function of sediment supply from offshore as well as longshore drift from the De Grey River.

### Other comments

Common landform assemblages:

Water depth is <5 m for approximately 7 km from the shore. There are patches of reef in the inshore waters together with bars, troughs and tidal channels. Tidal flats are approximately 1 km wide. They merge with a gently-sloping beach with an extensive intertidal zone and supratidal zone (100%). Rock outcrops occur as beach rock platforms or low bluffs at the boundaries of the compartment.



Geomorphological features include offshore parallel reefs, tidal terrace, sandy beach and spits, and beachrock.

This compartment has a NNW aspect.

### **Confidence in sources**

Moderate: Limited or no information specifically describing landforms or coastal landform change is available for the historical period. However, multiple photographic runs and other regional investigations of landforms have been published.

Interpretation of landform assemblages comes from satellite imagery, aerial photography, available literature, and site visit and survey by helicopter along the shore.

### **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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