



Cable Beach (Broome) WA12.03.03

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 Entrance Point to Coulomb Point.

Justification of sensitivity

The sensitivity rating is a 3 as the shoreline is stable and likely to remain stable. The spits along the southern shore indicate a sediment supply from the south. Tidal creeks, including Dampier Creek near Town Beach, maintain an onshore-offshore sediment exchange in discrete cells between rocky headlands and along the central shore of Roebuck Bay. The main source of sediment is potentially reworked material from the infilled paleochannel of the Fitzroy River, which now forms outwash plain landward of Roebuck Bay.

Other comments

Common landform assemblages:

The west facing shore of the Dampier Peninsula includes broad, gently sloping beach with an extensive intertidal and supratidal zone (40%). Also common are major tidal creek channels with complex relict sandy beaches and some tidal flat development between headlands (28%). Narrow sandy or silty beach with a high tide range may be marked by



cheniers, beach ridges or low cliffs (21%). The remainder of the compartment features complex exposed resistant low cliffs, with beaches that may be formed between headlands due to high tidal range (11%).

Geomorphological features include the Pindan cliffs, sandy beaches and dunes.

This compartment has a W aspect.

Confidence in sources

Moderate confidence: 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 assemblage from satellite imagery, aerial photography and site visits to beaches between Wyllie Creek and Coulomb 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 (also see Surf Life Saving site)

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