

Southend Coastal Adaptation Strategy - Coastal hazards (Information Sheet #2)

Background

Recognising the value of the Southend coastline to the community, the Wattle Range Council has initiated a project to develop a robust plan to determine specific priority pathways for action. A range of tasks will be undertaken as part of the project, including:

- assessing the location, extent and condition of assets and infrastructure;
- developing inundation and erosion maps;
- reviewing the historical performance of protective works;
- after construction of the outlet groynes in the mid-1980s, significant build-up of the Western beach was observed, however, the beach has remained relatively stable since 2005; and
- despite attempts to reduce recession north east of the Outlet groynes via beach nourishment and the construction of the three rock groynes, long term shoreline erosion has still occurred for the length of the coastline extending 2km north east from the Caravan Park.

The purpose of this Information Sheet is to summarise coastal hazards for Southend.

Key issues

The main hazards caused by the coastal processes relevant to Southend include:

- short-term coastal erosion including that resulting from severe storms;
- long term coastline recession, such as that caused by sand transport and climate change; and
- oceanic inundation of low lying areas.

Key observations about coastal processes at Southend include:

- coastline recession has been a major issue since the early 1980s when erosion at the Lake Frome Outlet first threatened the town caravan park;
- short-term erosion is greatest between the Outlet groyne and Eyre St groyne (fronting the Caravan Park);

How was this information used?

The inundation maps were used in the development of the Southend Adaptation Strategy. The Strategy is available on Council's website:

www.wattlerange.sa.gov.au/coastalmanagement

Further information?

For further information on this project contact Lauren Oxlade at Wattle Range Council on (08) 8733 0901.

Figure 1. Coastal processes at Southend.

