



Perth NRM

Perth NRM Regional Coastal Strategy 2021 - 2026



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purpose

This strategy document sets environmental, community and management priorities for coastal projects in the Perth metropolitan area and will help to shape clear and meaningful coastal conservation outcomes.

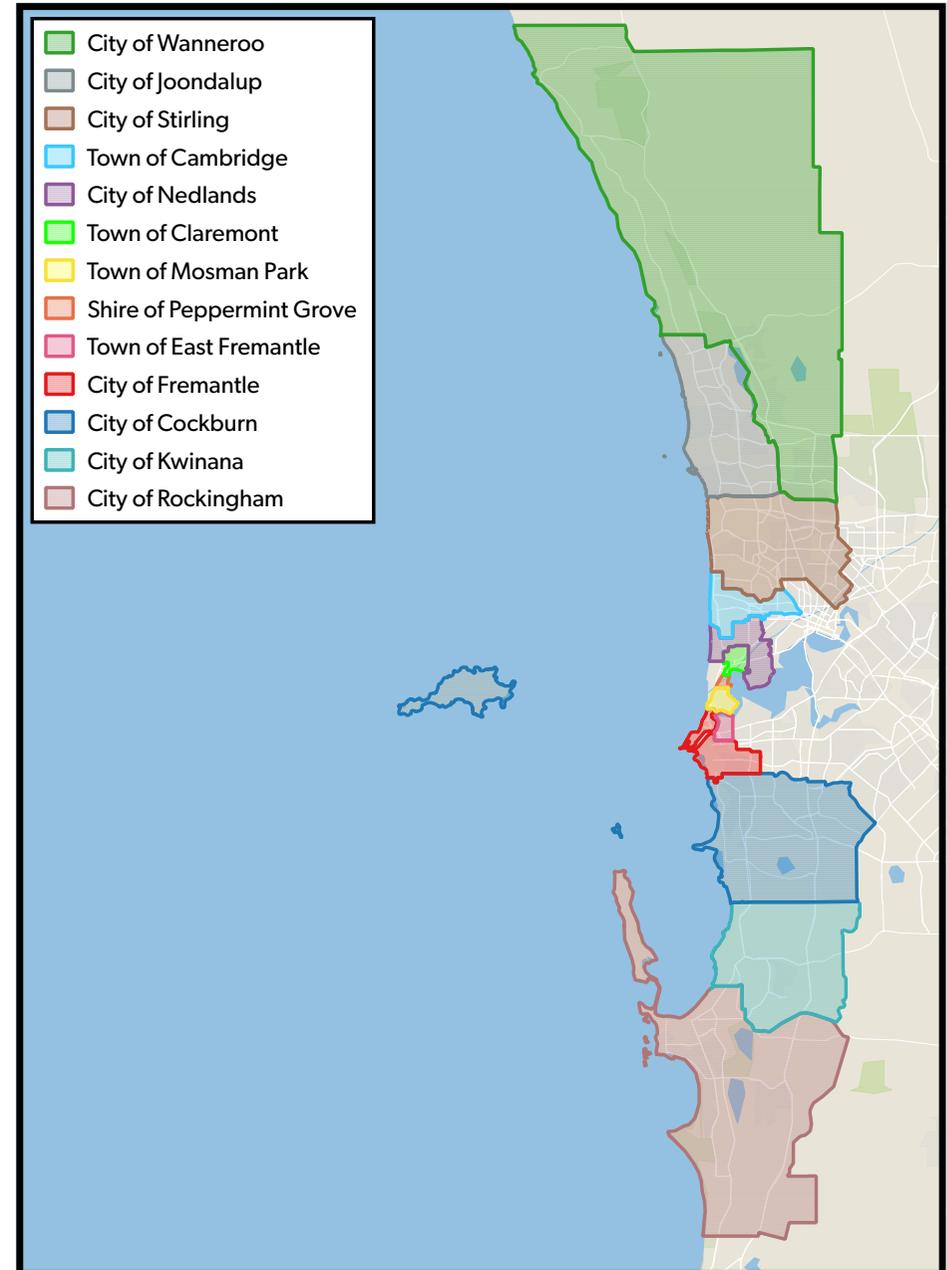
purpose

The Perth metropolitan coastal zone is a landscape connecting systems of sand dunes, heath lands, bushlands and wetlands. These fragile ecosystems support a diverse range of plants, animals and birds and is vulnerable to many competing pressures. Our coastal zone encompasses a community of active volunteers who contribute time and effort to address the environmental challenges faced along our coast.

Perth NRM works in partnership with all tiers of government, industry, academia, school and community groups on coastal management, monitoring and rehabilitation projects. Perth NRM provides a community leadership role in its region, mobilises regional efforts, and ensures priority needs are addressed.

Perth NRM's Coastal Strategy 2021-2026 is complementary to the [WA Coastal Zone Strategy](https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/information-and-services/state-planning/coastal-planning-and-management/wa-coastal-zone-strategy)¹. It is consistent with the roles and responsibilities of Natural Resource Management (NRM) groups as outlined in the WA Coastal Zone Strategy and aligns closely with Perth NRM's broader strategic objectives regarding land management and community engagement.

¹ <https://www.dplh.wa.gov.au/information-and-services/state-planning/coastal-planning-and-management/wa-coastal-zone-strategy>





vision

Perth's community values and actively contributes to the integrated management of resilient coastal environments through co-invested, collaborative stewardship.



objectives

The Strategic Objectives are to:

- Improve coastal resilience, protect biodiversity and support connectivity for a sustainable coastal zone.
- Connect community, environment and culture to improve public awareness of coastal issues, encourage advocacy and build capacity for coastal conservation.
- Facilitate alignment and coordination across coastal management stakeholder groups. We form strategic partnerships and develop projects to maximise the value of shared knowledge, effort and investment in landscape scale coastal management.

The Priority Actions are to:

- Develop and implement a regional scale environmental spatial analysis of coastal systems, values and threats to identify the most important and strategic coastal sites.
- Develop and implement a management capacity assessment for coastal areas and coastal community groups.
- Undertake an environmental values and management capacity prioritisation process and develop a costed implementation plan to deliver high priority actions.

strategic objective 1

Improve coastal resilience, protect biodiversity and support connectivity for a sustainable coastline.

5 Year outcomes		Importance	Approach	Measurement and evaluation
1.1	The condition, connectivity and extent of coastal corridor ecosystems is maintained or improved.	Large and intact remnants of coastal vegetation ecosystems are strongholds for coastal biodiversity. Strong ecological connectivity underpins the resilience of coastal ecosystems to natural and human impacts.	Maintain the condition of coastal corridor ecosystems in good to excellent condition by reducing local and regional threats. Improve the condition of coastal corridor ecosystems by managing threatening processes and restoring habitat through natural regeneration or revegetation. Minimise habitat fragmentation and improve connectivity through strategic revegetation projects. Participate in the Australian Marine Debris Initiative (AMDII). Support and advocate for consistency of coastal monitoring across groups/tenure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vegetation condition change Area of vegetation under improved management Proximity of patches changed through revegetation and corridor establishment Distribution and movement of species Hectares of revegetation/number of seedlings planted Volume/area of weeds removed Contractor reports Survival rates of new seedlings
1.2	Invasive species are controlled or reduced.	Invasive plant and animal species have a significant impact on ecosystem health.	Support the implementation of invasive species control through local area management plans. Utilise innovative and proven control methodologies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of ecological condition Marine debris removed Coastal erosion structures/materials installed
1.3	Coastal erosion in priority areas is mitigated.	Coastal erosion leads to a loss of amenity and degradation of dune systems.	Minimise the impacts of coastal erosion through revegetation, dune stabilization and access control. Support implementation of priority environmental actions identified in CHRMAPs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Site specific monitoring and reporting



action

Priority Action for Strategic Objective 1:

1. Develop and implement a regional scale **environmental spatial analysis** of coastal systems, values and threats to identify the most important and strategic coastal sites.

This multi-criteria analysis will engage with coastal stakeholders to assess a broad range of environmental values to identify and prioritise habitats, linkages, and threats.

strategic objective 2

Connect community, environment and culture to improve public awareness of coastal issues, encourage advocacy and build capacity for coastal conservation.

5 Year outcomes		Importance	Approach	Measurement and evaluation
2.1	<p>The Perth community understands coastal issues and engages in advocacy for the protection of this environment.</p>	<p>Informed and active stewards are needed to support vulnerable coastal environments.</p> <p>Our coasts are already enjoyed by the community for recreational purposes. Providing ecological and cultural contexts for these spaces can leverage this enjoyment to become appreciation and stewardship.</p>	<p>Inspire people with innovative and engaging events that share the depth of the coastal experience, incorporating contemporary and Aboriginal ecological knowledge and a shared understanding of place.</p> <p>Provide immediate opportunities for participants to engage in advocacy through group memberships, campaigns and volunteering.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase in awareness of current local coastal issues and opportunities for community action • An increase in participation levels and volunteer hours for coastal activities/events • Increased volunteer knowledge in coastal restoration delivery methodologies • Improved condition and extent of vegetation • Participation of WA schools and students in Perth NRM's Adopt A Beach program
2.2	<p>The community has increased access to coastal capacity building and education opportunities.</p> <p>This increased capacity improves the quality and quantity of community coast care participation.</p>	<p>Coastal volunteer recruitment and retention is needed to ensure sustainable and ongoing environmental stewardship.</p>	<p>Maintain capacity of existing high-capacity community groups through continued support.</p> <p>Provide advanced support to increase capacity of new and existing low- to medium-capacity community groups, especially those in medium to high environmental value areas.</p> <p>Actively seek opportunities for collaboration/ partnerships with Traditional Owners.</p> <p>Grow opportunities for new and diverse audiences to participate in coastal conservation, particularly through environmental education initiatives.</p>	

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5 Year outcomes		Importance	Approach	Measurement and evaluation
2.3	Community groups have the necessary skills, technical and administrative knowledge to maintain viable and effective organisations.	<p>Addressing capacity and capability gaps in the areas of on-ground skills and knowledge, volunteer support and financial/governance enables effective community environmental stewardship.</p> <p>Organisations that can plan, deliver and measure the impact of their contributions are more likely to attract funding.</p>	<p>Respond to community group needs and provide support for groups to become and remain organised, sustainable and effective.</p> <p>Develop tools for community groups to perform organisational self-assessment to assist in the identification of capacity and capability gaps.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An increase in awareness of current local coastal issues and opportunities for community action • An increase in participation levels and volunteer hours for coastal activities/events • Increased volunteer knowledge in coastal restoration delivery methodologies • Improved condition and extent of vegetation • Participation of WA schools and students in Perth NRM's Adopt A Beach program

action

Priority Action for Strategic Objective 2:

1. Develop and implement a **management capacity assessment** for coastal areas and coastal community groups

This is an opportunity to assess community groups in terms of experience, capacity and existing support. This assessment will assist in determining community needs.

strategic objective 3

Facilitate alignment and coordination across coastal management stakeholder groups. We form strategic partnerships and develop projects to maximise the value of shared knowledge, effort and investment in landscape scale coastal management.

5 Year outcomes		Importance	Approach	Measurement and evaluation
3.1	Increased cooperation across coastal management stakeholder groups	Perth Region’s coastal and marine environments face consistent threats. Scarce financial and human resources require cooperation to effectively manage the environment and ensure it is maintained and enhanced.	<p>Coordinate and facilitate multi-stakeholder collaboration to maximise the benefits of coastal zone research; operational management; education; monitoring; engagement of First Nations and community participation.</p> <p>Actively seek opportunities to foster a consistent approach for research and data collection on the coast.</p> <p>Operate strategically at landscape scale by managing threatening processes across local government areas.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participant numbers/group numbers Sponsor numbers/collaboration numbers Level of financial and in-kind support Consistency of coastal management priorities An increased in community led monitoring Uptake of/participation in knowledge sharing events. School engagement
3.2	Increased funding and co-investment in coastal management and education.	<p>Funding enables tangible outcomes.</p> <p>Co-investment and partnerships result in regionally significant outcomes where all stakeholders value and contribute to environmental stewardship.</p>	<p>Seek new project partners and sponsors by proposing projects that demonstrate meaningful environmental stewardship and coastal education/knowledge building.</p> <p>Grow Perth NRM’s profile as an effective and trusted partner.</p>	

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5 Year outcomes		Importance	Approach	Measurement and evaluation
3.3	Cohesive and consistent sharing of research, knowledge and best-practice management	Land managers need access to the most recent and relevant knowledge in order to restore ecosystems successfully. Consistency of approach leads to effective landscape scale restoration.	Support the development of an inter-organisational information hub that will enable the sharing and dissemination of up-to-date research, practices, trials and cultural science.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participant numbers/group numbers • Sponsor numbers/collaboration numbers • Level of financial and in-kind support • Consistency of coastal management priorities • An increased in community led monitoring • Uptake of/participation in knowledge sharing events. • School engagement

actions

Priority Actions for Strategic Objective 3

- a) Undertake an environmental values and management capacity **prioritisation** process
- b) Develop a costed **implementation plan** to deliver high priority actions

Utilise the **environmental spatial analysis** (SO1) and **management capacity assessment** (SO2) as tools to prioritise how Perth NRM resources and funding should be allocated to coastal community groups and projects. This data will inform the Perth NRM Coastal and Marine Program Implementation Plan.



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