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Cape Burney to Greys Beach Inundation & Coastal Processes Study

In Western Australia, coastal development is guided by State Planning Policy 2.6: The State Coastal Planning Policy (SPP2.6). This policy outlines the general requirements for new development on the coastline in terms of avoiding or managing risks caused by coastal inundation (flooding) or coastal erosion.

SPP2.6 outlines that new development should be safe from coastal inundation caused by an extreme inundation event that has a 0.2% chance of occurring each year. In other words, this event would occur once every 500 years on average. Another way to say this is that the event would have an Average Recurrence Interval (abbreviated to ARI) of 500 years.

For coastal erosion, SPP2.6 states that new development should be safe from an erosion event that has a 1% chance of occurring each year (or would occur once every 100 years on average i.e. the 100 year ARI event).

In addition to these storm events, the potential impacts of sea level rise and ongoing changes to the shoreline need to be considered when determining appropriate areas for new development.

While the SPP2.6 guidelines relate mainly to the requirements for new development, where existing development does not meet the guidelines there is generally a requirement to implement management actions in order to reduce any risks to acceptable levels.

In 2016/17 a study was completed in order to understand which areas of the shoreline between Cape Burney and Greys Beach could be impacted by coastal inundation and erosion. This study was completed in accordance with the requirements of SPP2.6. The study involved detailed modelling and assessment of the following items:

The results of this study are summarised on the attached plans.

