

# What is special about our Coast?

Our coast is one of WA's most valuable natural assets, rich in biodiversity, landscape, aboriginal and heritage values.

The coast offers diverse opportunities for recreation, tourism, commercial, industrial and residential development, and contributes to the health and social wellbeing of Western Australians.



Koombana Bay, Bunbury. Photo: Department of Transport

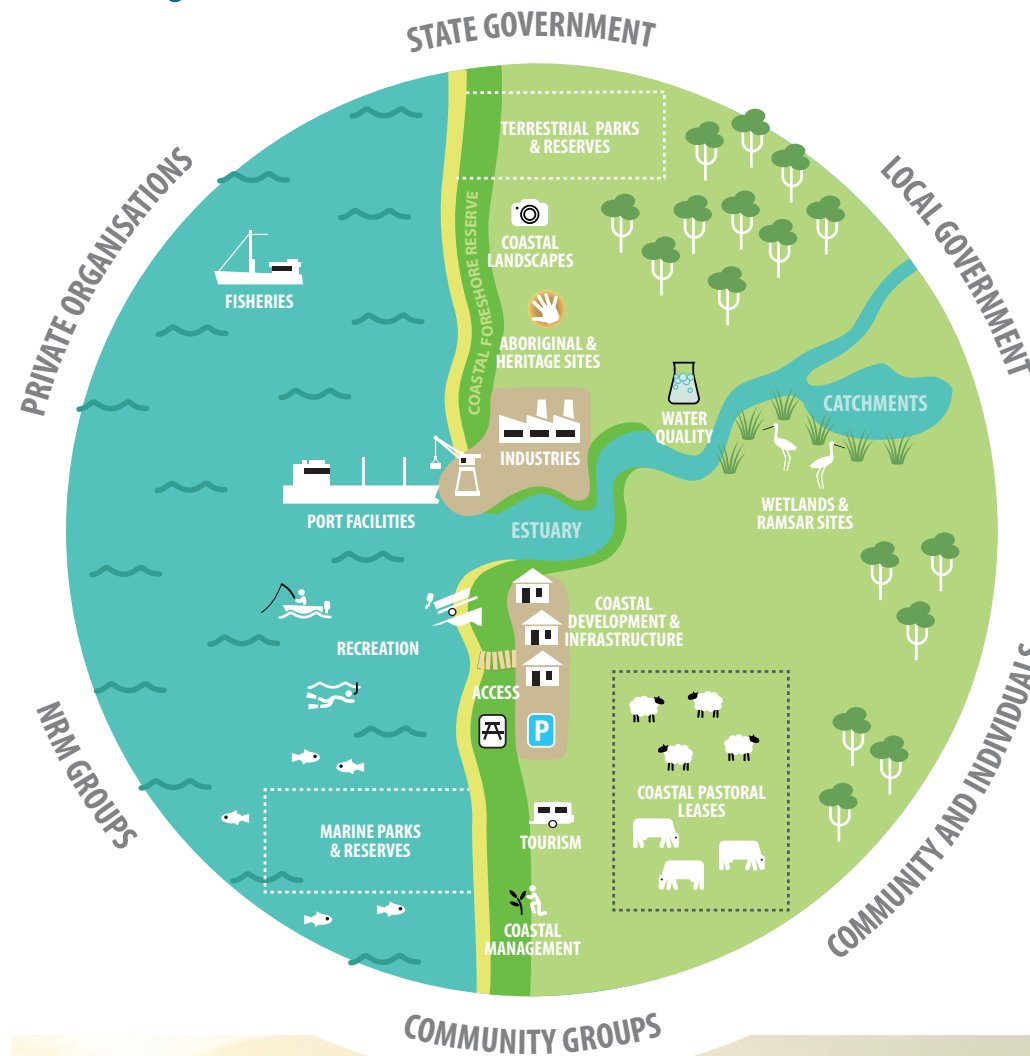
# What is the Strategy?

The WA Coastal Zone Strategy is the Western Australian Government's strategic response to key issues facing coastal planning and management.

The Strategy establishes the State Government's vision, goals and objectives for coastal zone management. It also provides a high-level framework for collective action by stakeholders to ensure a sustainable future for our coast.

# Roles and Responsibilities

Stewardship of the coast is a shared responsibility. Governments at all levels, private organisations, natural resource management groups, the community and individuals each have important, complementary and differentiated roles in coastal planning and management.

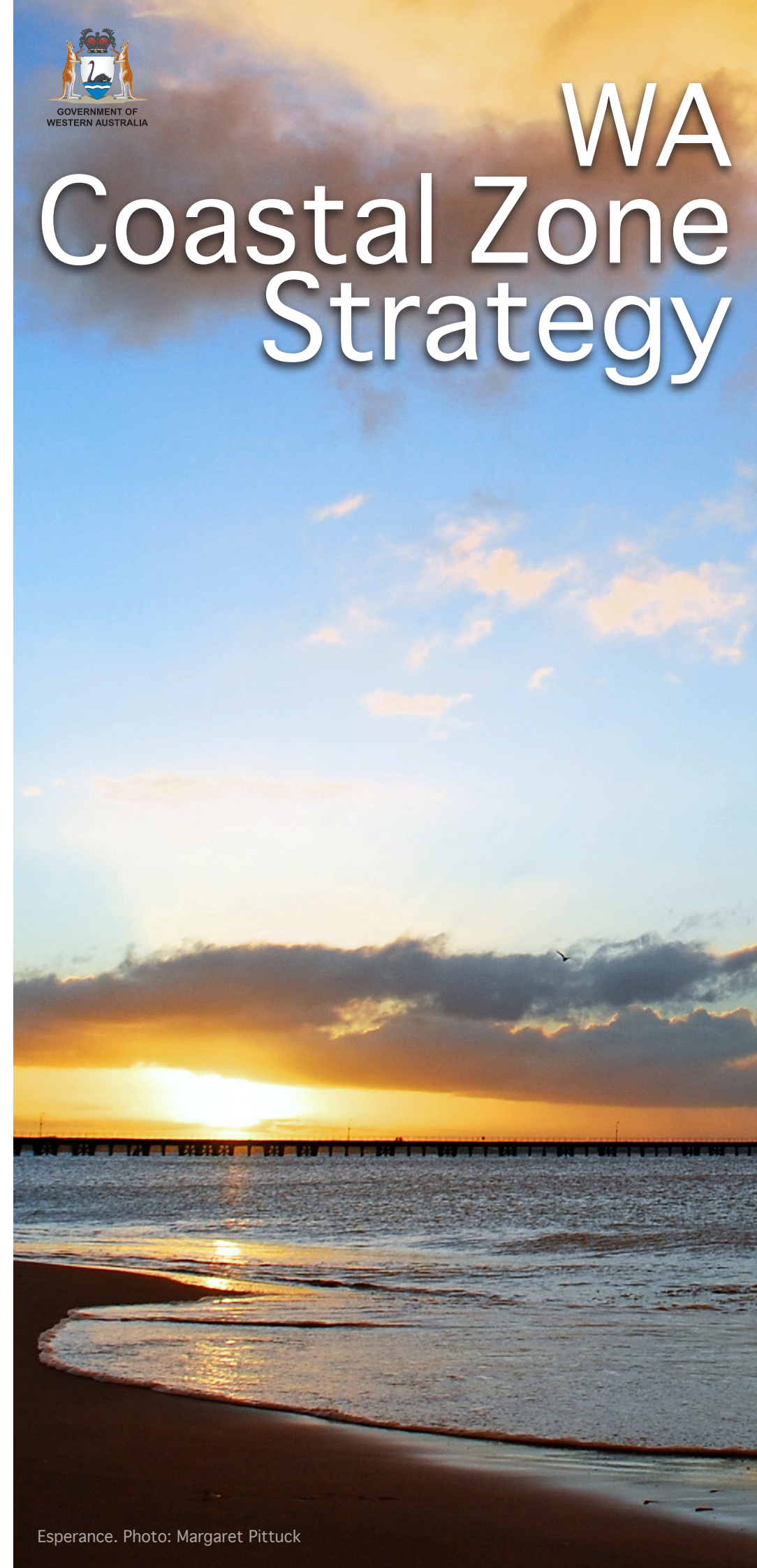


Bathers Beach, Fremantle. Photo: Tourism WA

To view the full **WA Coastal Zone Strategy** and for further information, please visit: [www.dplh.wa.gov.au](http://www.dplh.wa.gov.au) or contact [coastwest@planning.wa.gov.au](mailto:coastwest@planning.wa.gov.au)



# WA Coastal Zone Strategy



Esperance. Photo: Margaret Pittuck



# Vision

A **sustainable coast** for the **long-term benefit** of the **community** and **visitors** to the **State**



Albany coastline. Photo: Amazing Albany

## Goals and Objectives

To achieve the vision, five high-level goals have been adopted to guide management and use of the coastal zone. These goals are supported by a range of detailed objectives.

(key objectives listed only)

<b>Environment:</b>	Conserve the State's natural coastal values and assets through sustainable use.
<b>Key Objective:</b>	<i>Protect, conserve, enhance and maintain natural coastal values.</i>
<b>Community:</b>	Ensure safe public access to the coast and involve the community in coastal planning and management activities.
<b>Key Objective:</b>	<i>Ensure public ownership of coastal and estuarine foreshore reserves for management, safe public access, recreation and conservation.</i>
<b>Economy:</b>	Provide for the sustainable use of natural coastal resources.
<b>Key Objective:</b>	<i>Ensure natural coastal resources are used in an equitable and sustainable manner.</i>
<b>Infrastructure:</b>	Ensure the location of facilities and infrastructure in the coastal zone is sustainable and suitable.
<b>Key Objective:</b>	<i>Locate and design coastal development, infrastructure and facilities taking into account coastal processes, landform stability, water quality, environmental flows, hydrological cycles, coastal hazards and climate change.</i>
<b>Governance:</b>	Build community confidence in coastal planning and management.
<b>Key Objective:</b>	<i>Align policy, planning and development in the coastal zone with the public interest.</i>

## Key Issues

Natural and human induced threats and pressures can impact coastal values:

- Population growth pressures increasing coastal access and use
- Location of coastal development and infrastructure
- Degradation resulting from uncontrolled coastal access for recreation
- Environmental condition of estuaries
- Impacts of industrial use
- Impacts of fisheries
- Climate change (sea level rise and storm intensity)
- Coastal processes and hazards (erosion and inundation)
- Coastal hazard risk and liability
- Bushfires
- Invasive pest species
- Grazing on coastal dunes within pastoral leases
- Limited resources for coastal planning and management.

## Managing Coastal Erosion and Inundation

Government, the private sector and the community all play an important role in adapting to the impacts of climate change, particularly coastal hazards such as erosion and inundation. *State Planning Policy No. 2.6 State Coastal Planning Policy* aims to avoid future development within areas at risk from coastal hazards. Areas at risk need appropriate coastal hazard risk management and adaptation planning. The Strategy highlights that coastal protection is a last resort option to mitigate coastal hazard risk, and should only be pursued once a number of issues have been addressed.