

Foreword

This State Coastal Management Plan delivers a vision and direction for coastal management in Queensland. Through this Plan, the Queensland Government has addressed the major challenges associated with protecting our coast for future generations — recognising, planning for and managing the long-term impacts of natural events and human activities.

As our population increases so do our demands on coastal resources. We need to recognise and protect the important ecological, social and economic values associated with the coast. The State Coastal Management Plan represents Queensland's coastal policy — providing a framework to address and manage current and future pressures on our sensitive coastal zone.

All Queenslanders have a role to play in this process. Many have already become involved by contributing submissions and comments that have helped to strengthen this Plan. Others will become involved as we work towards our goal of achieving integrated coastal management.

People involved in coastal management come from a range of government agencies, organisations, Indigenous Traditional Owner and community groups that sometimes have overlapping responsibilities. The Plan will help to introduce a consistent approach to the way Queensland's coastal zone is managed. All coastal managers will be required to take account of the coast's importance and its values as they carry out their planning, assessment and management activities.

In protecting and managing environmental aspects of the coastal zone, we must also consider its social and economic importance to our community. By adopting a planned approach to the way we all use our coast, we are able to account for emerging issues such as changing trends in our climate. We also account for current issues such as maintaining people's access to our beaches and ensuring coastal development occurs in an appropriate place and way.

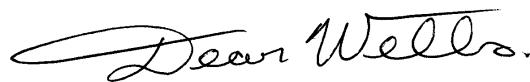
Queensland's 9500km of coastline has something for everyone. It supports townships, business and rural industry. It offers sandy beaches, abundant native wildlife, tropical rainforests, extensive coastal wetlands and the world's largest sand island and coral reef for Queenslanders and tourists to enjoy. It provides a cultural heritage shaped by Indigenous people and historic events. All these aspects of our coast are important and sometimes there are competing demands on these resources from different parts of the community.

An over-arching principle of the State Coastal Management Plan is to ensure development and activities are carried out in an ecologically sustainable manner. This Plan's framework accounts for the different demands on our coastal resources and ensures possible consequences are properly considered in all our decisions. To provide for the sustainable management of our coast, the Plan identifies areas where the existing natural and cultural resources should be protected, and where existing resources with social and economic values should be recognised, to support continued opportunities for economic development.

On behalf of the Queensland Government, we commend this Plan to all Queenslanders. As part of our leadership in these endeavours, we will continue to work to ensure government, industry and community work together to understand our coast's natural systems, protect and rehabilitate important areas and ensure that our activities and settlements are sustainable.



Peter Beattie MP
Premier and Minister for Trade



Dean Wells MP
Minister for Environment

Contents

Executive summary	(i)
Acknowledgements of data sources	(iii)
Terms and abbreviations	(iv)
CHAPTER 1: Vision for Queensland's coast	1
1.1 Vision statement	2
1.2 Purpose of the State Coastal Management Plan	2
1.3 Coastal management in the Queensland context	7
1.4 Regional overviews	10
1.5 Relationship with regional coastal management plans	10
CHAPTER 2: How Queensland's coastal zone is to be managed	13
2.1 Coastal use and development	16
2.1.1 Areas of state significance (social and economic)	16
2.1.2 Settlement pattern and design	17
2.1.3 Coastal-dependent land uses	17
2.1.4 Canals and dry land marinas	18
2.1.5 Maritime infrastructure	19
2.1.6 Extractive industry	20
2.1.7 Mining and petroleum activities	20
2.1.8 Dredging	21
2.1.9 Reclamation	22
2.1.10 Tourism and recreational activities	23
2.1.11 Rural land uses	23
2.1.12 Managing water resources	24
2.1.13 Fishing	25
2.1.14 Aquaculture	26
2.2 Physical coastal processes	27
2.2.1 Adaptation to climate change	27
2.2.2 Erosion prone areas	28
2.2.3 Shoreline erosion management	28
2.2.4 Coastal hazards	29
2.2.5 Beach protection structures	29
2.3 Public access to the coast	30
2.3.1 Future need for access	30
2.3.2 Design of access	31
2.3.3 Coastal road network	31
2.3.4 Vehicle use on beaches	32
2.4 Water quality	32
2.4.1 Water quality management	32
2.4.2 Wastewater discharges to coastal waters	33
2.4.3 Waste-disposal facilities	34
2.4.4 Stormwater management	34
2.4.5 Groundwater quality	35
2.4.6 Acid sulfate soils	35
2.5 Indigenous Traditional Owner cultural resources	36
2.5.1 Areas of state significance (Indigenous Traditional Owner cultural resources)	37
2.5.2 Involvement of Indigenous Traditional Owners in managing their cultural resources	37
2.6 Cultural heritage	38
2.6.1 Areas of state significance (cultural heritage)	38
2.6.2 Cultural heritage	39

2.7 Coastal landscapes	40
2.7.1 Areas of state significance (scenic coastal landscapes)	40
2.7.2 Other coastal landscape values	40
2.8 Conserving nature	41
2.8.1 Areas of state significance (natural resources)	42
2.8.2 Coastal wetlands	43
2.8.3 Biodiversity	44
2.8.4 Rehabilitation of coastal resources	45
2.8.5 Pest species management	46
2.9 Coordinated management	47
2.9.1 Regional coastal management plans	47
2.9.2 Coordinated management of jurisdictions	48
2.9.3 State land on the coast	48
2.9.4 Private use of State land on the coast	49
2.9.5 Control districts	49
2.10 Research and information	50
2.10.1 Information management	50
2.10.2 Inter-agency coordination	51
2.10.3 Monitoring	52
CHAPTER 3: Role of agencies and groups	53
3.1 Role of the Minister for Environment	54
3.2 Role of the Minister for Local Government and Planning	54
3.3 Role of the Coastal Protection Advisory Council	54
3.4 Role of the lead agency	55
3.5 Role of regional consultative groups	55
3.6 Role of local government	55
3.7 Role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities	56
3.8 Role of the community	56
3.9 Role of industry groups	56
3.10 Role of other State Government agencies	56
3.11 Role of Commonwealth Government	56
3.12 Role of research bodies	57
Schedule 1: Regional overviews	59
Schedule 2: Scenic coastal landscapes	87

List of figures:	
Figure 1 Coastal zone	2
Figure 2 Coastal management in Queensland — a snapshot	9
Figure 3 Coastal management topic areas	10
Figure 4 Progress towards an integrated approach for Queensland's coast	11
Figure 5 Policy framework	15
List of tables:	
Table 1 Queensland's coastal resources — major values and pressures	3
List of maps:	
Map 1 Queensland: coverage of regional coastal management plans	57
Map 2 Coastal Queensland: local administrative boundaries	58
Map 3 Terrestrial and marine biogeographical regions of Queensland	59

Executive summary

Managing the coast

The coast is a dynamic environment that requires special planning and management. Queensland's coast, estuaries, bays and islands support an abundance of plants, animals and natural systems and are of immense importance to the livelihoods and lifestyles of our community.

The State Government seeks to protect and manage Queensland's coastal resources, which encompass a range of ecological, economic and social values. The State Coastal Management Plan (State Coastal Plan) has been developed under the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995* (Coastal Act). It has the force of law as a statutory instrument and describes how the coastal zone and its resources are to be managed.

The State Coastal Plan (and regional coastal management plans) will operate in conjunction with other policies and instruments in delivering the object of the Coastal Act, which is to:

- ◆ provide for the protection, conservation, rehabilitation and management of the coast, including its resources and biological diversity;
- ◆ have regard to the goal, core objectives and guiding principles of the National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development in the use of the coastal zone;
- ◆ provide, in conjunction with other legislation, a coordinated and integrated management and administrative framework for the ecologically sustainable development of the coastal zone; and
- ◆ encourage the enhancement of knowledge of coastal resources and the effect of human activities on the coastal zone.

In developing the State Coastal Plan, the State of Queensland recognises that Indigenous Traditional Owners have rights and interests in areas of land and sea covered by this Plan. It is specifically acknowledged by the State of Queensland that nothing in this Plan is intended to extinguish, regulate, control or otherwise impact on any customary or native title that may be present in the land and sea areas that are subject to this Plan.

Links with the state of the coastal zone

The report *State of the Environment Queensland 1999* recognises our extensive coastal zone as being biologically diverse, rich in natural resources and containing landforms and ecosystems of international significance. Key findings from this report are that the resources of the coastal zone are under considerable pressure from human activities including resource development and population growth. While the condition of Queensland's coastal resources is generally good, some coastal resources remain threatened and continue to be in decline. Overall, a general trend of increasing development within the coastal zone is apparent.

State of the Environment Queensland 1999 documents the current state of Queensland's coastal resources and identifies pressures and changes resulting from human activity. The State Coastal Plan seeks to protect these coastal resources and their values, and to manage the pressures on them.

Coastal resources, their values and management issues

The State Government has a strong commitment to protecting the coast and the development of the State Coastal Plan is an important step in achieving its sustainable management.

This State Coastal Plan responds to the issues and findings of the *State of the Environment Queensland 1999* by recognising the types of coastal resources and their values and dealing with the major management issues. Ten topic areas are identified — coastal use and development, physical coastal processes, public access to the coast, water quality, Indigenous Traditional Owner cultural resources, cultural heritage, coastal landscapes, conserving nature, coordinated management, and research and information.

Key initiatives contained in this Plan include:

- ◆ identifying:
 - areas of state significance for coastal management; and
 - targets for improving sewage treatment works that discharge to coastal waters;
- ◆ strong support for:
 - no net loss of public access to the coast;
 - protecting coastal wetlands;
 - retaining natural landscape values of the coast;
 - retaining and managing vegetation in riparian corridors;
 - rehabilitating, restoring and enhancing degraded coastal resources;
 - sharing information between government agencies and with industry and community; and
 - future urban development on the coast to be in existing townships;
- ◆ strong performance criteria and justification required for:
 - new canals and dry land marinas;
 - further development in erosion prone areas; and
 - reclamation in coastal waters;
- ◆ management of State land on the coast to achieve coastal management outcomes;
- ◆ recognition of Indigenous Traditional Owners; and
- ◆ planning to adapt to climate change and sea level rise.

Format of this document

The State Coastal Plan is presented in three chapters:



Chapter 1 Vision for Queensland's coast

This chapter establishes the long-term vision for the coast, the purpose of the State Coastal Plan, and identifies the resources and values of Queensland's coast and issues facing coastal managers over the next decade.



Chapter 2 How Queensland's coastal zone is to be managed

This chapter describes how the coast is to be managed to achieve the vision. It identifies the outcomes for coastal management and establishes principles and policies under the ten topics: coastal use and development, physical coastal processes, public access to the coast, water quality, Indigenous Traditional Owner cultural resources, cultural heritage, coastal landscapes, conserving nature, coordinated management, and research and information.



Chapter 3 Role of agencies and groups

This chapter outlines the role of many agencies and groups involved in planning for and managing the coast.

Definitions of key terms and abbreviations used in this Plan are provided after the Acknowledgements of data sources. Additional supporting information is provided in Schedules 1 and 2 to this Plan.

Acknowledgements of data sources

Maps 1 and 2

The maps presented in this State Coastal Plan are provided as illustrations. They use data layers from numerous agencies. The projection used is Albers Equal — Area Conic, and the Spheroid is Australian.

The Queensland Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has provided the regional coastal management plan boundaries data level.

Permission has been given to the Environmental Protection Agency to use data layers by the following data custodians.

AUSLIG

Coastline and 3 nautical mile limits data is Copyright © Commonwealth of Australia, AUSLIG, Australia's national mapping agency. All rights reserved. Reproduced by permission of the General Manager, Australian Surveying and Land Information Group, Department of Industry, Science and Resources, Canberra, ACT.

Department of Natural Resources and Mines

Base information reproduced with permission of the Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Queensland.

Local Authority Areas (LGAs) version 6, January 1999.

Sub-basin areas version 2, August 1999.

Aboriginal Council and Island Council areas version 2, August 2001.

Map 3

Produced by Spatial Information and Analysis Unit, EPA, for *State of the Environment Queensland 1999*, from EPA terrestrial bioregions and IMCRA marine bioregions. The map has been reproduced for this report in a modified presentation.

Data Currency Note

Data current July 1999.

Data Permissions note

IMCRA marine bioregions reproduced by permission of Environment Australia, Canberra.

Terms and abbreviations

acid sulfate soils soils or sediments containing highly acidic soil horizons or layers (actual acid sulfate soils), and iron sulfides or other sulfidic material that has not been exposed to air and oxidised (potential acid sulfate soils)

agencies State Government departments, statutory authorities, government-owned corporations, local governments and Aboriginal Councils and Island Councils

ancestral homeland estate the particular natural estate occupied by the ancestors of groups or clans of Indigenous Traditional Owners and their descendants

ANZECC Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council

aquaculture the breeding, keeping and harvesting of marine, estuarine or freshwater organisms for sale

ARMCANZ Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand

assessable development development specified in schedule 8, part 1 of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*, or for a planning scheme area, development that is not specified in schedule 8, part 1 but is declared under the planning scheme for the area to be assessable development (schedule 10 of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*)

benthic associated with the bottom of the sea or a lake

best practice (environmental management) the management of an activity to achieve a continuing minimisation of the activity's environmental harm, through cost-effective measures, assessed against the measures currently used nationally and internationally for the activity (s 18 *Environmental Protection Act 1994*)

biodiversity the natural diversity of native wildlife, together with the environmental conditions necessary for survival. Includes regional diversity, that is, the diversity of the landscape components (landforms, soils, water, climate, wildlife and land uses) of a region and their functional relationships that affect environmental conditions within ecosystems; ecosystem diversity, that is, the diversity of the different types of communities formed by

living organisms and the relations between them; species diversity, that is, the diversity of species; and genetic diversity, that is, the diversity of genes within each species (s 10 *Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

biological diversity biodiversity

bioregion the primary level of land classification in Queensland, based on regional geology and climate, as well as major biota

BPA Beach Protection Authority, established under the *Beach Protection Act 1968*

CAMBA China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

Climate change a change of climate, which is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity which alters the composition of the global atmospheres, and is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods

coast all areas within or neighbouring the foreshore (s 6 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

Coastal Act *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*

coastal building line a line fixed within a control district that is declared by a regulation or notice (s 59 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

coastal-dependent land use land use for which a location adjoining the waterfront or access to the water is essential to function, including industrial and commercial facilities such as ports, harbours, jetties, pontoons, marinas, ramps and slipways, coastal or marine (boating) tourism facilities and appropriate marine service industries. It may also include residential and tourist land uses that are part of an integrated development proposal incorporating a marina and such land uses are located landward of the marina and are protected from coastal processes and hazards by the marina. Coastal-dependent land uses do not include residential land uses or tourist accommodation which conflict with the principles and policies of this Plan, waste management facilities (landfills, sewage treatment plants) and transport infrastructure (other than for access to the coast)

coastal ecosystems ecosystems of the coast, including marine, freshwater and terrestrial ecosystems

coastal habitat habitat of wildlife (plants and animals) of the coast

coastal hazards events such as erosion, storm tide inundation and cyclone effects

coastal landscape the visible landscape of the coastal zone, its aesthetic attributes and cultural associations

coastal management the protection, conservation, rehabilitation, management and ecologically sustainable development of the coastal zone (s 7 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

coastal plan the State Coastal Management Plan or a regional coastal management plan

coastal processes natural processes of the coast including: sediment transport; fluctuations in the location and form of the foreshore, dune systems and associated ecosystems; tides; changes in sea level and coastal hazards (e.g. cyclones and storm tide surge); ecological processes (e.g. migration of plant and animal species) and the natural water cycle (e.g. coastal wetlands' role in nutrient filtration and flood mitigation)

coastal resources the natural (natural and physical features and processes of the coastal zone, including wildlife, soil, water, minerals and air) and cultural (places or objects that have anthropological, archaeological, historical, scientific, spiritual, visual or sociological significance or value, including such significance or value under Aboriginal tradition or Island custom) resources of the coastal zone (s 8 and schedule 2 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

coastal waters Queensland waters to the limit of highest astronomical tide (s 9 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

coastal wetlands tidal wetlands, estuaries, salt marshes, melaleuca swamps (and other coastal swamps), mangrove areas, marshes, lakes or minor coastal streams regardless of whether they are of a saline, freshwater or brackish nature (s 10 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

coastal zone coastal waters and all areas to the landward side of coastal waters in which there are physical features, ecological or natural processes or human activities that affect, or potentially affect, the coast or coastal resources (s 11 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

conservation the protection and maintenance of nature while allowing for its ecologically sustainable use (s 9 *Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

contaminant (a) a gas, liquid or solid; (b) an odour; (c) an organism (whether alive or dead), including a virus; (d) energy, including noise, heat, radioactivity and electromagnetic radiation; or (e) a combination of contaminants (s 11 *Environmental Protection Act 1994*)

contemporary association the links forged to particular areas by Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders currently living in those areas

control district parts of the coastal zone declared under the Coastal Act as areas requiring special development controls and management practices (s 4 and schedule 2 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

critical habitat habitat that is essential for the conservation of a viable population of protected wildlife, or community of native wildlife, regardless of whether special management considerations and protection are required (s 13 *Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

cultural heritage a place or object that has aesthetic, architectural, historical, scientific, social or technological significance to the present, past or future generations

cultural resources places or objects that have anthropological, archaeological, historical, scientific, spiritual, visual or sociological significance or value, including such significance or value under Aboriginal tradition or Torres Strait Island custom, within the coastal zone (schedule 2, *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

cumulative impacts impacts that may be caused by or result from a number of separate successive and contributing activities including (a) frequent and repetitive effects; (b) delayed effects; (c) effects that occur away from the source; (d) effects arising from multiple causes or sources; (e) combined potential effects of current development approvals,

whether implemented or not (i.e. taking into account the ‘latency’ effect of current unimplemented approvals); (f) significant secondary effects; (g) interaction with other existing developments and uses; and (h) fundamental changes in system behaviour or structure (i.e. triggers and threshold effects are reached due to cumulative effects)

custodial obligations the obligations and responsibilities of Indigenous Traditional Owners to follow customary lore to fulfil their cultural and spiritual obligations to other people and to country

customary lore the laws and customs developed by Indigenous Traditional Owners to regulate their societies

dry land marina a marina created by the excavation of land above high water mark

ecologically sustainable development (ESD) using, conserving and enhancing the community’s resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be improved

ecosystem a community of organisms interacting with one another and the environment in which they live

ecotourism nature-based tourism that involves education and interpretation of the natural environment and is managed to be ecologically sustainable

endangered regional ecosystem an endangered regional ecosystem listed or mapped in a regional coastal plan or, in the absence of a regional coastal plan, an endangered regional ecosystem as defined by the *Vegetation Management Act 1999*

enhanced greenhouse effect changes in the earth’s climate as a result of increasing levels of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere due to human activity

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

EPP (Waste Management) *Environmental Protection (Waste Management) Policy 2000*

EPP (Water) *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 1997*

ERA an environmentally relevant activity as defined by the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* and Regulations

erosion prone areas those areas shown on the erosion prone area maps prepared by the BPA to accommodate physical coastal processes

existing urban area includes areas currently developed for urban purposes, areas with current approvals to be developed for urban purposes and areas identified to be developed for urban purposes in currently approved planning instruments, for example local government planning schemes

foreshore the land lying between high water mark and low water mark as is ordinarily covered and uncovered by the flow and ebb of the tide at spring tides (schedule 2 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

high water mark the ordinary high water mark at spring tides (see also mean high water springs) (schedule 2 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

highest astronomical tide (HAT) the highest level that can be predicted to occur under average meteorological conditions and any combination of astronomical conditions. This level will not be reached every year, and is less than the extreme levels that can be caused by storm tides

historical association Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders who were displaced from their ancestral homeland estate and their subsequent links or connection to the places to which they moved

IDAS the Integrated Development Assessment System established under Chapter 3 of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*

Indigenous Traditional Owners Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders particularly concerned with land if they are members of a group that has a particular connection with land under Aboriginal tradition or Island custom

Indigenous Traditional Owner cultural resources cultural resources of significance to Indigenous Traditional Owners

integrity the extent to which the natural values of the planning area are in their natural ecological, physical and aesthetic condition

intellectual ownership (section 2.5) describes Indigenous Traditional Owners right of ownership in all forms of ‘Indigenous Traditional Owner intellectual property’ or ‘Indigenous Traditional

Owner folklore'. It encompasses (but is not limited to) Indigenous Traditional Owner sacred knowledge, sacred sites, stories, dance and artworks. From Indigenous Traditional Owner perspectives, intangible information, expression and knowledge are intrinsically woven within their culture, and as such are regarded as a significant part of Indigenous Traditional Owner intellectual ownership

intergenerational equity the concept that the present generation should ensure that the health, diversity and productivity of the environment are maintained or enhanced for the benefit of future generations

IPA *Integrated Planning Act 1997*

JAMBA Japan Australia Migratory Bird Agreement

land includes land that is, or is at any time, covered by Queensland waters (schedule 2 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

landholder a landowner, land manager, person or group of people with an interest in the planning area through special lease, mining claim, occupational licence, occupation permit, exploration permit, stock grazing permit, pastoral holding, permit to occupy, and trustees of land set aside for public purposes

landscapes natural landscapes, cultural landscapes and seascapes

marina an area of tidal water where facilities are provided for boat launching, landing, berthing, storing, repairs of a minor nature, provisioning, fuelling and servicing, and the recreation, comfort and convenience of persons who own or use boats

mean high water springs long-term average of the heights of two successive high waters during those periods of 24 hours (approximately once a fortnight) when the range of tide is greatest, at full and new moon

natural resources the natural and physical features and processes of the coastal zone, including wildlife, soil, water, minerals and air (schedule 2 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

nature all aspects of nature, including but not limited to: (a) ecosystems and their constituent parts; (b) all natural and physical resources; (c) natural dynamic processes; and (d) the characteristics of places, however large or small,

that contribute to (i) their biological diversity and integrity, or (ii) their intrinsic or scientific value (s 8 *Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

nature-based activities activities that depend entirely on, or are considerably enhanced by, a natural setting. These may include recreational, tourist, scientific, educational, intellectual, spiritual and cultural activities

no net loss of public access the provision of alternative or mitigatory measures to ensure access to the foreshore or the public useability of coastal waters is maintained over time

non-urban area an area other than an urban area

net benefit for the region there is a net benefit (taking into account all financial, social and environmental impacts) to the regional community, which is for the benefit of the whole community, as distinct from sectoral, commercial or private gain, and the proposal delivers the greatest net benefit of all viable alternatives

net benefit for the State there is a net benefit (taking into account all financial, social and environmental impacts) to the State as a whole, as distinct from sectoral, commercial, private or regional gain, and the proposal delivers the greatest net benefit of all viable alternatives

pest species plant and animal species that have established in areas outside their naturally occurring distributions

planning scheme see s 2.1.1 of the *Integrated Planning Act 1997*

precautionary principle where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of full scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation. (In the application of the precautionary principle, public and private decisions should be guided by: (i) careful evaluation to avoid, wherever practicable, serious or irreversible damage to the environment; and (ii) an assessment of the risk-weighted consequences of various options.) (*National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development 1992*)

primary industries the growing of crops, grazing and fisheries

protected areas (State land) national parks (scientific), national parks, conservation parks and resources reserves (*Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

protected wildlife presumed extinct, endangered, vulnerable, rare or common wildlife, as defined in the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

Queensland waters all waters that are within the limits of the State, or are coastal waters of the State (s 36 *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*)

rare species or taxa species or taxa that are not at present endangered or vulnerable but are at risk because of small population size, as defined in the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*

RCMP regional coastal management plan

regional coastal management plan a regional coastal management plan approved under the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*

regional coastal plan regional coastal management plan

regional ecosystems readily identifiable mapping units consisting of an amalgamation of land types within a bioregion

riparian on the banks of and adjacent to a waterway or wetland

rural land uses land uses including primary industries, within non-urban areas

significant coastal dune system (includes swales and beach ridges) a system or landform identified, listed or mapped in a regional coastal plan or, in the absence of a regional coastal plan, is a system or landform that has a high degree of ecological integrity and biodiversity conservation values, and satisfies all of the following criteria:

- (a) it is a good example of a coastal dune system;
- (b) access to it is limited, and has not compromised its significant ecological values (including level of integrity); and
- (c) it is undeveloped, or relatively undeveloped and any works or structures have not compromised its significant ecological values; and one or more of the following criteria:
- (d) it is a system that is in dynamic equilibrium, and contains intact representations of the
 - (i) various dunal zones and
 - (ii) various dunal types naturally occurring in that region;

- (e) for a coastal sand dune system, the various dunal zones are intact or relatively intact (i.e. the zones have not lost more than 5–10 percent of the original existing vegetation cover), particularly in the foredune and in the exposed seaward slopes and crests of secondary and hind dunes;
- (f) it supports native plants or animals or natural communities that have been identified as being, or are considered to be, endangered or vulnerable at the bioregional level;
- (g) it supports a significant number of the bioregional populations of any native plant or animal;
- (h) it is important as a habitat for animals at a vulnerable stage in their life cycles (e.g. migratory species at breeding or nesting stages); and
- (i) it is of cultural significance

significant coastal wetland a significant coastal wetland that is listed or mapped in a regional coastal plan or, in the absence of a regional coastal plan, an area that has the following characteristics:

- (a) it is listed as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention; or
- (b) it is listed as a wetland of importance within the Queensland chapter of *A Directory of Important Wetlands in Australia*; or
- (c) it is an area of permanent or periodic inundation, whether natural or artificial, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed six metres, that meets one or more of the following criteria:
 - (i) it is a good example of a wetland type occurring within a bioregion in Queensland;
 - (ii) it plays an important ecological or hydrological role in the natural functioning of a major wetland system;
 - (iii) it is important as a habitat for animal taxa at a vulnerable stage in their life cycles, or provides a refuge when adverse conditions such as drought prevail;
 - (iv) it supports a significant number of the bioregional populations of any native plant or animal taxa;
 - (v) it supports native plant or animal taxa or communities that are considered endangered or vulnerable at the bioregional level; or
 - (vi) it is of historical or cultural significance

State land on the coast for the purposes of this Plan is State land located on the coast excluding freehold and leasehold land

stock any grazing animal, including commercially farmed birds (schedule 2 *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

storm tide the effect on coastal water of a storm surge combined with the normally occurring astronomical tide

threatened species wildlife prescribed under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* as presumed extinct, endangered, or vulnerable

threatening process any process that is capable of threatening the survival of any protected area, area of major interest, protected wildlife, community of native wildlife or native wildlife habitat, or the capacity of any of these to sustain natural processes (s 12 *Nature Conservation Act 1992*)

tidal water the sea and any part of a harbour or water course ordinarily within the ebb and flow of the tide at spring tides (schedule 2 of the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*)

urban area an area identified on a map in a planning scheme as an area for urban purposes, including residential, industrial, commercial, rural residential, major tourist developments, ports and future urban purposes

water infrastructure dams, weirs, barrages, pumps, outlet works and off-stream storage

water quality the ecosystem health of aquatic systems (including surface, soil and underground waters), including processes affecting or involving the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of water

water quality objectives as defined in the *Environmental Protection (Water) Policy 1997*

water resource plan means a plan approved under section 50(2) of the *Water Act 2000*

waterway includes a river, creek, stream, watercourse or inlet of the sea (s 5 *Fisheries Act 1994*)

wilderness an area that is substantially undisturbed by modern society, and remote at its core from points of mechanised access and other evidence of society; includes an area that provides a sense of wilderness, but does not necessarily contain all other wilderness values

wildlife any plant or animal, as defined in the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*