

FAQs

What is a CHRMAP?

A CHRMAP is a long-term plan to address the impact of coastal hazards on our coastline. It looks at various hazard scenarios within 20-, 50- and 100-year timeframes and, with input from the community and key stakeholders, identifies the most appropriate adaptation strategies and options.

What do you mean by 'coastal hazards'?

When we say 'coastal hazards' we mean, naturally occurring events that impact our coastline, such as coastal erosion or flooding (also referred to as inundation).

Erosion is a process where parts of the shoreline are worn away due to waves, tides, wind or human activities. It can change the shape and form of the coast, reducing the area between the ocean and features on the land, and even allowing inundation.

Inundation is when water occupies previously dry land. It can be temporary or permanent:

- Permanent inundation refers to the loss of land due to sea level rise.
- Temporary inundation is the flooding of an area due to storm surge, high tides or large waves.

What is shaping the Princess Royal Harbour?

Princess Royal Harbour is a natural harbour that is sheltered from the large open ocean swells that typically impact and shape Western Australia's south west coastline. The natural processes that shape the harbour's shoreline are more subtle, including ocean water level variations due to tides and storm surge, locally generated wind waves (seas) and water level variations associated with rainfall runoff. These factors can combine during rare storm events to cause significant change to vulnerable shorelines in a short period of time. Underlying sea level rise is expected to amplify these shaping processes into the future, leading to a gradual retreat of shorelines that are susceptible to erosion and broader average coastal flooding extents.

Why should I be involved?

While this is a strategic, long-term plan for managing coastal hazards on the coastline, it is important for the community and key stakeholders to be involved so that the plan accurately reflects their values and aspirations for what is important along the coastline. It is also essential that you get involved as we ask the community and key stakeholders for their input on preferred management options – that is – what can we do to protect our coastline from eroding or being flooded.

How will the community be involved?

We will be seeking input from the community at various points in the CHRMAP lifecycle. Below is a list and indicative timings of the engagement opportunities:

- Register your email on the CHRMAP webpage to stay informed
- Express your interest to join the Community and Business Reference Group
- Take the Coastal Values Survey
- Attend one of two information sessions

- Attend one of two Community Workshops
- Add your vote in the online polling for adaptation options

Is this project similar to the Emu Point to Middleton Beach CHRMAP?

Yes, this project is similar to the Emu Point to Middleton Beach CHRMAP, however it is for a different study area (the Princess Royal Harbour in Albany) and therefore different assets and management options needs to be identified.

I don't believe climate change is real, therefore I don't understand why we need a CHRMAP?

Regardless of whether you believe climate change to be real or not, our coastline and the assets that are situated along it are in need of protection in case of a threatening coastal hazard event.

Are there examples of other CHRMAPs that I can look at?

Apart from the Emu Point to Middleton Beach CHRMAP there are many examples and these can be found at the following link:

<https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2021-07/CHRMAPs-in-WA-table-March-2021.pdf>