

RESILIENT COAST

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL



Assessing the risk of coastal hazards

The Resilient Coast project team has completed Phase 4 of the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS), and Phase 5 is now being finalised. These Phases have involved assessing the likelihood and consequence of impacts from erosion and storm tide inundation across the Douglas Shire region.

A large data base of infrastructure (e.g. roads, buildings, sewerage, drainage) and natural assets (e.g. ecosystems, land use types) has been collated for the region.

A tailored approach to assessing the consequence of coastal hazard impacts on assets has been developed for the Douglas Shire CHAS. Consequence categories are based on best practice coastal hazard assessment, and informed specifically by input and feedback from stakeholders on values of the region and important elements of a resilient coast. Consequences categories include consideration of erosion and storm tide impacts on:

- ✓ Property and infrastructure
- ✓ The local economy and growth
- ✓ Public safety
- ✓ Environmental values
- ✓ Traditional Owner values
- ✓ Community and lifestyle values.

All assets now have a likelihood and consequence rating for erosion and storm tide inundation. Likelihood x Consequence = Risk for each asset. A first-pass risk assessment has been mapped to assist with identifying high risk assets and areas across the Douglas Shire region.

How can I find out more information?

To ensure you are kept up to date with the Resilient Coast program and the development of the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS):

- ✓ **Register** to receive regular progress updates and notifications of community workshops by going to <https://ourcoast.douglas.qld.gov.au/> and click on the 'Register here to receive project updates' button
- ✓ **Ask** Council or their experts questions about coastal hazards or the CHAS process by emailing ourcoast@douglas.qld.gov.au

Resilient Coast Survey

The first online survey for the Resilient Coast program was live on the website over May 2018. Over 100 responses were received. Council and the project team would like to thank everyone who completed the survey and shared their perspectives, knowledge, and past experiences. Highlights from the survey questions include:

- Unique landscape features, natural ecosystems, and access to the beaches were the highest ranked values.
- **100%** of respondents identified the natural beauty of the region as a main factor attracting people to live on and visit the Douglas Shire coastline.
- Awareness of coastal hazards is high:
 - **90%** of respondents expect that the Douglas Shire coastline is likely to be affected by coastal erosion or coastal flooding in the future.
 - **80%** of respondents felt there is more planning and preparation needed to withstand and recover from potential impacts of coastal hazards.
 - **50%** of respondents had been previously impacted by coastal erosion and/or coastal flooding once or several times, with knowledge shared on many specific events and impacts.

Please visit the website to share your experiences and thoughts on building a Resilient Coast.



Adaptation options and strategic planning

Subsequent stages of the CHAS, Phases 6 – 8, will include refining and interpreting the risk assessment with stakeholders, and exploring different coastal hazard adaptation approaches.