

# Our Coast. Our Future.



Factsheet | *Our Coast. Our Future.* Strategic Plan

**The *Our Coast. Our Future.* program aims to work together to proactively plan for the future management of our coastal areas, to increase the resilience of our region.**

The *Our Coast. Our Future.* project team have now completed a draft Strategic Plan (the Plan) for the Gladstone Region.

The Plan is a risk and change management initiative to better prepare Council and the community to proactively respond to coastal hazards. This includes initiatives to mitigate and adapt to the social, cultural, economic, and environmental risks associated with current and future coastal hazards.



Image credit: Katherine Salisbury

## This is the start of the adaptation pathway

Adapting to coastal hazards is a shared responsibility for all stakeholders and community in the Gladstone Region. We look forward to working together as we continue the adaptation journey.

This draft Plan represents the start of an ongoing process of planned adaptation over time. Adaptation pathways will be continually informed by community input and ideas, new knowledge, and monitoring the effectiveness of initiatives. We encourage everyone to consider how you can build your own resilience and adapt to a changing climate.

The draft Plan has been a joint project with the State Government and Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) who have provided funding through the QCoast<sub>2100</sub> program to Queensland coastal councils to support the process.



Image credit: Pete Hyne



### A collaborative process

*Our Coast. Our Future.* has included an engagement program throughout 2020, with our communities and key stakeholders, to inform the development of the Plan, through participatory approaches at different stages of the process.

Community and stakeholder feedback has informed the direction of technical assessments as well as the development of the adaptation options and pathways in the Plan.

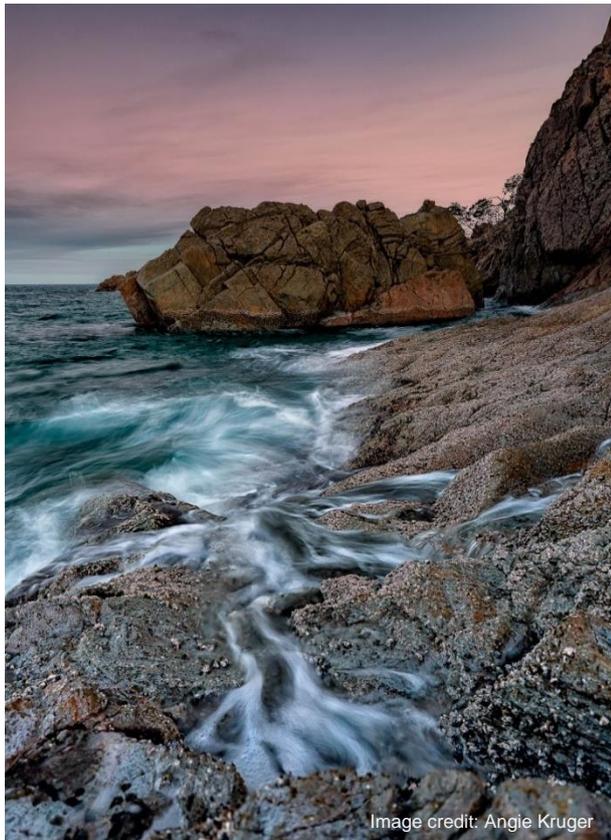


Image credit: Angie Kruger



Image credit: N. Barrett

### Technical assessments

Work completed to inform the strategy has included:

- **Mapping:** Updating the existing State mapping of areas that may be exposed to coastal hazards by 2100. This has included new storm tide modelling for the Gladstone region, to improve information on potential inundation extents and depths for different storm events and planning horizons (present day, 2060 and 2100).
- **Risk assessments:** Undertaking a tailored coastal hazard risk assessment
- **Adaptation actions:** Developing and applying a tailored framework for adaptation, and associated adaptation pathways and actions.

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The Strategic Plan includes region-wide and locality-specific actions to manage the current and potential future impacts of coastal erosion, storm tide inundation, and expanding tidal areas due to sea level rise.

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## Adaptation initiatives

The Strategic Plan includes over 30 region-wide adaptation initiatives across the themes of:

- Capacity building initiatives
- Planning updates
- Modifying infrastructure
- Coastal management and engineering.

Locality-specific applications of adaptation actions are set out in pathways, from present day to 2100, for 8 coastal reporting regions within the Gladstone region.

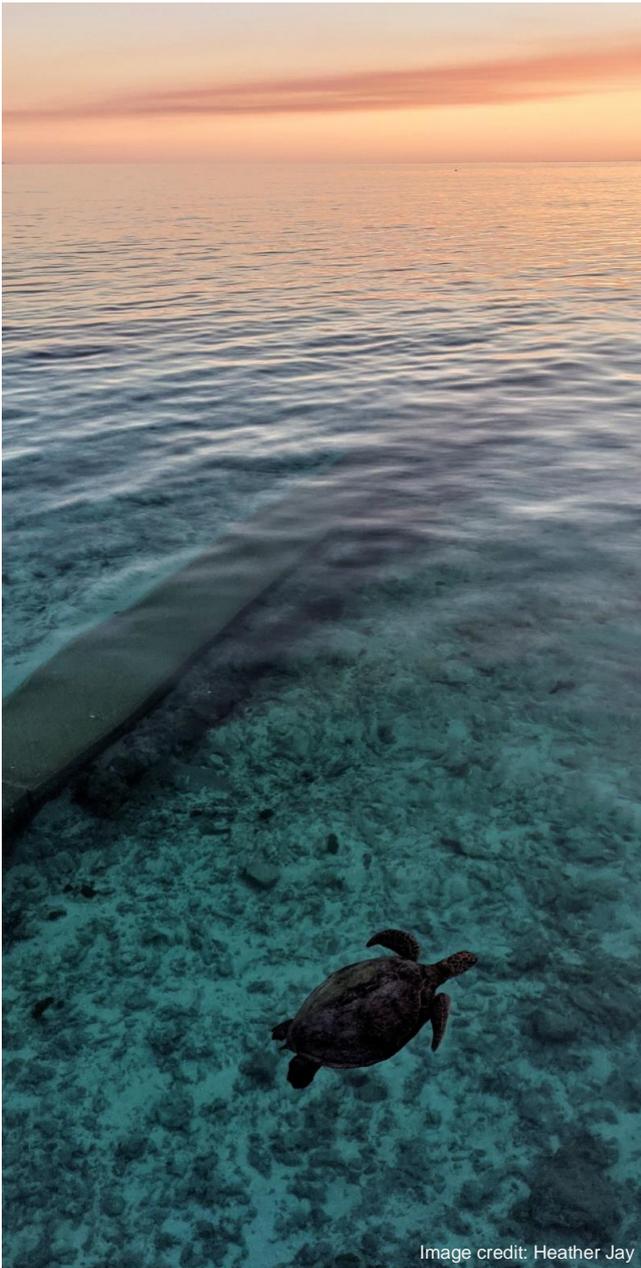


Image credit: Heather Jay



Image credit: Brandon Smart

Example initiatives in the Plan include:

-  Region-wide dune protection and maintenance stewardship
-  Enhancing social adaptive capacity
-  Establishing a monitoring point system at key areas
-  Advancing partnerships with our Traditional Owners and First Nations people in coastal adaptation
-  Enhancing monitoring programs to inform adaptation planning
-  Establishing collaborative research partnerships
-  Piloting mangrove protection and enhancement programs at key sites
-  Reviewing industrial and port infrastructure in the contexts of long-term coastal hazard areas
-  Special area adaptation plans to inform site specific hazard mitigation and land use transition
-  Informing infrastructure upgrades and betterment programs
-  Reviewing, updating and developing Shoreline Erosion Management Plans (SEMP)
-  Reviewing long-term adequacy of evacuation facilities and evacuation routes
-  Promoting resilient homes within the community
-  Sequencing of locality-specific adaptation actions from present day to 2100 based on the changing risk profile and objectives for management.

## How can I help adapt?

There are many ways you can contribute to coastal hazard adaptation in the Gladstone Region.

1. Provide feedback on the draft Strategy – visit the website for options on how to give your feedback
2. Increase your awareness of coastal hazard prone areas - review the State coastal hazard mapping and the updated mapping available on the website
3. Review the adaptation pathway for your local beach/area and provide feedback on the proposed actions
4. Consider the top tips for a resilient home (visit the website for the fact sheet)
5. Contribute to the stewardship of our coastline by protecting our dunes and coastal vegetation. You can also get involved in citizen science projects or local catchment care group.



Image credit: Paulette Lindley

Becoming a well-adapted and resilient community is a long-term plan that requires ongoing efforts by everyone in our community. We look forward to continuing this journey together with our community to ensure we maintain our coastal lifestyle both now and into the future.

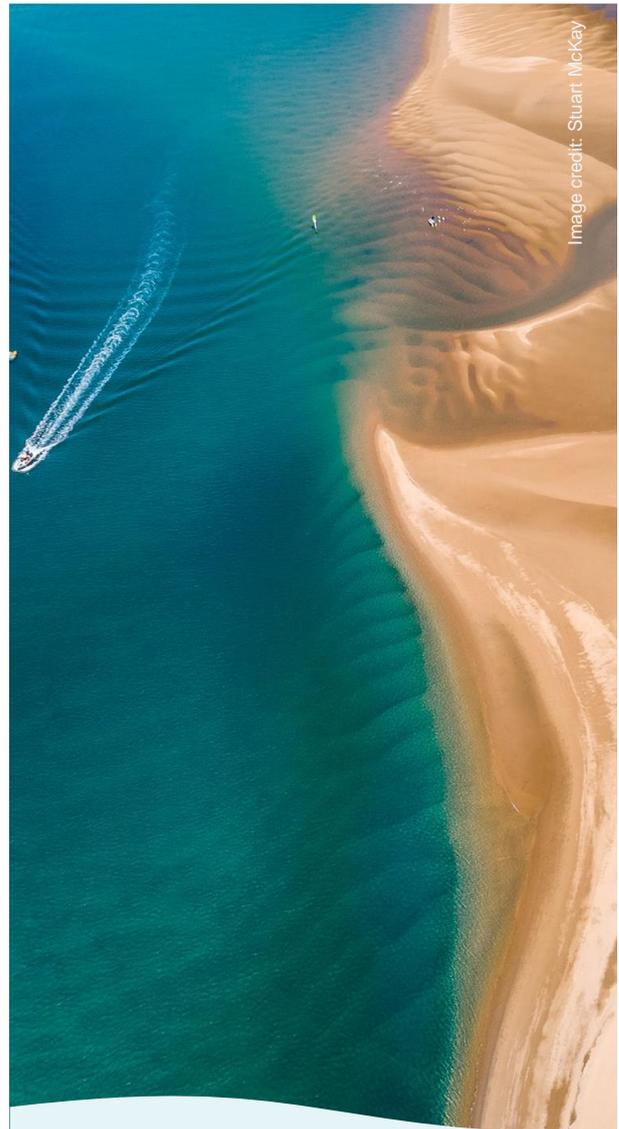


Image credit: Stuart McKay

Visit the website to find out more and to have your say and contribute to refining the draft Strategic Plan:

<https://conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au>



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