





River Heads and Booral

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The Coastal Futures: Planning Our Changing Coastline project is all about getting ready for the short, medium and long-term impacts of coastal hazards.

We are working to develop a strategy to plan for, protect, or mitigate the impacts of coastal hazards on:

-  **Community infrastructure** - like boat ramps, walking paths and playgrounds.
-  **Environmental features** - like dunes, wetlands and trees.
-  **Built assets** - like businesses, homes, tourist accommodation, roads and services pipes.
-  **Indigenous and cultural assets** - like significant sites and heritage buildings.

The last time we consulted with you was to understand what places and aspects of the coast you value most. Since then the team have undertaken further technical work and met with a range of stakeholders to better understand the projected impacts of coastal hazards to the Fraser Coast coastline and how we might respond to them.

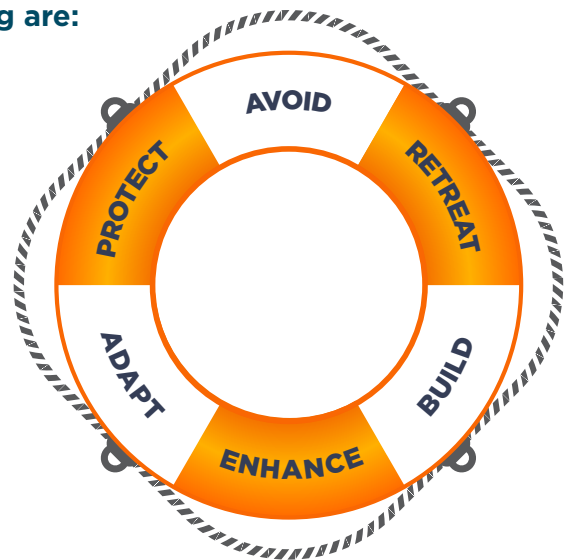
Now we are seeking to explore what types of adaptation responses you think are acceptable, to help inform the development of the draft Coastal Futures strategy.

Our life ring - how we can respond

Each of the coastal localities in the Fraser Coast region is different and will need its own strategy for the future. Uniting all the localities is the Coastal Futures life ring that will inform our approach to coastal hazard adaptation.

The six guiding strategies of the Coastal Futures life ring are:

- 01. Avoid** building new things in hazard areas.
- 02. Retreat** existing buildings and infrastructure out of high-risk areas over time.
- 03. Build community resilience** through education and community awareness measures.
- 04. Enhance coastline resilience** by protecting and/or reinstating natural coastal ecosystems - like stabilising dunes, or revegetating mangroves.
- 05. Adapt** existing and future buildings, structures and infrastructure to be able to accommodate coastal changes - building things 'higher and stronger', evacuation planning.
- 06. Protect/defend** priority shorelines, localities and infrastructure through the use of beach nourishment, seawalls, levees, groynes or other structures.



When we are considering these options for each locality, we need to think about:

Will it be financially sustainable? Adaptation can be expensive, and we can't protect the whole coastline. We need to focus on low cost solutions wherever we can, and prioritise where and when we invest in high cost shoreline protection.

How can we protect what we love and value? Protecting our coastline should align with what we value.

How can we maximise the benefits? When we invest in coastal hazard adaptation, we want to make sure that we maximise community benefits for the region as a whole.

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Our coastal values

River Heads and Booral are highly valued for their natural features including migratory bird resting sites, wetlands (feeding wader birds), fish habitat and mangroves and the environmental reserve (remnant vine forest). Residents and visitors alike value beach and foreshore areas for recreation, picnicking, boating, and fishing. River Heads is also important as the launch point to Fraser Island.



Our vulnerabilities

Community representatives from River Heads and Booral identified that coastal hazards impacts could result in:

- Damage to transport infrastructure to and from Fraser Island, impacting the tourism industry.
- Loss of habitat for vulnerable and significant species along coastal conservation land and wetlands.
- Damage to housing and businesses, including the Queensland Aquaculture Factory, and potential property loss in some areas.

Adaptation ideas suggested so far

Here are some of the adaptation ideas suggested by community representatives and key stakeholders for River Heads and Booral. These ideas, and yours, will be tested as the draft Coastal Futures Strategy is developed.

No new development in any vulnerable areas to **avoid** increasing exposure.

Short to long term, low cost.

Protect foreshores and wildlife habitats by maintaining and increasing existing buffer areas and revegetating foreshore areas.

Short to medium term, low to medium cost.

Build community resilience through education programs and considering potential coastal hazard impacts as part of disaster management for the area.

Short to medium term, low to medium cost.

Redesigning and upgrading boat ramps and car parks to better **accommodate** coastal hazards

Medium term, medium to high cost.



We'd like to hear from you...

We are interested in your feedback about how we should respond to coastal hazards, to help inform preparation of a draft Coastal Futures strategy. Your feedback will be considered along with technical and financial information so that we can help shape a strategy that responds to the needs of community and Council.

Please complete the survey for any locality of interest to you via <https://frasercoast.engagementhub.com.au/coastal-futures-planning-our-changing-coastline>. The survey will close at 11:55 PM Sunday 16 August 2020.