

Resilience and Adaptation:

Integrated Solutions for Coastal Climate Change and Extreme Storm Events



Coastal Hazards, Climate Change and Queensland Coastal Communities

Extreme storms can create hazards that impact upon the social well-being, infrastructure and economy of every community and the environment up and down the Queensland coast. The extent and severity of these hazards will be exacerbated by projected climate change.

State Government policy requires Councils to understand and respond to these hazards and risks in their planning.

To support this policy, the State has recently amended the statutory Erosion Prone Area Maps to identify the extent of coastal areas anticipated to be affected by coastal hazards, including areas that will be affected following future climate change (under a 0.8m sea level rise).

These new maps help Councils to understand the extent of the hazard, but more work is needed in all communities to understand and respond to the risks that these hazards pose to communities and the environment.

Challenges for Local Government

Local governments remain best placed to address coastal hazards and risks at the community level, but are often challenged in doing so by competing priorities and insufficient resources.

In acknowledgement of this, the Queensland Government recently announced funding of \$12 million over 3 years to assist coastal councils to undertake climate change adaptation planning.

A key challenge for all local governments will be to maximise the potential of this funding to deliver integrated and lasting benefits for their community.

Trusted Leaders in Integrated Climate Change Adaptation and Extreme Storm Event Solutions

Our consortium of firms and external experts - BMT WBM, Buckley Vann Town Planning Consultants, Aither and SEA (Bruce Harper) - are based in Queensland and can provide local governments up and down the coast with a highly experienced and effective cross-disciplinary team.

We include senior professionals and industry leaders with extensive senior local government, state government and consulting experience and are highly skilled at taking complex issues through local government decision making processes.

We have a long history of successful collaborations and believe our strength lies in our ability to deliver comprehensive and fit for purpose solutions which integrate the science, engineering, community engagement, economics, land use planning and local government operational management.

With Award winning experience both in Queensland and in adaptation studies throughout Australia and the Pacific, we can assist in all facets of coastal climate change adaptation.



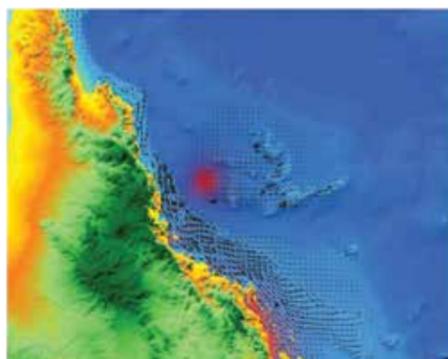
A I T H E R



Fully Integrated Solutions

Our consortium of firms can help Councils identify the scale and nature of the potential coastal hazards. We apply a range of tools and measures to identify the most cost effective options to reduce the risk and costs of hazards on coastal communities, businesses and infrastructure, now and in the future.

Our approach is encapsulated by five steps:



Our Experience

Coastal hazards and climate change projects that our collective consortium of firms have been involved in include:

- Storm tide and flooding hazard assessments across Queensland
- Shoreline erosion management plans and floodplain management plans across local government areas in Queensland and local Government areas in other States
- Specialist climate change adaptation plans and strategies
- Wetland and coastal ecosystem vulnerability assessments to future climate change
- Review and drafting of the Queensland Government SPP Guideline on Natural Hazards Risk and Resilience and numerous planning schemes
- Preparation of the 2009 South East Queensland Climate Change Management Plan
- Climate Change Adaptation Planning for Choiseul Bay Township in the Solomon Islands (winner of 2014/15 PIA Queensland and National Award for Excellence)



As the Queensland Government's new policy for climate change adaptation planning becomes clearer, our consortium of experts is ready to assist local government with the next challenge in resilience and adaptation.

If you would like to discuss your specific resilience and adaptation challenges, or would like further information on our capabilities in this area, please contact any of the key specialists listed below.

Contact Us

Key climate change specialists across our firms include:

Coastal Vulnerability and Hazards

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