

495166

EAST BEACH

Coastal beach and dune sands form narrow strips along the eastern sides of Hunter, Three Hummock and Robbins Islands. The latter location was the only one visited.

The beach sands are calcareous but calcium carbonate was only evident in the lower parts of the dune profiles. However, recent windblown accretions of pale calcareous sand, up to 60

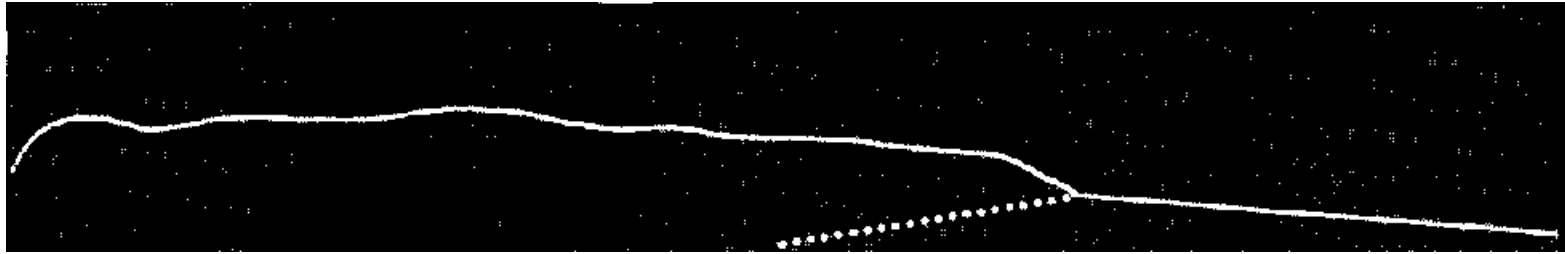
centimetres deep, cover parts of the dune component.

The vegetation has been severely disturbed and is still frequently burnt as part of managing the area for grazing stock. Marram grass, an effective primary stabiliser of drifting sand, is now a prominent member of the plant community. The calcareous sand found covering parts of the dunes is the result of wind erosion which has probably occurred since the native vegetation has been disturbed by white man. Wind erosion is the principal hazard.

LAND SYSTEM

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East Beach



COMPONENT	1	2
PROPORTION %	70	30
CLIMATE	Average Annual Rainfall 750-1 000 mm	
GEOLOGY	Quaternary coastal calcareous sands	
TOPOGRAPHY	Coastal sand dunes and beaches	
Land form	Dunes	Beach 1
Position Average		
Sideslope ⁰	8	
NATIVE VEGETATION	Bare	
Structure	Closed scrub <i>Banksia</i> sp., <i>Leucopogon australis</i> , <i>L. parviflorus</i> , sagg	
Association		
SOIL	Weakly differentiated light brownish grey (10 YR 6/2) over dark yellowish brown (10 YR 3/4) sand soil	Undifferentiated, light grey (5 Y 7/2) calcareous sand
Surface Texture		
Permeability		
Average Depth m	>1.8	>1.2
PRESENT LAND USE	Grazing	
HAZARDS	High wind erosion	High wave, wind erosion