

# How Humans Impact Coastal Environments

**Introduction:** Even though we do not create the coasts, as humans we have the potential to develop and/or destroy the coastal environments.

Anthropogenic or human induced events have resulted in great threats to the environment.

Coastal environments are prime locations for development, both recreational and commercial, as a result these environments become over exposed and over used.

## Human impacts on coasts and resultant environmental issues

- Our coastal zone houses great potential in terms of its use for commercial, recreational and settlement purposes.
- It also holds many social and cultural values for both Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians alike.
- Much of Australia's coastline has been over developed and over used so sadly, human use and enjoyment of the coast over the past two centuries have greatly disrupted the processes which form its intricate ecosystems.

## Human Impacts on Coastline

- ☐ Retention walls, groins, and Revetments all cause large bulk deposition of sediment somewhere.
- ☐ Other areas lose beach sand
- ☐ Development destroys vital shoreline vegetation
- ☐ Water and petroleum pumping cause subsidence