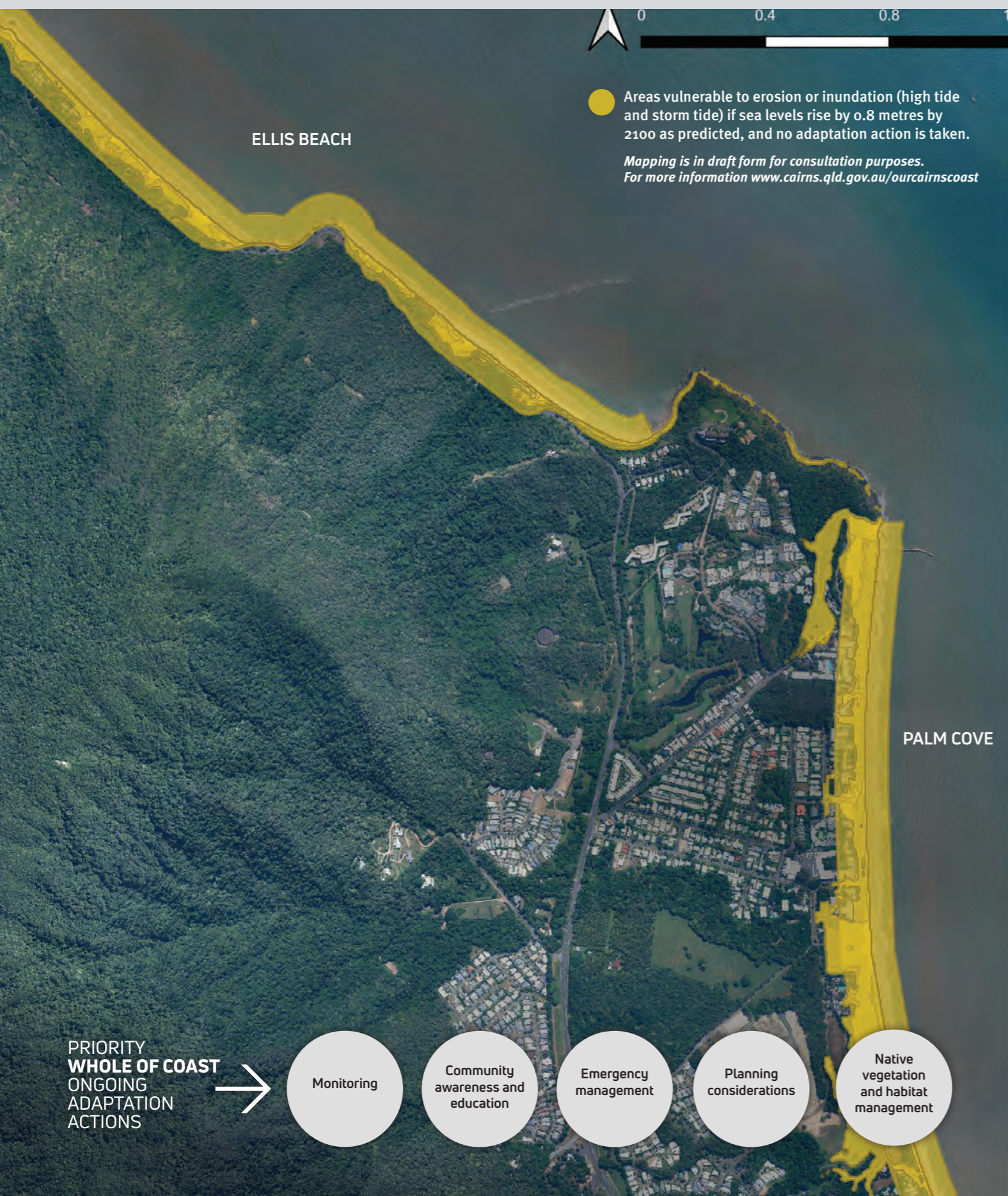


PALM COVE + ELLIS BEACH

Approximately 27km north of Cairns CBD, Palm Cove is a popular tourist destination and beachside village containing cafes, retail stores and resorts along the its esplanade. Nearby Ellis Beach, a tiny 5km stretch of coast, is best known for its surf club and camping facilities.



COMMUNITY ASSETS AT RISK BY 2100

- The Palm Cove shoreline is relatively stable, however is vulnerable to erosion events due to a very narrow buffer between the active beach and development, e.g. foreshore areas adjacent to Williams Esplanade
- Ellis Beach is relatively stable, however like Palm Cove has a limited buffer to coastal processes and is vulnerable to erosion events
- Storm tide inundation is expected to impact the largest number of assets with the number of assets at risk expected to increase over time

- Beaches
- Foreshore parks and caravan parks (e.g. Ellis Beach Oceanfront Bungalows and Palm Cove campground)
- Surf lifesaving infrastructure
- Various roads (e.g. Williams Esplanade, Cedar Road and Veivers Road)
- Supporting services (e.g. sewer and water networks)

WHAT THE COMMUNITY VALUES

- Culturally significant sites
- Open coast
- Coastal vegetation and parklands
- Restaurants and amenities
- Melaleuca heritage trees along the esplanade

COMMUNITY ADAPTATION PRIORITIES

- Restoring wetlands to protect wildlife habitat
- Planning policy responses to provide a suitable buffer zone to coastal hazards
- Vegetation and dune management / construction
- Avoiding further intensifying development in public land along the esplanade

Local Adaptation Pathways to respond to coastal hazards

(For community assets, based on monitored sea level rise)

TIMING BASED ON SEA LEVEL RISE
SHORT TERM 0-0.3m MED TERM 0.3-0.6m LONG TERM >0.6m

BEACH & FORESHORE MANAGEMENT	• Beach access management (remove unnecessary or informal access, formalise appropriate public paths and inspect and repair access after erosion)	●	→
	• Beach scraping as required to reinforce dunes and reduce risks of erosion scarps	●	→
	• Beach nourishment focused on the southern end of Palm Cove to allow sand to naturally distribute along the beaches	●	→
	• Dune construction at the northern end of Palm Cove (near the jetty and foreshore park) as a priority where there is the greatest concentration of public infrastructure	●	→
MODIFY INFRASTRUCTURE AND HAZARD RESILIENT DESIGN	• Relocate the sewerage pump station and two toilet blocks in Palm Cove outside the coastal hazard extent once they reach the end of their design life		● →
	• Develop local adaptation plan for foreshore incorporating nature based solutions	●	→
	• Update existing foreshore park assets to be resilient to coastal hazards or locate new assets outside the coastal hazard area (e.g. caravan park in Palm Cove). In Ellis Beach, preference should be given to locating new development and public assets on the western side of the highway		● →
	• Manually change land levels within coastal inundation hazard areas to reduce risk for new or upgraded public assets.		● →

PRIORITY
WHOLE OF COAST
ONGOING
ADAPTATION
ACTIONS



Monitoring

Community
awareness and
education

Emergency
management

Planning
considerations

Native
vegetation
and habitat
management