

**Coastinfo – a one start shop for coastal planners and managers**  
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Around 85% of Queensland's population live within the coastal zone; Queensland's coastline stretches more than 9500km to include 1165 offshore islands and is the terminating point for over 57 rivers and 300 estuaries. Significant Indigenous and cultural heritage values include some 950 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and 50 non-Indigenous historic cultural heritage sites.

Demand is also increasing for access to the coast from fishing and aquaculture industries, ports and shipping, and mineral exploration. Our coast is under increasing pressure from human activity and its conflicting user demands. Coastal planning and management decisions based on a good understanding of coastal processes and effective planning and management techniques is critical to resolve these conflicting interests.

Numerous studies have identified insufficient access to, or knowledge of, relevant coastal management and planning information as a significant impediment to successful coastal management. The purpose of this project is to build a web site that allows coastal managers and planners to easily access up-to-date information relevant to managing and planning for the coastal zone.

In 2006, representatives from a number of Federal and State and non-government organisations realised a shared interest in understanding and addressing the difficulties coastal planners and managers in Queensland experience in accessing and using coastal information. To address problems identified with accessing relevant coastal information, the Steering Committee Members decided to develop a "first-stop-shop" coastal portal website to consolidate web links and relevant electronic information on coastal management and planning in one central location. As a result, CoastInfo was formed.