



# Summary of the Reddell Beach Zone

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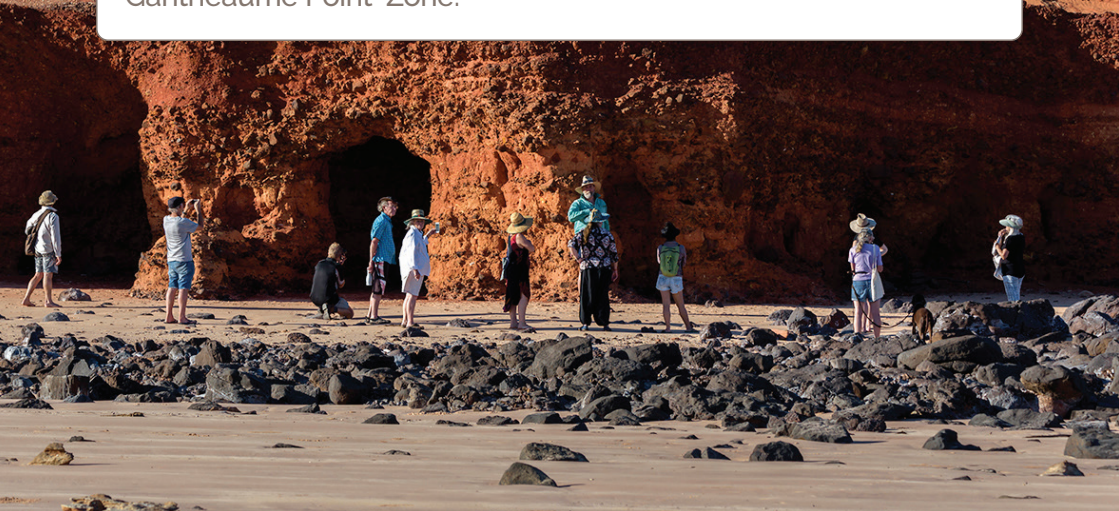
## THE DINOSAUR COAST NATIONAL HERITAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2025



# Reddell Beach Zone



This Reddell Beach Zone covers 4 kms of coastline. It runs from the beginning of the sandy beach at the south-eastern end of Reddell Beach to the rocky headland at the start of the Gantheaume Point Zone.



Low cliffs of unnamed iron-rich conglomerate overlies Broome Sandstone. Image: Kevin Smith (dec.)

## TOPOGRAPHY AND ECOLOGY

This zone consists of long, white sandy beaches, with Broome Sandstone forming small rocky headlands. Red pindan cliffs (Mowanjum Sand) and white and red coastal dunes sit above the intertidal zone, overlying an (unnamed) iron-rich conglomerate and much older and thicker Broome Sandstone.

The low cliffs and eroded pillars around Reddell Point are formed by Quaternary consolidated muds, sandy muds and ironstone conglomerates atop the eroded Broome Sandstone.

Where the cliffs meet the beach, the sands within the conglomerate have eroded and the cliffs have partially collapsed, leaving boulders of black ironstone, and sandstone containing iron oxide, strewn over upper parts of the beach, particularly at the southern end.

## GEOLOGICAL AND PALAEOLOGICAL FEATURES

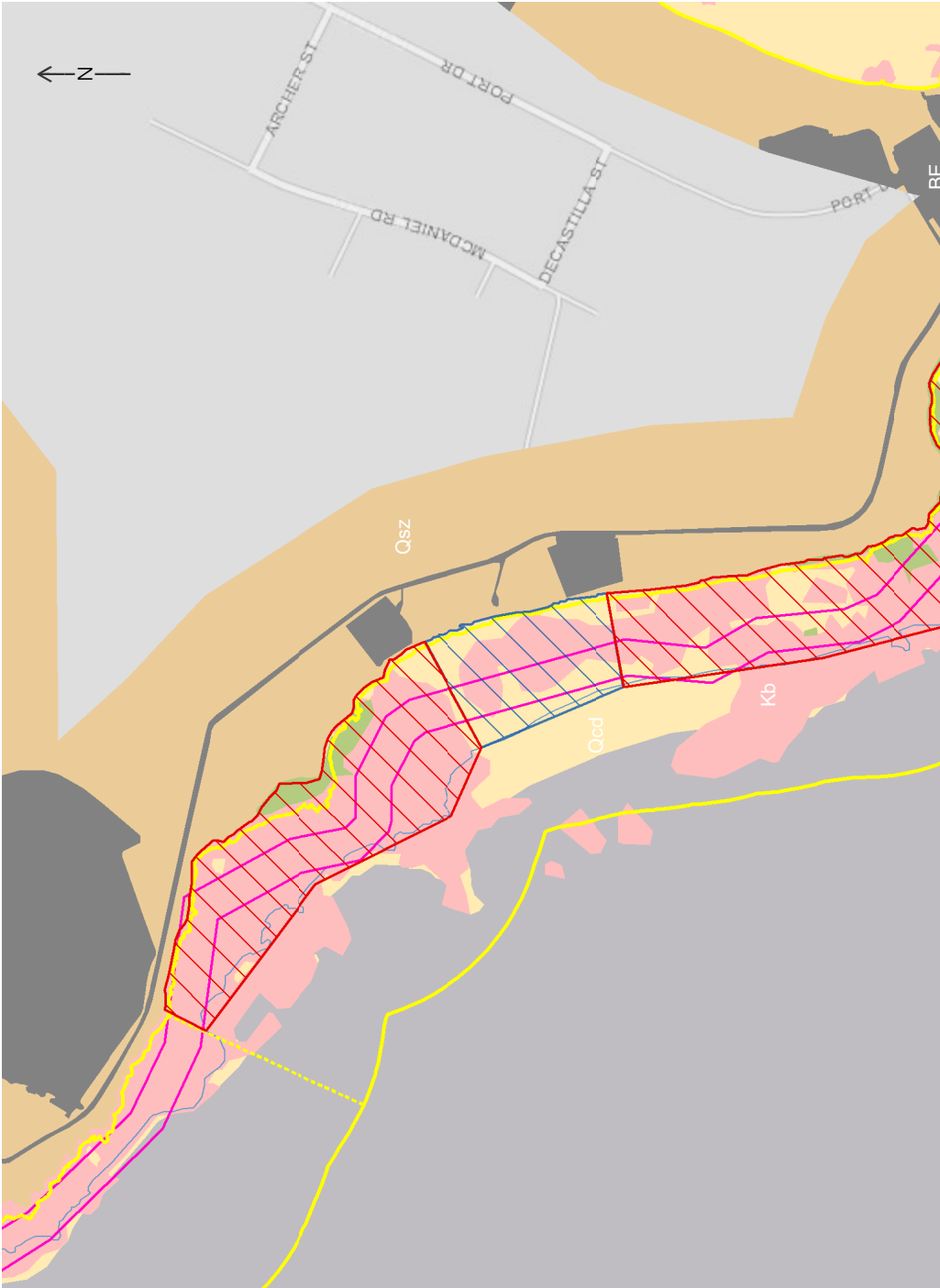
The extensive exposures of in situ and large dislocated blocks of Broome Sandstone contain an impressive variety of dinosaur tracks and track-bearing surfaces. Most of the tracks are natural moulds or indents, but there are also some natural casts — where sediment filled the original imprint to the shape of the animal's foot, and then hardened. Some of the track-bearing surfaces were heavily trampled over a large area, and so it is often difficult to discern the individual trackways.

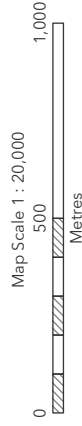
This area includes the first sauropod tracks discovered in Australia, by the late Paul Foulkes in the late 1980s. Some of the *Megalosauropus broomensis* trackways on Reddell Beach are the best examples anywhere within the Broome Sandstone.

This zone has outstanding geological and palaeontological features relevant to the West Kimberley National Heritage listing.





A Sauropod stomping ground. Image: Sarah Taylor-Fuller







### Geological & Palaeontological Features

-  Area with outstanding features relevant to The West Kimberley National Heritage Listing
-  Area with features relevant to The West Kimberley National Heritage Listing







### DCNHMP

-  Zone Boundary
-  Project Area

### NHL Gazette

-  The West Kimberley
-  Low Tide (approx 0.6m)

### Geological Units

-  Kb : Broome Sandstone
-  BE : Built Environment
-  Qcd : Cable Beach Sand
-  Qbr : Cape Boileau Calcarenite + Lombadina Conglomerate
-  Qsz : Holocene Aeolean Dune Sand (Church Hill Sand + Shoonta Hill Sand) overlying Pleistocene Mowanjum Sand
-  PQc : Unnamed Pliocene-Quaternary Conglomerate

Reddell Beach Zone: Geological and Palaeontological Features

## ACTIVITIES AND VULNERABILITIES

There are now three car parks located off Kavite Road with a number of informal walking tracks along the red pindan cliffs that go to the beach. Reddell Beach is very popular for fishing, walking, dog walking, photography and, more recently, weddings.

The improved car parking facilities, promotion of Reddell Beach as a suitable event venue for up to 100 people, and an increase in illegal camping is likely to cause more damage to friable rock platforms and/or culturally significant landforms in the area.

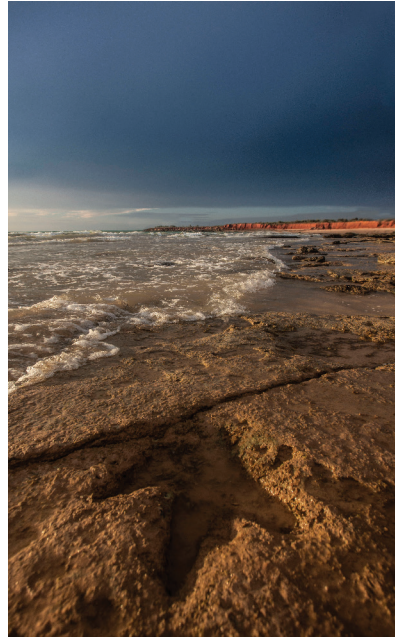
Many tourists are looking for dinosaur tracks, often unaware of the right protocols to follow to ensure they protect and preserve the landscape.



Assoc. Prof. Steve Salisbury of UQ explains how friable Broome Sandstone rock platforms are.  
Image: Sarah Taylor-Fuller



Isolated outcrop of Broome Sandstone. Image: Sarah Taylor-Fuller



Theropod trackway. Image: Damian Kelly



Counting toes on sauropod tracks. Image: Damian Kelly

# VISION: TO UNDERSTAND, PROTECT AND PROMOTE THE DINOSAUR COAST AND CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE BROOME COMMUNITY

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

The following 7 objectives have been identified for the DCNHMP.

### Objectives:

1. To increase understanding and awareness of the Dinosaur Coast and its National Heritage Values
2. To conserve and protect the National Heritage Values of the Dinosaur Coast with best-practice adaptive management
3. To monitor and manage the impacts of coastal erosion and other environmental processes
4. To manage the impacts of the expansion of Broome and associated coastal development and infrastructure
5. To manage increasing visitor interest in the tracks and increasing numbers of visitors
6. To create opportunities for the Broome community
7. To improve the experience of visitors to the Dinosaur Coast

The Implementation Plan explains what is being done over the next 5 to 10 years and importantly who will do what.

The Dinosaur Coast Management Plan 2025 received grant funding from the Australian Government.

