



Media release

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Betty's makeover

The City of Albany has conducted stabilisation works along the Boulder Hill Track in Betty's Beach Reserve, with the welcome assistance of students from Manypeaks Primary School.

Sections of the Boulder Hill Track were rendered inaccessible to vehicles after heavy rains in late 2009, resulting in visitors destroying native vegetation in order to create new tracks.

In 2011 work commenced to stabilise the main track and revegetate nearby areas. These works are now complete.

City of Albany Natural Reserves Coordinator Robbie Monck said duplicate tracks had been rehabilitated with biodegradable matting and pins, and local native seedlings planted by Manypeaks students.

Mr Monck said seedlings had been grown from seeds collected from inside the Betty's Beach Reserve in order to preserve the gene pool of the area.

"Students and teachers from Mount Manypeaks Primary School had a gloriously sunny morning recently planting seedlings on these rehabilitation areas," Mr Monck said.

"The kids ranged from pre-primary to Year 7 and had a great time. They were talking about the experience for days."

Mr Monck said deliberate destruction of native landscapes was not acceptable and encouraged 4WD users to be respectful of Albany's natural environment.

"It is the City's intention to continue to allow public access to popular coastal locations in a sustainable manner. Visitors to these areas are strongly encouraged to stick to existing tracks and help conserve our environment," he said.

Delineation of camping and day use areas at Betty's Beach has also recently been undertaken.

These works have been undertaken in consultation with the commercial fishermen who have been operating from this location for more than 50 years. The fore dune area is also being rehabilitated, as it has suffered adversely by visitors to this area.

The City aims to engage and involve the community wherever possible, and thanks Mount Manypeaks Primary School for its support. The City also thanks South Coast Natural Resource Management (Project Dieback) for financial support.

This initiative aligns with key objectives of the City of Albany's Community Strategic Plan: "To protect and enhance our natural environment", and "To build resilient and cohesive communities with a strong sense of community spirit."

END



Background

- Betty's Beach Reserve is a hidden treasure just down the road from Manypeaks township about 40km east of Albany.
- It is a Crown land reserve, managed by the City of Albany, and is located between Two Peoples Bay Nature Reserve and Waychinicup National Park,
- This area forms part of the near-continuous corridor of vegetation known as the Coastal Macro Corridor.
- This Reserve is of high conservation value, supporting a number of rare plants, animals and ecological communities.