

## Media Release

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Wednesday 26 May 2010

### Looking after Lowlands

A passion for protecting their local beach spurred the Youngs Siding community to host a busybee with the Albany Four Wheel Drive Club at Lowlands coastal reserve recently.

Supported by the City of Albany and South Coast NRM, the Lowlands Coastcare Group event made a visible difference to the Second Beach area as more than 25 enthusiastic volunteers pruned the bush back to rediscover the beach carpark, while others hefted bollards over the hill to help manage 4WD access through the reserve.

South Coast NRM coastal and marine implementation officer Sheryn Prior said the volunteers got stuck in to the physical work and together achieved a lot in the morning.

Ms Prior said the community also laid peppermint branches as heavy brush on the bare ground to promote rehabilitation of young seedlings.

"It's great to see this event being community driven which demonstrates their long-term commitment to their local coastal reserve," she said

"The Lowlands reserve is one of the largest City of Albany reserves and is in excellent condition. It forms an important part of the vegetation corridor linking across the coast."

Fortified by an impressive morning tea, the group effort notched up a total of 72 voluntary hours towards a Coastwest grant contribution.

Ms Prior said now that the work was done, 4WD users were encouraged to respect the environment and reduce tyre pressure early when travelling on sandy tracks.

For more information on the Lowlands Coastcare Group contact Brad Kneebone on (08) 9845 2233.

Sheryn Prior is coordinating a seed collecting expedition around Torbay on Saturday 29 May. Interested volunteers should contact (08) 9845 8508

**ENDS**

### Photo captions

Get busy: Members of the Lowlands Coastcare Group and Albany 4WD Club at Second Beach.

Heavy load: Peter Davies, Charlie Lemann, Mark Wylde, Peter Stewart, Steve Grimmer and Brad Kneebone help to install bollards.

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**South Coast Natural Resource Management Inc. is the leading regional group for natural resource management on the South Coast of Western Australia. As an independent non-profit organisation, we work with the community to improve the environment by preserving and protecting unique plants and animals, managing land and waterways, and sharing knowledge and skills in natural resource management.**