



Thursday 4 August 2011

Quaranup on the cultural map

Aboriginal elders and community groups are meeting this week at Quaranup as part of a cultural mapping project of the peninsula supported by Coastwest.

Quaranup (Cape Vancouver Peninsula) has strong Aboriginal cultural values but the extent of its significant sites and stories have yet to be mapped or recorded.

The area is known to have several ancient *Gnamma* which are water holes carved into rock, typically at a depth of between 90cm and two metres. Artifacts from tool making and lizard traps have also been sighted.

Albany Heritage Reference Group Aboriginal Corporation, with assistance from South Coast NRM, City of Albany and Applied Archaeology Pty Ltd, will provide input into the cultural mapping exercise with a view to developing management recommendations for the area.

South Coast NRM cultural coordinator, Shandell Cummings, said the focus on Quaranup was instigated by the Albany Heritage Reference Group, with the aim of potentially supporting the Kinjarling Trail project.

“This mapping will build on previous restoration and revegetation work carried out by the Restoring Connections team at South Coast NRM. We want to be able to protect these important sites into the future and promote a greater understanding and awareness of our cultural heritage,” she said.

The project will be delivered in three phases - the first being mapping and recording, followed by the implementation of management recommendations.

The Coastwest program is a State Government initiative aimed at providing opportunities for Western Australians to learn about, conserve and protect our coast. The program has contributed more than \$26,000 to a total project cost of \$40,000.

ENDS

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