

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Introducing our coast's new best friends

Native plant and animal life along the coast now have some new best friends looking after them with the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee's new three-member Conservation Team on the job.

Conservation workers Jannes Demetrious and Alex Schipperen recently joined Georgina Beale who was appointed to the position of Conservation Officer in May 2010. According to Chief Executive Officer Richard Davies, the latest appointments take the team up to its full complement.

"Our new Conservation Team has been established to deliver the Natural Values Project, one of four projects that together make up our three-year \$1.35 million Great Ocean Road Renewal Program, which has received Australian Government funding support," explained Mr Davies.

"The team's focus over the next three years will be on tackling the greatest threat to our coast's natural environment: invasive weeds. By blitzing these noxious enemies through sustained and concerted weed control works, we will give our native vegetation the best chance of reclaiming the land, which in turn will result in improved habitat for our native animal life," he said.

"Already the team has been hard at work decimating weed infestations at a number of locations along the coast.

"The team is also providing support and assistance to our local coastal volunteer groups, and has recently worked alongside Friends of Moggs Creek and Conservation Volunteers Australia to rehabilitate the Moggs Creek estuary from the detrimental impacts of weeds and erosion. And the estuary is already looking all the better for it," said Mr Davies.

"In addition to the weed blitzkrieg now in progress, boosting native plant communities through planting activities is another critical component of the team's role," he said.

Mr Davies encouraged local coastal volunteer groups interested in learning more about the team's role or tapping into its services to contact the committee (Ph: 03 5220 5055 Email: info@gorcc.com.au).

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Caring for the coast and community

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