

Media Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Green grants up for grabs

\$10,000 in funds is now available for groups looking to protect and enhance the coastal environment as part of the Great Ocean Road Coast Committee's (GORCC's) annual Coastal Grants Program.

Each year, funds are made available for projects that benefit the 37km of coastal Crown land under GORCC management between Torquay and Lorne.

GORCC CEO Richard Davies said any local groups with projects aimed at making a positive impact on the natural values of the coast were encouraged to apply.

"By providing funding for projects that care for the natural values of the GORCC managed coast we are supporting our core mission as an organisation.

"The natural environment is the prime value of the GORCC managed coast and its protection and enhancement is of the highest priority.

"Additionally, fostering environmental stewardship and volunteerism on the coast is integral to its long term sustainability," he said.

Previous Coastal Grants have funded a diverse range of projects, from the procurement of tools and cigarette butt bins, to weed control, revegetation and environmental educational projects.

The Jan Juc Coast Action (JJCA) group's Surf Coast Nature Search (SCNS) project received a GORCC Coastal Grant in 2014. .

JJCA Chairperson Luke Hynes said the SCNS had been a dream of the JJCA group for many years.

"These types of grants are extremely beneficial to the work local volunteers and community groups undertake as funds and supplies are often limited," he said.

Community Liaison Manager Jane Lovejoy said community volunteers were the backbone of GORCC's conservation efforts.

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“The projects these community groups undertake on our land provides valuable support to our dedicated Conservation Team,” she said.

Grant applications are now open and close Friday the 18th December at 5pm. Up to \$2,500 per grant project is available. More information, including the online application form is available at www.gorcc.com.au/about-us/190

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