

**Protection and Restoration of Vasse-Wonnerup wetlands and
Geographe Bay coastal habitats**

Aim/Purpose

The project will undertake strategic weed control and rehabilitation of coastal habitats adjoining the priority coastal hotspot Geographe Bay. The project will focus on enhancing wetland and coastal remnants within the Ramsar listed Vasse Wonnerup wetland systems, the Busselton Wetland systems the and poorly reserved Quindalup foreshore vegetation.

The project will also undertake plantings in these areas to create wildlife linkages for the nationally threatened species the Western Ringtail Possum (WRP). The project will achieve increased protection and enhancement of coastal habitats and build resilience to threatening processes including climate change, weed invasion, erosion, increased urbanisation and changes in local hydrology.

The project will strongly involve the community through the establishment of a Friends of Foreshore Group, undertaking community planting days, wetlands appreciation events and community surveys of WRP. This will result in increased community awareness, involvement and appreciation of coastal habitats and the species that utilise them.

Start Date

February 2009

Finish Date

February 2011

Project partners

Department of Environment and Conservation
Shire of Busselton

Project stakeholders

Department of Water
Toby Inlet Catchment Group
Dunsborough Coast and Land Care
Western Ringtail Action Group
Busselton Wetlands Ecotourism Project team

Contacts

John McKinney
(08) 9781 0115
john.mckinney@water.wa.gov.au