

FROM THE COAST

Natural Assets

Esperance is known for its natural beauty and we are blessed to live here. We are lucky enough to have the opportunity to share our backyard with our family and friends, and even the rest of the world, so it is vital we continue to look after our natural assets.

Late last year the Shire of Esperance was successful in receiving funding for four projects submitted to the 2017 State Natural Resource Management Program Community Action Grants. There were also several community groups successful in receiving funding and it is great to see local members in our community passionate about looking after our natural environment.

Lake Monjilup received funding to go towards restoration of eco-education facilities and the materials completion project. This is to restore and improve reserve infrastructure that was destroyed by the 2015 bushfire. This area now has new signage and some of the walk trails have been upgraded to improve erosion control. Work at Lake Monjilup is still underway with a replacement boardwalk, Environment Centre and toilet facilities planned for later this year. It will be fantastic to see Lake Monjilup return to the former glory Brian Warren inspired, and this is thanks to dedicated work from Shire staff, the Work for the Dole team, South Coast NRM works team and other local contractors.

This funding has assisted in upgrading coastal areas west of Esperance which include car park structure, signage, formalisation of access paths, weed management and dune rehabilitation. On top of this it includes works around Twilight beach, completing the remaining dune erosion protection works and to remove weeds from the site that are threatening to smother native vegetation. Safe formal access to the beach and a viewing platform will also form part of the project at Twilight.

Work at Quagi Beach is underway at the campground focusing on facilities, signage and protection of the immediate environment. It includes upgrades to camp bays, picnic areas, beach access points, parking, signage and rehabilitation of degraded vegetation.

It will be fantastic to see these projects once they are all complete so we can continue to enjoy what Esperance has to offer. It is a real credit to the Shire's Parks and Environment team who work tirelessly to secure grant funding and work on these great projects with other community groups to make sure we continue to look after our beautiful corner of the world.