



## The Ngaraba-aan Educational Trail

**Project Summary:** Aboriginal groups and the Hill 60 Landcare Group have been working to protect and rehabilitate key sites in the Port Kembla area of Wollongong for the past decade. The idea of a coastal walking trail was proposed as the thread that connects the work being done by the different groups. The key sites to be linked by the trail are the Port Corporation Heritage Park (including MM Beach), Boilers Point, Coomaditchie Lagoon and North Perkins Beach – areas rich in Aboriginal and European heritage. An action plan has now been prepared which will enable current and future project partners to:

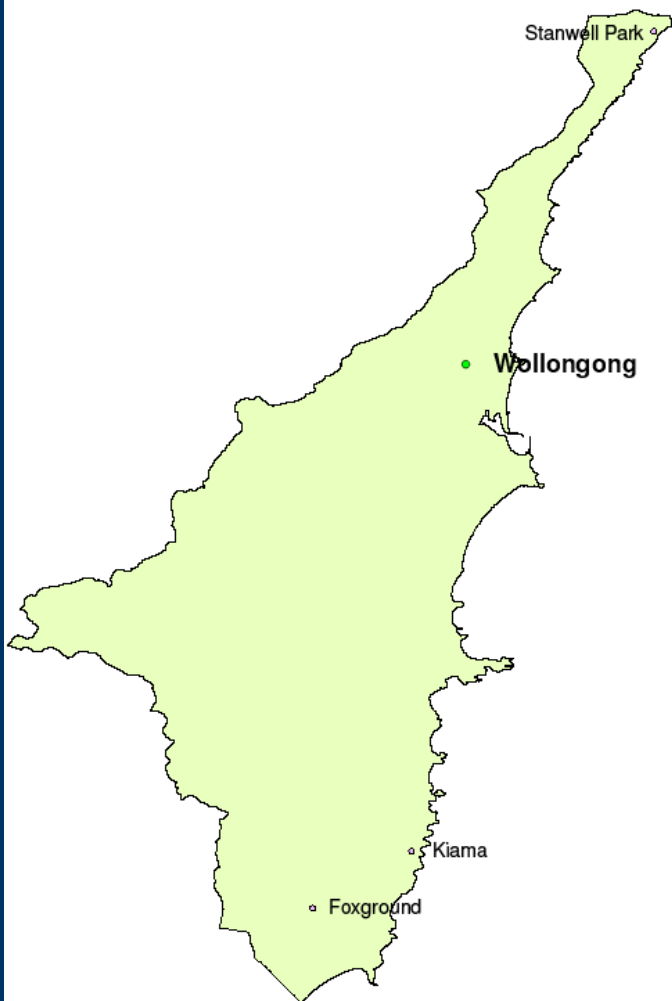
- attract investment to construct the trail and
- establish social, economic and environmental objectives for the project with particular regard to the aspirations of local Aboriginal people

The next stage of the project has commenced with the construction of the trail, environmental restoration activities and the production of an interpretation plan which will guide how the track is presented to users through track signage and other means. The project will also include training and employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people.

**Partners:** Illawarra CDEP, the Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation, the Korewal Elouera Jerrungarugh Tribal Elders Aboriginal Corporation, SRCMA and Wollongong City Council

**Funding:** Australian and NSW Governments

**Value of Project:** \$500,000





## Revive Southern Rivers wetlands (Regional Project)

**Project Summary:** Established by Conservation Volunteers Australia (CVA) and BHP Billiton, Revive our Wetlands is the largest national wetlands revival program in Australia.



In early 2001, the project focussed initially on protecting the Endangered Ecological Communities in Tom Thumb and Coomaditchie Lagoons in Wollongong.

In 2004, CVA formed a collaborative partnership with SRCMA and Wollongong City Council to expand the project to another three significant wetland locations in the Illawarra and Shoalhaven regions - Werri Lagoon at Gerringong and Coomonderry Swamp at Seven Mile Beach, and Lake Conjola between Ulladulla and Nowra. The project includes a diverse range of on-ground ecological restoration activities (fencing, weed control, revegetation) involving large numbers of volunteers and community education and awareness initiatives.

Revive Southern Rivers Wetlands Program was a finalist in the 2005 National Banksia Environment Awards - Environmental Leadership in Protecting Bush, Land and Waterways.

**Partners:** Conservation Volunteers Australia, BHP Billiton, Wollongong City Council, Friends of Tom Thumb Lagoon, Coomaditchie United Aboriginal Corporation.

**Funding:** Australian and NSW Governments

**Value of Project:** \$990,000

## Estuaries and Coastal Incentives Program (Regional Project)

**Project Summary:** This incentives program assists local government and other public resource managers to implement priority on-ground works in line with current estuary and coastal management strategies. The program includes an expression of interest process and a targeted project partnership approach.



The first round of the program was launched in 2005 and was targeted at the six coastal local governments in the SRCMA region. A total of 16 projects received funding in the first year.

Stage two of the incentives program will commence in late 2006 and will be expanded to include other public resource managers as well as local governments.

It is anticipated a greater number of projects will be funded in 2006.

**Partners:** Bega Valley Shire Council, Eurobodalla Shire Council, Wollongong City Council, Shoalhaven City Council, Shellharbour Council, Kiama Council and other public resource managers.

**Funding 2005:** \$315,000

**Value of Project 2005:** \$971,000

*Working with local people to achieve healthy, natural ecosystems and sustainable productive landuse.*