



THE GOVERNMENT OF NORFOLK ISLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

New boardwalk the latest improvement at Hundred Acres Reserve

The Minister for the Environment, Education and Social Welfare, Vicky Jack, said today that visitors to Hundred Acres Reserve can now benefit from a new boardwalk erected over the clifftop track in the reserve. The boardwalk was constructed by BJ Gardner Constructions with support from the Administration Forestry Team and funding assistance from the Commonwealth Government's Natural Heritage Trust. It is the latest of a range of improvements to the Reserve over recent months, including substantial plantings of native plants, removal of invasive weeds and provision of picnic facilities.



Visiting the Reserve this week, the Minister said she was very pleased with the construction outcome and the public benefits of the new boardwalk. "This boardwalk fits well with our strategy of improving facilities in public reserves by creating a much safer walking surface for visitors who previously ran the risk of injury by tripping into bird nest holes", Mrs Jack said. "At the same time, it enhances environmental outcomes by providing much better protection for the habitat and breeding grounds of the many birds near the clifftop".

The boardwalk is raised slightly above the ground and stainless steel bolts have been used to ensure greater longevity of the structure in its exposed location. A handrail is provided where the structure runs near the top of the cliff. The Forestry Team directly contributed towards the project by staining the structure, and will be responsible for ongoing maintenance. The Forestry Team is also continuing to tackle

the Madeira Vine problem in the Reserve, as well as looking after the new native plantings.



Minister Jack said she was grateful for the positive public feedback she had received about the new boardwalk and the condition of the Reserve in general. She expressed her sincere thanks to Brendon Gardner (BJ Gardner Constructions) and the Forestry Team for their construction work and to the Commonwealth Government for its funding assistance towards the project. Mrs Jack encouraged all members of the community to take advantage of the current sunny weather to visit Hundred Acres and see for themselves the boardwalk and other improvements to the Reserve.

Any enquiries regarding the boardwalk or the refurbishment of Hundred Acres Reserve should be directed to Acting Manager, Land Use & Environment, Alan McNeil, phone 23595 or email amcneil@admin.gov.nf.

Stephanie V Jack
Minister for the Environment, Education and Social Welfare

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