Sandwatchers in Western Australia rehab sand dunes

Rehabilitation of coastal dunes damaged by impacts including erosion or the spread of invasive weeds can be a complex process requiring specialised skills. To ensure that community **Coastcare** volunteers have the required skills to undertake dune rehabilitation projects, the Perth Regions NRM's Coastcare Program runs training workshops to provide instruction in best practice dune rehabilitation techniques.

At a recently held **Coastwest** funded workshop in Perth, **Australia**, Steve Lushey from **Sandwatch** participating school South Coogee Primary attended to gain an increased understanding of dune rehabilitation techniques. Steve has been leading his students in the rehabilitation of Coogee Beach in association with the City of Cockburn and Verve Energy.

The workshop provided information on a range of topics including project planning, sand dune structure, coastal processes, erosion control techniques, fencing methods, weed control, native plant selection, seed collection and monitoring. Workshop participants then visited a dune rehabilitation site to see first hand how a degraded dune was progressively rehabilitated over a five year period.

Steve will now be able to pass on his newly acquired skills to his Sandwatch students at the next planting session at Coogee Beach and his students will have a greater understanding of why dunes are an important barrier against potential climate change impacts such as sea level rise.



