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2016 Premier Awards
Judging Panel
2 Havelock St
West Perth
WA 6005

Dear Panellists,

Conservation Volunteers (CV) founded in 1982, is not-for-profit and is Australia's leading practical environmental organisation, managing over a million volunteer hours across 10,000 priority projects annually.

Conservation Volunteers has offices in most capital cities and many regional centres across Australia and New Zealand and specialises in recruiting volunteers from all sectors of the community and providing a safe and rewarding volunteering experience whilst contributing to important environmental outcomes.

Conservation Volunteers has partnered with Rottnest Island Authority in many Rottnest Island projects in the past, contributing thousands of volunteer hours to the implementation of strategic environmental plans.

We are very excited that after witnessing years of planning, design and preparation, that the Wadjemup Walk Trail is finally being implemented and that our organisation has been given opportunities to have our volunteers directly involved with the project.

I hold a place on the Wadjemup Walk Trail Steering Group Committee, which has been in operation since July 2013 and collectively moves the project forward with other community groups and the RIA.

Implementation of the Wadjemup Walk Trail provides an ideal learning and skills development opportunity for CV volunteers and trainees as it encourages hands-on environmental action, equipping participations with valuable work skills and potential qualifications in different areas of environmental remediation. CV participants get to work alongside the RIA's Environmental and Park Services Staff, other affiliated volunteers and corporate groups that partner to deliver the project, so it is also a great networking and knowledge sharing platform for all involved.

In July-Sept 2013, Conservation Volunteers in association with the Rottnest Island Authority and using a grant from Coastwest and Caring for Our Country ran an Indigenous Green Corps 10 week training program on Rottnest. 11 people were provided with training culminating to 700 hours of on-ground conservation works as part of the Wadjemup Walk Trail project. This program gave Aboriginal youth exposure to a combination of training and work experience activities to improve their likelihood of gaining employment in the conservation land management and environmental sectors. This Green Corps group helped to implement the first section of Wadjemup

Walk Trail which opened in December 2013, the Bickley Bay section. All 11 participants of this program have gone on to acquire jobs in the conservation and environmental industries.

Conservation Volunteers also has a partnership with Woodside and between 2011 and 2015, Woodside funded logistics for CV to carry out two weeks each year of CV volunteer work on Rottnest Island and 3x Woodside staff volunteer days which are supervised by CV staff. Woodside employees have undertaken planting works along the Bickley Bay Section of the Wadjemup Walk Trail project. The RIA have never directly engaged or interacted with Woodside, however, RIA staff support CV to arrange ferries, catering, bus transfers and plan work sites for Woodside visits.

In 2015-16, Conservation Volunteers continue to support the Wadjemup Walk Trail project by aiding to deliver the Government's Green Army project, which has already seen 8 workers provide 16 hrs towards the Trail development.

The Wadjemup Walk Trail is the RIA's conservation initiative to aid in preserving the Island and our organisation is proud to be a part of it!

Conservation Volunteers wholeheartedly supports the Rottnest Island Authority and their application to receive a 2016 Premier's Award for 'Managing the Environment'.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Kind regards,



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