



\$60 Million Boost for National Trust Projects

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MEDIA STATEMENT

Hundreds of National Trust properties and natural reserves will benefit as a result of a \$60 million dollar component of the Federal Government's stimulus package according to the National Trust WA CEO, Tom Perrigo.

Mr Perrigo has described the biggest funding boost of its type in the history of cultural heritage as a turning point for Australia's heritage.

"This is the first time in living memory since the National Estates Grants Program in the 1970s, that the identification, conservation and interpretation of the nation's cultural heritage will be significantly resourced," he said.

"The funding negotiated by the Greens will be spent on national heritage listed buildings, community heritage projects and natural heritage projects including walking trails and the upgrade of public space," he said.

"At least some of the 250 National Trust properties and natural reserves will benefit from the funding," he said.

According to Mr Perrigo the historic, Indigenous and natural values of Australia's cultural heritage would benefit from the funding.

"The investment will not only create employment in the regions it will also deliver social and community spirit outcomes," he said.

Mr Perrigo said that one of the unique benefits of heritage related work was the job creation in mostly regional and rural areas and that the funding was expected to create 800 new jobs nationally.

The Government and the Greens agreed to amendments to the \$42 billion economic stimulus package, which has created many more jobs, Mr Perrigo said.

The National Trust has also applauded Greens Senator Scott Ludlam for his role in securing the deal with Government to amend the \$42 billion economic stimulus package.

"We congratulate Senator Scott Ludlam for his leadership on this issue."

"It's a bonus that it has come in our Jubilee Year and that Senator Ludlam has indicated his commitment to improving funding for cultural heritage in Australia," Mr Perrigo said.

For more information contact National Trust (WA) Chief Executive Officer Tom Perrigo on 0408 945 374.

