



## Action taken against coastal vegetation vandalism

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The Minister for the Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts, Michelle O'Byrne today said action was being taken to deter vandalism being caused to coastal vegetation. Ms O'Byrne said a large sign was being erected in the Kingborough municipality where coastal vegetation has been illegally cleared, and remain in place until the vegetation grows back to its original condition. Ms O'Byrne, and Kingborough Council Mayor Graham Bury said that the initiative is one of a number of strategies aimed at combating recurring incidents of vegetation vandalism in the Coningham Coastal Public Reserve. "The Parks and Wildlife Service and Kingborough Council have been working closely with the Department of Primary Industry and Water, Crown Land Services, and local community groups in an effort to halt the vandalism," Ms O'Byrne said. "Deterrent signs will be placed where trees were illegally removed or poisoned, and not be removed until the natural vegetation grows back. "The sign at Coningham will act as a screen that denies any visual benefit that may have been sought by removing the vegetation. "It has been designed not to interrupt the views for other members of the public walking along the reserve," Ms O'Byrne said. Mayor Bury said: "The Coningham reserve, is there for all Tasmanians and visitors to enjoy, and no-one has the right to damage or remove vegetation within it. Kingborough Council supports the use of such signs in locations where they will act as a deterrent to further illegal clearing." Ms O'Byrne said that other land managers on the mainland, such as Byron Bay and Sydney Harbour councils, had successfully used such methods to discourage people from damaging coastal vegetation or illegally clearing trees to enhance their views.