



Carmel Tebbutt MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment | Minister for Commerce



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Lord Howe Island to benefit from \$200,000 in NSW Government grants

Two environmental projects on Lord Howe Island will each receive a \$100,000 grant from the NSW Government's 2008/09 Environmental Trust program, the Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Carmel Tebbutt, announced today.

The grants will be used by the Lord Howe Island Board for two major environmental projects: weed control and the eradication of introduced rats and mice.

"Lord Howe Island is an internationally recognised World Heritage area and is home to many species of threatened and endangered plants. The NSW State Government is committed to protecting the unique biodiversity of this spectacular landscape," Ms Tebbutt said.

"The eradication of introduced rats and mice is arguably the most significant single conservation action that can be undertaken on Lord Howe Island.

"Eradication of these pests will be complex and meticulous planning is critical to success.

"Asparagus infestation on the Transit Hill area of the island is threatening the island's unique vegetation. Project works will take control of a dense and widespread infestation," Ms Tebbutt said.

These local grants are two of 185 totalling over \$36 million provided by the NSW Environmental Trust in 2008/9, and just part of an expected \$90 million it is investing in environmental projects and programs across the state.

"These innovative projects represent some of the amazing research, education and restoration projects funded through the NSW Government's 2008/09 Environmental Trust program," Ms Tebbutt said.

"Each year this important program highlights the innovative thinking taking place around the environment in NSW and this year has been no exception."

The Environmental Trust is an independent statutory body established by the NSW government to support exceptional environmental projects that do not receive funds from the usual government sources.

For information on the Environmental Trust visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/grants/envtrust.htm

For media inquiries contact: Patrick Keneally 0431 743 212