

Solid foundation for sand ladder thanks to volunteers

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Sixteen volunteers from two four wheel drive clubs made light work of manhandling 83, 3.6 metre long hardwood timbers into place to rebuild a sand ladder on a popular West Coast track.

Strahan-based ranger Peter Dodd and Northwest Region volunteer facilitator Stephen Mansfield were involved in the working bee on the Granville to Pieman track on November 29.

The track is a very popular West Coast recreational four-wheel track, with people using it to access shacks at Pieman Heads and also for fishing and camping all along the coast.

“The job involved reconstructing a sand ladder that’s a key access point for the Pieman Heads/Conical Rock area,” Peter said.

“Very little remained of the original ladder, and what little did, was broken and split, with the result that vehicles were churning up the sand as they attempted to climb the 15 degree incline.

“The work was very labour intensive, putting into place a total of 83 200 mm by 75 mm by 3.6 metre long hardwood timbers over the ladder’s 25 metre length.”

Each timber plank is held in place by a chain that binds the entire ladder together.

“It was a really good community working bee, with 16 volunteers from the Ulverstone and Braddon four wheel drive clubs participating,” Peter said.

“It’s great to see that those who regularly use the area are committed to maintaining the facilities and helping to look after the environment.”



Michael Richards and Tim Davison with one of the hardwood planks.



Andrew Burgess secures the plank with the chain binding them all together.



Northwest Region volunteer coordinator Stephen Mansfield looks on as the ladder takes shape.



The job is just about complete as two posts complete the effort.

The outlines of the individual planks can just be seen after sand was spread on the track surface.