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Guilderton community cleans up beach and estuary

A good number of community volunteers turned out for a beach and estuary rubbish pick up in Guilderton on the 12th October which ran in conjunction with Tangaroa Blue's state wide annual clean up event. Tangaroa Blue aims to improve the health of the marine environment of WA through monitoring marine debris and education events. A big part of this annual clean-up is not only to rid the beach of rubbish, but also to audit the waste collected to feed into Tangaroa Blue's database so to highlight types of rubbish discarded.

The Moore Catchment Council (MCC) in collaboration with the Guilderton Community Association organised the clean-up with funding through the Northern Agricultural Catchments Council's (NACC) Federal Caring for our Country Coastal Engagement program, and equipment supplied by Tangaroa Blue. Rachel Walmsley of MCC said 'We had a good number of volunteers help with the two hour clean up including lots of children. These volunteers picked up a huge amount of rubbish from around the lookout, beaches, Silver Creek and the estuary car park.' 60kg of rubbish was picked up in bags, and a trailer helped bring back a lot of discarded wood, rope and a car battery from the southern beach which weighed an estimated 120kg.



Volunteers who helped clean up

Analysis of the waste revealed a lot of the regular offending items like plastic wrappers, straws, cigarette butts and bottle caps as well as clothing, dirty nappies and broken camping equipment. The most artistic find of the day was a 'scarecrow' made of old bits of rope, wood and foam buoys. This might not have ended up in the skip due to its charm!

Rachel concluded 'The volunteers did a great job of cleaning up Guilderton's beaches and estuary, and I thank them for giving up their time to help. I just wish people would put their rubbish in a bin or take it home with them instead of dumping it on the beach.'

Please check out Moore Catchment Council's Facebook page for more photos and updates on future events, or contact MCC for more information on Coastal Engagement events in the Moore region.



Neil & Gillian Lamont with the scarecrow



A trailer load picked up from the beach











