

MEDIA RELEASE

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Attention: News Editor

Spotlight on southern landscape

Delegates from 16 of Australia's most significant natural environments are in Albany this week to experience the attractions of the Great South West Edge National Landscape.

The 2012 National Landscapes Forum brings 40 members together to share ideas about enhancing visitor experiences in Australia's greatest landscapes.

Tourism Australia and Parks Australia initiated the National Landscapes program to promote selected significant landscapes to overseas visitors who prefer active travel rather than passive sightseeing.

The Great South West Edge stretches from Bunbury to Cape Arid, east of Esperance, taking in the entire Great Southern coastline and the Porongurup and Stirling Range National Parks.

It was added to the National Landscapes program in 2011, after nomination by the Great Southern Development Commission (GSDC), Tourism WA, the Department of Environment and Conservation and neighbouring Development Commissions.

Forum delegates start their Great South West Edge experience with a visit to the granite skywalk at Castle Rock in the Porongurups on Tuesday 18 September, and follow up with two days of information and ideas at the Albany Entertainment Centre.

GSDC Board Chairman Peter Rundle said the delegates would gain an understanding of the place of the Great South West Edge in the National Landscapes program.

"The Great Southern is the centre of the Great South West Edge and exemplifies the range of environments that will attract visitors to the entire stretch from Bunbury to Cape Arid," Mr Rundle said.

"Granite coast and hills, beautiful beaches and deep forests offer opportunities for visitors to find adventure and to get out and about into naturally beautiful environments.



Building partnerships for regional prosperity



“Work undertaken through the National Landscapes initiative will help Great Southern enterprises to develop tourism products and services,” Mr Rundle said.

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Building partnerships for regional prosperity

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