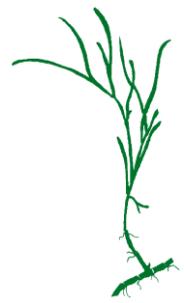


# Western Port Seagrass Partnership Ltd

ACN 096 685 871 – ABN 81 096 685 871



## Media Statement:

### Mangrove Planting to Protect Lang Lang Coastline

Chairman of the Western Port Seagrass Partnership, Ian Stevenson has advised that it has completed phase one of a two phase project aimed at protecting the eroding coastline along the Lang Lang Coastline.

This project is a partnership project with key funding and land management agencies and the community, with the lead role being taken by the Western Port Seagrass Partnership. The \$20,000 project has been funded by the 2014/15 Victorian Community Coastcare Grants Program, with the approval and support of Parks Victoria, the responsible agency for this section of the Coastline.

The works include planting both mangrove seeds and seedlings over the period January – April 2015.

January works completed: 450 seeds and 300 plants

April works to come: 2,100 plants

All the plantings are being done according to an approved experimental design that will both help protect the coastline but also provide valuable information about the most effective ways to establish mangroves along eroding coastlines. Findings to date strongly suggest seedlings need protection from storms, so all seeds and seedlings have been planted inside PVC tubes.

All the seeds for the project have been collected by community volunteers from around Western Port, and the seedlings have been raised by our partner organization Mornington Peninsula Youth Enterprises which has devised special tidal tanks to grow mangroves in simulated natural conditions.

The specially designed protective pipes with machined grooves to avoid water and sediment build up, have been produced by another partner organization, the Mornington Men's Shed.

The plantings thus far have been undertaken by community volunteers and trainee students from various regional colleges and Universities. Local farmers have also been supportive, allowing access to the coastline through their properties.

We hope that our project will be successful and result in a sustainably stable coastline along this problematic coastline which on average is estimated to be eroding by 0.5 metres a year. We welcome participation by the local community and volunteers can register their interest on our web site [www.seagrass.com.au](http://www.seagrass.com.au)

On behalf of the Board of the Western Port Seagrass Partnership.

Ian Stevenson  
Chairman