



Wednesday, 29th October, 2008

Comments for Examiner feature on Bay of Fires Lonely Planet Award

NRM North is working with Tourism Tasmania, Parks and Wildlife and the Break O'Day Council on a Bay of Fires site planning project.

The project is being put in place in response to community initiatives such as the St Helens Precinct Plan and in recognition of the increasing visitor impact of the natural and social values of the area.

NRM North Acting Chief Executive Officer, Scott Schilg, said the site plan will identify necessary infrastructure to protect the natural values of the area and enhance visitor experiences.

"The recent Lonely Planet Award recognised the natural, scenic, social and recreational values of the Bay of Fires area and it is these values the site planning project is aiming to preserve while also providing appropriate facilities for visitors."

It is also important the plan recognises the links aboriginal people have with Tasmania's east coast. The area is rich in aboriginal middens, artefacts, shelters and campsites.

Mr Schilg said the local community will be able to get involved.

"Residents will be encouraged to have input into the project and assist in the development of the site plan."

The site plan is expected to be completed by July next year.

Ends

For more information contact:

Scott Schilg, NRM North Acting Chief Executive Officer, 6333 7777 or 0429 365 304

Melissa Lewarn, Manager – Community Engagement, NRM North, 6333 7776 or 0427 354 058