

State award for Dune Care

SOUTH West Rocks Dune Care group has won the 2011 Australian Government Coast Care award at the NSW Landcare awards held recently in Parkes.

The awards ceremony celebrated individual and community volunteer projects that have made significant contributions to the local environment.

South West Rocks Dune Care was recognised for its long-term bush regeneration work around South West Rocks and Smoky Cape, where the group has done much to protect native plants from bitou bush, lantana and other invasive weeds.

The group has so far successfully administered grants worth more

than \$200,000 from Envirofund, Caring for our Country and The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority.

It has averaged about 1500 volunteer hours per year, working with mutual obligation and visiting volunteers through its monthly 'bitou bashes'.

The South West Rocks Dune Care group would like to thank all the people who have helped out over the years in any way, this award is recognition of their efforts.

Readers who would like to get involved with this important environmental work can contact Dune Care through the group's website, which can be found at: www.swrdc.com.au



Recognition: Dune Care volunteers show off their award before getting to work at Smoky Cape on Sunday