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MEDIA RELEASE



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For immediate release

Bushland remains closed after asbestos confirmation

Access to an area of bushland to the south of Demco Estate in Broome will remain closed at present after confirmation that material found there contained asbestos.

The discovery of the material on land managed by the State Government, Shire of Broome and Yawuru was reported in late August 2016.

The area was then fenced and closed to the public and samples sent to Perth for testing which confirmed the material did contain some asbestos.

Licensed asbestos handling contractors were employed by the Shire of Broome to inspect the area and remove all material found.

Two test pits were then dug at separate locations in the area and no evidence was found of more material buried underground.

The Shire of Broome has met with the WA Department of Lands and Yawuru to discuss the ongoing monitoring and management of the area.

Shire of Broome Chief Executive Officer, Kenn Donohoe, said that public safety and the importance of the area for public use and recreation were the key considerations.

“The Shire has stepped up to manage the potential risk to the public, and has incurred costs of more than \$30,000 in doing so,” Mr Donohoe said.

“We are now working with the WA Government and Yawuru who are also responsible for managing land in the area with the aim of returning community access, but we need to be certain that there is no risk to the public before this can happen.”

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