

# Seal pups saved from

& LAND MANAGEMENT  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

# oil spill

by Tanya Maxted

**Volunteers and CALM officers from Esperance, Albany and Perth pulled together to save seals coated in oil from the wreck of the *Sanko Harvest* off Esperance in February.**

CALM's emergency operation to save over 100 New Zealand fur-seals on Hood Island and Seal Rock lasted eight days. Unfortunately, seven pups died before they could be released.

Wildlife Officers began monitoring the two colonies after leaving them undisturbed for a week and this work is continuing.

After the eight-day operation to clean the seals had been completed, the focus switched to the beaches and other islands that had been affected.

Volunteers worked side by side with CALM staff on the islands and beaches to clean up after the disaster. CALM staff were still cleaning beaches at the time of going to press.

The monitoring is set to continue for some time and it is not known how long it will take to completely clean beaches in Cape Le Grand National Park.

The next edition of *CALM NEWS* will take an in-depth look at the spill and the four weeks following the wreck of the *Sanko Harvest*.

Photo (left) - *The West Australian*





