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## **Vandals run amok in Perth quarry**

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Vandals have hot-wired a front-end loader and run amok in a Perth quarry, upending massive earthmoving equipment and dumping an excavator in a lake.

Police say the damage bill will amount to almost \$3 million for recovery, loss of equipment and down time at the massive Cockburn Cement quarry south of Perth.

Detective Andrew Broadley said the mayhem was caused by one or more people sometime between Saturday afternoon and 5.30am (WST) Monday.

"They have broken into a front-end loader and hot-wired it, they have driven that to a couple of different locations in the quarry and used that to upturn pieces of heavy machinery," he said.

"They have broken into other front end loaders and stolen radio equipment they have then driven a front-end loader and an excavator, which they have hot-wired, to a lake within the quarry.

"What appears to have happened is they have used the front-end loader to upturn the excavator so it has ended up submerged in the lake, then driven the front-end loader into the lake and left it half submerged with its engine running."

He said the damage could have been done by one person but it was likely that at least two were involved, possibly people accustomed to using big machines.

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