

## Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

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*People Working Together for a Healthy Environment*

## Media Release

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### Free Workshop for Farmers Affected by Fires

**8 February 2016...** A 2013 fire that destroyed Jeff Pow's South West WA farming enterprise has become the catalyst for an innovative support program to be offered to local landowners. Mr Pow will share his insights at a free two day workshop at Waroona CRC on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February. Participants will be helped to plan the regeneration of their land and farming enterprise.

The workshop, hosted by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council, is designed to provide knowledge, tools and techniques for landscape scale property planning. Peel-Harvey Catchment Council chairman Andy Gulliver said the natural resource management body recognised support was essential in the aftermath of the fires, and was pleased to be able to present the 'After the Fire' workshop in partnership with the 'Making More From Sheep' program from Australian Wool Innovation and Meat & Livestock Australia.

"Mr Pow realised his personal farm recovery experience would benefit others and has joined presenter Darren Doherty who has local and global expertise in landscape recovery. The free program will start as a two-day workshop in Waroona, then follow-up with online support and a second event which will be held in November," said Andy Gulliver.

He said the program would explore and present realistic options for consideration by attendees as they plan for the future.

"Darren Doherty has world-wide experience in the profitable and regenerative retrofit of broad acre landscapes and is acclaimed as a pioneer in this important field. The combination of Darren's expertise and a South West WA farmer's own experience presents hope and opportunity for our own community and environment which both have been severely impacted by recent events," said Andy Gulliver.

Details of the project, which is supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme, can be found at [www.peel-harvey.org.au](http://www.peel-harvey.org.au). Landowners can register or find out more information by calling Luke Rogers at the PHCC on 6369 8800.

**ENDS...**

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