

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 2
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A monthly update on Natural Resource Management (NRM) in the Hotham-Williams subcatchment.

NRM refers to the management of natural resources such as land, water, soils, plants and animals. It brings together landuse planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and the future sustainability of industries such as agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.

Community funded to restore Tunbridge Gully

South 32 have committed nearly \$80,000 towards a community driven project to improve the health of Tunbridge Gully and the Hotham River in Boddington. Funding will enable the removal of invasive weeds, which threaten the biodiversity and ecology of Tunbridge Gully and the Hotham River, with an aim to return the mussels to Tunbridge Gully.

The joint project between South 32, the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council, Friends of the Reserves Boddington (Inc.) and Shire of Boddington, will restore water quality and a thriving ecosystem in Tunbridge Gully, which is infested with the aggressive weed species *Juncus acutus*. Nearly 80 per cent of the project area is overrun with the weeds and the impact is growing as they move downstream into the Hotham River and its associated pools and wetlands. Left unmanaged they will continue their journey

downstream along the Murray River and into the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar Listed Wetlands. Their density can make areas impenetrable, reducing recreational use and replacing native vegetation, which in turn removes food, shelter and shade for native species.

This is an important site for the community, including the local Noongar people as it was historically used as a source of food, including fresh water mussels and berries.

The project will enable Boddington's community, land managers and the Noongar community to work together under the guidance of the PHCC. Ongoing works will be complemented with education and training opportunities including field days and events with local schools and community.

For more see www.peel-harvey.org.au



PHOTO: PHCC Board Members Bob Pond, John Allert and others at Fish Ladder, Boddington

Landowner Grants

Eighteen landowners have been successful in securing funding for fencing, revegetation and weed control through the second round of Rivers 2 Ramsar Project grants administered by the PHCC

Over the past 18 months an investment of over \$500,000 has been made by the PHCC, LGAs and the broader community into NRM outcomes within the Hotham Williams catchment.

Watch this space for further funding opportunities...

www.peel-harvey.org.au/?page_id=4724

PHOTO: PHCC's Kate Barr with Mike Burges from Cuballing. Mike has used his grant to fence two 20ha remnant vegetation sites to exclude stock

Successful Capability Grant

NRM in the Hotham-Williams region has been boosted with the PHCC receiving \$100,000 to help build and foster community NRM and landcare.

This funding is a result of a successful grant application administered by the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program and Royalties for Regions. These funds will help provide additional resources to support and facilitate the community in undertaking landcare and NRM activities.

Coming Up...

AUG TBC Feral Animal Workshop

SEP TBC Black Cockatoo Workshop / Field Day



PHOTO: PHCC's Kate Barr with Mike Burges from Cuballing. Mike has used his grant to fence two 20ha remnant vegetation sites to exclude stock