



Lake Mealup Recovery Project

Lying to the east of the Harvey estuary, Lake Mealup, straddles public and private lands. Collaboratively managed for its conservation values, and culturally significant to Noongars, it forms an integral part of the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar wetlands as an internationally important freshwater habitat for migratory waterbirds. Declining water quality (pH2.6) and loss of the open water body was restored by the return of natural water regimes through installation of an adjustable height water diversion weir, control of the invasive *Typha orientalis* and revegetation of riparian and terrestrial zones.

"After 18 years work as a hydrologist across WA's southwest, this is the most significant achievement I have seen in wetland restoration"

~ Dr Mahtab Ali ~

FUNDING PROGRAM

Caring for Our Country (CfOC)
State NRM

PHCC PROGRAMS

Ramsar Initiative
Filtering the Nutrient Storm I

PHCC PROJECTS

Peel Ramsar Lakes Project
Lake Mealup Recovery Project

FUNDING

CfOC: \$300,000
State NRM: \$180,500 (excludes wages)
Other: \$14,132
Co-contributions (in-kind): \$25,240

STAKEHOLDERS

- Lake Mealup Preservation Society
- Department of Parks and Wildlife

ACTIONS/ACTIVITIES/OUTCOMES:

- Technical design and approvals to divert waters from Mealup Main Drain and development of Adaptive Management Plan
- Adjustable height Diversion weir installed (Dec 2011) - natural water regimes restored
- 53 hectares Typha removed through crushing and spraying – effectively eradicated
- 4.4km fencing of waterways and bushland
- 6,984 seedlings planted in riparian/bushland areas
- 13.5 ha revegetation, 26 ha bushland protected
- Extensive natural recruitment in riparian zones
- 115 volunteers and partners contributed 820 hours
- Off-stream watering point installed
- Community planting and field days
- Annual Technical Advisory meetings (ongoing)