



REGIONAL GOALS

▢ People

▣ Biophysical

▤ Knowledge

Planning, action and community involvement *Reinvigorating Landcare in the Hotham-Williams Catchment*

In 2013 representatives of the Hotham-Williams community approached the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council seeking assistance to reinvigorate landcare in their catchment. Public investment in landcare in the catchment had been limited since 2008 after many years of strong support and on-ground projects. Working with the community through the Hotham and Williams Catchment Environmental Alliance, the PHCC undertook an NRM Business Case Study to recommend what was needed to underpin long-term landcare support in the catchment.

The Study found that a NRM Plan for the catchment was required to identify priorities and strategically guide future public and private investment. The re-establishment of a community-based and supported NRM Officer was equally important.

By 2014, with an NRM Plan under development by the

PHCC and the re-establishment of a NRM Officer in Boddington, community interest and involvement in landcare showed the first signs of growing. In the following year, the first Hotham-Williams NRM Plan was published and rates of on-ground landcare activity were increasing.

Less than four years later, landcare works including fencing of native vegetation, revegetation and weed control have occurred on thirty-seven (37) farms and reserves resulting in 2166 ha of vegetation protected and managed. These on-ground projects have been complemented by twenty-two (22) events to deliver training and raise community awareness and knowledge about key issues such as threatened species and biosecurity.

With the PHCC's technical, governance and administrative support, NRM and landcare is once again firmly part of the Hotham-Williams community.

FUNDING PROGRAM

Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund

PHCC PROGRAM

Rivers 2 Ramsar – Connecting River Corridors for Landscape Resilience

PHCC PROJECT

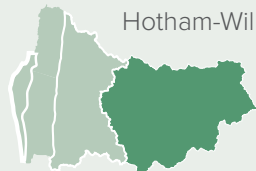
Reinvigorating Landcare in the Hotham-Williams Catchment

FUNDING

Australian Government's Biodiversity Fund	\$890K
Shire of Boddington	\$20K

REGIONAL COVERAGE

Hotham-Williams



STAKEHOLDERS

Shire of Boddington, Shire of Cuballing, Shire of Wandering, Shire of Williams, Shire of Narrogin, community groups and individuals, private landholders

BENEFICIARIES

Local catchment communities, local governments, industry

PROJECT MANAGER

Thelma Crook

STEERING COMMITTEE

Cr John Allert, Peter Hick, Mike Schultz, Bob Pond



PROJECT OUTCOMES

Total NRM investment in the Hotham-Williams catchment since 2014 is \$890,166.

Projects were distributed right across the catchment with NRM projects meeting the needs of both small and large land holdings. The Hotham-Williams community demonstrate how a predominantly agricultural zone can work together to support sustainable land use and the conservation of natural assets for the long term.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- *Hotham-Williams NRM Plan 2015 – 2025* developed to embed ecological and cultural values into NRM planning processes for the long term
- 28 landholders supported to manage and protect 980 ha of land for private conservation over a two year period
- Fencing erected to protect native vegetation and provide linkages in the landscape focusing on riparian zones and bushland stepping stones (10km)
- Revegetation to provide linkages in the landscape focusing on riparian zones and bushland stepping stones (100ha)
- Private land owners contributed over 50% of above project costs to improve biodiversity values in the catchment
- Meetings and consultation with the local Noongar communities to improve cultural engagement in NRM
- Cockatoo workshops to raise awareness of black cockatoo nesting habitats and threats within the upper catchment and encourage further community engagement through monitoring and evaluation

PUBLIC AWARENESS

Workshops including workshops and field days

COLLABORATION

- Business case development: Hotham-Williams Catchment Environmental Alliance
- Delivery of Black Cocky workshops: Birdlife WA, Newmont and South 32
- In-kind support: local governments
- Delivery of on-ground projects: landholders, local community groups and schools

FUTURE ACTIVITIES | PROJECTS (at 2017)

- NLP – TEC landholder grants (NLP)
- NLP – CEG2 and 3 grants (NLP)
- Tunbridge Gully (South32 Worsley Alumina)
- Camballing Reserve (State NRM)
- Ranford Pool projects (South32 Worsley Alumina)
- Noongar training for Wilmen Rangers project (NLP)
- Dryandra 'Farmers 4 Fauna' (NLP)
- Sustainable Ag projects (NLP)
- Feral Pig project (NLP)