

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 31
May 2019



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



Saltbush Field Day

PHCC hosted a Saltbush field day on Monday 8th April on 3 vastly different Saltbush production areas surrounding Cuballing. Dustin McCreery of Chatfields Nursery shared insights and knowledge into the management and benefits of saltbush.

The event was attended by 10 very engaged farmers who were keen to understand site selection and stock management.

Key Saltbush insights included:

- It can make up to 30% of a sheep's diet and can fill the autumn feed gap

- Saltbush is resilient and can be grazed quite hard
- Planting increases production of marginal or salt-affected lands and lowers water tables
- Selection of species/varieties should be based on soil type and location; trial different species in different locations
- Start small to learn how best to fit it into your farm and grazing management
- Anameka Saltbush has been selected for its agronomic traits, palatability to sheep and nutritional value. It needs to be ordered at least 1 year in advance



Dustin McCreery of Chatfields Nursery showing participants the finer points of the Saltbush plant

Feral Cat Workshop "The Cuballing Cougar"

Local Cuballing landholders and residents recently attended a Feral Cat Workshop titled 'The Cuballing Cougar'. We were able to see a live feed of the feral cat trapping that was taking place at the Cuballing and Popanyinning refuse sites.

It was very interesting (and concerning) to learn how feral cats carry diseases such as toxoplasmosis and sarcocystis, which cause ewes to abort lambs and cause cysts in their meat. This results in huge economic losses to sheep farmers.

Working together to control feral cats will help to stop the spread of these

diseases and also help to protect native threatened species, like our precious numbat, from predation.

Thank you to WA Feral Animal Management for running the workshop and to everyone who attended.



1080 Baiting Workshop



Seven proactive farmers completed their 1080 baiting accreditation training at the DPIRD Office in Narrogin on 11th April.

Thank you to Mike Clark from DPIRD who taught landholders how to safely use 1080 to control introduced animals, including foxes, to protect stock and threatened species from being predated.

If you are interested in completing your 1080 training later in the year please contact Christine on 0455 166 780 or christine.townsend@peel-harvey.org.au

The 2019 State NRM Community Stewardship Grants are open!

Supporting community-based projects that serve to protect and restore the local environment. Applications close **Monday 10th June 2019**. More information: www.nrm.smartygrants.com.au

Coming Up...

30 APRIL State NRM Community Stewardship Grants Workshop

Do you have an NRM event you would like us to promote? Please contact Mel Durack at melanie.durack@peel-harvey.org.au or 0455 166 780

