

## Peel-Harvey Estuary Grants



REGIONAL GOALS

People

Biophysical

Knowledge

To improve the condition of the Murray, Serpentine and Harvey Rivers and contribute to improving fish habitat and abundance in the Peel-Harvey Estuary

Funding will enable 3 years of on-ground practical works that will complement other projects, providing a concentrated focus on improving the health of Peel-Harvey waterways through River Restoration works on the Serpentine, Murray and Harvey Rivers that flow into the Estuary. The Project has five components, as listed below and will be delivered in partnership with community and stakeholders:

- 1. Restoring Our Rivers** – traditional River restoration projects including restoration of vegetation, weed control, bank stabilisation, fencing and feral animal control
- 2. Fish Friendly Farms** – build community understanding of, and implement on ground works, to improve fish ecology in the three rivers (with Recfishwest and OzFish Unlimited).
- 3. Stock enhancement of black bream in the Murray River** - building a local capability in aquaculture (with Murdoch University and John Tonkin College)
- 4. Restoring the Harvey River** – improving habitat for native freshwater fish including the smooth marron. (with Harvey River Restoration Taskforce)
- 5. River Health Assessments** – using native fish and crayfish as indicators of river condition (with Murdoch University)

### FUNDING

Western Australian Government through the Royalties for Regions Program (via 2017 State Election commitment) \$750,000

### PARTNERS

Harvey River Restoration Taskforce (HRRT)  
Murdoch University Centre for Fish & Fisheries Research  
OzFish Unlimited  
John Tonkin College  
Greening Australia  
Alcoa Foundation

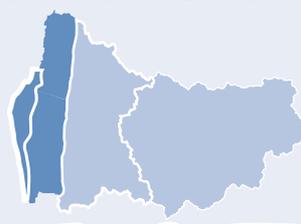
### PROJECT TEAM

Steve Fisher  
Jo Garvey  
Jesse Rowley

### STEERING COMMITTEE

Bob Pond  
Mark Cugley  
Marilyn Gray  
Rob Summers  
Howard Mitchell

### REGIONAL COVERAGE



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Regional Development





PHOTOS: Steve Anderson & Mark Jackson

## OUTCOMES

The project will :

- Improve the condition of the Murray, Serpentine and Harvey Rivers
- Contribute to improving fish habitat and abundance in the Peel-Harvey Estuary through on-ground works
- Involve and inspire the community
- Complement other activities to drive the rehabilitation of the Peel-Harvey waterways including the:
  - Three Rivers, One Estuary Initiative
  - Connecting Corridors and Communities: Restoring the Serpentine River
  - Wetlands and People - a community restoring the ecological character of the Peel-Yalgorup Ramsar 482 Wetlands
  - Regional Estuaries Initiative

## PROJECT ACTIONS

- Onground activities including fencing and biosecurity control measures, riparian and instream restoration and aquatic habitat enhancement
- Setting up an aquaculture program resulting in the release of 5,000 juvenile black bream into the Murray River in each of two years
- Assessing the condition of the rivers draining into the Peel-Harvey estuary using a standardised set of protocols (the South West Index of River Condition) to set a baseline for river condition and measure the effectiveness of on ground works.



## MORE INFORMATION

<https://peel-harvey.org.au/what-we-do/projects/>

## EVENTS

<https://peel-harvey.org.au/events/>