

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 36
October 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.



Woylie and Numbat Recovery in Dryandra

In 2014 there was an estimated numbat population of only 50 in Dryandra Woodland. Their numbers are on the rise and the current upper estimate is 400, however numbat numbers are difficult to estimate. This recovery is due, in part, to the hard work of surrounding landholders controlling feral cats. The woylie population has also recovered to about 8000 after being as low as 350 individuals.

Our Farmers for Fauna Project supports landholders surrounding Dryandra with support to ensure they have the equipment and knowledge needed to safely and successfully control feral cats and foxes on their land. This project is a partnership between PHCC, Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), Project Numbat and the local farmers with support from Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

Mel and Christine recently spoke at the Threatened Species Forum in Geraldton about the Farmers for Fauna Project and

the importance of landholder involvement due to Dryandra having 17 discrete blocks surrounded by farmland.

All of this work contributes to DBCA's Numbat-Woylie project which aims to maintain and build a sustainable woylie and numbat population at Dryandra Woodlands.

We are keen to hear of feral animals culled and threatened species seen in your area. Please contact us to report and to obtain information on the support that PHCC can provide.



PHOTO: A Cuballing farmer snapped this little fella in Dryandra within 50 metres of his farm

Controlling Cotton Bush



Through PHCC's Greening Farms project and in partnership with the Shire of Boddington, we have supported a group of farmers with Narrow-leaf Cotton Bush control in the Williams River reserve and adjacent lands.

An information session was held with landholders at the Quindanning Race Club and Mike Clark from Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's Narrogin office was able to attend and provide resources on common weeds and control information. The farmers have since held a busy bee to spray and hand pull the cottonbush and there will be more over the coming months. Please contact us for more information.

WANTED....Do you have any historic photos of the Hotham and Williams Rivers or any local stories you would like to share (such as what you used to catch in the rivers)? We'd love to hear to hear from you! Contact Kate Barr on 6369 8801 / 0455 166 780 or email nrm.support@peel-harvey.org.au

October is River Health Assessment Month

PHCC Staff and Volunteers will be out and about in October conducting River Action Plan Field Work and River Health Assessments on the Hotham River in Popanyinning and the Hotham River Nature Reserve (north of Popanyinning), Pumphreys Bridge (Wandering), Ranford Pool (Boddington) and Williams River at Quindanning and Williams.

EOIs for Rabbit Virus

The Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus RHDV1-K5 to control wild rabbits is planned to be released towards the end of October.

If you have issues with wild rabbits on your property and would like to be involved please contact: helen.parsons@peel-harvey.org.au or call 6369 8801 or 0455 166 780 by 9th October if you would like to be involved.

Coming Up...

7 OCT Closing Date: Applications for **PHCC Landcare Funding Opportunity**

11-13 OCT **Wetlands Weekender**
<https://peel-harvey.org.au/wetlands-weekender/>

LATE OCT **Rabbit virus release**

*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 or **6369 8801***

We have a new office number for the Hotham-Williams office - 6369 8801. The mobile 0455166780 is still available



These projects are supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, Newmont Goldcorp and the Shires of Boddington, Cuballing, Wandering and Williams

melanie.durack@peel-harvey.org.au

www.peel-harvey.org.au

