

# Landcarematters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together  
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 1  
July 2016

Welcome to the first edition of **Landcarematters** - a monthly update on Natural Resource Management (NRM) in the Hotham-Williams subcatchment. NRM refers to the management of natural resources such as land, water, soils, plants and animals. It brings together landuse planning, water management, biodiversity conservation and the future sustainability of industries such as agriculture, mining, tourism, fisheries and forestry.

## Your NRM Team



Our part-time Hotham-Williams NRM officers, Melanie (Mel) Durack and Kate Barr, have a wealth of local knowledge and experience between them. Mel, who hails from Boddington, has been supporting NRM in the district since she joined the PHCC two years ago. Recently Mel was joined by Kate, also from Boddington, who is undertaking a fixed term contract for the PHCC. If you would like to be on our mail list, please contact Mel via: [hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au)

## Peel Environmental Officers meet in Hotham-Williams

The latest Peel Environmental Officers meeting was held in Boddington. The event included a tour of the Boddington River foreshore and the fish ladder located at the weir. The meeting was an opportunity to highlight some of the work the PHCC, partners and the local community have been able to achieve recently in the Hotham-Williams area.

## Eucalypt Woodlands of the Wheatbelt listed as a TEC

The Eucalypt Woodlands of the WA Wheatbelt were listed nationally on December 2015 as a Threatened Ecological Community (TEC) under Australia's national environment law. The listing protects larger patches of the iconic woodlands that remain in reasonably intact condition.

Southwestern WA is an internationally recognised biodiversity hotspot, known for its diverse and unique

wildflowers and animals. Many are found nowhere else in the world.

We have over 44,000 hectares of Eucalypt Woodlands in the Peel-Harvey catchment, across more than 6000 patches. They characterise our Wheatbelt landscape but large, undisturbed patches are now rare, especially outside of nature reserves.

Our Woodlands are important to local communities, farmers and to the Noongar culture. They help to reduce salinity and

erosion problems, provide shelter for stock, windbreaks for croplands, stabilise topsoil and provide habitat for our native animals, including woodland birds that help to control agricultural pests.

For more information:  
[www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/conservation/hotspots/national-biodiversity-hotspots](http://www.environment.gov.au/biodiversity/conservation/hotspots/national-biodiversity-hotspots)

[www.conservation.org/How/Pages/Hotspots.aspx](http://www.conservation.org/How/Pages/Hotspots.aspx)

## Noongar Participation

We recently met local Elders regarding our Noongar Participation Plan and future projects in the area. PHCC's Mel, Kate and Thelma Crook met with local Elder Geri Hayden to visit an important cultural site. Geri spoke about the Geralling site and its significance to the local community. The PHCC have provided 300 seedlings to plant along the creek at Geralling.



## \*\* News Flash \*\*

**\$100,000** Community Capability Grant announced for Hotham-Williams, more to follow...

### Coming Up...

- JUL 27** Making More from Sheep Workshop in Williams
- AUG TBC** Feral Animal Workshop
- SEP TBC** Black Cockatoo Workshop / Field Day

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Australian Government



*We acknowledge the Noongar people as Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to all Elders past and present*

