

# Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



**PHCC** Working Together  
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 8  
March 2017



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.



## Lions Weir Pool benefits from Funding

Commencement of the rehabilitation of Lions Weir Pool has been made possible through a \$30,000 grant from the State Government's Royalties for Regions Community Chest.

The Shire of Boddington's rehabilitation plan involves the removal of silt to improve water quality and increase opportunities for recreational activities at Lions Weir Pool.

Funding will be used to conduct studies on the Hotham River to determine volume and

quality of silt, and the ecological health of the waterway adjacent to the Lions Weir.

These investigations are key in the planning for the removal of silt adjacent to the Weir, ensuring minimal adverse impact on the ecological health of the river.

The PHCC will continue in-kind assistance to the Hotham-Williams communities with an aim to improving biodiversity values across our catchment



Member for Wagin; Tuck Waldron, Boddington River Action Group's Greg Marston, Member for Central Wheatbelt; Hon Mia Davies, Boddington Shire President John Allert, CEO Chris Littlemore, PDC Chair Paul Fitzpatrick, and PHCC's Mel Durack and Kate Barr

## RHDV-K5 Virus to Control Rabbits

Rabbit control will be under the microscope in the coming months as PHCC partners with the Peel Harvey Biosecurity Group, the Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale and Shire of Cuballing to participate in the initial release of the RHDV-K5 rabbit haemorrhagic disease virus at two sites across the Peel-Harvey Catchment.

Rabbits are estimated to cost over \$200 million in lost agricultural production every year. Rabbits compete with grazing stock for food, contribute to soil erosion and destabilise the structural integrity of the land potentially leading to injury of livestock.

We are pleased to support the Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia in the initial release, which will also involve assessment of current rabbit numbers, ongoing monitoring of release sites, and the coordinated release of the virus to monitor changes in rabbit populations. We urge owners of pet rabbits to discuss vaccination options with their vet, prior to the release of this new virus strain on 6th March.

## Rehabilitated Red-Tails Released

Thursday 23 February marked the release of ten rehabilitated Forest Red Tailed Black Cockatoos in Boddington.

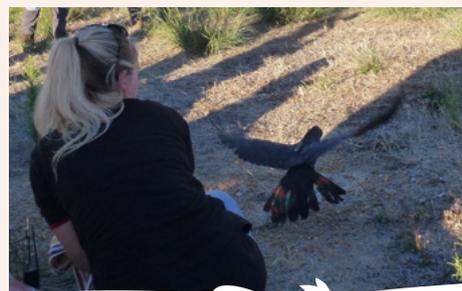
Four of the ten Cockatoos released contain GPS tracking devices, with Murdoch University monitoring their flight behaviours.

PHCC's Mel Durack was invited to attend the release as it builds on PHCC's River 2 Ramsar project objectives in the Upper Catchment.

The release is part of an Australian Research Council project supported by the State of WA through Department of Parks and Wildlife, Newmont Boddington Gold, South32, the Zoological Parks Authority, Murdoch University and Kaarakin – The Black Cockatoo Rehabilitation Centre.

The tail feathers of the released birds have been painted green, so if you see any of these cockys around, please let Mel know, so we can pass this information on.

PHCC regularly hold Cockatoo workshops which cover the need for wildlife corridors and linkages that provide Cockatoo habitat, breeding areas and food sources. Check our events page [www.peel-harvey.org.au](http://www.peel-harvey.org.au)



## Partnership to focus on Numbats and Woylies

An exciting new partnership between PHCC and the Department of Parks and Wildlife will focus on the recovery of Numbat and Woylie populations within Dryandra Woodland. The focus will be on one of the biggest threats - FeralCats. Watch this space for more information...

## Coming Up...

**AUTUMN 2017** Weed workshop and small weed grant

*Do you have an NRM event you would like us to promote? Please contact Mel Durack at [hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:hotham-williams@peel-harvey.org.au) or 0455 166 780*



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Regional Development



natural resource  
management program



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