

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



Edition 49
December 2020



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.



Eco Monitoring in Tunbridge Gully



The annual eco monitoring of transects has been undertaken in Tunbridge Gully (Boddington townsite) to track the success of the native flora and fauna returning to the area. Annual weed control is having great results with the ongoing decline of invasive weed *Juncus acutus* (Spiny rush) throughout

the creekline. The several thousand seedlings which have been planted in the 7 hectare area are maturing and there are the beginnings of a new shaded canopy. There is evidence of native wildlife beginning to return, including the brush tail possum. Kangaroos are in abundance as are, spiders and other small insects, which all aid with the spread of native plant species.

Photo monitoring has also been conducted from the south end of the creekline, to where it meets the Hotham River. Native vegetation has increased dramatically since the start of the monitoring project with the aim of increasing the biodiversity and improving the water quality within the ecosystem.

What's Happening...

The Williams Fox Shoot has recently been held and the 40 attendees eradicated 54 foxes, 5 feral cats, 2 feral pigs and 189 rabbits. PHCC was able to support this great event through our Numbat Neighbourhood Project by funding the breakfast.

If you would like more information on the Williams Fox Shoot you can search for their group on Facebook.

COVID-19 We value the health and safety of our whole community and PHCC is now accepting visitors on an appointment basis only. Please contact us to make a booking via phone on 6369 8801 or 0455 166 780 or via email.

Numbat Dig ID Workshop



Local landholders and interested members of the community attended PHCC's Numbat Dig ID Workshop in Dryandra Woodland on Friday the 13th of November. By learning how to identify numbat traces, landholders can determine if numbats are utilising on farm habitat which can indicate if the numbat population is increasing. This increased trajectory is one of the outcomes of PHCC's Numbat Neighbourhood Project.

This workshop which included in the field searching for digs and scats was presented by Tamara Wilkes-Jones, who has years of

experience being involved in the annual Numbat Dig Surveys. The workshop provided a great opportunity for local landholders to catch up with each other and for PHCC to thank them for the hard work they have been doing controlling feral cats and foxes as well as offer our support. A number of people who attended the workshop managed to spot a numbat on their way through the Woodland.

Our Hotham-Williams team were lucky enough to see three numbats on the way to set up for the workshop!!

Coming Up...

- Stay tuned for an educational video all about **numbats** and how to identify their traces that we are creating with the help of Tangents TV.
- We are looking for expressions of interest to hold a **1080 accreditation course** in February 2021. Please email christine.townsend@peel-harvey.org.au or call 63698801.
- **Pest Control & Bushland Management Workshop** – early 2021
- **Spiny Rush (*Juncus acutus*) control** demonstration site – early 2021

Do you have an NRM event or information you would like us to promote? Please contact Christine Townsend at christine.townsend@peel-harvey.org.au or 0455 166 780 or 6369 8801



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