

# Landcare matters

Lake Clifton Sub-catchment



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

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Lake Clifton Landcare Matters - a bi-monthly update on Natural Resource Management (NRM) in the Lake Clifton 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.

## New Black Cockatoo breeding record in Lake Clifton

We observed the successful rearing of one Carnaby's Cockatoo chick in a "cockatube" in Lake Clifton late last year. Although Lake Clifton is a known breeding area, this is the first official recorded location on the Birdlife/Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA) shared database. The artificial "cockatube" was installed in 2019 on private property and a pair of Carnaby's moved in in September 2020, laid two eggs and raised one chick to fledging age of 10 weeks. Although we didn't see it fledge (as you'll be very lucky to witness that), we are confident that it will survive outside the nest with the help of Mum and Dad. Other artificial and natural nests were checked around Lake Clifton but no other eggs or chicks were observed.

We will resume surveys again next spring

so if you see any Black Cockatoos entering or exiting hollows please let us know so we can come and check them out. Thank you to BirdLife Australia and our volunteers who helped with surveys and big thanks to the property owners who reported use of nests and kept an eye on the birds during the breeding season. We hope to improve the breeding success of the Black Cockatoos next year and into the future with the installation of more nesting hollows, planting of cockatoo food species, and protection of cockatoo habitat.

We are currently looking for private properties that have valuable Black Cockatoo habitat (food & nesting trees) that are interested in fencing it off to protect it. We can provide financial assistance for the fencing costs. Suitable nesting trees include old or dead wandoo, tuart or marri

trees with natural hollows, or food plants such as marri, jarrah, wandoo, sheoak, banksia and hakea. If you have a fencing project in mind please get in touch with us [megan.leroy@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:megan.leroy@peel-harvey.org.au) or 6369 8800.

*This project is supported by PHCC through funding from the Australian Government's*



Photo: Jan Stephens

## The Great Cocky Count



Photo: Keith Lightbody

Lake Clifton hosts a range of local wildlife, with Black Cockatoos being one of the most recognisable. Lake Clifton residents are blessed with frequent sightings of Black Cockatoos flying over-head, showering driveways with honky nuts and most excitably, taking up residence in natural hollows or "cockatubes". Despite these frequent sightings, the Carnaby's Cockatoo population has decreased by over 50% in the last 45 years. Both

of the south west's two white-tailed Black Cockatoo species (the Carnaby's Cockatoo and Baudin's Cockatoo) are listed as endangered species under the Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999, while the Forest Red Tailed Black Cockatoo is listed as Vulnerable.

To help monitor the population of Black Cockatoos, Birdlife WA run 'The Great Cocky Count', a citizen science survey, involving volunteers recording Black Cockatoos flying into roosts sights on a dedicated autumn evening. This year's Great Cocky Count will be held on the 28th of March, the PHCC will be hosting two Cocky Count workshops in the lead up to the count, to train community members interested in taking part, in the survey methodology. For information on these workshops head to our website for details: [www.peel-harvey.org.au/events/](http://www.peel-harvey.org.au/events/)

## Lake Clifton Stewardship Grants

Need assistance with your next Landcare project? PHCC can provide small grants of \$250.00 to \$1000.00 to eligible Lake Clifton landholders registered with Land for Wildlife. Contact our Land Conservation Officer at [Jordan.garbellini@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:Jordan.garbellini@peel-harvey.org.au) or 6369 8800, or visit our website for details [www.peel-harvey.org.au/grants/lake-clifton-stewardship-grants/](http://www.peel-harvey.org.au/grants/lake-clifton-stewardship-grants/)

## Coming Up...

- Feb 11 *Mandurah Great Cocky Count Workshop*
  - Feb 14 *Lake Clifton Great Cocky Count Workshop*
- For event details please visit  
...[www.peel-harvey.org.au](http://www.peel-harvey.org.au)



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