

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 59
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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.



Hotham-Williams Catchment Tour for new Program Manager, Land Conservation

PHCC's new Program Manager, Land Conservation, Karen Bettink was shown around the Hotham-Williams Catchment in October by Christine Townsend and Kristy Gregory. It was a great way of giving Karen a snapshot of the projects and sites that are coordinated and managed by the PHCC Hotham-Williams team.

The day involved visiting some of our Numbat Neighbourhood and proposed River Restoration projects, as well as a landholder site visit.

Site visits are an invaluable part of our work here at PHCC. Project officers can see the sites at different times of the year, conduct photo monitoring, and check on recent project activities.

Karen will be supporting Mel Durack by overseeing PHCC's Land Conservation projects including the Numbat Neighbourhood and Black Cockatoo projects as well as several projects on the Swan Coastal Plain.

Karen has brought with her a wealth of native fauna knowledge, so there was also a stop-off during the catchment tour to look for Rakali tracks, and elusive chocolate bats!

Karen and Kristy visiting the Williams River



Ephemeral Wetlands – Worth Protecting



A shallow ephemeral wetland on a farm near Crossman

With our regions solid rainfall this year has come the opportunity for landowners to identify areas on their land which are prone to inundation, some of which are a little surprising. Shallow depressions like this one some 100m from the Hotham River in Crossman, are not usually this wet, but this year have provided a superb habitat for an abundance of frogs and aquatic invertebrates!

Although often small, ephemeral (short-lived) wetlands like this play an important role in supporting biodiversity and nearby agricultural systems. Many aquatic bugs provide food for insectivorous birds and predatory insects (e.g. wasps) which in turn provide a valuable service towards controlling agricultural pests in crops and on farm animals.

Wetland frogs provide food for heron's, reptiles and many raptors, which all have their place in the landscape's ecosystem. Frogs are commonly referred to as 'Ecosystem Indicators', meaning if you have lots of frogs (and invertebrates) in your wetland, the ecosystem is healthy, more resilient to stress (like extreme temperatures) and likely to benefit agricultural production on adjacent land.

So as the weather warms up and the frogs start to make their noise in the evenings, consider the role these short-lived wetlands play in our catchment and enjoy the sound of the frogs, it won't be long until they, like these small wetlands, dry up.

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As part of our **Numbat Neighbourhood** project we are working with landholders to determine if the range of Numbat's and other threatened species are extending beyond the main Dryandra block

Friday 12th November 2021

Meeting Point: **Dryandra Hall @ 11am**



Please join us for an informative workshop with guest speakers in the following fields:

- Learn how to identify numbat digs and scats to determine if numbats are moving out of Dryandra and onto your property
 - Dryandra fauna update
 - Farmers for fauna update

Enjoy morning tea and lunch with other interested local landholders

RSVP: by 9 November 2021 to Christine Townsend

Call: 6369 8801 | SMS: 0455 166 780 | Email: christine.townsend@peel-harvey.org.au

PHOTO: Karen Bettink



This project is supported by PHCC through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program, South32 and Newmont Boddington

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.

CEG Updates...

2021/2022 Community Environment Grant Applicants have been notified of the outcome of their applications.

We are now in the process of preparing agreements for each project, which will be sent to landholders.

Coming Up...

Up coming Events:

- Boddington District High School Numbat Incursion – December (Closed Event)
- Numbat Dig ID Workshop – Friday 12th November

What's happening:

- Bridal Creeper Spraying within the Boddington Shire (State NRM Grant)
- Black Cockatoo breeding site field work with Birdlife WA (if you think you have Black Cockatoos nesting on your property please let us know)

Do you need assistance with feral animal control?
Contact us regarding:

- 1080 training and assistance with baits
- Loaning cage traps

Please contact us on 6369 8801 or 0455 166 780

Slow Down for Black Cockatoos



You may have seen the Black Cockatoo signs placed by Friends of the Reserves on roadsides within the Shire of Boddington. These signs have been sponsored by PHCC and aim to encourage drivers to safely slow down when Black Cockatoos are on or near the road.

If you come across an injured bird please phone Kaarakin on 9390 2288 or Wildcare on 9474 9055 to locate your nearest wildlife rehabilitator.



These projects are supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program and Environment Restoration Fund, Newmont Boddington, South32 Worsley Alumina and the Shires of Boddington, Cuballing, Wandering and Williams

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