

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

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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.



Warriors in training – Inspiring Wildlife program for Williams school children

The Williams Wildlife Warriors are a group of local Williams children who meet after school to learn all about the wonders of their local environment. PHCC was invited to be local experts and we spoke about native fauna, how important the Williams River is and PHCC’s role in restoring it. We also looked for and learnt about aquatic macroinvertebrates.

Christine, PHCC’s Farmers for Fauna Coordinator, spoke to the Wildlife Warriors about the amazing threatened fauna they have in their local area including woylies, red-tailed phascogales and numbats. We spoke about the threats to these animals and how waterways are important wildlife corridors for these animals. The taxidermy woylie and red-tailed phascogale had their first outing and were a big hit!

The Warriors were keen to learn about the Williams River which flows through their town.

Kristy Gregory, PHCC’s River Restoration Coordinator, spoke about the river environment and how the landscape of the Peel-Harvey Catchment is all connected by its creeks and rivers. PHCC’s Thelma Crook used the catchment model to illustrate how land use activities can have downstream impacts, and the importance of restoring and looking after our precious waterways.

The group took a walk down to the river to look for macro aquatic invertebrates. The students loved looking at and learning about the macro invertebrates and what their presence can tell us about water health. It’s comforting to know that Williams has a keen group of Wildlife Warriors who will grow up to have the local environments best interest at heart.



Numbat Dig ID and Dryandra Fauna Update Workshop



Workshop attendees learning how to identify numbat digs and scats

Local landholders and interested members of the community attended PHCC’s Numbat Dig ID and Fauna Update Workshop in Dryandra Woodland on Friday the 12th of November. PHCC’s Christine Townsend updated attendees on the Farmers for Fauna Project and Megan Leroy (PHCC) spoke on black-cockatoos and her search for nesting hollows. Brian MacMahon (DBCA) provided a Dryandra Woodland Fauna Update

and Tamara Wilkes-Jones (Numbat Niche Consulting) spoke about all things numbats and how to identify numbat digs and scats.

This workshop provided a great opportunity for local landholders to catch up with each other and for us to thank them for the hard work they have been doing controlling feral cats and foxes as well as offer our support.

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Hotham-Williams River Action Plan Site #1 - Let us introduce you to Pumphreys Bridge!

Over the coming months we will be 'introducing' you to the eight sites on the Hotham and Williams (H-W) Rivers that are ear-marked for on-ground restoration projects under the H-W River Action Plan (RAP), developed in partnership with Urbaqua Land and Water Solutions. The first of these is Pumphreys Bridge, located on the Hotham River and nestled amongst agricultural land, where the River intersects the Wandering-Narrogin Road approx. 25km east of Wandering.

The Hotham River is a site of aboriginal significance and is specifically identified as a mythological site by the Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage. The Noongar community used the Hotham River at Pumphreys Bridge during the 20th Century as a permanent campsite and nearby corroboree ground. The Noongar name for the area is Koompkinning, which means 'plenty of water'. The water was fresh enough to drink and provided food including marron and djlgies (Merv Abraham, 2015).

European settlement was determined by agricultural development from the 1830s. John and Isabella Pumphrey settled in the area in 1888 when they built their homestead, which is still there today, across the River from the picnic and informal camping grounds. The original bridge was built in the early 1800s and despite half of it now fallen into the River, it is still a beautiful historic structure, and is likely to remain a feature of the site.

Environmental restoration identified through the RAP recommendations include controlling human and

stock access, revegetation and other methods of bank stabilisation, and collaboration with nearby property owners for implementation of complimentary land management activities.

Partnerships with Newmont and South32 Worsley Alumina are allowing PHCC to prioritise on-ground restoration works, which are being planned for mid-2022 (subject to relevant approvals). For other activities at the site such as stabilisation of the historic bridge and upgrading of the campground facilities, PHCC is looking forward to working directly with the Shire of Wandering who manages the popular recreational area.



Hotham River, Pumphreys Bridge



Old Pumphreys Bridge

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 Agreements have been mailed to landholders. If you have received an agreement with us please return your paperwork as soon as possible so project work can commence. If you have not received your paperwork yet please call the office on 6369 8801.

Coming Up...

Up coming Events:

- Boddington District High School Numbat Incursion – December (Closed Event)

What's happening:

- 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

Please Note: Our office will close at 4pm on Wednesday 22nd December and re-open at 9am Monday 10th January 2022.

We wish our community and project partners a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.



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