

# Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



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

Edition 72  
February 2023



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.



## Boddington Youth get Back to Nature

Boddington Youth learnt all about local native fauna, the Hotham River and Peel-Harvey Catchment Council's (PHCC) role in protecting it when Kristy and Christine from PHCC presented as part of the Boddington Youth Centre School Holiday Program.

Christine, PHCC's Farmers for Fauna Coordinator, spoke about the amazing threatened fauna they have in their local area including woylies, red-tailed phascogales and numbats. Christine spoke about the threats to these species including predation by feral cats and foxes and how by keeping pet cats indoors or building a cat run you can help to protect our precious threatened fauna/Native animals.

Kristy, PHCC's Hotham-Williams River Restoration Coordinator 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.

It was then time for a nature walk along to the river to look for weeds, fauna traces and to see firsthand the importance of riparian vegetation and how in its absence bank erosion can occur. Using a river water sample we looked for aqua macro invertebrates which are a biological indication of river health.

Thank you to the Shire of Boddington for inviting us to be part of the Boddington Youth Centre Holiday Program.



Christine and Kristy with Boddington Youth Centre



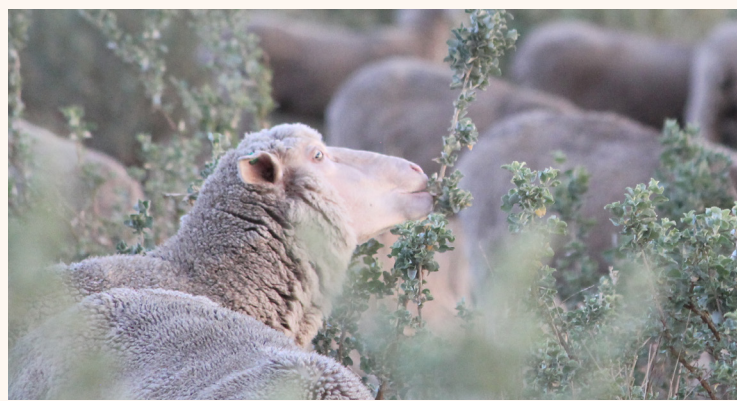
Hotham River Nature Walk

## Saltbush Field Day 16th March-Wandering

Addressing two constraints at once is always better than one, which makes planting saltbush on saline land a perfect solution for declining productivity due to salt as well as providing feed options for the summer feed-gap.

PHCC will run a Saltbush Field Day on Thursday 16th March to provide an opportunity for landholders to discuss the performance of past planting efforts, take a tour of previous plantings from the Greening Farms project and speak to industry representatives like Dustin McCreery from Chatfields Nursery about planting methods, variety performance and future orders.

Keep an eye out for more details coming up, but in the meantime please mark **Thursday 16th March** in your diary and email [mick.davis@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:mick.davis@peel-harvey.org.au) to register your interest in attending.





# Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update

## Greening Farms providing shelter and food for stock

PHCC's Greening Farms program has been helping farmers across the region fence their bushland and plant vegetative cover since 2018. Chad Ferguson and Lockie Coops are our most recent landowners to have completed their projects and they are looking forward to seeing their properties become greener following their efforts to revegetate their properties last year.

Lockie's project in Crossman is about increasing the habitat on his property for wildlife, which backs onto the Hotham River. He has planted 5,268 wetland/riparian species to provide more habitat for frogs and birds in along the bottom of his property.

Chad has completed a 10,000 stem native species/saltbush fodder project on his property in Hastings, which he hopes will reduce waterlogging at the site and bring some productivity back to the area, which he used to crop.

Both these projects are examples of the benefits increasing vegetation cover has for landholders in the Hotham-Williams catchment; in addition to increasing shade, lowering soil temperature and providing shelter for stock.

If you are interested in increasing the cover on your property, or have other plans for your enterprise which you'd like to discuss with our team, give us a call on 6369 8801 or email PHCC at [admin@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:admin@peel-harvey.org.au)



Lockie Coops and Chad Ferguson from the Greening Farms project

## Coming up....

Up coming events:

**WA Feral Cat Symposium**  
13 - 16 February 2023

Tickets are selling fast! To purchase or for more information visit <https://wafcwg.org.au/2023-feral-cat-symposium/>



**WA Feral Cat SYMPOSIUM 2**  
Save the Date  
February 13-16

**WAFCWG**  
WA Feral Cat Working Group  
Protecting our biodiversity

**Event Details**

DATE: 13 - 16 February 2023  
LOCATION: UMA Club, Hackett Drive, Crawley Western Australia  
MON 13: Registration & Sundowner  
TUE 14: Symposium  
WED 15: Symposium  
THU 16: Field Trip - Dryandra

**Theme**  
Progress with meaningful, on-ground work on feral cats, to benefit our native species

**Objectives**

- Increase participants' knowledge of management options for management of feral cats
- Celebrate and share successes so that more stakeholders can be empowered to take action
- Share the latest research of what is successful, and upcoming techniques

**Key Topics**

- On-ground stories of challenges and success
- New and emerging techniques
- Social license and community engagement
- Indigenous Ranger work on Country
- Local council cat laws and wildlife protection

[wafcwg.org.au/2023-feral-cat-symposium](https://wafcwg.org.au/2023-feral-cat-symposium)

Save the date:

Saltbush Field Day Thursday  
16th March in Wandering

More details to come

Email [mick.davis@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:mick.davis@peel-harvey.org.au) to register your interest

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

- 1080 training and assistance with baits
- Loaning cage traps