*We acknowledge the Noongar people as Traditional Custodians of this land and pay our respects to all Elders past and present*

# Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update

PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

Edition 84
March 2024

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.

## Rabbit control - What you can do

European rabbits have a huge impact on the natural environment and agricultural activities. It is estimated that rabbits cost Australian Agriculture $216 million in production losses each year. Rabbits are one of the most widely distributed and abundant animals in Australia. They have a rapid rate of reproduction with a female rabbit becoming sexually mature at just 4 months of age and they can have 5 or more litters per year with up to 5 young in each litter.

To control rabbits on your property you first need to assess and understand the problem and to plan your control methods. There are a number of control methods to choose from including warren destruction, ground shooting, 1080 baiting, RHDV1-K5 rabbit virus release and trapping. Warren destruction can be quite effective as rabbits depend on warrens to shelter from the heat and to provide protection from predators. There is no silver bullet for rabbit control, control efforts need to be coordinated and ongoing with the greatest success achieved when neighbouring property owners are involved.

The Pestsmart website has some great resources on rabbits and their control including the comprehensive Glovebox Guide which is available on their website or you can pop into PHCC's Boddington Office for your free copy.

Link: https://pestsmart.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/03/CISS-Glovebox-Guide-Rabbit-web.pdf

*Image: European rabbit, DAFWA*

## River restoration works commence

Pumphreys Bridge and Williams River Restoration site works have commenced and are anticipated to be completed by the end of March, 2024.

With over 5 years of consultation, planning and collaboration with stakeholders and we are excited to begin the initial stages of restoration work at two of the priority sites, Pumphreys Bridge and Williams River.

Be sure to keep an eye out for updates on social media. PHCC will keep the community up to date with the projects' progress and share with you each milestone as they occur.

*Rehabilitation material at Pumphreys Bridge and Williams Rocks kindly donated by Newmont*

## Coming up...

Mulloon Institute Landscape Planner Lance Mudgway and PHCC are holding an interactive workshop on Landscape Hydration.

This workshop will be held on Thursday 21 March at 9am.

Register to secure your place: https://peel-harvey.org.au/events/landscape-rehydration-workshop-quindanning/

victoria.brockhurst@peel-harvey.org.au
www.peel-harvey.org.au

These projects are supported by the Peel-Harvey Catchment Council through funding from Newmont, South32 Worsley Alumina and the Shires of Boddington, Cuballing, Wandering and Williams.