

# Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC  
Working Together

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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.



## Native Animals Caught on Camera

The Defending Dryandra Cameras are not just monitoring for feral cat activity but also provide an insight into the native fauna that can be found on farms that surround Dryandra Woodland National Park. Fauna captured on camera so far include a numbat, chuditch, brush-tailed possums, echidna, kangaroos, quenda and bush-stone curlew.

These 4G cameras have been essential for providing



real-time monitoring of feral cats enabling our pest animal control contractor to plan the control efforts they undertake. Since August 2024 40 feral cats and 22 foxes have been culled on the 3 properties involved in the project. This control is helping to reduce threats to Dryandra's fauna.

*This Defending Dryandra - Feral Hotspots Project is supported by funding from the State Government's Feral Cat Management Grants.*



## New Horizons - Soil testing for efficient fertiliser application

The Healthy Estuaries WA project is a program that has been running on the Swan Coastal Plain area since 2020, aimed at reducing nutrient run-off into the water that feeds into the Peel-Harvey Estuary. We are now able to offer a variation of this program to parts of the upper catchment on grazing pastures or hay through New Horizons.

New Horizons aims to promote best practice, evidence-based fertiliser decisions in high rainfall pastures. Supporting farm profitability and reducing environmental risk.

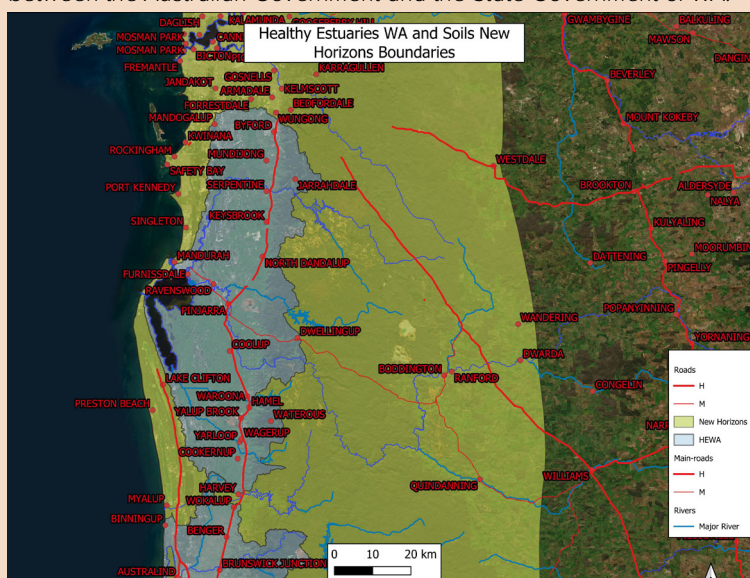
Producers who fall within the >550ml rainfall zone (see map attached for eligible zone), who commit to the program with a \$300 contribution to the soil analysis, will receive detailed analysis with comprehensive paddock by paddock whole farm nutrient mapping of the results. This will provide accurate data on what levels of soil amendments are needed, helping producers manage the paddock and spend their dollars and their products more efficiently.

You will be provided training to take representative soils samples with equipment that can be loaned or purchased. You will be invited to attend the "Grow Your Profits" event to interpret your results and learn more about key macronutrients, along with

a number of other opportunities such as an Accu-spread field day and various soil health workshops.

If you would like to register to participate or would like to know more, please contact Gen Harvey, our Healthy Farms Project Officer at 0438 605 112 or [genevieve.harvey@peel-harvey.org.au](mailto:genevieve.harvey@peel-harvey.org.au)

*The Soils – New Horizons project is a bilateral partnership agreement between the Australian Government and the State Government of WA.*



*Click on map to expand*  
Light blue shaded area existing Healthy Estuaries WA zone, light green shaded area eligible for New Horizon program



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## Weedy Wattles

The yellow wattle flower coupled with green-hued leaves is iconically Australian. But not all wattles are equal when it comes to where they are growing!

These photos are taken near the Hotham River in Boddington and are of *Acacia iteaphylla* 'Flinder's Range wattle' and *Acacia decurrens* 'black wattle', both of which belong in Eastern Australia. *Acacia longifolia* or 'Sydney golden wattle' is another common species. In WA, these wattles tend to seed prolifically, and are considered a weed due to their ability to colonise an area to the detriment of local species.

These **non-native** wattles are also short lived and can pose a significant fire hazard when they start to naturally senesce. The trick is to get rid of large **non-native** specimens when you come across them, which may involve chainsaws and mulching. Make sure it is before flowers and fruit develop, usually during the second half of the year. When the wattles are small, they can easily be hand-pulled, and it is important to stay on top of them when they are in the small stages of growth.



*Acacia iteaphylla* 'Flinder's Range wattle'

Black wattles in particular can get very large, and when cut down, they can be used for firewood.

We have some lovely WA wattles species, including *Acacia saligna* and *Acacia pulchella*, and these are excellent to use in revegetation projects. Check out other WA local wattles on the Florabase website by typing 'Acacia' into the Search Names field at the top of the home page. There is a whole list you can look through including photos and descriptions, by clicking on the leaf icon next to each species name.

#plantgeeksarecool



*Acacia decurrens* 'black wattle'

## National Volunteer Week

This year's National Volunteer Week was celebrated from 19 to 25 May, 2025. This year's theme, 'Connecting Communities' highlights the incredible work volunteers do to support PHCC from planting days, event support, office work and any other task we throw their way!

Interested in joining our volunteer team? We'd love to hear from you. <https://peel-harvey.org.au/get-involved/volunteer-with-us/>



**Newmont**

**SOUTH32**

These projects are supported by PHCC through funding from Newmont Boddington, South32 Worsley Alumina and the Shires of Boddington, Cuballing, Wandering and Williams.

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