

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.

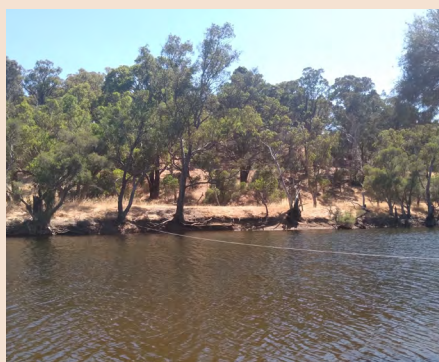


Cyclone Narelle in the Works

Cyclone Narelle threw a giant spanner in our Hotham River works scheduled for late March. While the cyclone itself didn't reach Boddington, projected water flows made us have a closer look and ultimately decide to defer works until next year.

River rehabilitation is the modification of the banks using a combination of re-sloping, rocks and provide woody debris to create a surface over which water can travel safely without risk of erosion and to habitat for the flora and fauna that live in and near the river. 'Rehab' sometimes involves adding structures that can be used by humans without impacting the fragile environment in a negative way.

The plan was to carry out our next stage of works for restoring the river, on the banks opposite to the public reserve area, focussing on over half a kilometre of compacted and largely bare banks, but for the paperbarks and flooded gums clinging to the edges.



Riverbank at Ranford Pool – opposite public reserve area

By mid-March the rocks and logs had been delivered, the contractor was booked, and the ground staff were poised for action. Most importantly, the local Elders and Knowledge Holders were ready to Welcome us and be part of returning a piece of the river to a healthier version of itself. Then came the forecast of 100mm local rainfall and a possible 1m rise in river levels. So, in the name of safety and caution, we called it – we should not go ahead with on-ground works at this time. But this certainly did not mean cancelling plans entirely - we will recommence next season when the water is at its lowest point.

How beautiful is the Hotham River? It's not often we get waterways this size in drier parts of the southwest. Just look at the wide-spanning and chilly-deep Ranford Pool, and the curving streams through the nest of paperbarks and flooded gums down to the town bridge and the pool above the weir. Notice the long, winding connection with Country upstream through farmland to Pumphreys Bridge - another Cultural place of meeting located on a Dreaming track. Not only do we need to protect these precious areas, but we also need to restore them – for acknowledgement of Culture & Country, for community access to natural areas, and for the flora and fauna that call it home.

In the coming months, take a stroll to the waterside at Ranford Pool and look towards the other

side of the river – notice the grandmother trees in need of care and attention, waiting for the next generation to grow around them. And then check it out again this time next year when we have begun the process of doing just that, starting with work on the riverbank itself.

Read the full article here:
<https://peel-harvey.org.au/cyclone-narelle-in-the-works/>



Example of using logs on riverbanks – Pumphreys Bridge



Example of using rocks on riverbanks – Williams

This project is supported by funding from the Western Australian Government's State NRM Program. This project is also supported by Newmont (Boddington)

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Numbat – Photo by Rob McLean (Numbat Task Force)

Great Results for April Numbat Drive Survey

PHCC is proud to jointly fund a twice-yearly numbat drive survey in Dryandra Woodland National Park coordinated by Dr Tony Freind with support from the Numbat Task Force.

The result from the recent April Drive Survey were 23 numbat sightings. The population is proving to be steady with previous year's results being 2025-24, 2024-19, 2023-24, 2022-23 and 2021-28 individual numbats.

This is great news for Dryandra's numbat population. We'd like to thank Dr Tony Friend and the Numbat Task Force for all of the volunteer hours they put in to carrying out this important monitoring of numbats in Dryandra Woodland National Park.

This project is jointly funded by the Australian Government, PHCC, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel, and Foundation for Australia's Most Endangered Species Ltd.

Field Walk in Quindanning Pasture Resilience in Practice

Field Walk in Quindanning
Pasture Resilience in Practice

Friday 19 June
9am to 11am



Friday 19th June | 9am – 11am

Join us for a walk and talk at a farm in Quindanning which has been trialling cover cropping & multispecies pastures through our Future Ready Farming Project.

Productive Ecology's Agroecologist Mark Tupman will run through the planning and implementation of the demonstration site and future plans.

- RSVP essential by 16 June
- Morning tea will be provided
- Address will be provided on registration
- Contact: Georgina Warden georgina.warden@peel-harvey.org.au Ph 6369 8800

This event is supported by the Australian Government through funding from the Natural Heritage Trust under the Climate-Smart Agriculture Program

Fox Traps to Loan

Did you know that PHCC has fox traps to loan to landholders?

There has recently been an increase in fox activity reported to PHCC by landholders in our region. Foxes are a huge threat to agriculture and native animals. Foxes injure and kill livestock, chickens and are a primary cause of decline and extinction of native fauna.

There are a number of management strategies to control foxes including trapping, baiting and ground shooting. The Glovebox Guide for Managing Foxes is a great resource to help you plan a management strategy for controlling foxes on your property. You can drop into the PHCC Boddington Office to grab a copy or visit <https://pestsmart.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/09/CISS-Glovebox-Guide-Fox-web.pdf>

If you would like to loan a fox trap contact PHCC's Farmers for Fauna Coordination christine.townsend@peel-harvey.org.au. If you have a property near Dryandra Woodland National Park contact Christine to learn how you may be eligible to have a contractor conduct free fox and feral cat control on your property. PHCC are able to support landholders with pest management through the Farmers for Fauna Project with funding from the Numbat Neighbourhood Project.



This project is funded by the Australian Government Natural Heritage Trust and delivered by PHCC, a member of the Commonwealth Regional Delivery Partners panel

Coming Up

June 9

Feral Pig Management Workshop – Williams

<https://www.trybooking.com/DKSFJ>

June 19

Field Walk in Quindanning – Pasture Resilience in Practice

georgina.warden@peel-harvey.org.au or Ph 6369 8800