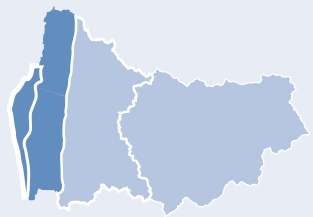


REGIONAL COVERAGE



Ramsar Wetlands
Coastal Plain

LOCATION

The Bilya Maadjit (Murray River) is the largest river in the Bindjareb Djilba (Peel-Harvey Estuary) Catchment with its sub-catchment encompassing approximately 8,300 km². The Waangaamaap Bilya (Serpentine River) has a smaller catchment area of 664 km². Together with the Harvey River, the rivers are fed by a network of more than 4,000 km of smaller streams, the vast majority (> 99%) of which are in a degraded condition due to poor land use planning decisions. All three rivers drain directly into the Bindjareb Djilba (Peel-Harvey Estuary), part of the Peel-Yalgorup Wetlands recognised under the Ramsar Convention as a wetland of international importance (Ramsar Site 482).



KEY DELIVERABLES

Community Engagement

- 6 events/workshops and 6 field training days held to increase skills and knowledge of local community with over 1200 participants.

Noongar Participation

- 10 consultations and cultural knowledge sharing activities with Elders, Bindjareb leaders and community.
- 12 activities engaging and training 11 Winjan Bindjareb Boodja Rangers in restoration works including weed control, revegetation, fauna and vegetation monitoring, maintenance and seed collection.

On-ground Activities

- Bilya Maadjit (Murray River) Action Plan reviewed and updated to inform on-ground works priorities.
- >2250ha managed for biosecurity threats including feral pigs and weed control.
- >30ha riparian and bushland corridor areas improved through restoration activities to improve the condition, connectivity, and biodiversity of habitat.
- >21,000 seedlings planted across revegetation projects.
- 10 rubbish removal events held and annual community wide ‘clean-up’ month supported.
- 4.9km of fencing installed to protect waterways and facilitate natural regeneration.
- 4 landholders engaged in in-stream restoration and habitat enhancement.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- 6 River Health Assessments completed at 3 Sites on Bilya Maadjit (Murray River).
- 4 Ecological Vegetation Monitoring sites established and maintained.
- 2 Fish Community Index Surveys completed for Bindjareb Djilba (Peel-Harvey Estuary) including Bilya Maadjit (Murray River) and (Waangaamaap Bilya (Serpentine Rivers).



“We will use the River Action Plans to guide us in our future restoration works for the Serpentine and Murray rivers. By setting a baseline for the current condition of the river, the plans will enable us to measure the improvement in river health as a consequence of our actions. Improvements in condition of the Murray River will also complement PHCC’s efforts in protecting the values of the Peel-Harvey Estuary. The Estuary is a major component of the Peel-Yalgorup Wetlands System, recognised under the Ramsar Convention as a Wetland of International Importance due to the habitat it provides for waterbirds including migratory shorebirds, fish and invertebrates and threatened ecological communities”

~ Caroline Knight, PHCC Chair ~