

Landcare matters

Hotham-Williams sub-catchment update



PHCC Working Together
Peel-Harvey Catchment Council

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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.



Hot in the Shade

A recent visit to the River Action Plan site on the Williams River in Quindanning highlighted the importance of shade along our rivers.

'Grandmother' paperbarks of a size you don't often see were providing gorgeous, lush shade under which the temperature was markedly cooler; check out the photos. The needles (leaves) and bark that had dropped on the ground also provided resilience to weed germination, which often peaks during times of stress when native plants are struggling. The cooler temperature means that pools are protected from evaporation and can provide important areas of refuge, particularly in the current alarmingly dry conditions.

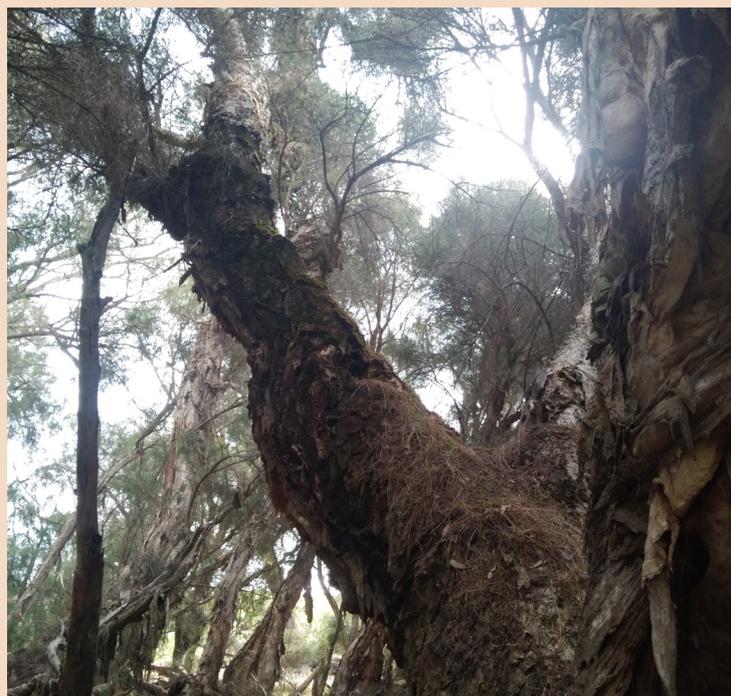
In contrast was the open, sunny, and exposed area at the same site a mere 200m away. The vegetation there was under incredible stress, and last year we started planting paperbarks to eventually provide shady trees in that patch. The seedlings were still hanging on for dear life, but it will be a number of years before they are big enough to have an impact.

The moral of the story is, keep the shade you have and plant more! The ecosystem services provided by native vegetation free of charge is beyond any economic value we can attribute to it.

Hotham and Williams Rivers projects in the upper catchment are funded through partnerships with both South32 Worsley Alumina and Newmont Australia (Boddington)



Images: Williams River in Quindanning



Coming up...



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AUSTRALIA'S LEADING BIOCHAR EXPERT

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10am to 4pm, Busselton

WE WILL COVER

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This one day workshop is led by Prof Joseph Stephen, considered to be Australia's leading expert on biochar.

This is a FREE event.
Morning tea and lunch provided

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- ✔ Is there evidence that biochar works?
- ✔ What biochar works best for you?
- ✔ How can you access biochar?



To register scan the QR Code or contact GeoCatch www.geocatch.asn or call on 0491 069 078

Limited tickets - Secure your place today

Ag News.. Check out this exciting project "WaterSmart Dams – Making Dams Work Again" being coordinated by the Grower Group Alliance: <https://www.gga.org.au/activity/water-smart-dams/>



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.

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