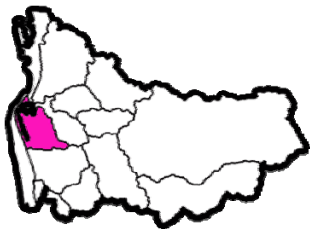
HARVEY (ESTUARY DRAINS) SUB-CATCHMENT



KEY ASSETS

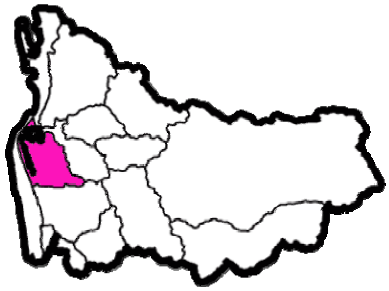
- Adjacent Peel-Harvey estuary is part of the internationally significant Ramsar listed Peel-Yalgorup system.
- Other wetlands of national (Lake McLarty) or regional (Lake Mealup) significance.
- Extensive nature reserves with salt-marsh fringing the estuary provide bird feeding or nesting grounds.
- General productivity of Pinjarra soil landscape zone for grazing
- Peel Regional Park (developing)
- Scattered threatened ecological communities, priority flora and fauna.
- Goodale Private Reserve
- Community groups including Coolup LCDC and associated support bodies.

ISSUES

- Continuing algal blooms particularly in lower part of Harvey Estuary.
- Rapid transport of nutrients within artificial drainage network.
- Eastern site of estuary is relatively little developed but likely to be subject to pressure following the construction of Peel Diversion (highway).
- Potential for exposure of acid sulfate soils within areas of Vasse estuarine or lacustrine deposits, and subsequent effect on water quality and aquatic biodiversity.
- Loss and degradation of Swan Coastal Plain wetlands

PRIORITY PROJECT NEEDS

- Environmental planning for protection of natural resource assets on the eastern side of Peel-Harvey Estuary.
- Drainage Reform (changes to management and widespread modifications to drains to achieve water quality benefits)
- Development of a management plan for the RAMSAR listed Peel-Yalgorup Wetland System.
- Reinvigoration of programs for use of soil amendments / conditioners
- Peel-Harvey Green Corridors (linkages between biodiversity assets)
- Acid Sulfate Soils research
- Survey of recreational uses of the estuary
- Establishing and monitoring condition of soil health on the coastal plain (including soil acidity, fertility, and salinity).
- Assisting adoption of agricultural best management practices
- Implementing existing foreshore management plans



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