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WetlandLink proudly supported and produced by WetlandCare Australia.

WetlandCare Australia would also like to acknowledge the Australian Government NHT for initiating this project.

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Wetland Restoration

Rehabilitation Continues in Penrhyn estuary (NSW)

As part of major port expansion works at Port Botany in New South Wales, Sydney Ports Corporation is spending approximately \$8million to rehabilitate and expand Penrhyn Estuary. Commencing in June 2008, works have included construction of a temporary bird roosting island, strategic mangroves removal and transplant from the estuary, collection of over 200,000 saltmarsh seeds for propagation and replanting within the estuary. Once complete the works will provide an ongoing and secure habitat for migratory shorebirds, saltmarsh and seagrass.

Works will soon commence on beach nourishment, revegetation, land recontouring and creation of intertidal flats as well as a variety of public recreational facilities including a boat ramp, pedestrian footpath and road overpass over Foreshore Rd.

[Click here for more information on Penrhyn estuary rehabilitation](#)

www.sydneyport.com.au

Rehabilitation of Burdekin's billabongs and Bowling Green Bay catchments (Qld)

The Rehabilitation of Burdekin's billabongs and Bowling Green Bay catchments project aims to raise awareness and to rehabilitate and protect priority wetland sites across the Burdekin floodplain, an important northern Queensland wetland directly connected to the Great Barrier Reef (a World Heritage area) and Bowling Green Bay (a Ramsar wetlands site). The project will also implement on-ground works to address these issues at priority sites. For more information email [Diana Odonnell](mailto:Diana.Odonnell@bdtprm.org.au) from the [Burdekin Dry Tropics NRM](#) or call on 074724 3544.

diana.odonnell@bdtprm.org.au

<http://www.burdekindrytropics.org.au/>

Scientist to restore special wetlands (Qld)

An environmental scientist with international experience is on a mission to restore 42 important wetlands in the Burnett Mary region. Project Co-ordinator with WetlandCare Australia Rachael Nasplezes started work this month as their full time staff member dedicated to the region. Mrs Nasplezes said she would use her experience to oversee the rehabilitation of high priority wetlands, especially on private land.

[Read more about restoring wetlands in the Burnett Mary region](#)

<http://www.bmrq.org.au/information.php/2/106/286>

Fishers for fish habitat

A new educational project called Fishers for Fish Habitat was launched by the Minister for Primary Industries Ian Macdonald which aims to get more recreational anglers involved in boosting native fish numbers. The project will culminate in the first NSW Fish Habitat Forum in June 2009. For information on the project, hosting information session in your local area, or the forum, please contact [Charlotte Jenkins](mailto:Charlotte.Jenkins@dpi.nsw.gov.au), Conservation Manager, NSW DPI 02 6626 1107 or charlotte.jenkins@dpi.nsw.gov.au

[Read more about the Fishers for Fish Habitat project](#)

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/news/recent-news/fishing-and-aquaculture/fishers-for-fish-habitat>

Wetland Management

Scientific experts to advise on water use for Murray-Darling Basin rivers and wetlands

A panel of scientific experts has been appointed to advise the federal government on the use of water purchased to restore the rivers and wetlands of the Murray-Darling Basin. The Environmental Water Scientific Advisory Committee will provide advice to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. The committee will provide expert advice on setting environmental watering priorities, monitoring the benefits of environmental flows, and identifying knowledge gaps.

[See the details about the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder](#)

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/environmental/cewh/>

Progress review of Living Murray Initiative

The Murray-Darling Basin Authority will commission an independent review to verify water recovered under the [Living Murray Initiative](#) and its capacity to protect icon sites along the river.

[Read more about the Progress review of Living Murray Initiative](#)

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/wong/2008/mr20081202a.html>

<http://www.thelivingmurray.mdbc.gov.au/>

Ground-breaking report released on Murray-Darling Basin

The final report for the Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields project has been released. Minister for Climate Change and Water, Senator Penny Wong said the report - the culmination of 18 months of research by CSIRO - would be an invaluable resource in helping restore the system to health. To view the key findings of the report [click here](#).

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/wong/2008/mr20081124.html>

[Download a copy of the Murray-Darling Basin Sustainable Yields Report](#) <http://www.environment.gov.au/water/mdb/yields.html>

Action to protect wetlands and endangered fish in Tasmania

Federal Environment Minister, Peter Garrett has acted to protect a Ramsar site and endangered fish (the golden galaxias - a fish which only occurs in Lake Crescent and the connected Lake Sorell) by refusing a request to release more water from Lake Crescent in Tasmania, using his powers under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act).

[Read the full article "Minister acts to protect wetlands and endangered fish" here](#)

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/garrett/2008/mr20081120j.html>

Wetlands Under Threat

Wetland fears curb Gngangara water rights (WA)

The West Australian

The Water Corporation's bid to draw at least 140 gigalitres from the Gngangara mound this year has been rejected amid concerns wetlands across Perth could dry out as a result of the strain on the

groundwater system. [Click here http://portal.water.wa.gov.au/portal/page/portal/home/LatestNews](http://portal.water.wa.gov.au/portal/page/portal/home/LatestNews) to read the media statement from the Department of Water (WA) here.

[Read the full "Wetland fears curb Gnangara water rights" article](#)

<http://www.thewest.com.au/default.aspx?MenuID=77&ContentID=109206>

Around the World

Land reclamation destroyed wetlands in South Korea

A report by [Birds Korea](#) and the [Australasian Wader Studies Group](#) has condemned a large South Korean land reclamation project, saying it has destroyed wetlands, killed migratory birds and pushed endangered species towards extinction. The Saemangeum land reclamation project covers about 400 square kilometres, which the report claims as removing one of the largest feeding grounds on the Yellow Sea for thousands of migratory birds. Many migratory birds travelling between the northern and southern hemispheres congregate at their only refuelling stop at the Yellow Sea tidal flats. The study says that within the reclaimed area there has been a decline of 137,000 shorebirds.

[Read the full "Land reclamation destroyed wetlands in South Korea" article](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2008/10/26/2401622.htm>

<http://www.birdskorea.org/Habitats/Wetlands/Saemangeum/BK-HA-Saemangeum-Mainpage.shtml>

<http://www.awsg.org.au/>

Ramsar COP10 enters history

The 10th meeting of the Conference of the Parties drew to a conclusion on 4 November in Changwon, Korea. Thirty-two of the 33 draft Resolutions were adopted in one form or another. The Changwon Declaration, a blueprint for the future of wetlands, intended to alert readers in other sectors on the importance of wetland wise use for their work was one of the results of the Convention.

[Go to the Ramsar Bulletin Board](#)

http://www.ramsar.org/index_bulletin.htm

Wetland Resources

NEW saltwater wetland rehabilitation manual

The NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) has recently published a Saltwater Wetland Rehabilitation Manual which aims to increase knowledge and understanding of saltwater wetlands and to be a key resource in the field of rehabilitation and management. The manual focuses on the rehabilitation of wetlands influenced by brackish or saline waters (including swamp forests, saltmarshes, mangrove forests and seagrass beds). To obtain free copies of the saltwater wetland rehabilitation manual contact [Kerryn Stephens](mailto:Kerryn.Stephens@environment.nsw.gov.au) Kerryn.Stephens@environment.nsw.gov.au on 02 4224 9639 .

Rural landholder's guide to environmental law in New South Wales (2nd ed.)

The rural landholder's guide to environmental law in NSW aims to help landholder's understand their legal rights and obligations as a landholder and to manage land in accordance with environmental and natural resource management law. To download the publication or order copies go to the Environmental Defenders Office (NSW) [publications page](#).

<http://www.edo.org.au/edonsw/site/publications.php#landholder>

Other Wetland News

New south-east New South Wales wetland network

A new project is underway in south-east NSW, the 'Wetland Carers Network'. The Natural Resources Advisory Council funded project is being managed by [Conservation Volunteers Australia](http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au) (<http://www.conservationvolunteers.com.au>) (CVA) and run with the support of the Southern Rivers CMA, Councils and Landcare groups located from Wollongong to the Victorian border. The Network aims to support individuals and community groups caring for wetlands by surveying for training needs, providing training and opportunities to link up with others working in wetland protection and rehabilitation, a quarterly Wetland Cares Network Newsletter and a two day get together in June 2009. Anyone working to rehabilitate or care for wetlands, creeks or soggy bogs is invited to join the Network. Contact [Susan Rhind](mailto:srhind@conservationvolunteers.com.au) at CVA on 024228 9246 or srhind@conservationvolunteers.com.au

'Wetlands and Waterways' poetry competition unearths Avon's bush poets (WA)

A wetlands and waterways poetry competition held by the Department of Water as part of the Avon Ribbons of Blue project has brought some budding Henry Lawson's to the surface.

[View the winning 'Wetlands and Waterways' poetry entries here](#)

Wetland Research

Value of satellites recognised for conserving wetlands

Science Daily

The European Space Agency (ESA) [GlobWetland project](http://www.globwetland.org) (<http://www.globwetland.org>) was carried out from 2003 to 2008 in order to demonstrate how employing satellite data can support the inventorying, monitoring and assessing of wetland ecosystems. The findings of the project were presented at the Ramsar Conference at a side event and ESA announced it will initiate a follow-on GlobWetland project, planned for 2009. Take a look at the GlobWetland project, videos, fieldwork photos, and WebGIS by [clicking here](#) (<http://www.globwetland.org>).

[Read the full "tropical wetlands hold more carbon than temperate wetlands" article](#)

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/11/081114091836.htm>

Conserving Victoria's coastal saltmarshes

Professor Paul Boon, from the Institute for Sustainability & Innovation at Victoria University in Melbourne, leads an NHT-funded project to help address the decline in extent and condition of coastal saltmarshes. The project will provide the first comprehensive State-wide assessment of Victoria's coastal saltmarshes, assess the extent and condition of existing saltmarsh remnants, identify specific threats to the survival of these communities and, most importantly, provide clear strategic guidance to management authorities regarding required on-ground actions to halt the decline. For more information on this project please contact [Professor Paul Boon](mailto:Paul.Boon@vu.edu.au) (03) 9365 2210 or Paul.Boon@vu.edu.au.

Mangrove and saltmarsh - at risk with sea-level rise

Researchers from the NSW DECC are investigating the response of mangrove and saltmarsh to environmental variables, including sea-level rise, which has been identified as a process that threatens the long-term stability of saltmarsh, an Endangered Ecological Community in NSW. A monitoring program established in eight estuaries in 2000 has already determined the role of sedimentation, inundation, rainfall and groundwater in maintaining the surface elevations of marshes. Data will be used in a predictive model to determine the response and distribution of the two communities within a range of sea-level rise scenarios. For further information, contact [Neil Saintilan](mailto:neil.saintilan@environment.nsw.gov.au), neil.saintilan@environment.nsw.gov.au or Kerrylee

Inundation and vegetation mapping of inland wetlands

The Macquarie Marshes and Gwydir Wetlands are of international significance and support a rich diversity of fauna, often in very high abundance. However the distribution and condition of these environments is influenced by complex interactions. Researchers from the NSW DECC are undertaking studies to monitor and determine the condition of the wetlands, which includes mapping vegetation communities and inundation patterns. For more information contact [Rachael Thomas](mailto:Rachael.Thomas@environment.nsw.gov.au):

Rachael.thomas@environment.nsw.gov.au or [Sharon Bowen](mailto:Sharon.Bowen@environment.nsw.gov.au):
Sharon.bowen@environment.nsw.gov.au

WetlandCare Australia News

Wetland Wiki launched!

WetlandCare Australia invites you to join the wetland wiki community by logging onto www.wiki.wetlandlink.com.au, a new collaborative website where you can create, edit, exchange ideas and contribute to the latest wetland news and information (its like Wikipedia® for wetlands).

Wiki visitors are invited to browse around the site and add to or edit the wetland content. Getting started is simple and clear instructions are provided on the main page. For more information or help please contact the wiki team by email: <mailto:wiki@wetlandcare.com.au>

Do you have a Montane Wetland?

WetlandCare Australia is looking for landholders on the New England Tablelands who are interested in protecting and rehabilitating wetlands on their property.

The Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority (NRCMA) has generously provided WetlandCare Australia with funding to work with landholders to manage and restore Montane Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) Wetlands within the NRCMA area. Funding will be allocated to landholders through a tender process early in 2009.

For further information or nomination forms click here http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/news_detail.asp?articleid=692&zoneid=1 or contact [Adam Gosling](mailto:Adam.Gosling@wetlandcare.com.au) on 02 6681 6169 <mailto:adamgosling@wetlandcare.com.au>

Third stage of the 'Threatened fauna – habitat enhancement and threat abatement' project

WetlandCare Australia is commencing the third stage of the 'Threatened fauna – habitat enhancement and threat abatement' project funded by the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority. Stage 3 of the project will continue to focus on the four main target species - Bush Stone Curlew, Barking Owl, Brush Tailed Rock Wallaby and Green and Golden Bell Frog. Landholders who have suitable habitat they would like to manage for the conservation of the target species are encouraged to contact [Josh Keating](mailto:Josh.Keating@wetlandcare.com.au) on 02 66 525 589

joshkeating@wetlandcare.com.au

[Read more on the 'Threatened fauna – habitat enhancement and threat abatement' project](http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/projects_living_detail.asp?articleid=678&zoneid=54)

http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/projects_living_detail.asp?articleid=678&zoneid=54

WetlandCare Australia national art competition launch at Boondall wetlands centre, Brisbane

On Sunday 1st of February 2009, at 2pm the Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre will be hosting the Opening Exhibition and Award

Ceremony of the WetlandCare National Art Competition 2009. Refreshments will be provided at the event, and bookings are essential. Contact the [Boondall Wetlands Environment Centre](http://www.boondallwetlandsenvironmentcentre.org/) <http://www.mountainstomangroves.org/01/cms/details.asp?ID=126> on 07 34031490 for more information.

Wetland assessment training a success in NSW

With funding from the NSW Environmental Trust, WetlandCare Australia has trained 65 people along the NSW coast this month in a wetland health assessment technique designed for land managers and community groups. Participants at workshops in Belmont, Nowra and Port Macquarie were impressed with the technique and were keen to take what they had learnt and apply it to their local wetlands.

[Read more on the success of the wetland health assessment training and see some photos](#)

<http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/anmviewer.asp?a=691&z=71>

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