



# Northern Rivers Upper Tributaries Rehabilitation Project

## Information Bulletin

11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2009

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## About WetlandCare Australia:

WetlandCare Australia (WCA) is a national not-for-profit, non-government science-based organisation, with a mission to support the community in the protection and repair of Australia's wetlands. We do this through action-based partnerships with governments, landholders, natural resource managers, researchers and the community. Our focus is on onground community engagement in project delivery and the provision of technical expertise, education and local advice on best practice wetlands protection, biodiversity conservation, and management and rehabilitation.



Photo: Upper catchment reaches (WetlandCare Australia)

## About Wetlands:

Wetlands are any ecosystem that holds water for some stage of its cycle and supports wetland dependant plants and animals at that time. Wetlands can be salt or fresh, flowing or stationary, large or small, vegetated or open.

Wetlands are important because they;

- Shelter a range of animals that rely on them; e.g. birds, fish, frogs and reptiles
- Are key to the life-cycle of some species
- Filter the sediments and nutrients coming from our catchments before they head out to sea
- Provide food and drought refuge for a range of animals

## About the Project:

This WetlandCare Australia project is funded by the Environmental Trust and will focus on the rehabilitation of wetland and high conservation value rainforest remnants in the upper reaches of the Richmond catchment.

A number of environmental issues will be addressed including; weeds, stock management, erosion and lack of connectivity.

A combination of fencing, weed control, stock management, planting and regeneration techniques will be utilised on private properties to protect and enhance their wetlands.

Two of the many outcomes from this approach will be the protection and enhancement of critical biodiversity values and a significant improvement in water quality. The project will also provide successful models to further encourage and promote conservation works.

## Partnerships:

Partnerships are a vital component of successful projects. Over the course of this project WetlandCare Australia will actively liaise with and engage the following organisations and groups.

- Local Landcare Groups
- Glen Innes Natural Resources Advisory Committee (GLENRAC)
- Northern Rivers CMA
- Richmond Valley Council
- Lismore City Council

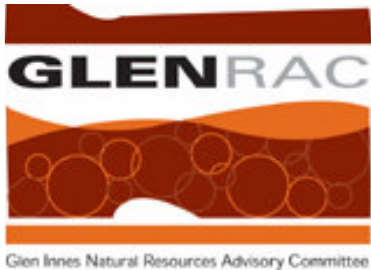
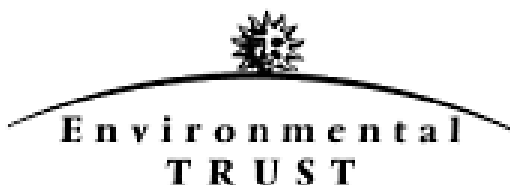


Photo: Upper tributaries of the Mann river (Wetlandcare Australia)



This is an Environmental Trust project from the NSW State Government:

## On-Farm Benefits of Wetlands:

The on-farm benefits of wetland rehabilitation include:

1. Reduced carbon footprint and improved corporate environmental responsibility
2. Improved wetland biodiversity and habitat which in turn reduces pest species such as weeds and rats
3. Improved water quality for you and your neighbours
4. Aesthetic and recreational values increased, like bird watching, fishing, swimming.



## Getting Involved:

WetlandCare Australia will be directly targeting private landholders to actively manage wetlands for biodiversity outcomes.

We will assist up to 12 farmers and improve around 30ha of wetland ecosystem.

Funding is available to landholders with wetlands (see broad definition of wetlands on page 1) to fence, control weeds, revegetate or any other activity that will positively impact the wetland.

If you would like to be involved in this project or know of a wetland that might be suitable for assistance under this project, please contact Project Coordinator Adam Gosling (contact details below).

WetlandCare Australia will assist you with technical advice and the means to carry out any recommended management actions.

All we ask in return is that the works are maintained, and a photographic record of the improvements is taken every four months within the first year and sent to WetlandCare Australia.

For further information on the project please contact:

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