



WetlandLink - April 2010

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Wetland Management

Purchase Secures Internationally Significant Wetland

NSW Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Frank Sartor and Federal Parliamentary Secretary for Water, Mike Kelly today announced the \$10 million purchase of Old Dromana by the NSW and Australian Governments on location near Moree. This property contains what was the largest privately owned Ramsar listed wetland in NSW.

[Read the full media release 'Purchase Secures Internationally Significant Wetland'](#)

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/MinMedia/MinMedia10021701.pdf>

NPWS is ready and committed to improving health of wetland property

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) is dedicating resources towards protecting the health of Old Dromana with pest, fire and water management programs being put in place. The management of Old Dromana, which contains 2000 hectares of the Lower Gwydir core wetlands, was transferred to the NPWS after being purchased by the NSW and Commonwealth governments.

[Read the full article 'NPWS is ready and committed to improving health of wetland property'](#)

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/media/DecMedia10022401.htm>

Environmental Water Flows for World Water Day

The Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, Mr Ian Robinson, has announced on World Water Day that several additional wetlands across the Murray-Darling Basin would benefit from the allocation of environmental water.

[Read the full article 'Environmental Water Flows for World Water Day'](#)

<http://www.environment.gov.au/about/media/dept-mr/mr20100322.html>

Protection for river red gums

The NSW Government has approved the establishment of more than 107,000 hectares (ha) of River Red Gum protected areas in the Riverina with a support package of up to \$80 million for affected timber industry workers and regional communities.

[Read the full article 'Protection for river red gums'](#)

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/MinMedia/MinMedia10022503.pdf>

ACF says 'just add water' to endangered Murray wetlands

The Australian Conservation Foundation has decided to enter the water market, buy around 200 million litres of water and add it to the Hattah Lakes wetlands in Victoria. ACF is giving people the opportunity to directly participate in reviving a wetland by donating \$15 to the Just Add Water initiative (\$15 is expected to buy around 75,000 litres, based on recent average water prices and including transaction costs).

[Read the full article 'ACF says 'just add water' to endangered Murray wetlands'](#)

http://www.acfonline.org.au/articles/news.asp?news_id=2736

Key Murray-Darling water sites chosen

Sarah Clarke, ABC News

The chair of the Murray-Darling Basin Authority says it is on track to deliver a new basin-wide plan by next year. It has identified the key wetlands and ecosystems which will be made a priority for water. More than 200 water stakeholders met in Canberra to hear the latest progress

on a new basin-wide plan.

[Read the full story 'Key Murray-Darling water sites chosen'](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/04/07/2866675.htm>

Wetland Restoration

Interpretive centre to showcase wetlands

The cultural and environmental values of the Barren Box wetland are set to go on display in a new education centre. Long-term works are continuing to rehabilitate the 1,500 hectare swamp north-west of Griffith.

[Read the full article 'Interpretive centre to showcase wetlands'](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/04/08/2867454.htm?site=riverina&ion=news>

Great Lakes Water Quality Improvement Plan launched

Minister for Environment Protection Peter Garrett launched a new plan to improve the water quality of the Great Lakes on the New South Wales lower North Coast. The Great Lakes system is a priority coastal hotspot and Myall Lake is a wetland of international importance under the international Ramsar Convention.

[Read the full article 'Great Lakes Water Quality Improvement Plan launched'](#)

<http://www.environment.gov.au/minister/garrett/2010/mr20100401.html>

Shorebirds rest easy on new artificial roosts

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Frank Sartor, today announced some man-made help for shorebirds feeding at the Ramsar-listed Towra Point wetlands to prepare them for the long-haul flight north this winter...

[Read the full article 'Shorebirds Rest Easy on New Artificial Roosts'](#)

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/MinMedia/MinMedia10033101.pdf>

Wetlands under Threat

Dredging stirs harbour toxins

The West Australian

Toxin tests on live mussels put in bags in the Swan River and Fremantle Harbour for the first six weeks of port dredging have shown detectable levels of tributyltin, polychlorinated biphenyls and heavy metals. The results, released in Fremantle Ports' latest water quality monitoring report, show that poisons disturbed by dredging in Fremantle harbour are being absorbed by filter feeders.

[Read the full article 'Dredging stirs harbour toxins'](#)

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/breaking/6919142/dredging-stirs-harbour-toxins/>

Protestors gather as duck season starts

Michelle Draper, AAP

Conservationists gathered in Victoria's east on Saturday to protest against the start of the state's duck hunting season. Duck hunting, which is banned in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia, will run from March 20 to May 30 in Victoria.

[Read the full article 'Protestors gather as duck season starts'](#)

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/protestors-gather-as-duck-season-starts-20100320-qna2.html>

Wetland Research and Monitoring

Seventh annual shorebird survey confirms significance of Port Stephens estuary

The success of today's seventh annual Port Stephens shorebird survey,

further supports the Ports' status as one of the most important sites for migratory shorebirds in NSW.

[Read the full article 'Seventh annual shorebird survey confirms significance of Port Stephens estuary'](#)

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/media/DecMedia10021204.htm>

Wetland Resources

DIY conceptual wetland models

The tools are out there to make your own conceptual model of an individual wetland, with support from the Queensland Wetlands Program. For further information on conceptual modelling visit the [WetlandInfo website](#).

<http://www.epa.qld.gov.au/wetlandinfo/site/ScienceAndResearch/ConceptualModels/Conceptmodelmake.html>

New Publication - Common Native fish of the Lake Eyre Basin rivers

The South Australian Arid Lands (SAAL) NRM Board has recently produced a brochure on the common native fish of the Lake Eyre Basin rivers. Go to the SAAL NRM publications page for this, and other factsheets.

[Go to the SAAL NRM publications page](#)

<http://www.saalrm.sa.gov.au/Publicationsandresources/FactsheetsandBrochures.aspx>

Other Wetland News

Boom follows boom in the Lake Eyre Basin

Julia Harris, ABC News

The rivers in the Lake Eyre Basin are all in flood after several weeks of widespread rain. Now the floodwaters are filling lakes and swamps as they creep gradually south. So whether you've got fins, feathers or a four-wheel drive you're definitely set for a season of a lifetime.

[Read the full article 'Boom follows boom in the Lake Eyre Basin'](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/local/stories/2010/03/23/2853775.htm?site=westqld>

Amazing rediscovery of frog species

With two and a half percent of the world's frog species (4,700) and seven of Australia's 216 frogs considered extinct, finding the Yellow-spotted Bell Frog which had not been seen for over 30 years is a very welcome and exciting discovery.

[Read the full article 'Amazing rediscovery of frog species'](#)

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/MinMedia/MinMedia10030401.pdf>

Wetland Events

Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum Gears up for Swansea

The second Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum will be held over June 4 - 5, 2010 at Swansea RSL Club. There is a jam packed agenda including field visits, expert and international speakers and a recreational fishing personality Q&A panel at Friday night's dinner. Any recreational anglers interested in fish habitat rehabilitation can join the Fish Habitat Network to find out more about the upcoming Forum. The Forum is a **free** event but does not cover travel or accommodation. Registration is required for catering and administration purposes. Email fish.habitat@industry.nsw.gov.au

[Find out more about the 'Fishers for Fish Habitat Forum Gears up for Swansea'](#)

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/habitat/rehabilitating/fishers/fishers-for-fish-habitat-forum>

Nudgee beach festival - World Migratory Bird Day 2010

This year Brisbane will celebrate World Migratory Bird Day 2010 with a free community music festival. The event includes various music styles,

workshops, food and information stands and aims to raise awareness about protecting migratory birds and their habitat.

Date: Sunday, 9 May 2010

Time: 12.30pm to 5pm

Location: Nudgee Beach foreshore Reserve (UBD Map Ref 111 M15)

[Go to the Queensland Government website to find out more about the festival](#)

http://www.brisbane.qld.gov.au/BCC:BASE::pc=PC_6110

Celebrate these special days during April and May

- [Save the Frogs Day](#) - April 28th
- [World Migratory Bird Day](#) - May 8th
- [International Day for Biological Diversity](#) - May 22nd
- [World Turtle Day](#) - May 23rd

Wetland Education and Community

Training for online wetlands inventory database

The Queensland Wetlands Program is keen to attract more contributors to supply survey data, including fauna and flora records, to the Wetlands Inventory Capture (WIC) database. If your organisation or group regularly collects data in wetland areas and would like to be trained to use the WIC system and ensure your data contributes to conservation outcomes email [Noleen Brown](mailto:noleen.brown@derm.qld.gov.au) or phone 3330 5484.

Email: noleen.brown@derm.qld.gov.au

WetlandCare Australia News

View the Online Gallery of the WetlandCare Australia National Art and Photography Competition 2010

The winning works from the WetlandCare Australia National Art and Photography Competition can now be viewed online on the WetlandCare Australia website. View the fabulous range and high quality of the winning works as a Flickr slideshow.

All the winning works can be seen, including the WetlandCare Australia Merit Award winners. This award was created by WetlandCare Australia to acknowledge the excellent works submitted that were not awarded prizes in the judging.

WetlandCare Australia would like to thank everyone who entered this year's competition, and also extend thanks to our generous sponsors.

[View the Online Gallery of the WetlandCare Australia National Art and Photography Competition 2010](#)

http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/news_detail.asp?articleid=785&zoneid=1

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