



WetlandLink - May 2009

For the latest news in Wetlands.

In this issue:

Wetland Management

- [United Nations Climate meeting puts huge emissions from peatland loss on agenda](#)
- [Relief for Victoria's stressed wetlands \(Vic\)](#)

Wetland Restoration

- [Working to restore Browns Swamp \(NSW\)](#)
- [Fishways team unlocking Queensland's waterways \(Qld\)](#)
- [Kooragang wetland makes top 25 eco list](#)

Wetlands under Threat

- [Nature given a helping hand to make endangered frogs spawn \(NSW\)](#)
- [Barra unable to survive in 'wasteland' \(Qld\)](#)

Wetland Research

- [Ebb and flow of the Coorong \(SA\)](#)
- [Community monitoring for the protection of Bribie Island wetlands \(Qld\)](#)

Wetland Education and Resources

- [Wader Atlas: revealing the life-cycles of waders](#)
- [Wetland education - starting in your Backyard \(NSW\)](#)

WetlandCare Australia News

- [Art Competition sponsorship opportunities now available!](#)
- [Support WetlandCare Australia to protect and restore Australian Wetlands](#)

Wetland Management

[United Nations Climate meeting puts huge emissions from peatland loss on agenda](#)

The enormous carbon dioxide emissions from degraded peatlands have finally become an integral part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) agenda. This major breakthrough is an outcome of the [UNFCCC meeting in Bonn](#) <http://unfccc.int/2860.php>. So far, emissions from the degradation of the organic soils in peatlands due to drainage have been excluded from accounting of emissions. These enormous emissions amount globally in the range between 2 to 3 Gigatonnes of carbon dioxide annually.

[Read the full article 'UN Climate meeting puts huge emissions from peatland loss on agenda'](#)

<http://www.wetlands.org/NewsandEvents/NewsPressreleases/tabid/60/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/1728/Default.aspx>

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

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For more information go to [WetlandCare Australia's website](#).

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Relief for Victoria's stressed wetlands

Media Release, Murray Darling Basin Commission and the Department of Sustainability and Environment Victoria

A joint environmental water release announced today for northern Victoria will provide urgent respite for Victoria's ailing wetlands and threatened species that depend on them. Six gigalitres of Living Murray water from the Murray-Darling Basin Commission, together with up to 11 Gigalitres of Victorian environmental water, will target critical sites needing urgent watering.

[Read the media release 'Relief for Victoria's stressed wetlands'](#)

http://www.mdbc.gov.au/_data/page/29/mrreliefforstressedwetlands1.pdf

Wetland Restoration

Working to restore Browns Swamp (NSW)

Over 30 people attended the first work day on 28 March to restore Browns Swamp near the historic Zig Zag Railway at Clarence. The group worked in two teams, the first working on removing weeds from a sediment build-up that was winding its way through the dense and prickly shrub swamp. The second group tackled a blackberry infestation at the head of the swamp.

[Read the full article on working to restore Browns Swamp](#)

<http://www.hn.cma.nsw.gov.au/news/4695.html>

Fishways team unlocking Queensland's waterways (Qld)

Media Release, Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland, The Hon. Tim Mulherin

Barramundi, mangrove jack and mullet are among the 70 native fish species that have benefited from the construction of 20 fishways on Central and North Queensland streams and wetlands in the past 12 months. Minister for Primary Industries, Fisheries and Rural and Regional Queensland Tim Mulherin said the fishways have opened up hundreds of kilometres of fish habitat previously blocked by man-made barriers.

[Read the full media release 'Fishways team unlocking Queensland's waterways'](#)

<http://www.cabinet.qld.gov.au/MMS/StatementDisplaySingle.aspx?id=63227>

Kooragang wetland makes top 25 eco list

Kylie Williams, The Herald

The [Kooragang Wetland Rehabilitation Project](#) <http://www.hcr.cma.nsw.gov.au/kooragang/> has been recognised as one of the top 25 ecological restoration projects in Australia and New Zealand. The top 25 projects have been posted on the [Global Restoration Network website](#) <http://www.globalrestorationnetwork.org/countries/australianew-zealand/> that enables restoration scientists and managers to exchange information about their work.

[Read the full article 'Kooragang wetland makes top 25 eco list'](#)

<http://www.theherald.com.au/news/local/news/general/kooragang-wetland-makes-top-25-eco-list/1483871.aspx>

Wetlands under Threat

Nature given a helping hand to make endangered frogs spawn (NSW)

The Guardian

With fewer than 200 adult southern corroboree frogs left in the wild, scientists have initiated an IVF program to try to bring the tiny black and gold amphibians back from the brink of extinction.

[Read the full media release 'Nature given a helping hand to make endangered frogs spawn'](#)

<http://hambucca.yourguide.com.au/news/national/national/general/nature-given-a-helping-hand-to-make-endangered-frogs-spawn/1484730.aspx>

Barra unable to survive in 'wasteland' (Qld)

A preliminary investigation into the health of the Cattle Creek wetlands has declared the system a 'dead wasteland' and unless it is drained, fish won't survive. Scientists who recently conducted electrofishing surveys found that oxygen levels in the wetlands near the highway bridge were so low that they were unable to find a single barramundi. The survey also found the number of fish species in the system had fallen significantly from 15

varieties in 1994 to just 8 species today.

[Read the full article 'Barra unable to survive in 'wasteland''](#)

http://www.regionalnrm.qld.gov.au/about_new/news_events_publications/news/vor/2009_april/terrain.html

Wetland Research

Ebb and flow of the Coorong

Media Release, South Australian Research and Development Institute
How much water do you need to maintain an estuary's health? What impacts, outside flow, do barrage structures and more recently the drought have? A new \$900,000 three-year project aims to answer these questions and examine the freshwater flows needed to maintain ecological health of the Coorong estuary and its native fish populations.

[Read the media release 'Ebb and flow of the Coorong'](#)

http://www.sardi.sa.gov.au/information_and_news/media_releases/ebb_and_flow_of_the_coorong

Community monitoring for the protection of Bribie Island wetlands

In an effort to monitor Bribie Island wetlands for future protection, WetlandCare Australia is facilitating the "Bribie Island Wetland Protection and Monitoring" project for the Bribie Island Environmental Protection Association (BIEPA).

This project is has been designed to:

- * establish the significance of the wetlands by undertaking studies on the extent, physical characteristics, key indicator species and overall health of these important wetlands
- * provide community volunteers with the skills to undertake these baseline studies to monitor the local Bribie Island wetlands

[Read more about 'Community monitoring for the protection of Bribie Island wetlands'](#)

http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/news_detail.asp?articleid=739&zoneid=1

Wetland Education and Resources

Wader Atlas: revealing the life-cycles of waders

The *Atlas of Wader Populations in Africa and Western Eurasia*, is to be released this month by Wetlands International and the Wader Study Group. This publication brings together for the first time all the information that is needed to act as a basis for the conservation of wader species in the African-West Eurasian region. Waders are one of the most migratory groups of birds and successful conservation demands a strongly international approach.

[Read more about the 'Atlas of Wader Populations in Africa and Western Eurasia' publication](#)

<http://www.wetlands.org/NewsandEvents/NewsPressreleases/tabid/60/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/1736/Default.aspx>

Wetland Education - Starting in your Backyard

WetlandCare Australia (WCA), with funding from the NSW Environmental Trust, would like to announce a new environmental education project, "Starting in your Backyard". The project aims to raise the awareness of residents as to their impacts on their local wetland, consider positive changes they can make at both the local and wider environmental level and help facilitate those changes. Stage one of this project will be offered to residents living in the subcatchment surrounding the East Ballina North Creek wetland.

[Read more about the 'Starting in your Backyard' project](#)

http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/news_detail.asp?articleid=738&zoneid=1

WetlandCare Australia News

Art Competition sponsorship opportunities now available!

The WetlandCare Australia National Art Competition is gearing up for an exciting third year of wetland-themed art and photography to celebrate World Wetlands Day 2010. We are currently seeking sponsorship for the 2010 competition, with categories for Children and Adults, as well as new categories for Indigenous Australians and Seniors available for sponsorship. This is an exciting opportunity for organisations to showcase their support for both wetlands and artists on a national scale. For enquiries, please contact Liz Hajenko on (02) 66816169

[Email Liz Hajenko to find out more about the Art competition sponsorship opportunities now available!](#)

<mailto:lizhajenko@wetlandcare.com.au>

[Support WetlandCare Australia to protect and restore Australian Wetlands](#)

You can now donate to WetlandCare Australia online with the launch of a new online donations facility. The new 24 hour-a-day, seven day-a-week service ensures people can donate to WetlandCare Australia anytime, with this secure and easy to use service.

All donations to WetlandCare Australia are used to deliver on-ground Natural Resource Management actions such as planting wetland plants and trees, controlling wetland weeds and restoring wetland health. All donations are tax-deductible.

[Find out more about "Supporting WetlandCare Australia to protect and restore Australian Wetlands"](#)

http://www.wetlandcare.com.au/Content/templates/news_detail.asp?articleid=740&zoneid=1

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