

## Welcome To Our Wetlands

Regional Showcase	Wetland Overview	Connections	Types of Wetlands	Value of the Wetlands	Threats to the Wetlands
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Welcome to the Marine Park. We are excited to share our history with you, as well as information about the Wetlands, their connection to people and landforms and the value they bring to our country.

Select any of the above tiles for information about various areas of our wetlands. To take a trip through our wetlands, click <u>here</u>. For a brief overview, click Wetland Overview.

Enjoy your visit.





**Our Wetlands** 



**Catchment Area** 

# We are all connected. Click Im on each picture to find more information.



The area of wetlands in the Great Barrier Reef catchment has decreased by over 50 per cent since European settlement



**Our Aboriginal Stories** 



The Great Barrier Reef

Retrieved from: https://www.gettyimages.com/photos/great-barrier-reef?sort=mostpopular&mediatype=photography&phrase=great%20barrier%20reef Retrieved from: https://blog.goway.com/globetrotting/2015/11/top-5-places-to-learn-about-aboriginal-culture-in-australia/ Retrieved from: https://smithfieldshs.eq.edu.au/enrolments/catchment-area

Retrieved from: https://blogs.upimelh.edu.au/sciencecommunication/2016/08/20/the-journey-from-swampy-hadlands-to-wetlands/

#### Threats to Value of the Regional Wetland Types of Connections the Wetlands Wetlands Showcase **Overview** Pollutants in ground water, surface water and air can contaminate wetlands and be toxic to plants and Can You Help? animals that are a part of the wetland ecosystem.

# Wetlands

Drainage

**Dredging and stream channelization** Filling **Diking and damming Tilling for crop production** Levees Logging Mining Construction Stormwater runoff

Air and water pollutants Nutrient Pollution **Releasing toxic chemicals** Invasive species introductions Grazing by domestic animals Fragmentation Water withdrawals Vegetation cutting **Recreational overuse** 

### Threats to our wetlands

Sediments and nutrients are released when wetlands are cleared and drained. This enters the Great Barrier Reef lagoon and catchment. This increases levels of phosphorous and nitrogen that competes with coral for nutrients while the sediment covers the coral, which creates a die out.

Retrieved from: https://www.watershedcouncil.org/wetland-losses-and-threats.html, Retrieved from: https://www.epa.gov/report-environment/wetlands Retrieved from: https://www.visualpharm.com/free-icons/set/kangaroo

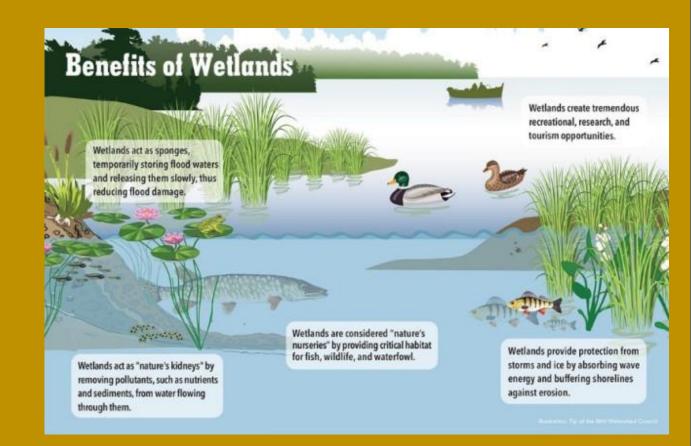


### Value of our Wetlands

#### "Why Are Wetlands Important?

Wetlands prevent flooding by holding water much like a sponge. By doing **so**, **wetlands** help keep river levels normal and filter and purify the surface water. Wetlands accept water during storms and whenever water levels are high."





Retrieved from: https://kydep.wordpress.com/2018/03/21/wetlands-have-great-value-in-environment-need-preservation Retrieved from: http://www.mbgnet.net/fresh/wetlands/why.htm The platypus and two species of echidna are the world's only monotremes, or egglaying mammals

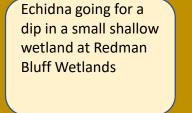


#### **Additional Animal Information**





Some of our wetland creatures that enjoy Australia's inland waterways to eat, breed and thrive. Click on their picture to get more information about them and animals like them.



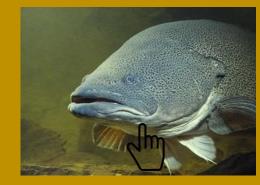




Link to <u>wetland</u> animal Fact Sheet

Colonial nesting waterbirds require substantial floods to support large breeding events in floodplain wetlands. They include egrets, ibises, pelicans, cormorants and herons.







## A Trip Through Our Wetlands

