

Wetlands on Farms

helping to manage wetlands as part of your overall farming systems



Do I have a wetland on my farm?

A wetland is any area of land that can be inundated with water, either temporarily or permanently. Wetlands may not always be wet. Every wetland is different, but in all cases, the plants and animals have adapted to – or are even dependent on – the wet conditions for at least part of their life cycle.

Wetland soils can act as a storage jar for fish and invertebrate eggs and plant seeds and when flooded, nutrients are released from the dry soil promoting a sudden burst of insect and plant growth.

Wetlands encompass a wide range of habitats – including permanent and intermittent fresh and saline lakes and marshes and swamps, permanent, seasonal or irregular rivers and streams, boggy areas in paddocks, freshwater springs, upland swamps or open bogs, clay pans, freshwater swamp forests and lignum and canegrass swamps.

Wetlands can be fresh, brackish or saline.

Did you know?

Ninety six percent of NSW wetlands are located in inland NSW, west of the Great Dividing Range

The value of wetlands on your farm

Wetlands on your farm may:

- ✓ add value in terms of productivity, catchment health and the natural environment
- ✓ provide opportunistic grazing & cropping
- ✓ slow and capture flood waters, helping reduce erosion
- ✓ help clean the river systems by removing nutrients and pollutants from the water and reducing the risk of algal blooms & increasing water quality downstream
- ✓ provide excellent habitat & breeding grounds for native fish, waterbirds, frogs and other plants and animals
- ✓ provide recreational opportunities, and
- ✓ have important social & cultural values.



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Wetlands can be beautiful places.



Would you like:

- to have some assistance to assess the attributes, values and benefits of your on-farm wetlands?
- to develop a wetland plan for your property that combines farm production with sustainable wetland use?
- assistance with identifying funding opportunities to carry out wetland management?

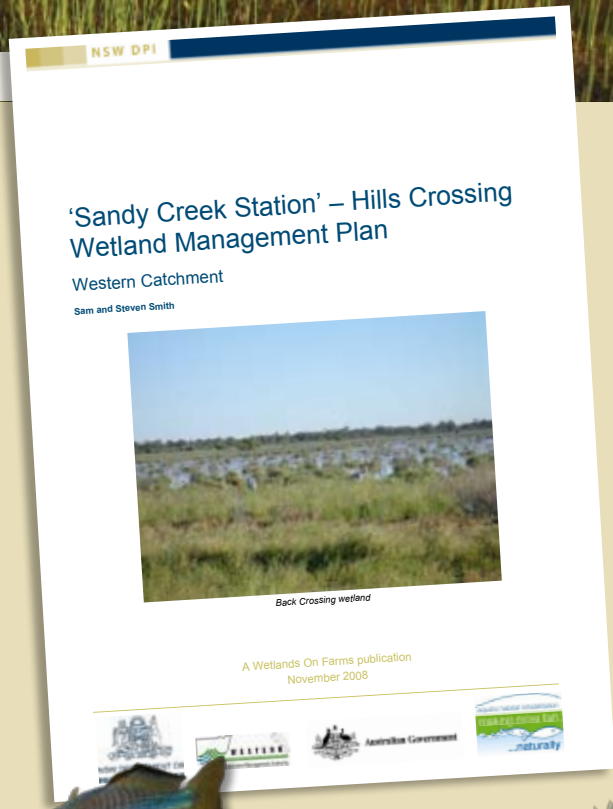
This is what the *Wetlands on Farms* program can deliver for you.

The *Wetlands on Farms* team will help you develop your wetland management plan by:

- using a wetland planning tool and mapping software
- using your local knowledge to produce information specific to your farm
- providing assistance with incentive funding applications for on ground works associated with wetland management

You will receive:

- high resolution maps of your property using the most up to date information
- a property specific wetland management plan including self-determined management actions
- an assessment report of your wetland condition for future monitoring and evaluation purposes
- a copy of the Guidelines for Management of Wetlands on Farms in inland NSW.



Who is involved?

The *Wetlands on Farms* program works with individual landholders, groups of neighbouring landholders and Catchment Management Authorities to improve wetland condition and management in NSW.

Interested?

The *Wetlands on Farms* program is delivered by NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in collaboration with Catchment Management Authorities and other funding providers.



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