



Nature Conservation Council
The voice for nature in NSW

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our coastal wetlands:**



restorecoastalwetlands.nature.org.au

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**We want to bring our
coastal waters back to life.**

Despite all they provide us, we've lost over half of NSW's coastal wetlands since colonisation began, and they continue to decline due to draining, dredging, development, altered flows, invasive species and pollution. This has resulted in extinctions, increased climate impacts, and the release of millions of tonnes of carbon.

However, with enough will, we can turn things around.

**Coastal wetlands can be restored
within our lifetime.**



Photo: Henry Gold

**Restore
Coastal
Wetlands**



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NCC's Campaign to Bring Back Our Wetlands



Photo: Calumn Hockey

Wetlands are critical to the ecological health of our coasts. From mangrove forests teeming with life to the estuaries, lagoons, rivers, marshes and lakes up and down the coastline – wetlands provide critical habitat to an incredibly diverse array of life, plant, human and animal.

They reduce climate change, protect us from climate impacts such as storms and erosion, and are hotspots for biodiversity and threatened species.

They purify our water, power Australia's seafood industry, support regional economies through tourism and recreation, and are important for First Nations communities maintaining their cultural connections to Country.

Where land meets the sea, life is at its' most spectacular. Given all they do for us, we must do better to restore and protect and restore our coastal wetlands.

As the voice for nature in New South Wales, our role is to advocate for our vision of a healthy, expansive network of conserved and restored coastal wetlands throughout the state.

In practice, this means supporting local restoration, conservation and education projects, growing public awareness and engagement, and connecting a network of like-minded people who share our vision for healthy coastal wetlands.

We implement what we learn on the ground in our lobbying and advocacy efforts, using our relationships with policymakers to act as a conduit between grassroots groups and the government. We aim to build the movement and amplify the voices of communities when advocating for policy reform, funding, and more.

To achieve this vision, we work with and support the efforts of those who share our belief that coastal wetlands can be brought back to health in our lifetime. If this sounds like you, please reach out!

Our plan to protect coastal wetlands:

- **Protect wetlands** with stronger laws to prevent damage from pollution, degradation, and development.
- **Recognise wetlands** as a climate solution and buffer against rising seas by setting strong blue carbon sequestration targets.
- **Restore our wetlands** by working with the community to identify low-lying areas vulnerable to sea level rise, and advocating for their conversion back to healthy and functioning wetland ecosystems.

