

Coastal and marine restoration work by regional NRM organisations (examples from across Australia)

Saltmarsh survey – SA

The Eyre Peninsula Landscape Board is collecting information about saltmarsh communities, including species, changes to sites over time, vegetation type, vegetation height and density, land height, evidence of animal presence and any signs of disturbance. These surveys are helping to manage the more than 3,000km of saltmarsh coastline across the Eyre Peninsula. <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ep/news/20210624-saltmarsh-survey>

Our Coorong|Our Coast – SA

The Limestone Coast Landscape Board's 'Our Coorong|Our Coast' project is working to improve the ecological character of the Coorong and enhance habitat for threatened species along the Limestone Coast. Species such as the Hooded Plover, Orange-bellied Parrot, Eastern Curlew, Malleefowl and other migratory shorebirds rely on this habitat which is under threat from a number of issues. https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/lc/projects/our-current-projects/Our_Coorong_Our_Coast

Seagrass restoration – SA

The Kangaroo Island Landscape Board are working with the community to trial restoration techniques to improve the recovery rate of seagrass meadows in Nepean Bay. One of the most successful techniques has been the annual Community Seagrass Planting Day. The aim of this event is to revegetate bare areas of sand that would have originally been covered by seagrass. Since 2013, volunteers have planted over 2700 Southern tapeweed (*Posidonia australis*) cuttings as part of this event. Results to-date show that on average, 75% of cuttings planted have survived, with individual cuttings almost tripling in size after three years. <https://www.landscape.sa.gov.au/ki/coast-and-marine/coast-marine-program/seagrass-restoration>

Restoring the Bowling Green Bay Ramsar wetlands – Qld

NQ Dry Tropics are managing a four-year project to reduce threats to the Ramsar site, adjacent coastline and adjoining creek catchments by: improving fauna nesting and feeding habitat, reducing terrestrial and aquatic weed infestations, creating fish passageways, managing pest animal species, raising awareness of the importance of wetlands and establishing a robust monitoring program. <https://www.nqdrytropics.com.au/projects/waterways-wetlands-and-coasts-program/restoration-of-the-ramsar-wetlands-of-bowling-green-bay-catchment-2019-2023/>

Upper Herbert Sediment Reduction Project - Qld

Terrain NRM is working with landholders to clean up the water flowing down the Herbert River and out to the Great Barrier Reef lagoon. This project focuses on reducing the amount of fine sediment in the Herbert River catchment's waterways and complements a Herbert Gully and Grazing Program that has been running for the past three years, and which has already led to reductions in sediment loads through gully erosion remediation work and changes to grazing management practices. <https://terrain.org.au/upper-herbert-sediment-reduction-project/>

Coastal wetland rehabilitation – Qld

Healthy Land and Water are working to rehabilitate a small but ecologically significant coastal wetland site in Lota. The two-hectare site comprises extensive saltmarsh bordered by forested areas containing unique and endangered flora. The first year of the project is dedicated to intensive weed control and native species

revegetation, with the second year allocated to maintaining these works. The project is also working to exclude illegal 4WD entry into the site.

<https://hlw.org.au/newsroom/underrated-nature-reserve-being-restored-for-community-to-enjoy/>

Protecting sea turtles – Qld

Southern Queensland Landscapes have been working with the Gidarjil Bundaberg Land and Sea Rangers, helping identify, map and control pests in the Port Curtis Coral Coast Native Title region, and combining traditional knowledge, practices and lore with western science. Southern Queensland Landscapes have supported training the Sea Rangers to undertake innovative and strategic control activities, including the use of a conservation detector dog, fox den mapping, fumigation and the implementation of other control methods.

<https://www.sqlandscapes.org.au/partnership-combines-traditional-practices-modern-science-to-save-endangered-turtles>

Wetland restoration – Tas

NRM South is working to address threats to Moulting Lagoon and support landholders to improve wetland health for the benefit of species and industries that are reliant on this ecosystem. The project is addressing threats to region's saltmarsh and wetland communities from incursions by livestock and vehicles, the impacts of agricultural activities in the surrounding landscape and a changing climate.

<https://nrmsouth.org.au/important-wetlands/>

Fish habitat restoration – Tas

NRM South are working on two fish habitat restoration projects in southern Tasmania. One managing the reflooding of stranded saltmarsh communities in Pitt Water-Orielton Lagoon, the other coordinating the installation of ecologically friendly mooring systems to protect seagrass habitat in North West Bay.

<https://nrmsouth.org.au/saltmarsh-fisheries-restoration-pwol/>

<https://nrmsouth.org.au/efms-for-seagrasses-in-nw-bay/>

Giant kelp restoration – Tas

The Tasmanian Smart Seafood Partnership between NRM South and the Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council is supporting research into whether warm-tolerant giant kelp could be used as a foundation for future giant kelp forest restoration efforts. Around 95% of giant kelp communities have vanished from the seas around Tasmania with its decline linked to climate change and the increasing influence of warm and nutrient poor waters from the East Australian Current.

<https://nrmsouth.org.au/media-release-super-kelp-to-the-rescue/>

Coastal Saltmarsh Protection Program – Vic

The Yarram Yarram Landcare Network Coastal Saltmarsh Protection Project has protected 700ha of saltmarsh since 2009. The West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority is working with landowners to protect and enhance high priority areas of coastal vegetation, adjoining the Ramsar listed wetlands of Corner Inlet and Nooramunga Marine and Coastal Park. The long-term goal is to provide a continuous biolink to protect the Nooramunga wetlands and improve water quality.

<https://www.wgcma.vic.gov.au/our-region/projects/coastal-saltmarsh-protection-project>

Two Great Ramsar Wetlands Project - Vic

Led by the Port Phillip and Western Port CMA, this five-year project aims to bring key agencies, land managers and community groups together to reduce the threats to the Port Phillip and Western Port Ramsar sites through landscape-scale actions including pest animal and weed control, revegetation, habitat augmentation and community engagement and education.

<https://www.ppwcm.vic.gov.au/priorities-projects/waterways-and-wetlands/two-great-ramsar-wetlands/>

Bellarine and Great Ocean Road Dunecare Project - Vic

Led by Corangamite CMA, this \$1.5m initiative is undertaking on ground works that will ensure the prevention of dune erosion, restoration of dune blowouts, protection, and the restoration of high ecological value dune woodlands. The project is investing in on-ground management of coastal dune flora and fauna habitat at risk of erosion to ensure that identified high priority sites are improved, protected, and conserved on the Bellarine and Great Ocean Road. It is also seeking to safeguard significant Aboriginal middens and other cultural values identified by Traditional Owners.

<https://ccma.vic.gov.au/project/dunecare/>

Coastscapes Coastal corridor project – WA

Led by South Coast NRM, the Coastscapes Project aims to protect and enhance more than 500 km strip in the Two Peoples Bay to Fitzgerald corridor and the Fitzgerald to Cape Arid corridor. As well as revegetating patches of bare land and connecting them to existing vegetation, Coastscapes also controls invasive species which threaten biodiversity, and protects and enhances existing native vegetation endangered by the impact of livestock and Phytophthora dieback.

<https://southcoastnrm.com.au/what-we-do/coastal-and-marine-overview>

Living shorelines – NSW

For 5 years, OceanWatch Australia has been working to provide an alternative tool for shoreline erosion by turning old oyster shells (a waste product) into living shorelines. OceanWatch engages engineers and ecologists to design “living shorelines” by bagging old oyster shells in coir mesh bags. These are then strategically pegged on eroded shorelines, providing an artificial shellfish reef for a multitude of marine animals, and a surface on which free-swimming oyster larvae can settle.

<https://www.oceanwatch.org.au/community/livingshorelines/>

Climate Proofing Coastal Saltmarsh - NSW

This project of South East LLS aims to protect and rehabilitate coastal saltmarsh and the adjacent vegetation community with the aim of climate proofing Coastal Saltmarsh from the impacts of sea level rise. Through stock exclusion, improving flow, weed management, revegetation, access control of pedestrians and vehicles this project has been able to reduce impacts affecting the integrity of this vegetation community. The project works with private and public land managers on the south coast of NSW. It is funded through the Australian Government Regional Land Partnerships Program.

Marine Estate Management – NSW

Local Land Services (LLS) have been funded through this program to improve water quality in Coastal Wetlands. For over 3 years LLS has worked on excluding stock, improving riparian vegetation and reducing sediment from roads and tracks in priority coastal wetlands. This project is funded by NSW government.