



Involved in a wetland restoration project?

Please help us improve wetland restoration science by telling us about wetland restoration projects you are aware of/ involved in.

Send us a completed spreadsheet by 29 October 2011 and you'll go in the draw for a copy of the excellent *Wetland Restoration Handbook*.

Dr Bev Clarkson (Landcare Research), Monica Peters (NZ Landcare Trust) and Karen Denyer (National Wetland Trust) are compiling a dataset of freshwater wetland restoration projects across New Zealand.

We need to know the total area and number of freshwater wetlands that were being actively restored as of **1 October 2009**.

This is for a Foundation for Research, Science and Technology project titled: *Restoring wetland ecosystem functioning* which includes this objective:

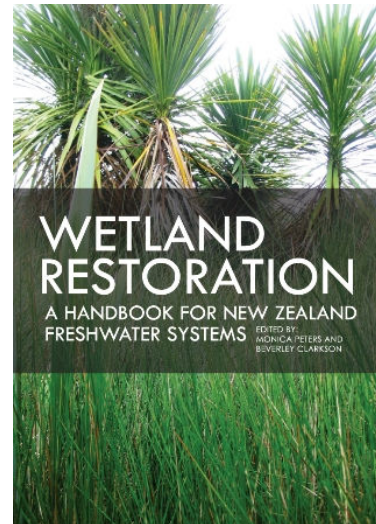
“By 2016 there is a 15% increase over 2009 in the number and areal extent of wetlands being restored by wetland landowners and managers (DOC, local authorities, iwi, conservation groups, and wider wetland community) as a result of uptake of:

- *guidelines for allowable water abstraction and nutrient influxes*
- *techniques to measure restoration efforts*
- *improved indicators for measuring ecological and cultural integrity of wetland ecosystems*

Please fill out the associated spreadsheet for the wetland restoration projects you are aware of that were active in spring 2009.

All we need is the following information per site:

- *Your name/organisation who supplied the data and email address*
- *Project name (if relevant)*
- *Wetland name*
- *Region*
- *Person/group leading the project*
- *Wetland type (broadly e.g. peat lake, lowland swamp, lake margin)*
- *Before state and proposed ‘after’ state*
- *Area being restored as of 1 October 2009*
- *Main actions (e.g. fencing, planting, weed control, pest control, hydrological works) – just a yes/no for each, or details if required*



The scope of the request:

1. What do we mean by freshwater wetland?

Palustrine systems, i.e. freshwater wetland with some terrestrial or emergent vegetation associated, so please don't include detention ponds, streams, lakes, estuaries, though do include wetlands on lake margins.

2. What do we mean by restore?

Works on the ground to enhance the indigenous biodiversity values and/or wetland functioning, e. g. pest control, weed control, planting, hydrological restoration. Not necessarily to some previous state. Let us know briefly the objective and before/after state, e.g. to create a pond and associated sedge area in an area of previously drained wetland for game bird habitat, or to re-vegetate a weed dominated wetland in native vegetation to improve its natural character. Does not include legal protection, research or monitoring.

3. What do we mean by 1 October 2009 baseline?

The clock starts once the 'spade hits the ground' – please include any projects that had received some works on the ground by spring in 2009. You can also include the areal extent that, as of the baseline, was subject to ongoing effects of restoration since 2000 (e.g. 10 hectares was fenced in 2004 so as of 1/10/2009 that 10 ha was recovering from grazing pressure).

4. How should we report on areal extent - the size of the entire wetland or just the bit being 'restored'?

Just the area actually being affected by the restoration works – so don't add in, for instance, the area of the lake around which you are doing restoration works, or areas that you plan to plant/ fence etc. In many cases the extent being restored will be based on a 'best-guess' approximation.

5. Are you including every project, even small ones being done independently in the back blocks?

To be pragmatic, we won't have every little project, we are focussing on the main organisations involved in wetland restoration projects, e.g. DOC, councils, F&G, and those landowners we know about.

6. Is there a minimum size for the baseline

No, as this gets included in the total area being restored – but you are unlikely to be aware of tiny areas like fenced seeps etc and adding them in won't affect the total area by much.

7. Do I have to complete your spreadsheet if I have this data in another format?

We know you are busy. If you have a lot of sites and you have that information in an excel database or word document/pdf or web link you can send us electronically please do so.