Wetlands and Agriculture: Partners for Growth
Murray Wetland Carbon Storage project

Nicky Bruce, Murray Local Land Services, New South Wales and
Sarah Ning, Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd.

The Murray Wetland Carbon Storage project aims to assist landholders to rehabilitate wetlands to increase their capacity to store carbon and improve biodiversity. The project will also support research into Indigenous values and uses of wetlands to build connections to country.

This project will deliver 400 hectares of biodiverse and high-efficiency wetland carbon stores across the NSW Murray Catchment through its first Investment Round, with 2000 hectares being delivered overall by June 2017. It is a partnership project between Murray Local Land Services and the Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd. (a not-for-profit community group), funded by the Australian Government.

A 2013/14 on-ground investment program will support landholders to replant cleared wetlands and enhance wetland and riparian vegetation on private property. Enhancement of remnant vegetation will be achieved through biodiverse plantings, altered land management (e.g. grazing management, pest and weed control) and where appropriate and possible, delivery of environmental water.

A priority area for the project is the Murray Catchment’s central region. The project has been working with landholders in the Urana, Lockhart, Oaklands, Howlong, Corowa, Muhvala, Berrigan and Jerildere areas from September 2013 with on-ground works to be completed by the end June 2014.

A number of diverse wetland sites have already been visited by Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd. and Murray Local Land Services staff. Two sites in Corowa show great potential for rehabilitation. The first wetland, 30 hectares in size, is dominated by river red gums (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) with a grassy understory and is likely to attract a greater number of waterbirds with changes made to the current grazing and hydrology regimes. The second site has a good

A potential site for the Murray Wetland Carbon Storage project in the Balldale area, New South Wales

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wetland seedbank consisting of species of sedges, rushes and grasses with plans to improve the grazing and management regime for the site, as well as enhancing the adjacent grey box area, therefore improving connectivity.

It is anticipated that wetland sites in the project area will achieve great results for carbon storage and biodiversity outcomes such as supporting the nesting of waterbirds like the brolga (*Grus rubicunda*) and royal spoonbill (*Platalea regia*).

For further information on the project, please visit [www.murray.lls.nsw.gov.au](http://www.murray.lls.nsw.gov.au) or [www.murraydarlingwetlands.com.au](http://www.murraydarlingwetlands.com.au), or contact the following Project Officers:

Nicky Bruce  
(Murray Local Land Services)  
(02) 6051 2232,  
Nicky.Bruce@lls.nsw.gov.au

Sarah Ning  
(Murray Darling Wetlands Working Group Ltd.)  
0427 376 157,  
sarahning@murraydarlingwetlands.com.au

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*A potential site for the Murray Wetland Carbon Storage project in the Lowesdale area, New South Wales*  
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