



Wetland Restoration

Abstract:

The presentation will discuss recent successes in coastal wetland restoration and the relevance of this outcome to development offsets via the NSW bio banking initiative

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/biobanking/>.

Wetlands are among the most productive ecosystems in the world, yet their extent and health continues to diminish. Australia's remaining coastal wetlands are internationally recognized for their unique habitat supporting a range of important local and migratory species. The benefits wetlands contribute are significant. The ecosystem services wetlands provide underpin much of our economic activity and wetlands are recognised as contributing to healthier waterways, fish nursery and habitat areas, drought refuges for stock and wildlife, nutrient capture and recycling, and filtering and capture of sediment. This recognition of the importance of wetlands has led to a concerted effort to restore historical wetland areas to their previous function. This has its challenges as many of these areas have degraded over the years with acid sulphate soils being a specific consideration. Successful rehabilitation has the potential to offset fringe development of other wetland and high conservation areas via the bio banking concept.

Speaker bio:

Dr William Glamore has been working in the field of wetland restoration for more than 10 years. His PhD was the first long-term study to investigate the impact of restoring tidal flows to combat acid sulphate soils. Since then he has managed many wetland restoration projects throughout Australia including the largest coastal wetland project currently restored in NSW at Tomago. In 2005 Will was awarded a Churchill Fellowship on "International Practices for Restoring Tidal Wetlands". Will also sits on the Intl ASCE Committee for Wetland Restoration, teaches the masters course 'Natural and Artificial Wetlands' at UNSW developed the SmartGate infrastructure and is recognised as an 'Expert of International Standing' by the ARC. Will is currently working on several large wetland restoration projects (both research and applied) throughout Australia and is advising the Australian Federal Government on several key wetland projects. In 2009 Will was a selected invitee to the 6th China-Australia Symposium focusing on Sustainable Coastal Wetlands Ecosystems: Preservation and Recovery Will is currently working on 5 large wetland restoration projects including Tomago, Anna Bay, Broughton Creek, Tweed River, and Yarrahapinni Wetlands.

Tuesday June 22nd 2010

Time: 5:30pm for 6:00pm

Drinks & nibblies from 5:30pm.

Venue: Engineers Australia Auditorium, Ground Floor
8 Thomas St, Chatswood NSW 2067

See attached maps and follow signage on the day

Enquiries: Grantley Smith at g.smith@wrl.unsw.edu.au

Attendance can be credited towards IEAust Continuing Professional Development requirements