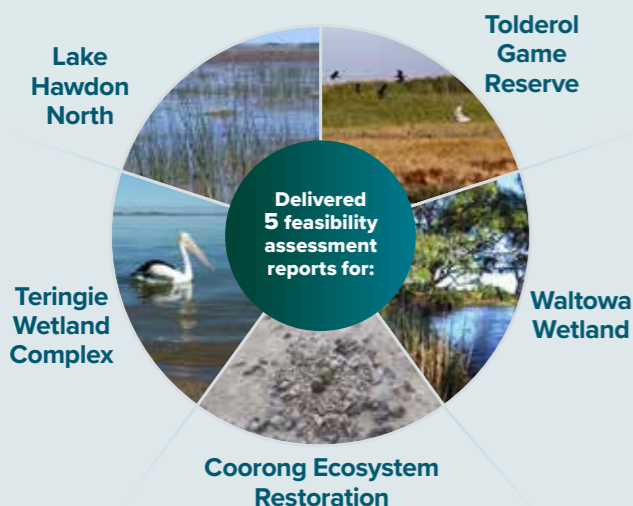


The On Ground Works project aims to implement short to medium term on-ground works to help mitigate threats to key Coorong biota, while longer term management solutions are investigated and implemented. These actions seek to contribute to the protection of endangered and vulnerable species, avoid further loss and support the maintenance of the site's ecological character.

Activities:

Completed feasibility investigations across five sites to **restore more than 3000 hectares of priority wetlands** in the Lower Lakes and South East.



Strong potential to support **First Nations education and employment opportunities.**



Improved **visitor access** for volunteers and visitors.



Improved access tracks enable **increased opportunity for bird watching** and other recreational activities at sites like Tolderol.



Regional Bird Refugia Implementation Proposal approved by the Commonwealth and South Australian governments.



\$10 million investment to improve the quality and availability of waterbird habitat throughout the Ramsar-listed Coorong and Lower Lakes.

- **Increasing the Department for Environment and Water's management capability** to provide refugia for waterbirds of the Coorong at the Tolderol, Waltowa and Teringie wetlands.
- **Provide short term habitat solutions** for waterbirds while longer term solutions for the Coorong are investigated and implemented.



Strong Community Support

Community agree that wetland management or restoration in the Coorong region is a priority.



Increased **opportunity for First Nations to connect with Country** for cultural activities.

Teringie, Waltowa and Tolderol wetlands



Wetland restoration **increases Waterbird Habitat by 72%** at Tolderol, Teringie and Waltowa



Wetland restoration will **improve the extent, quality and duration of optimal foraging habitats** for target waterbirds species that use the Coorong.



263 hectares of preferred shorebird habitat of similar type to the Coorong South Lagoon will be available for 72% of the time preferred by shorebirds.



Flow-on economic benefits, include an **estimated 61 full time equivalent jobs** during construction and a long term (>50 years) ability to manage wetlands for Coorong biota.



Ngarrindjeri have identified that all three wetlands have significant cultural and ecological value.

Lake Hawdon North



Restoration of Lake Hawdon North could **increase habitat availability for shorebirds that utilise the Coorong South Lagoon by up to 531% for some species.**



Removal of 650 hectares of recently invaded *Melaleuca halmaturorum* shrubland will **ensure 1763 hectares of structurally suitable habitat for shorebirds** exists at Lake Hawdon North.



A peak carrying capacity of **39,500 shorebirds** is predicted in a restored Lake Hawdon North.

- For **sharp-tailed sandpiper** and **red-capped plover**, carrying capacity in Lake Hawdon North would regularly exceed current abundances in the Coorong South Lagoon (CSL).
- For common **greenshank** and **curlew sandpiper**, Lake Hawdon North carrying capacity would regularly be similar to current abundance in the CSL.
- Thus for these four species, a **restored Lake Hawdon North** is effectively equivalent to the current CSL in carrying capacity.
- For **red-necked stint**, carrying capacity in a restored Lake Hawdon North is 15% of current CSL abundance.

