

# Aquatic Plant Monitoring in the Lower Lakes



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# Background

- Vegetation data collected since spring 2008
- Covered a period of extreme drought and a large flood
- Several engineering interventions undertaken



**Spring 2008**



**Spring 2009**



**Spring 2010**







# Major Findings

- 362 species recorded
- Large changes in the aquatic plant community between 2008 and today
- Submergent plants were not present whilst water levels were low
- Area suitable for aquatic plants is between +0.6 and 0 m AHD (60 cm above sea level to sea level)









# Major Findings...

- Viable seeds were present in dry sediments
- Aquatic plants recruited when water levels were reinstated albeit currently covering less area and in lower numbers



# Questions

