

Introduction to *Wetlands Australia*

February 2015

Wetlands offer substantial economic, social and environmental values that can be harnessed and managed sustainably for the benefit of future generations. Raising awareness and understanding of the benefits of wetlands today will help to protect these important ecosystems and their values into the future.

This edition of *Wetlands Australia* supports the 2015 World Wetlands Day theme of 'Wetlands for Our Future', by highlighting innovative wetland conservation and rehabilitation practices, including examples of the wise use of wetlands for our future. It includes stories from government, community and

school groups or partnerships that improve wetland health and enhance our understanding and appreciation of the value of wetlands.

If you would like to contribute to future editions of *Wetlands Australia*, please contact wetlandsmail@environment.gov.au



Engaging young people in wetland protection is essential for the future conservation of these important ecosystems. With funds from the National Landcare Programme, Dennis Stubbs from the Burdekin Bowen Integrated Floodplain Management Advisory Committee runs a classroom session at a wetland with students from St Coleman's School, Home Hill at Plantation Park Ayr in Queensland (© Copyright, Patrick Hamilton)