

# World Wetlands Day 2009

Habitat Conservation Info Report 1/2009

1 February 2009

Field and Game Australia  
Metropolitan Branch



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The Convention on Wetlands, signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971, is an intergovernmental treaty which provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. There are presently 158 Contracting Parties to the Convention, with 1831 wetland sites, totaling 170 million hectares, designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.

**The theme for World Wetlands Day 2009,**

**“Upstream – Downstream” Wetlands connect us all**

We all live in a river basin (or drainage basin, catchment, watershed, etc.), and most of the people reading this are well aware of the challenges of managing it, and particularly the challenge of making sure that the basin planners think of wetlands and not just water in their planning. ([www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org))

***Field and Game Australia***

*The wildlife of today is not ours to dispose of as we please. We have it in trust.*

*We must account for it to those who come after.*

*King George VI*



**Photo 1 – WWD 2009**

**World Wetlands Day was celebrated by our branch on Sunday, 1 February, 2009 Parks Victoria, Tanunda Wetlands, City of Whittlesea, Victoria, Australia.**

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**Photo 2 & 3 – WWD 2009**  
**Reinstatement of nest box 114 on pole in back waters with straw which assists breeding productivity.**

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A small group from our community commemorated this occasion by undertaking maintenance on nest boxes within Tanunda Wetlands.  
Volunteers – Gary Benson, Anthony, Lidia, Nicholas, Stephanie, Gabrielle, Felicity Rutter.

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**Photo 4 – WWD 2009, 019jpg  
Nest box 116 on pole, in shallow wetland with kangaroo resting in the shade in background**

We then took a short walk observing a range of waterfowl, native birds and within the surrounding bush of the unique wetlands.

Nest boxes create habitat for Australian Native Birds. Habitat Conservation by way of nest boxes can make a difference where tree hollows no longer exist. Above is a nest box no.116 with a kangaroo in the background resting in the shade.

Our Metropolitan branch has 570 members. The Habitat Conservation support giving by Latrobe University Lifeskills, Parks Victoria, the City of Whittlesea, is appreciated which allow us to continue this important volunteer work.

Field and Game Australia undertakes voluntary conservation projects, these may involve water control structures, revegetation, vermin control, waterfowl counts, or nesting boxes.

***“Don’t just talk about Habitat Conservation, get out there and do it”***

Look forward to seeing you in a wetland soon.

John Caven  
Conservation Officer/Secretary

### **Mission Statement**

#### **Field and Game Australia**

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Field and Game Australia is a voluntary organisation formed by hunters. We partner with Government and the community in the management and sustainable utilisation of Australia's wetlands for future generation by protecting game habitats through conservation. We promote responsible firearm ownership, ethical hunting and clay target shooting.

**PLEASE NOTE:** For further information about Field and Game Australia log onto our website [www.fga.net.au](http://www.fga.net.au)

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