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# Walker Swamp

Restoring the Wannon River floodplain in the  
southern Grampians, western Victoria

**Nature Glenelg Trust**  
**ABN 23 917 949 584**

Registered with the Australian Not-for-profits and Charities Commission  
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WALKER SWAMP HAS BEEN DRAINED  
AND FARMED FOR DECADES, LEAVING  
IT IN A COMPROMISED STATE.

ADJACENT TO THE GRAMPPIANS  
NATIONAL PARK, THIS 1000 ACRE  
FLOODPLAIN PROPERTY RETAINS  
ALL THE NECESSARY INGREDIENTS  
FOR SUCCESSFUL RESTORATION.

LET'S BRING IT BACK.

Project partners:



# Walker Swamp Restoration Reserve

## Introduction

The Walker Swamp Restoration Reserve is the vision of Nature Glenelg Trust (NGT), a charitable not-for-profit environmental organisation based in south-eastern Australia.

Walker Swamp is situated a short, 20 minute drive from Dunkeld, Victoria, near the south-eastern corner of the Grampians National Park.

## Background

The Grampians National Park is one of southern Australia's most iconic and biodiverse protected areas, home to magnificent mountain ranges and a wide range of plants and animals.

It also forms the headwaters of a number of western Victoria's most important river catchments, including the Wannon River, which discharges onto the floodplain beyond the

National Park forming a complex inland delta of 13 km<sup>2</sup> of wetlands - including Walker Swamp and surrounds.

From the 1950s, the area was drained and opened up for farming, causing a loss of habitat for wildlife, including many species now threatened with extinction.

Over the past six years, NGT has been working with a wide range of local people and organisations to re-invigorate the Wannon River floodplain. What initially began in 2013 as a series of restoration trials, led to permanent restoration works at Gooseneck Swamp and Brady Swamp in 2015.

Walker Swamp and its surrounding floodplain is yet to benefit from permanent restoration - but we are confident of the site's potential, because of the success of a minor restoration trial NGT completed at Walker Swamp in 2014 (below).



Walker Swamp restoration trial 2014

## Outcomes

The Walker Swamp Restoration Reserve provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate what sustainable water management, threatened species recovery and large-scale habitat regeneration looks like on the ground, while providing the chance for the community to actively participate in the exciting journey that lies ahead.

The site will enable us to restore habitat for a wide range of threatened species such as: the Wimmera Bottlebrush (plant), Little Galaxias (fish), Growling Grass Frog (above far right), Western Swamp Crayfish and Australasian Bittern (bird), as well as a range of other important or iconic species, such as the Brolga and the White-bellied Sea Eagle (above right).



Walker Swamp - ready for permanent restoration works to begin...

## About the Project Area

A partnership between NGT, the Glenelg Hopkins Catchment Management Authority and the Hamilton Field Naturalists Club has enabled NGT to purchase the first 500 acres of the reserve, and initiate Stage 1 of the project (see map far right).

We also have the ability to immediately **double the project area to 1000 acres**, by securing Stage 2 **with your support**.

Stage 2 will enable us to fully restore the Walker Swamp floodplain and physically link the entire project area with the Wannon River and the Grampians National Park.

Carefully planned restoration works will return natural inundation patterns across the site for the first time in several decades, which in turn will bring back the missing wildlife of Walker Swamp.



## Get on board

**This is your chance to contribute to something truly worthwhile** - because this project is of a scale that will make a tangible difference to wetland conservation in Victoria.

Project supporters will be kept up-to-date on the progress of the restoration story over the years ahead, and informed about the different ways to get involved with NGT's restoration projects. You will also be welcome to visit Walker Swamp and experience exactly what 1000 acres of re-environmentalised wetlands looks like - up close.

With your help, we can give nature the chance it needs to bounce back!

## Our Target

To secure this extra land **we have a funding shortfall of \$150,000**.

## If you choose to donate

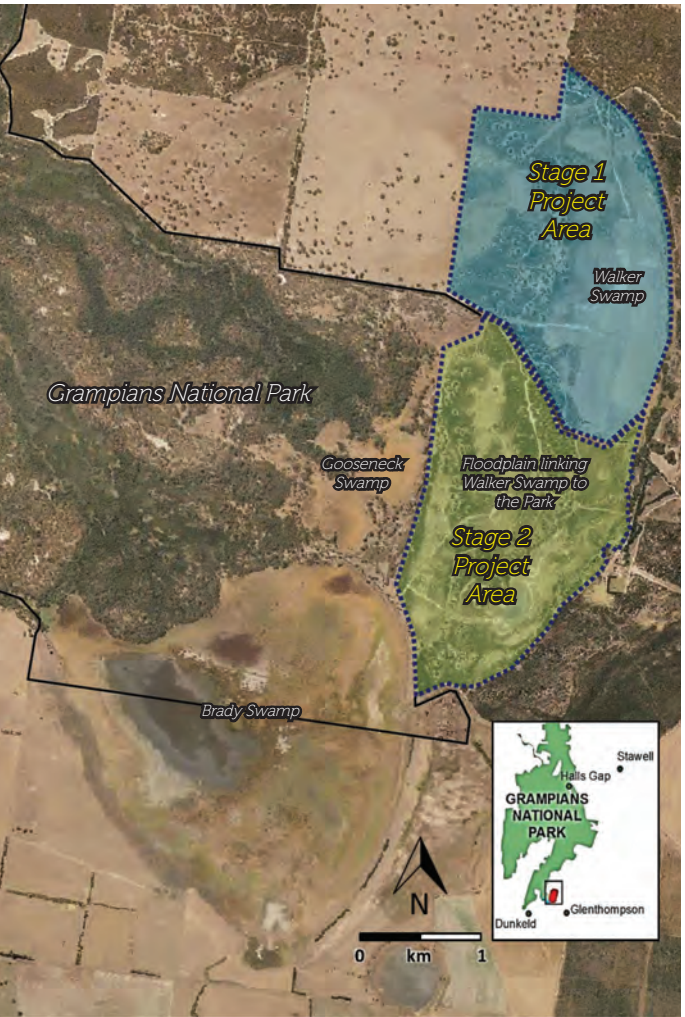
You have our commitment that all donated money will contribute directly towards the project and the future management of the site.

Please note that all donations over \$2 are tax-deductible, and every donation counts.



## For more information

Please visit our website: [www.ngt.org.au/donate](http://www.ngt.org.au/donate) or call (08) 8797 8596



Walker Swamp Restoration Reserve Project Area

Photo credits:  
Cover images - Lachlan Farrington and Greg Kerr; Walker Swamp trial and panorama images - Mark Bachmann; White-bellied Sea Eagle - Rod Bird; Growling Grass Frog - Lauren Veale