

Saltmarsh Ecosystem

Saltmarsh ecosystems consist of flowering herbs and low shrubs that fringe most continents on the planet, linking land with sea.

Healthy saltmarsh ecosystems provide feeding and breeding habitats for fish and birds, protects coastal communities from storm damage, limits sea-level rise, filters water, reduces turbidity and supports tourism and recreational activities.

Be a local hero Protect saltmarsh ecosystems

Beaded Glasswort (*Sarcocornia quinqueflora*) – Nick Thoms

Ramsar Wetlands

Saltmarsh ecosystems are found in places like Lake Connemare and Swan Bay which are some of the wetlands that are included in the Port Phillip Bay (Western Shoreline) and Bellarine Peninsula Ramsar site. These wetlands have international importance under the 'Ramsar Convention on Wetlands' and is just one of 2000 across the globe. One of the main reasons to protect Ramsar wetlands is to protect migratory birds that visit them during our summer.

How Can I Help?

- Prevent stock from grazing saltmarsh and remove levies
- Avoid walking or driving through saltmarsh
- Join a local conservation group to help with weeding



Shrubby Glasswort (*Tecticornia arbuscula*) – Bernadette Lingham

Help us protect our local saltmarsh habitat.

www.environmentbellarine.org.au

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