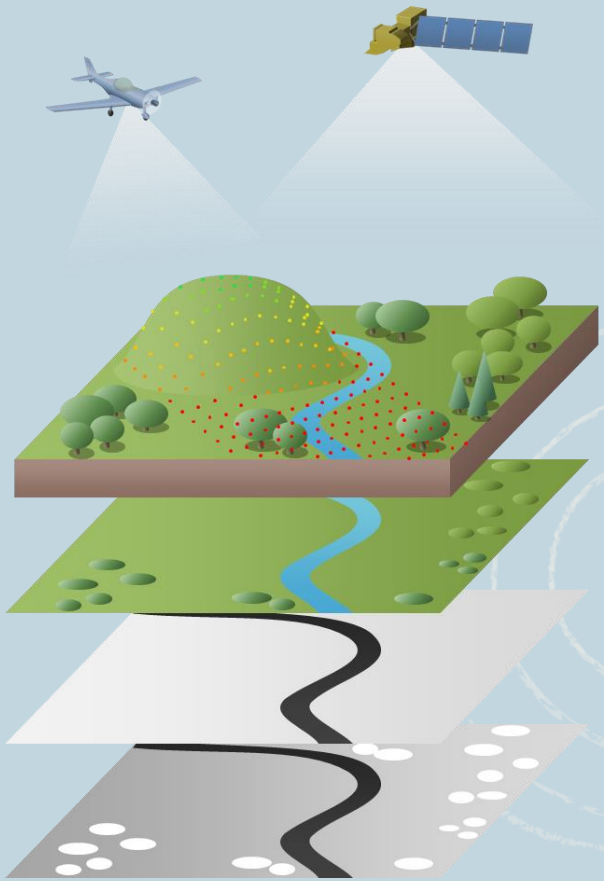
Mapping wetlands in Queensland



Queensland Government

Queensland Wetlands Program

Mike Ronan, Kat Glanville, Tim Ryan, Cathy Ellis, Bruce Wilson, Chris Pennay

Queensland wetlands base mapping

Queensland wetlands base mapping

Wetland mapping at an appropriate scale and level of detail is necessary for decisive wetland management and decision making.

Many different types of wetland maps exist in Queensland–developed at different scales, using different techniques for different purposes.

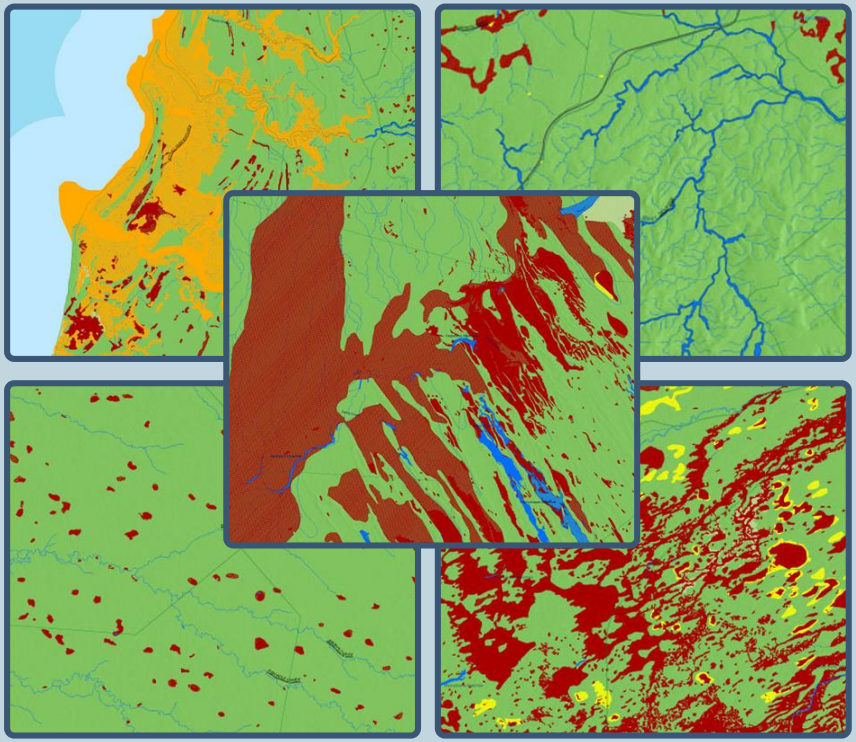
A base wetland map has been developed by the Queensland Wetlands Program to support consistent decision making.

Purpose of Queensland wetlands base map

Queensland wetlands base mapping

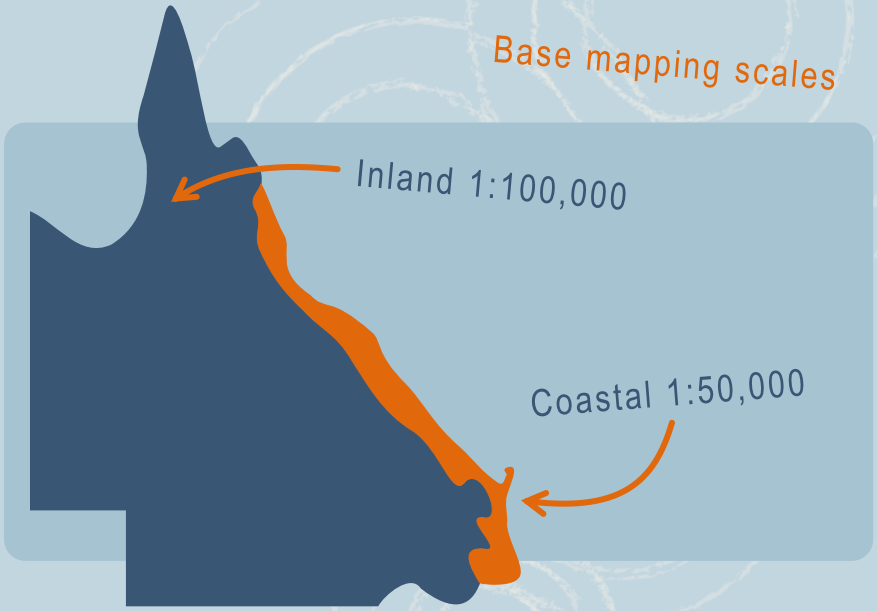
Diversity of mapped wetlands

Queensland has a wide diversity of wetlands as demonstrated in the maps below as indicated by red and yellow...



Queensland wetlands base mapping scale

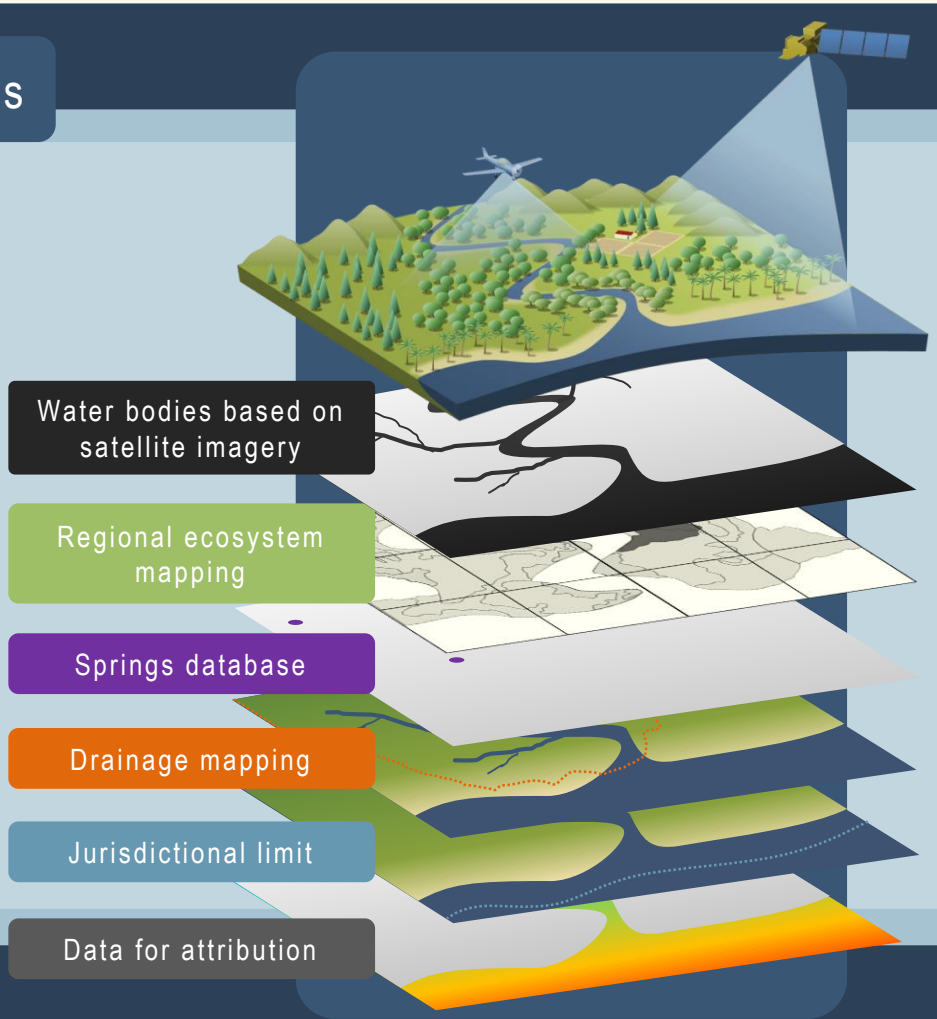
Queensland wetlands base mapping is produced at the habitat scale (1:100,000). It may be aggregated for use at a landscape or regional scale.



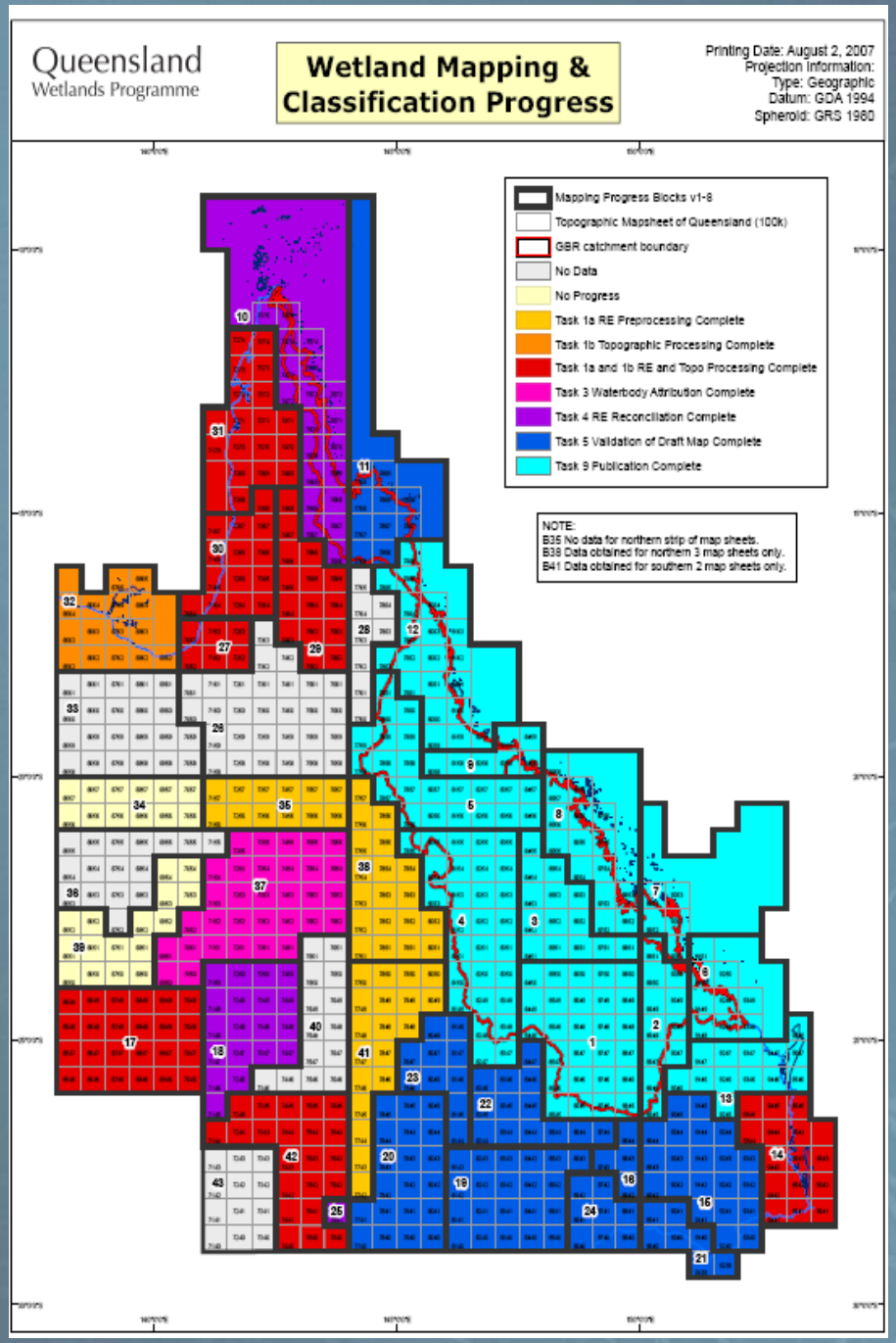
Wetland data and attributes used in base mapping

The Queensland wetlands base mapping uses the Queensland Wetlands Program definition of wetlands. The method utilises several data sources to delineate, attribute then classify wetlands.

Data sources



Mapping Status



Updating the Queensland wetlands base mapping

Updates to the base mapping

The Queensland wetlands base mapping is updated regularly. The initial mapping was based on wetlands in 2001. The mapping was also updated in 2005, 2009, 2013 and 2017. Underway for 2019.

Updates are carried out by using a combination of manual and automated assessment of satellite imagery.

User feedback is incorporated in each update to ensure improvements in the mapping process and product.

Changes in extent

Each updated version of the wetland mapping includes a baseline wetland extent and new derived extents for subsequent updates (e.g. the 2011 version included a 2001, 2005, 2009 wetland extent). This allows us to see how a wetland changes over time (e.g. percentage of wetland loss or gain in four years) will change to two