Wetland mapping and history of National Wetland Inventory

Mbona N
Wetland Inventory is the core repository of national wetland information
Objectives of NWI

To get: *extent, distribution + diversity*

• 1: Identifying the location of wetlands and priority conservation sites

• 2: Identify functions and values of individual wetlands

• 3: Establishment of a baseline for measuring future change in wetland area, function and values

• “if it's not mapped we can't plan for it”
For the National Wetland Inventory

Definition of “wetland”

RAMSAR CONVENTION (ADAPTED):

Wetlands are areas of marsh, fen, peatland or water, whether natural or artificial, permanent or temporary, with water that is static or flowing, fresh, brackish or salt, including areas of marine water the depth of which at low tide does not exceed ten metres.

• Ollis et al
Flow between inventories, assessments, planning and monitoring

- Fine-scale inventories
  Level 1-6 of Classification System (1:50,000)
- Fine-scale data (1:50,000)
  Level 1-3,4 of Classification System
- Other project data (various scales)
- Modelling types and condition

National Wetland Inventory
- Wetland extent
- Wetland types
- Flow, species etc.
  (Accuracy assessments)

Assessments, e.g. NBA
- Priorities

Strategy / Plan, e.g.
Conservation Plan

Monitoring
- Fine-scale monitoring at specific points
- Regional – national scale (remote sensing)

Adopted from Driver et al 2003; Finlayson et al 2005
Protection levels & threat status of wetlands

- Zero protection: 56
- Hardly protected: 16
- Poorly protected: 12
- Moderately protected: 6
- Well protected: 11

% Number ecosystem types
• Thank You