



The Hunter Wetlands Centre is a wildlife sanctuary with a focus on education, conservation and eco-tourism. Situated on 43 hectares, enjoy numerous activities from dipnetting, photography, walking trails, canoeing, bush tucker garden, café and much more. Over 250 wildlife species have been recorded.

Ideally located only 10 minutes from Newcastle and 2 hours from Sydney.

**The Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia is a Ramsar Wetland – a wetland of international significance.**

**Media Contacts:**

For further enquiries, please contact:  
Stuart Blanch  
M: 0403209805  
Ph: 61 02 49516466

[www.wetlands.org.au](http://www.wetlands.org.au)

## Media Release

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### Wetlands Centre enters new phase

Native wildlife will be protected from introduced predators in a new sanctuary created at the Hunter Wetlands Centre.

Introduced predators, such as foxes and cats, are one of the biggest threats to our native wildlife.

A 3.6 km fence has been built to stop predators from entering the new 40 ha sanctuary.

“When all existing feral animals in the sanctuary are removed we believe this will create the largest fox-free sanctuary along the densely populated eastern seaboard of Australia”, said David Crofts, Chair of the Board of Hunter Wetlands Centre Australia.

HWCA hopes the wildlife sanctuary will be an asset for conservation organisations and ecologists to re-introduce wildlife that has become rare or locally extinct.” Construction of the last 480 m of fencing enables us to effectively exclude feral predators for the first time since the first stage of fencing was installed in 1991”

The fence has been completed thanks to funding of almost \$36,000 from the Australian and NSW Governments.

“Community Building Partnership grants are grassroots funding that directly benefits our community to deliver new infrastructure and much-needed improvements”, said Sonia Hornery MP, Member for Wallsend.

“It was my great pleasure to provide \$15,935 to the Hunter Wetlands Centre to install two new solar-powered automatic electric gates for the fence to ensure gates close after use to exclude foxes and cats.”

“These gates will assist the Hunter Wetlands Centre in the vital work they do to protect our native wildlife.”

“I would also like to acknowledge the contribution of the Australian Government of almost \$20,000 and two Green Army Teams which enabled this stage of the fence to be built under the direction of Conservation Volunteers Australia,” said Mr Crofts.

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