



How to use the miniWET-Health



STEP 1: IDENTIFYING LANDCOVER TYPES IN A WETLAND

(A) Identify which land-cover type/s given in Table 1 are found in your wetland. Estimate how much land is covered by each type in the wetland. This is the "extent". Mark this for each category in Table 1.

(B) Take a photo of each of the land cover types identified in your wetland.

STEP 2: IDENTIFYING LANDCOVER TYPES IN THE CATCHMENT

(C) Identify the land cover types occurring in your **wetland catchment**. Estimate how much land is covered by each type in the catchment. This is the "extent". Mark this for each category in Table 2.

(D) Select from the picture reference and mark the extent of the buffer zone (natural vegetation) around the wetland

STEP 3: NOTING ADDITIONAL IMPACTS

(E) Take any additional notes concerning the land-covers identified in Table 1 and 2.

(F) Note any impacts on the wetland which may have not been covered in steps 1 to 3.

STEP 4: FOLLOW UP ACTION

(G) Note any urgent actions required to address identified issues (e.g. illegal dumping of solid waste) and who needs to be contacted.

(H) Note any other key management actions that are required and relevant parties who you think might need to be contacted




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Table 1: Impact intensities for a range of different land-cover types potentially occurring within a wetland

Land-cover/disturbance types	Intensity of impact ¹	Extent in the wetland			
		<5%	5-25%	26-50%	>50%
Annual crops, commercial	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Serious Large			
Annual crops, subsistence	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Large Moderate			
Sugarcane	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Serious Large			
Vineyards & Orchards	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Large Large			
Planted pastures	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Large Large			
Recently abandoned lands	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Large Moderate			
Semi-natural areas, including old abandoned lands	With artificial drainage ² Without artificial drainage ²	Large Small			
Tree plantations		Serious			
Dense infestations of invasive alien plants	Trees Herbaceous invasive alien plants, e.g. American bramble.	Serious Large			
Erosion gullies	Erosion gully with negligible vegetation colonization Erosion gully colonized with vegetation	Serious Serious			
Infilling and infrastructure, including roads and buildings		Critical			
Mines and quarries		Critical			
Sports fields or gardens		Large			
Recent sediment deposits		Large			

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Table 2: Impact intensities for a range of different land-cover types potentially occurring in a w catchment

Land-cover types in the wetland's catchment	Impact intensity ¹	Extent in the wetland's upslope catch		
		<5%	5-25%	26-50%
Tree plantations	Large			
Orchards & vineyards	Large			
Annual crops	Large			
Sugarcane	Large			
Mines and quarries	Critical			
Built up areas, roads, railway lines and airfields	Serious			
Golf courses, sports fields & low density settlements	Moderate			
Semi-natural vegetation, including old lands	None			
Natural vegetation	None			
Eroded areas	Large			
Dams	Large			