

Project 4.7

Assessment of *Phragmites* expansion and control measures at the Seaford Wetlands

Joe Greet & Paul Rees

This project will monitor vegetation at The Seaford Wetlands in companion to capital works aimed at naturalising water regimes and assisting in the control of *Phragmites australis* (Common Reed). The program is monitoring potential expansion of *Phragmites* and assessing the effectiveness of slashing as a control measure.

Outcomes for waterway management: A resurvey of the monitoring sites and a report on assessments of vegetation response based on the three years of post-works data collection.

Details: The Seaford Wetlands vegetation monitoring program was established in April 2013 to accompany capital works at the site aimed at naturalising water regimes and assisting in the control of *Phragmites australis* (Common Reed).

For the program, 24 permanent quadrats were established: 12 for the purpose of monitoring potential expansion of *Phragmites*; and 12 for the purpose of assessing the effectiveness of slashing as a control measure for *Phragmites* (6 of these were subsequently slashed). Six photo-monitoring points, previously established at the site in 2011, were also visited. In March 2014 and 2015, permanent quadrats were resurveyed and the photo-monitoring points revisited. This year, the project will:

- resurvey the 24 quadrats and revisit the photo-monitoring points in 2016; and
- report on assessments of vegetation response based on the three years of 'after' data collected.

The outcome of this project will be a report detailing assessments of any vegetation changes, particularly the expansion/contraction of *Phragmites* (permanent quadrats 1-12, and photo-monitoring points) and response of *Phragmites* to control measures (permanent quadrats 13-24).

project summary



WATERWAY ECOSYSTEM
RESEARCH GROUP



