



A 'Citizen Science' Assessment of the

# State of the World's Wetlands

## Background

In 2017, the World Wetland Network ([www.worldwetnet.org/](http://www.worldwetnet.org/)) the Ramsar Section of the Society of Wetland Scientists ([www.sws.org](http://www.sws.org)) and the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust ([www.wwt.org.uk](http://www.wwt.org.uk)) came together to gather and evaluate information from across the world and to lead a global assessment based on 'citizen-science' knowledge about the state of wetlands.

## Responses

The survey received 541 useable responses from people in 92 countries in seven different languages. If you contributed to this survey, a huge THANK YOU for your invaluable input.

## The state of the world's wetlands

Based on the responses, the global picture suggests that 30% of the wetlands reported on are in a good state, 46% are in a fair state and 24% are in a poor state.

Regional differences were reported. Responses from Africa indicated that 38% of wetlands are in a poor state but only 10.2% of North American wetlands were reported to be in a poor state.

Globally, the responses indicated that the 21% of wetlands have an improving state, but 36% are deteriorating with 43% not changing.

## What's next?

The responses to the survey have provided a very rich source of data. This communication is only intended to provide the headline results. Further analyses are underway, the results of which will be published over the coming months, and will be presented at Ramsar's 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of Contracting Parties (COP13) in Dubai in October 2018.

If you want to be kept informed of progress please contact:

[chris.rostron@worldwetnet.org](mailto:chris.rostron@worldwetnet.org)

