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**Photo:**  
Curlew Sandpiper

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

**Waders populations decline faster than ever**

More than half the populations of waders in Europe, West Asia and Africa are declining at an accelerating rate. There is a need for better protection of the key wetlands along their flyways, especially in Africa and the Middle East.

This is the conclusion of the Wetlands International's [Wader Atlas](#), the first comprehensive overview of key site networks for waders in Europe, West-Asia and Africa, launched in London on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 2009.

[Read more](#)

[Order the Wader Atlas online at NHBS](#)



## UN Climate meeting puts huge emissions from peatland loss on agenda

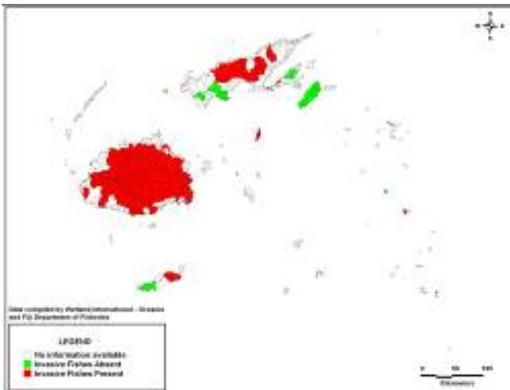
The enormous carbon dioxide emissions from degraded peatlands have finally become an integral part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change ([UNFCCC](#)) agenda. An impressive list of countries have pleaded for inclusion of these so far ignored emissions in national emission accounting.

This major breakthrough is an outcome of the [UNFCCC meeting in Bonn](#) (till April 8) In the upcoming [UNFCCC meeting in June](#), we will continue to advocate for wetlands in a new climate treaty. [Read more](#)

### Photo:

Peat forest near Moscow, Russia

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### Map:

Fiji islands with invaded river catchments (red) and not invaded ones (green)

## Aquaculture diminishes native fish species in Fiji

The invasive fish species of Tilapia and Mosquitofish coming from badly constructed fish farms are diminishing native fish species in Fiji. This is the result of a six-year study to 20 catchments on the Pacific islands. 'Invasive Alien Species' was this year's [International Day for Biological Diversity](#) (22<sup>nd</sup> of May) theme.

The research was done by Wetlands International scientists and Oceania chair of the IUCN/WI [Freshwater Fish Specialist Group](#), Aaron Jenkins and partners, including the [Fiji Department of Fisheries](#). It shows the degree of invasiveness and the deleterious effects of invasive fishes in the Pacific island nation of Fiji. [Read more](#)



**Photo:**

Purple Heron called Gerrit returned to The Netherlands from his long journey to Africa

[www.followthebird.org](http://www.followthebird.org)

**Follow the Bird shows World Migratory Bird Day theme “Barriers to migration“**

In their long journeys each year millions of migratory birds must cross many frontiers and obstacles. Therefore, ‘Barriers to Migration’ is the theme of this year’s [World Migratory Bird Day](#) (9-10 May 2009). The [Follow the Bird!](#) initiative of [Wetlands International](#) has shown that many birds do not make it back home; decreasing stopover wetland sites, hunters, power lines, and even airplanes cross their paths of thousands of kilometers.

Together with [Vogelbescherming Nederland](#) and [Bureau Waardenburg](#), Wetlands International has equipped ten Purple Herons with satellite transmitters on their breeding grounds in the Netherlands and followed them along their migration paths to their non-breeding grounds in west Africa. The journeys of each individual bird can be followed online through the website [www.followthebird.org](http://www.followthebird.org), which shows maps, photos and even videos of the birds and stopover wetlands in Africa.

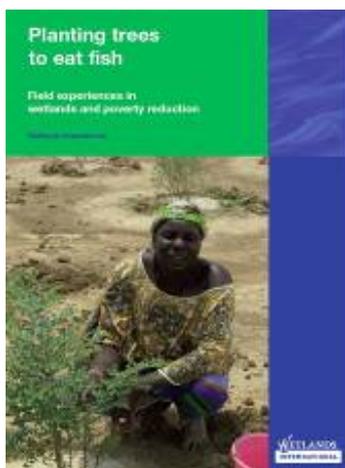
**Announcement**



**Side event at UNFCCC meetings in Bonn**

Wetlands International is organising a side event on 4 June from 18.00-19.30 hours on Measurability, Verifiability and Reportability (MRV) of peatland emissions or emission reductions of peatlands at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) meetings in Bonn, Germany, which last from June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 12<sup>th</sup>. [Read more](#)

**Publications**

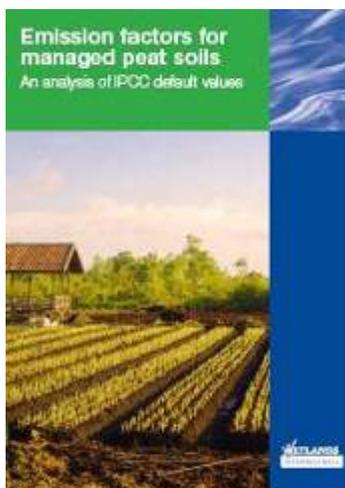


### **Planting trees to eat fish – Experiences in wetlands and poverty reduction**

The book draws on the experiences of four projects (in Indonesia, Kenya, Zambia/Malawi and Mali) that combined conservation and development goals.

The four projects demonstrated – each in a different way – how improving livelihoods and conserving wetlands can go hand in hand. The book tells the story of the problems that the individual projects faced, and how they were addressed. In addition, there is a review of seven other wetland-based projects from around the world.

[Read more & download](#)



### **Emission factors for managed peat soils – An analysis of IPCC default values**

Emission from the loss of peatlands are very poorly covered by the guidelines of (IPCC) the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's. As a result, countries underestimate their greenhouse gas emissions from peatlands. This conclusion is drawn from a study by Wetlands International in cooperation with the University of Greifswald.

[Read more & download](#)

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