



# Vegetation Communities in Transition

**Pre-Restoration** conditions were represented by diking, grazing, mowing, and irrigation. During **Passive Restoration**, cattle were removed, and irrigation ceased. **Full Restoration** involved the removal of the dikes, the lowering of one section of the marsh plain, and the creation of tidal channels.

Plants have responded rapidly to changing conditions. In 2009:

- **grassland communities** occupy 12% of the restoration area, down from 42% in 2008 and 72% in 2003
- **pannes** occupy 30% of the restoration area compared to 8% in 2008 and 2% in 2003
- **brackish marsh communities** occupy 12% of the restoration area up from 8% in 2008 and 2% in 2003

## Community Change: 2003, 2008, 2009

Vegetation Community	2003 Acres	2008 Acres	2009 Acres
<b>Open Water</b>	45.8	52.9	58.8
<b>Salt Marsh Communities</b>			
Salt Marsh-High/Upland Ecotone	5.0	5.2	5.6
Salt Marsh-High	28.2	24.0	23.0
Salt Marsh-Mid	22.3	29.8	58.8
Salt Marsh-Low	0.0	0.0	0.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>59.1</b>	<b>87.6</b>
<b>Brackish Marsh Communities</b>			
Brackish Marsh-Short/Medium	9.4	37.9	63.7
Brackish Marsh-Tall	5.2	12.1	5.1
Non-Tidal Brackish Marsh	0.0	0.0	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>50.1</b>	<b>70.2</b>
<b>Panne/Detrital Communities</b>			
Sparsely Vegetated Detritus/Thatch	0.0	0.0	1.9
Sparsely Vegetated Detritus/Thatch-Open Water	11.4	54.9	7.1
Sparsely Vegetated Mudflat/Panne	0.1	0.0	169.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.5</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>178.4</b>
<b>Grassland Communities</b>			
Salt Marsh Grassland/Pasture	103.1	72.4	8.9
Dry Pasture/Grassland	5.2	7.2	1.6
Moist Grassland-Mixed	5.1	89.7	8.3
Moist Grassland-Native	53.8	51.2	1.7
Moist Grassland-Non-Native	0.0	11.8	32.3
Wet Grassland/Pasture	263.8	27.8	18.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>431.0</b>	<b>260.0</b>	<b>71.0</b>
<b>Meadow Communities</b>			
Moist Meadow	3.1	0.7	0.7
Wet Meadow	27.7	13.5	16.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>30.8</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>17.7</b>
<b>Freshwater Marsh</b>	<b>15.6</b>	<b>14.7</b>	<b>8.3</b>
<b>Riparian Communities</b>			
Forested Riparian	12.0	13.4	11.1
Scrub-Shrub Riparian	23.8	21.6	23.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.9</b>	<b>35.0</b>	<b>34.9</b>
<b>Ruderal</b>	<b>57.0</b>	<b>74.3</b>	<b>66.5</b>

