

Floating Wetlands

- What are we going to do today?
- Short presentation of what are floating wetlands
- Go have a look at a dam with a few previously made floating wetlands



SCENIC RIM

REGIONAL COUNCIL

This one of the floating wetlands from a previous workshop after a few years



Maintenance jobs on floating wetlands

- Weed control
- Fluctuating water levels – don't want to get it grounded (hard to move once roots hit bottom)
- Pulley system or easy to access (so doesn't get grounded)
- Root system can be trimmed to remove captured phosphorous/sediments



Floating wetlands are in all shapes and sizes and for multitude of reasons:

Improve aquaculture farming – used a lot overseas

Improve water quality for dams, farming, conservation

Aesthetics

Habitat island – instant shelter/haven/refuge



Excessive nutrients - table drain



Other uses and ideas for floating wetlands





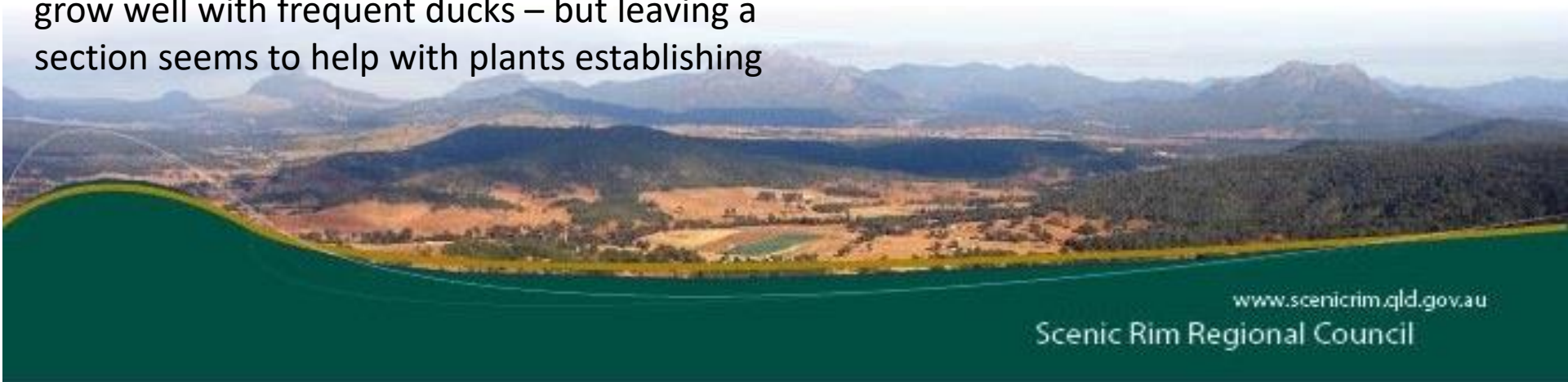
Netting was installed initially for plants to establish & removed at later time

This is floating wetland B4C has constructed and installed and 2-3 years later has black swan & magpie geese laying eggs





May need 1 for ducks as vegetation doesn't grow well with frequent ducks – but leaving a section seems to help with plants establishing

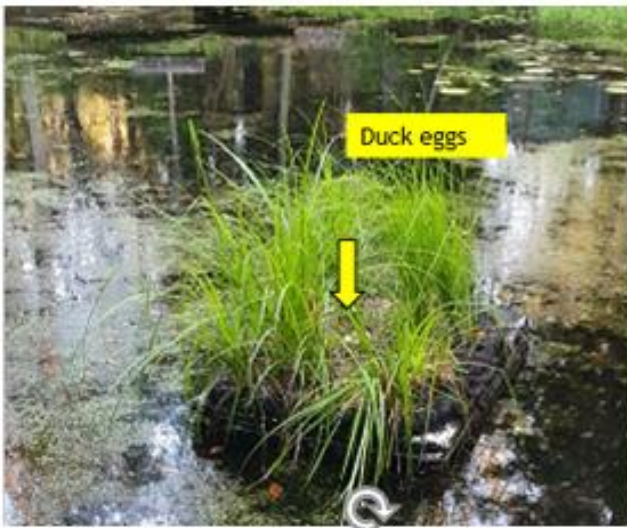




While just about any water plant native or non will grow really well on a FW – it is important not to plant a weed or something that is too big/heavy that will sink your FW.

We suggest: Carex, juncus or other sedge species that are less than 1m in height



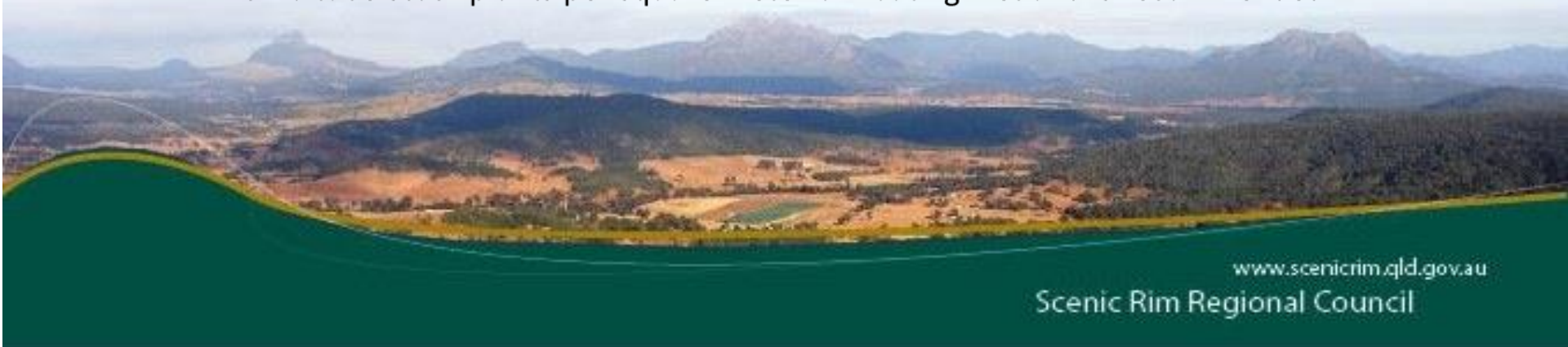


Expectation levels



We will insert the plants today so all you have to do is launch it into dam when get home

Plants should have a maximum growth height of 1-1.5 meters to avoid sinking.
8-10 tube stock plants per square meter of floating wetland is recommended.



Tips for building floating wetlands

Cut 4 sides so they form a square or rectangle – important that it is accurate to keep afloat

Glue – red then blue

Form frame

Put shade cloth over – 2 layers

Secure with zip ties

Insert plants





Launching: Besser block and marine rope, throw in water so it doesn't go to the edge of water and run afloat (plants will root into ground really quickly).

