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wetland

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Full Text:

Wetlands are areas where the land does not drain well. The ground in a wetland is saturated, or full of water. Often the ground is covered with shallow water.



Marsh grasses grow in a saltwater marsh. Marshes and swamps can form in freshwater or salt water.

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Wetlands are usually classified as swamps, marshes, or bogs. The different types of wetlands have different kinds of soil and plants. Both swamps and marshes have soils that contain many minerals. They differ in their plant life. Most of the plants in swamps are trees, but marshes have grassy plants. Bogs differ from swamps and marshes because their soil has few minerals. Only mosses and a few other types of plants can grow in bogs.

Wetlands play a major role in the environment. They are home to a great variety of plants and animals. A wetland system can also protect shorelines, cleanse polluted waters, prevent floods, and restore underground water supplies.

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