

Eyes Above Water: How Drone Photography Supports Wetland Conservation

By TerraLens

Introduction

Wetlands are some of the most ecologically vital yet overlooked landscapes on Earth. They purify water, absorb carbon, reduce flooding, and provide habitat for countless species. But because of their inaccessibility and sensitivity, monitoring wetlands can be a challenge—especially from the ground. That’s where drone technology, like the DJI Mini 2, becomes a powerful tool.

A New Perspective on Fragile Ecosystems

Using lightweight drones allows for low-impact, high-resolution imagery of large wetland areas. From the air, subtle changes in vegetation, water patterns, and erosion become visible—offering a level of detail that satellite images or ground surveys often miss.

Each flight is planned carefully to:

- Follow safe and legal flight paths
- Capture consistent lighting and image overlap
- Minimize disturbance to wildlife

Turning Data into Story

In addition to still images, 4K drone video helps convey the scale, beauty, and importance of wetland systems. These visuals are useful in:

- Environmental assessments

- Restoration project documentation
- Public outreach and grant proposals

By combining science and storytelling, drones help bring wetland conservation into focus—literally.

Why TerraLens

With a background in environmental science (B.S., M.S., and Ph.D.), I understand the ecological context behind every shot. I use drone imaging not just to document nature, but to protect it.



Wetland Restoration, Point Judith, Narragansett, Rhode Island, 11/17/2024