FITZROY REGION

Waterpark catchment water quality targets

Catchment profile

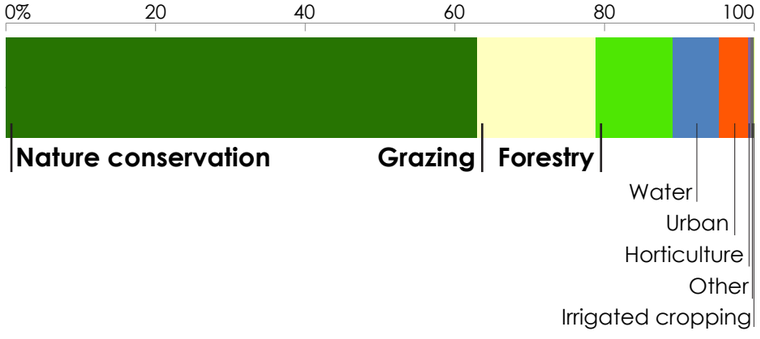
Under the Reef 2050 Water Quality Improvement Plan, water quality targets have been set for each catchment that drains to the Great Barrier Reef. These targets (given over the page) consider land use and pollutant loads from each catchment.

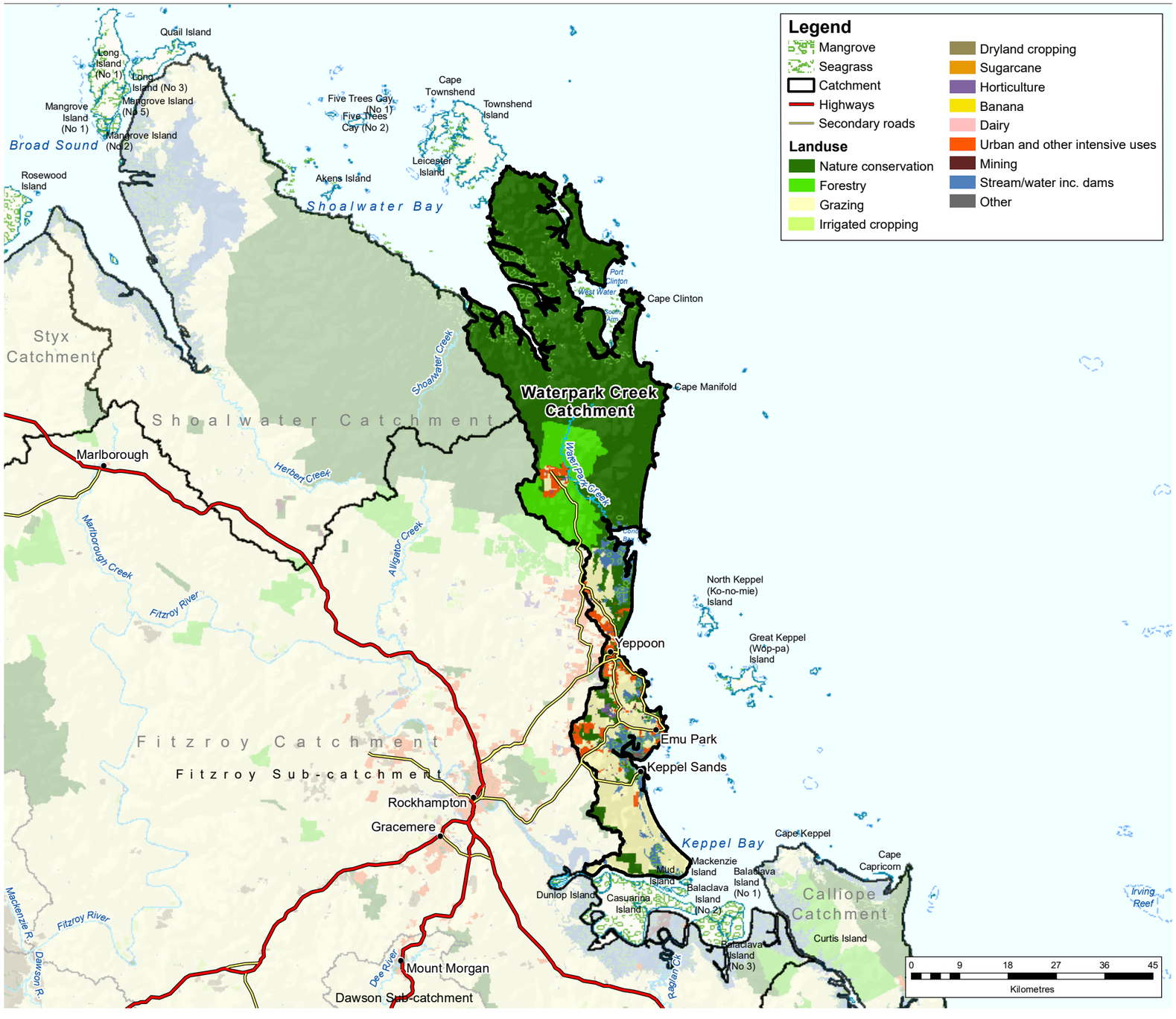
The Waterpark Creek catchment covers 1836 km^2 (1% of the Fitzroy region). Rainfall averages 1245 mm a year, which results in river discharges to the coast of about 632 GL each year.

Waterpark Creek catchment lies on the coastal fringe of the Fitzroy region. The main waterway is Waterpark Creek, which flows to the coast into Corio Bay and drains large areas of conservation land use. In the north of the catchment, Head Creek, Island Head Creek and East Creek drain the northern peninsula, which is part of the Shoalwater Bay Military Training Area. The southern section of the catchment is dominated by grazing, with the township of Yeppoon located on the Ross and Yeppoon creeks.

Land uses in the Waterpark catchment

The main land uses are nature conservation (63%), grazing (16%), and forestry (10%).





2025 water quality targets and priorities

End-of-catchment anthropogenic load reductions required from 2013 baseline

Dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN)	Fine sediment	Particulate phosphorus (PP)	Particulate nitrogen (PN)
maintain current load	**maintain current load**	**maintain current load**	**maintain current load**

Pesticides

To protect at least
99%
of aquatic species at the end of catchment

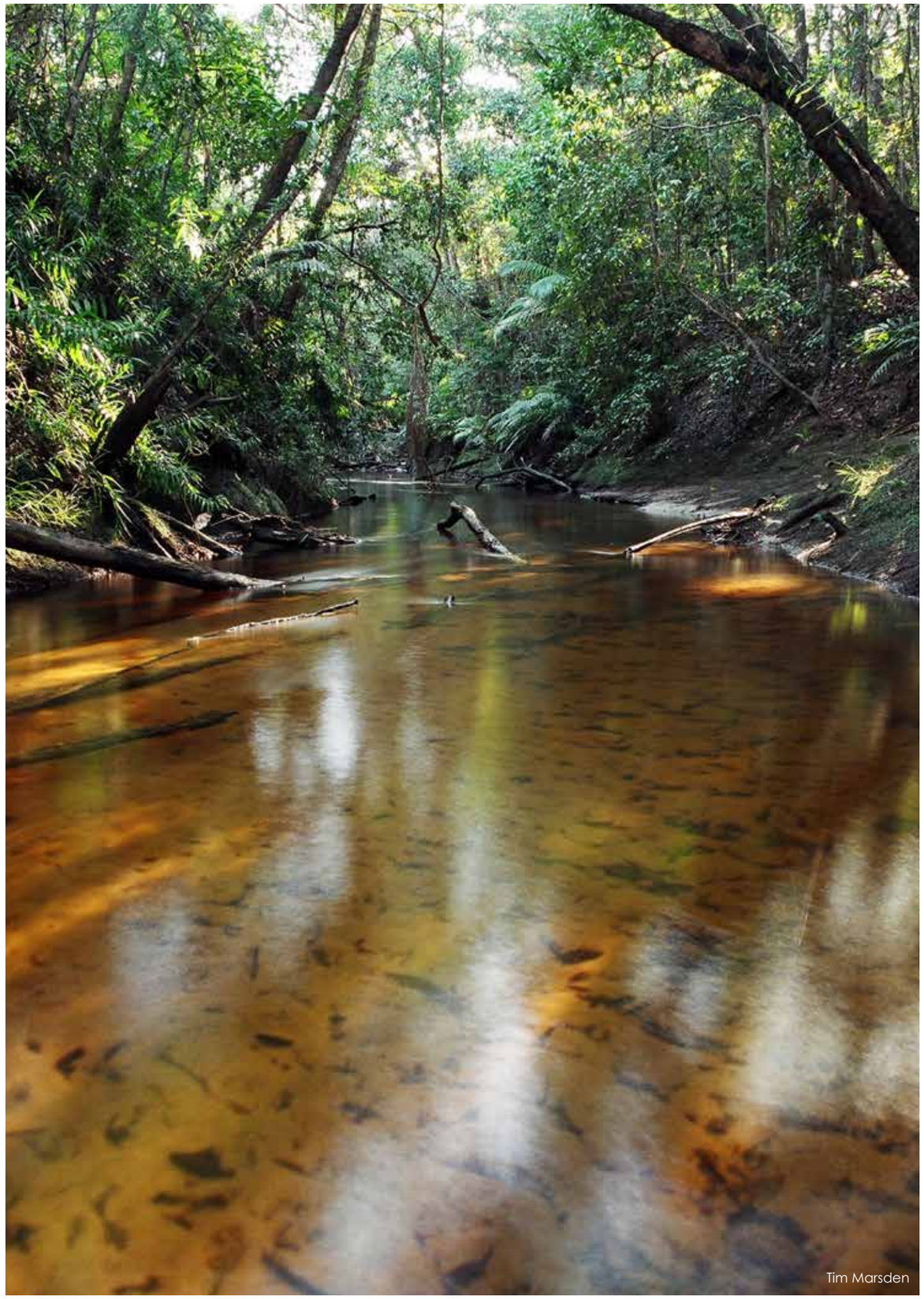
The Waterpark Creek catchment has minimal anthropogenic pollutant loads. The aim is to maintain current water quality so that there are no increases in sediment or nutrient loads.

The 2025 targets aim to reduce the amounts of fine sediments, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus) and pesticides flowing to the reef. Each target for sediment and nutrients is expressed as: (a) the percentage load reduction required compared with the 2013 estimated load of each pollutant from the catchment; and (b) the load reductions required in tonnes. Progress made since 2013 will count towards these targets. Previously reported progress between 2009 and 2013 has already been accounted for when setting the targets. The pesticide target aims to ensure that concentrations of pesticides at the end of each catchment are low enough that 99% of aquatic species are protected. The targets are ecologically relevant for the Great Barrier Reef, and are necessary to ensure that broadscale land uses have no detrimental effect on the reef's health and resilience.

A high percentage reduction target may not necessarily mean it is the highest priority. The priorities (ranked by colour) reflect the relative risk assessment priorities for water quality improvement, based on an independent report, the 2017 Scientific Consensus Statement. The priorities reflect scientific assessment of the likely risks of pollutants damaging coastal and marine ecosystems.

Water quality relative priority

- Very high
- High
- Moderate
- Low
- Minimal
- Not assessed



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