



Kowmung River Subcatchment

The Kowmung River is fed by the tributaries of Tuglow and Hollanders Rivers and Browns Creek. Approximately 70% of the catchment is protected within the Blue Mountains and Kanangra Boyd National Parks, part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The headwaters of the tributary rivers are located in State Forests, much of them characterised by pine plantations which are under an active harvest regime.

The Kowmung River is considered to be in mostly near intact condition, however the tributaries have been subjected to agricultural and forestry development, which have caused erosion and vegetation degradation.

The Boyd Plateau Bogs (including Little Dingo Swamp, Wheengee Whungee Swamps, Little Morong Bog and Roly Whalans Swamp, amongst others) are located within the Kowmung River subcatchment and form part of the Endangered Ecological Community (EEC) known as the Montane Peatlands and Swamps.

Reach Management Recommendations – Kowmung River Subcatchment

Reach Name	Reach Description	Riparian Land Management Category	Reach Values	Reach Threats	Reach management recommendations (Planning, Education, Works, Monitoring, Institutional)
Tuglow R1	From Shooters Hill (on Shooters Hill Rd 25km south of Oberon) to Tuglow Forest Road. Part of the reach runs through Gurnang State Forest.	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access (stock) • Barriers to ecosystem functioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) • Encourage adoption of sustainable land management practices in riparian lands (E) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)
Tuglow R2	From Tuglow Forest Road to end of gorge (at end of series of winding bends) approximately, adjacent to furthest extension of Jaunter Rd at 'yards'.	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access – stock • Barriers to ecosystem functioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) • Encourage adoption of sustainable land use practices in riparian lands (P,E) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)
Tuglow R3	From end of Gorge to Reedy Creek confluence.	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation cover • Significant irrigation water supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access (stock) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) • Encourage adoption of sustainable land management practices in riparian lands (E) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)
Tuglow R4	From Reedy Creek confluence to confluence with Hollanders River (change to Kowmung River).	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation • Good river condition • World Heritage Area (on southern bank for half of reach) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access (stock) • Pest animals • Sediment impacts from upstream 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) • Encourage adoption of sustainable land use practices in riparian lands (P,E) • Pest animal management in riparian zone (P,W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E) • Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)

Reach Management Recommendations – Kowmung River Subcatchment

Reach Name	Reach Description	Riparian Land Management Category	Reach Values	Reach Threats	Reach management recommendations (Planning, Education, Works, Monitoring, Institutional)
Hollanders R1	From Headwater to Budthingeroo Ck.	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access – stock • Barriers to ecosystem functioning • Headwaters incising contributing sediment to river below 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) • Encourage adoption of sustainable land use practices in riparian lands (P,E) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Channel bed or bank stabilisation works (W) • Rural water quality and sediment management (W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)
Hollanders R2	Budthingeroo Ck to confluence with Tuglow River (where it turns into Kowmung River).	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation • Good river condition • World Heritage Area • Identified Flagship Species (World Heritage Area) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barriers to ecosystem functioning. • Sediment impacts from upstream • Willows and pine wildings possible future threat 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement – barriers to fish passage (P,W) • Removal/replacement of exotic vegetation (P,W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E) • Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)
Browns Ck R1	Headwaters in pine plantations to drop over plateau.	Revegetation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access (forestry) • Barriers to ecosystem functioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revegetation with indigenous riparian vegetation (W) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)
Browns Ck R2	Tributary to Tuglow River. Northern riverbank travels alongside Gurnang State Forest.	Revegetation		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access – stock • Barriers to ecosystem functioning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) • Encourage adoption of sustainable land management practices in riparian lands (E) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E) • Revegetation with indigenous riparian vegetation (W)

Near Intact reaches within Reserved Lands: Kowmung R1.