



Mid Coxs River Subcatchment

The Mid Coxs River subcatchment is located in the far-west section of the Hawkesbury Nepean catchment. It is characterised by narrow granite valleys and contains the World Heritage listed Jenolan Caves Karst Conservation Reserve.

The subcatchment has significant areas in reserved land in its lower reaches in the Kanagra Boyd National Park, part of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The subcatchment is highly valued for its recreational values by local and regional communities.

Flows in the Mid Coxs River are impacted by impoundment at Lake Lyell. In the upper area of the subcatchment, there is significant rural development, and pine plantations in the tributary headwaters both of which have altered the vegetation of this subcatchment. The impacts of these activities need to be well managed to prevent degradation of the near intact reaches downstream.

There is a major Landcare association, the Lithgow Oberon Landcare Association, and numerous Landcare groups working in the subcatchment, as well as weed control and mapping programs undertaken by the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Reach Management Recommendations – Mid Coxs River Subcatchment

Reach Name	Reach Description	Riparian Land Management Category	Reach Values	Reach Threats	Reach management recommendations (Planning, Education, Works, Monitoring, Institutional)
Megalong Creek R1		Conservation (Near Intact outside reserve)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)
Jenolan R1	From headwater in Jenolan State Forest through Jenolan Karst Reserve to just downstream of Jenolan Caves Rd (before STP)	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation World Heritage Area (Kanangra Boyd NP) Significant environmental program tied to flagship species (Brush Tailed Rock Wallabies) River based tourism contributes to regional economy Significant community based environment activity (Greencorps and volunteers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified / engineered channel Damaging access (stock) Barriers to ecosystem functioning Flow extraction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) Maintain existing community based environment activity (E,P) Management of stock impacts on waterways (W) Encourage adoption of sustainable land use practices in riparian lands (P,E) Water quantity / flow management (I)
Jenolan R2		Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation World Heritage Area (Kanangra Boyd NP) Popular recreational fishing Significant environmental program tied to flagship species (Brush Tailed Rock Wallabies) River based tourism contributes to regional economy Significant community based environment activity (Greencorps and volunteers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified / engineered channel Damaging access (human – localised to camping ground) Barriers to ecosystem functioning Flow extraction <p>Action Triggers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe downstream impact (STP at Jenolan Caves) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) Maintain existing community based environment activity (E,P) Water quality / nutrient management (I) Manage human impacts at public recreation river access points and along foreshores (E,W)
Jenolan R3	Gorge from just downstream of Jenolan Caves rd to Coxs – nearly all in Kanangra Boyd National Park	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation Good river condition World Heritage Area (Kanangra Boyd National Park) Significant vegetation community (Grey Myrtle Dry Rainforest) Significant community based environment activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Occasional aquatic weed outbreaks (Water Nasturtium) Barriers to ecosystem functioning Flow extraction Sediment impacts from pine plantations upstream <p>Action Triggers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe immediate threat (Jenolan Caves Sewerage Treatment Plant nutrients) Severe downstream impact (weeds) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) Management of aquatic weeds (P,W) Water quantity / flow management Water quality / nutrient management Removal/replacement of exotic riparian vegetation (P,W) Maintain existing community based environment activity (E,P) Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)

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Mid Coxs R1	1. Lake Lyell to Duddawarra (downstream to Deddawarra Gully on Clarke Simpson Rd) 2. Duddawarra past Sandy Hook to bend downstream of "Riverview" (between Nortons and Pulpit Hill Cks)	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation • National Park • Significant vegetation community (Wollondilly / Shoalhaven Gorge Woodland) • Popular recreational fishing • Popular swimming • Significant flagship species (Platypus) • Significant community based environment activity (Mt Kanimbla and Kanimbla Valley Landcare Groups) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquatic weed outbreaks (Elodia & Umbrella Weeds) • Barriers to ecosystem functioning • Flow regulation (Drinking water dams) • Flow extraction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management of aquatic weeds (P,W) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Water quantity / flow management (I) • Maintain existing community based environment activity (E,P) • Maintenance of recreational values (M)
Mid Coxs R2	From bend downstream of "Riverview", between Nortons and Pulpit Hill Cks to Kowmung River confluence	Conservation (most in reserve)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P) <p>Most of reach in Kanangra Boyd National Park</p>
Jocks R1	Headwater from Great Dividing Range adjacent to Mt Arthur on Rydal – Hampton Rd to just downstream of the Old Bathurst Rd (fire trail)	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access (stock) • Flow extraction <p>Action Triggers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Severe immediate threat – Crack Willow 	<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) • Removal/replacement of exotic riparian vegetation (W) • Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)
Jocks R2	From just downstream of Old Bathurst Rd to confluence with Coxs River	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good riparian vegetation • Good river condition • Significant vegetation community (Wollondilly-Shoalhaven Gorge Woodland) • Identified Flagship Species (Platypus; Bentwing Bats) • Some community based environment activity (Catchment Protection Scheme) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaging access (stock) • Barriers to ecosystem functioning • Flow extraction • 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) • Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) • Water management – quantity (I) • Maintain existing community based environment activity (E,P) • Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)

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River Lett R1		Conservation (Near Intact outside reserve)			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)
River Lett R2	From Kerosene Creek to junction with Coxs River	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation National Park Significant vegetation community (Wollondilly-Shoalhaven Gorge Woodland) Popular recreational fishing Popular swimming Significant environmental program tied to flagship species (<i>Australasia buxifolia</i>) Significant irrigation water supply Significant community based environment activity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damaging access (human at public recreation access points at council parks) Barriers to ecosystem functioning Flow extraction <p>Action Triggers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Severe downstream impact (STP discharge into tributary) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manage human impacts at public recreation river access points and along foreshores (E,W) Aquatic habitat condition and connectivity improvement (P,W) Water quantity / flow management (I) Maintenance of recreational values (M) Maintain existing community based environment activity (E,P) Water quality / nutrient management (I)
Little River R1	State Forest upper section	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation cover 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Damaging access 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)
Little River R2	Not listed	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation Good river condition Popular recreational fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sediment impacts from reaches upstream 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E) Develop conservation management agreements to protect remnant riparian vegetation (P)
Little River R3	Not listed	Assisted Regeneration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good riparian vegetation Popular recreational fishing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearing of floodplain Willows 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal/replacement of exotic riparian vegetation (W) Increase community capacity for environmental restoration (E)

Creeks of Community Concern: Lowther Creek.