Water Matters
now and for the future

Integrated water management plan 2023-2050

Unitywater

seqwater
WATER FOR LIFE

Sunshine Coast
COUNCIL

NOOSA
Council

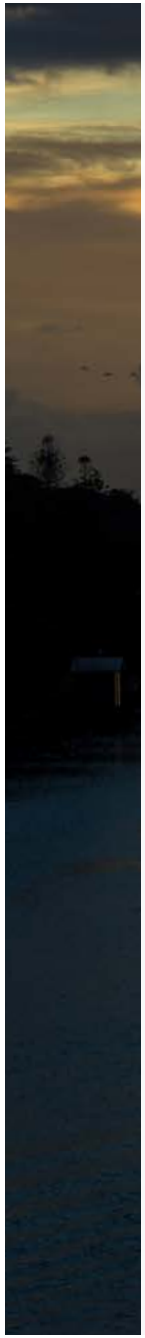
Acknowledgement of Country

Unitywater and our Water Matters partners acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the lands on which we operate – the Jinibara, Kabi Kabi and Turrbal people. We recognise their significant contributions to the conservation of our environment and their deep connection to the land and waters.

We pay respects to their Elders, past and present, and acknowledge the important role all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples continue to play within our communities.

Our Cultural Spring motif symbolises a **water hole**, traditionally a gathering place where knowledge is shared. The depth of colour illustrates the **connection between land and water** and our **commitment to reconciliation**, bringing our people together and fostering a deeper understanding and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

We are proud to have worked with Gilimbaa Creative Agency on the cultural artwork.

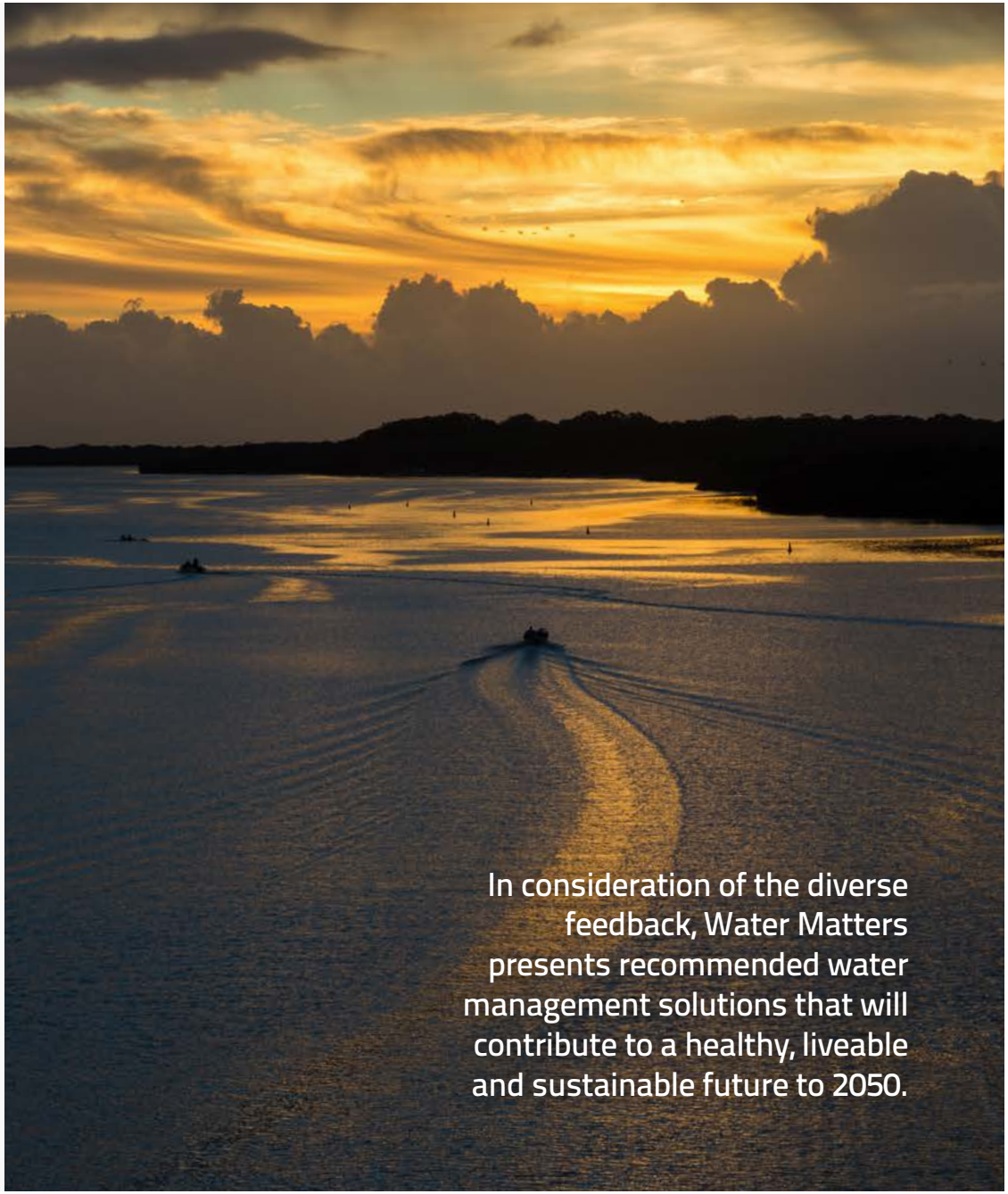


Project overview

Water is one of our most precious natural resources. It is a vital part of our daily lives, both at home and in our local communities across the Sunshine Coast and Noosa regions.

With our growing population, a changing climate, and the desire to keep improving our regions, it is imperative that we have a plan for how we will manage our water in a more integrated and sustainable way.

The Water Matters partner organisations – Unitywater, Sunshine Coast Council, Noosa Council and Seqwater – have been working with the community, First Nations groups and stakeholders since 2020 to consider the Water Matters plan from community, environment and economic perspectives.



In consideration of the diverse feedback, Water Matters presents recommended water management solutions that will contribute to a healthy, liveable and sustainable future to 2050.

Partner statements

Water is one of our most precious resources. It's essential to our way of life in the Noosa and Sunshine Coast regions.

As we navigate our changing climate, and respond to the pressures of our increasing population, The Water Matters plan will help guide us in managing water resources for future generations.

I'd like to thank our partners, Seqwater, Noosa and Sunshine Coast Councils for their support in developing this plan; and their ongoing commitment to implementing these initiatives over the next thirty years, recognising the key role each organisation has in our urban water cycle.

I'd also like to acknowledge our First Nations Partners, The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara People, who have cared for these catchments for tens of thousands of years and continue to do so today.

Since 2020, we've worked with our local community to shape the Water Matters plan. Feedback from the community has helped inform our range of management options, and supports our vision of a healthy, liveable and sustainable future for our region, with blue and green projects at the forefront.

I am pleased to deliver the final Water Matters plan, and look forward to seeing the benefits to our region's liveability over the coming years.

Anna Jackson
Chief Executive Officer

Unitywater

Partner statements (continued)

Seqwater appreciates the collaborative approach that Unitywater undertook to develop the Water Matters plan as part of the Sunshine Coast and Noosa Region Total Water Cycle Management planning project.

Each partner involved in the development of the plan has a key role to play in building the future of water for our region.

As the lead organisation responsible for securing and delivering bulk water supplies, Seqwater welcomes the ongoing opportunities to work together with Unitywater, Councils, communities and Traditional Custodians to focus on prioritising risks to water quality and source water catchments.

We look forward to further collaborating to explore opportunities to optimise investment across the drinking water supply system to meet our shared objectives for a healthy, liveable and sustainable future for our region.

Will Harpham
Interim Chief Executive Officer

seqwater
WATER FOR LIFE

Noosa Council has participated in the Unitywater process of developing the Water Matters plan and has been appreciative of the opportunity to be involved.

Council looks forward to working collaboratively with Unitywater to improve waterway health in Burgess Creek, including rehabilitation of the riparian corridor, and impacts of urban stormwater and discharge from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Since 2020, Noosa Council has partnered with Unitywater and been involved in developing a range of management options for the Burgess Creek catchment, including the installation of groundwater monitoring bores to better understand sources of pollutants in the catchment, a biopassage analysis to determine fish movements, and a partnership with the University of the Sunshine Coast to better understand creek form and water quality changes in Burgess Creek.

Noosa Council is committed to continuing this partnership and working towards implementing management options for the Burgess Creek Catchment over the coming years. Together, Councils, Unitywater, Seqwater and Traditional Custodians all play a role in shaping the future of water for our region.

Noosa Council supports the Water Matters plan, and its vision to contribute to a healthy, liveable and sustainable future for the Sunshine Coast and Noosa region, with water at the heart.

Larry Sengstock
Chief Executive Officer

NOOSA Council

Sunshine Coast Council is proud to be a partner of the Water Matters Plan. As more people call our region home and we prepare to co-host the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, water security remains a top priority.

We congratulate Unitywater for leading this initiative to integrate their water service planning with common strategic goals of our Council, Seqwater and Noosa Council, through extensive engagement with community, industry and First Nations stakeholders.

The integrated management solutions in this plan aim to achieve our shared vision of sustainable water management and enhanced liveability of our region for future generations.

Sunshine Coast Council looks forward to continuing this collaborative approach and supporting implementation of these solutions across our highly valued coastal catchments.

Debra Robinson
Acting Chief Executive Officer

Sunshine Coast COUNCIL

What is the Water Matters plan?

Water Matters is the Sunshine Coast and Noosa region integrated water management planning project.

The project is coordinated by Unitywater and brings together partner organisations across the water cycle: Seqwater; Sunshine Coast Council and Noosa Council.

seqwater WATER FOR LIFE	Unitywater	Sunshine Coast COUNCIL / NOOSA Council
Key roles within the urban water cycle		
Source, treat and supply drinking water for the South East Queensland (SEQ) Region to SEQ Service Providers (e.g. Unitywater) Plan to **meet SEQ regional water security needs** into the future (Water Security Program)	**Distribution of drinking water** (supplied by Seqwater) to customers in the Noosa, Sunshine Coast and City of Moreton Bay Council Areas Supply of **fit-for-purpose recycled water** **Collect, transport** and **treat wastewater** Trade waste management	**Stormwater quality and quantity management** **Land use planning** and **development regulation** (with the state government) **Catchment management** (with the state government and natural resource management partners) **Regulation** of activities that can **affect waterway health** (with the state government)
Key planning instruments		
Water security program Drought management planning	Water and wastewater long-term strategies Water and wastewater asset management plans	Stormwater management plans Environmental and catchment management plans Local planning schemes and local government infrastructure plans Development approval processes

The Water Matters plan does not seek to duplicate what is done through these planning instruments, but rather aims to bring together organisations that influence the water cycle and draw on and identify synergies and gaps to realise environmental, social and economic benefits by managing the following key water cycle elements in a more collaborative and integrated way.

Water Matters Purpose and Vision

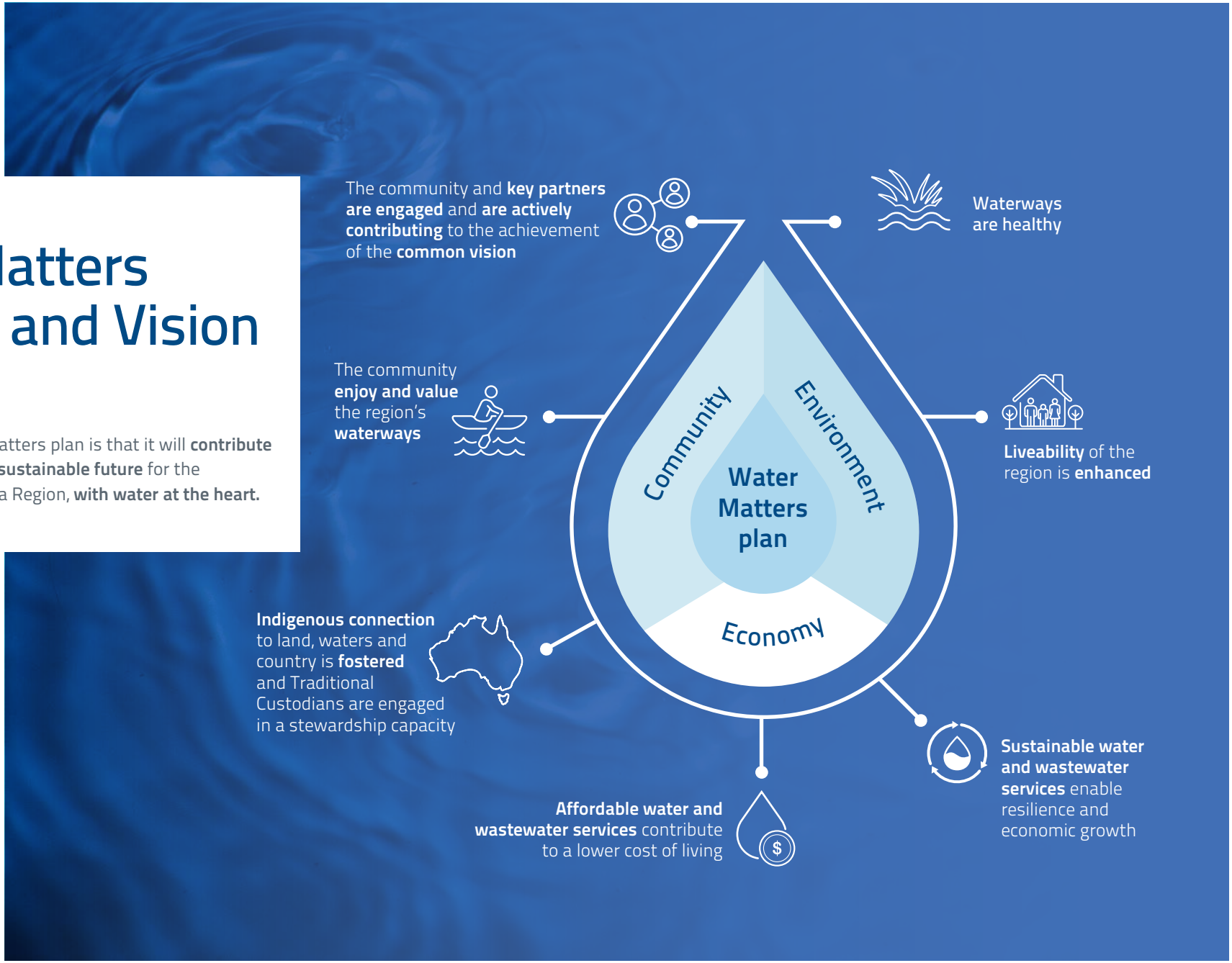
Purpose

The purpose of Water Matters is to make an **integrated plan for managing parts of the water cycle over the next 30 years**, providing cost effective water-related services, while protecting the **health** and associated **economic**, **social** and cultural benefits of our waterways that reflect the priorities of our **community**.

Water Matters Purpose and Vision

Vision

The vision of the Water Matters plan is that it will **contribute to a healthy, liveable and sustainable future** for the Sunshine Coast and Noosa Region, **with water at the heart.**



Catchment Areas

Water Matters focusses on four catchment areas within our region.

These are catchments that have already been impacted by, or are currently facing greater pressures from, growing populations or changes to the environment.

The catchment areas are:

- Burgess Creek
- Maroochy River
- Mooloolah River
- Northern Pumicestone Passage.

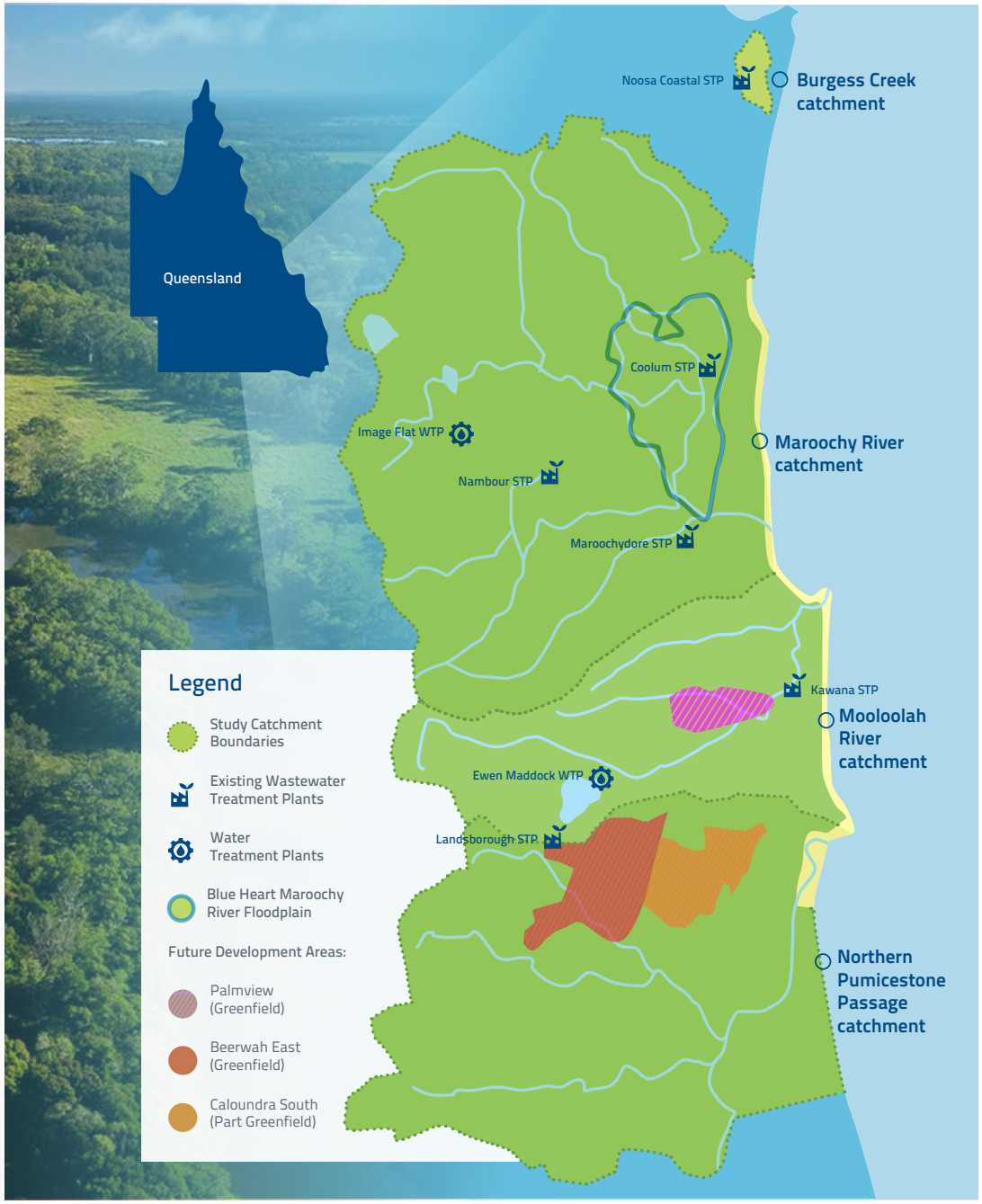
The four catchments cover an area of about 1,273 square kilometres, with a mix of urban areas, rural land, reserves, national parks and coastline. The combined population of 300,000 people is expected to grow to more than 500,000 by 2050.

Most of this growth will be in the Mooloolah River and Northern Pumicestone Passage catchments, in the emerging communities of Kawana, Caloundra South, Sippy Downs, Palmview and Beerwah East. There is some greenfield development projected for the Maroochy River catchment, and only infill development expected in the Burgess Creek catchment.

These catchment areas are the ancestral homelands of the Traditional Custodians, the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Peoples. They hold immense cultural and spiritual significance.

Over tens of thousands of years these catchments have provided shelter, resource, trade and a place for ceremony. The Kabi Kabi and Jinibara Peoples have a continuing connection to these catchments.

The abundance of bunya pines throughout the region also gave rise to important gathering places for the Bonyee (bunya) Festival. First Nations people travelled great distances from coastal and inland areas to complete ceremony, trade, and share resources from the area. In particular, the Mooloolah River estuary, and Petrie Creek and Caplick Creek in the Maroochy River catchment were significant sites before, during and after the festivals.



Pressures and Opportunities

While these catchment areas are facing certain pressures, a number of opportunities exist to better manage parts of the water cycle.

Pressures

Responding to a changing climate, as shifting weather patterns lead to more intense and unusual events like extreme storms, prolonged periods without rain, and heat waves. This change will put stress on our waterways and ecosystems, impacting the availability of water and challenging the systems we use to provide clean water and manage wastewater.

Preparing for a growing population, with increasing urbanisation of the landscape intensifying the challenges associated with managing water resources. The demand for water supply and wastewater treatment will also rise, putting pressure on both our urban and natural systems.

Opportunities

Creating more resilient and diverse water supply sources, regenerating the landscape so it is more resilient and contributing to liveability in the long term.

Reducing sediments and nutrients like nitrogen and phosphorus entering into waterways to look after waterway health.

Contributing to Water Matters partners' long term environmental sustainability aspirations around carbon emissions, nutrient discharges to waterways, recycled water diversions and vegetation and biodiversity benefits.

Innovation that further improves the recovery of water and resources at wastewater treatment plants.

Project Timeline

2020

Early engagement to help shape the plan

We spoke to key stakeholders to understand what matters to them and explore initial thoughts on the options considered as part of the Water Matters plan.

2021 to 2022

Options analysis

Exploring different options using technical knowledge and feedback from the early engagement stage, including testing and analysing scenarios for consideration.

November 2022 to June 2023

Community engagement on draft options

Community and industry invited to share what water matters are important to them and any further ideas, and to provide feedback on the Water Matters draft plan.

July 2023 to late 2024

Sharing our finalised Water Matters plan

Finalising the plan based on what we heard from the community and key stakeholders.

Late 2024 onwards

Progressing prioritised solutions

Planning for implementation and ongoing collaboration on actions.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement

Unitywater has been engaging with a broad cross-section of community, industry partners and stakeholders since 2020 to inform the development of the Water Matters plan.

This has included engaging with:

- Peak bodies and associations
- Industry representatives, including from the agribusiness, tourism and development sectors
- Local community groups
- Local residents
- First Nations groups and Traditional Owners
- State and local governments.

The top future planning considerations identified by the community include:

- Enhancing the health of local waterways
- Investment in alternative water supplies
- Recycling water.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement (continued)

Early engagement program (2021)

Overall participation rates

Social Media Polls
625 responses to polls posted for Water Matters

Online Survey **2,402** responses

Purpose of engagement

Through **face-to-face interviews**, **online polls** and a **survey**, participants were asked to **identify challenges** facing local waterways, as well as **potential opportunities**

Engagement on draft options (2023)

Overall participation rates

95 participants across 5 activities

Many **community members** reached through pop-up events

Purpose of engagement

The engagement program gave the community and stakeholders the **opportunity to review** and **provide feedback** on elements of the draft Water Matters Plan, **seeking a variety of viewpoints and ideas** to gain a balanced understanding of issues and interests.

Engagement activities included an **online survey**, a **community forum, industry forum, First Nations dialogue** and **two community deliberative panels** specifically for the Burgess Creek catchment area.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement (continued)

Early engagement program (2021)

What we heard

Key themes, challenges and opportunities around:

- How water is used and valued needs to change
- Local waterways are facing pressure from increased development, population growth and recreational water use, with soils and other contaminants running into rivers from land use
- Traditional practices can be used for land and water management
- Future water security and supply is also an issue
- Land management to keep soil on the land
- Riparian revegetation to stabilise eroding riverbanks
- Opportunities for partnerships and education.

Engagement on draft options (2023)

What we heard

Engagement participants responded positively to all elements of the draft Water Matters plan, including indicating support for all draft water management options.

Participants also provided additional feedback and ideas, with key themes emerging around:

- Waterway health outcomes being a high priority for the community
- Impacts of population growth and new development on waterway health
- The importance of education and water literacy
- Opportunities for capacity building in the community
- Supporting Traditional Owners to implement traditional land and water management practices, including partnering to deliver programs.

77% of participants deemed "improved erosion and sediment control" a high priority option

Community and Stakeholder Engagement (continued)

Community feedback and ideas have been considered on the basis of delivering a balanced approach to integrated and sustainable water and wastewater management.

Some ideas have been incorporated into the Plan to inform implementation in the short to medium term, while others have been flagged for future consideration. Some ideas relate more strongly to other planning instruments beyond the scope of Water Matters and have been captured for exploration through these processes.

Overall, **feedback from the community and key stakeholders** indicated **support for the Water Matters process**. All recommended options presented in the draft Water Matters plan will be further explored under the next phase of implementation planning and actions.

Community Prioritisation

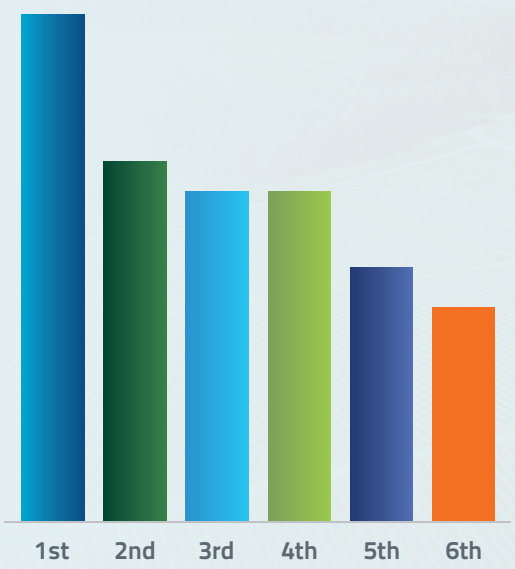
Community Panel and online forum participants were presented with a draft of six key outcomes for the Water Matters plan, and invited to rank these in priority order, to assist in understanding the priorities of community and stakeholders.

Aggregate results from engagement across community panels and online forums showed that:

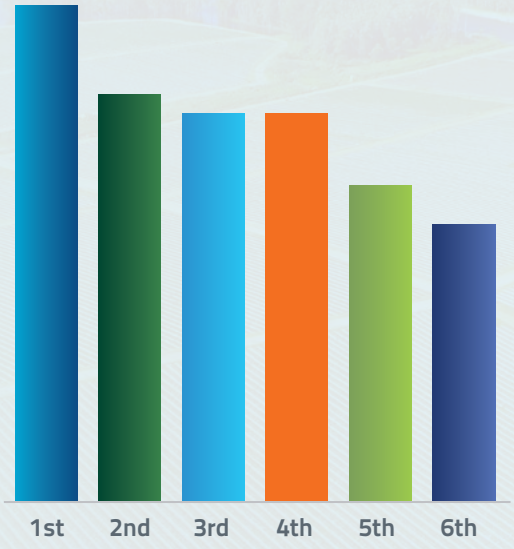
- Healthy Waterways was the top priority for both community and industry participants, and Burgess Creek Catchment panel members.
- Sustainable Water and Wastewater Services followed as the second highest priority for community and industry forum participants, while Affordable Water and Wastewater Services was preferred by Burgess Creek Catchment panel members.
- Enhanced Liveability was the third highest priority for community and industry forum participants while Sustainable Water and Wastewater Services was preferred by Burgess Creek Catchment Panel members.

"Healthy Waterways" was ranked the top priority for community and industry participants

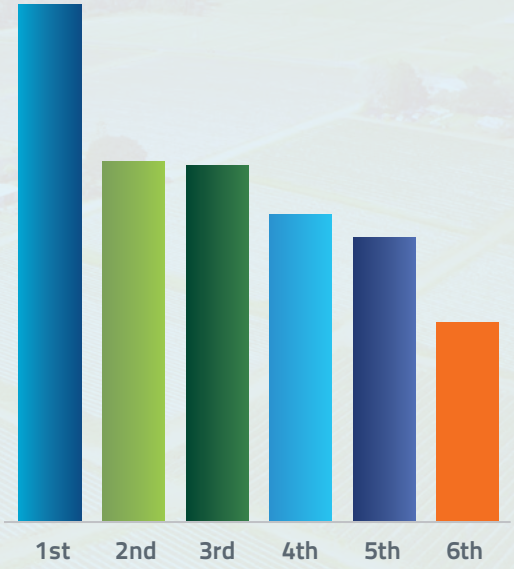
Community Prioritisation (continued)



Online community forum Priorities



Online Industry forum Priorities



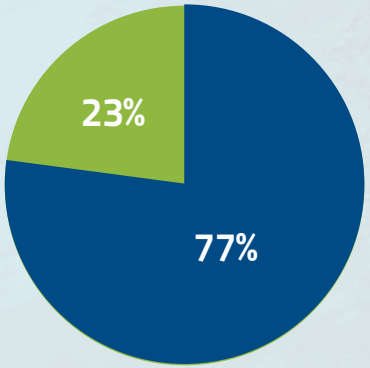
Burgess Creek Community Panel Priorities

- Waterways are healthy
- Liveability of the region is enhanced
- The community enjoy and value the region's waterways
- Sustainable water and wastewater services enabling resilience and economic growth
- Affordable water and wastewater services that contribute to a lower cost of living
- The community and key partners feel engaged and are actively contributing to the achievement of the common vision

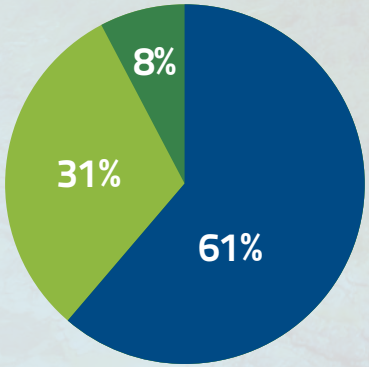
Community Prioritisation (continued)

Feedback on "all catchment areas" options indicate that community and stakeholders see all options as being effective and high priority.

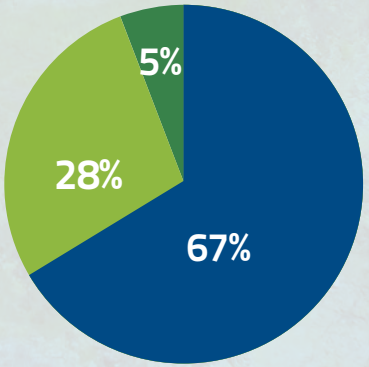
High priority | Medium priority | Low priority



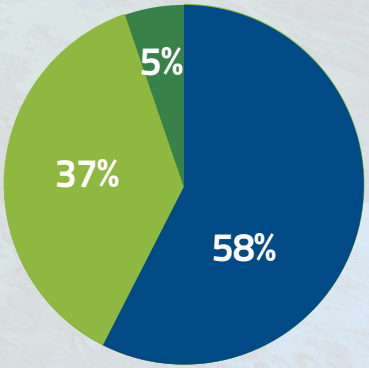
Improved erosion and sediment control



Education and improving water literacy



Existing fit-for-purpose recycled water



Improving water and resource recovery

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options

Based on the outcomes from community and stakeholder engagement, and in consultation with subject matter experts, a list of recommended options for managing our water in a more integrated and sustainable way across the four catchments has been identified.

Each water management option was assessed on the basis of **environmental, social, financial** and **technical performance**, and **community feedback** with the highest rated options suggested for the Water Matters plan.

The table over the following pages is an overview of the recommended water management options for each catchment area. The options are high level concepts only and will be subject to further investigation, planning and consultation, and will be implemented over different timeframes.

The intent is for water management options to be delivered collaboratively among partner organisations and a range of additional supporting agencies and stakeholders.

Partnerships with Traditional Owners will also be important to deliver key water management solutions, alongside programs to support and build the capacity of Traditional Owner groups.

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
All catchments		
1. **Improved erosion and sediment control**	Putting improved erosion and sediment control programs into place for all future developments.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing soil washing into rivers.
2. **Education to improve water literacy and capacity-building for the community**	Collaborative delivery of targeted community education programs and improved access to information about water quality. Improving water literacy to enhance understanding about the natural and urban water cycles. Dedicated demand management and water conservation education programs that target specific behaviours. Continuing support for community groups to implement environmental and land care programs through grants and partnerships, and enhanced working relationships to build capacity in the community to care for our waterways.	▪ Community and customers have improved water literacy and are better informed about the water journey, from catchment to tap, and are empowered to take actions that contribute to positive outcomes for the urban water cycle. ▪ Community groups are empowered and have support to work together to improve waterways.
3. **Existing fit-for-purpose recycled water use**	Continuing to supply recycled water to existing customers.	▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing discharges into waterways.

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Burgess Creek catchment		
1. **Expanded fit-for-purpose recycled water use**	Expanding the existing recycled water network to potential customers.	▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy through reducing discharges to waterways.
2. **Riparian regeneration**	Partnership approach to remove weeds around Burgess Creek and regenerate with native plants.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy and improve climate resilience. ▪ Helps to reduce erosion ▪ Improved biodiversity. ▪ Enhance amenity benefits to community.
3. **Enhancing management of stormwater runoff quality**	Retrofitting further water sensitive design devices (such as infiltration basins) to help manage stormwater quality. Managing stormwater runoff quality in using Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) that meets State Planning Policy (SPP) targets.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Burgess Creek catchment (continued)		
4. Improvements to the Noosa wastewater treatment plant	Continual investment in the performance of the Noosa wastewater treatment plant to protect waterway health in Burgess Creek and realise community benefits. This will include exploring innovative processes and investment where there is potential to: ▪ achieve water quality improvements (for example, through advanced nutrient removal) ▪ further improve the recovery of water and resources ▪ introduce new or more sustainable effluent management practices ▪ manage peak flows (for example, from significant wet weather events), and ▪ reduce the greenhouse gas emissions-intensity of treatment processes, while balancing community affordability and overall community benefits.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy ▪ Improve the recovery of water and resources at wastewater treatment plants ▪ Lower nutrient discharges and achieve circular economy outcomes ▪ Renewable energy generation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions from treatment processes

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Maroochy River catchment		
1. **Expanded fit-for-purpose recycled water use**	Expanding the existing recycled water network to potential customers near the Coolum and Maroochydore wastewater treatment plants.	▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy through sustainable wastewater management practices.
2. **Managing stormwater runoff quality in new developments**	Managing stormwater runoff quality in new developments using Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) that meets State Planning Policy (SPP) targets.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.
3. **Nambour Horticulture hub - recycled water irrigation scheme**	Working collaboratively to create a new horticultural precinct in the greater Nambour area with a supply of fit-for-purpose recycled water.	▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Employment / agri-business opportunities. ▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy through sustainable wastewater management practices.
4. **Riparian revegetation**	Revegetation of parts along the waterway where the riparian corridor is degraded.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy. ▪ Improved biodiversity. ▪ Enhance amenity (benefits to community).
5. **Rural Best Management Practices (BMP) for grazing**	Programs to continue to support rural best management practices such as revegetating and restricting stock from waterways on agricultural (grazing) lands where the riparian corridor is degraded.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Maroochy River catchment (continued)		
6. Rural BMPs for horticulture	Programs to continue to support best management practices in horticulture areas, such as using buffer strips to reduce the loss of soil from horticultural land and to help prevent sediment and nutrients from entering waterways.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.
7. Blue Heart wetland regeneration	Continuing the Blue Heart partnership and opportunities for sustainable and adaptive floodplain management including wetland regeneration.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy and improve climate resilience. ▪ Improved biodiversity. ▪ Reduces greenhouse gases. ▪ Recreation / tourism opportunities.
8. Wastewater treatment plant improvements	Continual investment in the performance of the Coolum, Maroochydore and Nambour wastewater treatment plants to protect waterway health in the Maroochy River and realise community benefits. This will include exploring innovative processes and investment where there is potential to: ▪ achieve water quality improvements ▪ further improve the recovery of water and resources ▪ introduce new or more sustainable effluent management practices ▪ manage peak flows (for example, from significant wet weather events), and ▪ reduce the greenhouse gas emissions-intensity of treatment processes, while balancing community affordability and overall community benefits.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy ▪ Improve the recovery of water and resources at wastewater treatment plants ▪ Lower nutrient discharges and achieve circular economy outcomes ▪ Renewable energy generation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions from treatment processes

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Mooloolah River catchment		
1. **Expanded fit-for-purpose recycled water use**	Expanding the existing recycled water network to potential customers near the Kawana wastewater plant.	▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing nutrient discharges to waterways.
2. **Managing stormwater runoff quality in new developments**	Managing stormwater runoff quality in new development using Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) that meets State Planning Policy (SPP) targets in all new urban development areas currently planned until 2050.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.
3. **Riverbank stabilisation and riparian revegetation**	Targeted riverbank stabilisation and riparian revegetation to reduce erosion and sediments and nutrients entering the river.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy and improve climate resilience. ▪ Improved biodiversity

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Mooloolah River catchment (continued)		
4. Wastewater treatment plant improvements	Continual investment in the performance of the Kawana and Landsborough wastewater treatment plants to protect waterway health in the Mooloolah River and realise community benefits. This will include exploring innovative processes and investment where there is potential to: ▪ achieve water quality improvements ▪ further improve the recovery of water and resources ▪ introduce new or more sustainable effluent management practices ▪ manage peak flows (for example, from significant wet weather events), and ▪ reduce the greenhouse gas emissions-intensity of treatment processes, while balancing community affordability and overall community benefits.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy. ▪ Improve the recovery of water and resources at wastewater treatment plants ▪ Lower nutrient discharges and achieve circular economy outcomes ▪ Renewable energy generation and reduced greenhouse gas emissions from treatment processes

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option	Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Northern Pumicestone Passage catchment		
1. **Managing stormwater runoff quality**	Making sure existing conditions are maintained or improved to meet a minimum of 'no net increase' (NNI) in pollutant loads following development.	Helps to keep waterways healthy and reduce the impact of new development and population growth by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.
2. **Beerwah East local stormwater harvesting**	Consideration of stormwater harvesting for local uses in Beerwah East (e.g., sports field irrigation).	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy. ▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources.
3. **Rainwater tanks**	To provide alternative sources of water (for certain uses) in new developments by making rainwater tanks a mandatory requirement.	▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing or slowing runoff which can reduce erosion and sediments flowing into waterways.
4. **Rural BMPs, horticulture (bioreactors)**	A collaborative program on use of 'bioreactor beds and walls' to help treat groundwater flows from horticultural sites before they are released into waterways.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing sediments and nutrients flowing into waterways.
5. **Riparian revegetation**	Targeted riparian revegetation to reduce erosion and sediments and nutrients entering the river.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy and improve climate resilience. ▪ Improved biodiversity.

Recommended Integrated Water Management Options (continued)

Recommended Management Option		Solution Description	Potential Benefits
Northern Pumicestone Passage catchment (continued)			
6.	**Aura stormwater harvesting**	Consideration of stormwater harvesting for a range of uses (e.g., sports fields, development).	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy. ▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources.
7.	**Glasshouse Mountains recycled water irrigation scheme**	Collaborating on developing a new fit-for-purpose recycled water scheme for the horticulture industry and other potential users in the Beerwah and Glasshouse Mountains areas.	▪ Helps to keep waterways healthy by reducing discharges into waterways. ▪ Improving resilience through increased diversity in water sources. ▪ Employment / agri-business opportunities

Next steps

Late 2024

Sharing the finalised Water Matters plan

Commence Late 2024

Implementation planning

Engaging with partners and stakeholders to identify priority actions in the short-, medium- and long-term to deliver on identified solutions

This will factor in a range of considerations, including technical constraints, broader programs of work, the need to balance costs with the needs of customers and community, as well as the outcomes of community engagement.

Late 2024 onwards

Exploring prioritised solutions

Stakeholder engagement, feasibility studies and business case processes to further explore key water management solutions, including providing regular updates to community and stakeholders

Beyond

Regular review of recommendations

Progress tracking and regular review to consider and adapt to changing drivers, environmental, social and economic context, and emerging opportunities, in collaboration with key partners, stakeholders, and the community

You can find out more about the Water Matters plan, including the Engagement Report and frequently asked questions at **www.communityhub.unitywater.com/water-matters**