

Implementing the *Pumicestone Passage and Catchment Action Plan 2013-2016*

On behalf of the Pumicestone Catchment Network

October 2015 edition



Guided by the councils of Sunshine Coast and Moreton Bay, the Catchment Network developed and is implementing the *Pumicestone Passage and Catchment Action Plan 2013–2016*. It progresses strategic environmental outcomes of the two councils and was affirmed by a Pledge of Support from all other partners.

To protect this special place, 41 actions under five management challenges are being delivered by many of the Catchment Network stakeholder groups.



④ Preserving and improving social values
5 actions

The Pumicestone Passage and its catchment provide a variety of nature-based recreational opportunities, natural focal areas for local social groups and a rich cultural heritage.

The challenge is to promote these opportunities and values, while minimising impacts on the natural environment.

⑤ Preserving and improving economic values
3 actions

The catchment and its waterways support a variety of successful industries, including tourism, local businesses, forestry and primary production.

The challenge is to support these industries while minimising impacts on the natural environment.

Responding to these challenges and delivering positive outcomes for the Passage and its catchment will require an ongoing commitment of time, funding and resources.

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The Pumicestone Passage and Catchment is a special place with features that enrich our region. A collaborative approach is required to manage and enhance this valuable asset.

More than thirty community, industry and government groups of the Pumicestone Catchment Network have worked together since 2011 to try and balance the sustainable use of resources with the protection of the enduring natural, social and economic values of the catchment and its waterways.

The Pumicestone Passage and Catchment – a special place



Wilderness at your doorstep



The first custodians



An aquatic playground



A local food bowl

Responding to management challenges

① Improving water quality

18 actions

Reversing the trend of declining water quality is critical to support the diverse ecological, social and economic values of the waterways.

② Protecting and restoring wildlife habitats

7 actions

Consolidating a network of bushland and in-stream habitats is critical to preserve plant and animal communities and ecosystem services across the catchment.

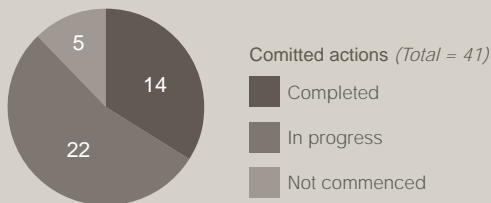
③ Minimising impacts from population growth

8 actions

With continuing population growth expected in coming decades, best-practice planning and construction is required to minimise further impacts from developments on the catchment and its waterways.

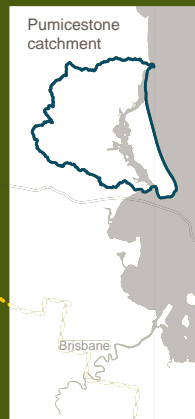
Our achievements to date

Progress – October 2015



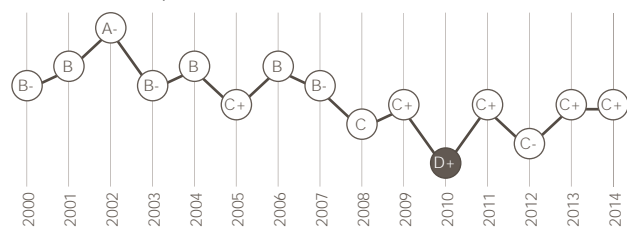
Area-based actions

- 1 Innovative practices to improve rural water quality and productivity at Back Creek
- 2 Water quality hotspot monitoring at Six Mile and Ningi creeks
- 3 Constructing urban stormwater treatment infrastructure at Golden Beach
- 4 Major infrastructure upgrades to protect water quality at Caloundra Landfill
- 5 Remediating unsealed roads and crossings at Elimbah Creek
- 6 Remediating urban sewerage infrastructure at Golden Beach
- 7 Major riparian restoration project at Bells Creek
- 8 Wetland and riparian restoration on rural properties at Mellum and Coochin creeks
- 9 Riparian restoration and access management at Glass Mountain Creek
- 10 Innovative environmental practices to protect water quality and habitat in Bells and Lamerough creeks
- 11 Education and compliance to reduce litter and dumping at Mellum and Elimbah creeks



Water quality – a call to action

Poor water quality in 2010 prompted a renewed response from stakeholders to protect catchment values.



Source: Healthy Waterways Report Card grades for the Pumicestone Passage.

Actions in focus



\$16 million invested at the Caloundra Landfill to minimise site impacts on the water quality of Lamerough Creek.



Seven kilometres of streamside vegetation being restored along lower Bells Creek to enhance habitat areas.



Innovative stormwater treatment infrastructure installed in new developments to protect water quality in the Pumicestone Passage.



The Passage of Time forum showcased community stories to build ownership and awareness of catchment values and issues.



Trialling new techniques for best practice nutrient and stormwater management to improve water quality and agricultural productivity in the Back Creek sub-catchment.

The Pumicestone Catchment Network

The Pumicestone Catchment Network encompasses more than thirty community, industry and government organisations who have worked together since 2011 to develop and implement the *Pumicestone Passage and Catchment Action Plan 2013-2016*.

For more information on the Action Plan, see Sunshine Coast Council's website.



Our pledge

We wholeheartedly support this plan and commit to working together with other partners to implement its actions and protect the unique environmental, social, cultural and economic values of the catchment and its waterways.