

# Little Yabba Creek – Mary River



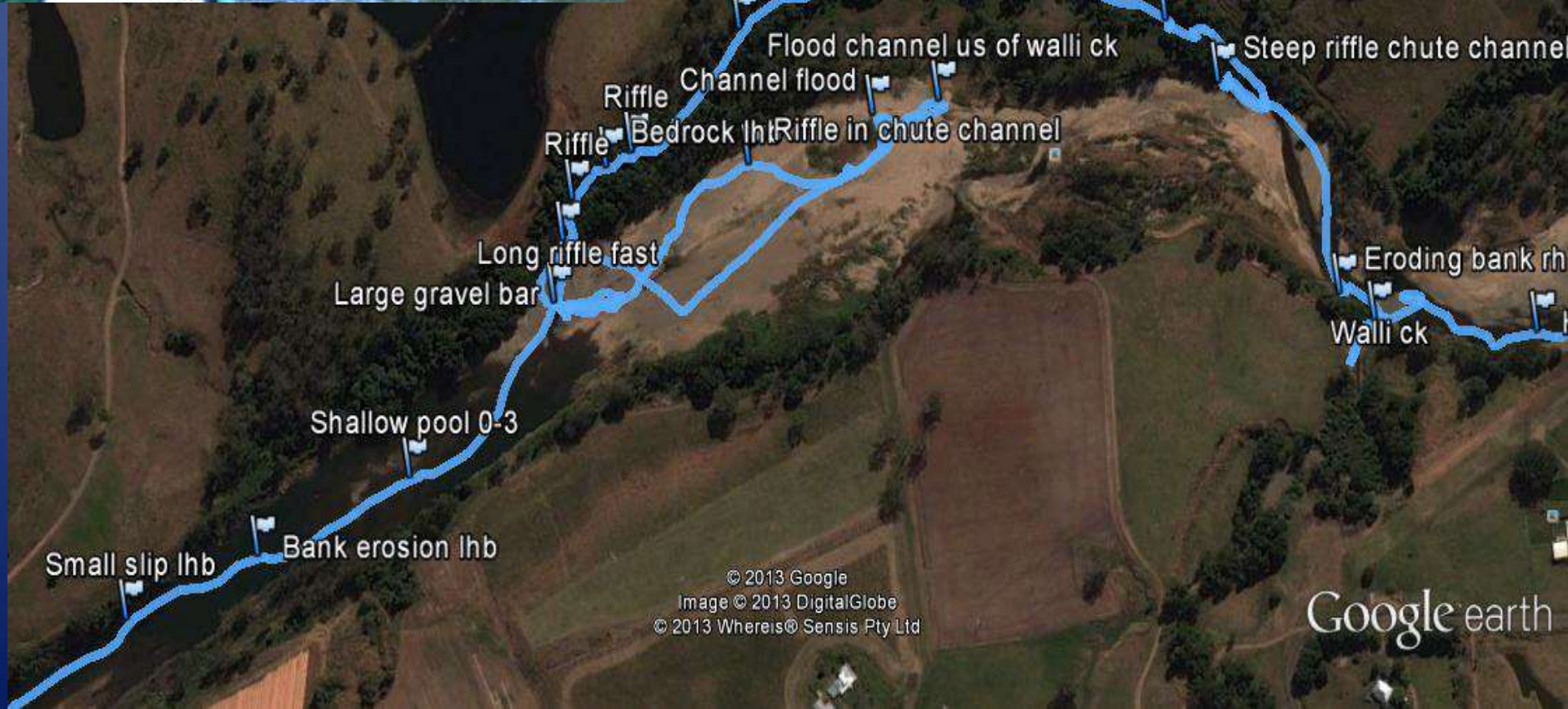
**20 years of integrated catchment management**



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20 years of integrated **Catchment management**

# On-farm & riparian recovery program

- State Govt Flood Recovery program
- \$20 million over 2 years targeting:
  - **Burnett-Mary (\$8 million)**
  - Fitzroy Basin (\$2 million)
  - SEQ Catchments (\$2 million)
  - Condamine Alliance (\$2 million)
- In the Burnett-Mary funding must target **North Burnett & Bundaberg council areas.**
- All funding has been handed to Regional Groups ie. BMRG for management

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# On-farm & riparian recovery program

- BMRG were successful in obtaining \$8,000,000 to implement five programs:
  1. Bank Stabilisation and Riparian Restoration (\$4M)
  2. Weed Mitigation (\$1.5M)
  3. Floodplain Management (\$1.5M)
  4. Land Productivity (\$440,000)
  5. Debris Removal (\$290,000)

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## **Bank stabilisation (\$4million)**

- Prioritise areas for remediation work through spatial analysis, technical advice, local knowledge and on-ground assessments.
- Coordinate rehabilitation work between land owners in collaboration with other projects and on-ground works being conducted by stakeholders.
- Provide incentives for landholders to address bank slumping, scouring and gullying in priority areas.

## **Floodplain Management (\$1.5million)**

- Enhance flood plain stability and resilience to reduce the risk of damage to the highly productive flood plains and community infrastructure in the future.
- Support primary producers to accelerate recovery from flood impact by remediating severe flood plain land degradation and restoring production values of agricultural land.
- Provide priority technical on-ground support to control flood plain scouring.
- Provide technical support to rehabilitate degraded soils and improve agronomic management.

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# Weed and Pest Mitigation (\$1.5 million)

- Activities will be implemented at a subcatchment scale to ensure Priority species includes:
  - parthenium
  - giant rat's tail grass
  - cat's claw
  - madeira vine
  - noogoora burr
  - water hyacinth
  - salvinia
  - cabomba

## Land Productivity (\$440,000)

- The engagement of agronomists and soil conservation extension staff and other technical specialists.
- Provision of one-on-one, on-ground technical support to landholders for rehabilitation of soil fertility and hill slope erosion, soil conservation works and planning for re-development of critical infrastructure such as irrigation.
- Coordinated farm planning in priority sub-catchment areas.

## Flood Debris Removal (\$290,000)

- Removal of industrial and domestic debris (such as chemical drums, fuel containers, plastics)

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# Where does the Mary fit?

- It doesn't fit very well....
- However, a State Govt panel has allowed for \$250,000 to be allocated to Mary Catchment projects.
- MRCCC has prepared submissions and written to each state MP in the catchment
- **I'd like feedback on a concept that MRCCC could pursue given that funding is likely.**

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# Concept

- Assuming that all parties agree that MRCCC can deliver the \$250,000.
- Allocate the funding to 6 to 8 riverbank stabilisation demonstration project sites in the catchment – at least 2 in each council area.
- Demonstration sites would be allocated ~\$25,000 each, matched by landholder cash contributions.
- Funding provided for soft-engineering projects eg. riffle reconstruction/ bank armouring etc
- Riparian revegetation / fencing is essential – funded through existing Biodiversity Fund project

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# Concept cont.

- Use the “On-farm Recovery” funding to leverage other investment eg. Biod Fund, SEQW, council funds etc in demonstration sites.
- At present we are preparing riverbank stabilisation plans that require detailed analysis and design for the following:
  - Dairy, Conondale
  - Horse stud, Kenilworth
  - Grazing property, Moy Pocket
  - Grazing properties Antigua & Tiaro
  - Cane-farms, Maryborough (in the estuary)
  - Cane-farms, Tiaro
- These plans could form the basis of the demonstration sites.
- Smaller grants could be available e.g. re-instatement of troughs / fencing damaged / lost through floods e.g. 10x \$5000 grants
- An independent assessment panel is required to assess proposals

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