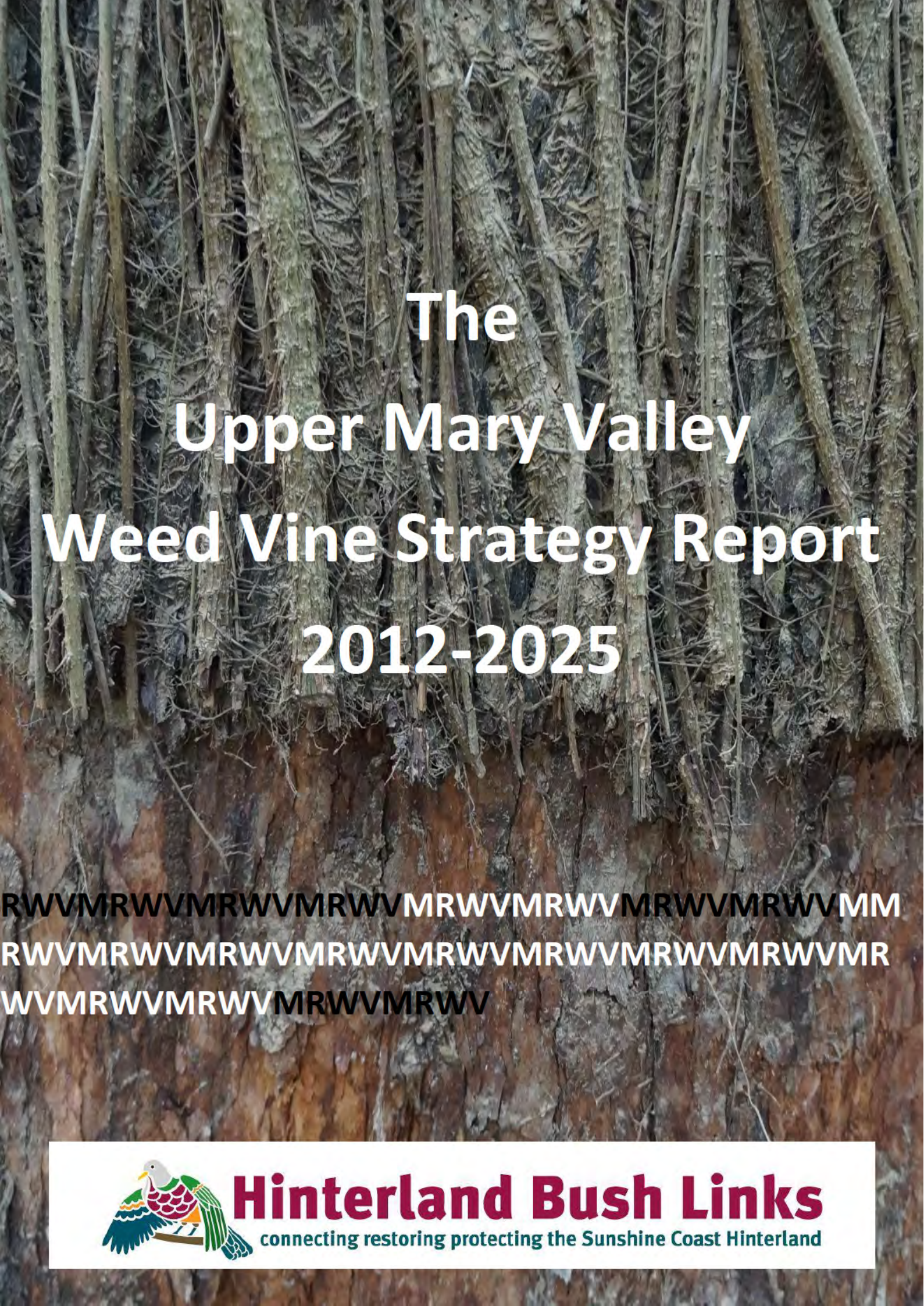


The Upper Mary Valley Weed Vine Strategy Report 2012-2025

RWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMM
RWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMR
WVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWV

Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland

The
Upper Mary Valley
Weed Vine Strategy Report
2012-2025

MRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWV
RWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVMRWVM
MVMRWVMRWVMRWV

Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting the Sunshine Coast Hinterland

Disclaimer

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this report, Hinterland Bush Links makes no guarantee of the accuracy, reliability, completeness or suitability for any purpose other than this particular project and disclaims all liability for all expenses, losses, damages and costs which may be incurred as a result of the report being inaccurate or incomplete in any way.

PROJECT VERSIONS & APPROVALS

Version	Date	Version/Description	Result
1	25/5/2025	DRAFT_V_1.	Approved
2	7/07/2025	DRAFT_V_2	Approved
3	9/07/2025	FINAL V_1	Approved
4		FINAL V_	

Hinterland Bush Links
PO BOX 1074, Maleny Qld 4552
Info@hinterlandbushlinks.org.au
www.hinterlandbushlinks.org

Cover photo: *Skirting cats claw creeper Little Yabba Creek 2015*

Executive Summary

This report was commissioned by Hinterland Bush Links to evaluate the accomplishments of the original Upper Mary Vine Weed strategy. The main goal of the initial plan was to create a framework for prioritizing management strategies for three vine weeds in the Upper Mary Catchment. For this report, the Upper Mary Catchment refers to the region of the Mary River and its tributaries upstream from Kenilworth Bridge. The study focuses on three weeds: *Anredera cordifolia* (Madeira vine), *Dolichandra unguis-cati* (Cats Claw creeper), and *Aristolochia elegans* (Dutchman's pipe). Madeira Vine and Cats Claw creeper are categorized as Weeds of National Significance. Additionally, Aerial Yam (*Dioscorea bulbifera*) has been included due to its rapid spread in one sub-catchment and its detection in the Mary River headwaters.

The Upper Mary Catchment was chosen because it contains significant species diversity and plant communities. The waterways within the catchment serve as vital connections between extensive tracts and more fragmented, protected lands. Water plays a crucial role in providing favorable habitat for these weeds and is essential for their propagule dispersal and germination. Targeting work at the top of the Mary Catchment aims to prevent the re-invasion of the middle and lower reaches of the Mary River, which are severely impacted by these vines.

Over the past 12 years, much has been learned about vine weed management in the Upper Mary Valley. This report aims to highlight both the strengths and weaknesses of the strategy, provide an overview of vine weed presence in the study area, both geographically and in terms of management status, and revisit the original project criteria and prioritization model to adapt these processes to current conditions, both natural and manmade.

Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, past and present. This report was funded by Hinterland Bush Links Gift fund. Hinterland Bush Links developed the initial strategy and led the project. Barung Landcare has conducted much of the on-ground work over the past 12 years. Hinterland Bush Links acknowledges and thanks the following contributors over the past 12 years: Sunshine Coast Regional Council, BMRG, HLW, Australian Federal Government, Queensland State Government, Noosa Landcare, Gympie Landcare, Mooloolah River Landcare, TMR, Seqwater, MRCCC, QPWS, and HQPlantations. Special thanks to [redacted] and [redacted] for their dedication and perseverance in advancing the project. Thanks also to the many landholders who have permitted access to their properties. Personal thanks to [redacted] for tirelessly collecting vine weed data, often in his own time. Much of this report is based on his work and insight.

Abbreviations, acronyms and synonyms		
HBL	Hinterland Bush Links	
UMVW	The Upper Mary Valley Vine Weed Project	
CC	Cats Claw Creeper	
MV	Madeira Vine	
DP	Dutchman's Pipe	
AY	Aerial yam	
(C)	Conondale	
(S)	Stanley River	
(M)	Mary River	
SR	Severity rating (0-4)	
HPIC	High priority isolated core infestation	
HPIP	High priority isolated point infestation	
DSS	Downstream spread score (kms)	
LRF	Lowland rainforest	
SCRC	Sunshine Coast Regional Council	
LBCCG	Lake Baroon Care Group	
MBRC	Moreton Bay Regional Council	
SEQWATER	Southeast Qld Water	
DTMR	Department of Transport Main Roads	
HLW	Healthy Land and Water	
BMRG	Burnett Mary Regional Group	
MRCCC	Mary River Care Catchment Committee	
Dolichandra unguis-cati (L.) L.Lohmann (syn. *Macfadyena unguis-cati* (L.) .H.Gentry Both scientific names may appear in this report as the name change occurred mid reporting period. The two names are interchangeable for the purposes of this report.		

Contents

Section 1

The Upper Mary Valley Vine Weed strategy 2025-35

The Upper Mary Valley Vine Weed Strategic Plan 2025-35

Section 1 covers the planned activities for the UMVW project from 2025 to 2035. The original plan (2012-15) recommended four yearly visits per site, with Cats claw reviewed every five years and Madeira vine every ten years. However, no site received the recommended frequency of visits; the maximum was eight visits over 12 years. Despite this, HBL achieved good results through constant monitoring and adaptive management. Full outcomes and priority procedures are detailed in Section 2.
Due to funding history, new infestations should not begin management without sufficient funding to maintain current catchments. Additional funding should target high-priority isolated infestations with high spread potential. Tables 1 and 2 outline the on-site management schedule for the next 10 years in terms of budget and labour days. No data is available for Walli Creek, Chinaman Creek, Lower Obi, Obi Gorge, and Upper Obi, so they were not prioritized as per the original plan. Priority catchment order considers original criteria, current management status, investments over the last 12 years, landholder engagement, and downstream risk. In addition to the updated priority order a new category of non-infested sub catchments has been added that in reality are the highest priority in as far as prevention is concerned (See below).

Catchment priority 2025

Catchment priority order

1. Booloumba creek (CC, DP-TBA)
2. Broken Bridge/Stony creek(S), (CC) Bellthorpe
3. Kilcoy creek (Crystal Waters) (CC, MV, AY)
4. Harper creek (CC, MV)
5. MRYMARH Sections 17-20 (MRYSEC017-20) (CC, AY)
6. High Priority Isolated infestations. (CC, MV, DP, AY)
7. Cedar creek (MV)
8. Little Yabba (CC, MV, DP-TBA, AY-TBA)
9. Elaman creek (CC, MV, DP)
10. MRYMARH Sections 21-24 (MRYSEC21-24) Mary River Headwaters
11. MRYUMAR Upper Mary River Valley (Mary downstream to Keniworth)

Non-infested catchments

A. Flagstone creek
B. Sandy creek
C. Scrubby creek

Management priorities

While the section above displays the sub-catchment priority order, further assessment is necessary of the target weed species concerning their risk and management likelihood. Given funding levels and results over the past 12 years, Cats claw creeper has had the most favorable outcomes due to the time interval between treatment and flowering, supporting treatments at 1–3-year intervals. Although HBL did not undertake large-scale Madeira infestations until 2018-24, treatment events spaced 1-3 years apart will have minimal impact on the severity risk of Madeira. Additionally, the risk of upstream Madeira infestations reinfesting is high. Dutchman's pipe and Aerial yam are present within the project area at known levels (see HPII) that could be eradicated outside of Little Yabba, Booloumba, and the Mary below Little Yabba. Within these aforementioned catchments, management should be conducted only in significant areas such as National Parks. Before any management decisions are made regarding Dutchman's Pipe and Aerial Yam, a broader discussion with relevant stakeholders (HQP, QPWS, SCRC, MRCCC, and BMRG) is recommended. This is due to the scope of the problem being beyond the limited resources of HBL, and the management decisions will have broader implications within National Parks and downstream of Little Yabba.

Management tasks

- Appraisal of the UMVW project viability given available resources and current level of funding against identified risks.
- What to do with the project /data should the decision be made that the UMVW project is no longer viable for HBL.
- Decision on management of Dutchman's Pipe and Aerial Yam.
- Decision on priority of Cats claw over Madeira vine management if the necessary funding is not available.
- Priority of sub catchments if funding is not sufficient
- Reassess management objectives/goals on sub catchments
- Adjust and reprioritize the management schedule to reflect current funding.
- Investigate High Priority Isolated infestations, which represent a much higher spread risk, liaise with neighboring stakeholders (LBCCG, MRWL, ECOLAB, MRCCC) where these infestations occur on stakeholder boundaries.
- Identify gaps in vine weed management areas such as Montville, Mapleton and Upper Stanley
- Fully explore potential support from Qld government departments that manage protected areas, biosecurity and biodiversity and infrastructure. (QPWS, TMR, SEQWATER)
- Explore possible support from NRM groups, in particular BMRG but also HLW.

On ground priorities

Table 1 outlines the schedule based on past results and future funding. Cats claw with severity ratings 1-2 should be managed biennially, while severity 3-4 infestations require annual treatment until reduced to severity 1-2. This ensures no flowering vines, extending eradication timeframes. Severity 1-2 may shift to a three-year rotation and severity 3-4 to biennial visits after monitoring. Madeira vine needs four annual treatments over 10 years for significant reduction or possible eradication. Reducing to two visits achieves containment and a slight reduction; one visit likely won't achieve containment. Chemical treatments should occur September to April with sufficient intervals for regrowth. Too frequent visits for Cats claw can hinder chemical control due to insufficient vegetative growth. Hand removal and tuber gouging are effective for low-density areas.

On ground activity summary per priority catchment

1. Booloumba creek-Manage Cats claw infestation located in 2025. Map and assess viability of Dutchman's pipe management.
2. Broken Bridge/Stony creek(S)- ensure Bellthorpe Cats claw infestations are managed to prevent flowering at a minimum. Liaise with LBCCG.
3. Kilcoy creek- (Crystal Waters) engage, map and help if needed to Crystal Waters to manage known Madeira and possible Cat's claw and Aerial Yam. Possible education at Crystal Waters regarding vine weeds.
4. Harper creek- Continue on ground management/monitoring of Cats Claw over the next 10 years with biennial visits (preferred) but 3 yearly is necessary. Monitor single Madeira infestation [redacted].
5. MRYMARH Sec 17-20- Continue Cats claw management Section 17-20 to Grigor Bridge for next 10 years with biennial visits (preferred) but 3 years is necessary. Monitor for Aerial Yam possible from Crystal Waters Attempt to engage landholders in section 18.
6. "High priority Isolated infestations" - Establish risk and potential partners in managing isolated infestations. Stakeholders likely include LBCCG, MRCCC, SCRC, TMR.
7. Cedar creek- Manage Madeira vine on Cedar creek over next 10 years starting upstream. The preference for 4 visits per year decreasing over 10 years.
8. Little Yabba creek- Dependent on management decision and management goal continue Cats claw management over next 10 years with severity SR3 and 4 one visit per year until reaching SR1-2. SR1-2 infestations min biennial visits. The project is currently struggling to contain it at best. Likely more Infestations within State Forest.
9. MRYMARH-Sections 21-24 No on ground recommended re infestation risk is too high. It is likely to transition from SR2 TO SR3-44 over the next 10 years.
10. MRYUMAR-No on-ground works recommended until Priorities 1-9 above are well established. Currently, SR 4 for Madeira and SR2 for Cats claw transitioning to SR3-4 over the next 10 years. Dutchman's pipe and aerial Yam likely to become more prevalent in the lower reaches.

Monitoring, mapping and reassessment

The following survey events are recommended depending on funding.

Road surveys

Annual road survey when Cats claw (October) and Madeira (January) are in full flower. Route can be found in section 4. (Surveys)Resources 2 days x 2 people per annum.

Aerial surveys

Aerial surveys have been invaluable on coarse mapping of catchments but also spotting isolated or outlier infestations that may have never been located on ground (HARPCC017). In 2024 13 new CC flowering infestations were located on the Mary River between Conondale to Kenilworth. These were able to be confirmed by road surveys or vice versa. Currently it takes 2 and a half hours to fly all the known infected waterways from Bellthorpe to Kenilworth. This is about the limit without refueling. Currently for HBL it is only worthwhile targeting Cats claw in spring although madeira can often be identified at this time of year as well. This increase in flight time would likely mean a second flight. This could be carried out with half the area flown one year and the other half the next. Other areas of aerial investigation include-

- Upper Little Yabba (Sommerset)
- Stony creek (MBRC)
- Kilcoy (C), Scrub, Scrubby, Flagstone, Sandy(C), Geraghty creeks
- Imbil State Forest 1
- Walli/Tamlyn State Forest.
- Maleny National Park (Headwaters Chinaman, Walli creeks)
- Kondalilla National Park

.

Surveys on foot

- Boundary between Imbil State Forest and Conondale National Park (Likely DP)
- Booloumba creek Little Yabba to campground 3 (Likely DP, possible CC)
- Sunday creek
- Maleny National Park from Curramore to upper ridges of Walli and Chinaman creeks (Possible MV and CC)
- Mary river confluence with Harper to Scrub creek (MV, CC, DP, AY)
- Scrub creek
- Scrubby, Sandy, Flagstone, Kilcoy, Geraghty if vine weeds are located or suspected.

Table 1: On ground activity budget breakdown 2025-35 T-1 = 1treatment day MP = mapping MON = Monitoring

Sub-catchment		Item code	202526	Item code	202627	Item code	202728	Item code	202829	Item code	202930	Item code	203031	Item code	203132	Item code	203233	Item code	203334	Item code	203435	Item code	203536
Booloumba creek	CC	T-4	2240	T-4	2352	T-4	2464	T-4	2584	T-2	1361	T-2	1420	T-2	1488	T-2	1562	T-2	1636	T-2	1757	MON	**18864**
	DP	MP-2	1680	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	**1680**
Kilcoy creek	CC	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	**-**
	MV	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	**-**
Little Yabba creek	CC	T-8	4480	T-8	4928	0	0	T-8	5416	0	0	T-8	5960	0	0	T-8	6472	0	0	T-8	7208	MON	**34464**
	CC	-	-	T-4	2464	0	0	T-4	2708	0	0	T-4	2980	0	0	T-4	3236	0	0	T-4	3604	MON	**14992**
	CC	-	-	T-38	23408	0	0	T-38	25748	0	0	T-38	28323	0	0	T-38	30775	0	0	T-38	34270	MON	**142524**
	MV	T-2	1120	T-2	1176	T-2	1234	T-2	1296	T-2	1361	T-2	1429	T-2	1500	T-2	1575	T-2	1654	T-2	1737	MON	**14082**
	DP	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
	AY	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
Elaman creek	CC	T-15	8400	T-15	8820	T-15	9240	T-15	9720	T-15	10161	0	0	T-15	11180	0	0	T-15	12298	0	0	MON	**69819**
	CC	T-20	11200	T-20	11760	T-20	12320	T-20	12936	T-20	13552	0	0	T-20	14907	0	0	T-20	16397	0	0	MON	**93072**
	CC	T-5	2800	T-5	2940	T-5	3080	T-5	3234	T-5	3388	0	0	T-5	3726	0	0	T-5	4098	0	0	MON	**23266**
	MV	T-80	44800	0	47040	0	49280	0	51744	0	54208	0	56918	0	44721	0	46956	0	32795	0	34434	MON	**462896**
	MV	T-28	15680	0	16464	0	17240	0	18110	0	18964	0	19921	0	15645	0	16434	0	11472	0	12007	MON	**161937**
	MV	T-12	6720	0	7056	0	7390	0	7761	0	8129	0	8537	0	6705	0	7042	0	4917	0	5164	MON	**69421**
	DP	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
Harper creek	CC	-	-	T-18	11088	-	-	T-18	12196	-	-	T-18	13415	-	-	T-18	14756	-	-	T-18	14903	MON	**66358**
	MV	MON	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	MON	-
Mary headwaters	CC	-	-	T-20	11760	-	-	T-20	12920	-	-	T-20	14200	-	-	T-20	15620	-	-	T-20	17160	MON	**71660**
	CC	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
	MV	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
	AY	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	MON	-
Cedar creek	MV	T-30	16800	T-30	17640	T-30	18480	T-30	19380	T-30	20310	T-30	21300	T-30	22320	T-30	23430	T-30	24540	T-30	25767	MON	**209967**
Scrubby	NIL	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	MON	
Sandy	NIL	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	MON	-
Flagstone	NIL	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	MON	-
	Total $	**0**	**115920**	**0**	**168896**	**0**	**120728**	**0**	**185753**	**0**	**131434**	**0**	**174403**	**0**	**122192**	**0**	**167858**	**0**	**109807**	**0**	**158011**	**0**	**1455002**

Table 2 On ground activity labour day allocation breakdown 2025-35 T-1 = 1 treatment day MP = mapping MON = Monitoring

Sub-catchment		Item code	202526	Item code	202627	Item code	202728	Item code	202829	Item code	202930	Item code	203031	Item code	203132	Item code	203233	Item code	203334	Item code	203435	Item code	Total days
Booloumba creek	CC	T-4	4	T-4	4	T-4	4	T-4	4	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	MON	28
	DP	MP-2	3	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	-	TBA	3
Kilcoy creek	CC	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-
	MV	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-	MON	-
Little Yabba creek	CC	T-8	8	T-8	8	-	-	T-8	8	-	-	T-8	8	-	-	T-8	8	-	-	T-8	8	MON	40
	CC	-	-	T-4	4	-	-	T-4	4	-	-	T-4	4	-	-	T-4	4	-	-	T-4	4	MON	20
	CC	-	-	T-38	38	-	-	T-38	38	-	-	T-38	38	-	-	T-38	38	-	-	T-38	38	MON	190
	MV	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	T-2	2	MON	20
	DP	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
	AY	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
Elaman creek	CC	T-15	15	T-15	15	T-15	15	T-15	15	T-15	15	-	-	T-15	15	-	-	T-15	15	-	-	MON	105
	CC	T-20	20	T-20	20	T-20	20	T-20	20	T-20	20	-	-	T-20	20	-	-	T-20	20	-	-	MON	140
	CC	T-5	5	T-5	5	T-5	5	T-5	5	T-5	5	-	-	T-5	5	-	-	T-5	5	-	-	MON	35
	MV	T-80	80	T-80	80	T-80	80	T-80	80	T-80	80	T-80	80	T-80	60	T-80	60	T-40	40	T-80	40	MON	680
	MV	T-28	28	T-28	28	T-28	28	T-28	28	T-28	28	T-28	28	T-28	21	T-28	21	T-14	14	T-28	14	MON	238
	MV	T-12	12	T-12	12	T-12	12	T-12	12	T-12	12	T-12	12	T-12	9	T-12	9	T-6	6	T-12	6	MON	102
	DP	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
Harper creek	CC	-	-	T-18	18	-	-	T-18	18	-	-	T-18	18	-	-	T-18	18	-	-	T-18	18	MON	90
	MV	MON	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	-	-	MON	TBA	MON	-
Mary headwaters	CC	-	-	T-20	20	-	-	T-20	20	-	-	T-20	20	-	-	T-20	20	-	-	T-20	20	MON	100
	CC	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	MON	-
	MV	TBA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-MON	-
	AY	-	-	MO	-	-	-	MO	-	-	-	MO	-	-	-	MO	-	-	-	MO	-	MON	-
Cedar creek	MV	T-30	30	T-30	30	T30	30	T30	30	T30	30	T30	30	T30	30	T30	30	T30	30	T30	30	MON	300
Scrubby	NIL	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON				MON	-	MON	-
Sandy	NIL	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON				MON	-	MON	-
Flagstone	NIL	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON	-	-	-	MON				MON	-	MON	-
Total days		0	207	0	284	0	196	0	284	0	194	0	242	0	164	0	212	0	134	0	182	0	2099

Table 3 Other sub catchments within UMVW project area with no current data or not currently managed

Sub-catchment		Common name	Scientific name	Year mapped	Year commenced	Extent 2015	Status area	Current status	0riginal status	Change	Stage	No of visits	
Walli		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2013	2013	3.5 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
		Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2013	2013	300 m2	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2013	2013	9 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
Chinaman		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2013	2013	7 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
Upper Mary Valley		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2013	2015	2.6 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2013	2015	120 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
		Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2013	-	.1-10 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
Upper Obi		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2013	2013	.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	Currently managed by LBCCG
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2013	2013	18.6 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	Currently managed by LBCCG
Obi Gorge		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015	2015	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	Some LBCCG, possible MRCCC
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2015	2015	3.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	Some LBCCG, possible MRCCC
Lower Obi		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015	2015	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2015	2015	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
		Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2024	-	100 m2	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC
Stony creek		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2017	2019	2 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	LBCCG/HLW
Broken BR		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015	2017	2 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	LBCCG/HLW
Kidaman		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015	2026	2 ha	-	-	-	-	-	-	No management
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2015	2016	100 m2	-	-	-	-	-	-	No management
Tamlyn		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2024	2024	200 m2	-	-	-	-	-	-	No current data possibly MRCCC

Section 2

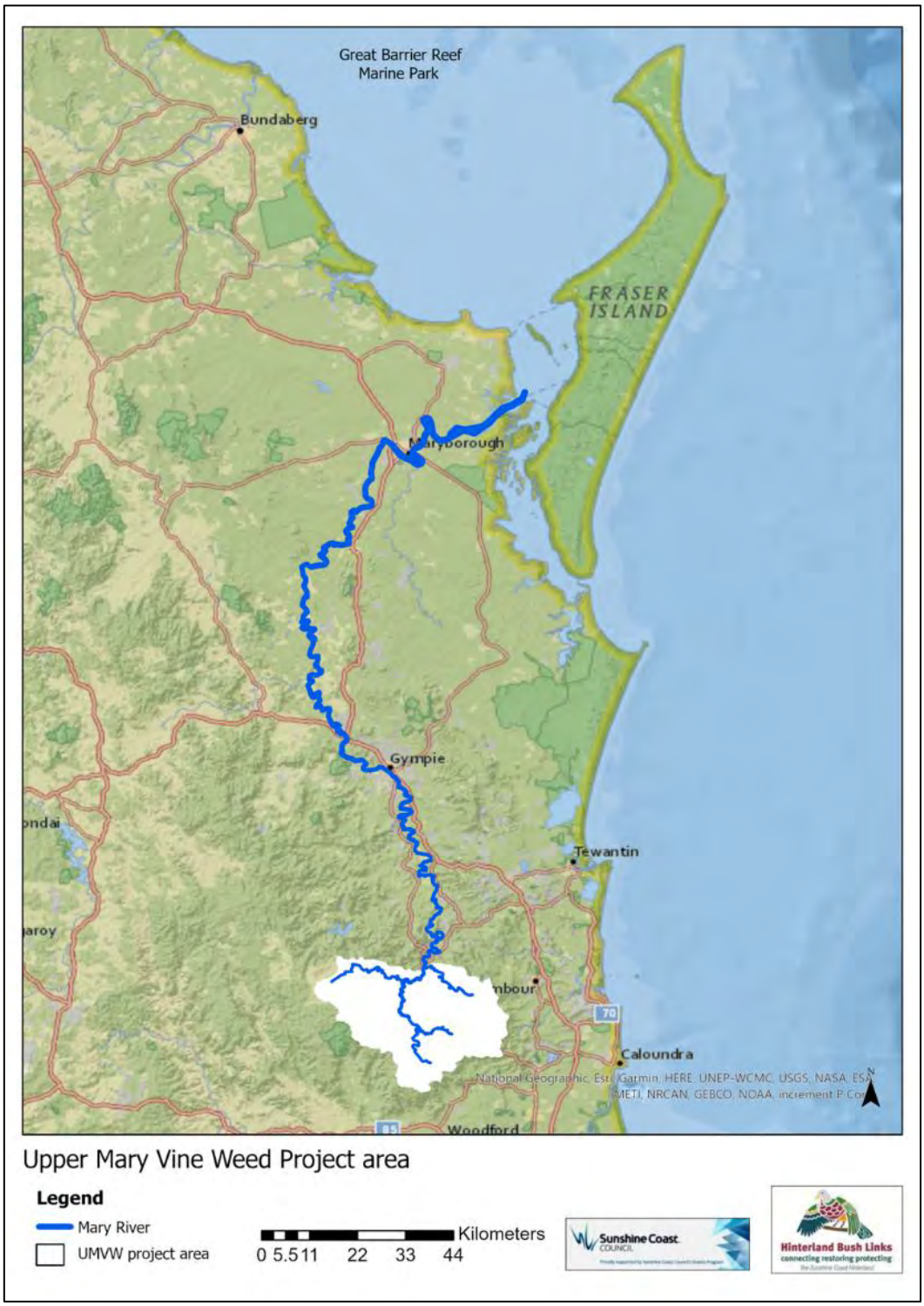
Project background, current status and project activities

Introduction

Section 2 outlines the project background, the current status and project activities.

Project location

The Mary River begins in Bellthorpe in the south and flows for almost 300 kms discharging into Hervey Bay at K'gari and the lower portion of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park.



Map 1 Project location

Background

The original Upper Mary Valley Weed Vine Report 2012-15, comprehensively addressed the threats posed by vine weeds and provided a rationale for the project. Most of these criteria remain pertinent and will not be elaborated upon here. The original criteria are listed below.

The Original Project Criteria

1. Work from upper catchments to lower catchments to ensure that the water-borne sources of infestation are removed

2. Consolidate control work already undertaken by revisiting sites previously treated. This will build on previous investment of time and resources, ensuring that gains are not lost.

3. Control small spot infestations, particularly those on, or in proximity to streams, at an early stage

4. Is the site within a key wildlife corridor?

5. Support control at sites where local communities are willing to have ongoing involvement with management

6. Is the site in proximity to known or likely habitat for the Richmond Birdwing Butterfly (RBB)?

7. Is the site within the endangered Regional Ecosystem 12.3.1?

8. Is the site within the EPBC listed ecological community ‘Lowland Rainforest of Subtropical Australia’ (LRSTA)?

9. Is the site accessible?

These criteria helped HBL identify the target sub-catchments within the Upper Mary Catchment area. Subsequently, further investigation was conducted to locate and quantify the target vine weeds within these catchments. This process utilised the 8-control criterion below. After twelve years, these criteria and their weighting in the prioritization process have been revised to incorporate new data, anticipated funding, and the results of the work carried out over the past twelve years.

Original Control Criterion

1. **Criterion 1** - Connectivity value based on pre-defined links across the landscape
2. **Criterion 2** - Condition of riparian revegetation taking into account width, level of disturbance, resilience and habitat value
3. **Criterion 3** - Proximity to high quality bush and protection level
4. **Criterion 4** - Contains or adjacent to lowland rainforest
5. **Criterion 5** - Contains or adjacent to known or highly likely to contain Ornithoptera richmondia 'Richmond Birdwing Butterfly and/or its host Pararistolochia praevenosa, Birdwing vine.
6. **Criterion 6** - Infestation position in the catchment and proximity to watercourses (Risk)
7. **Criterion 7** - Isolated satellite population and position in catchment
8. **Criterion 8** - Feasibility of control

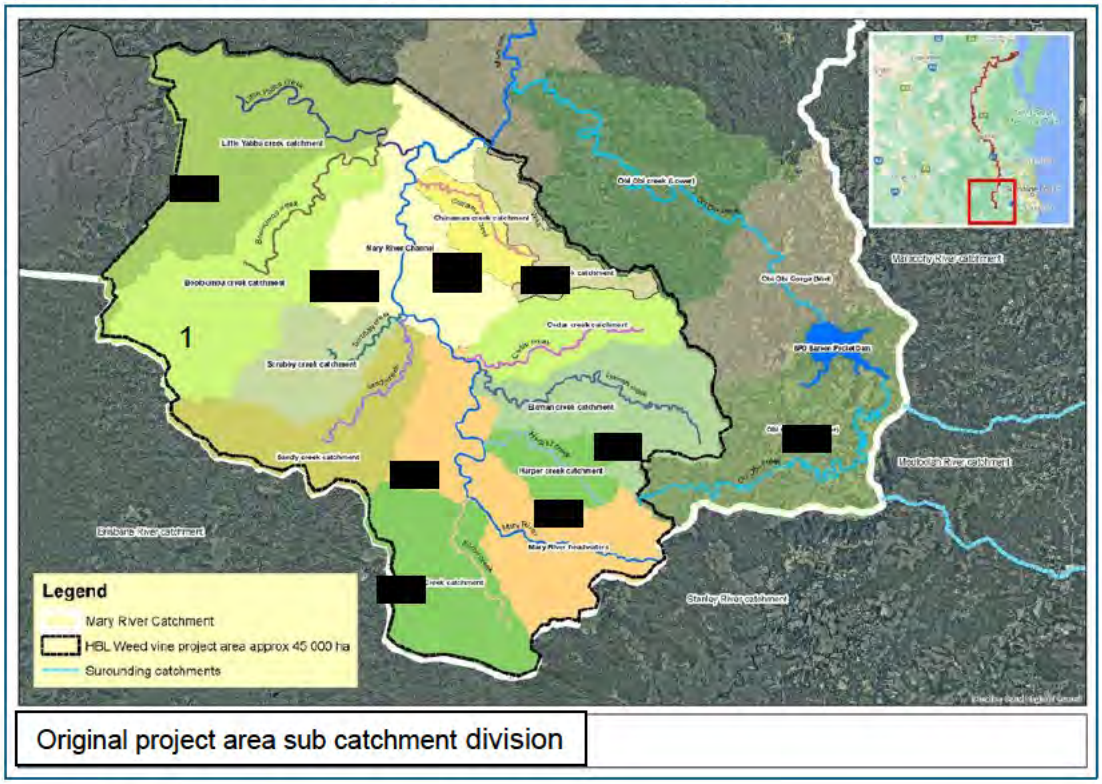
Creek	Total Score	Rank	Actual	New	Change
Booloumba Creek	**90**	1	8	1	⇔
Crystal waters	**85**	2	7	8	⇓
Maleny (Obi) only CC	**83**	3	2	9	⇓
Chinaman Creek	**80**	4	4 *	5	⇓
Walli Creek	**76**	5	5 *	6	⇓
Little Yabba Creek	**72**	6	3	4	⇑
Elaman Creek	**69**	7	6	7	⇔
Harper Creek	**66**	8	1	2	⇑
Mary River (Harper)	**61**	9	3	3	⇑
Mary River (Cambroon)	**50**	10	10	10	⇔

Table 4 Scored rankings change of the 10 target catchments from 2015-2025 (based on the 8 Criterion)

**No current data on occurrence or management*

Location

The project area is located in the headwaters of the Mary River, which flows north from Bellthorpe to Maryborough before discharging into Hervey Bay near K'gari and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. Map 1 below indicates the location of the project's sub-catchments within the project area. Over the past 12 years, adjustments have been made to the project map due to changes within the project area (See map 3). These changes include LBCCG initiating a vine weed program in 2015 and taking over the Lake Baroon catchment area. MRCCC assumed responsibility for Walli and Chainman's creeks. As a result of new vine weed locations and to better align with SCRC waterways labeling, Obi Obi creek catchment has been divided into three sub-catchments: Upper Obi, Obi Gorge, and Lower Obi. Additionally, the upper Mary River has been divided into two sections: the Mary River Headwaters and Upper Mary Valley. Other changes include extending the Little Yabba project area to encompass the entire Little Yabba catchment due to vine weeds being found further upstream. The sub-catchment of Stony Creek (Stanley), previously known as Bellthorpe, has been added to identify the infestation risk to both the Mary (Broken Bridge Creek) and Stanley catchments. The western Mary River headwaters have been further divided into distinct sub-catchments: Broken Bridge, Kilcoy, Flagstone, Sandy(C), and Scrubby(C) creek catchments, as shown on Map 3. This division aims to improve monitoring and understanding of these catchments, their values, and risks. These areas are virtually free of vine weeds, and any risk of infestation should be prioritized. Map 3 depicts the new project sub-catchments. Where possible, future efforts will strive to align with SCRC's waterway definitions and labeling, although this may not always be feasible due to the specific nature of this project.



Map 2 Original project area sub catchment division

Mapping

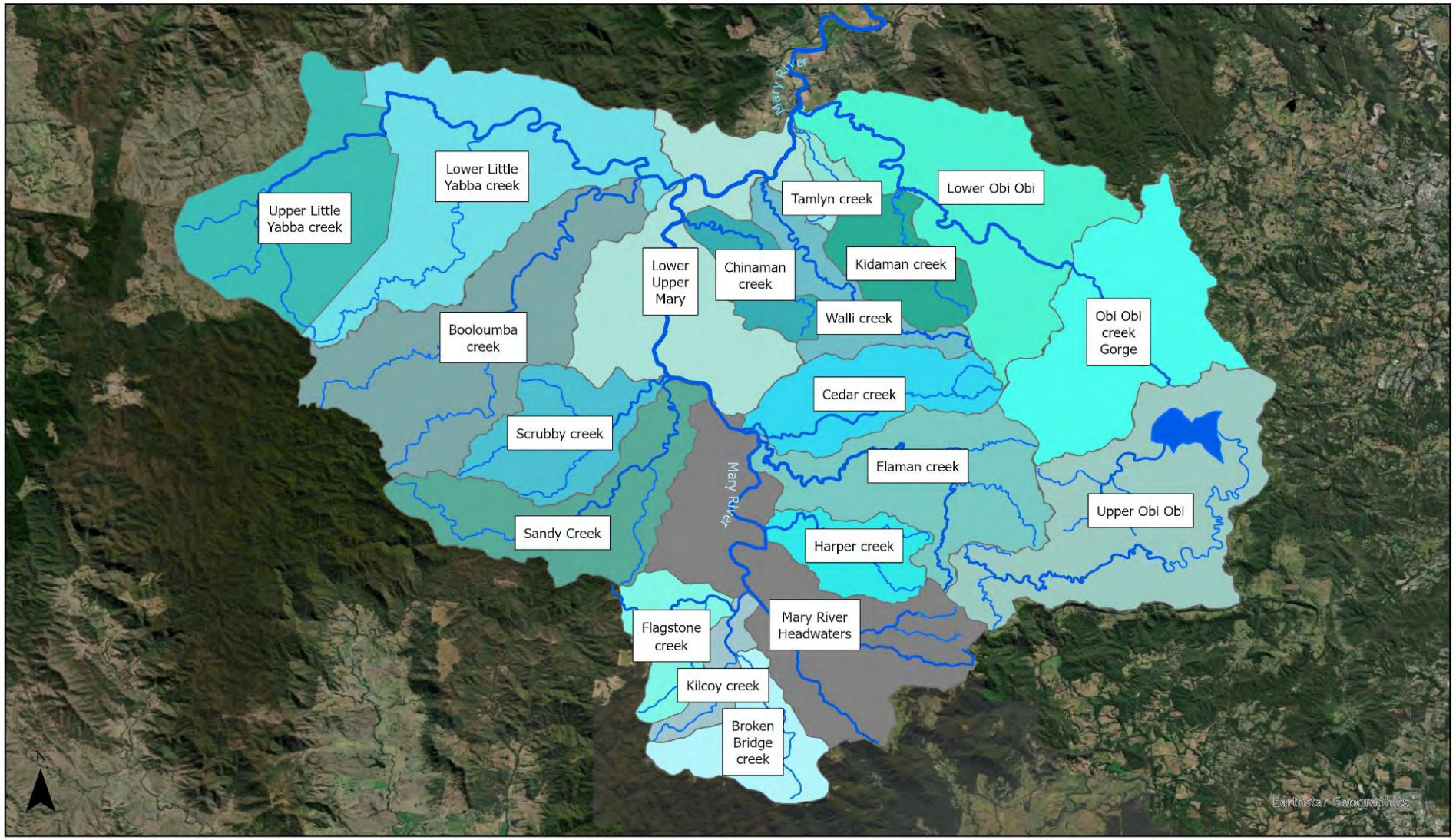
The original mapping from 2012 used a handheld Garmin GPS to collect points and polygons around infestation boundaries. Adding detailed data was challenging and time-consuming, especially with unknown infestation perimeters. These shapefiles are still used today as a baseline, with new data overlaid. Contractors now collect new data either as point data for weeds outside existing polygons or treatment polygons showing treated areas on specific dates. Improvements in data collection are needed. Additional data comes from mapping events, aerial and road surveys, and word of mouth.

Processing data

Data is systematically added to project databases using Arc Pro. Catchments, sub-catchment sections, polygons, and points are assigned unique coded names, which include a sub-catchment identifier, weed species designation, and an identifying number. Infestation polygons are typically divided at property boundaries and categorized by either left or right bank, allowing each polygon to contain relevant data such as lot and plan details, address, landowner information, contact details, and entry specifics. The numbering system for polygons has been updated from the 2012-15 plan to reflect these modifications.

Waterways have also been segmented into sections to facilitate identification, location, and data recording. These sections are generally about 1 km in length, starting and ending, where feasible, at property boundaries or infestation polygon joins. This adjustment has significantly improved communication between managers and ground crew, resource and budget allocation, and daily record keeping.

Each infestation should be encoded as follows: MRY (catchment), HARP (sub-catchment), SEC001 (section), CC/MV (weed species), 001 (number)—resulting in MRYHARPSEC001CC001. Not all data is displayed in full; HARPCC001 is the abbreviated format. Treatment records are kept separately, but treatment type and date are recorded within the polygon. Color coding is utilized to distinguish between vine weed species: yellow for Cats claw, red for Madeira vine, purple for Dutchman’s pipe, and orange for Aerial Yam, wherever possible. Full sub-catchment maps and sectional maps are available as georeferenced PDFs for contractors via the online database. Field mapping is currently conducted using Avenza Maps apps (preferably PRO). This app is cost-effective (with a free version available), does not require phone reception, and is relatively stable. However, data must be manually added using kml or shapefile formats.



Upper Mary Vine Weed Project
Sub catchments

0 1.88 3.75 7.5 11.25 15 Kilometers

Map 3 New project area sub catchment make up

Status

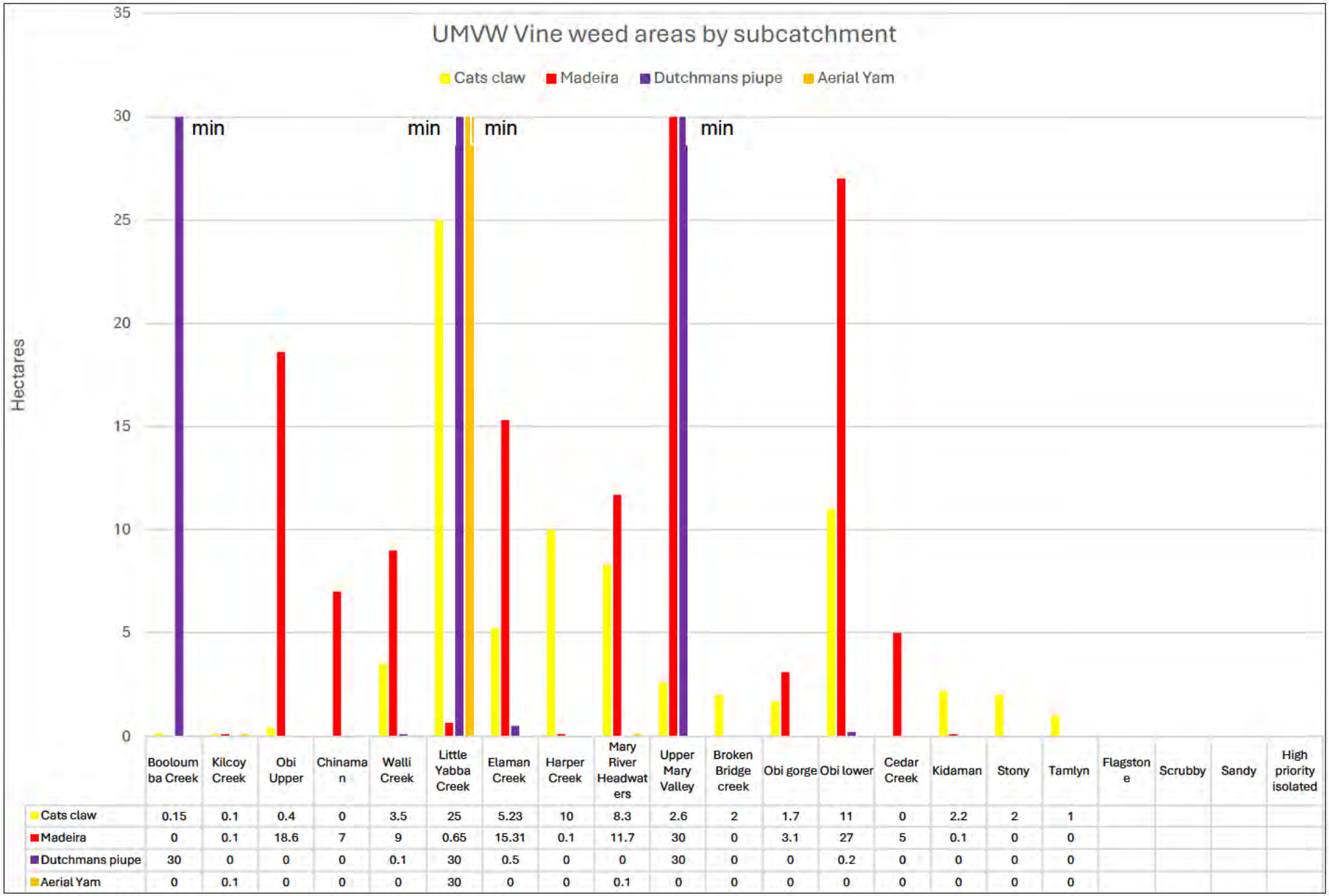
Quantifying vine weed management outcomes is challenging. The area of infestation in each sub-catchment has grown over the past 12 years (Table 5), mostly due to expanded surveying beyond the initial 20m from the stream bank. Contractors have enlarged their search areas during management, discovering previously undetected vine weeds. This increase in recorded infested areas indicates improved detection rather than ineffective management. These findings provide valuable data for overall management and treatment locations. Emerging patterns of dispersal help predict future spread. The increased figures in Table 5 reflect better detection, not worsening infestations. All sub-catchments show an increase in infestation areas from 2014 to 2025. To understand this, we need to separate some variables. By comparing initial survey results with later ones, it becomes clear why infestations are growing. Unmanaged areas have increased in size and severity, creating outliers. Managed areas may not be reduced in mapped size, especially if new areas are added, but they don't expand, create outliers, and their weed severity is significantly reduced. Generally, Cats claw and Madeira infestations have seen a reduction in severity by 1-2 levels and in some cases 3 levels. Cats claw infestations in Headwaters and Upper Mary Valley highlight these trends well. Survey results in 2025 show a dramatic increase in Dutchman's Pipe almost exclusively in the Little Yabba catchment but also the Mary River below Little yabba. In addition, 2025 surveys recorded extensive Aerial Yam which was not recorded in earlier mapping events. The table below shows trends in vine weed species in the project area. Overall change below represents the increased area but also the overall severity reduction.

	Ha 2015	Ha 2025	Change Ha	% Change area	Severity rating change	Overall change
Overall Cats claw	31	56	+25	80%	4-1.5	-58% reduction
Managed Cats claw	29.4	51.7	+22.3	75%	4-1	-63% reduction
Unmanaged Cats claw	1.6	4.3	+2.7	168 %	1-3	+200% increase
Overall Madeira vine	95	153	+58	61%		+110%
Managed Madeira vine	16.6	15.3	-1.3	-8%	3-2	-40% reduction
Unmanaged Madeira	75	137	+62	82%	3-4	+143% increase
Dutchman's pipe	4	194	+190	48 x	3-4	NA
Aerial Yam	.01	60	+60	600 000 x	2-3	NA

Table 5 Overall project area change in area of vine weeds and overall change

Sub Catchments	CC	MV	DP	AY
Booloumba Creek * (2013,25)				
Kilcoy Creek *(Crysal Waters) (2015)				
Upper Obi Obi *(Formerly Obi Obi Creek 2013,25)				
Chinaman Creek* (2013)				
Walli Creek * (2013)				
Little Yabba Creek * (2013,25)				
Elaman Creek * (2015,24)				
Harper Creek * (2015,25)				
Mary River Headwaters *(Formerly Mary upper Harper 2015,25)				
Upper Mary Valley (Formerly Mary Lower *(Cambroon 2015)				
Broken Bridge Creek *(Formerly Bellthorpe, 2015,25)				
Obi Obi Gorge (2024, Covers LBCCG sites Witta, Montville etc.)				
Lower Obi Obi (2024)				
Cedar Creek (2017,22)				
Kidaman creek (2024)				
Stony Creek (2024)				
Tamlyn (2024)				
Flagstone Creek (2024)				
Scrubby Creek (2024)				
Sandy Creek (2024)				
High priority isolated infestations (2025)				
**Denotes sub catchments that were included in the original 2012-15 report*				
Cats claw creeper	**Madeira**	**Dutchman's pipe**	**Aerial Yam**	

Table 6 Vine weeds located in each sub catchment



	Booloumba Creek	Kilcoy Creek	Obi Upper	Chinaman	Walli Creek	Little Yabba Creek	Elaman Creek	Harper Creek	Mary River Headwaters	Upper Mary Valley	Broken Bridge creek	Obi gorge	Obi lower	Cedar Creek	Kidaman	Stony	Tamlyn	Flagstone	Scrubby	Sandy	High priority isolated
Cats claw	0.15	0.1	0.4	0	3.5	25	5.23	10	8.3	2.6	2	1.7	11	0	2.2	2	1				
Madeira	0	0.1	18.6	7	9	0.65	15.31	0.1	11.7	30	0	3.1	27	5	0.1	0	0				
Dutchmans piupe	30	0	0	0	0.1	30	0.5	0	0	30	0	0	0.2	0	0	0	0				
Aerial Yam	0	0.1	0	0	0	30	0	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0				

Table 7 Vine weed species by sub catchment

Sub catchments managed by HBL													
Sub-catchment	**Common name**	**Scientific name**	**Manag. type**	**Year mapped**	**Year treatment commenced**	**Current extent**	**Status area**	**Target severity 10 years**	**Current severity status**	**0riginal severity status**	**Change**	**Stage**	**No of visits to date**
Booloumba creek	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	Eradicate	2024	2025	.04 ha	.04 ha	0	2	2	⟺	Primary	0
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	Map/assess	2012/13	2013	35 ha	35 ha	TBA	3	2	⇑	Follow up 3	2
Kilcoy creek Crystal Waters	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	Eradicate	2024	2025	10 m2	TBA	0	TBA	TBA	⟺	Primary	0
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Eradicate	2013	2013	100 m2	100 m2	0	1	2	⇓	Follow up 13	12
Little Yabba creek	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	Towards Erad	2025	2025	24 ha	2 ha	0-1	4	4	⟺	Primary	0
			Towards Erad	2018	2021		2 ha	0-1	3	4	⇓	Follow up 3	2
			Towards Erad	2013	2013		20 ha	0-1	1	4	⇓	Follow up 9	8
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Eradicate	2013	2013	.65 ha		0	2	3	⇓	Follow up 5	4
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	Monitor	2013	-	138 ha		TBA	4	3	⇑	-	0
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	Monitor	2025	-	30 ha +	20 ha+	TBA	1	1	⟺	Primary	0
Elaman creek	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	Towards Erad	2015	2016	8.8 ha	2.2	0-1	1	2	⇓	Follow up 6	5
			Towards Erad	2024	2024		6.2	0-1	2	3	⇓	Follow up 1	1
			Towards Erad	2024	2025		.4	0-1	3	3	⟺	No treatment	0
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Contain/Reduce	2015	2015	15.3 ha	11	1-2	2	4	⇓	Follow up 6	5
			Contain/Reduce	2024	2024		2.4	1-2	3	4	⇓	Follow up 1	1
			Contain/Reduce	2024	2025		2 ha	1-2	4	4	⟺	No treatment	0
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	Eradicate	2015	2015	.5 ha	.5 ha	0	3	3	⟺	Follow up 2	2
Harper creek	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	Towards Erad	2013	2015	9.9 ha	9.9	0-1	1	3-4	⇓	Follow up 7	6
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Eradicate	2018	2018	.01 ha		0	1	1	⇓	Follow up 4	3
Mary headwaters	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	Towards Erad	2015	2015	8.3 ha	6.8 ha	0-1	2	3-4	⇓	Follow up 6	5
			Monitor	2016	2018		1.5 ha	TBA	2-3	1-2	⇑	Follow up 3	2
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Monitor	2016	2018	11.7 ha	11.7	TBA	3-4	2-3	⇑	Follow up 2	2
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	Eradicate	2025	2025	20 m2	20m2	0	1	1	⟺	Primary	0
Cedar creek	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	Towards Erad	2018	2018	5 ha	5 ha	0-1	1-2	2-4	⇑	Follow up 5	4
Scrubby	No record	No record	Monitor										
Sandy	No record	No record	Monitor										
Flagstone	No record	No record	Monitor										

Table 8 Summary table of Sub catchment management history, current status and change

The vine weed species

Initially, in 2012, three vine weed species were identified as a major threat to the identified project assets. These are:

Cats claw creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati*

Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*

Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*

Cats claw creeper Dolichandra unguis-cati

Little was known about the distribution of Cat's claw creeper in the Upper Mary catchment. Known core infestations were at Bellthorpe, Elaman creek, Harper creek, Walli creek and likely two on Little Yabba creek. See Map 4 for generalised known Cats claw creeper distribution in the project area.

Madeira vine Anredera cordifolia

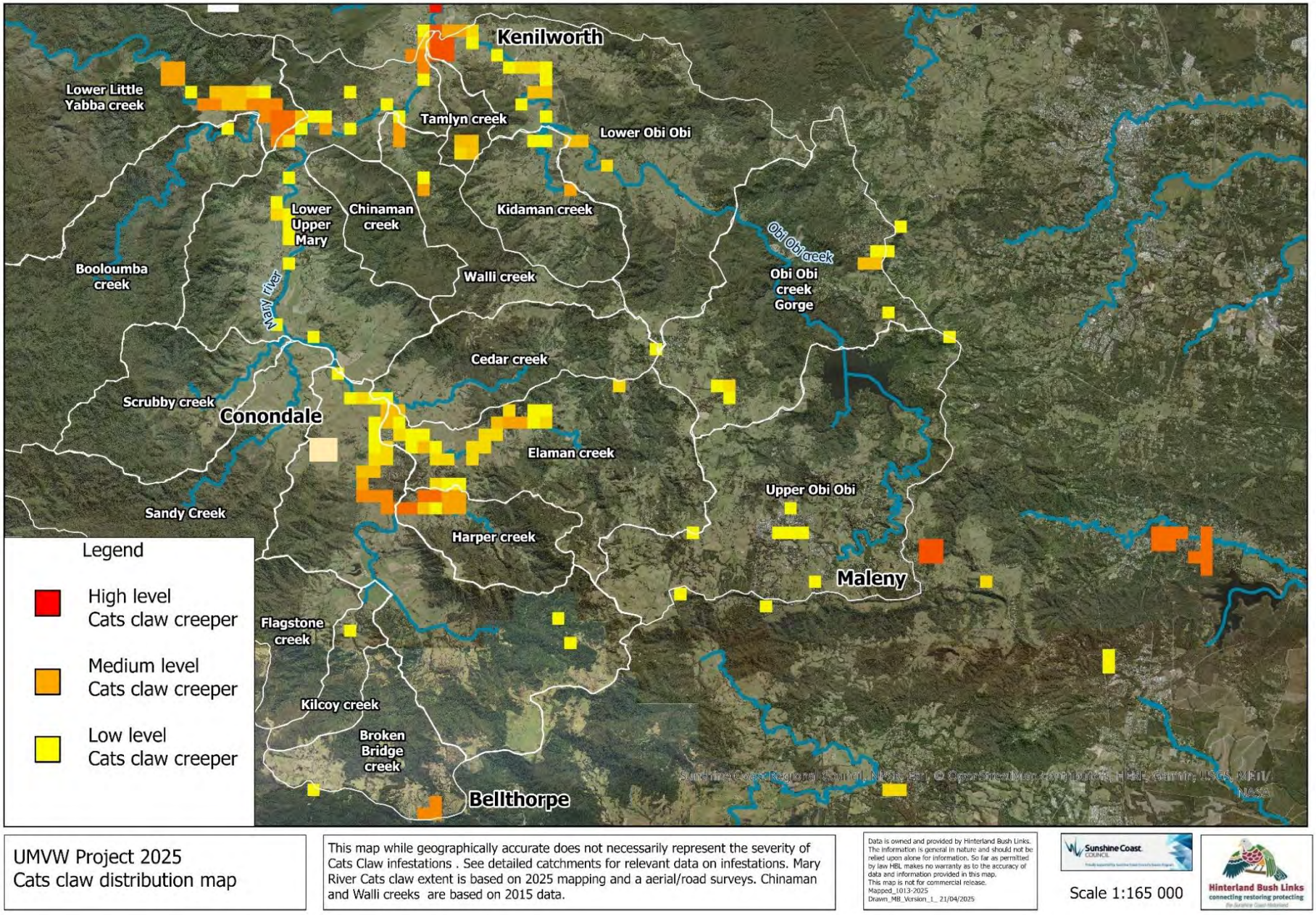
Known Madeira vine infestation was extensive on the Mary below Grigor Bridge, Elaman creek, Walli creek, Chinaman and the Lower Obi in 2012 and sporadic management activities had been carried out in previous years. Upon investigation small, isolated infestations were located on Harper (1), Mary (Crystal waters (4)), Cedar creek (5) and numerous infestations in the Upper Obi catchment and Witta area. See Map 5 for generalised known Madeira vine distribution in the project area.

Dutchman's pipe Aristolochia elegans

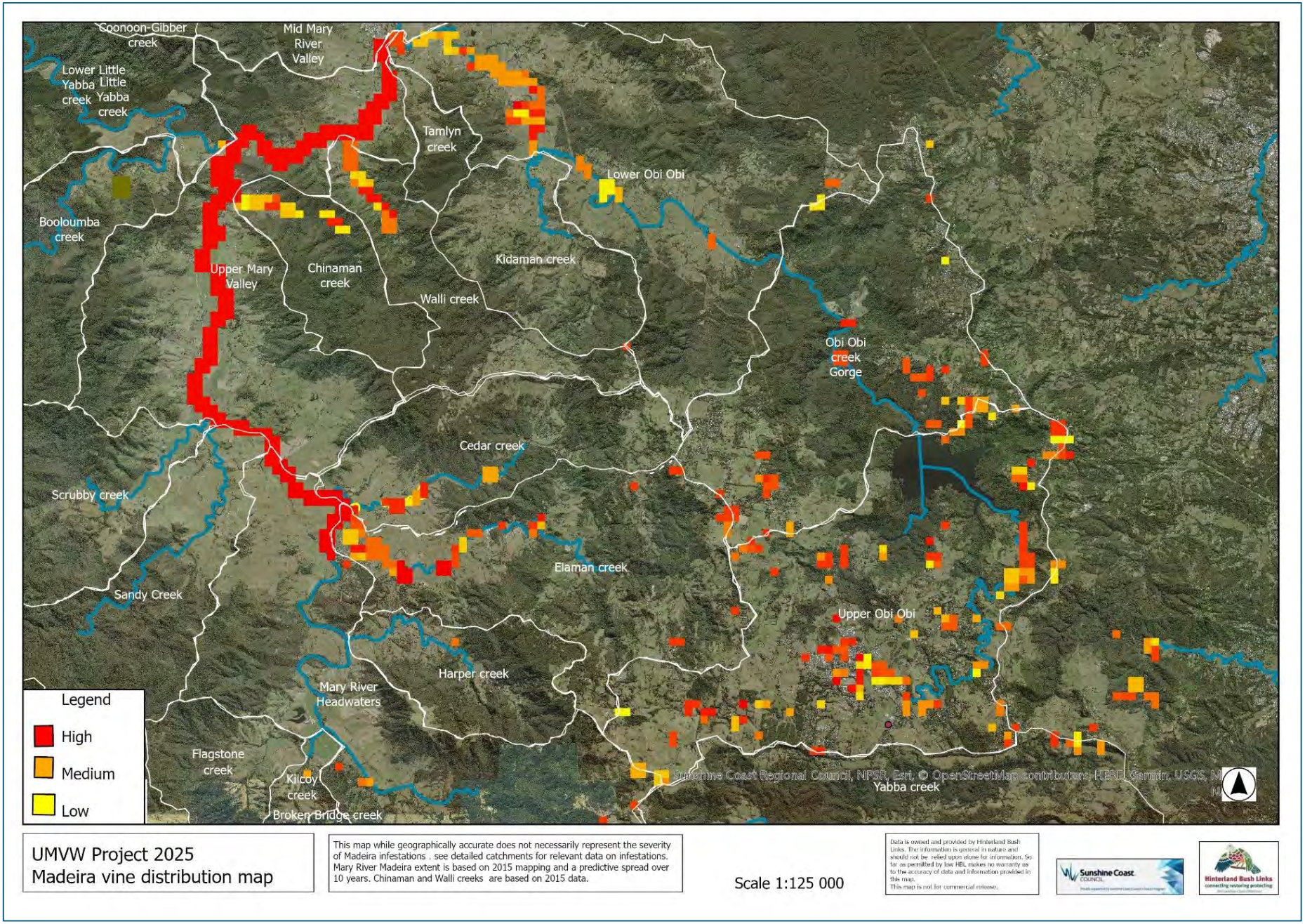
Dutchman's pipe was originally located on Booloumba (multi), Little Yabba creek (multi), Walli creek (2), Elaman (1), UMAR (multi) and MARH (1). Later investigation farther upstream discovered extensive Dutchman's pipe within the state forest. The area infected is so extensive it is well beyond HBL to manage alone. Recently it has been recorded in the Lower Obi catchment and at the confluence of Mary and Obi. It has been located in Conondale National Park and is likely spreading within the park. The extent, rate of spread and actual physical threat to vegetation, apart from the risk to *Ornithoptera richmondia*, may be of concern. See Map 6 for generalised known Dutchman's pipe distribution in the project area.

Aerial Yam, Dioscorea bulbiferous

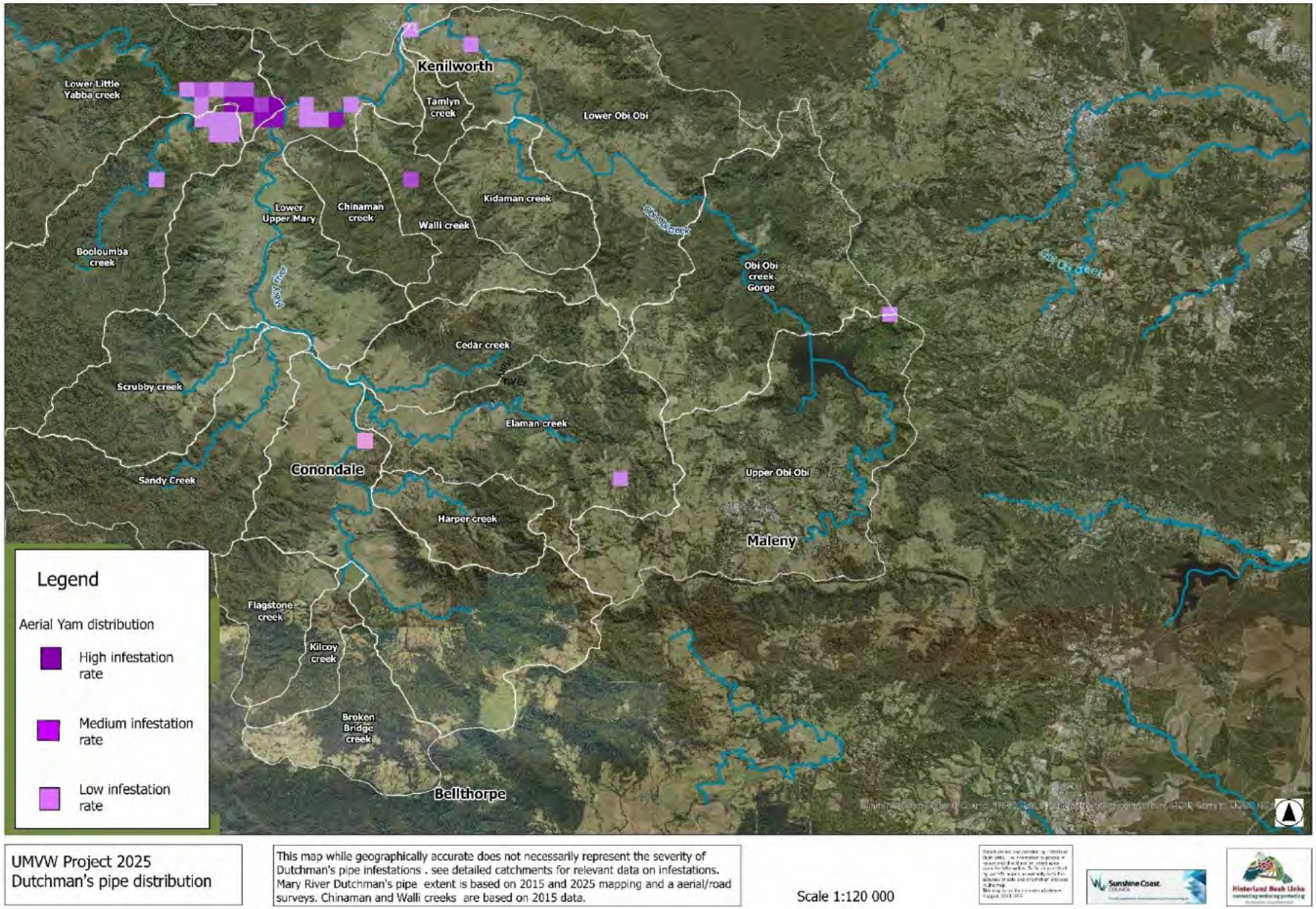
In 2025 Aerial Yam, *Dioscorea bulbiferous* was located in 3 sub catchments Mary River Headwaters, Obi Gorge and Little Yabba. The extent and rate of spread in the Little Yabba has been so dramatic over the past 10 years that it warrants monitoring at the very least as it may have the potential to be as damaging as Madeira vine. See Map 7 for generalised known Aerial Yam distribution in the project area.



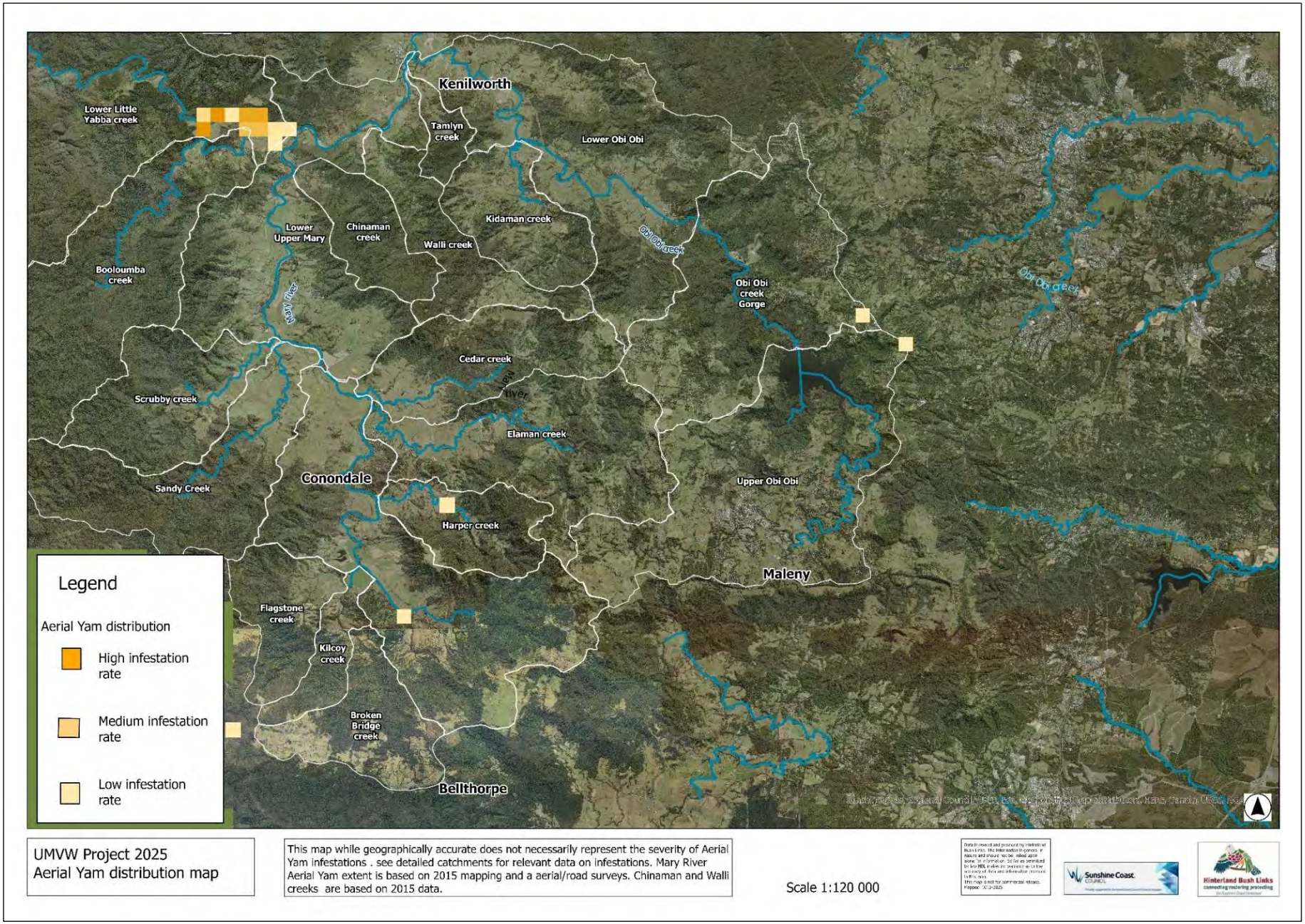
Map 4 Generalised known Cats claw creeper distribution in the project area.



Map 5 Generalised known Madeira vine distribution in the project area



Map 6 Generalised known Dutchman's pipe distribution in the project area



Map 7 Generalised known Aerial Yam distribution in the project area.

High priority isolated core infestations (HPIC)

Within the original plan and with the existing knowledge a small number of isolated infestations were considered important enough to classify as High Priority. Table 9 below is taken from the original plan. Infestation 1 is managed by Crystal Waters and is believed to be active. It has been shifted to priority points in this plan (see below). What were thought to be more isolated infestations (2) have now been fully investigated and more extensive than first thought and so have been moved into Elaman creek sub catchment. Infestation 3 is currently being managed by LBCCG. Infestation 4 was originally treated but needs checking and has a new owner. Infestation 5 consists of a number of now point infestations, some are managed by LBCCG and some unmanaged.

	Creek	Weed	Notes
1	Crystal waters	Madeira all	Managed by CW
2	Elaman Creek	CC and Madeira	[redacted] and [redacted] Rd
3	Maleny (Obi) only CC	CC	[redacted]
4	Maleny (Elaman Creek Catch.)	Dutchman's	[redacted]
5	Maleny (Elaman and Geraghty Creek)	Madeira	[redacted]

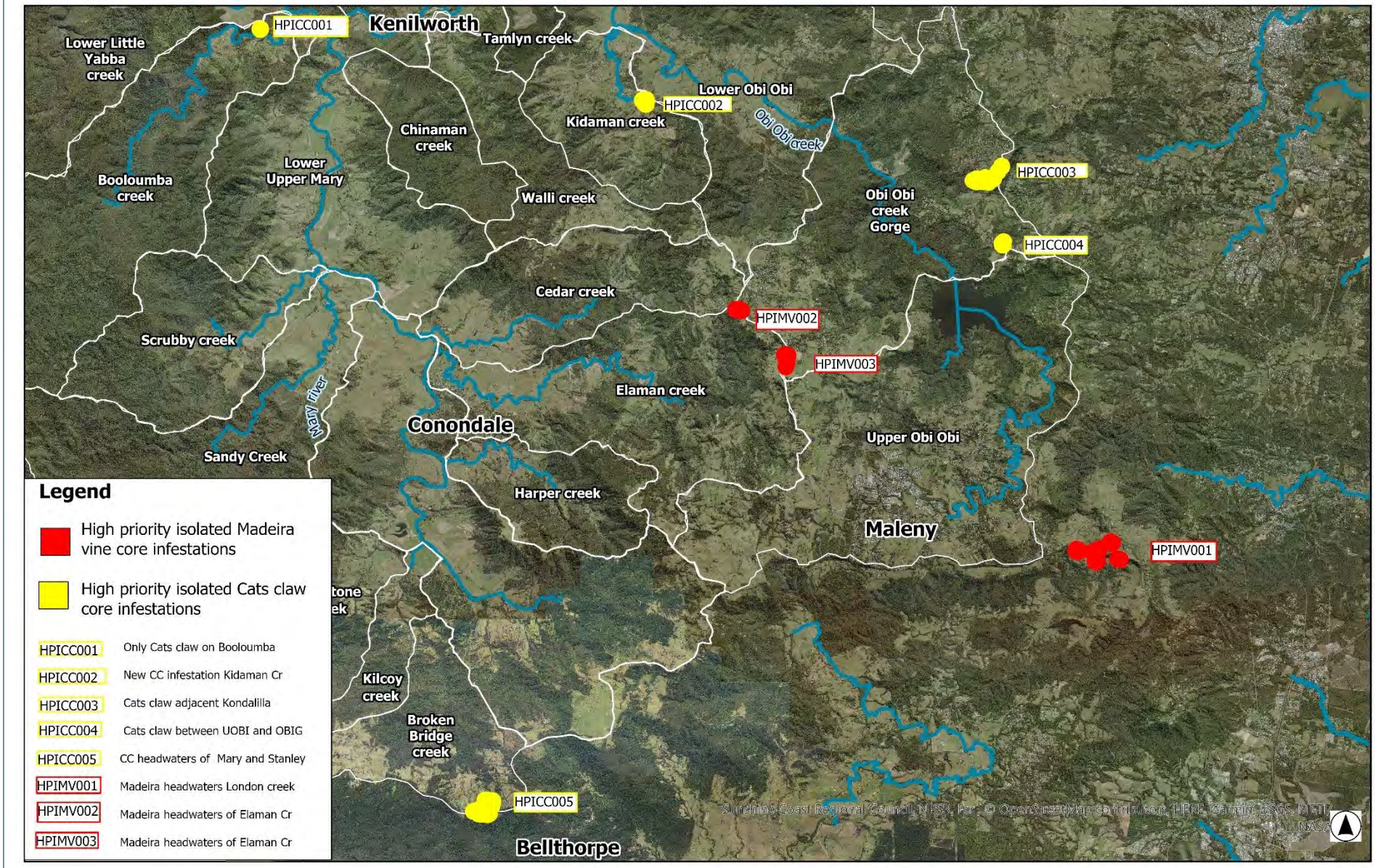
Table 9 Original high priority isolated infestations 2012-15

High priority isolated core infestations for the project area have been revised for 2025. As mentioned, some have been absorbed into High Priority Isolated Point Infestations. In 2025 8 high priority isolated core infestation have been identified and can be found in **Map** 8 and **Table** 10. There are 5 Cats claw and 3 madeira infestations.

HPICC001- Is the first and only known Cats claw infestation on Booloumba creek located in 2024. [redacted] SCRC, LFW) Infestation source unknown. Closest known CC is 900 NW and 1 km NE. (See Booloumba creek Section 3)

HPICC002-Located 2024 [redacted]) first known core infestation on Kidaman creek. Currently unmanaged likely up to 2ha. (See Kidaman creek Section 3)

HPICC003-Core and multiple outlier infestations radiating from the Scout Hall towards Skene creek. Located aerial survey 2017. Trajectory Kondalilla National Park. Some management SCRC.
(Obi Gorge)



Map 8 High priority isolated core infestations

HPICC004- Western Ave at the headwaters Elston creek and Skene creeks. Trajectory Kondalilla National Park. Maybe managed by LBCCG. Combined DSS32(Obi Gorge).

HPICC005- Bellthorpe infestation straddling Bellthorpe Range Rd been managed for a number of years by various groups. Lies at the headwaters of Broken Bridge Cr (Mary) and Stony creek (Stanley). High risk to Bellthorpe National Park both creeks. Has the highest combined downstream spread score (DSS)of 28 (28 km). See Stony and Broken Bridge creeks section 3.

HPIMV001- Multiple infestations at the headwaters of Upper Mooloolah river and Ewan creek (Stanley). Some managed by LBCCG.

HPIMV002- Corner Maleny Kenilworth Rd and Curramore within TMR land. Revegetated unsure if Madeira was eradicated first. See Elaman creek Section 3.

HPIMV003- Cluster of infestations at the Headwaters of Elaman creek and Obi Gorge via West Witta creek. Most managed by LBCCG although infestation on the western side of road at 423 Maleny-Kenilworth Rd is spreading downstream.

High Priority Isolated (HPIC) Core infestations					
HPI CODE	**Vine weed**	**Catchment codes**	**Waterway**	**Downstream spread distance**	**DSS**
HPICC001	Cats claw	BOOLCC001	Booloumba creek	2 kms	2
HPICC002	Cats claw	KIDCC001	Kidaman creek	4.5 km	4.5
HPICC003	Cats claw	SKECC001-8	Skene creek	14 km	14
HPICC004	Cats claw	ELSCC002-5	Elston Creek and Skene creek	16.5 km 15 km	32
HPICC005	Cats claw	BBCCOO1-4, STCC001-3	Broken Bridge Cr Stony creek	BB 15 kms ST 13 kms	28
HPIMV001	Madeira vine	MOOLMV1-3, EWACC004-6	Mooloolah and Ewan creeks	MOOL 12 kms EWAN 12.7 kms	25
HPIMV002	Madeira vine	ELAMV001A-1C	Elaman creek	6 kms	6
HPIMV003	Madeira vine	ELCMV001-3, 0BIMV086,87	Elaman creek	6 kms	6

Table 10 Current High Priority Isolated core infestations 2025 (see Map 7)

High Priority Isolated Point infestations (HPIP)

Fifty-five High Priority Isolated Point infestations have been identified in the 2025 updated plan. See Table 11 and 12. These are generally smaller infestations, not thought to be part of a larger core infestation, although they have come from somewhere. They are not considered to be outliers of existing core infestations. Generally, they represent a high downstream spread risk and are often located within the headwaters. See map 8.

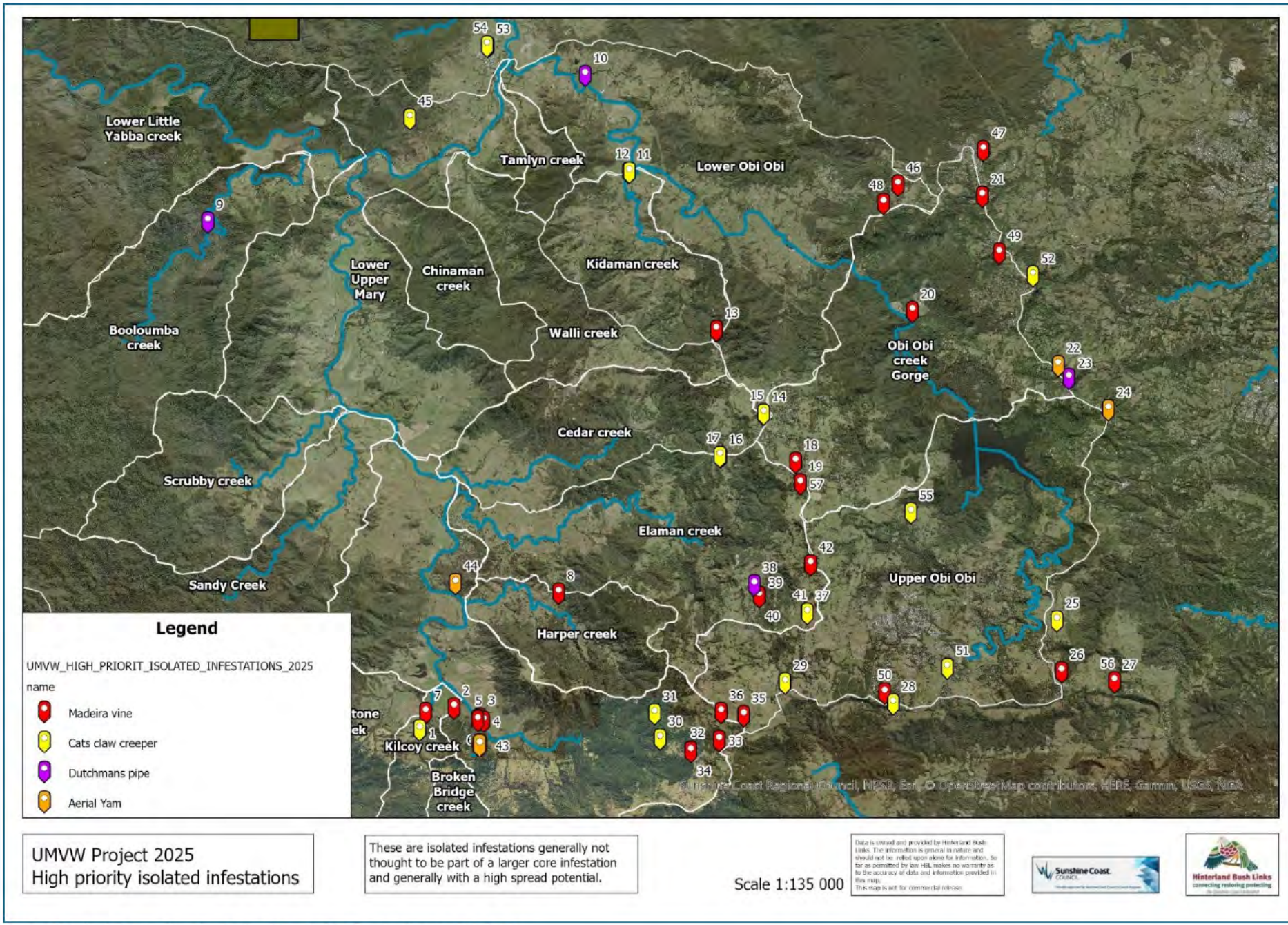
Vine weed	No of infestations
Madeira vine	29
Cats claw creeper	18
Dutchman's pipe	4
Aerial Yam	4
Total	55

Table 11 High Priority Isolated infestations per vine weed

High Priority Isolated infestations per sub catchment-

Sub catchment	Total	Cats claw	Madeira vine	Dutchman's pipe	Aerial Yam
Mary River headwaters	14	2	10	1	2
Upper Obi catchment	9	4	4		1
Obi Gorge	9	1	7		1
Elaman	7	3	4	1	
Lower Obi	4		3	1	
Upper Mary River Valley	2	2			
Ewan	2	1		1	
Kilcoy	2	1	1		
Kidaman	2	2			
Booloumba	1	1			
Cedar	1	1			
Harper	1		1		
Pencil	1		1		

Table 12 High Priority Isolated infestations per sub catchment



Map 9 High Priority Isolated Point infestations (HPIP)

UMVW Project biological control activities

Background

Hinterland Bush Links sourced and released over 30 000 bio control agents over the period 2012-2020. These biocontrol agents were released generally throughout the project area as well as targeted vine weed infestations that were not going to be managed with on ground works due to their location, the available resources and/or low priority. Other organizations such as SCRC, MRCC, HPQ, QPWS and landowners also released biocontrol within the project area over the same time period. Record keeping of biological release data is often not complete and there is no centralized management database. Therefore, accurate estimates of quantities and exact location of release are not readily available. Map 10 gives a generalized pattern of biocontrol release based on data from Gympie Landcare and HBL's own records. Once the chosen biocontrol agents were distributed evenly throughout the project area and were found to be naturalising, biocontrol releases were ceased in 2021. All up HBL procured and released over 30 000 biocontrol agents. The table shows the breakdown of species released, and target vine weed species. Map shows release sites within the project area. Interestingly when the release sites were mapped against infestation maps six bio control release sites had been recorded where no vine weed records exist. These six sites could be checked for vine weed infestations. It is possible that the geodata attached to the release records is not accurate.

Common name	Scientific name	Target species	Qty released
Jewel Beetle	*Hedwigiella jureceki*)	Cats claw	23 500
Madeira vine Beetle	*Plectonycha correntina*	Madeira	6000
Tingid bug	*Carvalhotingis visenda*	Cats claw	1000

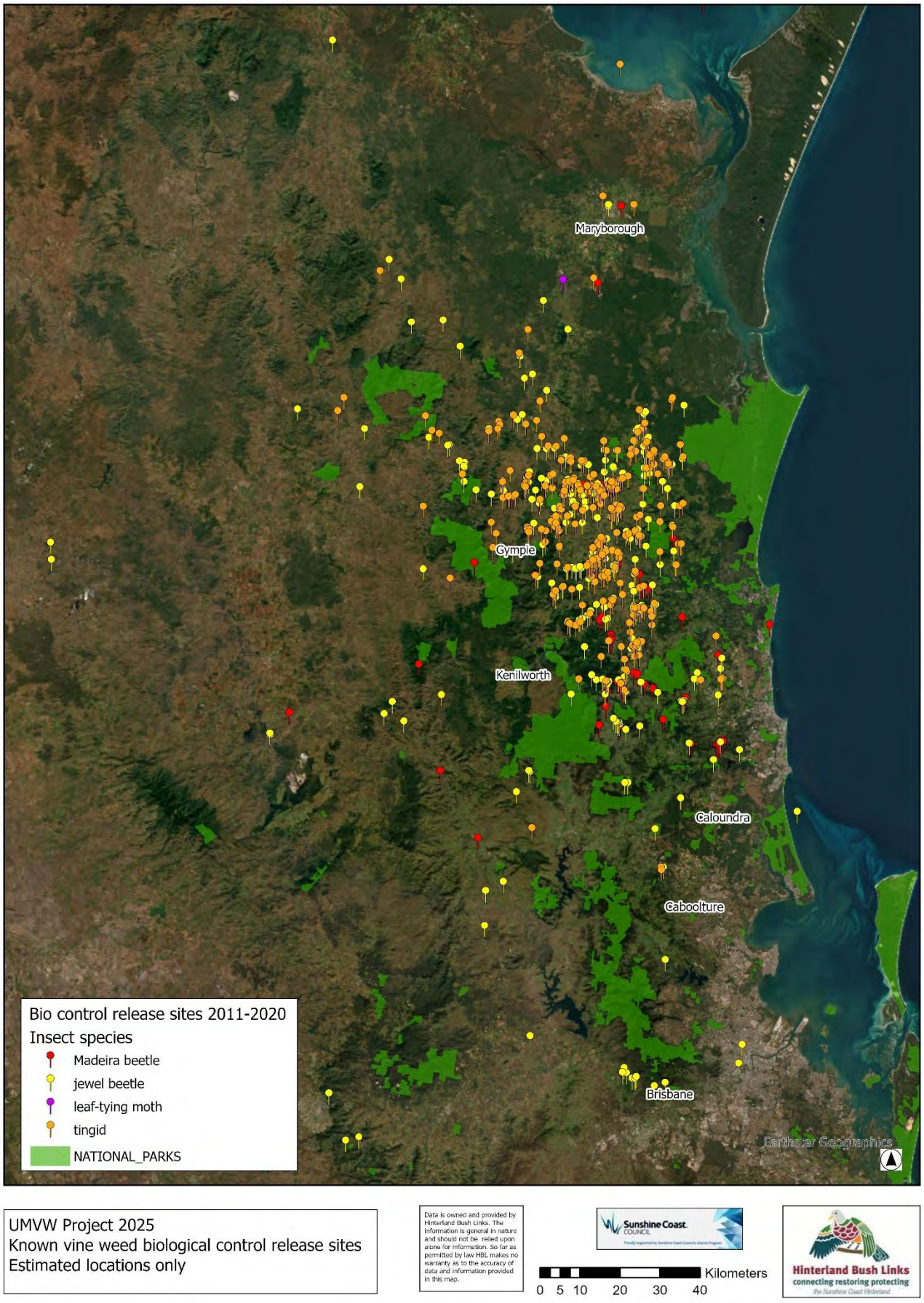
Table 14 Biological control agent release summary information.

Observations

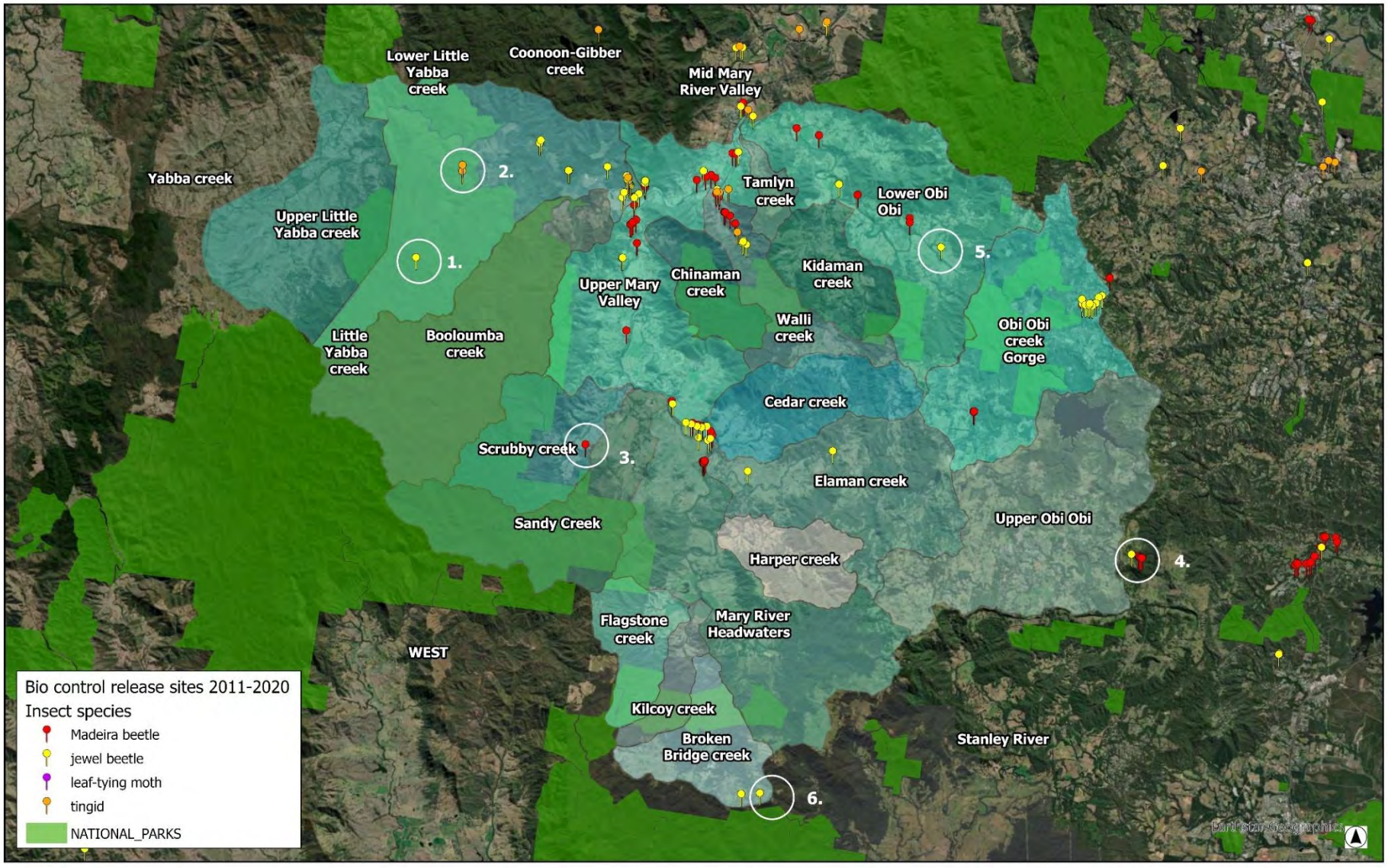
Generally, all 3 biological control agents can be found in larger infestations but also on isolated outlier infestations or even single plants. Tingid generally only found in protected areas seems to have an impact on seedling and tuberlings at early stage of development particularly in low light conditions. Jewel beetles can be found widespread but seem to have greatest impact on isolated regrowth particularly in infestations that have had a major reduction in biomass. They can regularly be found to have reduced leaf area on a single plant by up to 75%. Madeira beetles are often found but more sporadically and would appear that their activity cannot keep up with vigorous growth of Madeira vine.

Future activities

No further bio control releases are planned in the project area with current agents. The development of the leaf-spot pathogen *Neoramulariopsis unguis-cati* (Capnodiales: Mycosphaerellaceae) for Cats claw looks highly promising and could be released in the next couple of years.



Map 10 Biological control agent release sites by species 2011-2020



Map 11 Biological control agent release sites in project area by species 2011-2020

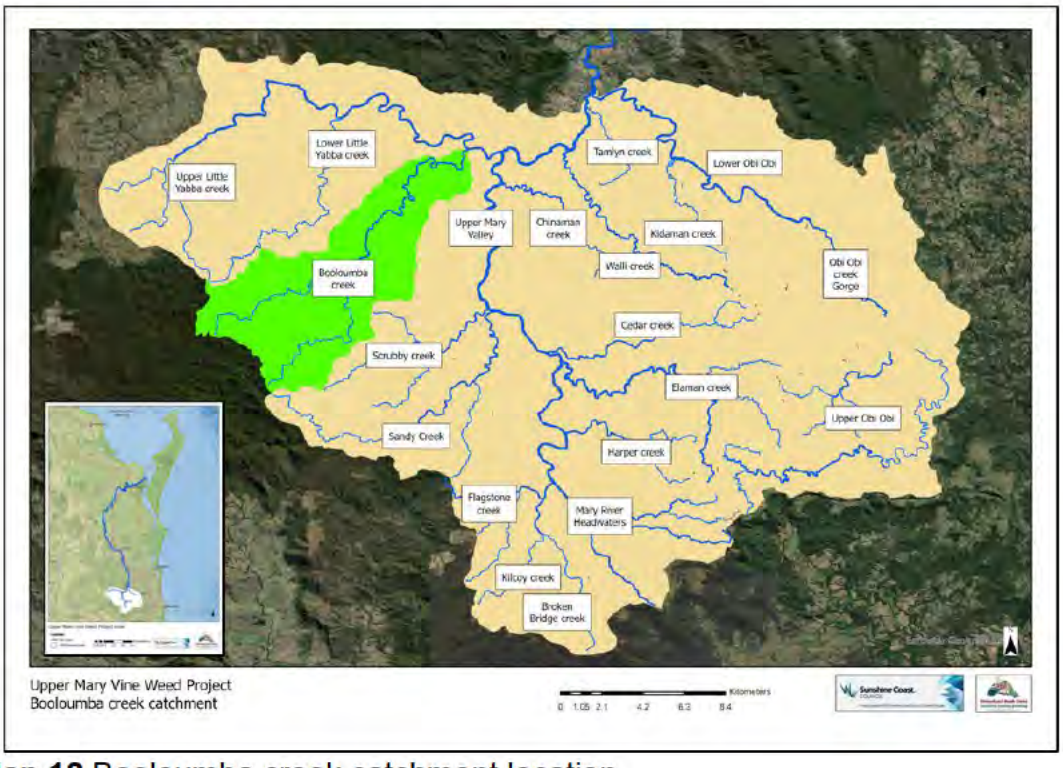
Section 3

Detailed description of all sub catchments covered in the plan and their associated vine weed data

Booloumba creek

Catchment description

The Booloumba Creek catchment encompasses an area of 63 km². It descends from the western slopes of the Conondale Range. Approximately 92% of the catchment lies within Conondale National Park, boasting a 96% vegetation cover. Notably, 92% of Booloumba Creek is situated within the National Park, and less than 4% of the catchment is utilized for grazing purposes. The creek comprises 53 hectares or 12.6 kilometers of stream length designated as Endangered RE 12.3.1, alongside another 77 hectares deemed OC RE (Of Concern). Furthermore, it features 82% of its length with excellent riparian vegetation and hosts various rare and threatened species, providing critical habitat. Additionally, it serves as a valuable and popular recreation area. Booloumba Creek stands out as the most protected sub-catchment with the highest ecological value within the study area. It is regarded as the premier sub-catchment of the Upper Mary region, having been ranked number one in the prioritization process of the UMVW project. In retrospect, it likely deserves an even higher score. Although Summer Creek, a smaller sub-catchment without RE 12.3.1, exhibits high levels of protection, low levels of risk, and contains listed species, it does not match Booloumba Creek's significance. The *Upper Mary and Tributaries Rehabilitation Plan* by Stockwell (2001) identifies Booloumba Creek as the highest priority catchment within the Mary River system. not match Booloumba Creek's significance. The *Upper Mary and Tributaries Rehabilitation Plan* by Stockwell (2001) identifies Booloumba Creek as the highest priority catchment within the Mary River system.



Map 12 Booloumba creek catchment location

Vine weeds present in Booloumba catchment

	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2013	2025
	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	-	2025

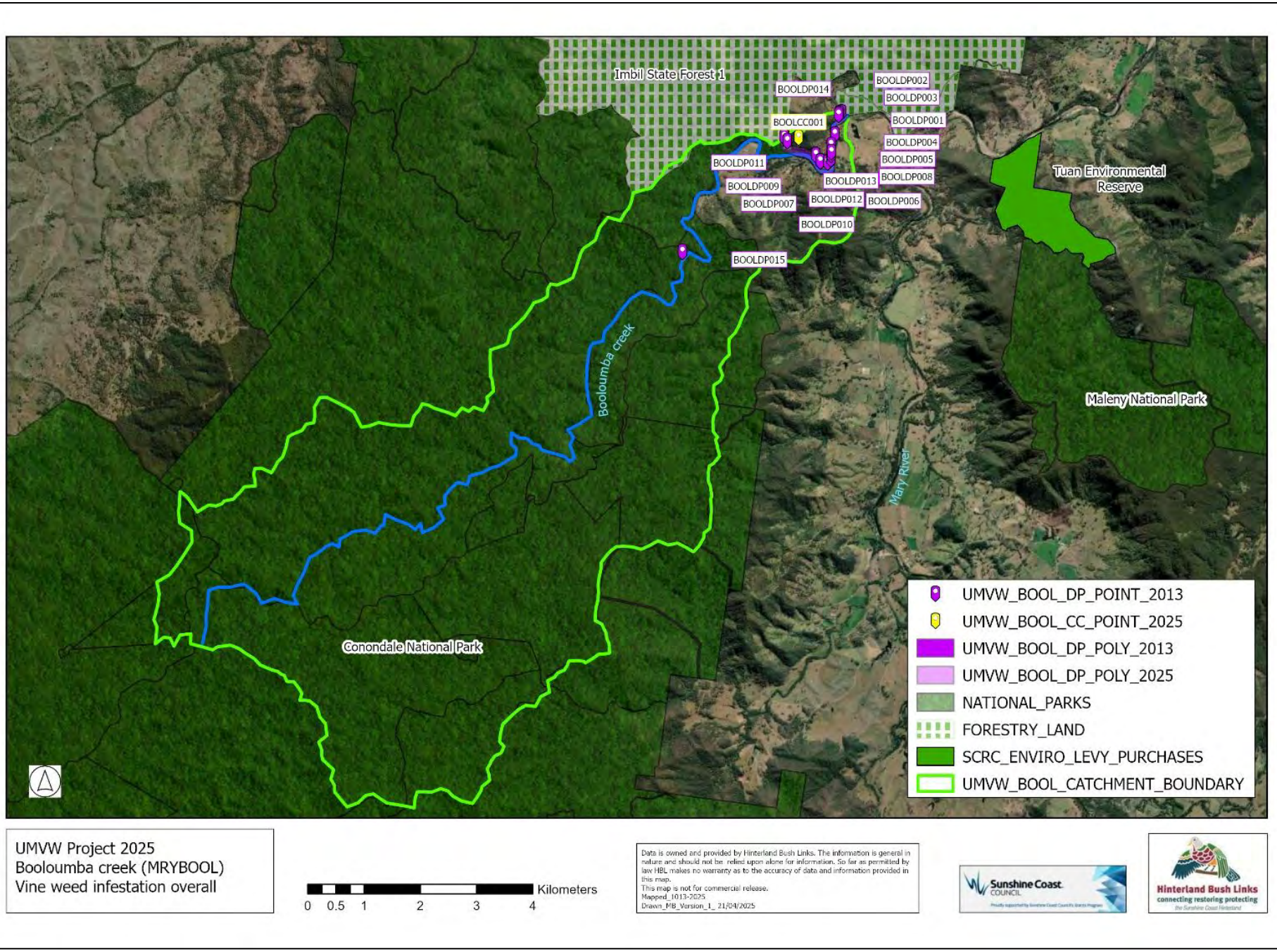
Mapping

Originally mapped in 2013 by foot. Mapping occurred from Little Yabba to Campground 1. The only vine weed detected was Dutchman's pipe, recorded from Little Yabba approximately 2.5 km upstream reaching the National Park, behind 252 Booloumba Creek Rd. The distance between Little Yabba and Imbil State Forest 1 narrows to a pinch point of 60 meters in this area. Since then, it has also been detected 7.2 km from Little Yabba in Campground 3. It appears likely that it was brought into the National Park on a vehicle or equipment rather than originating from an infestation within the National Park. This most upstream point of Dutchman's pipe is 1.6 km from forestry land where the weed is extensive, which seems too far for wind or water spread.

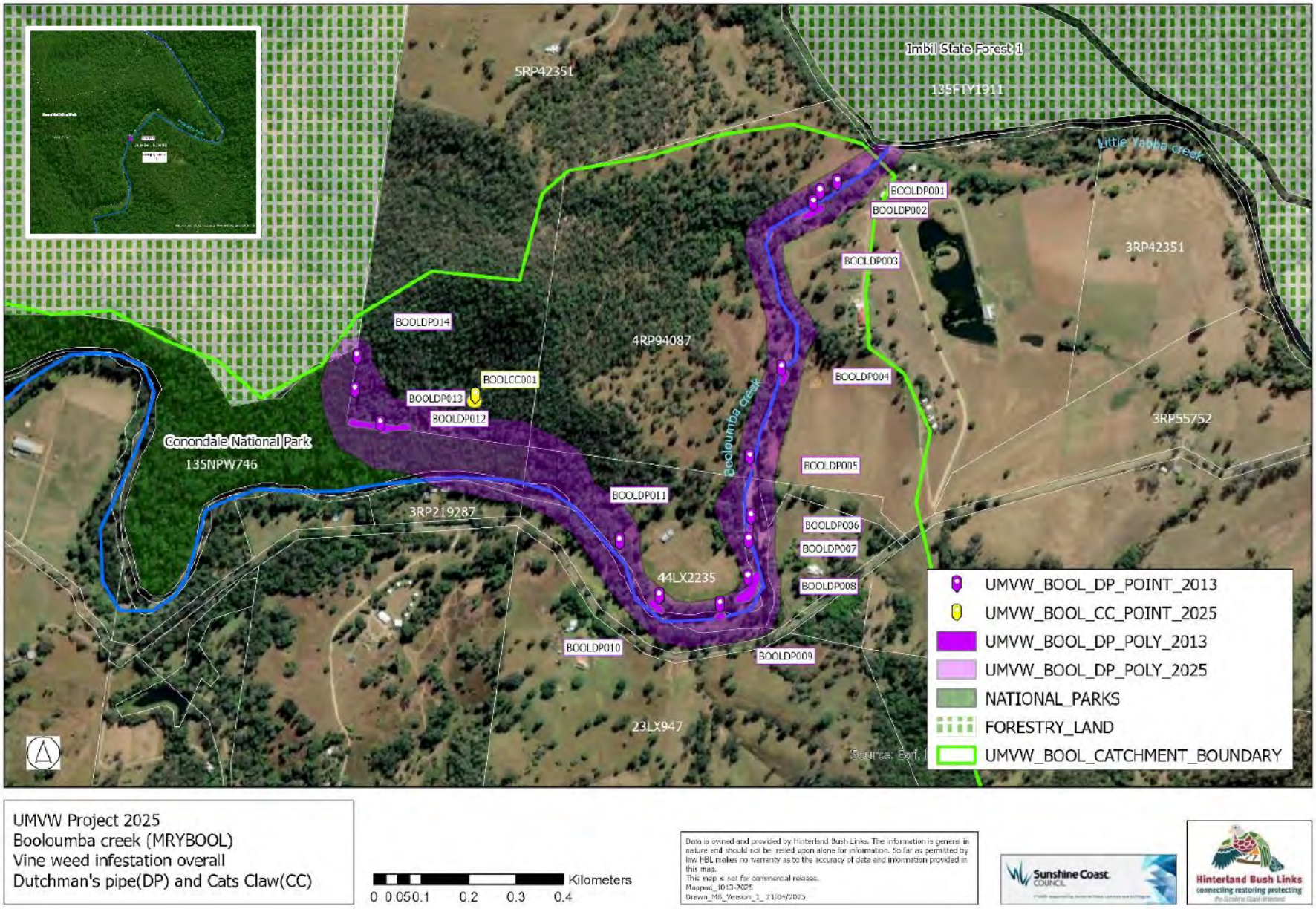
In 2024, the first Cats claw infestation within the Booloumba Creek catchment was found on property 5RP42351 by Chad Oliver, LFW officer for SCRC. The infestation covered approximately 200 square meters in a thick vine thicket, located about 150 meters from Booloumba Creek and roughly 2 km upstream from Little Yabba. It is 1 km from the nearest Cats claw infestation on Little Yabba Creek, generally too far for seed spread by wind in one event. It is hoped to be an isolated infestation of unknown origin. This infestation, labeled BCCC001, is the closest known instance of Cats claw to Conondale National Park, less than 100 meters away. A herbarium record lodged in 2002 noted Cats claw on Booloumba Creek between Campground 3 and the day-use area. The record was located on ALA.

Vine weed management

The Cats claw infestation BCCC001 is a high priority and will be addressed in 2024/25. Dutchman's Pipe was managed from 2013 to 2015. In 2015, after discovering extensive Dutchman's Pipe within forestry, it was decided to cease its management, except on Little Yabba and Booloumba when found alongside Cats claw.



Map 13 Overall Boolumba creek catchment



Map 14 Booloumba creek Dutchman's pipe and Cats claw

Management recommendations

Treat BCCC001 promptly and follow up annually for five years, then monitor for another five. Reevaluate DP at Booloumba Creek and along the 15 km boundary between Forestry land and Conondale National Park. DP has now reached as far down the Mary River as Obi Obi Creek, 4.5 km further than in 2015. Discuss risks and management strategies for DP within Conondale National Park with QPWS and HQP. Educate QPWS staff on identifying and recording vine weeds. Engage landholders to educate, monitor, and report vine weeds along Booloumba Creek. Monitor for Madeira vine and Aerial Yam.

Summary management activities Booloumba creek

Summary management activities Booloumba creek 2013-2036					
Year	**Activity**	**Status**	**Labour days**	***Budget**	
2013	Original mapping from Little Yabba to NP	Completed	-	-	
2015/16	Primary treatment DP	Completed	-	-	
2017/18	Follow up 1DP	Completed	-	-	
Proposed activities					
2024/25	Primary BCCC001	1 visit	4	-	2240
2025/26	Follow up 1 BCCC001	1 Visit	4	2240	
2025/26	Re map for DP/CC #	TBA	2	1120	
2025/26	Assessment/plan #	TBA	1	560	
2026/27	Follow up2 BCCC001	1 visit	4	2352	
2027/28	Follow up 3 BCCC001	1 visit	4	2464	
2028/29	Follow up 4 BCCC001	1 visit	4	2584	
2029/30	Follow up 5 BCCC001	1 visit	2	1361	
2030/31	Follow up 6 BCCC001	1 visit	2	1420	
2031/32	Follow up 7 BCCC001	1 visit	2	1488	
2032/33	Follow up 8 BCCC001	1 visit	2	1562	
2033/34	Follow up 9 BCCC001	1 visit	2	1636	
2034/35	Follow up 10 BCCC001	1 visit	2	1757	
			33	$20544	

Table 14 Summary management activities 2013-2036

**$ based on $560 per day per person with 5% increase per year*

 # Adjust costings if treatment of DP on Booloumba creek is planned

Sub-catchment	Booloumba creek		
Priority ranking	Cats claw creeper		
Priority score	90		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	63 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	22 km	-
	Private	5.3	**9%**
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	20 km	**91%**
Catchment Area	Overall	63 km2	**-**
	Private	4.8 km2 (9 lots)	**8%**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	58.2 km	**92%**
Local Government	SCRC	63 km2	**100%**
	Sommerset	-	**-**
Tenure length	Private	5.3 km	**9%**
	State Forest	-	**-**
	National Park	20 km	**91%**
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	12.6 km	**57%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	53 ha	**.8%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Of concern RE	12.11.14,12.11.9	77 ha	**1.2%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	18 km	**82%**
	Moderate	3 km	**13.55**
	Poor	.2 km	**1%**
Catchment vegetation cover	60.2 km2	96%	**96%**
Land use	Conservation	58.2 km2	**92%**
	Grazing	2.4 km2	**8%**
	other	-	**-**
Landholders	11	10 Private	**-**
		QPWS	**-**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2013	**-**
	Latest	2025	**-**
Mapping distance from Little Yabba (walk)	2013	5.5 km	**-**
	2025	Desktop only	**-**
Aerial surveys	2016,2019,2021,2024		
Mapping distance from Mary air	10 km		
Road surveys	Annual		
Vine weed details			
Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	

Table 15 Boolumba creek catchment summary table

Cats claw creeper ***Dolichandra unguis-cati***			
Cat claw area	2013	-	
	2025	.04 ha	
Cats claw polygons	2013	-	
	2025	1	
Cats claw points	2013	-	
	2025	1	
Cats claw length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	20 m	
Cats claw records 2025	1		
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	1		

Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*			
Madeira vine area	2016	-	
	2025	-	
Madeira polygons	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Madeira points	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Madeira length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	-	

Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*			
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	.7 ha	
	2025	35 ha (estimate)	
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	15	
	2025	16	
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	15	
	2025	16	
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	2.3 km	
	2025	7.2 km	**32%** non-continuous

Table 16 Boolumba creek vine weed summary table

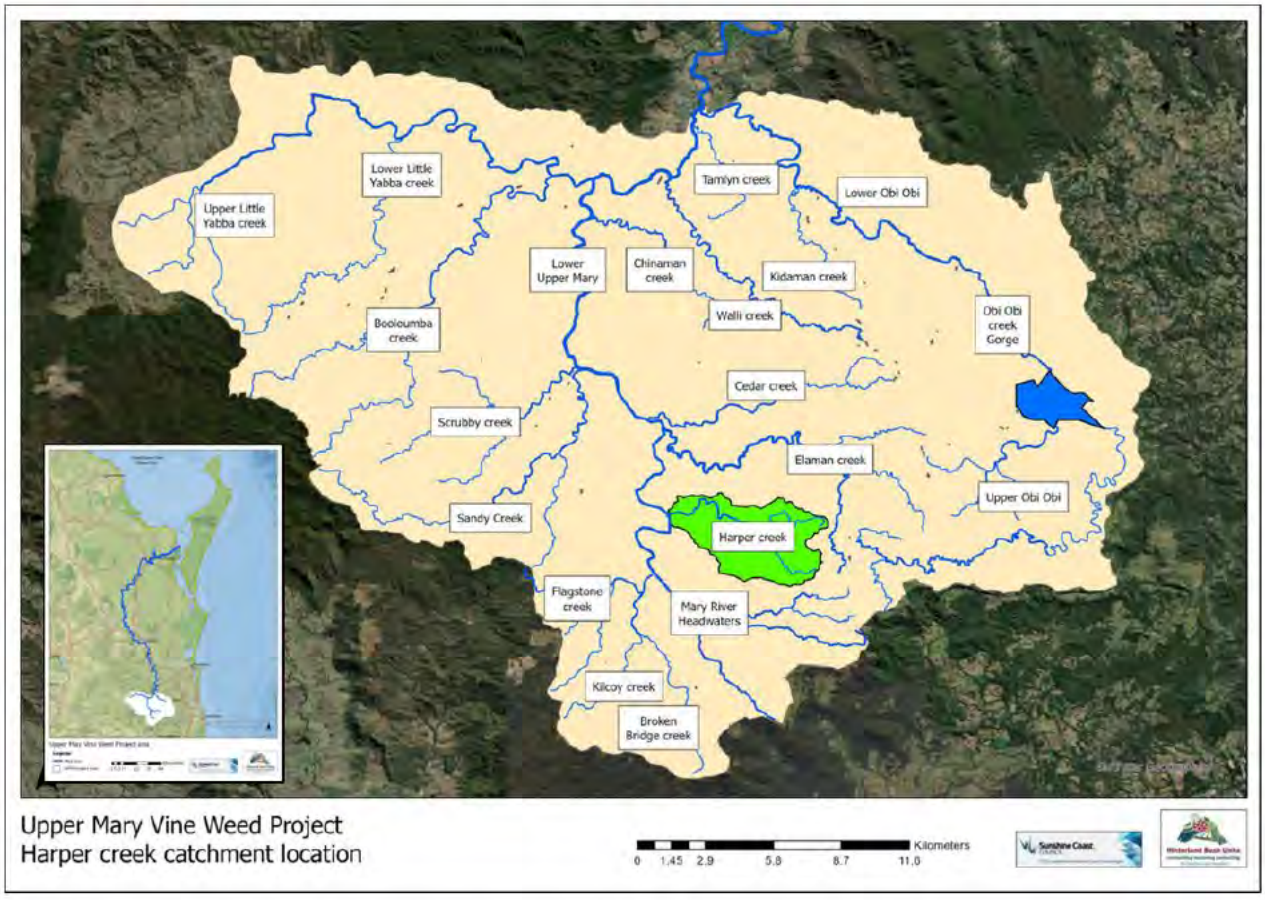
Harper creek

Catchment description

Harper Creek originates in the Reesville district of the Blackall Range and flows west for 8.5 km to meet the Mary River. The Harper catchment covers an area of 15 km², with approximately 65% of the catchment being well vegetated. While the headwater tributaries are well vegetated, the middle reaches are significantly degraded, with sections lacking vegetation. The lower reaches, extending for 1 km upstream from the Mary River confluence, possess moderate to good riparian vegetation.

Initially, Harper Creek was ranked at 8 primarily due to its low level of protection, absence of mapped Regional Ecosystem (RE) 12.3.1, and the extensive presence of Cats Claw Creeper (CC), which was the largest area of CC mapped at that time. Further investigation revealed that other catchments contained more CC than Harper Creek. Additional factors contributing to the reassessment included the highest core infestation on the entire Mary system, the absence of other invasive vine species (particularly Madeira Vine), and excellent landholder engagement.

As a result of adaptive management strategies, Harper Creek's ranking improved substantially from 8 to 2.



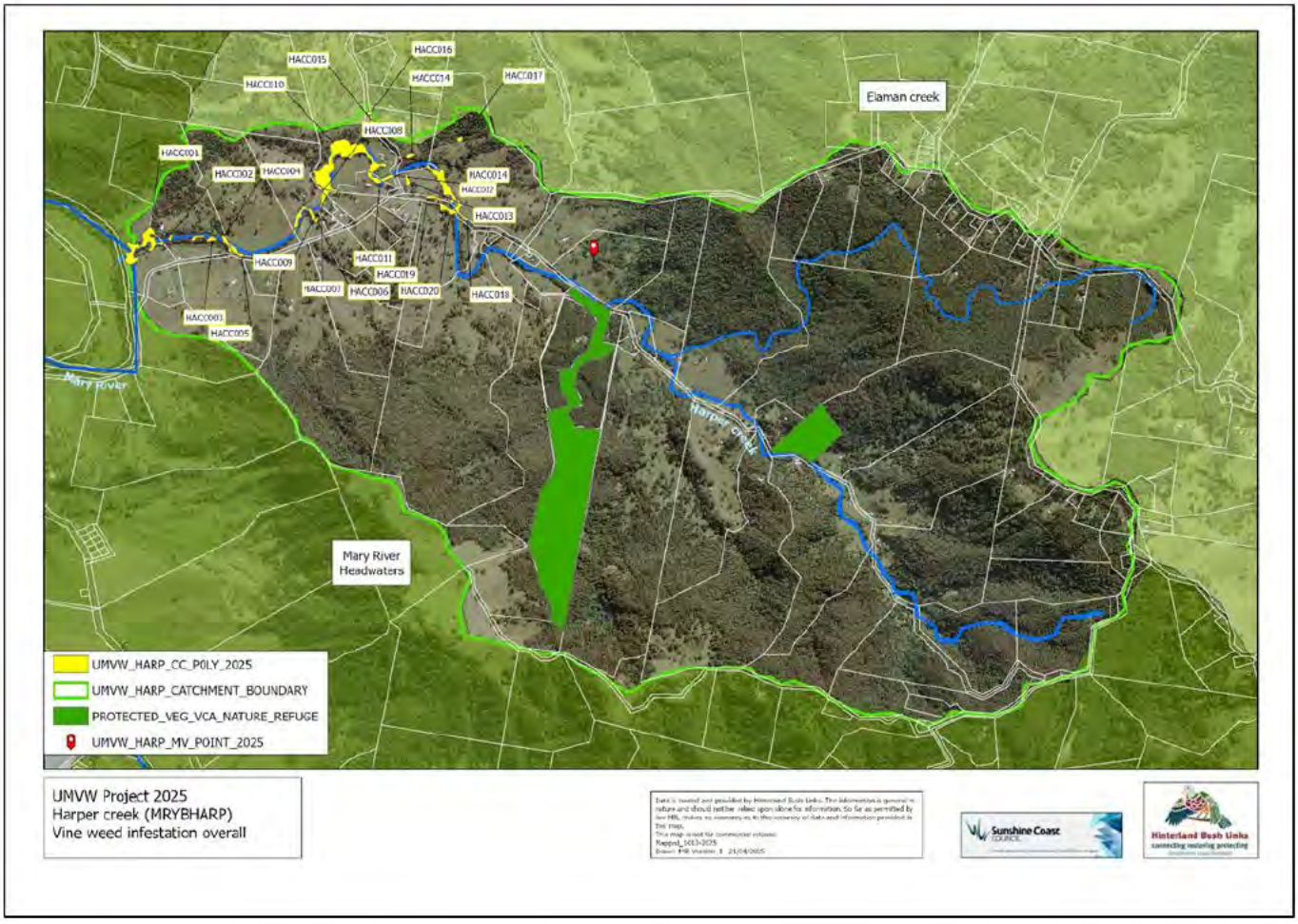
Map 17 Harper creek catchment location map

Mapping

Harpers Creek was initially mapped in 2015 due to a known and established infestation approximately 3 km in length. This location represents the uppermost significant Cats Claw infestation, covering 10 hectares within the Upper Mary catchment, excluding a small managed infestation in the headwaters of Brocken Bridge Creek Bellthorpe (BRCC001-5). The original core of the Harper infestation appears to have spread upstream by roughly 800 meters, likely via wind, resulting in outlier infestations. It has also spread downstream, heavily infesting the Mary River down to Conondale and sporadically extending to Kenilworth (20 km). Prior to 2015, the management of the Harpers Creek infestation was ad hoc. Since 2015, relatively consistent annual treatments have been conducted, totaling 6, 2024. These efforts have reduced the infestation from stems with diameters exceeding 250 mm to sporadic regrowth and tuber lings, effectively improving the situation from Level 4 to Level 1. Contractors from Barung Landcare have been mapping in point form during management visits between 2017 and 2024. Road and helicopter surveys are conducted biannually.

Vines weeds located in catchment

	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2017



Map 16 Harper creek overall vine weed map

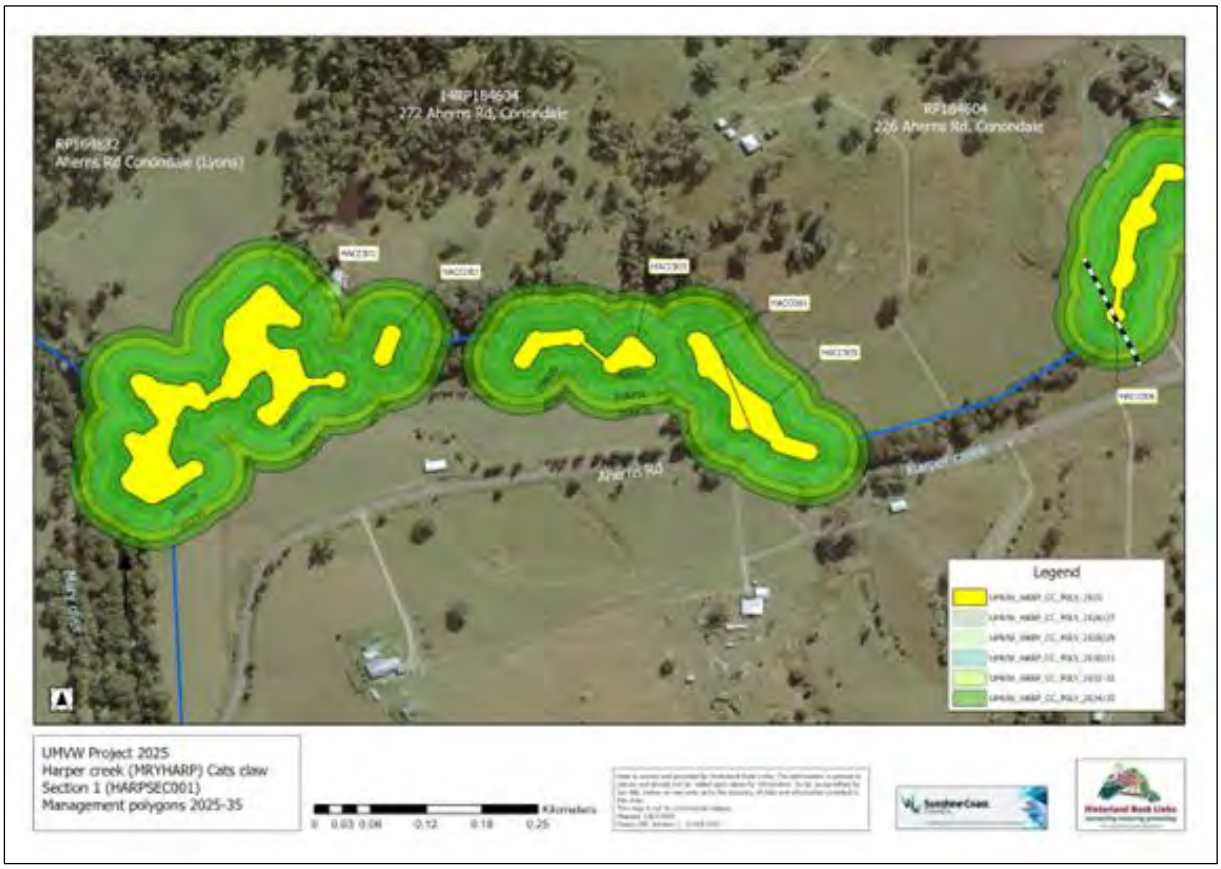
Vine weed management

The infestation area spans 12 lots of land with 11 landholders and a small portion of SCRC road reserve, reflecting full engagement in the project. One landholder manages Cats claw (King 1998-ongoing), and four others manage general weeds. Over ten years, there has been a 64% turnover of landholders, mainly on four properties. One new landowner opts for non-chemical methods, suitable for hand removal at stage 1.

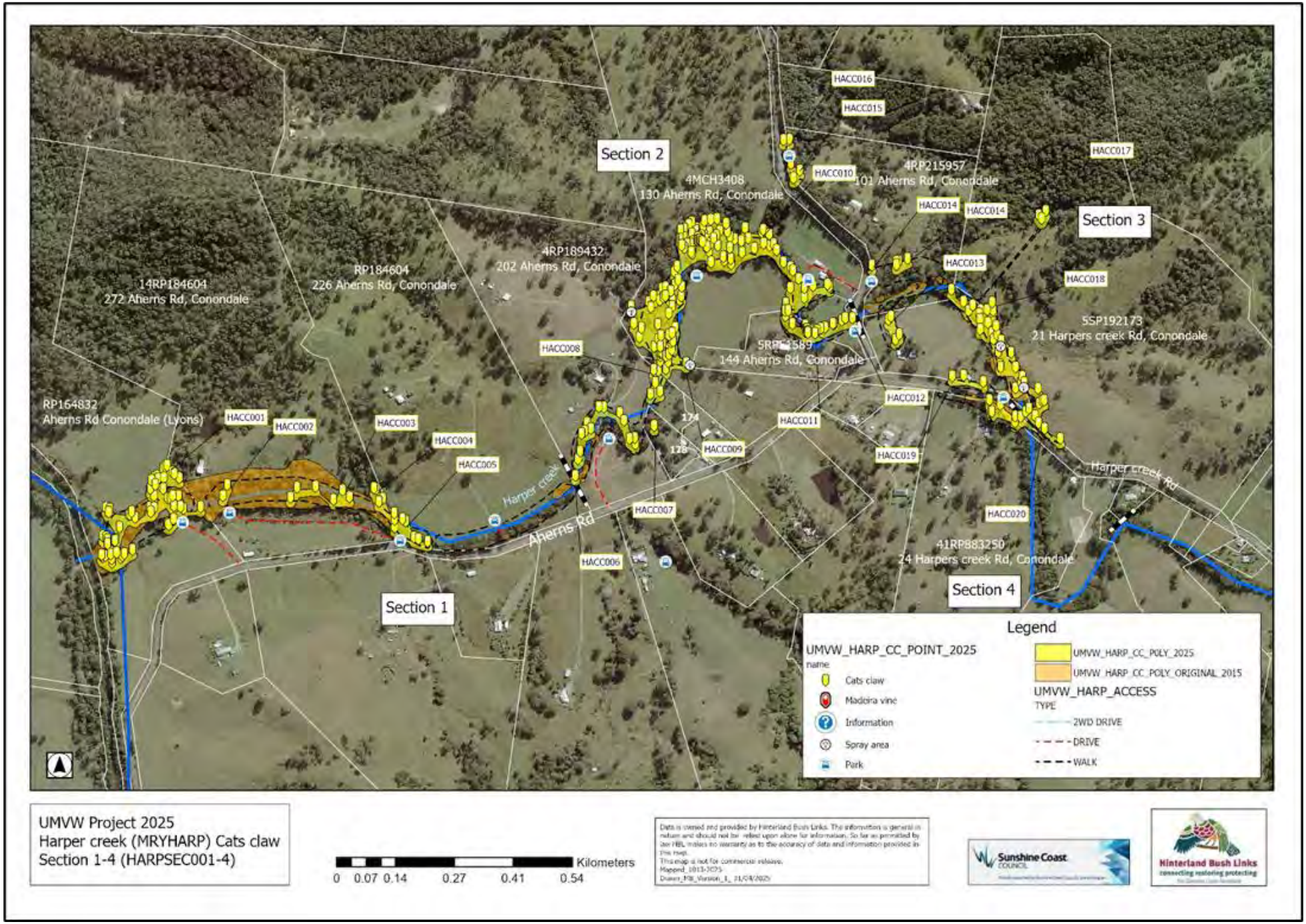
Harpers Creek has diverse landholders with varying viewpoints. Key to continued engagement is identifying respected community members, fostering relationships, respecting privacy, and addressing special needs. Continuity of project managers, smooth handovers, and consistent contractors are crucial. A workshop in Conondale early in the project helped foster relationships and trust.

Initial plans included four visits per year over five years, but funding constraints led to adaptive management with annual, biennial, and triennial visits, resulting in seven visits over ten years—65% fewer than planned. The infestation area increased due to original mapping design but reduced in severity. Seedlings were found up to 100m from the creek, with lateral movement less significant than upstream/downstream spread, indicating germination conditions affect seed distribution.

No flowering vines are known as of March 2025, with two treated vines found downstream. One Madeira vine infestation exists away from the creek and is managed. No isolated satellite infestations are known in the headwaters, making upstream reinfestation unlikely.



Map 17 Harper creek management buffers


Section 2
4MCH3408
130 Aherns Rd, Conondale
4RP215957
101 Aherns Rd, Conondale
Section 3
4RP189432
202 Aherns Rd, Conondale
RP184604
226 Aherns Rd, Conondale
14RP184604
272 Aherns Rd, Conondale
5SP192173
21 Harpers creek Rd, Conondale
5RP215891
144 Aherns Rd, Conondale
RP164832
Aherns Rd Conondale (Lyons)
HACC001
HACC002
HACC003
HACC004
HACC005
HACC006
HACC007
HACC008
HACC009
HACC010
HACC011
HACC012
HACC013
HACC014
HACC015
HACC016
HACC017
HACC018
HACC019
HACC020
Harper creek
Aherns Rd
Harper creek Rd
41RP883250
24 Harpers creek Rd, Conondale
Section 1
Section 4
Legend
UMVW_HARP_CC_POINT_2025
name
Cats claw
Madeira vine
Information
Spray area
Park
UMVW_HARP_CC_POLY_2025
UMVW_HARP_CC_POLY_ORIGINAL_2015
UMVW_HARP_ACCESS
TYPE
2WD DRIVE
DRIVE
WALK
UMVW Project 2025
Harper creek (MRYHARP) Cats claw
Section 1-4 (HARPSEC001-4)
0 0.07 0.14 0.27 0.41 0.54
Kilometers
Sunshine Coast Council
Hinterland Bush Links
connecting restoring protecting

Management recommendations

Develop a 10-year management plan for Harpers Creek. Schedule visits every 2 years if funding permits, or every 3 years if needed. Monitor biennially, but no longer than 5 years. Increase buffer zone by 10m per visit, achieving a 60m buffer search zone by 2025 (refer to map). Annually monitor the Madeira vine infestation via the landholder. Arrange annual road surveys and biannual aerial surveys if feasible.

Summary management activities Harper creek 2015-2036						
Year	Activity	Status		Labour days	$ *	
2015/16	Initial mapping					
2016/17	Primary treatment	Completed				
2017/18	Follow up 1	Completed				
2018/19	Follow up 2	Completed				
2019/20	Follow up 3	Completed				
2020/21	Follow up 4	Completed				
2022/23	Follow up 5	Completed				
2023/24	-					
2024/25	Follow up 6	Completed		18	10 080	SCRC
2025/26	-				0	
2026/27	Follow up 7		Buffer 1	18	11 088	
2027/28	-				0	
2028/29	Follow up 8		Buffer 2	18	12 196	
2029/30	-					
2030/31	Follow up 9		Buffer 3	18	13 415	
2031/32					00	
2032/33	Follow up 10		Buffer 4	18	14 756	
2033/34					0	
2034/35	Follow up 11		Buffer 5		14903	
					$66358	

Table 17 Harper creek management activities summary table

Sub-catchment	Harper creek		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	15 km2	Sections 1-	-
Catchment length	Overall	8.5 km	-
	Private	8.5 km	-
	Council	.05km infested Road Reserve length	-
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
Catchment Area	Overall	15 km2	-
	Private	15 km2 (70 lots)	-
	Council	.4 ha infested RR area	-
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
	Other	40 ha VCA	**2.5%**
Local Government	SCRC	15 km2	-
	Sommerset	-	-
Tenure length	Private	8.5 km	-
	Council	.05 infested RR length	-
	State Forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	Likely small reaches to small to map	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	Likely small reaches to small to map	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Of concern RE	12.12.3/12.3.7	4.72 km stream, 38 ha	**50%**
	12.12.12,12.3.7,12.12.1	46 ha	**3%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	3.9 km	**45%**
	Moderate	3.1 km	**36%**
	Poor	1.8 km	**19%**
Catchment vegetation cover	9.65 km2	64% cover of catchment	**64%**
Land use	Grazing	4.6 km2	**32%**
	Native vegetation	9.65 km	**65%**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2015	
	Latest	2022	
Mapping distance from Mary foot	2013	2.8 km	
	2025	2.8 km	
Mapping distance from Mary Road	Annual	6.6 km	
Mapping distance from Mary air		8.4 km	

Table 18 Harper creek catchment summary details

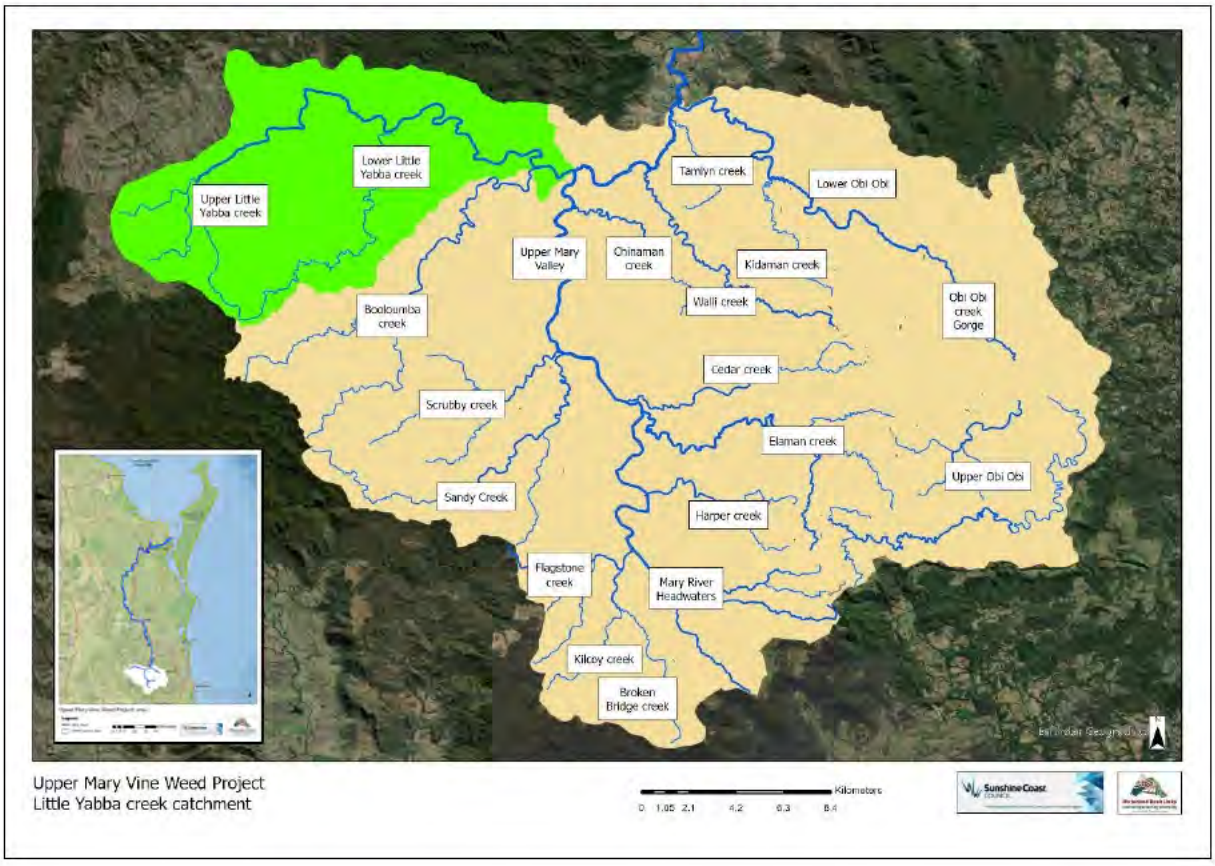
Vine weed occurrence			
Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	
Cats claw creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati*			
Cat claw area mapped	2015	7.7 ha	-
	2025	9.9 ha	**+30%**
Cats claw polygons	2013	35	-
	2025	22	-
Cats claw points	2013	-	-
	2025	338	-
Cats claw length of stream	2015	3 km	-
	2025	3 km	-
Cats claw records	2025	49	-
			-
Cats claw flowering vines	2025	3	-
			-
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*			
Madeira vine area mapped	2015	.01 ha	-
	2025	.01 ha	-
Madeira polygons	2015	1	-
	2025	1	-
Madeira points	2015	1	-
	2025	1	-
Madeira length of stream	2015	-	-
	2025	-	-
Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*			
Dutchman's pipe area	2015	-	-
	2025	-	-
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2015	-	-
	2025	-	-
Dutchman's pipe points	2015	-	-
	2025	-	-
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2015	-	-
	2025	-	-
		-	-

Table 19 Harper creek catchment vine weed summary table

Little Yabba creek

Catchment description

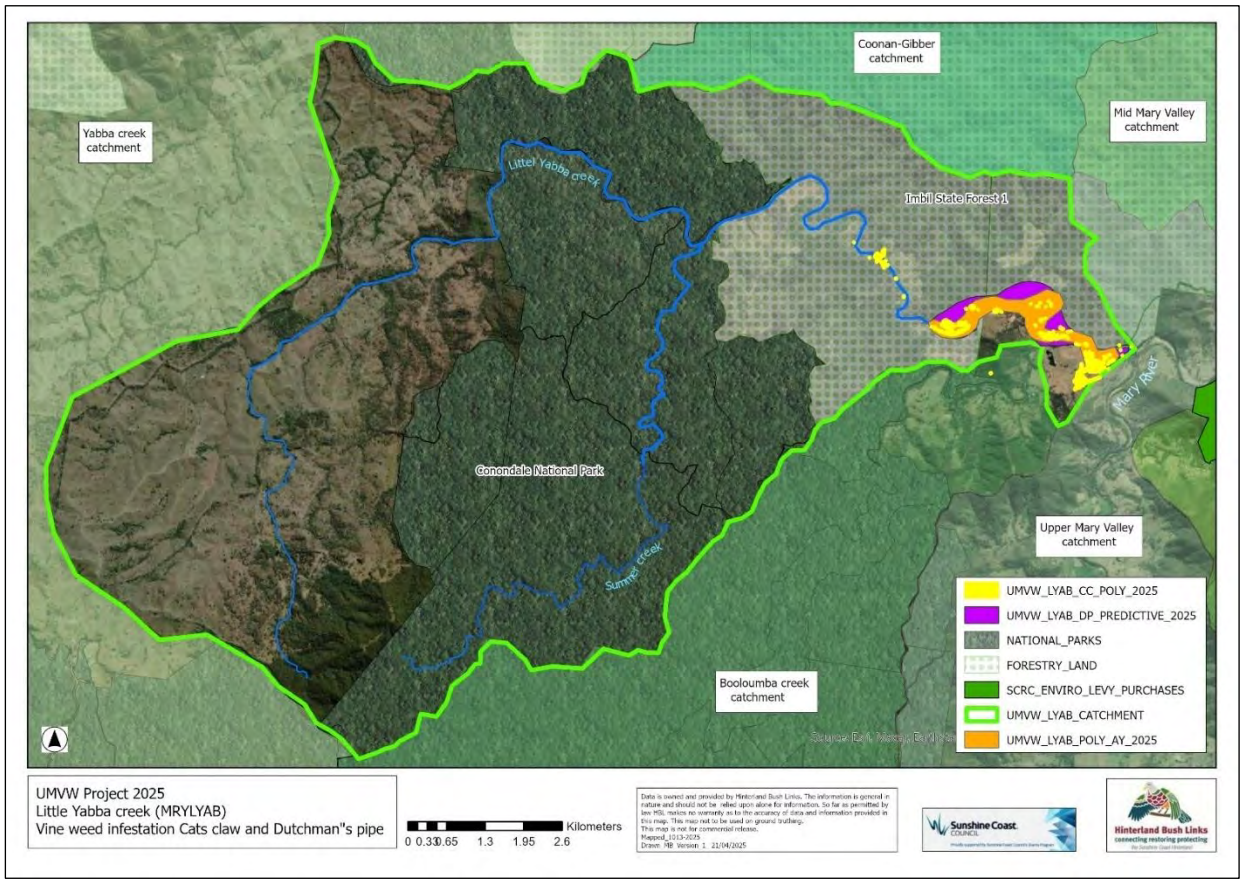
The Little Yabba sub-catchment, covering 119 km², is divided into upper and lower sections. The headwaters are located in a 40 km² grazing area north of Imbil, with another 40% protected within Conondale National Park and 20% semi-protected within Imbil State Forest. The mid to lower reaches contain 16 km of Endangered regional ecosystems, with 30% in Conondale National Park and the rest distributed across National Park (lease), Forestry custodial land, and private land. Vegetation cover overall is 51%, with riparian vegetation rated as 45% excellent, 46% moderate, and 9% poor. Over the past 20 years, flood events have significantly affected downstream areas, widening the stream bed and reducing riparian vegetation due to changes in rainfall patterns influencing stream velocity. Increased flow and velocity during isolated events in Little Yabba can cause considerable damage. Madeira vine infestations seem to originate from the Mary River with no upstream occurrences in Little Yabba. Forestry activities impact the catchment, with HQPlantations managing State forests since 2010. The timing and area of harvests potentially affect flow volumes and velocity, though no data exists on this. Vine weeds like Cats claw and Dutchman's pipe were present in Imbil State Forest before 2010. Disturbance from harvesting promotes weed growth, and vehicle movement spreads vine weed seeds. Hooved pests also contribute to the spread, while recreational activities pose risks for contamination between forests, lacking biosecurity hygiene practices.



Map 19 Little Yabba creek catchment location map

Mapping

Little Yabba Creek was mapped in 2013 from its confluence with the Mary River to the border of Imbil State Forest (4 km). The mapping covered a 20m buffer on each side of the creek and included a large infestation at 62 Booloumba creek Rd. Additional infestations were identified through QPWS, HQP, and aerial surveys. A second core infestation was discovered at the old forest ranger's home site (overflow camp area) and has likely caused outbreaks along Piccabeen Walk and downstream towards Booloumba Creek. There is also an infestation 400 m upstream. Water is not the vector; typically, a single outlier infestation spreads up to 100m. From 2013 to 2025, Cats Claw infestation increased by 260% due to new upstream infestations within forestry (8 km). Original infestations have been reduced in severity from 3-4 to 1-2. Newly discovered infestations have had minimal treatment, with an additional 1.5 ha located this year still awaiting primary treatment. Madeira vine is sporadically found 400 m upstream from the Mary River, including a small infestation at the rest area near the bridge. Dutchman's pipe (DP) was initially mapped along 4 km of Little Yabba Creek and treated alongside Cats Claw. Severe DP infestations have been found within forestry lands, extending to Kenilworth along the Mary River sporadically since 2015. In 2024/25, seven new DP infestations were located around the confluence with the Obi, likely originating from Little Yabba. DP is also documented 3 km up Walli Creek (2015) and Obi Obi (2024). Managing DP above 151 Sunday Creek Rd is impractical. In 2025, Aerial Yam (*Dioscorea bulbifera*) was detected along Little Yabba Creek in 2025, spreading 5 km upstream and 400 m downstream toward the Mary River, potentially reaching the Mary.



Map 20 Little Yabba catchment overall vine weed map

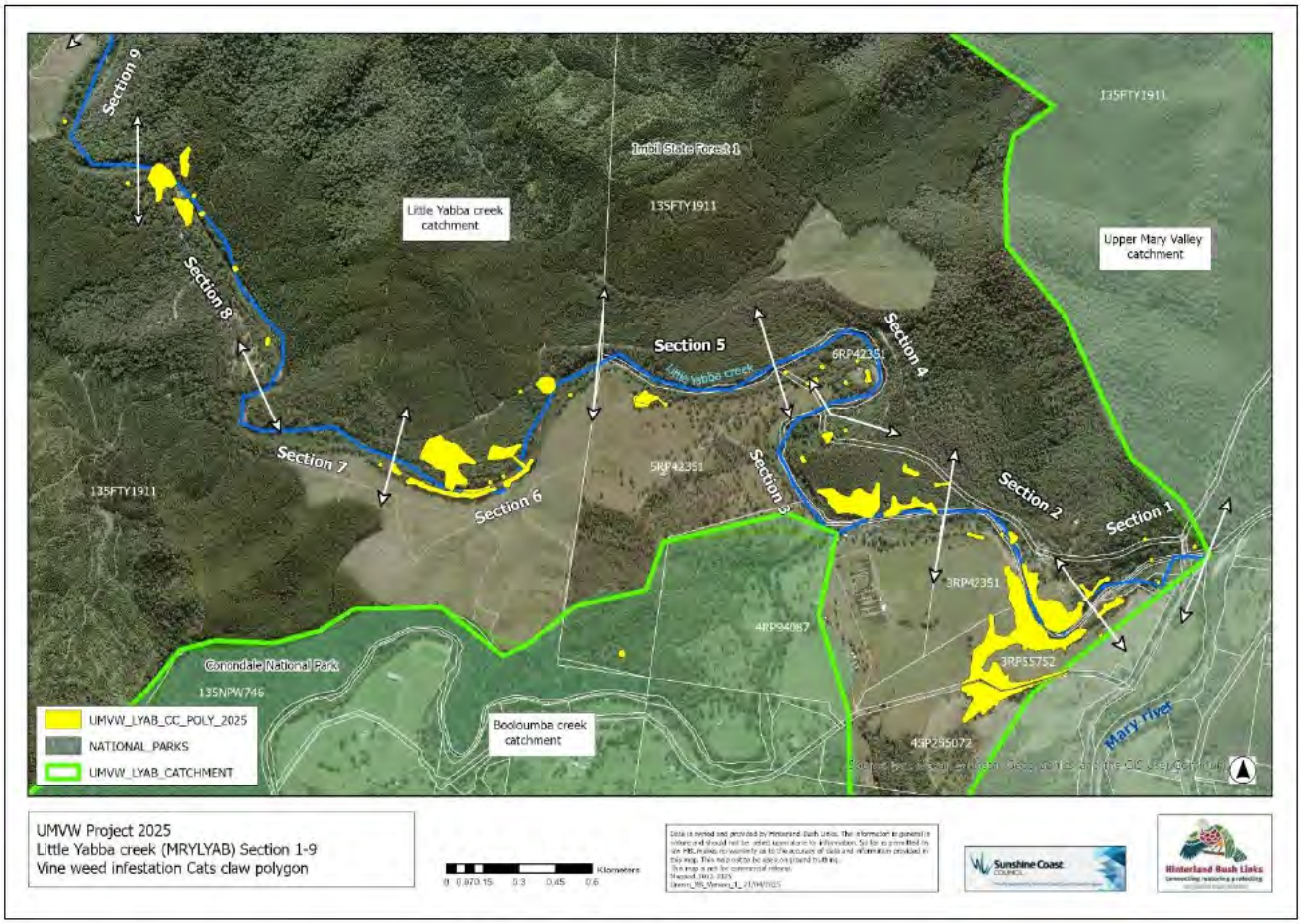
Vine weeds located

	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2017
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2015
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	2025

Vine weed management

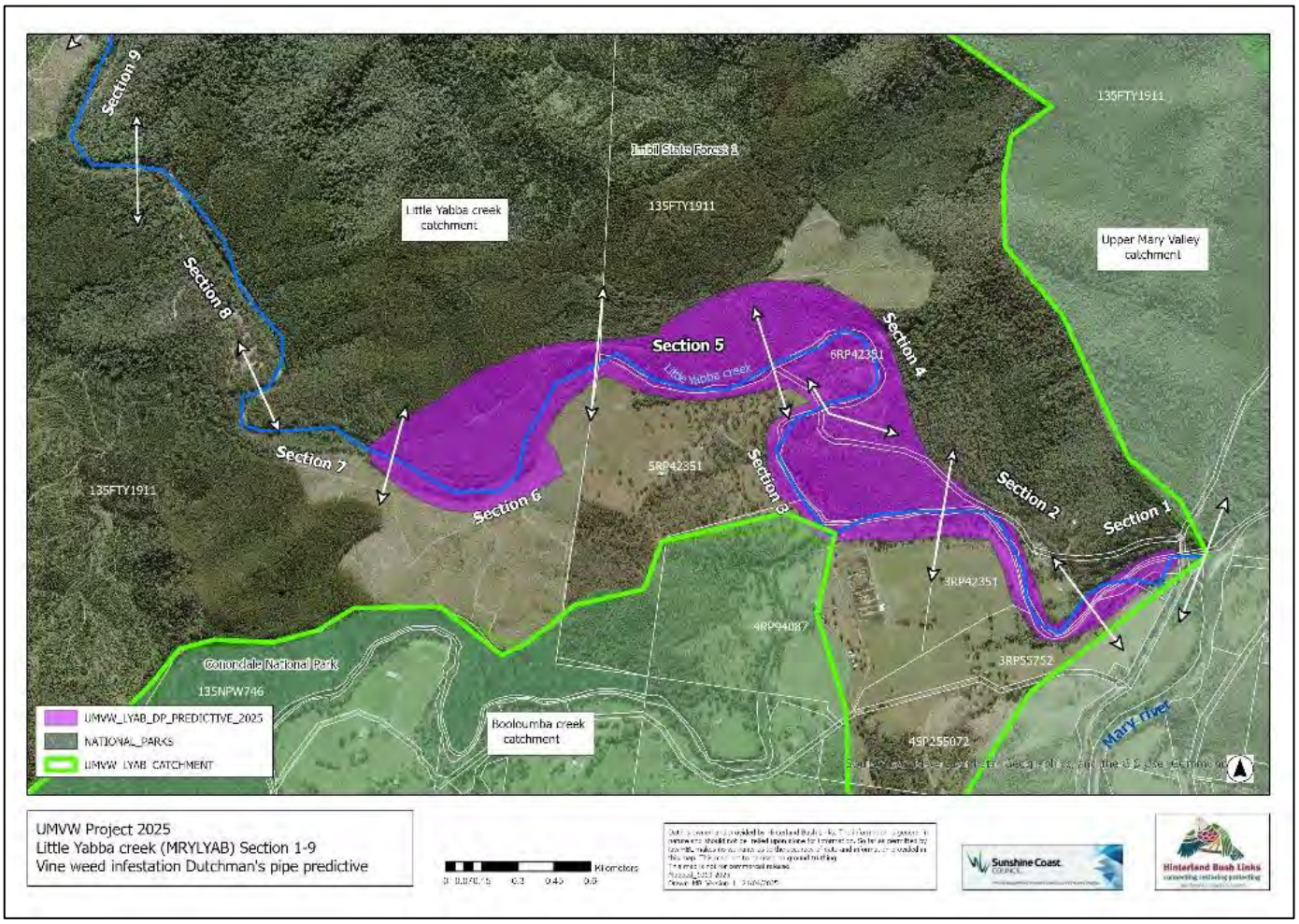
The infestations on Little Yabba cover 10 lots. One of these is Imbil State Forest 1, with two areas managed by QPWS: the Rangers headquarters area and Charlie Mooreland Camping area. Sunshine Coast Council has 3 lots at the rest area. There are also 4 private landholders on the remaining lots; 3 of whom have changed ownership during the course of the project. Currently, there is full engagement of landholders in the infestation areas. HBL has arrangements with QPWS and HQP, including the relevant permit for vine weed management in designated areas.

Primary work on Little Yabba began in late 2013 on the 23 polygons or 9.5 ha of Cats claw mapped. The majority of this area is on private land. These infestations have had up to 9 visits, with most polygons improving from a severity score of 3-4 to 1-2. According to the original project plan, the objective was to have 4 visits per year for 5 years. Most sites have received 9 visits over 12 years. While this extended treatment period is not considered ideal, it has still proved effective, with most areas improving from a severity rating of 4 to 1.

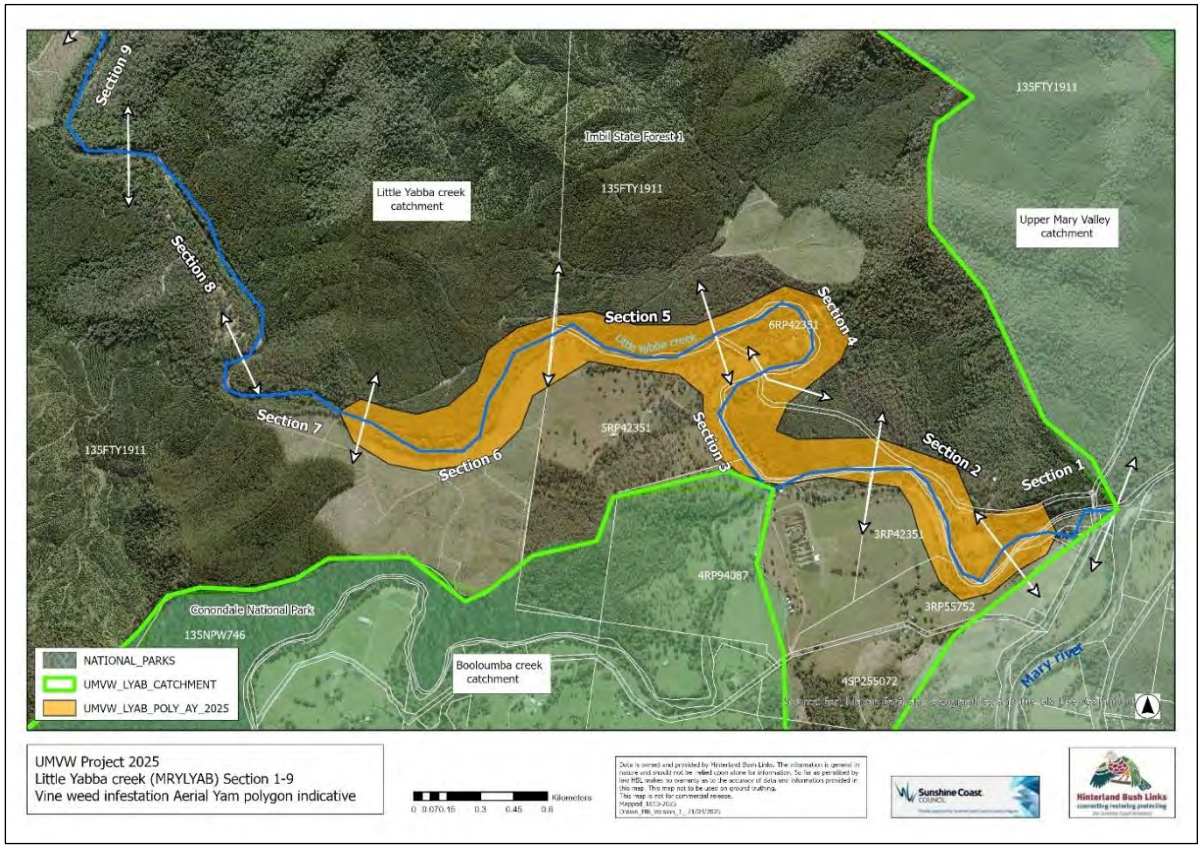


Map 21 Overall Cats claw Little Yabba creek

Dutchman's pipe was treated when found alongside Cats claw. Madeira in the lower reach was mainly managed by the Little Yabba Bushcare group with contractor support. By 2017, new infestations were being found upstream, identified through advice from QPWS, HQP, aerial surveys, and contractors. This led to a 260% increase in Cats claw infestations, ranging from severity ratings of 1-4 in 2025. Only one area of 1.5 ha (LYCC031,35,38-Severity 4) is yet to be treated (scheduled for 2025). Currently, the additional 15 ha comprises 13.5 ha or 90% at Severity 1-2 and 1.5 ha or 10% at severity 4. The current extent of Dutchman's pipe in Imbil State Forest 1 is beyond the resources of this project and will not be targeted. Similarly, the extent of Aerial yam, while likely contained to a 30-ha area and manageable, is beyond the resources of this project and will not be targeted. Both vine weeds would require a collaborative approach with broader stakeholder input to reduce the risk to Conondale National Park and 260 km of the Mary River.



Map 22 Overall Dutchman's pipe Little Yabba creek



Map 23 Little Yabba creek Aerial Yam

Management priorities

2024/25

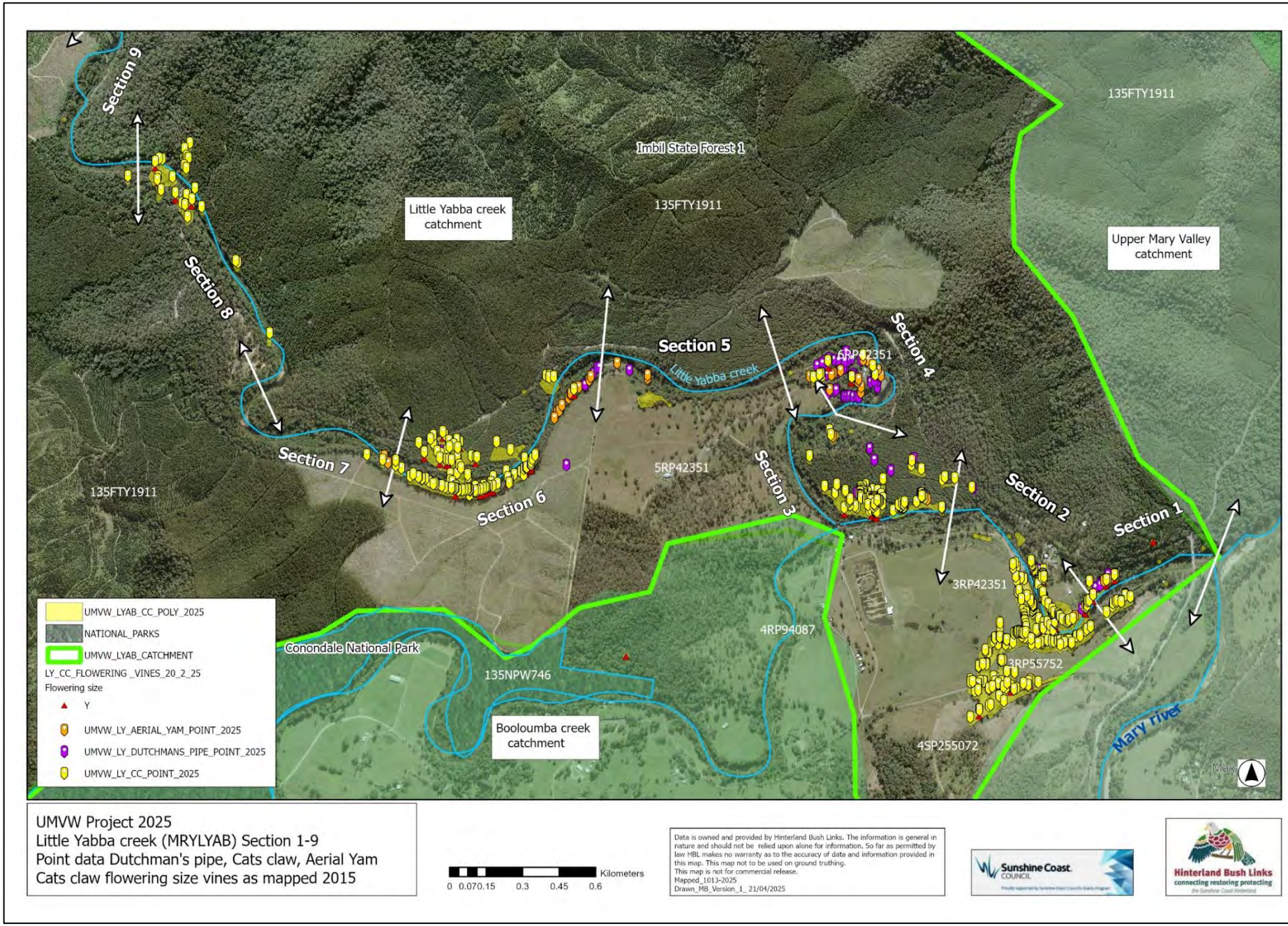
Given the extent (24 ha) of Cats claw and limited funding approximately $600 per ha, it is recommended that the priority for **2025 b**e to target all flowering size vines (8mm stem or larger) of which there are 75 mapped (not including LYCC031 and 36). Additionally, 530 vines mapped in 2025 that are not at flowering size but are visible (HBL/Barung) should be targeted (see Map 14). Sites LYCC031 and 36 will receive primary treatment in 2025 (HQP/Barung).

2025/26

All 2025 works are to be assessed to verify if all areas were treated. Any untreated areas should be scheduled for pre-flowering treatment in Sept/Oct 2025/26 financial year. Moreover, LYCC031 and 36 should receive a follow-up treatment in 2025/26. Low-priority sites not treated in 2025 could be considered for treatment in 2025/26. Depending on the funding, all infestations apart from LYCC031 and 36 could be placed on a two-year rotation. It is likely that more vines will be found outside the current polygon areas (likely up to 100m for core infestations of minimum 20 years age). Buffer polygons of 10 m will be used each year of treatment (see map). Madeira treatment on the lower 400m should be scheduled if funds allow.

Summary management activities Little Yabba creek 2013-2036						
Year	**Activity**	**Status**	**Area**	**Labour days**	***Budget**	
2012/13	Initial mapping	Completed	-	-	-	
2013/14	Primary treatment	Completed	-	-	-	
2014/15	Follow up 1	Completed	-	-	-	
2015/16	-	-	-	-	-	
2016/17	Follow up 2	Completed	-		-	
2017/18	Follow up 3	Completed	-	-	-	
2018/19	Follow up 4	Completed	-	-	-	
2019/20	-		-	-	-	
2020/21	Follow up 5	Completed	-	-	-	
2021/22	Follow up 6		-	-	-	
2022/23	-		-	-	-	
2023/24	Follow up 7	Completed	-	-	-	
Proposed activities						
2024/25	Follow up 8	Completed	-	50	0	
2025/26	Follow up LYCC036	Plus MV	-	10	5600	
2026/27	Follow up 9		Buffer 1	52	30567	
2027/28	MV only		-	2	1234	
2028/29	Follow up 10		Buffer 2	52	35168	
2029/30	MV only		-	2	1361	
2030/31	Follow up 11		Buffer 3	52	38692	
2031/32	MV only		-	2	1500	
2032/33	Follow up 12		Buffer 4	52	40058	
2033/34	MV only		-	2	1654	
2034/35	Follow up 13		Buffer 5	52	46819	
				Total	**$202653**	

Table 20 Little Yabba catchment management activities summary table



Map 24 Overall vine weeds Little Yabba creek

Sub-catchment	Little Yabba creek		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	119 km		
Catchment length	Overall	32 km	-
	Private	15km	**46%**
	Council	.5 km	-
	State forest	13 km	**37%**
	National Park	6 km	**18%**
Catchment Area	Overall	119 km	-
	Private	48 km2	**40%**
	Council	2.5 ha	-
	State forest	23 km2	**19%**
	National Park	49 km2	**41%**
Local Government	SCRC	73 km2	**61%**
	Sommerset	46 km2	**39%**
Tenure length	Private	15 km	**46%**
	Council	.5 km	-
	State Forest	12 km	**37%**
	National Park	6 km	**18%**
	Other		-
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	1 km	**3.1%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	16 km	**50%**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	5 ha	**1%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	125 ha	
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	14.70 km	**45 %**
	Moderate	14.90 km	**46 %**
	Poor	2.9 km	**9 %**
Catchment vegetation cover	61 km2		**51%**
Land use	Grazing	45 km2	**37 %**
	National Park	49 km2	**41%**
	Forestry	23 km2	**22 %**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2013	-
	2025	2025	-
Mapping distance from Mary foot	Latest	4.5 km	-
	2025	8 km	-
Mapping distance from Mary road	Annual	8 km	-
Mapping distance from Mary air	Biennial	17 km	-
Vine weed occurrence			
Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	

Table 21 Little Yabba catchment summary table

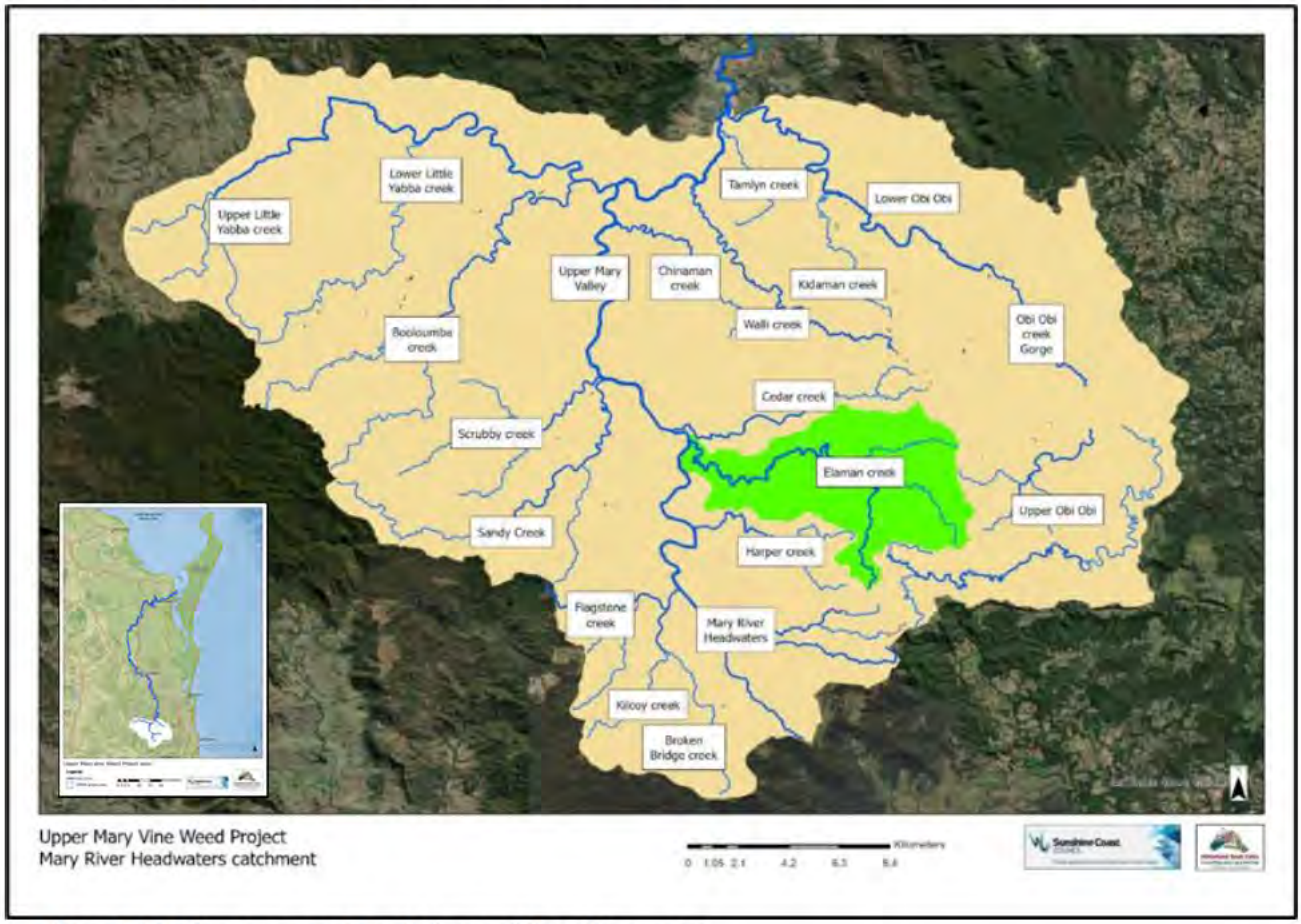
Cats claw creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati*			
Cat claw area	2013	9.5 ha	
	2025	25.5 ha	**+160%**
Cats claw polygons	2013	23	**-**
	2025	40	**-**
Cats claw points	2013-24	273	**-**
	2025	887	**-**
Cats claw length of stream	2013	1 km	**3%**
	2025	3.4 km	**+240%**
Cats claw distance from Mary	2013	4.5 km of length	**12%**
	2025	8 km	**+78%**
Cats claw records 2025	2025	614	**-**
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	2025	78	**-**
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*			
Madeira vine area	2016	.65 ha	**-**
	2025	.65 ha	**0%**
Madeira polygons	2013	2	**-**
	2025	3	**-**
Madeira points	2013	13	**-**
	2025	4	**-**
Madeira length of stream	2013	100 m	**-**
	2025	100 m	**0%**
Madeira distance from Mary	2013	.5 km of length	**1.5%**
Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*			
Dutchman's pipe	2025	.5 km	
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	2.2 ha	
	2025	138 ha	**X 62**
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	31	**-**
	2025	1	**--**
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	35	**-**
	2025	75	**-**
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	4.5 km	**-**
	2025	5.75 km	**+27%**
Dutchman's pipe distance from Mary	2013	4.5 km	**-**
	2025	5.7 km	**+27%**
Aerial yam *Dioscorea bulbifera*			
Aerial Yam area	2013	-	**-**
	2025	60 ha	**-**
Aerial Yam polygons	2013	-	**-**
	2025	1	**-**
Aerial Yam points	2013	-	**-**
	2025	60	**-**
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013	-	**-**
	2025	5.2 km	**-**
Aerial Yam upstream from Mary	2013	-	**-**
	2025	5.2 km	**-**

Table 22 Little Yabba vine weed summary

Elaman creek

Catchment description

Elaman creek consists of a 46 km2 catchment, the headwaters of which spam from Reesville to Witta. It has a very broad headwater on the edge of the Maleny plateau which exposes it to several small infestations of vine weeds. The catchment has moderate to low relative vegetation cover at 37% with the lower half of the catchment cleared for grazing. Riparian vegetation and associated bank instability are also present in the lower reaches. Much of the headwaters suffers from geological instability with large landslides are common. The extent or riparian vegetation rated excellent is low, the majority being moderate. Elaman creek represents the first Mary tributary to contain any significant Madeira vine.



Map 25 Elaman creek catchment location map

Mapping

On ground vine weed mapping was initially not carried out on Elaman creek due to a lack of funding. Vine weed occurrence was based on road and aerial surveys. In 2017 the lower reaches of Elaman creek were mapped on foot from the confluence with Mary to Cooke Rd. This revealed that the infestation severities were much higher than

anticipated, in particular Madeira vine. Management of this section commenced in 2017/18 with the addition of more funding than needed to manage sub catchments already under management. Unfortunately, due to management changes and other issues, works commenced on infestations above Cookes Rd all the way to the Elaman creek bridge before mapping was completed. While commendable, the extent and severity of both Cats claw and Madeira vine had meant additional funding will be needed to maintain these works. Subsequently the Elaman creek from Cookes Rd to Elaman creek Bridge has been mapped. This means that the area of Cats claw on Elaman creek has double to over 5 ha and Madeira has seen a small reduction overall to 15 ha. Since 2015, seven Madeira, two Cats claw and one Dutchman's pipe infestation have been located in the headwaters along the top of the ridge (Isolated infestations). Some of these are managed by LBCCG as buffer zone infestations for the Lake Baroon weed management programme. Others fall outside this buffer zone and currently are likely unmanaged. It is not believed that any of these infestations are related to the core infestations on lower Elaman. One Dutchman's pipe infestation has also been located in the headwaters at Reesville.

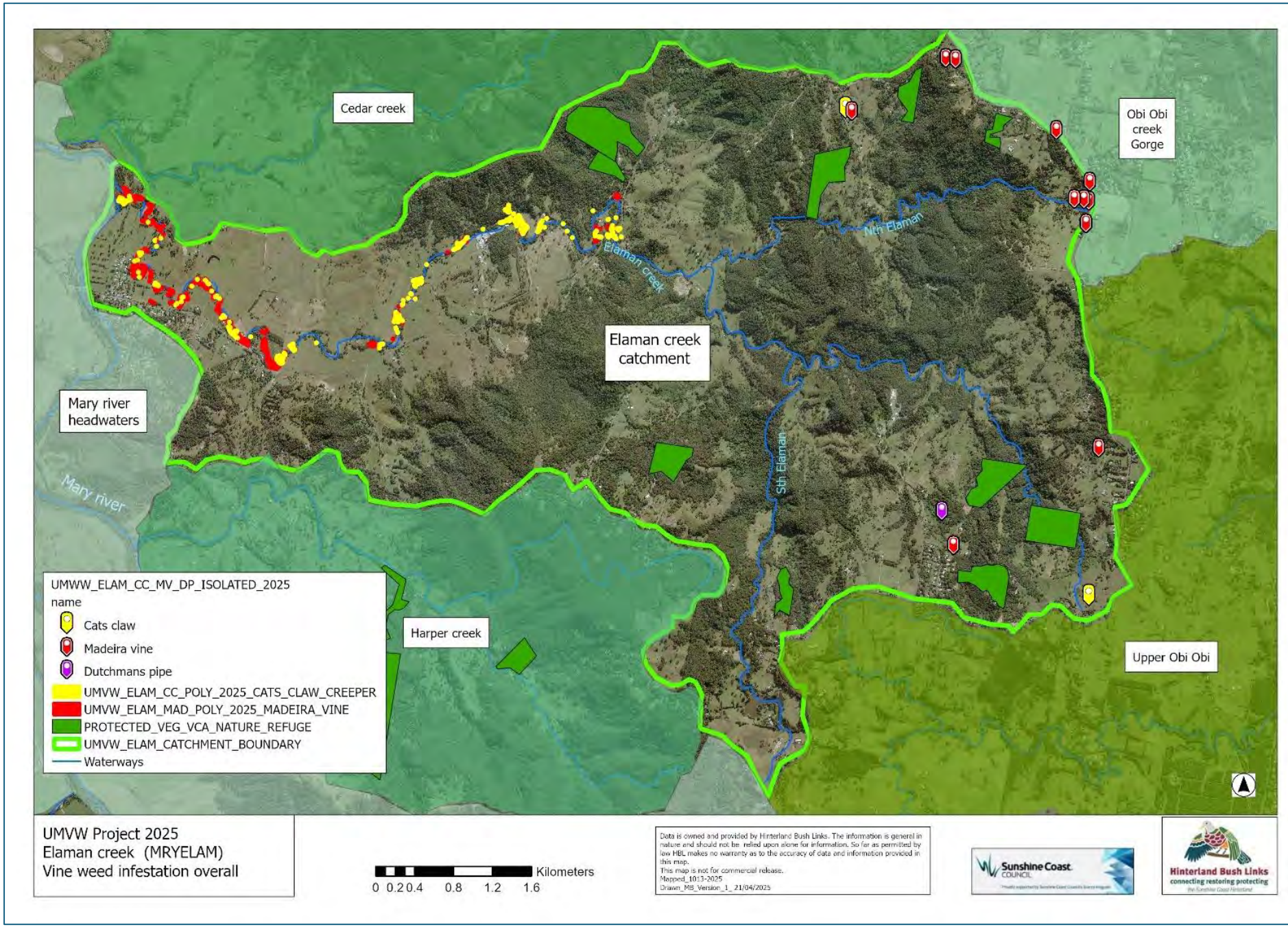
Vine weeds located in Elaman creek catchment

	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2017	2025
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2017	2025
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2017	

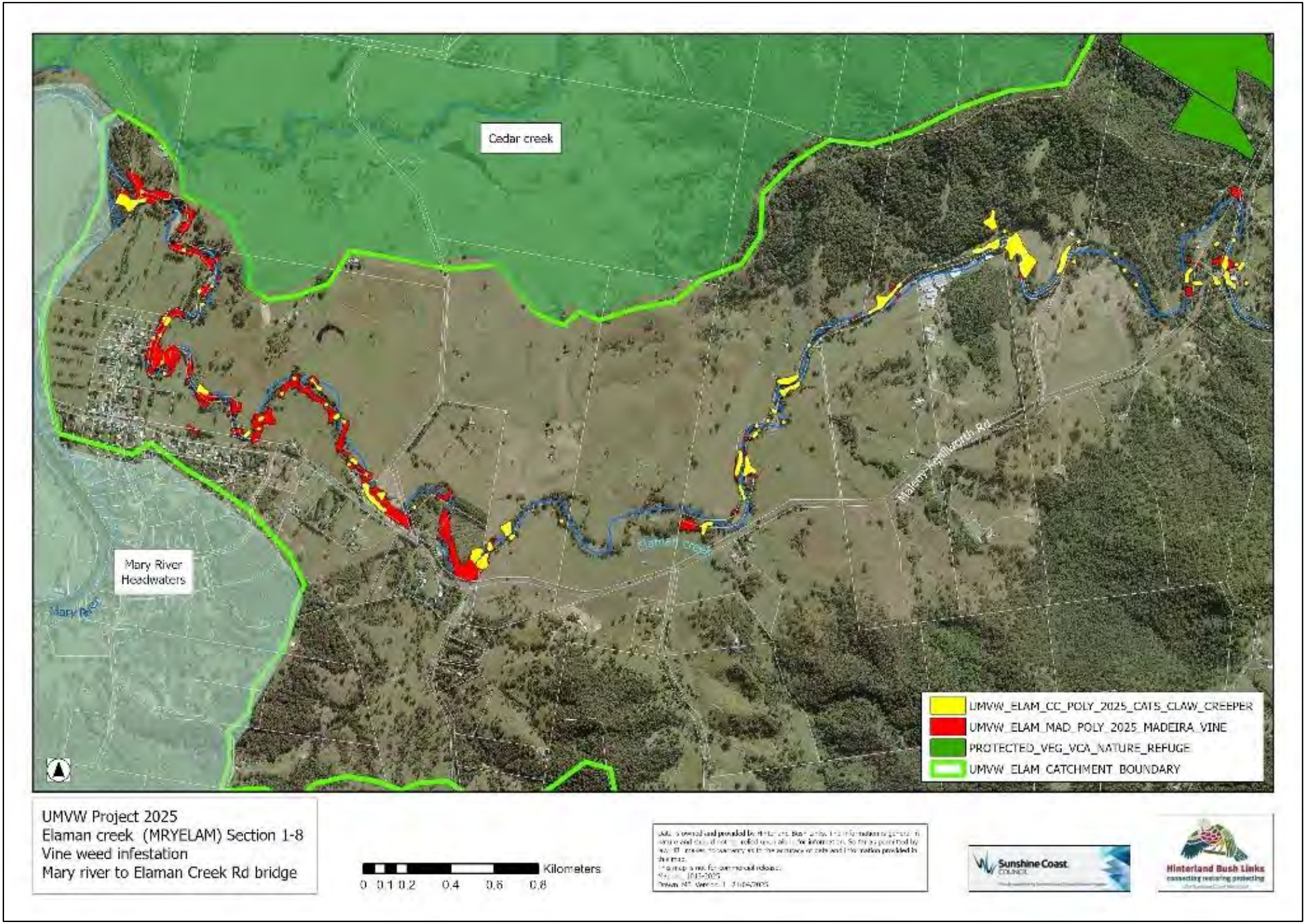
Vine weed management

Elaman Creek's infested length spans 28 lots, involving 22 private landholders, one SCRC leasehold, and one state government site. All but one landholder have agreed to vine weed management. Over the past eight years, six visits to the lower section below Cookes Rd have reduced vine weeds' biomass but not enough to break Madeira's reproductive cycle; four annual visits are necessary to significantly reduce infestation. Cats' claws treatment has been more successful, with all flowering vines removed below Cookes Rd. Biennial or triennial treatments should prevent flowering. Since 2015, Cats claw and Madeira have been managed on TMR land at Elaman Creek Bridge due to TMR funding. Additional work is needed on TMR land to expose these vines for treatment.

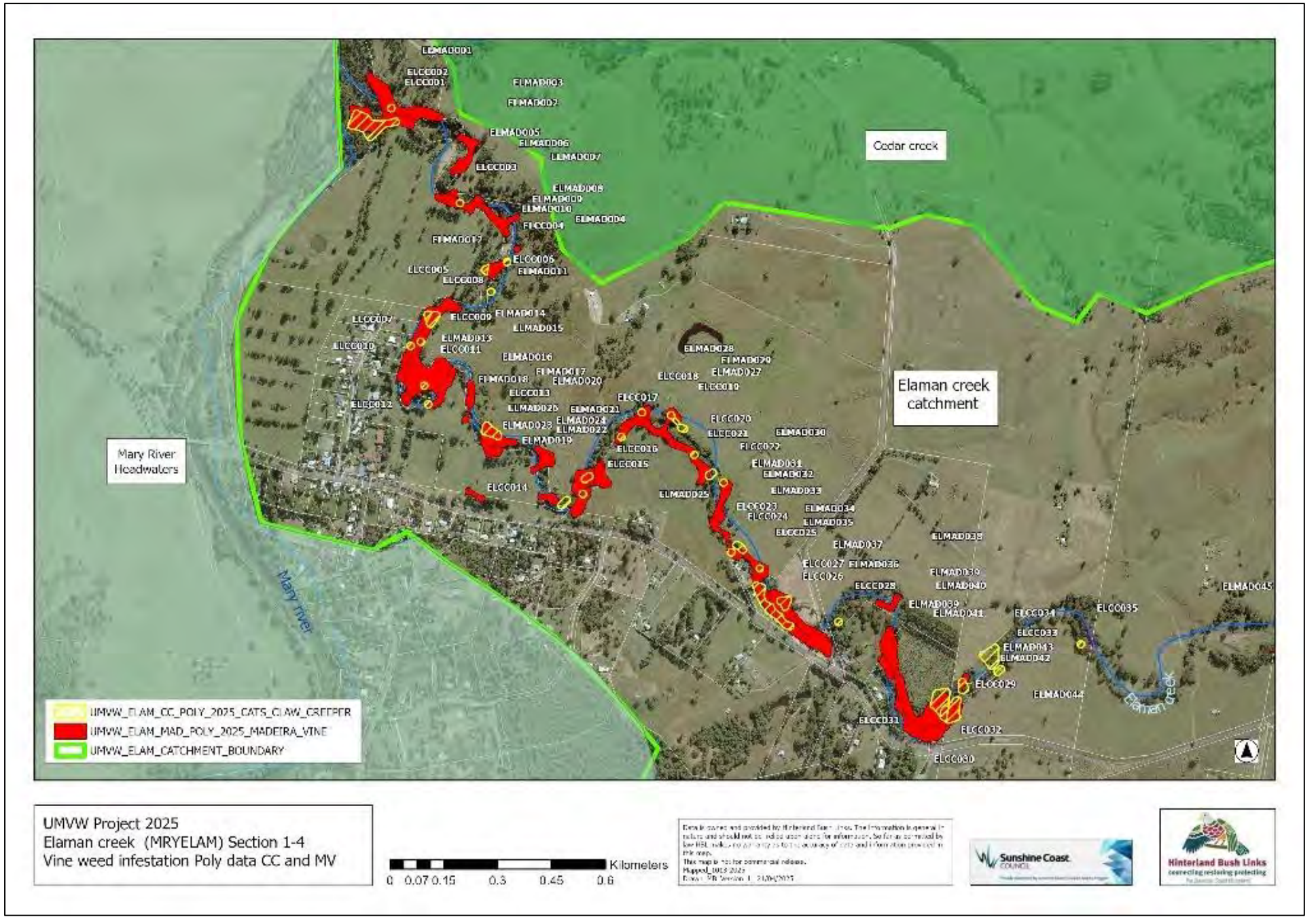
Above Cookes Rd, ground works began in 2023/24, treating all flowering Cats claw vines between Cookes Rd and Elaman Creek Bridge. Vine weed management will require significant resources over the next decade. Elaman Creek is crucial for controlling Madeira downstream, and managing Cats claw spread along the Mary River. The upstream infestations at Bellthorpe and Harpers Creek are well managed.



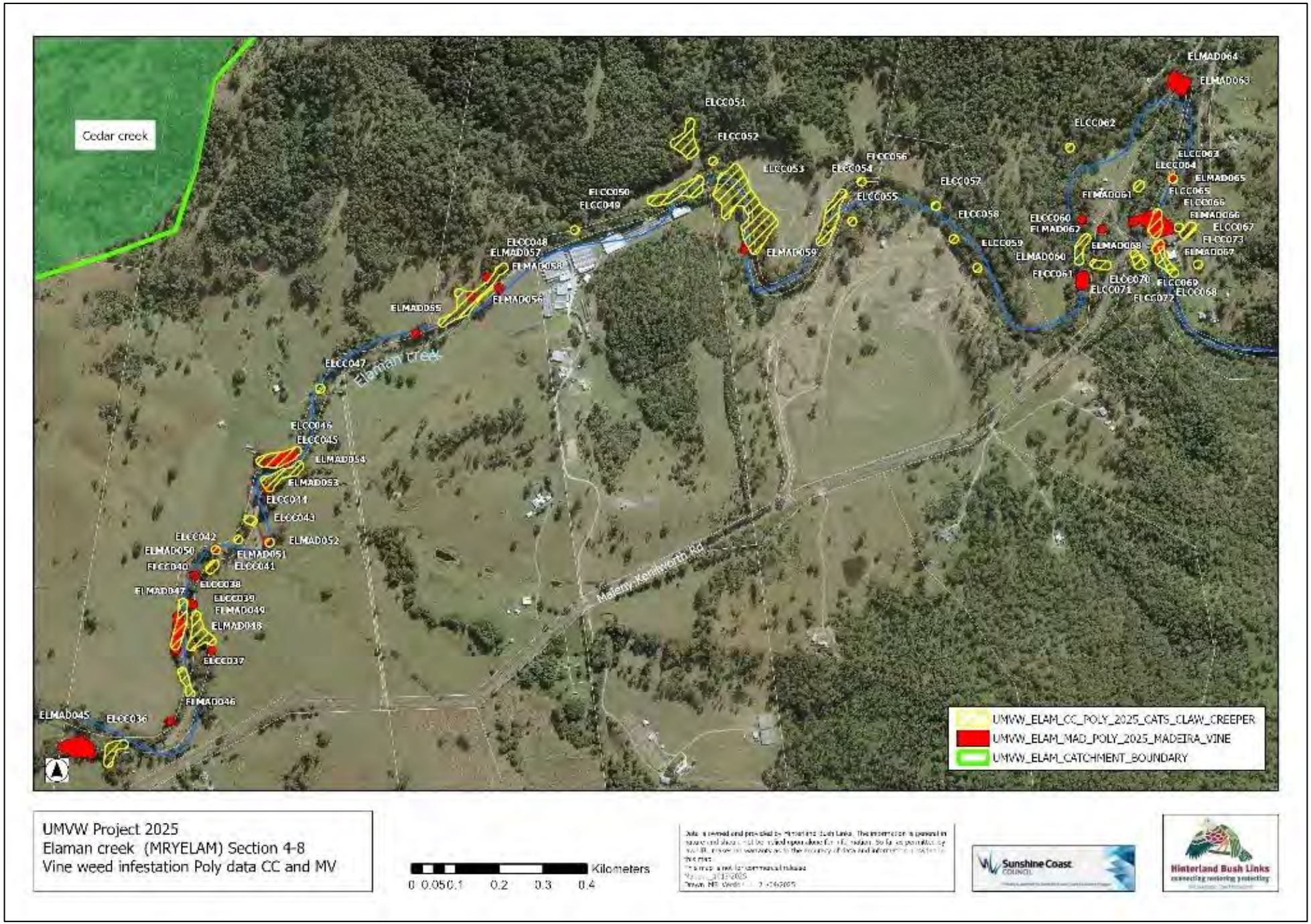
Map 26 Elaman Creek overall vine weeds



Map 27 Overall vine weed Section 1-8



Map 28 Vine weeds section 1-4



Map 29 Vine weeds Section 4-8

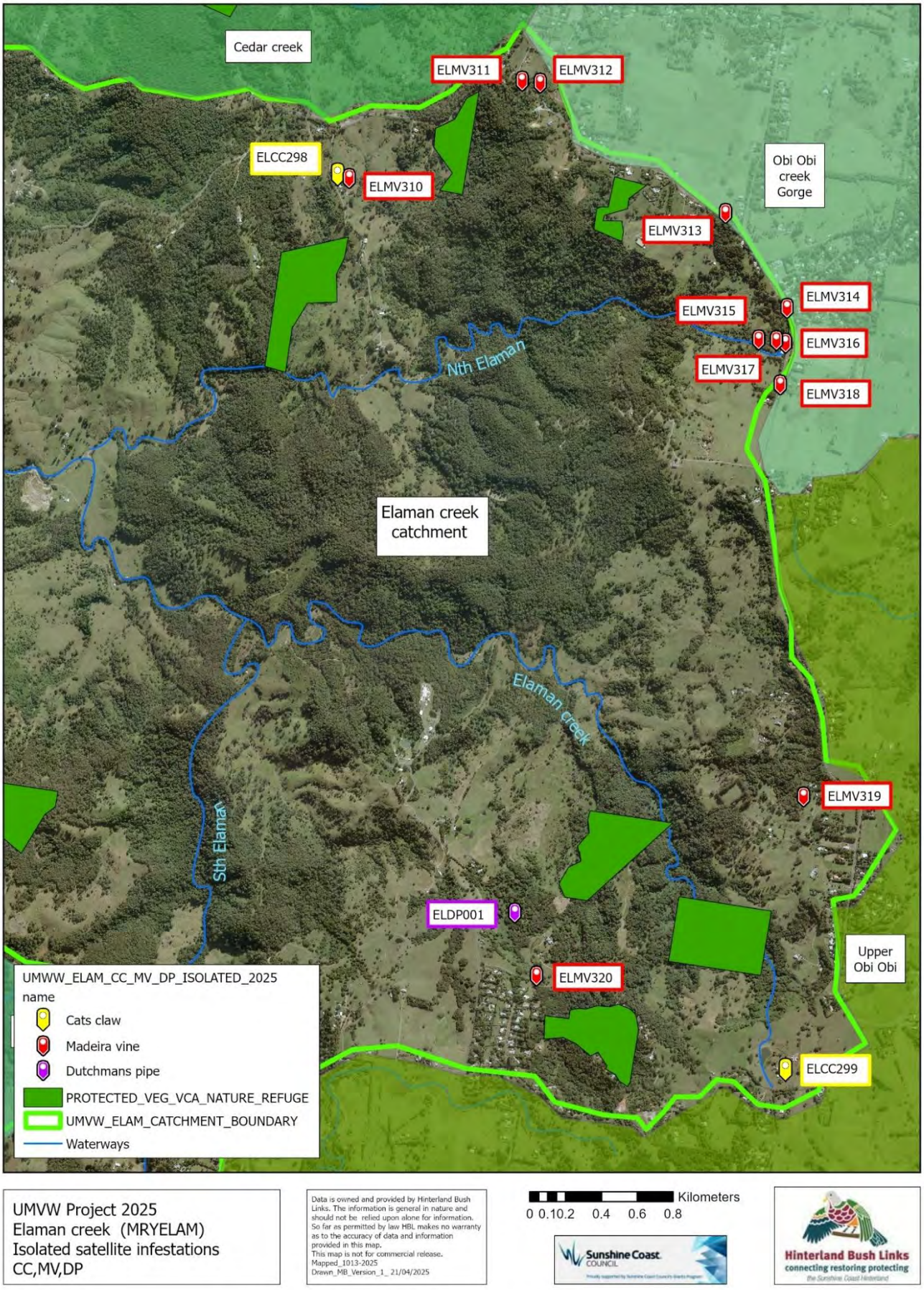
Management recommendations

Communicate with TMR to secure assistance and funding for managing the 6 ha TMR stockpile site at Elaman Creek Bridge, which is heavily infested with weeds obstructing access to Madeira and Cats claw. This site is critical as it leads to a 10.3 km infestation downstream to the Mary River. Additionally, 1520 Maleny Kenilworth Rd poses a significant risk with severe Madeira vine and moderate Cats claw infestations. The landowner, while permitting mapping access, resists weed management efforts, threatening the 3.8 km of Elaman Creek and past management activities. Further negotiation with the landholder is advised. Coordinate with LBCCG regarding boundary infestations between the upper Obi catchment and Upper Mary catchment.

Summary management Elaman creek activities 2017-2036				
Year	**Activity**	**Status**	**Labour days**	***Budget**
2017	Mapping to Cookes Rd	Completed-Mary to Cookes Rd	-	-
2017/18	Primary treatment	Completed-Mary to Cookes Rd	-	-
2018/19	Follow up 1	Completed-Mary to Cookes Rd	-	-
2019/20	Follow up 2	Completed-Mary to Cookes Rd	-	-
2020/21	Follow up 3	Completed-Mary to Cookes Rd	-	-
2021/22	Follow up 4	Completed-Mary to Cookes Rd	-	-
2022/23	-	-	-	-
2023/24	Follow up 5	Mary to Cookes	-	-
	Primary	Cookes to Elaman Bridge	-	-
2024/25	No funding	-	-	-
Proposed activities				
2025/26	Follow up 6	4 visits	160	89600
2026/27	Follow up 7	4 visits	160	94080
2027/28	Follow up 8	4 visits	160	98550
2029/30	Follow up 9	4 visits	160	103505
2031/32	Follow up 10	3visits	160	108402
2032/33	Follow up 11	3 visits	160	85376
2033/34	Follow up 12	3 visits	120	96884
2034/35	Follow up 13	3 visits	120	70432
2034/35	Follow up 14	2 visits	80	81977
2025/36	Follow up 15	2 visits	80	51605
			1360	$880411

Table 23 Summary management activities 2017-2036

**$ based on $560 per day per person with 5% increase each year*



Map 30 High priority isolated point infestations Elaman creek

Sub-catchment	Elaman creek			
Catchment	Mary river			
Catchment area	46 km2 km			
Catchment length	Overall		18.5 km	
	Private		17 km	**90%**
	Council		2 km Green Park	**10%**
	State forest		-	**-**
	National Park		-	**-**
Catchment Area	Overall		46 km2	**-**
	Private		45.25 km2 2	**98%**
	Council		.74 km2 Green Park	**2%**
	State forest		-	**-**
	National Park		-	**-**
Local Government	SCRC		46 km2	**-**
Tenure length	Private		17	**92%**
	Council		2.1	**2%**
	State Forest		-	**-**
	National Park		-	**-**
Endangered RE length	12.3.1		.5km	**3%**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1		1.4 ha likely more	**.35%**
Of concern RE	12.12.12, 12.12.1, 12.3.8, 12.12.8, 12.8.8		165 ha	**3.5%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent		3.1 km	**17%**
	Moderate		11.2 km	**60%**
	Poor		5.6	**27%**
Catchment vegetation cover	17.1 km2		37%	**37%**
Land use	Agriculture		27 km2	**58%**
	Native vegetation		17.7 km2	**38%**
	Recreation		111 ha SCMC	**2.4%**
	Horticulture		6.5 ha Flower farm	**<.2%**
	Residential		8 ha	**<.2%**
	TMR		8 ha	**<.2%**
	Quarry		3.3 ha	**<.1%**
Landholders	Landholders with vine weeds		27	**-**
	Private		25	**-**
	TMR		1	**-**
	Sunshinecoast council		1	**-**
Total landholders engaged	27			**-**
Landholders not allowing chem	1			**-**
Mapping				
Mapping	Initial	2017	Mary to Cookes Rd	**-**
	Latest	2024	Cookes Rd to Elaman Cr rd-	
Mapping distance from Mary road	10.6			**-**
Mapping distance from Mary air	18 km 2016,2019,2021,2024			**-**
Mapping distance from Mary	2017		3.3 km	**-**
	2025		10.6 km increase	**+221%**

Table 24 Elaman creek catchment summary details

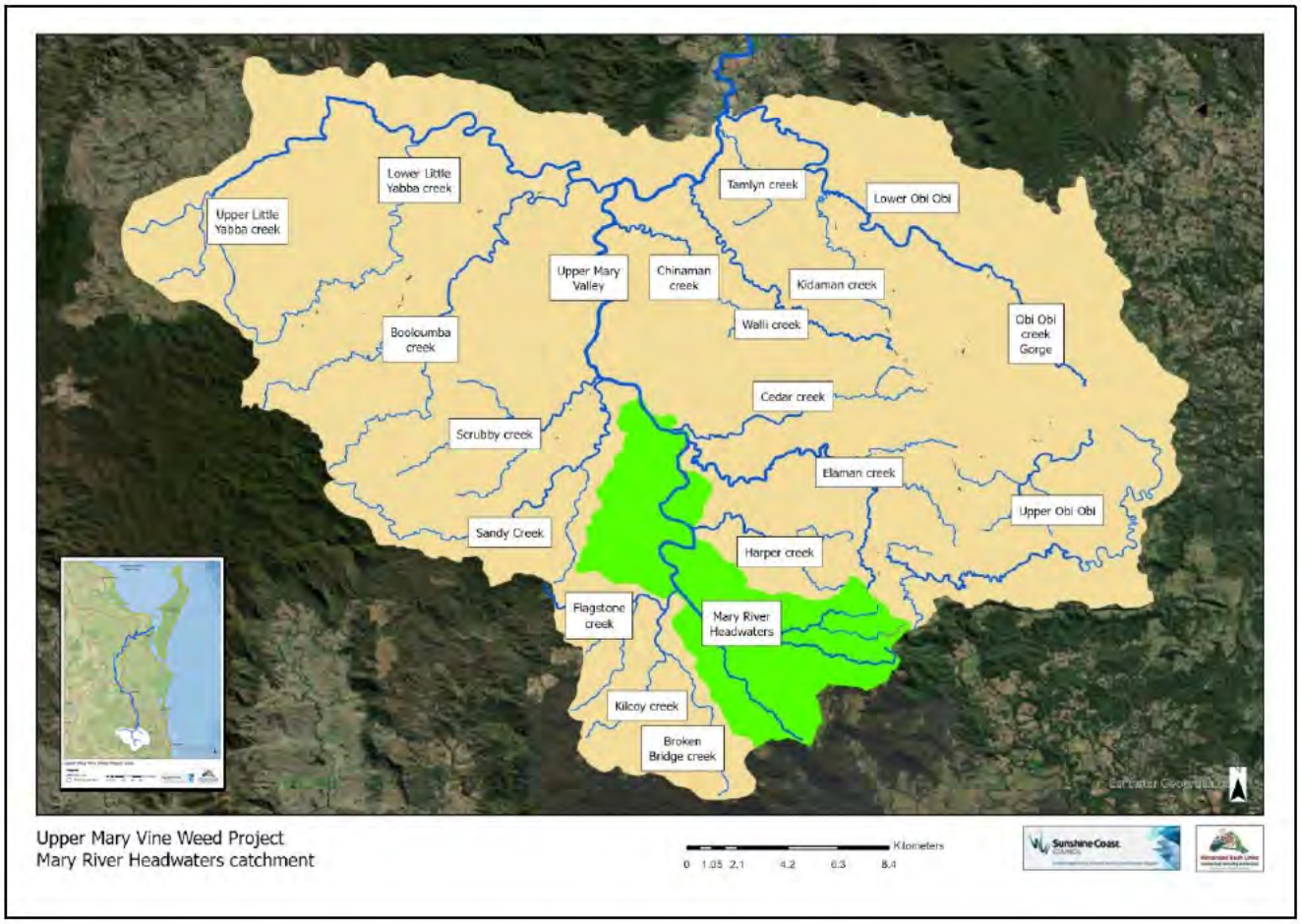
Vine weed details				
Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*		
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*		
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*		
Cats claw creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati*				
Cat claw area	2017	2.5 ha		-
	2025	5.2 ha	increase	**+108%**
Cats claw polygons	2017	12		-
	2025	73		-
Cats claw points	2017	12		-
	2025	296		-
Cats claw length of stream	2017	.77 km		-
	2025	2.7 km increase		**+185%**
Cats claw records 2024/25	296			-
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	12			-
Length Cats claw from Mary	2017	3.3 km	of length	**7%**
	2025	10.3km	of length	**22%**
			Increase	**+212%**
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*				
Madeira vine area	2017	16.6		
	2025	15.3 decrease		**- 8%**
Madeira polygons	2017	17		-
	2025	69		-
Madeira points	2013	-		-
	2025	458		-
Madeira length of stream	2017	1.5 km		-
	2025	4.3	increase	**+186%**
Length Madeira from Mary	2017	3.3 length	of	**7%**
	2025	10.2 km length	of	**22%**
Length of Madeira from Mary inc			Increase	**+210%**
Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*				
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	1 ha		-
	2025	?		-
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	1		-
	2025	-?		-
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	-		-
	2025	-		-
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	-		-
	2025	-		-
Dutchman's pipe length from Mary	2015	13 km		-

Table 25 Elaman creek vine weed summary

Mary River headwaters

Catchment description

The Mary River headwaters span 64 km², including Scrub Creek and Geraghty Creek. Kilcoy, Flagstone, and Broken Bridge are considered separately. The catchment descends steeply from Booroobin to Bellthorpe in the west. Due to its wide headwater near the escarpment, it faces weed infestation risks from human habitation and roads. The plateau is mainly used for grazing, while the vegetated slopes cover about 40% of the area. Riparian vegetation is rated 60% excellent, 30% moderate. Approximately 10% of the catchment is protected within Conondale and Bellthorpe National Parks, with almost another 1 km² safeguarded within Nature Refuges, VCAs, and Environmental Levy land purchases.



Map 31 Mary River Headwaters catchment location map

Mapping

The Mary headwaters can be segmented by the confluence with Harper Creek. The upper section above Harper Creek contains two isolated records of Cats claw at Policeman's Spur Road, which were identified and treated in 2020 and 2023. These two instances were approximately 600 meters apart, suggesting they may be related. Additionally, the upper half of the catchment has eight isolated records of Madeira vine, with four occurrences noted at Crystal Waters that appear potentially connected. No further records are found in the upper portion until Harper Creek.

At the confluence of Harper Creek, Cats claw infestation begins to manifest along the Mary River. Analyzing stem size and distribution suggests that the Cats claw infestation in the lower section likely originates from a core infestation approximately 3 kilometers upstream at Harper Creek, estimated to be between 40-50 years old. Seedling germination was documented by J. King in 19198. The infestation of Cats claw is relatively consistent from Harper Creek to Grigor Bridge, indicating it may be in a secondary stage where outlier infestations reach reproductive maturity and increasingly merge together. However, these infestations do not yet show the extensive lateral spread typical of older core infestations (>100 meters).

Consistent with trends observed in other sub-catchments, the area affected by Cats claw infestation increased by 30% from 2015 to 2025, albeit with a 95% reduction in above-ground biomass. This change is attributed to revised mapping procedures, with 2025 polygons including a 10-meter buffer from all known records, compared to initial constraints of 20 meters on either side of the river. As biomass has decreased, contractors have expanded their survey areas up to 70 meters away from the river, finding younger plants farther from the water source. Despite this increase in area, severity ratings have improved from Severity 3-4 to Severity 1-2. Flowering has been controlled for up to 8 years, preventing new seedling germination.

The lower half of the catchment, mapped in 2016, revealed moderate infestations of Madeira vine and Cats claw, except near the confluence with Elaman Creek, which exhibited severe infestation. Much of the Cats claw infestation within this area appears to originate from Harper Creek and Elaman Creek. The Madeira vine likely began at the severe upstream infestation at Grigor Bridge and extended from Elaman Creek. Cedar Creek, also containing Madeira vine, is unlikely to contribute to the Mary River infestations due to a substantial dam barrier. A single Dutchman's pipe was detected but has been contained. In 2025, two Aerial Yam (*Dioscorea bulbifera*) plants were discovered, potentially linked to a record at Crystal Waters in the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA).

Vine weeds located

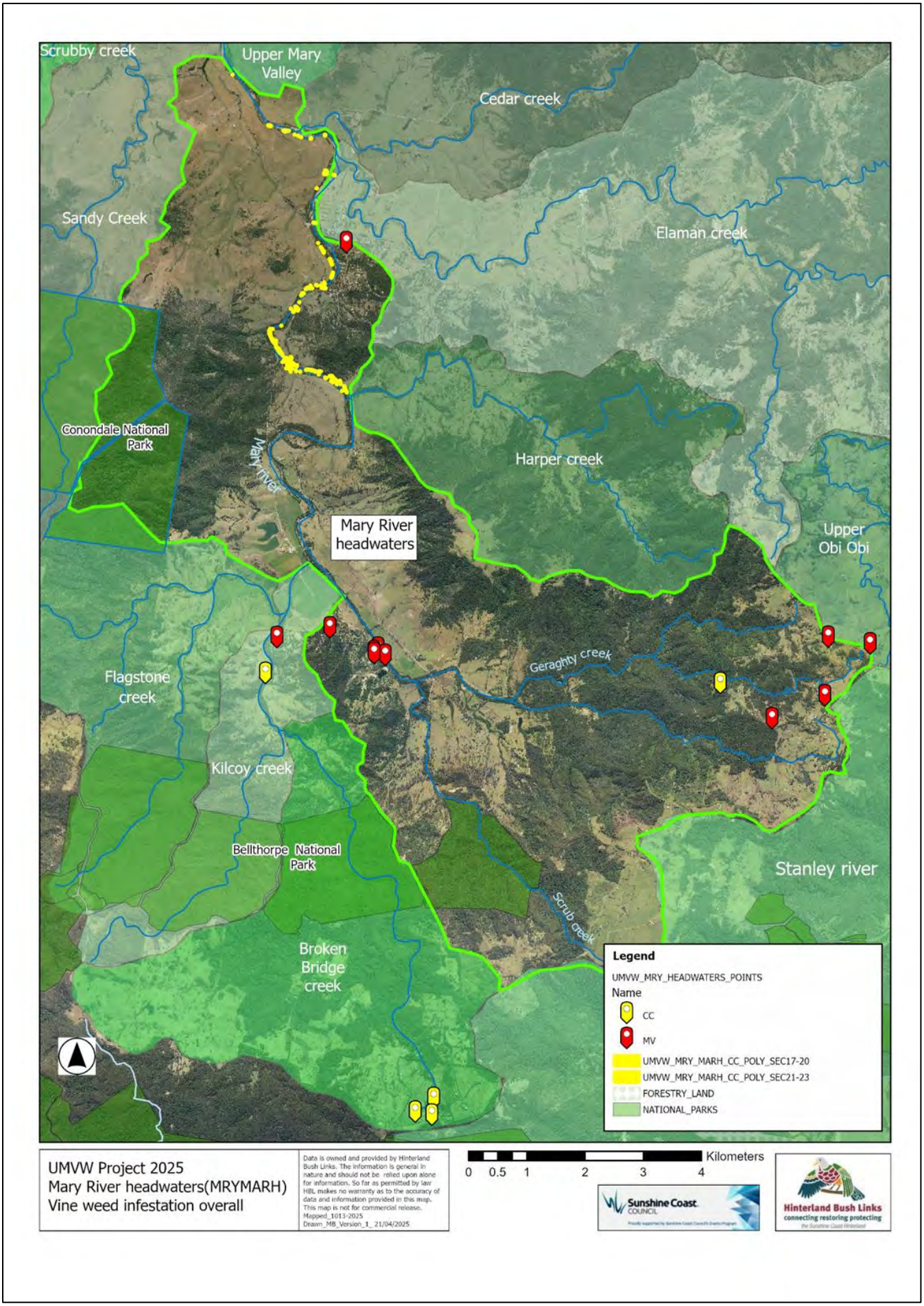
	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2017
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2015
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	2025

Vine weed management

All landholders from Harpers Creek to Upper Eastern Mary Bridge have been engaged, due to the large lots amounting to six landholders. Above Grigor Bridge, management has persisted for ten years. Since 2018, works below Grigor to Eastern Mary upstream bridge have been suspended except for Joe Heron, who is part of the Elaman Creek program and the uppermost property. The suspension results from a lack of funding and the high reinfestation risk below Elaman Creek until it is brought under control.

Management efforts on Cats Claw on the Mary River commenced in 2017, focusing initially on the section from Harpers Creek to Eastern Mary Upper Bridge. From 2019 onward, treatment was limited to areas above Grigor Bridge due to the aforementioned reasons. MRYSEC017-20 of MRYMARH (Mary River Headwaters Sections 1-24) initially ranked at 9 because Harper was ranked 8; being downstream, it had a higher reinfestation risk. Following a reassessment, Harpers ranking shifted to 4, causing MRYSEC017-20 to jump from 9 to 5 upon evaluation of riparian vegetation, absence of Madeira, and engagement of two landholders covering both banks of 4 kilometers of river. Sections 17-20 have undergone seven management runs over nine years, typically one run per year, reducing infestations from severity levels 3/4 to 1/2, with no known flowering vines currently present. Some infestations are located on extremely steep banks with thick woody weeds such as Lantana, making access and treatment difficult. Management of the area from Harper to Grigor will be scheduled on a two-year rotation, possibly extending to three years if needed elsewhere, though longer intervals risk vines reaching the flowering stage.

The Mary River Harper section, now known as MRYSEC021-24, received two years of Cats Claw management from 2018 to 2020. Due to withdrawal of specific funding, realization of the vine weed extent in the Elaman catchment (high reinfestation risk), and presence of Madeira in MRYSEC021-24, this section was reassessed as low priority with a low downstream risk. Works in MRYSEC021-24 should not be recommenced until Harper, MRYSEC017-20, and particularly Elaman Creek are well controlled, and propagule production reduced. Future management efforts will depend entirely on available funding.



Map 32 Overall Mary River Headwaters catchment

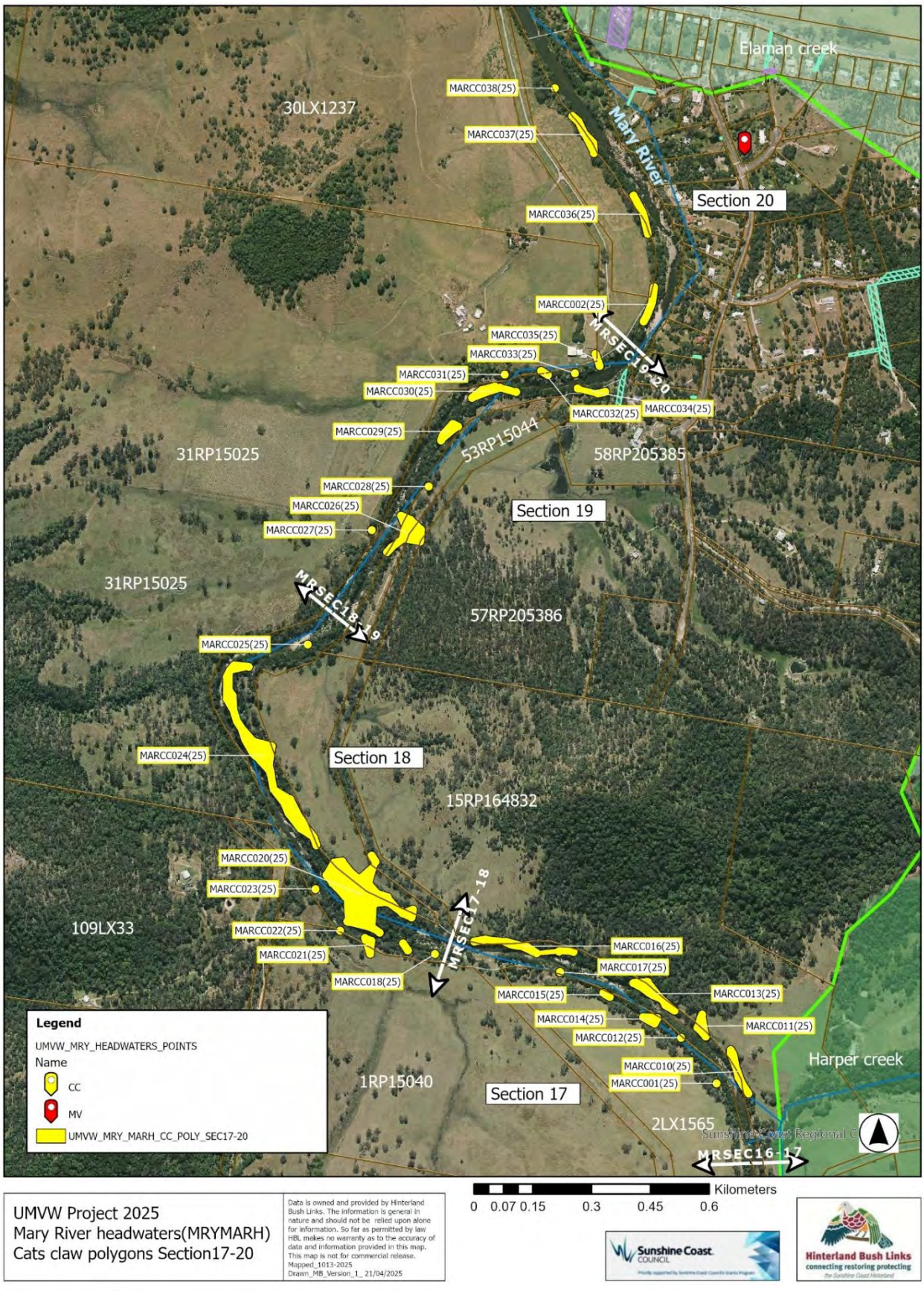
Management priorities

Cats claw in Section 17-20 near Harpers creek is a high priority due to its location and management stage. Grigor on the Mary and Elaman creek are low priority until upstream levels decrease. Crystal Waters needs revisiting to check infestation and offer help. Check Mary along Crystal Waters boundary if needed. Follow up on Madeira infestations at Booroobin and Burnet Lane with LBCCG. Address infestation at Stanley River Rd and Policeman's Spur Rd and consult landholders about Burnett Lane and Geraghty Lane. Confirm status with SCRC (Policeman's Spur Nature Refuge.) for Policeman's Spur Rd environmental reserve. Treat Aerial Yam in Section 17 and check with Crystal Waters for possible escape. Schedule isolated Madeira infestations after assessment. Map the Mary River above Harpers creek by foot for accurate status.

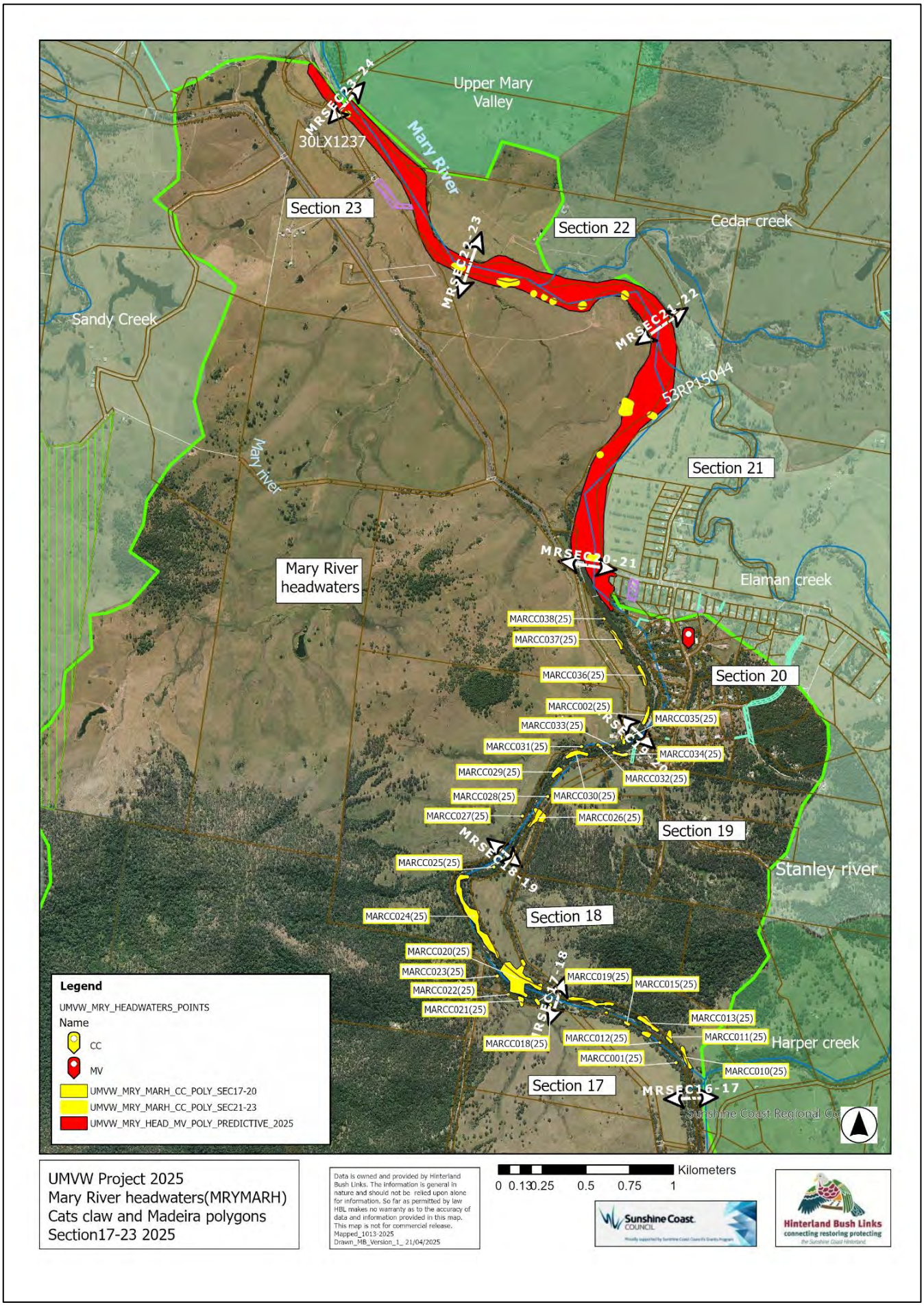
Summary management activities Mary River headwaters 2017-2037					
Year	**Activity**	**Status**	**Labour days**	***Budget**	
2017		Completed	Unknown	-	
2017/18	Primary treatment	Completed	Unknown	-	
2018/19	Follow up 1	Completed	Unknown	-	
2019/20	Follow up 2	Completed	Unknown	-	
2020/21	Follow up 3	Completed	Unknown	-	
2021/22	Follow up 4	Completed	Unknown	-	
2022/23	-	-	-	-	
2023/24		-	-	-	
2024/25	Follow up 5	Completed	24	-	
2025/26					
2026/27	Follow up 6	1 visit	20	11760	
2027/28				-	
2028/29	Follow up 7	1 visit	20	12920	
2029/30				-	
2031/32	Follow up 8	1 visit	18	14200	
2032/33				-	
2033/34	Follow up 9	1 visit	18	15620	
2034/35				-	
2035/36	Follow up 10	1 visit	18	17160	
2036/37	Full resurvey	map	4	TBA	
			Total	$71660	

Table 26 Summary management activities Mary River Headwaters 2017-36

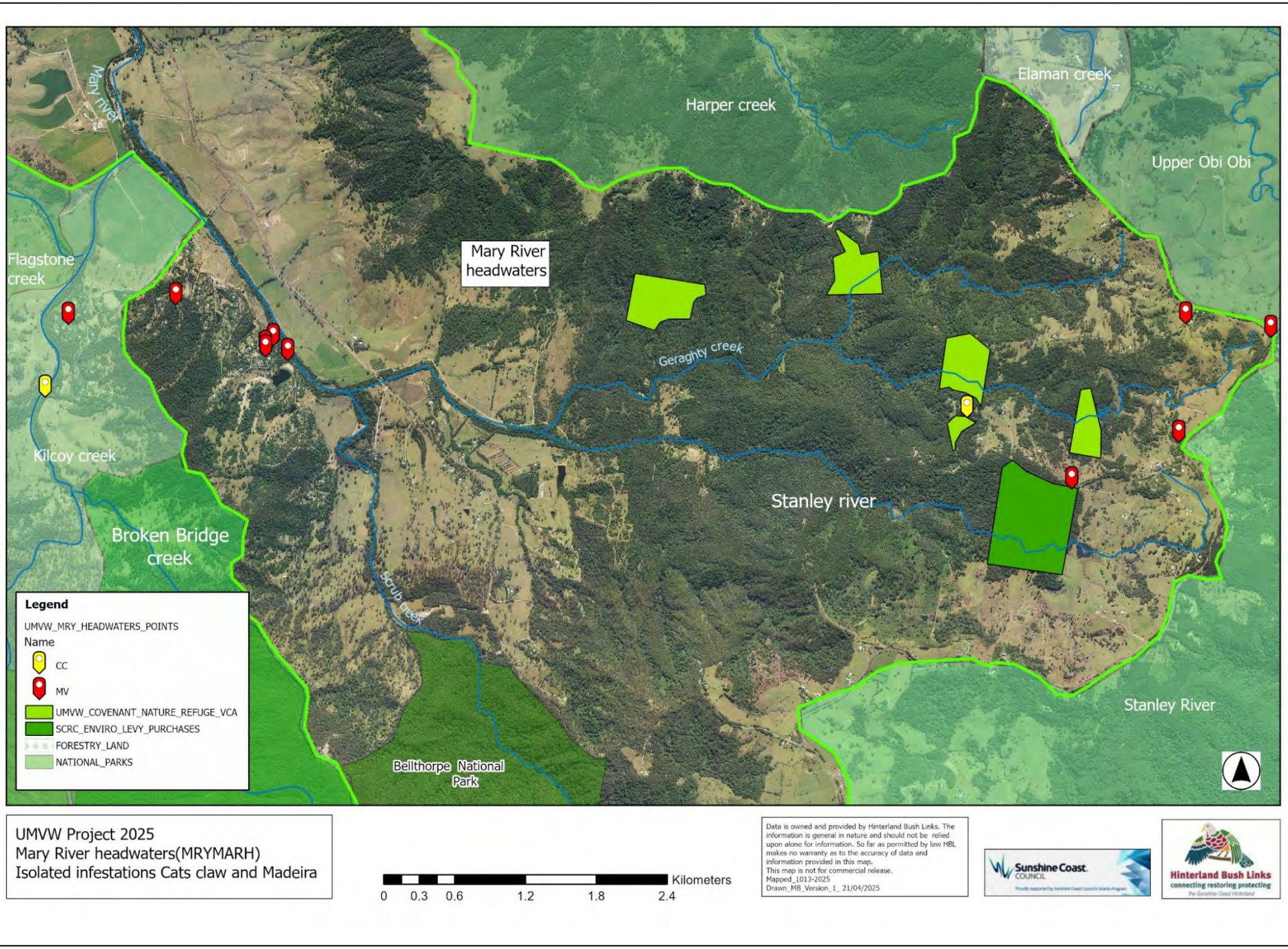
**$ based on $560 per day per person with 5% increase each year*



Map 33 Mary River Headwaters Sections 17-20



Map 34 Mary River Headwaters vine weed overall



Map 35 Mary River Headwaters High Priority Isolated infestations

Sub-catchment	Mary river headwaters to Eastern Mary River Rd Bridge Not including Kilcoy, Flagstaff, Broken Bridge, Harper Elaman, Cedar creeks		
Catchment	Mary river	Sections 1-23	
Catchment area	64 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	22.52 km	-
	Private	22.52 km	**99%**
	Council	-	-
	TMR	70 m	**.3%**
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
	Other	-	-
Catchment Area	Overall	64 km2	-
	Private	40 ha NR, VCA	**.6%**
	Council	40 ha (Policeman's Spur Nature refuge)	**.6%**
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	3.5 km2 Conondale NP	**9%**
	National Park	2.24 km2 Bellthorpe NP	
Local Government	SCRC	64 km2	-
	Sommerset	-	-
Tenure length	Private	22.52 km	**100%**
	Council	-	-
	TMR	70 m	**<**
	State Forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
	2025		-
Endangered RE length	12.3.1a	3.6 km	**5.6%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Endangered RE area	12.3.1a	16.7 ha	**.2%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Of concern RE	12.12.1, 12.12.12, 12.3.11, 12.3.2, 12.3.8, 12.8.8	482 ha	**7.5%**
		3.6 km length	-
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	11 km	**49%**
	Moderate	7 km	**31%**
	Poor	5 km	**21%**
Catchment vegetation cover	26.5 km2		**41%**
Land use	Agriculture	35 km2	**61%**
	Native vegetation	23 km2	**41%**
	National Park	6 km2	**10%**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2016	
	Latest	2025	
Mapping distance from start of sub by foot	2013	7.7 km plus crystal waters	
	2025	7.7 km	
Mapping distance road	Annual	18 km	
Mapping distance air	22.25 km	2016,2019,2021,2024	

Table 27 Mary River Headwaters catchment summary

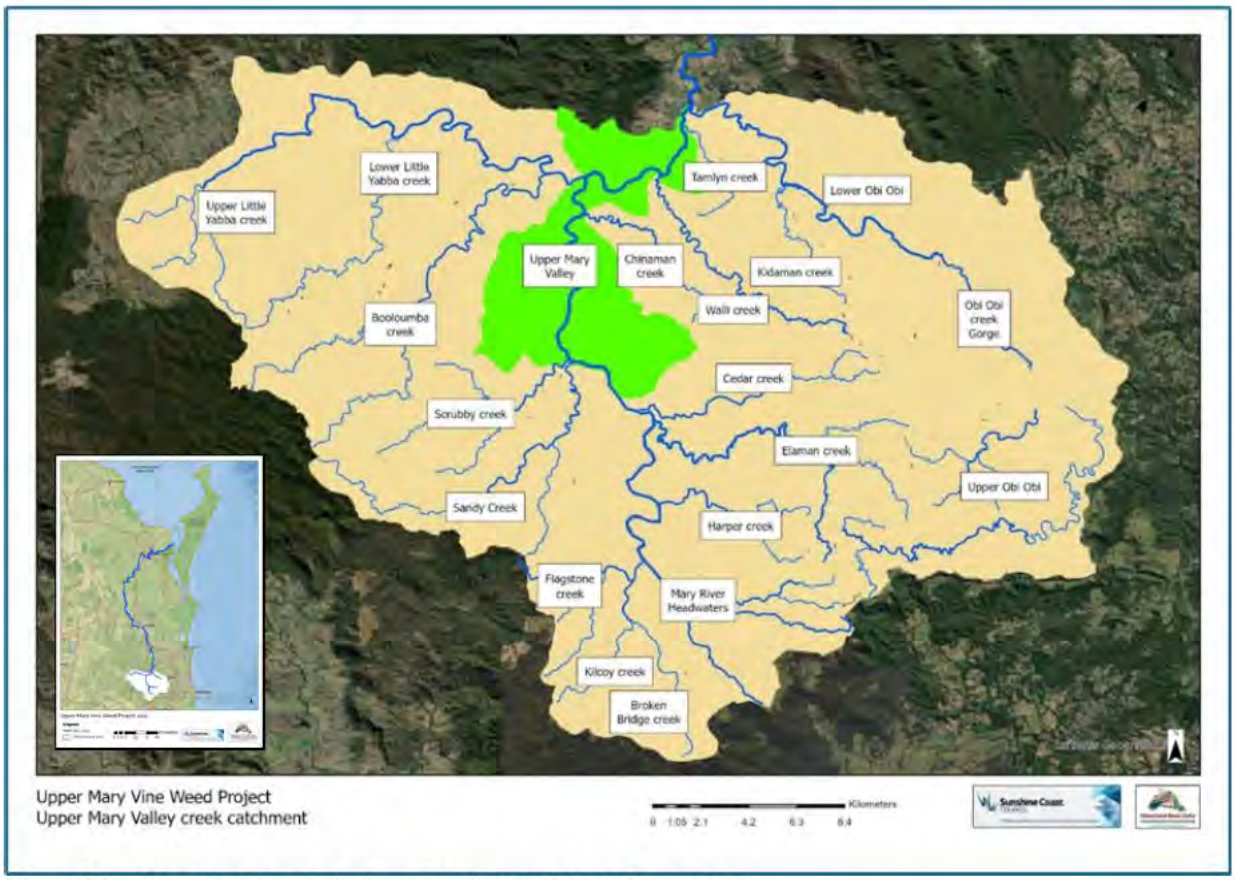
Vine weed occurrence				
Vine weeds located		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
		Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	
		Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	
Cats claw creeper *Dolichandra unguis-cati*				
Cat claw area	2013		6.05 ha	-
	2025		8.3 ha	**+37%**
Cats claw polygons	2013		55	-
	2025		72	-
Cats claw points	2013		1	-
	2025		202	-
Cats claw length of stream	2013		2.55	-
	2025		2.76	**+8%**
Cats claw from start of sub	20 km		-	-
Cats claw records 2025	11		-	-
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	10		-	-
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*				
Madeira vine area	2016		8.6 ha	-
	2025		11.7 ha	**+36%**
Madeira polygons	2016		17	-
	2025		14	-
Madeira points	2016		10	-
	2025		78	-
Madeira length of stream	2016		1.7 km	-
	2025		3.8 km (predictive)	**+123%**
Madeira from start of sub	22.5 km		-	
Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*				
Dutchman's pipe area	2013		-	-
	2025		-	-
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013		-	-
	2025		-	-
Dutchman's pipe points	2013		-	-
	2025		-	-
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013		-	-
	2025		-	-
Aerial yam *Dioscorea bulbifera*				
Aerial Yam area	2013		-	-
	2025		10m2	-
Aerial Yam polygons	2013		-	-
	2025		1	-
Aerial Yam points	2013		1	-
	2025		2	-
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013		-	-
	2025		20	-

Table 28 Mary River Headwaters vine weed summary

Upper Mary River Valley (MRYUMAR)

Catchment description

The Upper Mary Valley sub-catchment covers 55 km². It is situated between the upper eastern Mary River bridge and the township of Kenilworth. This area includes the eastern slopes of Conondale National Park, the western slopes of Maleny National Park, and the flood plain in between. Vegetation cover is approximately 30%, with about 15% of the sub-catchment protected in National Parks, State Forests, and SCRC levy-funded land acquisitions. The catchment contains 11.2 hectares (1.6 km) of endangered RE12.3.1 and 200 hectares of 'Of concern' RE's. The catchment represents the closest link between Conondale National Park and Maleny National Park. Between Chinaman and Walli Creek, the protected parks are 2.5 km apart, and less than 1 km when combined with Tuan Environmental Area.



Map 36 Upper Mary Valley catchment location map

Mapping

The only known specific on-ground weed mapping of the Upper Mary Valley occurred in 2015, targeting vine weeds such as MV, CC, and DP. Other surveys may have been conducted at the property level, but no data is available. Road and air surveys have been carried out every two years. Spot surveying was done for the *Mary River and Tributaries Rehabilitation Plan 2001.* No MV was recorded above Cambroon Eastern Mary River bridge, no CC or DP upstream of Kenilworth, and none of the three on the Obi. Additionally, no Chinese Elm was recorded above Kenilworth. It is assumed that both Madeira and Cats Claw were present but not in a density sufficient to be readily visible. Core infestations on Little Yabba, Harpers, and Elaman must have been present but possibly had not reached the Mary in 2000. There is no historic core CC infestation on the Mary above Kenilworth. Madeira likely spread simultaneously from Elaman, Cedar Chinaman, and Walli to the Mary. A large infestation of Madeira above Grigor Bridge is located 1.2 km upstream from the closest tributary. There is no upstream riparian Madeira from here to the headwaters, which has likely contributed to the Madeira presence in the Mary.

Vine weed located

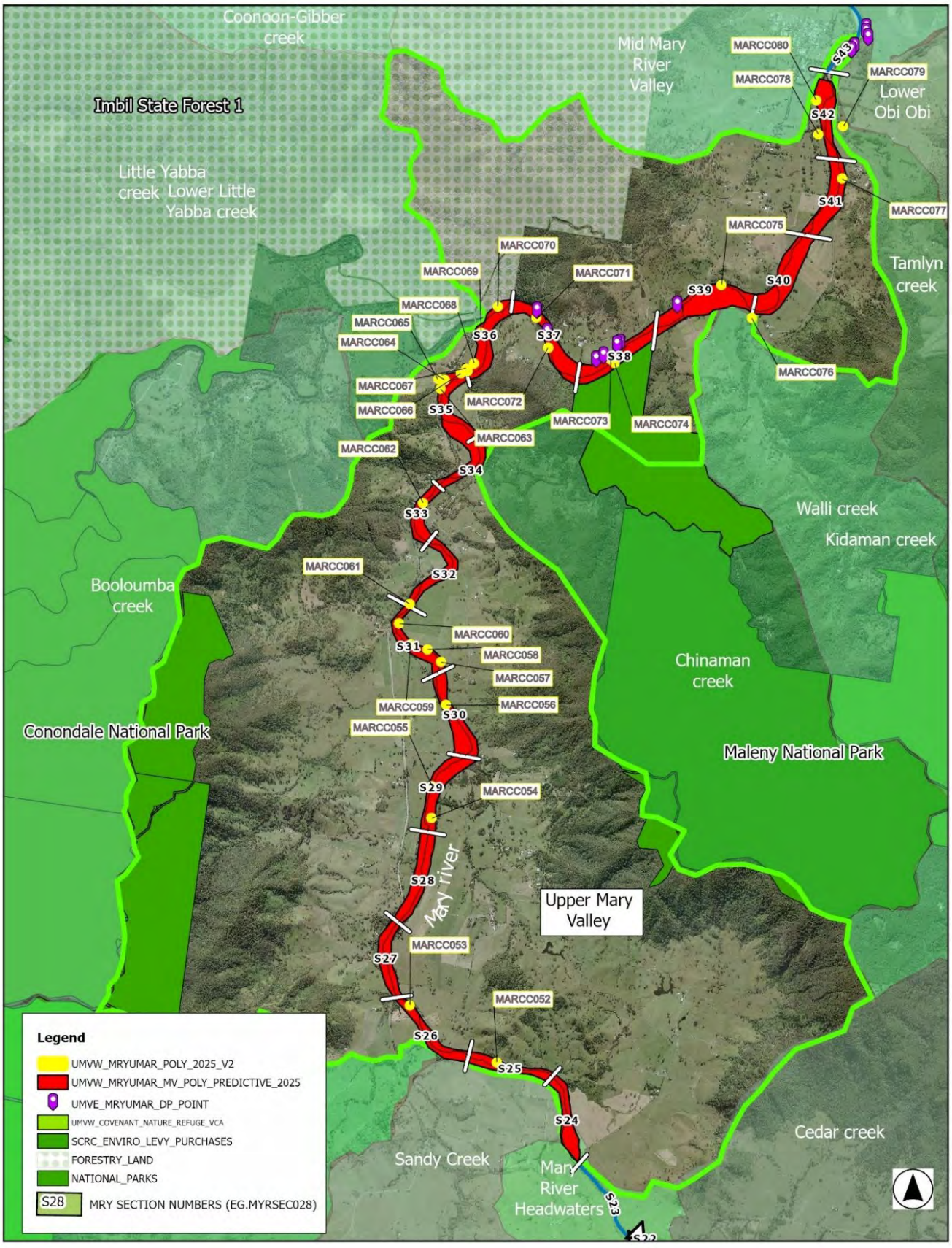
	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	2015
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2017
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	2015
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	2025

Vine Weed Management

Currently, no landholders are engaged in the Upper Mary by HBL as no weed management activities are recommended or planned. Bio control agents for both Cats claw and Madeira vine have been released along the Mary River in this sub-catchment. No weed management activities have been carried out in MRYUMAR between 2016 and 2025 apart from the release of biocontrol agents. Some activities may have been conducted in this sub-catchment, but there is no available data on those efforts.

Management Priorities

At this stage, no vine weed management activities are recommended for MRYUMAR. Monitoring may also be unnecessary at this time, as Madeira vine has increased its coverage from 60% (12 km) in 2016 to an estimated 100% in 2025(20 km). Cats claw infestations have risen by more than 200% from 2016 to 2025. This increase is likely underestimated, as the 2016 survey was conducted on foot, providing greater accuracy, whereas the 2025 data is based on air and road surveys with only triple-verified results counted, suggesting that additional infestations may exist undetected. At Section 31, previously recorded as one infestation, six infestations now cover approximately 1.5 km, possibly merging into a single larger infestation. DP has been located above Little Yabba (currently not managed at LY) in MRYUMAR. Major flood events will affect the distribution, particularly of Madeira vine, through removal and deposition processes.



Map 37 Upper Mary Valley catchment overall vine weed map

Sub-catchment	Upper Mary River Valley		
Catchment	Mary river	Sections	
Catchment area	55 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	20 km	
	Private	18.5 km	**92%**
	Council	1 km	**5%**
	TMR	-	**-**
	State forest	.24 km	**2%**
	National Park	-	**-**
	Quarry	.5 km	**-**
Catchment Area	Overall	55 km2	**-**
	Private	46.4 km2	**85%**
	Council	85 ha	**.1%**
	State forest	4.11 km2	**7.5%**
	National Park	4 km2 Conondale national park , Maleny National Park	**7.4%**
	Other	-	**-**
Local Government	SCRC	55 km2	**-**
	Sommerset	-	**-**
Tenure length	Private	19 km	**95%**
	Council	1 km	**4%**
	TMR	-	**-**
	State Forest	.24 km	**<1%**
	National Park	-	**-**
	Quarry	.5 km	**2%**
Endangered RE length	12.3.1a	1.6 km	**8%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1a	11.2 ha	**<.5%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Of concern RE	12.11.14, 12.11.5, 12.3.11, 12.12.1, 12.12.12, 12.3.8	891 m2	**<.1%**
		200 ha	**3.6%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	6 km	**30%**
	Moderate	8 km	**40%**
	Poor	6 km	**30%**
Catchment vegetation cover	15 km2		**30%**
Land use	Agriculture	20 km2	**36%**
	Native vegetation	27.64 km2	**50%**
	National Park	4 km2	**7%**
	Forestry	4.11 km2	**7%**
	Quarry	15 ha	**<3%**
Mapping	Initial	2016	
	Latest	2025 (Air/road)	
Mapping distance from start of sub catchment by foot	2016	20 km	
	2025	-	
Mapping distance road	Annual	20 km	
Mapping distance air	Biannual	20 km	

Map 29 Upper Mary Valley catchment summary table

Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	
	Dutchman's pipe	*Aristolochia elegans*	
Cat claw area	2013	1.6 ha	-
	2025	2.6 ha	**+62%**
Cats claw polygons	1016	9	-
	2025	29	-
Cats claw points	2013	-	-
	2025	33	-
Cats claw length of stream	2013	611 m	-
	2025	2 km extra	**+233%**
Cats claw from start of sub	2016	12.5	
	2025	19.5 km	**+56%**
Cats claw records 2025	22		-
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	22		-
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*			
Madeira vine area	2016	64 ha	-
	2025	120 ha predictive	**+87.5%**
Madeira polygons	2016	70	-
	2025	1	-
Madeira points	2016	-	-
	2025	17	-
Madeira length of stream	2016	12 km	-
	2025	20 km predictive	**+67%**
Madeira from start of sub	km	20 km	-
Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*			
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	690 m2	-
	2025	Possible 60 ha infested	**+ ?**
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	7	-
	2025	1	-
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	7	-
	2025	-	-
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	100 m	-
	2025	3 km	**X 30**
Dutchman's pipe from start of sub	2016	3km	-
	2025	7km	**+133%**
Aerial Yam			
Aerial Yam area	2013	-	-
	2025	-	-
Aerial Yam polygons	2013	-	-
	2025	-	-
Aerial Yam points	2013	-	-
	2025	-	-
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013	-	-
	2025	-	-

Table 30 Upper Mary Valley vine weed summary map

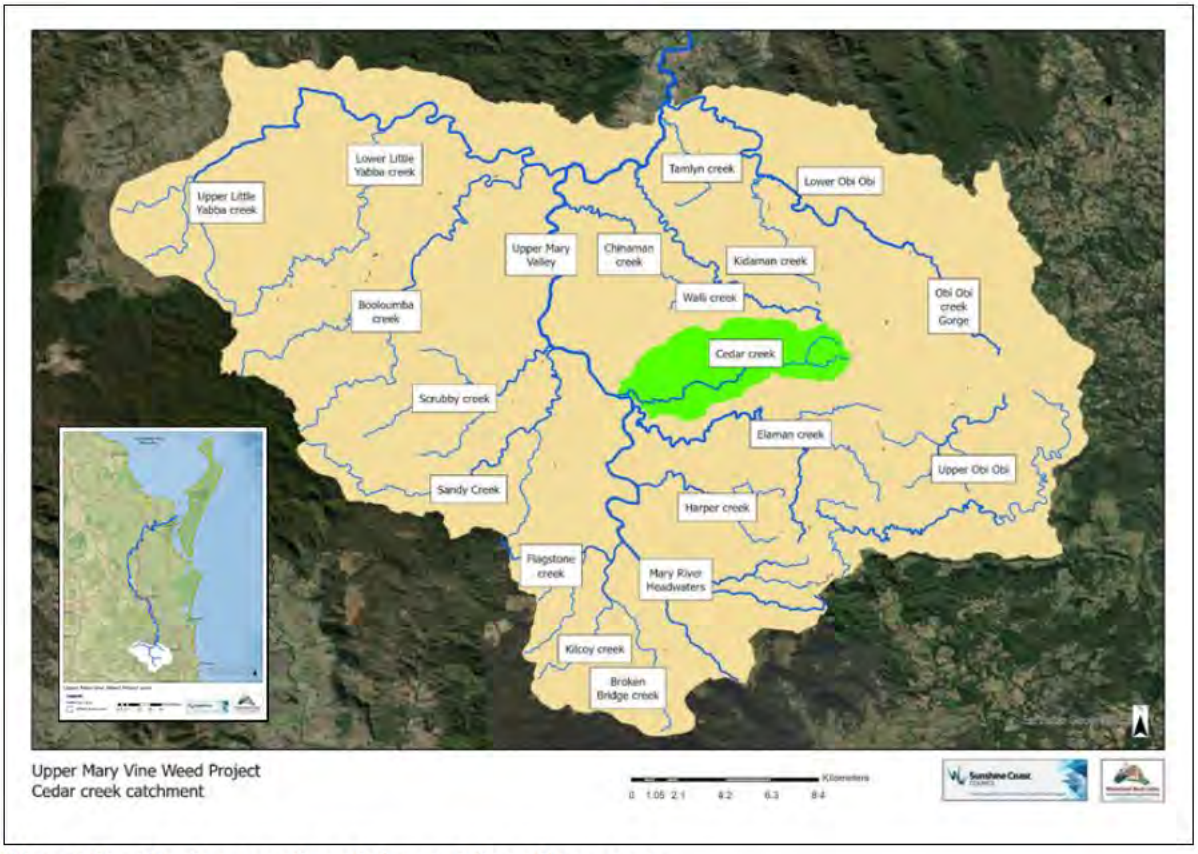
Cedar creek

Catchment Description

Cedar Creek is located about 1 km downstream from Elaman Creek, covering an area of 26 km² with 53% vegetation cover. The riparian zone has mixed conditions, including some remnant sections but over 50% in poor condition. The catchment area contains 12.5% 'Of Concern RE's (OC). The headwaters have steep, unstable slopes prone to landslides, while the lower reaches (4 km) are highly degraded with severe bank erosion and poor riparian condition. A decommissioned quarry and a 5 ha dam are situated in the lower reaches, potentially filtering vine weed material, although Madeira vine is found downstream.

Mapping

Mapped in 2017, Cedar Creek's lower section was surveyed by foot, road, and air. The only vine weed located was Madeira vine, which occurs sporadically up to 4 km upstream, with a core infestation of 1.5 ha at 360 Cookes Rd and a smaller infestation 2 km upstream in the road reserve. There may be a higher infestation in the catchment area. Cats claw poses a major threat via Green Park on Elaman Creek, though managed to prevent flowering. Contractors suspect a flowering infestation farther up the slope (243MCH969), but aerial surveys haven't confirmed it.



Map 38 Cedar creek catchment location map

Vine weed management

Cedar Creek is solely infested with Madeira vine. Eradication of core infestations is estimated to take 10 years with 3-4 visits per year. One visit annually will likely maintain or worsen the severity level, and missing a year could increase it by one level or more. Despite four visits, between 2017 and 2024, management has been sporadic, and the infestation remains at severity level 2 due to two missed years.

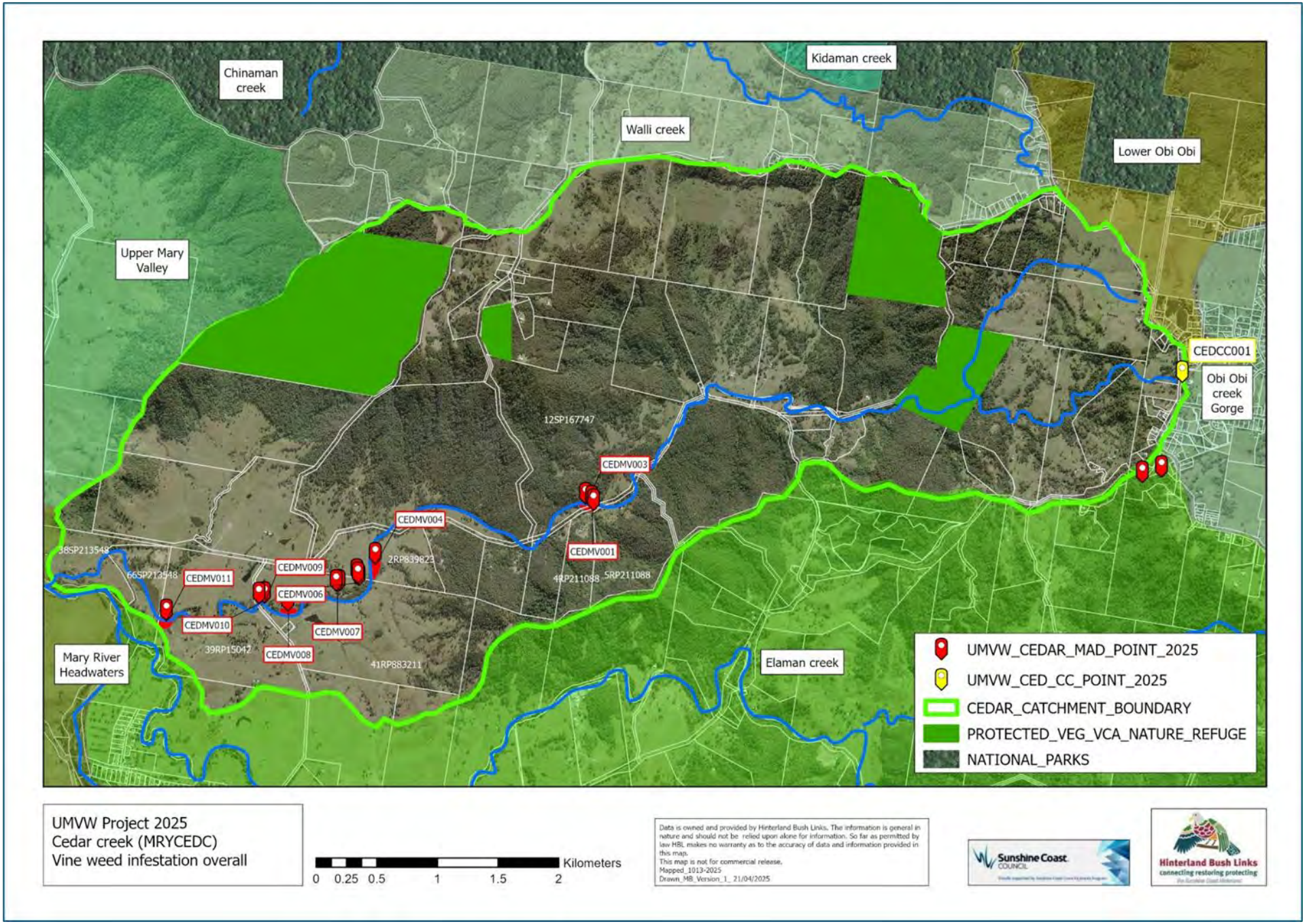
With only 8% of creek length affected and no upstream source, eradication is realistic with resources for another 9 years of at least three annual visits. While visit duration/cost may decrease yearly, continuous funding for 9 years is uncertain. Priority should be given to upstream infestations (CEDMV001-3) and then core infestation (CEDMV004). Downstream outliers should be managed but are transient due to creek bank changes. This sub-catchment poses low risk to the Upper Mary Catchment, aided by a large dam near the confluence and severe Madeira vine infestation downstream. Cedar Creek's Madeira vine currently has no impact on the Mary River.

Summary management activities Cedar creek 2016-2036

Year	Activity	Status	Area	Labour days	*Budget	
2016	On foot 4km from Mary	Completed	-	-	-	
2017/18	Primary treatment	Completed	-	-	-	
2019/20	Follow up 1	Completed	-	-	-	
2021/22	Follow up 2	Completed	-	-	-	
2022/23	-		-	-	-	
2023/24	Follow up 3 (1)	Completed	-	-	-	
2024/25	-	-	-	-	-	
2025/26	Follow up 4 (2)	3 visits	-	10	16800	
2026/27	Follow up 5 (3)	3 visits	-	10	17640	
2027/28	Follow up 6 (4)	3 visits	-	10	18480	
2029/30	Follow up 7 (5)	3 visits	-	10	19380	
2031/32	Follow up 8 (6)	3 visits	-	10	20310	
2032/33	Follow up 9 (7)	3 visits	-	10	21300	
2033/34	Follow up 10 (8)	3 visits	-	10	22320	
2034/35	Follow up 11 (9)	3 visits	-	10	23430	
2034/35	Follow up 12(10)	3 visits	-	10	24540	
					$184200	

**$ based on $560 per day per person with 5% increase per year*

Table 31 Cedar creek management summary table



Map 39 Cedar creek overall catchment map

Cedar creek vine weed summary table

Sub-catchment	Cedar creek		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	26 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	12.6 km	-
	Private	12.6 km	-
	Council	.14 km infected area RR	-
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
Catchment Area	Overall	26 km2	-
	Private	26 km2 (20 lots)	-
	Council	4000 m2 infected area RR	-
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
	Other	-	-
Local Government area	SCRC	26 km2	-
	Sommerset	-	-
Tenure length	Private	26 km	-
	Council	.14 km infected length RR	-
	State Forest	-	-
	National Park	-	-
	Other		-
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	Likely areas too small to map	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11		-
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	Likely areas too small to map	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11		-
Of concern RE area	12.12.12, 12.12.1, 12.3.2, 12.8.8a	190 ha 4.6 km Cedar creek	**7.3 %** **36%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	2.5 km	**21%**
	Moderate	3.3 km	**26%**
	Poor	6.6 km	**53%**
Catchment vegetation cover	14 km2		**54%**
Land use	Grazing	12 km2	**46%**
	Native vegetation	14 km2	**54%**
	Quarry	.1 km2 (Inactive)	-
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2016	-
	Latest	2022	-
Mapping distance from Mary	2015	6 km	-
	2025	6 km	-
Mapping by road	4 km	2025	-
Mapping by air	12.6 km	2016,2019,2021,2024	-

Table 32 Cedar creek catchment summary table

Vine weeds located	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*		
Cats claw creeper				
Cat claw area	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Cats claw polygons	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Cats claw points	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Cats claw length of stream	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Cats claw records 2025	-	-		
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	-	-		
Madeira vine				
Madeira vine area	2016	5.4		**0%**
	2025	5.4		**0%**
Madeira polygons	2013	7		
	2025	10		
Madeira points	2013	-		
	2025	7		
Madeira length of stream	2013	.9 km		
	2025	.9 km		
Madeira upstream from Mary	2025	6 km		
Lots with Madeira		7		
Dutchman's pipe				
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	-		
	2025			
Aerial yam				
Aerial Yam area	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Aerial Yam polygons	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Aerial Yam points	2013	-		
	2025	-		
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013	-		
	2025			

Table 33 Cedar creek vine weed summary table

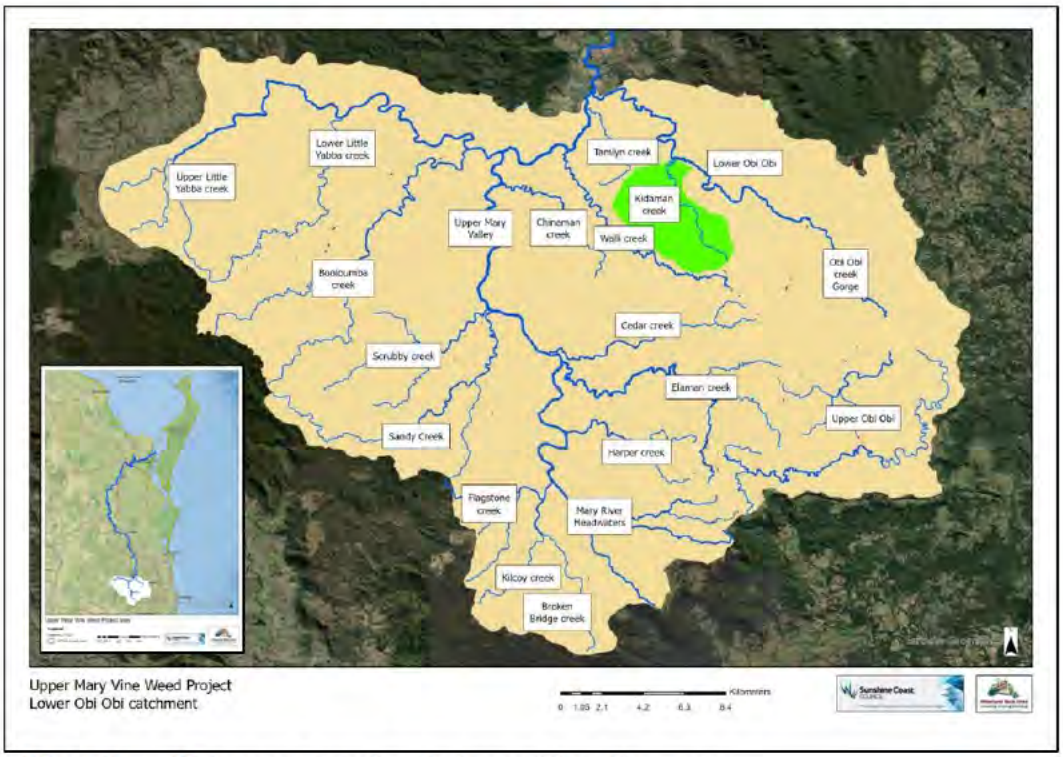
Kidaman Creek

Catchment Description

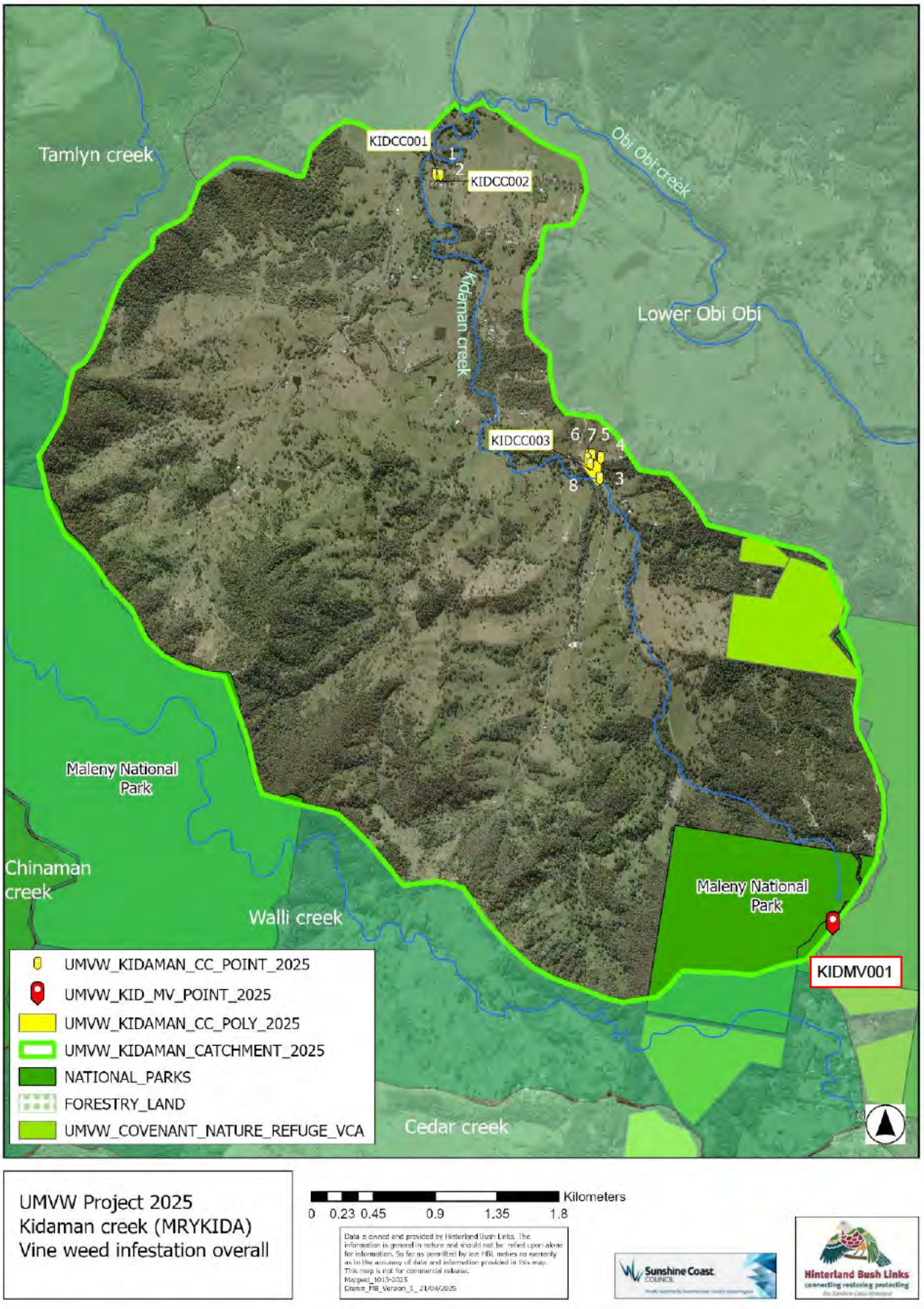
Kidaman Creek is a small sub-catchment with an area of 18 km², generally considered part of the Lower Obi Obi catchment. It has been separated in this context due to two known infestations of Cat's Claw Creeper and one infestation of Madeira Vine. The lower reach of Kidaman Creek on the northern side of Obi Obi Road is likely better managed as part of the Lower Obi catchment. This catchment forms a vital link between the two sections of Maleny National Park and serves as part of a corridor connecting Kondalilla National Park, Kirby's Road Reserve, Maleny National Park sections, and extending to the Conondale Range through Tuan Reserve. Additionally, the catchment benefits from a high level of protection, with several Nature Refuges and Voluntary Conservation Agreements (VCAs).

Mapping

The infestations KIDCC001 and KIDCC002 were initially mapped in 2015. These consist of a small infestation on two lots, where the vines are growing up trees in the front garden. A second infestation, KID003, was mapped in 2025 during road surveys conducted at flowering time. This infestation covers an area of 1 hectare located on one private property and roadside reserve. The Madeira Vine infestation (KIDMV001) is situated within Maleny National Park, on the Obi Obi side of Kidaman Creek Road but is included in the Kidaman catchment for management reasons. This infestation has received intermittent treatment over the past decade and could potentially spread into Maleny National Park and Kirby's Road Environmental Reserve (3.6 km), eventually reaching the Obi (7 km total). However, the risk of infestation to Obi at this point remains low due to significant existing Madeira Vine infestations upstream.



Map 40 Kidaman creek catchment location map



Map 41 Kidaman creek catchment overall vine weed map

Vine weeds located

	Cats claw creeper	Dolichandra unguis-cati	2015	2025
	Madeira vine	Anredera cordifolia	2015	-

Vine weed management

Landholders of KIDMV001 and 2 have been contacted previously, but there has generally been no funding for these isolated infestations. Landholders for KIDCC003 and KIDMV001 have not been engaged due to lack of funding. KIDMV001 is likely located in the road reserve as are parts of KIDCC003; therefore, SCRC should be engaged. KID003 has had no management as it was only located in 2025 and currently no funding is available. The other infestations have had ad hoc treatments over the last 10 years.

Management priorities

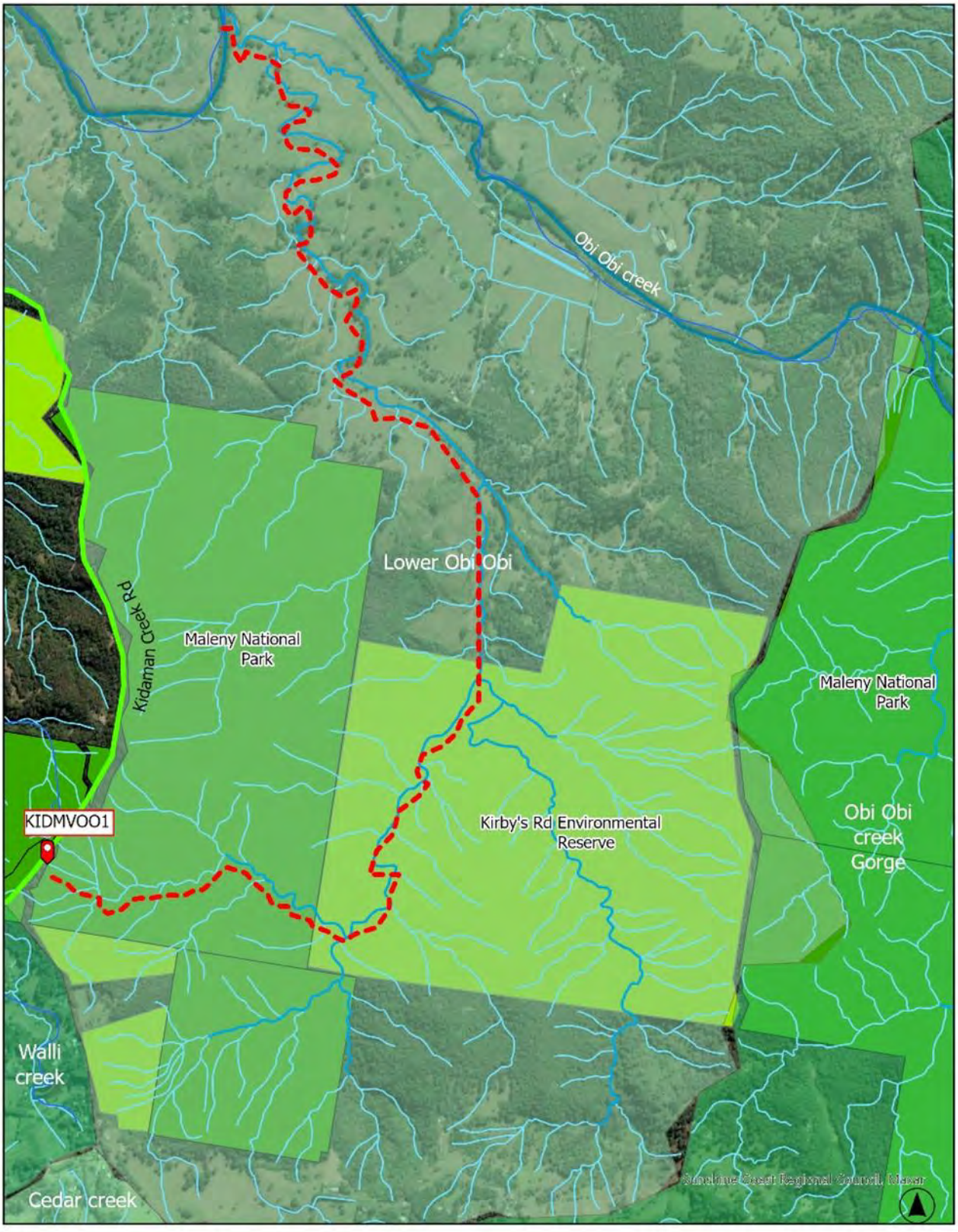
Engage SCRC for road reserve infestations. Engage the landholder at 29 Browns Rd to inform and educate about Cats claw. Seek funding for KIDCC003. Monitor KIDCC001 and KIDMV002.

Summary management activities Kidaman creek 2015-2036						
Year	**Activity**	**Item**	**Status**	**Days**	**Budget#***	
2015	Mapping by road		Completed	-	-	
2015/16	Primary treatment	KIDCC001,2	Completed	-	-	
2017/18	Follow up 1	KIDCC001,2	Completed	-	-	
	Proposed activities					
2025/26	Re map for treatment Assessment/plan	KIDCC003 KIDCC003	1 visit	1	640	
2026/27	Primary	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	8	4480	
2027/28	Follow up 1	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	8	4704	
2029/30	Follow up 2	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	4	2464	
2031/32	Follow up 3	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	4	2587	
2032/33	Follow up 4	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	4	2716	
2033/34	Follow up 5	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	2	1426	
2034/35	Follow up 6	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	2	1497	
2034/35	Follow up 7	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	2	1572	
2035/36	Follow up 8	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	2	1700	
2036/37	Follow up 9	KIDCC001-3	1 visit	2	1786	
				Total	$25572	

Table 34 Kidaman creek catchment management summary table

$ based on $560 per day per person with 5% increase per year

#Figures based on initial estimate. Figures may change on detailed mapping.



Madeira infestation KIDMVOO1
Flow path through Maleny National Park and
Kirby's Rd Environmental Reserve (3.6 km) and down to Obi Obi (Total 7 km trajectory)

Map 42 Kidaman creek Madeira infestation indicative flow path

Sub-catchment	Kidaman creek		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	18.6 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	8.4 km	-
	Private	8.1km	**96.5%**
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	300 m	**3.5%**
Catchment Area	Overall	18.6 km2	
	Private	17.6 km2	**95%**
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	1.0 km2 Maleny NP	**5%**
Local Government	SCRC	18.6 km2	-
	Sommerset	-	-
Tenure length	Private	8.1 km	**96.5%**
	State Forest	-	-
	National Park	300 m	**3.5%**
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	-	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	-	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Of concern RE	12.12.1,12.3.2	41.5 ha	**2.2%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	3 km	**35%**
	Moderate	3 km	**35%**
	Poor	2.4 km	**30%**
Catchment vegetation cover	6.5 km2		**35%**
Land use	Grazing	11 km2	**60%**
	Conservation (NP)	1.0 km2	**5%**
	Native vegetation	6.5 km2	**35%**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2015	-
	Latest	2025	-
Mapping distance from Mary	2013	4.6 km	-
	2025	4.6 km	-
Mapping distance road	5 km	2025	-
Mapping distance air	Not flown		-

Table 35 Kidaman creek catchment summary table

Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
Cats claw *Dolichandra unguis-cati*			
Cats claw area	2015	0.1 ha	
	2025	1.2 ha	**+1000%**
Cats claw polygons	2015	2	
	2025	3	
Cats claw points	2015	2	
	2025	4	
Cats claw length of stream	2015	-	
	2025	65 m	**+65m**
Cats claw records 2025		2	
Cats claw flowering vines 2025		1 (multi)	
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*			
Madeira vine area	2015	100 m2	
	2025	200 m2	**+100%**
Madeira polygons	2015	1	
	2025	1	
Madeira points	2015	1	
	2025	1	
Madeira length of stream	2015	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe *Aristolochia elegans*			
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam *Dioscorea bulbifera*			
Aerial Yam area	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam polygons	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam points	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	-	

Table 36 Kidaman creek catchment vine weed table

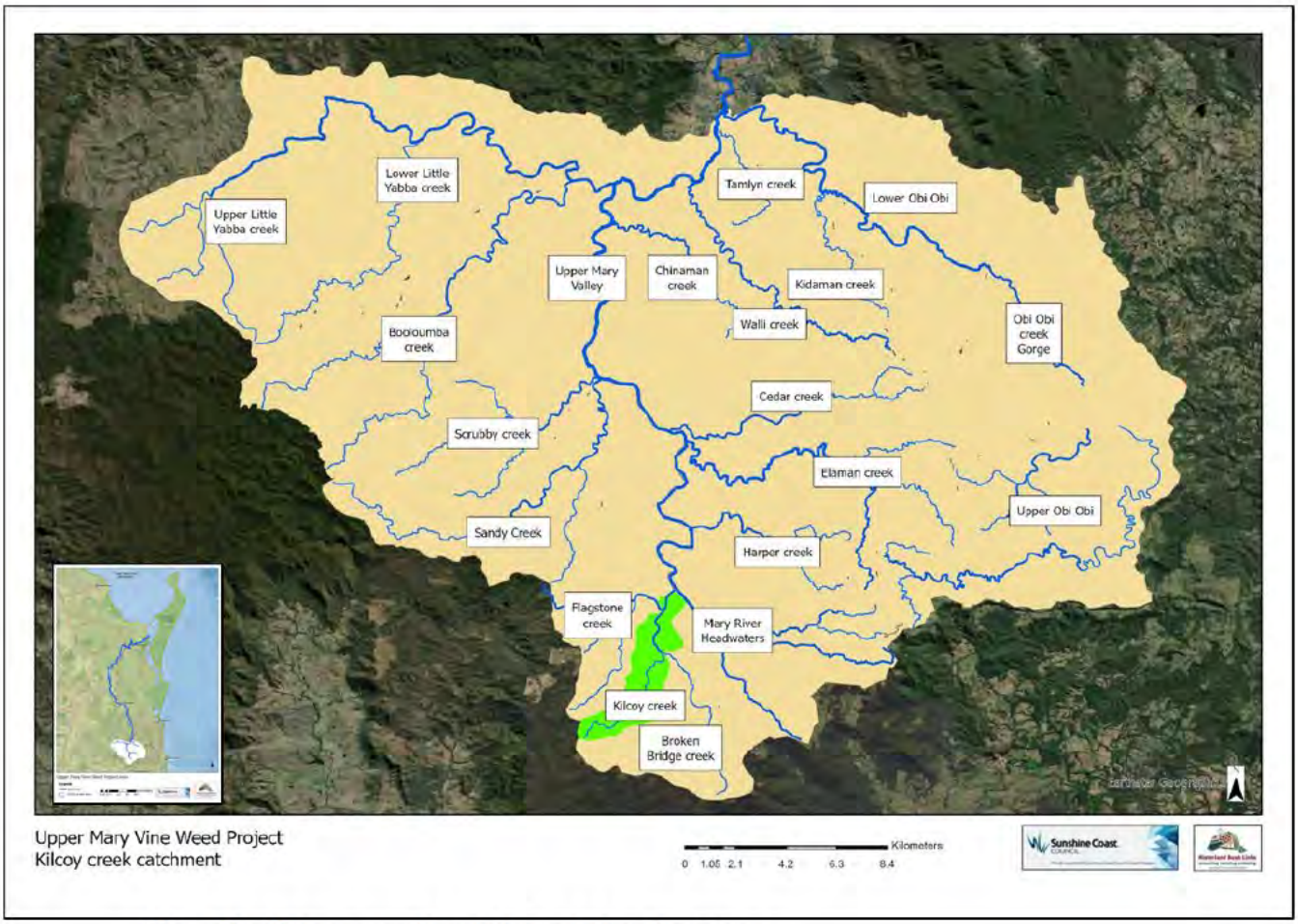
Kilcoy creek

Catchment description

Kilcoy Creek, encompassing an area of 8 km², is occasionally classified alongside Broken Bridge and Flagstone Creeks. Approximately 70% of Kilcoy Creek is well-vegetated, with two-thirds exhibiting excellent riparian vegetation. Additionally, around 33% of the catchment falls within Bellthorpe National Park. Despite its proximity to Crystal Waters, which poses a risk of vine weed infestation, Kilcoy Creek has not been comprehensively mapped for such weeds.

Mapping

Mapping efforts include aerial surveys but have yet to involve ground-based mapping. Notably, Madeira vine infestations have been documented with support from Crystal Waters.



Map 43 Kilcoy creek catchment location map

Vine weeds located

	Cats claw	*Dolichandraunguis-cati*	2025 (Not confirmed)
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	2017
	Aerial yam	*Dioscorea bulbifera*	2025 (ALA record ground truth)

Vine weed management

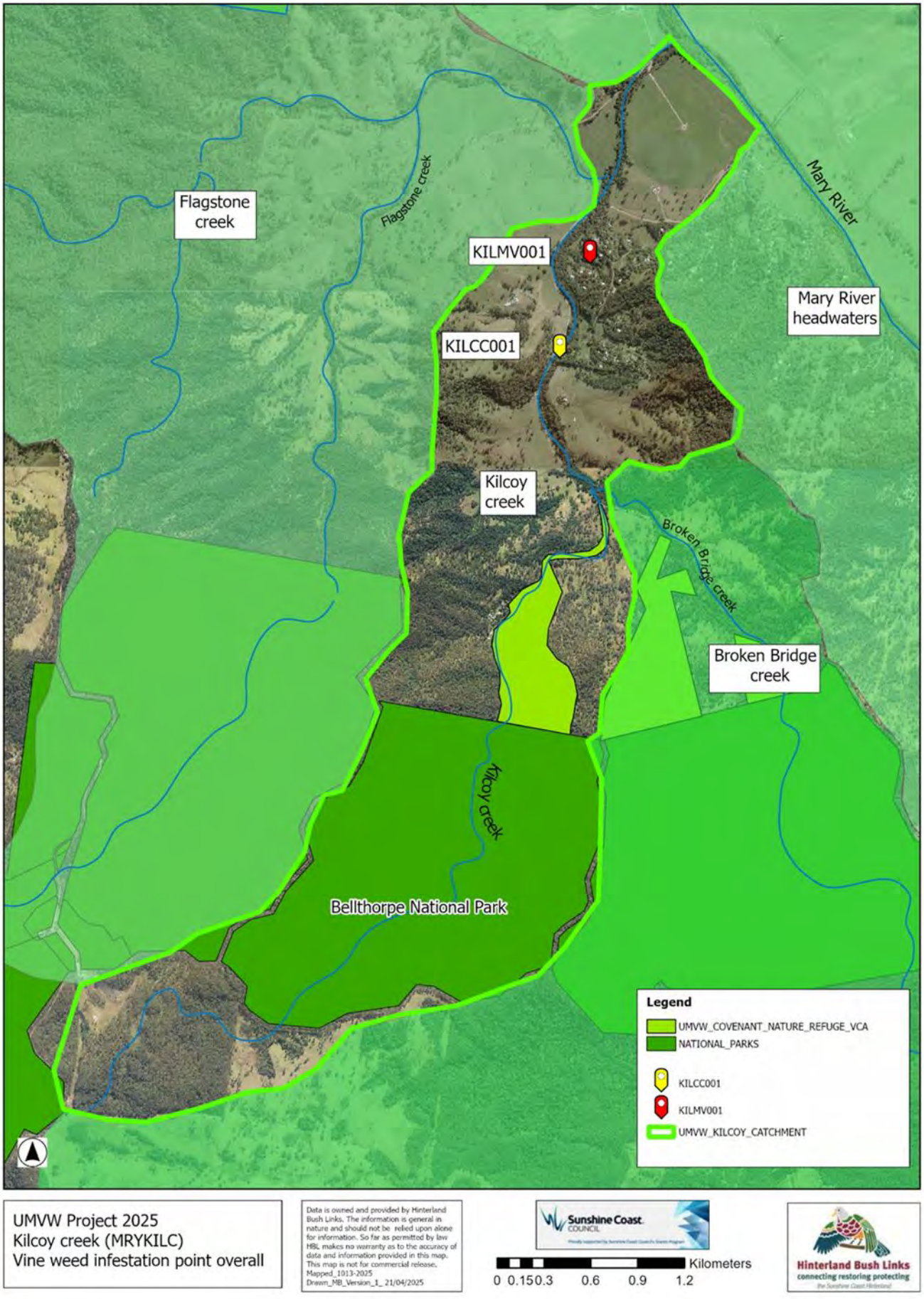
Crystal Waters currently manages Madeira vine independently. Although assistance has been offered previously, it has not been accepted. Non-chemical control methods may be necessary due to restrictions on chemical use. The sole landholder engaged on Kilcoy Creek is Crystal Waters. They have a committee with an environmental/weeds representative. Additionally, there are several knowledgeable individuals outside the committee who can be consulted for alternative perspectives.

Management Priorities

- Verify and confirm the location of potential Cats claw on Kilcoy Creek and refer it for treatment.
- Verify and confirm the Aerial Yam record on the Atlas of Living Australia (ALA).
- Assess the status of Madeira vine infestation at Crystal Waters on Kilcoy Creek and Mary River.
- Inspect the section of Kilcoy Creek adjacent to Crystal Waters. Kilcoy Creek has been covered in aerial surveys but has not been mapped on foot. Request the Crystal Waters committee to educate landholders about vine weeds and report any occurrences.

Summary management activities Kilcoy creek 2017-2036					
Year	**Activity**	**Status**	**Labour days**	***Budget**	
2017	Mapping	5 locations found	-	-	
2017/18	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2018/19	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2019/20	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2020/21	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2021/22	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2022/23	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2023/24	-	Managed CW	-	-	
2024/25	Check with CW	TBA	1		
2026/27	Check with CW	TBA	1		
2028/29	Check with CW	TBA	1		
2030/31	Check with CW	TBA	1		
2032/33	Check with CW	TBA	1		
2034/35	Check with CW	TBA	1		

Table 37 Kilcoy creek management summary table



Map 44 Kilcoy catchment overall vine weed map

Sub-catchment	Kilcoy creek		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	8 km2 km		
Catchment length	Overall	9.6 km2	**-**
	Private	7.1 km	**74%**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	2.5 km	**26%**
Catchment Area	Overall	8 km2	**-**
	Private	5.3 km2	**66%**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	2.7 km2	**34%**
Local Government	SCRC	4.14 km2	**52%**
	MBRC	3.86 km2 (4km long creek)	**48%**
Tenure length	Private	7.1 km2	**74%**
	State Forest	-	**-**
	National Park (Bellthorpe)	2.5 km	**26%**
			-
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Of concern RE	12.12.12	5.2 ha	**<1%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	6 km	**66%**
	Moderate	3 km	**33%**
Catchment vegetation cover	5.64 km2		**71%**
Land use	Agriculture	2.3 km2	**29%**
	Conservation	2.7 km2	**34%**
	Native vegetation	3 km2	**37%**
Mapping	Initial	2015	
	Latest	-	
Mapping distance from Mary	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Map by road	3.4 km		
Map by aerial	9.6 km		
Vine weeds located	Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*	
	Madeira vine	*Anredera cordifolia*	

Table 38 Kilcoy creek catchment summary table

Cats claw *Dolichandra unguis-cati*			
Cats claw area	2013	-	
	2025	10 m2	
Cats claw polygons	2013	-	
	2025	1	
Cats claw points	2013	-	
	2025	1	
Cats claw length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	10 m	
Cats claw records 2025		1	
Cats claw flowering vines 2025			
Madeira vine *Anredera cordifolia*			
Madeira vine area	2016	100 m2	
	2025	-	
Madeira polygons	2013	1	
	2025	-	
Madeira points	2013	1	
	2025	-	
Madeira length of stream	2013	10	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe			
Dutchman's pipe area	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe points	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam *Dioscorea bulbifera*			
Aerial Yam area	2013 Check ALA for record at Crystal Waters		
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam polygons	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam points	2013	-	
	2025	-	
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013	-	
	2025	-	

Table 39 Kilcoy creek catchment vine weed summary table

Broken Bridge

Catchment description

Broken Bridge creek is usually included as part of the Kilcoy creek (C) sub catchment. However, for this project it has been treated separately as it contains a high priority Cats Claw infestation and is also a larger catchment than Kilcoy creek, (see Stony creek catchment section).

Mapping

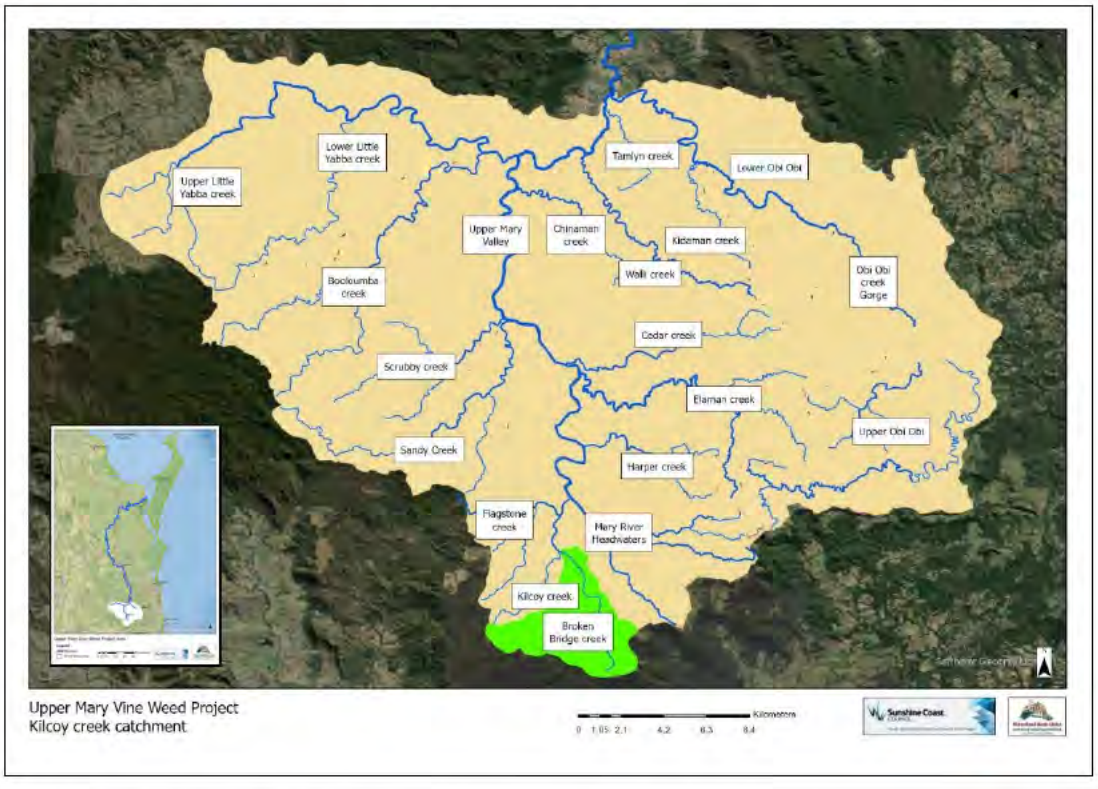
The Cats claw infestation in Bellthorpe in located on two private properties and road reserve. One landholder and the Bellthorpe Progress association have been doing there best to manage the infestations and have largely prevented it from flowering. At some stage point it has spread across Bellthorpe Range Rd and into Stony creek catchment which feeds into the Stanley River, or it may well have started here and spread the opposite way. In any case the Broken Bridge and Stony creek infestations represent the greatest spread risk in the project area.

Vine weed management

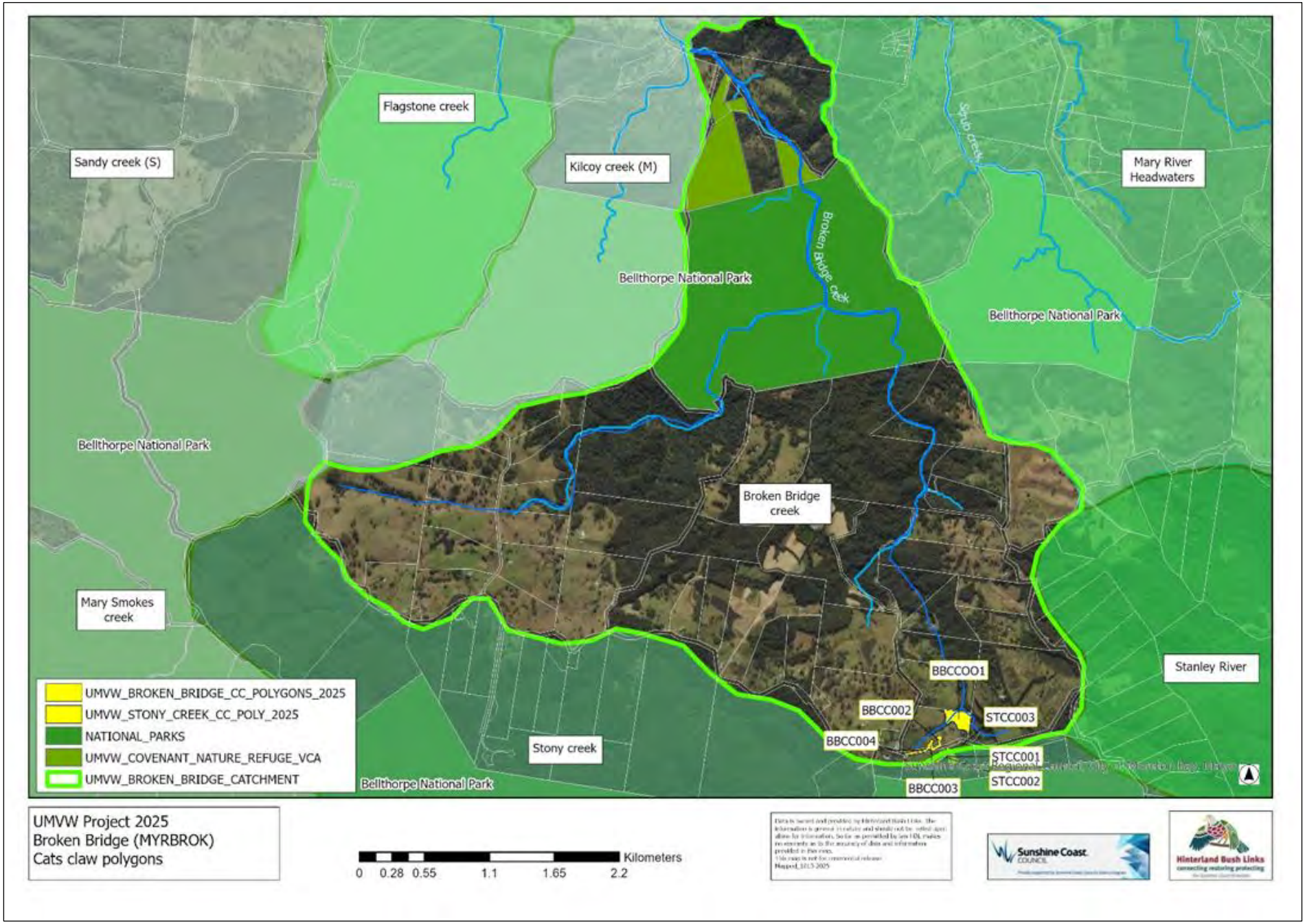
As mentioned, the road reserve infestation has been managed by the BPA for many years. One landholder has done their best to manage it on their property. Since 2017 HBL and LBCCG have been able to assist the two landholders in managing both sub catchment infestations. HLW has been able to support the Stanley River section. Currently managed by LBCCG.

Management priorities

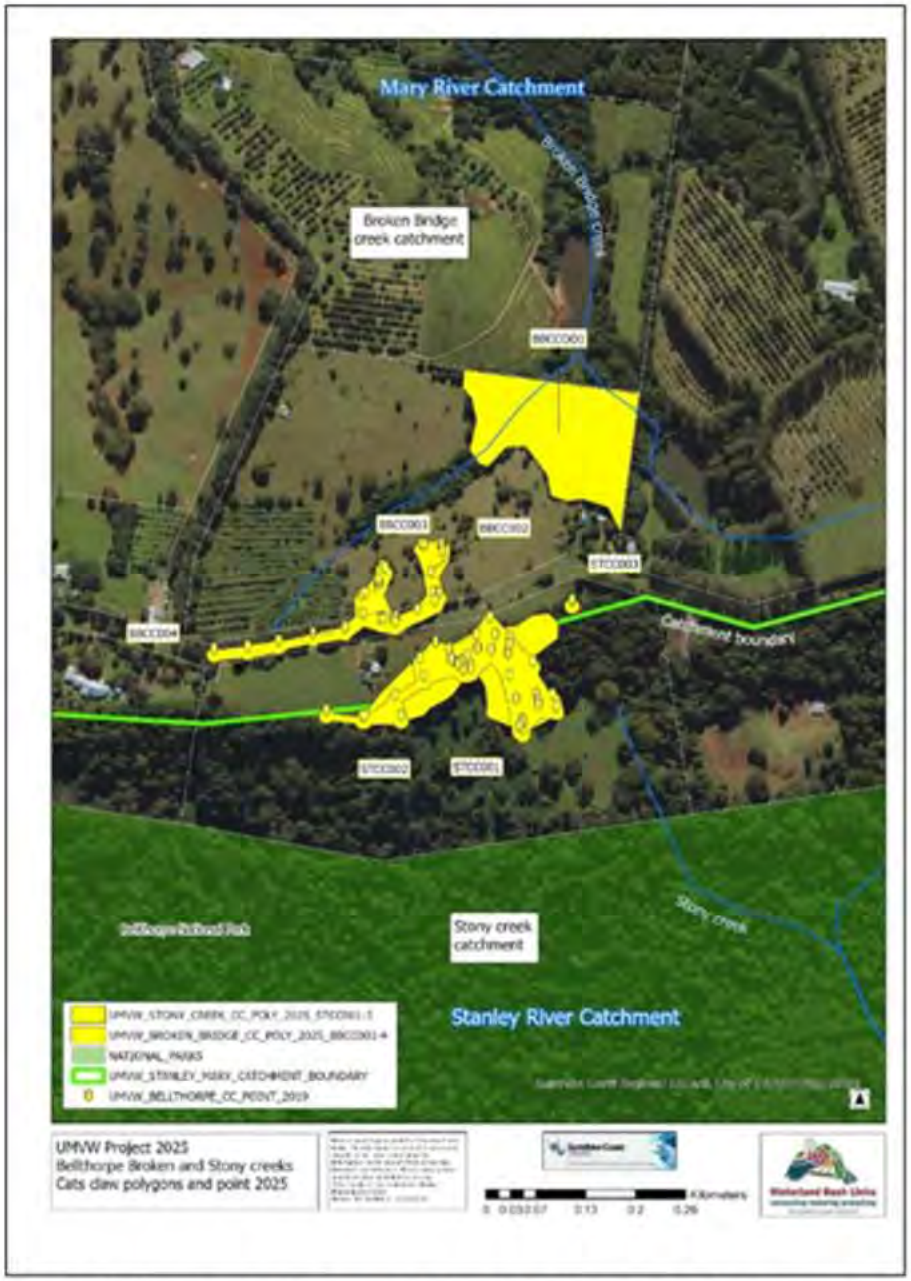
Priority is to prevent flowering whilst working towards eradication.



Map 45 Broken Bridge creek catchment location map



Map 46 Broken Bridge creek catchment overall map



Map 47 Bellthorpe Cats claw Broken Bridge and Stony creeks

Summary management activities Bellthorpe 2017-2036				
Year	Activity	Status	Labour days	*Budget
2017	Mapping	Completed	-	-
2017/18	Primary treatment	Completed	-	-
2018/19	Follow up 1	Completed	-	-
2019/20	Follow up 2	Completed	-	-
2020/21	Follow up 3	Completed	-	-
2021/22	Follow up 4	Completed	-	-
2022/23	-	-	-	-
2023/24	Follow up 5	Completed	-	-
2024/25	No funding	LBCCG		
2025/26	Follow up 6	TBA		
2026/27	Follow up 7	TBA		
2027/28	Follow up 8	TBA		
2029/30	Follow up 9	TBA		
2031/32	Follow up 10	TBA		
2032/33	Follow up 11	TBA		
2033/34	Follow up 12	TBA		
2034/35	Follow up 13	TBA		
2034/35	Follow up 14	TBA		
2035/36	Follow up 15	TBA		

Table 40 Broken Bridge catchment vine weed management table

Sub-catchment	Broken Bridge		
Catchment	Mary River		
Catchment area	19 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	8 km	
	Private	5.8 km	**72.5%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	2.2 KM	**27.5%**
Catchment Area	Overall	19 km2	**-**
	Private	16 km2	**84%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	3 km2 Bellthorpe NP	**16%**
Local Government	SCRC	1.6 km2	**20%**
	MBRC	17.4 km2	**80%**
Tenure length	Private	5.8 km	**72.5%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State Forest	-	**-**
	National Park	2.2 km	**27.5%**
	Other	-	
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Of concern RE	12.3.2	24.55 ha	**1.2%**
Of concern RE	12.3.7		
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	6.8 km	**85%**
	Moderate	1.2 km	**15%**
	Poor	-	**-**
Catchment vegetation cover	11.1 km2		**58%**
Land use	Grazing, horticulture	8 km2	**42%**
	Native vegetation	7.8 km2	**41%**
	Protected	3.3 km2	**17%**
	NR, VCA, Covenant	40.2 ha	**2%**
Total protected area		3.7 km2	**20%**
Total protected length		2.7 km	**33%**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2017	
	Latest	2025	
Mapping distance from Mary	2017	10.6 km m	
	2025	10.6 km m	
Mapping distance by road	200 m	2024	
Mapping distance by air	8 km	2024	

Table 41 Broken Bridge creek catchment summary table

Vine weeds located		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*		
Cats claw creeper					
Cat claw area	2017		2 ha		**.1%**
	2025		2 ha		**.1%**
Cats claw polygons	2013		1		**-**
	2025		2		**-**
Cats claw points	2013		19		**-**
	2025		-		**-**
Cats claw length of stream	2013		200m		**2.5%**
	2025		200m		**2.5%**
Cats claw records 2025	-		-		-
Cats claw flowering vines 2025	-		-		-
Distance from confluence with Mary	Start of infestation		10.4 km		-
Madeira vine					
Madeira vine area	2016		-		
	2025		-		
Madeira polygons	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Madeira points	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Madeira length of stream	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Dutchman's pipe area					
Dutchman's pipe area	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Dutchman's pipe points	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013		--		
	2025		-		
Aerial Yam area					
Aerial Yam area	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Aerial Yam polygons	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Aerial Yam points	2013		-		
	2025		-		
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013		-		
	2025		-		

Table 42 Broken Bridge catchment vine weed management table

Stony creek

Catchment description

The infestation sits at the very top of the Stony creek sub catchment which feeds into the Stanley River some 11.5 kms away (18 kms via Branch creek). The catchment has a high level of protection (NP) as well as good overall vegetation cover and riparian vegetation.

Mapping

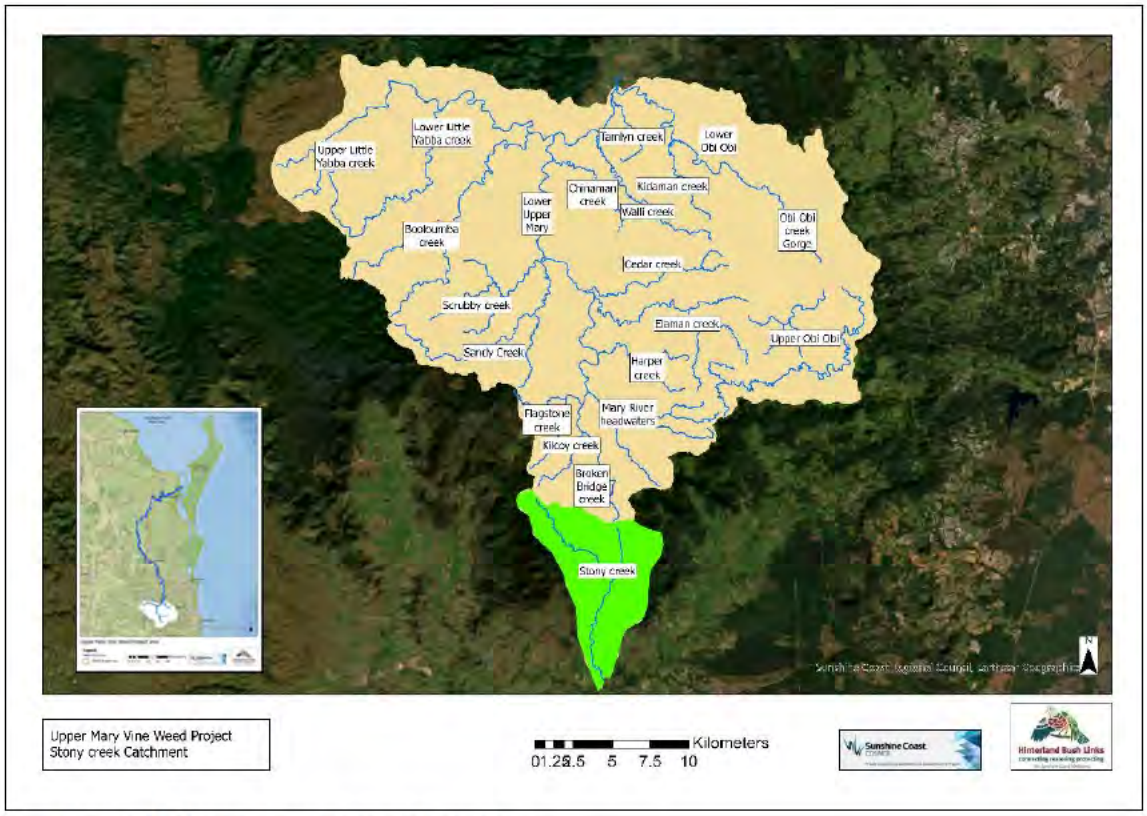
This infestation sits on the south side of Bellthorpe Range Rd. It wasn't discovered until about 5 years after the Broken Bridge infestation. At this time the infestation was well up trees and flowering. It is not certain which infestation was the original. The Stony creek infestation has spread down the escarpment to another bench where it seems to have been contained although infestation down into Bellthorpe National Park is possible.

Vine weed management

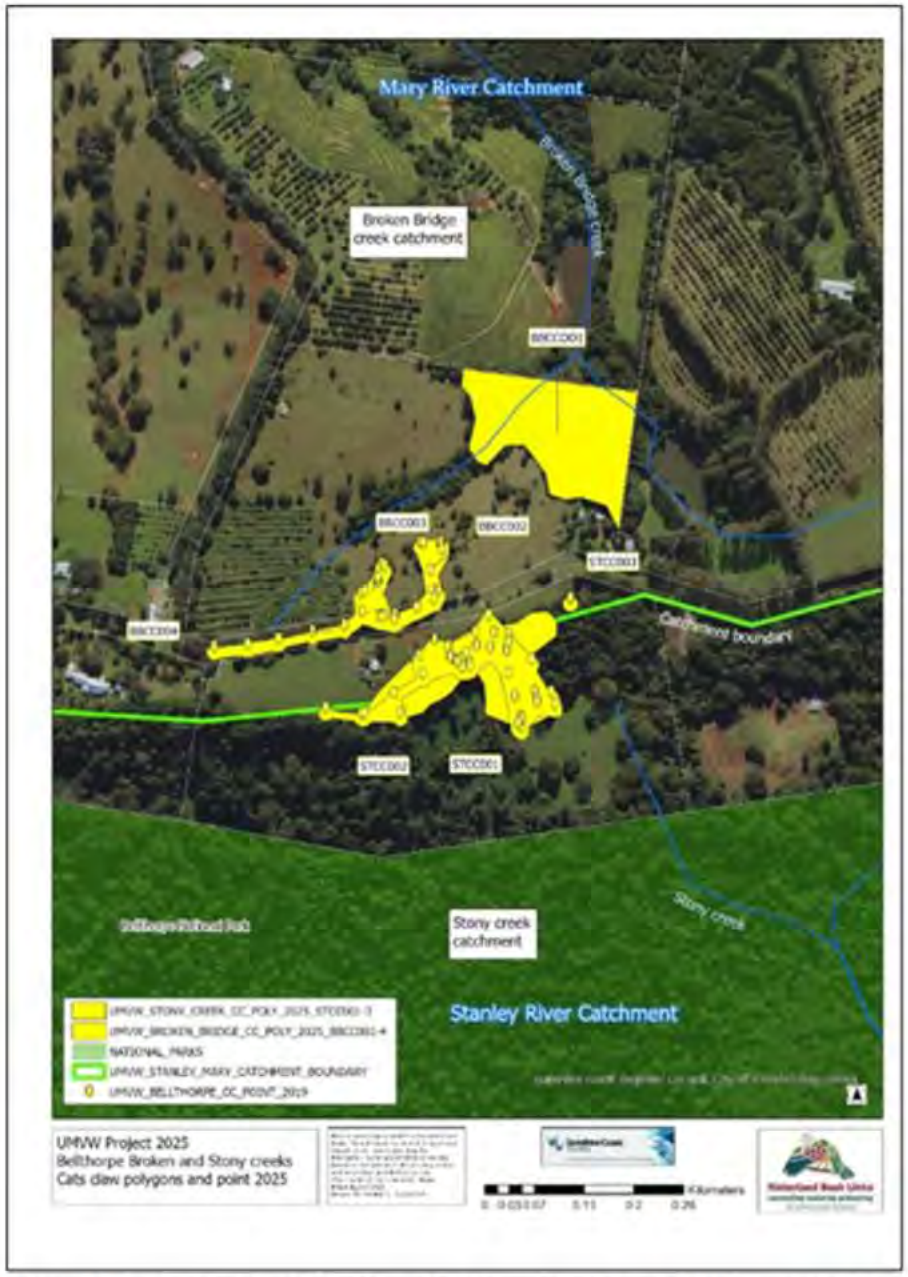
The infestation has been managed since 2019 by HBL and LBCCG supported by HLW. Currently there are no known flowering vines but the ground vines are located on a steep rock escarpment, so treatment is difficult.

Management priorities

Prevent the infestation from flowering and spreading down into the National Park. Towards eradication.



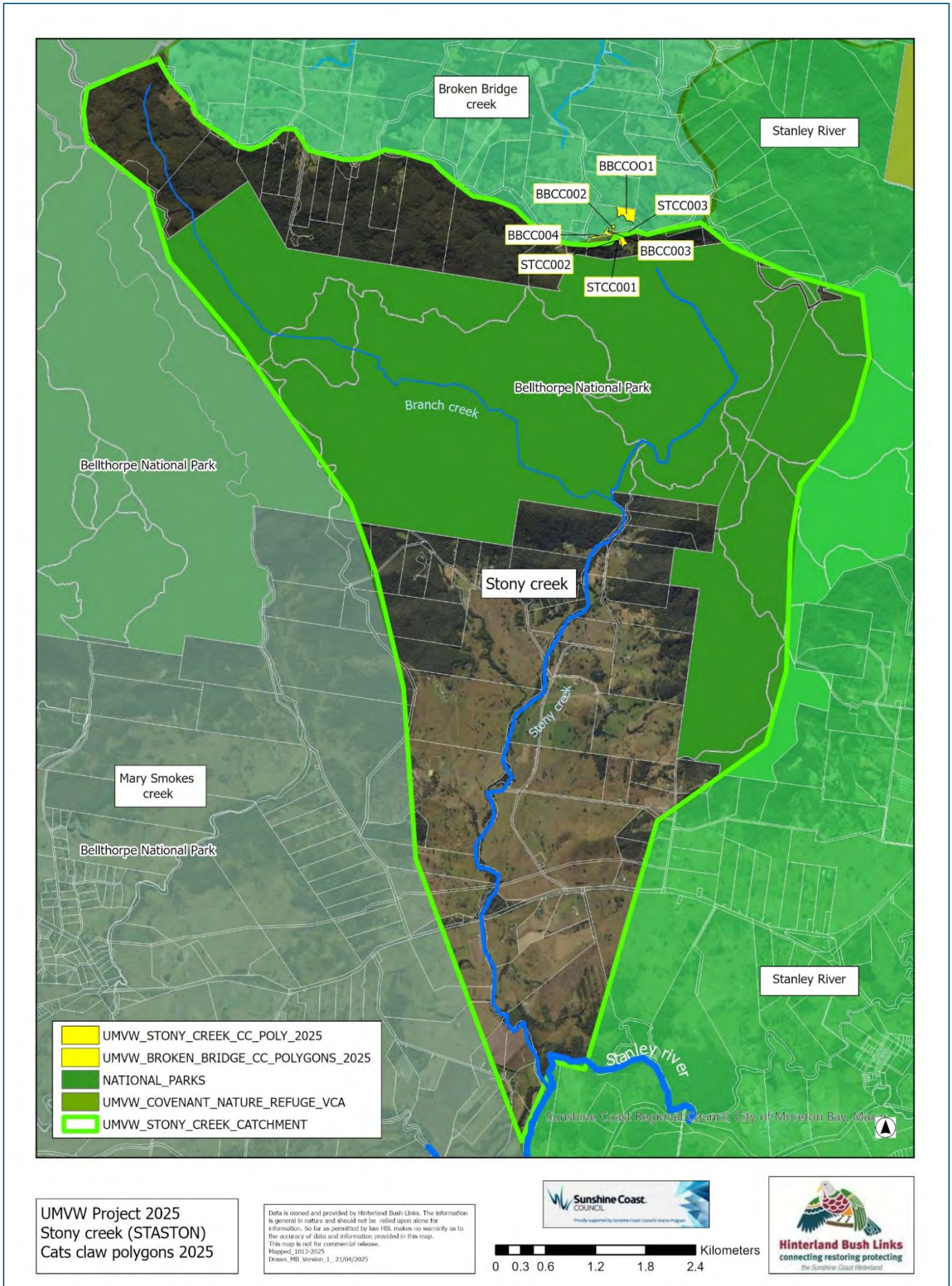
Map 48 Stony creek location map



Map 49 Bellthorpe Cats claw Broken Bridge and Stony creeks

Summary management activities Bellthorpe 2017-2036				
Year	Activity	Status	Labour days	*Budget
2017	Mapping	Completed	-	-
2017/18	Primary treatment	Completed	-	-
2018/19	Follow up 1	Completed	-	-
2019/20	Follow up 2	Completed	-	-
2020/21	Follow up 3	Completed	-	-
2021/22	Follow up 4	Completed	-	-
2022/23	-	-	-	-
2023/24	Follow up 5	Completed	-	-
2024/25	No funding	LBCCG		
2025/26	Follow up 6	TBA		
2026/27	Follow up 7	TBA		
2027/28	Follow up 8	TBA		
2029/30	Follow up 9	TBA		
2031/32	Follow up 10	TBA		
2032/33	Follow up 11	TBA		
2033/34	Follow up 12	TBA		
2034/35	Follow up 13	TBA		
2034/35	Follow up 14	TBA		
2035/36	Follow up 15	TBA		

Table 43 Stony creek catchment vine weed management table



Map 50 Stony creek catchment overall map

Sub-catchment	Stony creek		
Catchment	Stanley river		
Catchment area	50 km2		**-**
Catchment length	Overall	11.5 km	**-**
	Private	8 km	**70%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	3.4 km	**30%**
Catchment Area	Overall	50 km2	**-**
	Private	24.8 km2	**49%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	26.2 km2	**51%**
Local Government	SCRC	-	**-**
	MBRC	50 km2	**-**
Tenure length	Private	8 km	**70%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State Forest	-	**-**
	National Park	3.4 km	**30%**
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Of concern RE	12.3.7, 12.11.14,12.3.8,12.3.11	748 ha	**15%**
	12.12.1,12.12.12,		
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	8.5	**74%**
	Moderate	2 km	**17%**
	Poor	1 km	**9%**
Catchment vegetation cover	38 km2		**76%**
Land use	Grazing, horticulture	12 km2	**24%**
	Native vegetation	38 km2	**76%**
	Protected	26.2 km2	**-**
	NR, VCA, Covenant	-	**-**
Total protected area	26.2 km2		**52%**
Total protected length	3.4 km		**30%**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	2017	
	Latest	2024	
Mapping distance from Stanley	2017	-	
	2025	-	
Mapping distance by road	200m	2024	
Mapping distance by air	1km	2024	

Table 44 Stony creek catchment summary table

Vine weeds located		Cats claw creeper	*Dolichandra unguis-cati*			
Cats claw creeper						
Cat claw area	2017		2 ha			
	2025		2 ha			
Cats claw polygons	2017		1			
	2025		2			
Cats claw points	2017		-			
	2025		-			
Cats claw length of stream	2017		-			
	2025		-			
Cats claw records 2025			-			
Cats claw flowering vines 2025			-			
Distance from confluence with Stanley			11.3 km			
Madeira vine						
Madeira vine area	2016		-			
	2025		-			
Madeira polygons	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Madeira points	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Madeira length of stream	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Dutchman's pipe area	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Dutchman's pipe polygons	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Dutchman's pipe points	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Dutchman's pipe length of stream	2013		--			
	2025		-			
Aerial Yam area	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Aerial Yam polygons	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Aerial Yam points	2013		-			
	2025		-			
Aerial Yam length of stream	2013		-			
	2025		-			

Table 45 Stony creek catchment vine weed management table

Scrubby creek

Catchment description

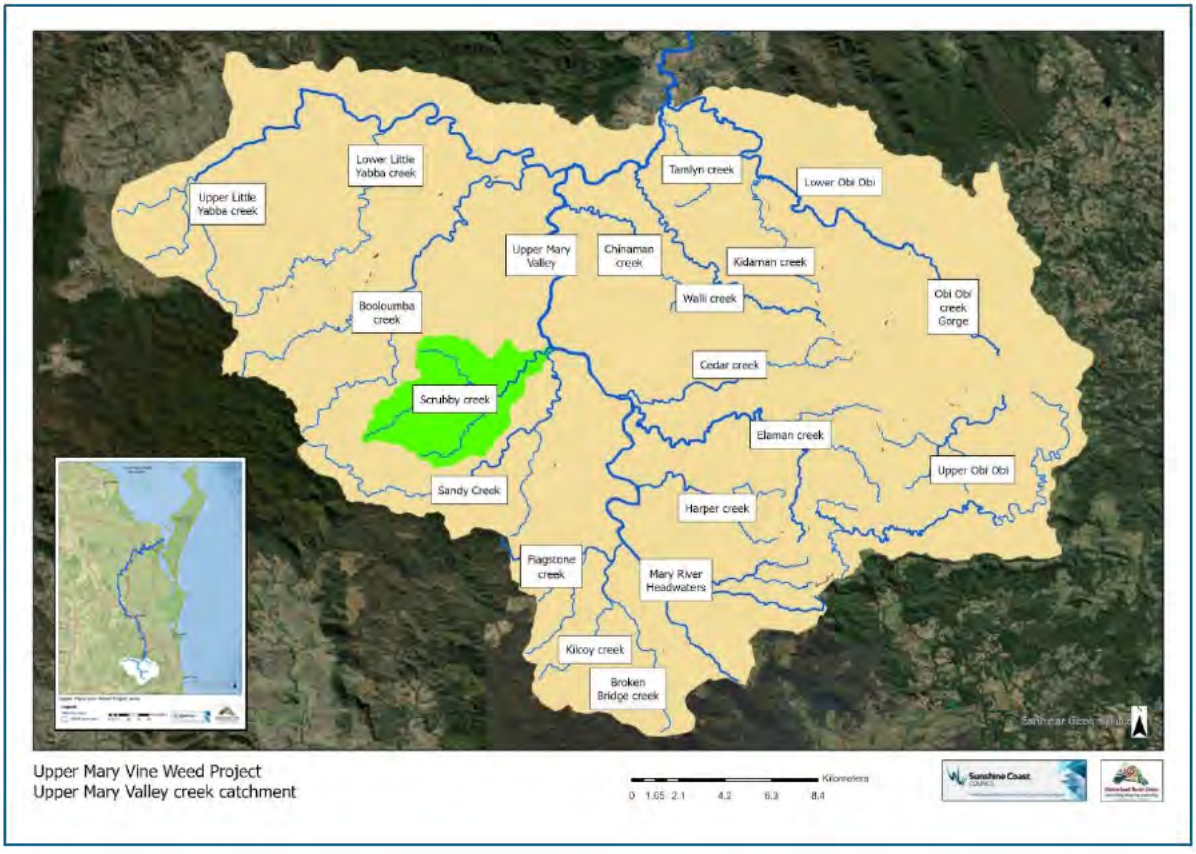
A broad headwater begins in Conondale National Park. Scrubby creek catchment is 50% protected in the National Park with high levels of vegetation cover and riparian vegetation. There are no records of vine weeds within the catchment and there is unlikely to be infestations in the headwaters. Contains 18 ha of endangered RE and 350 ha Of Concern RE.

Mapping

No mapping has been done on Scrubby creek, and it has not been part of any known aerial surveys.

Catchment management

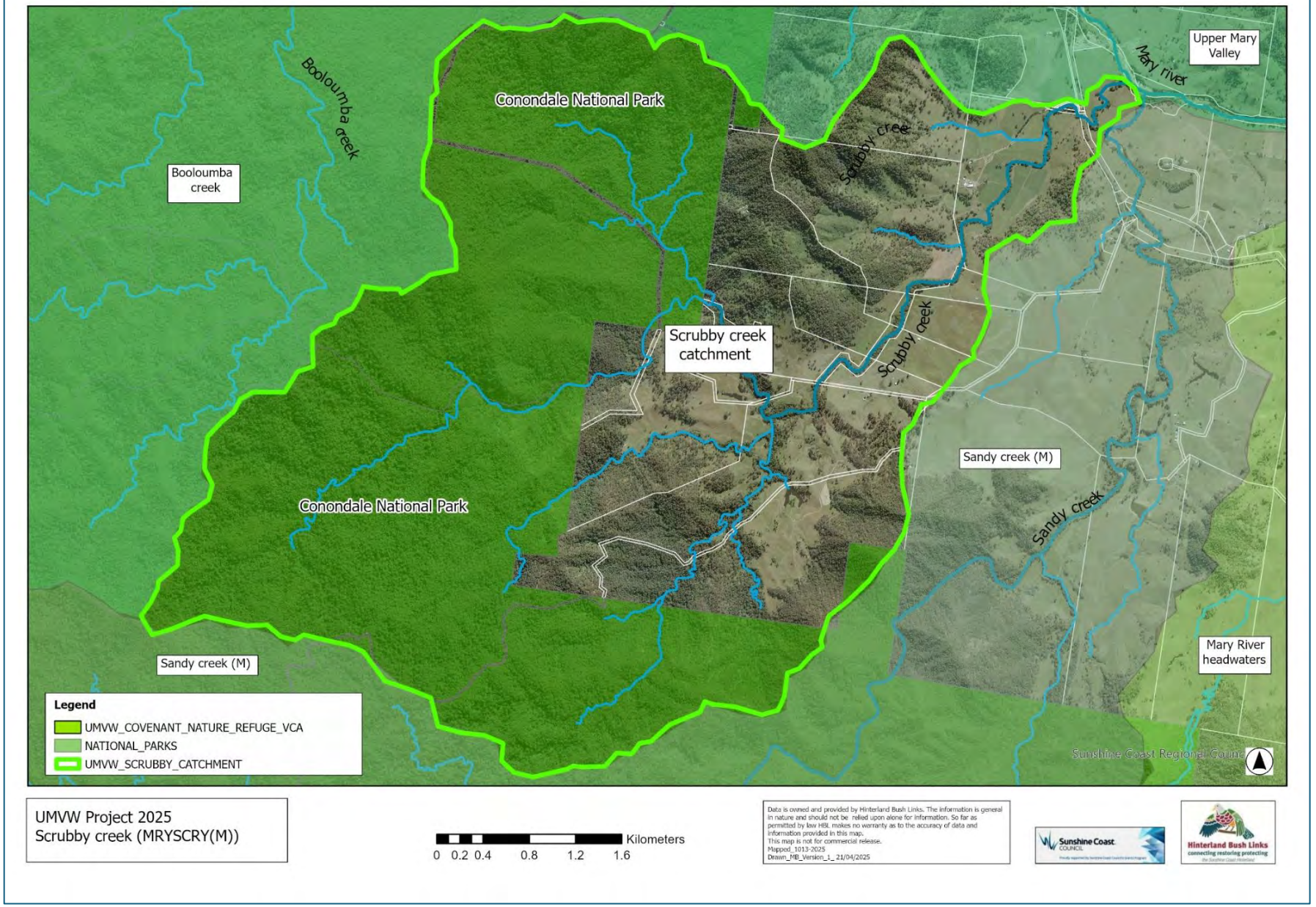
Monitor lower reaches by road. Include in aerial surveys at least every five years. Potentially engage with landholder/s in the lower reaches to monitor vine weeds potentially spreading from upstream.



Map 51 Scrubby creek catchment location map

Sub-catchment	Scubby creek		
Catchment	Mary River		
Catchment area	km2		
Catchment length	Overall	12 km	
	Private	6 km	**50%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	6 km	**50%**
Catchment Area	Overall	25 km2	
	Private	10.3 km2	**41%**
	Council	-	**-**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	14.7 km2 Conondale NP	**59%**
Local Government	SCRC	25 km2	**-**
	MBRC	km2	**-**
Tenure length	Private	6 km	**50%**
	Council MBRC	-	**-**
	State Forest	-	**-**
	National Park	6 km2	**50%**
	Other	-	**-**
Endangered RE length creek	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.11.27	18 ha	**<1%**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	
Of concern RE area	12.3.2	350 ha	**14%**
Of concern RE length or creek	12.3.7, 12.3.2, 12.12.1, 12.3.11	8 km	**66%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	7 km	**59%**
	Moderate	3 km	**25%**
	Poor	2.1 km	**16%**
Catchment vegetation cover	20 km2		**80%**
Land use	Grazing, horticulture	5 km2	**20%**
	Native vegetation	km2	**80%**
	Protected	15 km2	**50%**
	NR, VCA, Covenant	-	**-**
Total protected area		15 km2	**60%**
Total protected length		6 km	**50%**
Mapping			
Mapping	Initial	No mapping	
	Latest	No mapping	
Mapping distance from Mary	2017	No mapping	
	2025	No mapping	
Mapping distance by road	-	No mapping	
Mapping distance by air	-		
Vine Weeds located	No records of target vine weeds in catchment		

Table 47 Scrubby creek catchment summary table



Map 52 Scrubby creek catchment overall map

Sandy creek

Catchment description

A high value catchment, Sandy creek is 70% protected (Conondale National Park) and has an overall high vegetation cover and excellent riparian vegetation. No vine weeds known.

Mapping

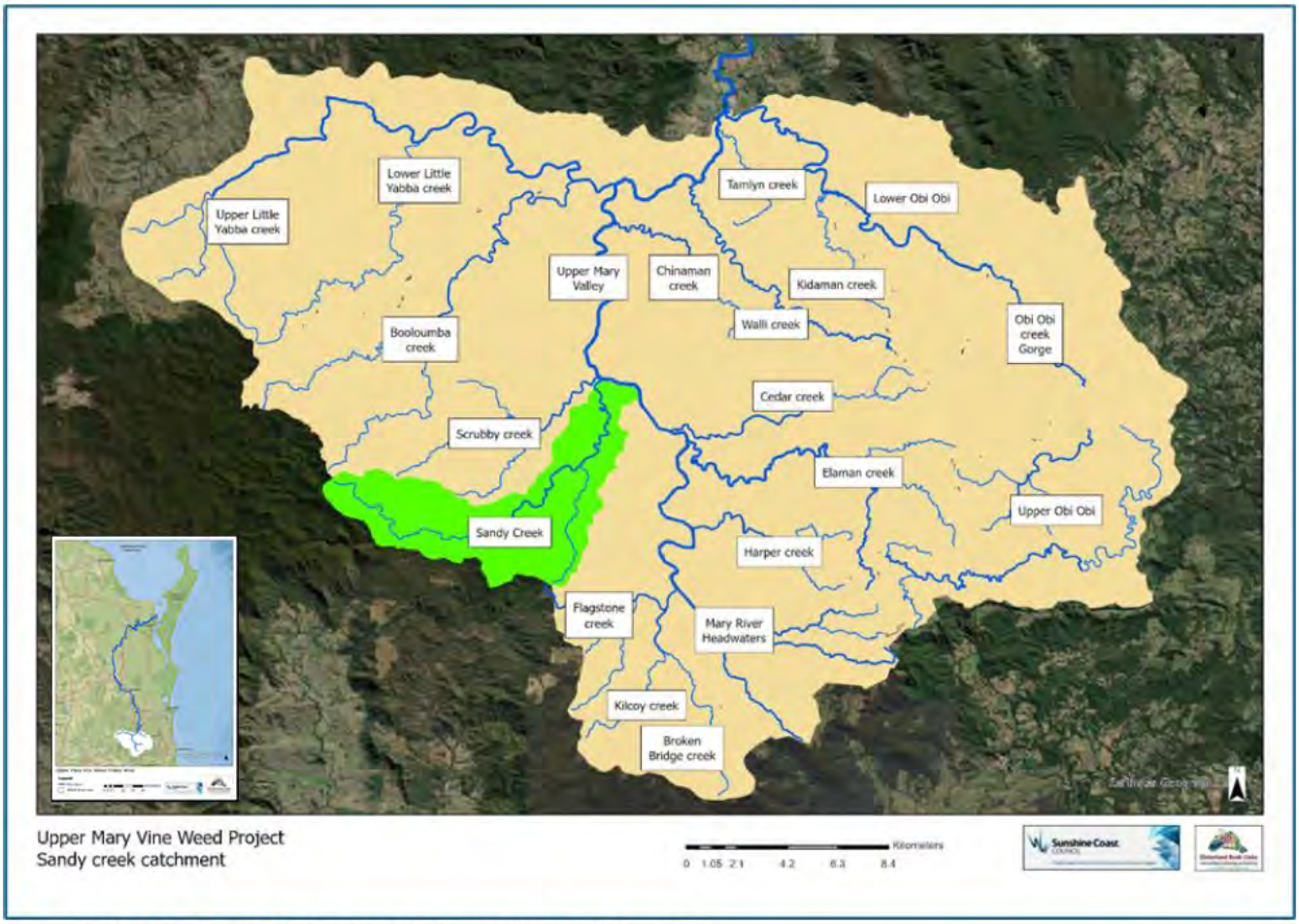
Not mapped

Vine weed management

No known vine weeds

Management priorities

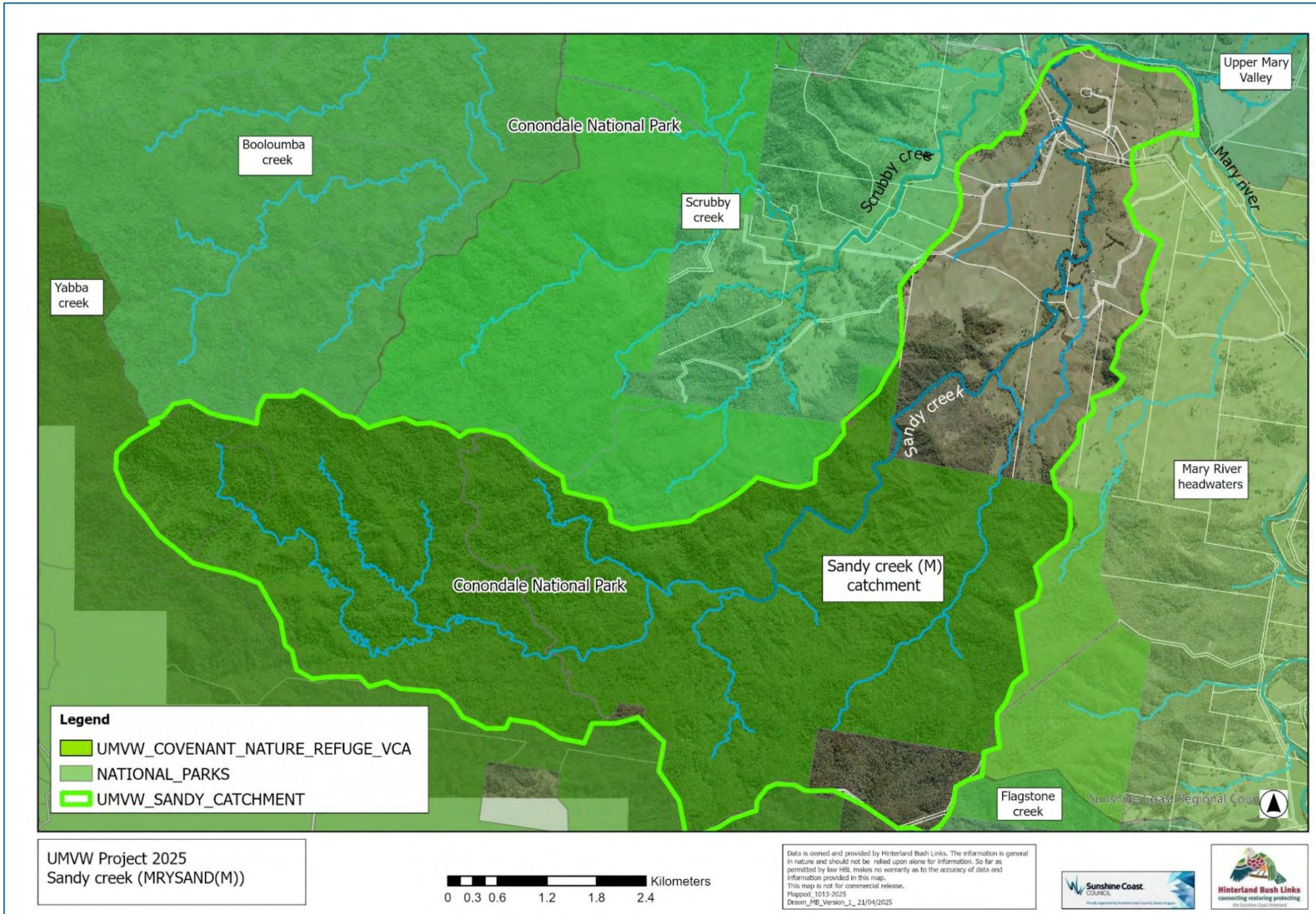
Monitor where possible



Map 53 Sandy creek catchment location map

Sub-catchment	Sandy creek		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	38 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	18 km	-
	Private	6.5 km	36%
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	11.3 km	64%
Catchment Area	Overall	38 km2	-
	Private	11.5	30%
	State forest	-	-
	National Park	26.6 km2	70%
Local Government	SCRC	38 km2	-
	Sommerset	-	-
Tenure length	Private	6.5km	36%
	State Forest	-	
	National Park	11.3 km	64%
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	-	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	-	-
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	-
Of concern RE	12.3.11, 12.12.12, 12.8.8, 12.12.1, 12.12.14, 12.3.8, 12.3.7	470 ha	12%
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	13 km	72%
	Moderate	4 km	22%
	Poor	1 km	6%
Catchment vegetation cover	30 km2	-	80%
Land use	Grazing	9.5 km2	25%
	Conservation	26.9 km2	71%
Mapping	Initial	-	-
	Latest	-	-
Mapping distance from Mary	2013	-	-
	2025	-	-

Table 47 Sandy creek catchment summary table



Map 54 Sandy creek catchment overall map

Flagstone creek

Catchment description

Usually considered as part of Kilcoy Creek sub catchment. High rate of vegetation cover, protection and riparian vegetation. Only one private landholder (Kennedy dairy) and QPWS. Unlikely vine weed sources in upper catchment.

Mapping

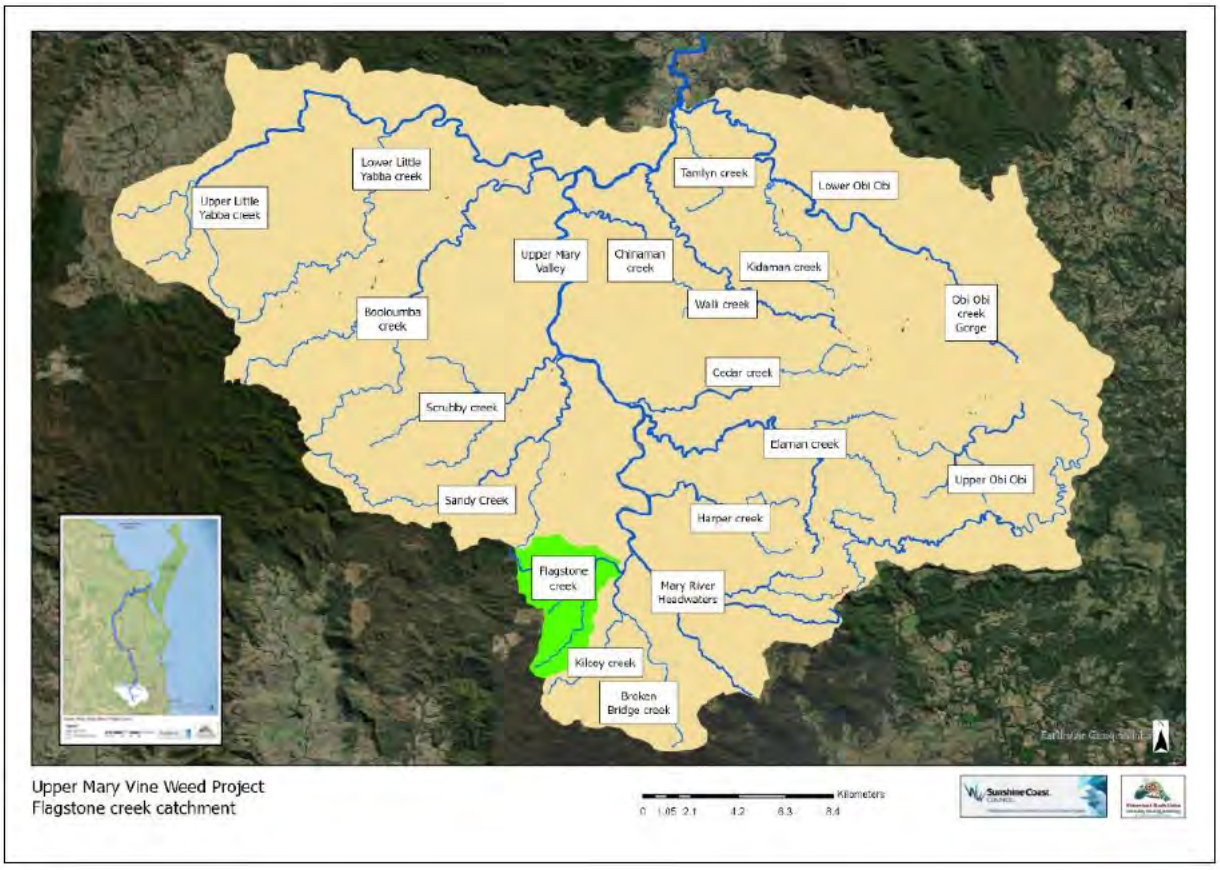
No mapping activities. Add to aerial every 5 years

Vine weed management

No vine weeds recorded

Management priorities

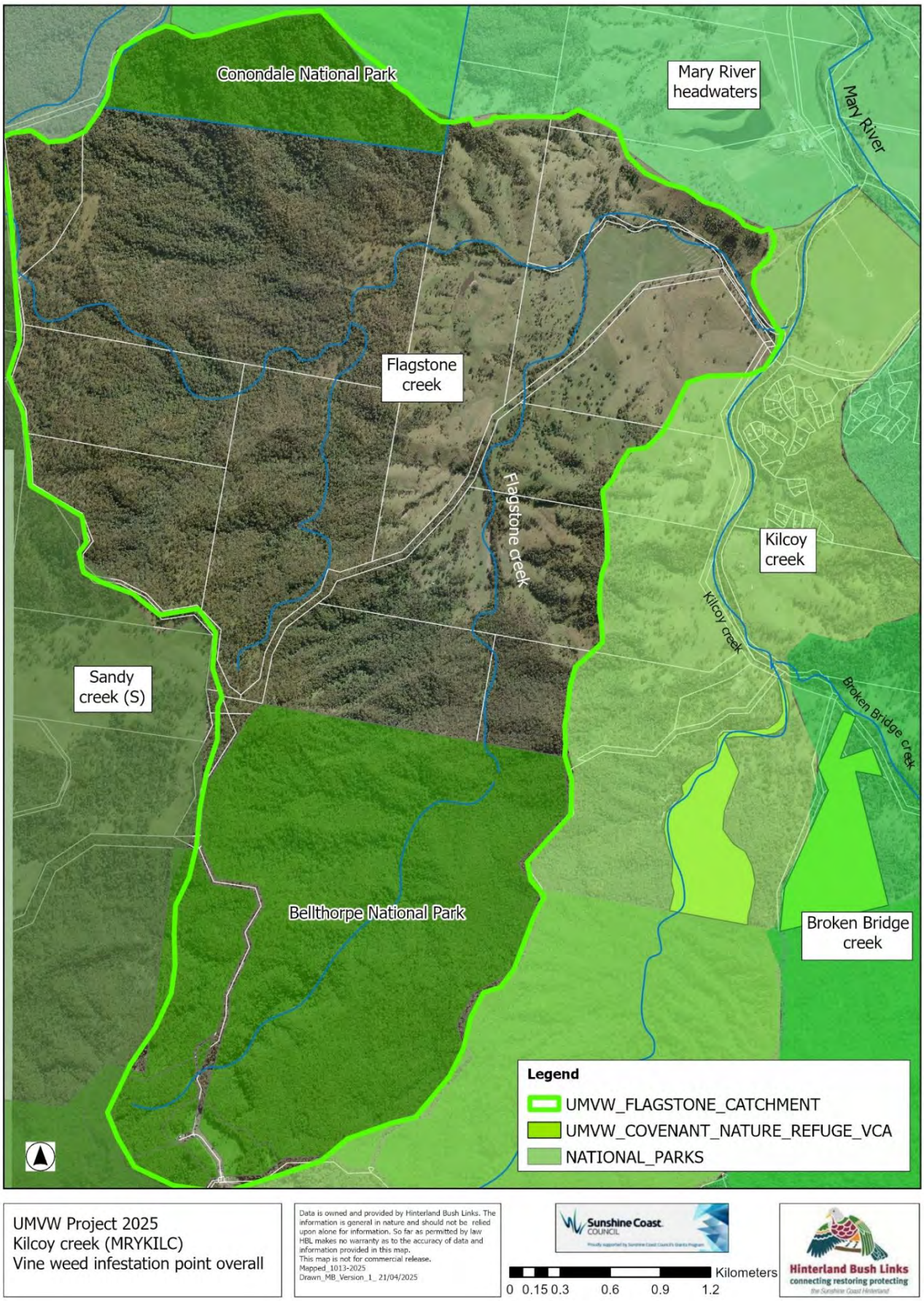
Monitor



Map 55 Flagstone creek catchment location map

Sub-catchment	Flagstone		
Catchment	Mary river		
Catchment area	15 km2		
Catchment length	Overall	7.5 km	
	Private	4.5	**60%**
	State forest	-	**-**
	National Park	3 km	**40%**
Catchment Area	Overall	15 km2	**-**
	Private	10 km2	**67%**
	National Park Con	1 km2	**7%**
	National Park Bell	4 km2	**26%**
Local Government	SCRC	15 km2	**-**
	Sommerset	-	**-**
Tenure length	Private	4.5	**55%**
	State Forest	-	**-**
	National Park	3	**45%**
Endangered RE length	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Endangered RE area	12.3.1	-	**-**
	12.3.1/12.3.11	-	**-**
Of concern RE	12.3.7., 12.12.1, 12.3.8, 12.8.8	171 ha	**11.4%**
Riparian vegetation	Excellent	5 km	**67%**
	Moderate	2.5 km	**33%**
	Poor	-	**-**
Catchment vegetation cover	12 km2		**80%**
Land use	Grazing	2.5km2	**16%**
	Conservation	5 km2	**33%**
	Native vegetation	7.5 km2	**50%**
Total protected area			**33%**
Total protected length			**40%**
Mapping	Initial	-	**-**
	Latest	-	**-**

Table 48 Flagstone creek overall summary table



Map 56 Flagstone creek catchment overall map