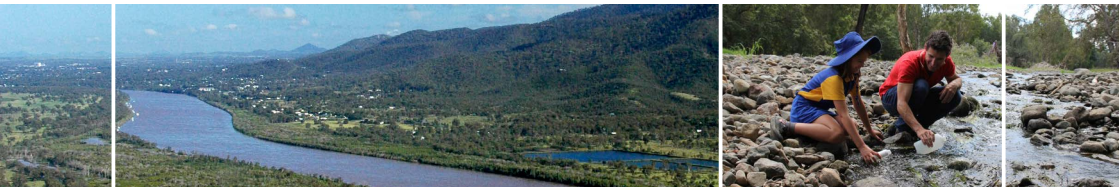


Fitzroy Basin Report Card ©

2012-13



Third report card paints a broader picture

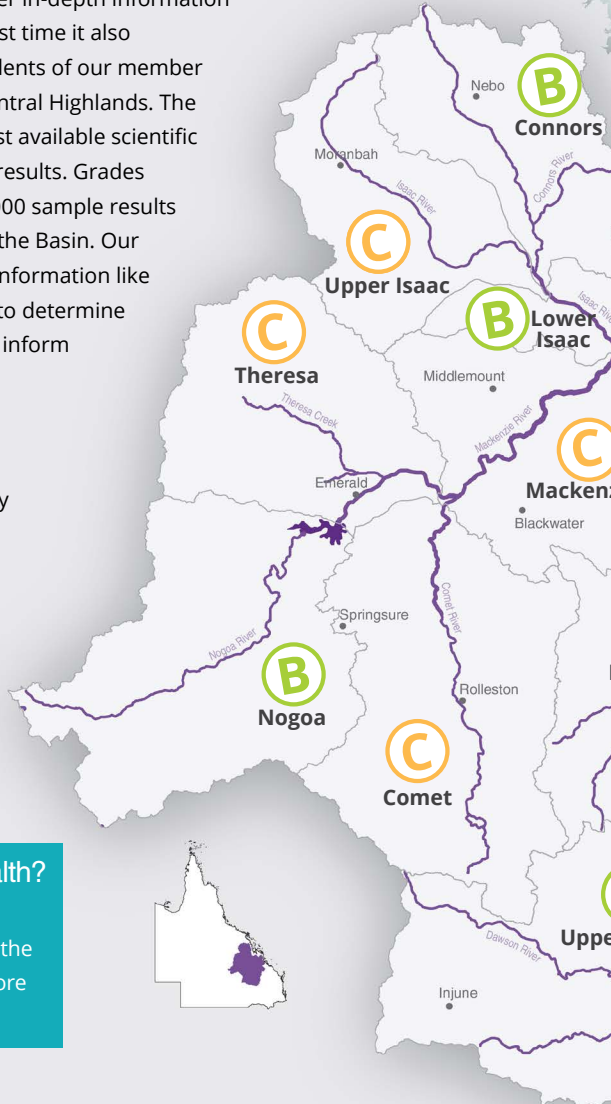
Our third report card continues to deliver in-depth information on aquatic ecosystem health. For the first time it also provides drinking water grades for residents of our member regional councils, Rockhampton and Central Highlands. The independent Science Panel used the best available scientific information to review and endorse the results. Grades have been drawn from more than 770,000 sample results collected at more than 220 sites across the Basin. Our reports now start to provide trends on information like rainfall, groundcover and groundwater to determine natural and human influences and help inform management decisions.

Reports will be up-to-date

Delivering timely and accurate waterway health information is a target the Partnership has firmly in their sight. By releasing two report cards in 2014, future reports will be publicly available within one year after the last sample is taken. This will ensure information is current and meets the needs of our community.

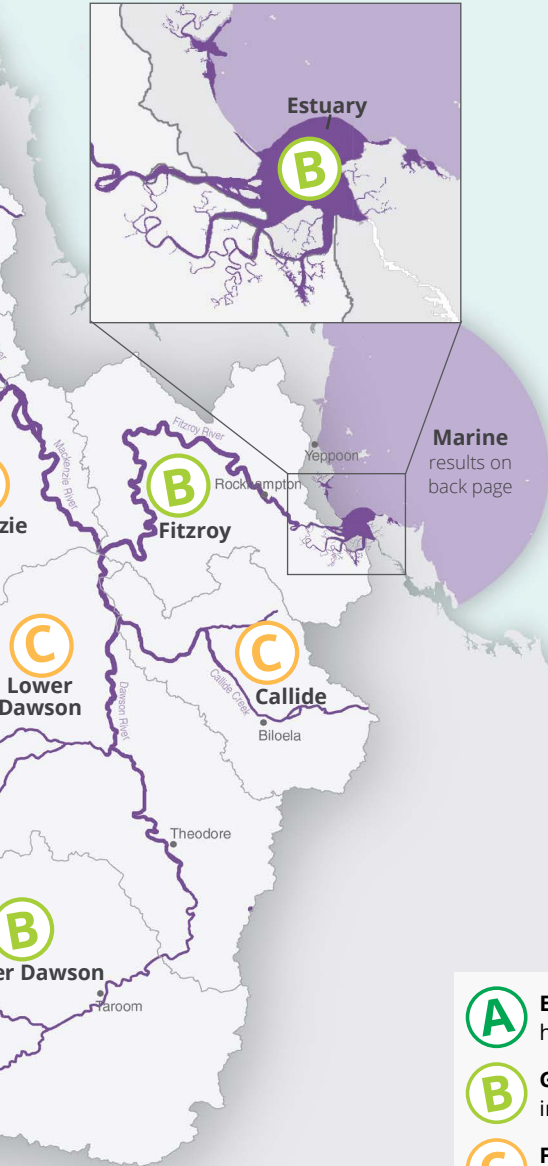
What do we mean by waterway health?

We've assessed water quality, biological and ecological health information for all rivers in the Fitzroy Basin, the estuary, as well as near-shore coastal and marine waters.



“The Partnership brings together a unique combination of key stakeholders who bring industry, agriculture, environment and community in the Fitzroy Basin and provide professional advice on the state of river health as we know it.”

Ian Gordon – Co-Chair and Queensland Government Regional Manager Water Services



The results:

The overall grade for Aquatic Ecosystem health for the Fitzroy Basin for this period was a C.

It was a tale of two extremes for the Basin, with western catchments experiencing drought conditions while the coastal catchments were drenched by ex-tropical cyclone Oswald. On its journey south from Cooktown to Sydney, it slowed west of Rockhampton and delivered more than a metre of rain in places over two days. Mount Morgan was not spared and resulted in an abandoned gold mine pit overflowing and spilling poorer quality water into the Dee River. This contributed to the Callide being ranked as the worst performing freshwater catchment for three years running.

o are contributing to
ides independent and



Excellent. All water quality and biological health indicators meet desired levels.



Good. Most water quality and biological health indicators meet desired levels.



Fair. There is a mix of good and poor levels of water quality and biological health indicators.



Poor. Some or few water quality and biological health indicators meet desired levels.

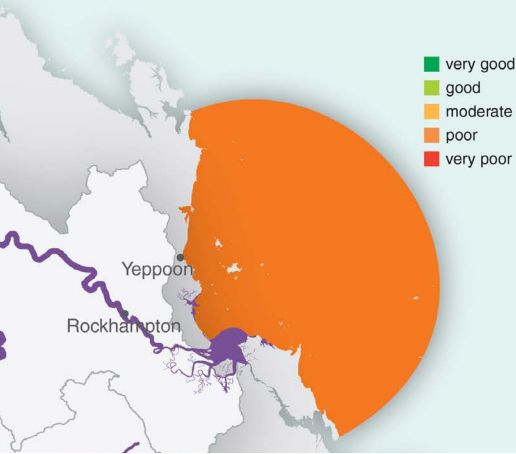


Fail. Very few or no water quality and biological health indicators meet desired levels.

Marine results

For the third year in a row the marine zone was found to be in poor condition with further declines across all categories.

Ex-tropical cyclone Oswald is likely to have further stressed marine ecosystems already struggling to recover from the 2011 floods.



Visit the website for more information:
www.riverhealth.org.au



Drinking Water Results

Treated water provided for human use in Rockhampton and Central Highlands Regional Council areas in 2012-13 was excellent, resulting in A grades being awarded for all townships.



Major partners



Partners



Associate partners

