

WTL-CUC 1: Systems Repair in Lower Cattana Sub-basin (Avondale, Yorkeys, JCU Creeks)

Conduct a whole of system approach to waterway health in the Cattana sub-basin, to improve connectivity, water quality and aquatic habitats in this important coastal environment.

This strategy delivers on these Regional Themes	Biodiversity	Biosecurity	Coastal Systems	Sustainable Industries	Water
	✓		✓	✓	✓
This strategy delivers on these Strategic Outcomes	Supportive, policies, plans and regulations	Collaborative, adaptive planning and action	Traditional Owner Benefits	Sustained and diverse resourcing	Community stewardship, values and action
		✓	✓		✓
Outcome	<p>An overall systems repair project in the lower Cattana sub-basin will provide the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improve riparian connectivity throughout the basin. ▪ Reduce discharge of nutrients from the system into Cattana wetlands and tidal estuaries and creeks. ▪ Improve aquatic environments within the system. 				
Justification	<p>A relatively short distance of revegetation and restoration along Avondale, Yorkeys and JCU creeks would create riparian connectivity from protected areas on Macalister Range to vegetated coastal wetlands (Cattana). There has already been significant investment of time and money into restoration activities at Cattana Wetlands. The area is heavily urbanised, with potential for future development, including construction of the Smithfield Bypass. Good planning, through projects such as this, will be important to minimise impacts of major infrastructure developments in the area, or even provide opportunities for improvements within the system.</p>				
Key steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Work with landowners and stakeholders to develop an action plan, including water treatment options, ASS (acid sulfate soils) management and planting riparian corridors, integrating with development of Smithfield Bypass. 2) Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) for urban development. 				
Feasibility considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strong local community landcare groups and Aboriginal ranger group with good capacities and relationships with landholders. ✓ Construction of Smithfield Bypass through this area may offer opportunities to improve systems. ✓ There has been existing investment and work undertaken at Cattana Wetlands, which can be built on. ✗ Detailed management planning will be required to determine feasibility. 				