

## WTL-TC 4: Targeted Community Engagement to Identify Priority Actions – Banyan

Conduct a detailed Walking the Landscape process with a targeted community engagement program to identify and prioritise water quality and catchment health activities in the Banyan area.

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>Effectively engaging with the community to identify and implement priority actions to improve water quality will result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collective agreement on the best approaches to improving water quality and catchment health in this area.</li> <li>Strong community support and stewardship for the project and its outcomes.</li> <li>Improvements to water quality in freshwater streams, as well as further downstream and into the Great Barrier Reef.</li> </ul>				
Justification	<p>This area has a high proportion of rural residential properties and mixed land uses. The social dynamics make it critical to work collaboratively and engage with a broad range of landholders, involving them in identifying potential issues as well as developing effective solutions. There are opportunities for significant improvements to water quality, if a large number of landholders can be engaged and develop ownership of the process.</p>				
Key steps	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a delivery mechanism relevant to the area and issue, which maximises landholder and community involvement and fosters long term stewardship.</li> <li>Conduct extensive community engagement activities to build local ownership and involvement in the process, including working with local schools and existing groups.</li> <li>Deliver a detailed WTL process, in collaboration with the local community, for prioritisation and engagement.</li> <li>Deliver programs for identified priorities, which could include practice change, establishing demonstration sites and riparian restoration.</li> <li>Implement on ground actions and monitor environmental and capacity building outcomes.</li> </ol>				
Feasibility considerations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ There are opportunities to work with existing groups eg. East Feluga Shed Group.</li> <li>✓ There may be good opportunities arising from engaging landholders in the rural residential areas, including identifying approaches and techniques which work well for small land holdings and can be transferred to other areas.</li> <li>✓ There are good water quality monitoring sites, as the catchment comes into a narrow neck before the Tully River.</li> <li>✗ There are many small rural residential farms in this area, which is challenging for landholder engagement.</li> <li>✗ There is very little riparian vegetation remaining.</li> <li>✗ The headwaters are high energy and fast flowing, with fine sediment contributions from the metamorphics.</li> </ul>				