



## Eligible Areas

River Health Grants are available to rural landowners throughout the Shire. A high priority is given to protecting the drinking water catchment, including all streams and tributaries of the Oxley River and Tweed River above the Bray Park Weir.

Landowners with stream frontage contributing to Cobaki and Terranora Broadwaters (Bilambil, Durobby, Piggabeen and Cobaki Creeks) and Tweed Coastal Creeks (Mooball, Burringbar, Cudgen and Cudgera Creeks) are eligible for funding.

No stream is too small to be considered under the program and there is no requirement for permanent flow. However, generally a minimum bank length of 100 meters will be considered for funding. Land should be zoned rural under the Council planning scheme.

Council may provide River Health Grants to incorporated Landcare or other community groups, where there is a clear benefit to the waterway or locality in having a community based approach to waterway rehabilitation.

## Selection Process

Projects will be supported based on the potential improvement they can make to the health of the subject waterway and water quality. Project proposals



**Cat's Claw Creeper – an aggressive weed that can kill native trees on river banks.**

that achieve multiple aims, for example improving water quality and enhancing wildlife habitat, will be prioritised.

The River Health Grants program is entirely voluntary, and a land owner commitment to project outcomes by way of financial or in-kind assistance is required.

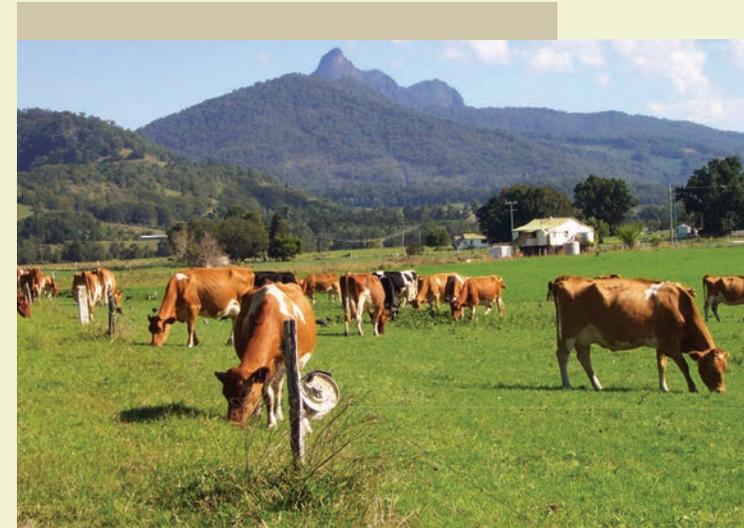
## Interested?

If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Council as detailed below. The first step in the process will be an inspection of your stream bank and a discussion of works that are possible and acceptable to both parties.

### Contact details:

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# Tweed Shire Council River Health Grants



**Support for rural land owners**

# Tweed Shire Council

## River Health Grants

Council takes an active role in protecting the health of the freshwater and estuarine reaches of the Tweed River, its tributaries and the Tweed Coastal Creeks. To help achieve this, Council assists rural landowners to improve the environmental condition of their creek and river banks.

Tweed Shire Council provides drinking water to over 70,000 residents. All of this water is sourced directly from the Tweed River and its catchment. It is vital for the health and prosperity of our community that our water source be protected.

Waterway health is directly related to the condition of banks and adjacent land. Landowners who take an active role in protecting the health of our waterways supply a vital service to the community and should be supported to do this.



### Scheme Objectives

The aim of Council's River Health Grants program is to improve and protect water quality and aquatic ecosystem health in the shires natural waterways. To achieve this, the scheme will supply funding to rural land holders to target the typical problems found on our river banks, including erosion and weed infestation. To improve the hygiene of our water supplies a priority activity will be to supply fencing materials and drinking troughs for stock throughout the catchment.

In almost all situations healthy river banks are associated with healthy native vegetation. Where practical, revegetation of bare river banks will be encouraged for water quality benefit, erosion management and the important role stream bank vegetation plays in protecting wildlife.

### Eligible Activities

Subject to agreement and design, funding can be provided for:

- Fencing, permanent or electric
- Stock drinking troughs
- Stabilising stock stream access or crossing points
- Erosion stabilisation
- Weed control and maintenance of site
- Revegetation

