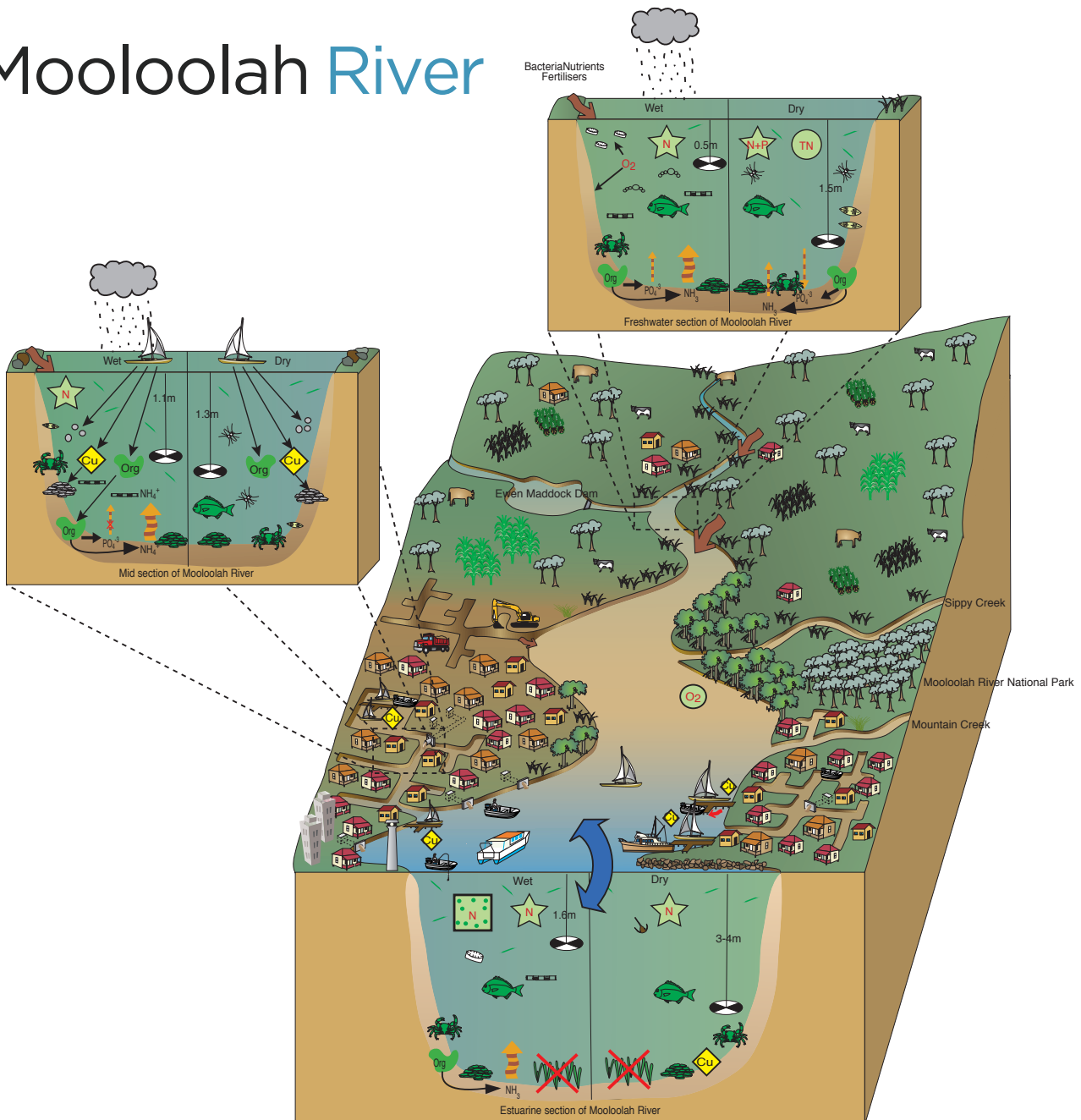


# Mooloolah River



The Mooloolah river catchment is less developed than the Maroochy catchment, with less agriculture, housing and industry and a higher percentage of native vegetation cover. For all these reasons, the water is clean and clear as it flows down through the catchment towards the river mouth. The estuarine section of the Mooloolah River has been radically changed by development. Concrete walls, jetties, abutments and piers line the lower reaches of the riverbanks

meaning that the natural vegetation has been lost. Although the piers may provide some alternative habitat for fish and other life, the canal developments have created an extensive, convoluted system of channels, which prohibits effective flushing by the tide. While the Mooloolah River does not carry the same sediment load as the Maroochy River, the flushing mechanism is less effective in the estuary, especially in canals.