

Mooloolah Catchment

Mooloolah River

Looking west from the Mooloolah River mouth with Mooloolah Beach (right, foreground) and Buddina (left, foreground)



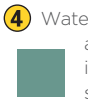
1 Catchment land-use is dominated by natural forest, grazing and agriculture (upper reaches) and urban (lower reaches)



2 Riparian vegetation in upper reaches in good condition; hardened surfaces have replaced most riparian and aquatic vegetation in lower sections



3 Creation of canals has led to substantial channel modification



4 Water looks clean and clear in most sections



5 Ship pollution is a growing water quality issue

The Mooloolah River system drains a relatively small catchment with an area of 194 km² that extends 25km inland from the coast. 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. The Mooloolah catchment waterways are considered to be in good health based on the following indicators:

- The riparian vegetation in the upper reaches of the catchment is largely in good condition.
- There is no impact from sewage in the lower estuary.
- The water looks clear in most sections of the estuary.