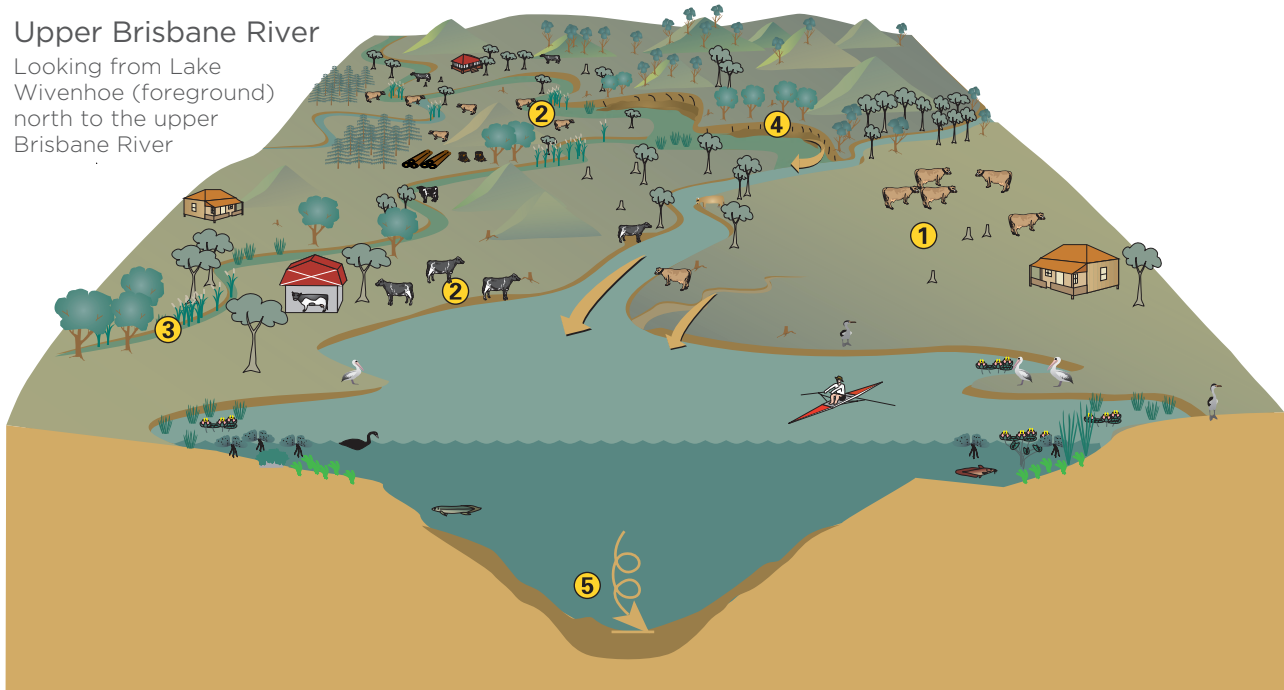


Upper Brisbane River

Upper Brisbane River

Looking from Lake Wivenhoe (foreground) north to the upper Brisbane River



1 Catchment land-use dominated by grazing and natural forest (in upper sections)

2 Uncontrolled cattle access to the dam, river and its tributaries

3 Riparian condition generally poor – streams are often choked with weeds

4 Exposed hillslopes and channels are easily eroded

5 Most sediment is deposited in Lake Wivenhoe

The total area of the Upper Brisbane Catchment is 5,438 km² with a catchment population of 5,480. The total length of streams in the catchment is 3,817 km. The major land uses include, grazing, natural forest, plantations agriculture, and water storage. The Upper Brisbane catchment is considered to be in poor health:

- Vast areas of the catchment have been cleared and are prone to erosion, gullies in particular.
- Streams are often choked with aquatic macrophytes and filamentous algae, and water quality is poor.
- Exotic species of fish are widespread.
- Creek banks are often degraded with little riparian vegetation and the water is murky with suspended sediment.