# *NURTURING PETERSON CREEK*

## YUNGABURRA LANDCARE GROUP STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2030

The purpose of this plan is to outline goals and activities of the Yungaburra Landcare Group (YLG) aimed at nurturing

the values and addressing the management challenges of Peterson Creek, which has been the focus of YLG's efforts since 1998.

September 2025

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# A Special Place

Peterson Creek is a very special place.

Dulgubarra Yidinji people have always known Peterson Creek as Country, where language, culture and kinship with nature continue to be passed down the generations and shared with visitors.

Peterson Creek and adjacent strips of forest provide a refuge for flora and fauna – including platypuses, water dragons, tree kangaroos, possums, chattering flying foxes and 50+ species of birds.

Peterson Creek is also a life-giving source of water for people, horticulture and livestock.

Three decades ago, Landcare volunteers recognised the significance of this place and began revegetating the creek banks, reestablishing Mabi rainforest of which only small remnants remain in the region. Ongoing Friday morning planting, weeding and maintenance continue to make it a place of hard work, joy, pride and community.

Locals and travellers from far and wide seek out this place to recharge in nature, enjoy a shady walk and glimpse platypuses and other wildlife. This popularity and other pressures, such as weeds and water quality, create the challenging task of balancing the competing needs of conservation and people.

This plan is about the future of Peterson Creek - a place to nurture.

# 1 PETERSON CREEK

Peterson Creek is a 9 km long waterway on the Atherton Tablelands of North Queensland, arising near Lake Eacham and flowing into Lake Tinaroo.

The Creek initially runs west and traverses a stretch of agricultural land, used for avocado plantations and cattle grazing, before running north along the edge of Curtain Fig National Park and the western edge of Yungaburra township (elevation around 730 m), and then on towards Lake Tinaroo (Figure 1).

The riparian zone between Lake Eacham National Park and Curtain Fig National Park was the focus of tree planting by Trees for the Evelyn and Atherton Tablelands (TREAT https://www.treat.net.au) over several years starting around 1988.

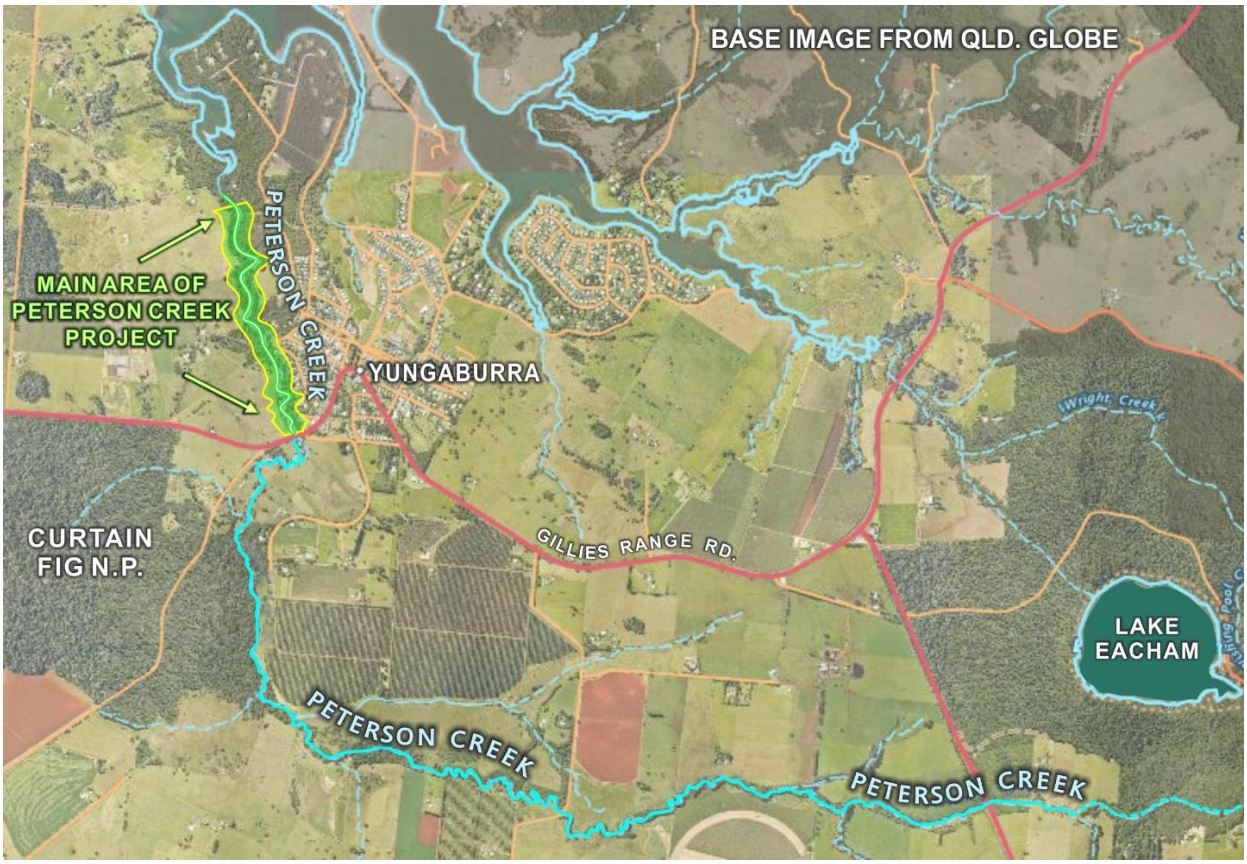
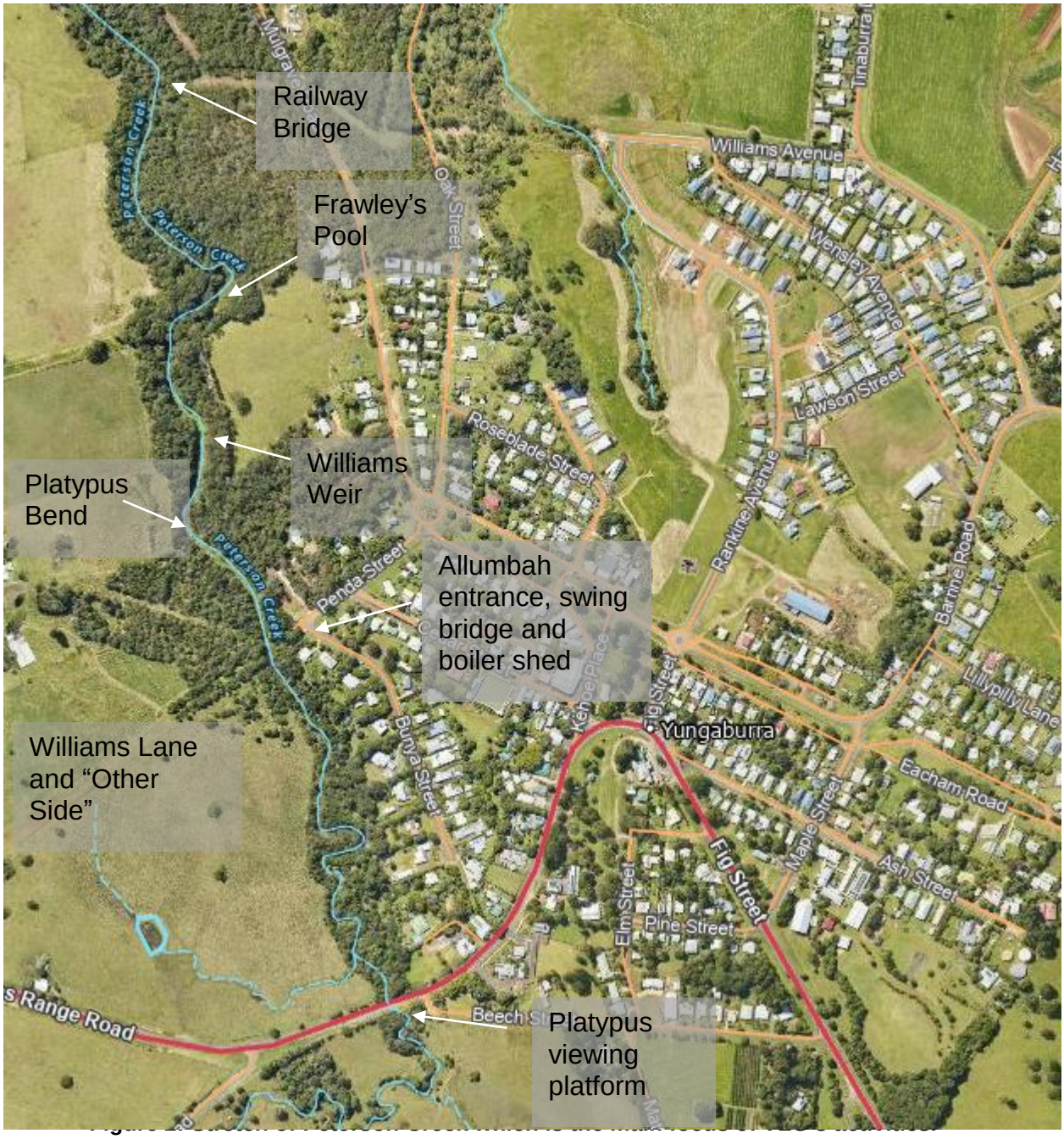



**Figure 1. Satellite photo of Peterson Creek between Lake Eacham National Park and Tinaroo Dam.**

The focus of this Plan is the 2 km stretch of the creek and its riparian environments adjacent to Yungaburra – from the Gillies Highway to a disused railway bridge near where the creek enters Tinaroo Dam (Figure 2).

Our approach to planning is consistent with the Queensland Government's recommended Whole-of-System, Values-based Framework[1] for wetlands, so that this plan can contribute to a whole-of-catchment Peterson Creek Catchment Action Plan.

[1] Whole-of-System, Values-Based Framework




For most of its length, Peterson Creek runs through a region of rich soils of basaltic origin, although alluvial soils are common close to the creek. Near Yungaburra the creek is bounded on its western side by basaltic rock with many boulders and on its eastern side by metamorphic substrates.

Pre-European vegetation was primarily wet rainforest with patches ("pockets") of more open woodland, especially towards lower Peterson Creek. A particular feature was Mabi forest, a type of rainforest now reduced to around 2% of its pre-European extent. Remnants of this forest type exist in some small patches close to Yungaburra, including Curtain Fig National Park.

**Cultural and historical significance**

Traditional Owners of the region are the Dulgubarra Yidinji and Ngadjon (or Ngadjon-Jii) peoples, who have a continuing presence in the area and who have collaborated in the development of this Plan. The name *mabi,* used for the forest type, is an Aboriginal language name for Lumholz's tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus lumholtzi*) from elsewhere in the Wet Tropics. The Dulgubarra Yidinji name for Lumholz's tree kangaroo is *mapi.*

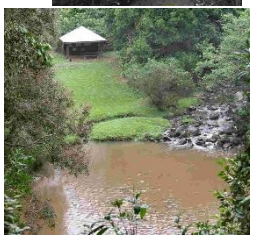
The creek and its animals, plants, water and surrounding environment are all components of Dulgubarra Yidinji and Ngadjon Country, and therefore have inherent cultural significance – especially because so much of the rest of their Country has been highly modified since European settlement. Working with Dulgubarra Yidinji elder Laurie Padmore, we have installed signs along the walking track providing the language names of some tree species. The signs also include common names, and scientific names, as well QR codes to access recordings of each Dulgubarra Yidinji language name.


The Creek also has historic significance as a water supply since the establishment of Yungaburra in the 1890, and some of the vintage pumping technology can still be seen along the creek walk.

The boiler from a coal-fired pump supplied water to Yungaburra Railway Station (opened in 1910) has been recovered and is located just upstream on the Suspension Bridge on the Allumbah Pocket side of the Creek.

Williams Weir was bult in 1935 to provide a reservoir for water that was piped up to Yungaburra by a mechanical pump powered by a water-powered turbine installed just downstream of the weir. The turbine fell into disrepair and its remains were recovered from the creek in 2005. Today the creek flow powers a new water wheel that pumps water to a tank on Bluetop Hill used for irrigating our revegetation plantings.

Nearby is a recently installed refurbished Ram Pump that also brings water to the Bluetop Hill tank and supplies water to the plants on Denny Road South.



Frawley's Pool is named after a Yungaburra school teacher from the 1930s who used to bring his class here to swim on hot days.

The 30-metre suspension bridge was built in 2008 to avoid the need for visitors to hop across the creek on stepping stones. The bridge also provides a vantage point for platypus spotting. Construction of the bridge was funded by Yungaburra resident Lloyd Abel and is known locally as Lloyd's Bridge

The 78-metre Railway Bridge, completed in 1958 when the line between Yungaburra and Kairi was rerouted to allow for the Tinaroo Falls Dam, which submerged the old line. The bridge was only in use until 1964 when the line was closed due to increased use of road transport.

**Vertebrate Animals**

Peterson Creek is well known as a prime location for observing the platypus (*Ornithorhynchus anatinus*) and is attracting a growing number of local and international wildlife enthusiasts, many of whom are brought to Peterson Creek by commercial tourism operators.

Other mammals and reptiles known to occur in and around Peterson creek are shown below.

Red-legged Pademelon

Rakali (water rat) (*Hydromys*

Common Brushtail Possum

Green Ringtail Possum *Pseudochirops archeri*)

Spectacled Flying Foxes (*Pteropus conspicillatus*)

Northern Brown Bandicoot (*Isoodon macrourus*).

Saw-shell Turtle (*Myuchelys latisternum*)

Amethystine Python (*Simalia kinghorni*)

Eastern Water Dragons (*Intellagama lesueurii*)

Lace Monitor (*Varanu varius*)

The large colony of spectacled flying foxes is currently impacted by two significant health issues: paralysis ticks which kill adult bats, including female with young; and a high frequency of cleft-palate birth defects in newborn bats. The latter condition prevents newborn bats from suckling milk from their mothers and is probably caused by an unknown environmental toxin impacting the development of the embryo or foetus. The Peterson Creek colony appears to be particularly susceptible to this condition. The colony is regularly monitored by volunteers from the Tolga Bat Hospital (https://tolgabathospital.org/) where young bats are cared for until they are ready to be released back into the colony. During the 2024 breeding season, the Bat Hospital documented 76 cases of cleft palate at Peterson Creek and only two cases in the Tolga Scrub colony Spectacled Flying Fox colony[2].

A list of bird species recorded along Peterson Creek is provided in Appendix 2.

The combination of cultural values (Indigenous and non-Indigenous), biodiversity conservation values (native plants and animals), recreational values (bird-watching, platypus-watching, walking etc.) and accessibility close to Yungaburra, makes Peterson Creek a unique environment for nature appreciation and enjoyment on the Tablelands for the local community and visitors alike.

### Environmental Values

The Qld Department of Environment and Science identified the following environmental values specifically for Peterson Creek, as part of their 2020 policy statement on environmental values and water quality objectives for the Barron River Basin:

- Aquatic ecosystems
- Irrigation
- Farm supply
- Stock watering
- Human consumption
- Primary recreation (e.g. swimming)
- Secondary recreation (e.g. boating)
- Visual appreciation
- Cultural and Spiritual values

# 2 YUNGABURRA LANDCARE GROUP

## What is Landcare?

The Yungaburra land care Group (YLG) is a member of Landcare Australia which is a national not-for-profit organisation that was established 35 years ago to support the landcare community with funding, capacity-building, on-ground projects, information, networking and promotion of landcare achievements. Through this support, Landcare Australia achieves a diverse range of environmental and community outcomes, including:

- a sustainable approach to integrated land management
- environmental protection, enhancement and conservation of land, water, waterways and coasts

[2] https://tolgabathospital.org/tick-paralysis-cleft-palate/

- natural habitat restoration to enhance biodiversity
- building resilience in Australia's food and farming systems
- creating social cohesion and wellbeing in communities.

## Who we are and what we do?

YLG is a local group of volunteers repairing and caring for Peterson Creek and its environs. We focus on tree planting, environmental protection including weed removal, and conservation of land, waterways and natural habitat to enhance biodiversity. Our primary motivation and priorities are the rehabilitation and protection of the waterway, vegetation and biodiversity, consistent with Landcare Australia's national goals.

In recent years, in response to the growing number of visitors, we have also devoted time, effort and resources to track maintenance, interpretive signage and other visitor infrastructure.

We enjoy working together with like-minded people, to have fun, learn new skills, undertake projects, campaign to protect the environment and engage with the local community, visitors and partner agencies.

## Origins of YLG

Inspired by the activities of TREAT in the 1990s and early 2000s along Peterson Creek upstream of Curtain Fig National Park, one of YLG's founding members, David Leech, initiated a project to do similar restoration along the creek close to Yungaburra, where the riparian zone had been grossly neglected and in desperate need of care and attention. Some stretches of the creek were clogged with grasses and the banks were an almost impenetrable mass of lantana and other weeds, as well as introduced trees including camphor laurels and large-leaf privets. Concerns were held about the creek's water quality, especially as the town's reticulated water supply was drawn from Lake Tinaroo at the mouth of Peterson Creek.

The Eastern Tinaroo Catchment Landcare Group Inc (subsequently renamed the Yungaburra Landcare Group Inc.) received funding from the Federal Government's Natural Heritage Trust. Restoration work began in 1998, starting from the road bridge on the township's western entry and continuing downstream about 2km to link patches of remnant rainforest which were known to host a small population of tree kangaroos.


Figure 4: Initial revegetation work in 1998 and the same location in 2022

In consultation with TREAT, the Wet Tropics Management Authority, Bushcare and Natural Heritage Trust, the project was planned to be completed in stages within the capacity of the small workforce of volunteers.

Species selection was dictated by a range of soil types within the project boundaries, but the main emphasis has been on the threatened Mabi forest, also known as Complex Notophyll Vine Forest. Tree species were selected by the group's honorary advisor, former CSIRO botanist Geoff Tracey, with preference given to maintaining the Mabi rainforest theme wherever possible.

A selection of rainforest species we have planted is presented in the table below.

| Dulguburra Yidinji Name | Common Name | Scientific Name |
|---|---|---|
| Jaguul | Brown Silky Oak | *Darlingia darlingiana* |
| Nibal | Northern Olive | *Chiomanthis ramiflorus* |
| Janggaburru | Silver Ash | *Flindersia bourjotiana* |
| Murrada | Bonewood | *Emmenospwrma alphitionioides* |
| Murrgan | Blue Qandong | *Elaeocarpus grandis* |
| Jalanggan | Milky Pine | *Alstonia scholaris* |
| Julujulu | Atherton Penda | *Xanthostemon whitei* |
| Dalgal | Brown Pine | *Podocarpus grayae* |

Additional tree species planted along Peterson Creek are listed in Appendix 3

The underlying "skeleton" of the project was completed by 2006 and, in collaboration with local landholders, included a fence extending for 2.5km along the western side of the creek to keep cattle from the riparian zone to allow regrowth of forest fragments.

Despite setbacks brought about by frosts, floods and more drought, the project has been hailed as an outstanding success. An unexpected side effect has been growing public visitation along what began as rough access tracks, constructed to allow machinery and volunteers to reach the planting areas, which have since become well-worn walking trails for locals and visitors keen to see the creek's platypuses and other wildlife.

## Visitor Facilities

We have installed several shelters, benches and picnic tables for visitor use along the track, while seeking to minimise the impact on the natural amenity of the area.

## YLG Today

YLG members comprise of a workforce of approximately 20 volunteers, of whom around 8 to 10 participate in our two-hour on-ground and on-water activities every Friday morning. Our volunteers bring a wide variety of skills and expertise which are vital to the success of our projects, which in turn provide our volunteers with social contact and the satisfaction of achieving successful outcomes. The group is governed by a committee of members elected each year at our Annual General Meeting and is part of the National Landcare Network, which provides insurance coverage for our volunteers and activities.

Our activities are made possible through collaboration with many government and non-government partners (listed in Appendix 1) and funding is obtained through grants and donations, including via donation boxes and by scanning QR codes along the walking tracks. Additional partnerships are expected to develop during the implementation of this Plan.

Our management resources include an impressive collection of hand-operated and power tools and, as well as a large storage tank supplied with water from Peterson Creek.

Further information about YLG is available at www.petersoncreek.org.au

# 3 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Peterson Creek's management challenges and opportunities arise from its proximity to Yungaburra, private ownership of adjacent land along most of its length in a largely agricultural landscape, and enjoyment by a large and increasing number of visitors.

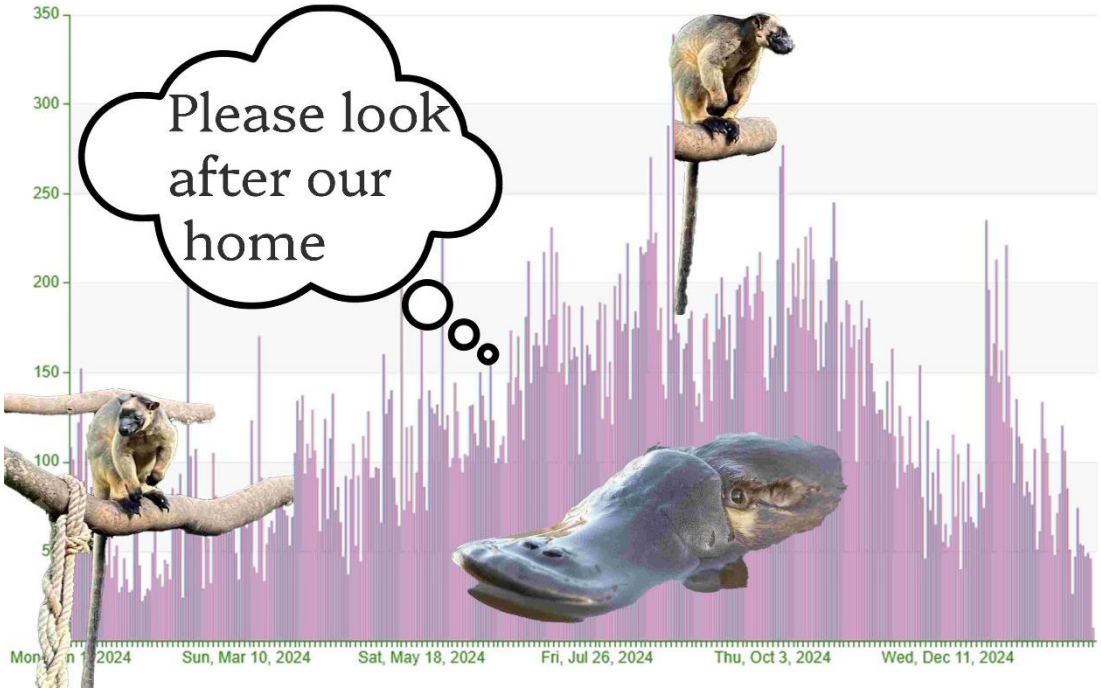
## **Visitors** – local, national & international

Early in the life of the project, tracks were established only for access to plantings. That these also provided for a pleasant walk along the creek was quickly noticed by locals, and subsequently by tourists and tour groups keen to spot a platypus. Prior to COVID lockdowns, most visitors started at the Platypus Viewing Platform, went under the highway bridge and walked north for a short distance on the western side of the creek.

The tree plantings there form a narrow strip along the creek on private land. When the COVID restrictions were lifted, large numbers of tourists were visiting that area, prompting the landowner to close access to all. As a result, tourists (including commercial group tours) started accessing the creek-side track at the Allumbah Pocket entrance at the bottom of Penda Street in Yungaburra. Numbers of visitors are now such that they cause damage to the riparian habitat at "Platypus Bend", with creek-side vegetation being trampled and large muddy patches being evident in wet weather.

The cumulative impacts on wildlife of increasing visitor numbers, including multiple tour groups arriving in the late afternoon and the recent addition of night-time on-water tours, is currently unknown and a potential cause for concern.

A people-counter was installed at the Allumbah entrance in October 2023. Data collected since then indicates that more than 60,000 visitors a year go through that entrance! Most of them go no further than Platypus Bend, around 200m from the walking track entrance.




**Numbers of visitors per accessing Peterson Creek**

## Economic opportunities

Increased visitor traffic along the Peterson Creek Walking Track has significant economic benefits to Yungaburra and the broader Tablelands region – through increased demand for meals and accommodation, commercial nature tours and other tourism services.

YLG also benefits from this economic activity through cash deposits into donation boxes, bank transfers via QR code signs along the walking track, and from periodic donations made by several bus tour companies. We propose strengthening this financial contribution by negotiating a Code of Conduct with all the commercial tour operators who bring their nature-based tourism clients to Peterson Creek.

We note that tour operators are currently required to purchase an annual permit and contribute $2.50 per person per day to bring their clients into Queensland national parks and other protected areas. Based on the positive feedback we receive from tour group members about their experiences at Peterson Creek, they may be willing to make similar modest contributions to the management of the area.

A tourism Code of Conduct would also provide an opportunity to communicate with tour operators and their clients regarding maximising their enjoyment and minimising the impacts of their visits.

## Weeds

Tree planting over the last 27 years has replaced extensive areas of weeds with maturing riparian native vegetation. However, the challenge of managing weeds continues, especially along walking tracks, on the edges of established planting and in areas where we have not yet revegetated. The major weeds occurring along Peterson Creek include:

Tobacco Bush
(*Solanum mauritianum*)

Blue Top
(*Praxelis clematidea*)

Broad-leaved Privet
(*Ligustrum lucidum*)

| Latin·name¤ | Common·name¤ |
|---|---|
| *Ardisia·crenata·or·elliptica*¤ | Ardisia¤ |
| *Stachytarpheta*·spp.¤ | Snakeweed¤ |
| *Solanum·mauritianum*¤ | Tobacco·bush¤ |
| *Lantana·camara*¤ | Lantana¤ |
| *Cinnamomum·camphora*¤ | Camphor·laurel¤ |
| *Sphagneticola·trilobata*¤ | Singapore·daisy¤ |
| *Limnobium·laevigatum*¤ | Amazon·frogbit¤ |
| *Salvinia·molesta*¤ | Salvinia¤ |
| *Tithonia·diversifolia*¤ | Japanese·sunflower¤ |
| Maybe·*Ageratum·houstonianum*¤ | Bluetop¤ |
| *Mimosa·pudica*¤ | Sensitive·plant¤ |
| *Cestrum·parqui*¤ | Cestrum¤ |
| *Psidium·guajava*¤ | Guava¤ |
| *Leucaena·leucocephala*¤ | Leucaena¤ |
| *Urochloa·mutica*¤ | Para·grass¤ |
| *Cyperus·aromaticus*¤ | Navua·sedge¤ |
| *Solanum·seaforthianum*¤ | Brazilian·nightshade¤ |
| *Hymenachne·amplexicaulis*¤ | Hymenachne¤ |
| *Brillantaisia·lamium*¤ | Brillantaisia¤ |
| *Asparagus*·spp.¤ | Asparagus·fern¤ |
| *Ochna·serrulata*¤ | Mickey·mouse·plant¤ |
| *Ligustrum·lucidum*¤ | Broad-leafed·privet¤ |
| *Neonotonia·wightii*¤ | Glycine¤ |
| *Elephantopus·mollis*¤ | Tobacco·Weed¤ |

Brillantaisia
*Brillantaisia lamium*

Singapore Daisy
*Sphagneticola trilobata*

Snakeweed
*Stachytarpheta spp*

Aquatic weeds also require management to enable unimpeded movement of platypus, rakali, turtles, water dragons and other aquatic species. In recent years, Amazonian frogbit (*Limnobium laevigatum*) has on occasion completely covered sections of Peterson Creek and required spraying and hand removal to bring it under control – assisted by flooding of the creek during Cyclone Jasper in December 2023.

Other major aquatic weeds occurring in Peterson Creek are olive hymenachne (*Hymenachne amplexicaulis*) and salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*). These aquatic weeds are now largely under control, though require constant monitoring and hand removal when they reappear.

Removing Olive Hymenachne

Salvinia

## Track maintenance

Ongoing track maintenance is a major component of our weekly management activities. The challenge is to provide safe access along the creek, with minimal infrastructure and disturbance, while also reducing erosion caused by foot traffic and heavy rainfall. We currently use a combination of spoon drains and gravel top-dressing to minimise erosion. Other options, such as geotextile matting, will be investigated.

Waste bins are provided at convenient locations along the creek, and contents are regularly prepared by the volunteers for emptying by the Council.

## Communication

As a volunteer group without legal authority to regulate and manage access to the Peterson Creek Walking Track, it is challenging to inform visitors about our activities, the values of the area and the impacts visitors are having on those values. We attempt to meet this challenge through signage along the track, making YLG brochures available at the Yungaburra Information Centre and via the YLG website. Opportunities for enhancing our communication include expanding the content of our website, and via social media and the local newspaper.

## Neighbouring land uses

The land alongside Peterson Creek is mostly privately owned and used for a mixture of agricultural, residential and tourism purposes. On occasions these uses conflict with visitor access along the creek-side walking tracks. Upstream land uses and riparian mismanagement can impact water quality of the creek, especially increasing turbidity. Imminent subdivision of neighbouring land and subsequent clearing for housing construction will result in loss of vegetation that is currently an integral part of the riparian ecosystem.

We attempt to address these issues through dialogue with neighbouring landowners, continuing our revegetation efforts and monitoring the water quality in the creek.

## Succession planning and recruitment to the group

Like other small volunteer organisations, YLG faces the challenge of maintaining a sufficient workforce to achieve its goals. A core group of members takes on the responsibility of administering the organisation and undertaking the weekly on-ground project tasks. As our largely retired membership ages, we face the ongoing challenge of attracting new, active members to continue to achieve YLG's goals.

## Financial constraints

YLG relies on a combination of project grants and donations, as well as collaboration with the Tableland Regional Council, and other organisations to achieve our goals. We have been able to achieve significant outcomes in revegetation and track maintenance through these arrangements, though more ambitious projects, such as the replacement of ageing infrastructure and construction of a proposed new platypus viewing platform at Platypus Bend and access boardwalk, will require more significant investment and collaboration with other organisations.

## Regulatory impediments and uncertainty

Our land and water management activities in public areas are ordinarily the responsibility of local government. While we maintain a collaborative relationship with Tableland Regional Council, there has been ongoing uncertainty about the limits of our authority to undertake project work. This uncertainty is currently being addressed through the negotiation of an arrangement with the Council.


## Understanding nature

While we are confident that our revegetation and other projects are helping to restore and protect nature, we have limited detailed knowledge of local biodiversity and ecosystem processes. Through our own "Citizen Science" efforts, such as encouraging visitors to record their platypus sightings and our use of camera traps to monitor platypus and other wildlife, as well as collaboration with research institutions, such as James Cook University and the School for Field Studies, we aim to build our understanding of the local environment to inform our future management efforts.

## Vandalism

The YLG has generally strong support for our revegetation efforts among the local Yungaburra community. On occasions, however, our revegetation projects have been the target of vandalism resulting in the removal of newly planted trees. These events are hugely distressing for our members who put in many hours of their time and labor to plant and care for the young trees. We usually respond by replanting the area, while also reporting the vandalism to the local police and Council, and seeking the support of neighbouring landowners.

### Opera House Yabby Traps

Opera House Traps, used for catching freshwater crayfish (yabbies), have been banned in every Australian jurisdiction except Queensland, because of the danger of platypus (and possibly also rakali) drowning in these devices. Opera House Traps are set in Peterson Creek from time to time, and although this is a legal activity, we attempt to contact the trap owners to request they no longer be used there. We have had positive responses to these requests, and we will continue to lobby the Queensland Government to have these traps banned in Queensland.

### Rubbish

Occasionally bottles, cans and other rubbish are observed and removed from the creek.

**Water Quality**

Peterson Creek starts its 9km journey as a small, clear stream near Lake Eacham, probably fed by water seeping through the volcanic wall of the crater lake. By the time it passes through the agricultural land between lake Eacham and Yungaburra and reaches the suspension bridge on the Peterson Creek walking track, the water is heavily laden with sediment – especially during the Wet Season.

Analysis by Tableland Regional Council of water samples taken downstream of Platypus Bend in 2019 indicated that some water quality attributes, such as nutrients, suspended solids and turbidity significantly exceeded recommended environmental standards[3], and that faecal bacteria concentrations far exceeded safe thresholds for recreational activities[4].
In response to the apparent deterioration in water quality along its length of Peterson Creek we undertook a water quality testing project, supported through a Landcare Australia Community Grant, that analysed 12 water quality attributes near the source of the creek and at Platypus Bend from January to July 2025. The water quality testing project resulted in the following conclusions:

- Very high concentrations of faecal bacteria (coliforms and enterococci), far exceeding National Health and Medical Research Council guidelines for safe swimming and boating, were found at Platypus Bend throughout the period January to July 2025, especially during periods of high rainfall.

- These high bacteria concentrations raise health and safety concerns for YLG's volunteers engaged in manual removal of aquatic weeds from the creek, and for other people interacting with creek water, including recreational fishers and participants in commercial kayaking tours.

- High faecal bacterial concentrations may also impact other identified environmental values of Peterson Creek, including aquatic ecosystems, irrigation, farm supply, stock watering, human consumption, and cultural and spiritual values.

- High levels of turbidity and suspended solids potentially impact macroinvertebrate habitats and populations, which in turn may limit availability of food for platypus and other aquatic fauna.

    - Elevated levels of phosphorus at Platypus Bend, especially associated with high rainfall events, compared to the negligible concentrations near the source of the creek, may be close to, or at, the phosphorus concentrations compatible with a viable platypus habitat – based on surveys undertaken in Victoria. High levels of phosphorus may also be associated with infestations of aquatic weeds, including Amazonian frogbit.

Tableland Regional Council has awarded YLG an Environment Grant of $2,000 to undertake further water quality testing for the remainder of 2025.

[3] Tablelands Regional Council Yungaburra Sewerage Treatment Plant Environmental Impact Monitoring Program Report 2019/2020

[4] NHMRC Guidelines for Managing Risks in Recreational Water. https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/health-advice/environmental-health/water

### Bike track

The Tablelands Regional Council recently approved the construction of a bike track (part of the Seven Sisters Trail[5]) which crosses Peterson Creek close to the location of the ram pump and waterwheel, and shares the walking track for a short distance. The Seven Sisters Trail currently crosses Peterson Creek via a small, temporary bridge, which will be replaced by a more substantial structure in the future. The bike track is expected to be completed during 2025, after which it will become the responsibility of the Tablelands Regional Council. When completed, YLG will consider revegetation along parts of the track.

### Research

Collaboration between YLG and James Cook University has resulted in a PhD project commencing in March 2025 focusing on platypus populations of Peterson Creek and other Tablelands waterways. This project complements work already being undertaken by YLG to monitor platypus behaviour using motion-activated infra-red cameras and water-quality testing.

YLG's collaboration with The School for Field Studies includes support for their students' research projects, as well hosting groups of students during our weekly Friday morning work sessions, giving them an opportunity to learn about the creek environments in exchange for contributing their labor for a couple of hours.

## Links to other local and regional networks and projects

The popularity of Peterson Creek as a tourist destination provides opportunities to develop stronger links with other local nature-based and culture-based destinations and experiences, such as the Yungaburra Old Town Loop, the Allumbah Heritage Walk and Williams Park. Through the implementation of this Plan, we aim to strengthen our connections with these and other local attractions.

**Williams Park** was designated as a community parkland in 1983 and opened by Sir Edward Williams and Sir Sydney Williams, grandsons of the original settlers. In the early days a tennis court, football field and cricket pitch provided sporting recreation for local and rival sports enthusiasts.

*Named after the original name of the Yungaburra settlement, the* ***Allumbah Heritage Walk*** *commences at St Patrick's Catholic Church along a 4.3km route that explores Aboriginal culture, historical events, native flora and fauna. The walk includes traces the original railway route and extends to the edge of Lake Tinaroo*

We also see value in enhancing our collaboration with other community-based environmental management organisations, such as Barron Catchment Care, TREAT and Terrain NRM.

[5] https://www.athertontablelands.com.au/travel-directory/seven-sisters-trail/

# 4 Projects & Activities

## Understanding and supporting cultural values

Through ongoing collaboration with Traditional Owners, we seek to build our understanding of Dulgubarra Yidinji and Ngadjon-Jii cultural values of Country around Peterson Creek and, where appropriate, share this understanding with visitors to the area. We greatly value the contributions of Traditional Owners to the communication of plant language names on the Peterson Creek Walking Track and their input into the development of this Plan.

## Revegetation

Revegetation and maintenance of revegetated areas along the creek remain the core business of YLG. Our immediate priorities are:

- Revegetation of Denny Road South, an undeveloped road reserve running from the western side of Peterson Creek to Thomas Road. YLG has received permission from Tableland Regional Council to revegetate the first 30 metres of the road reserve after a previous attempt to revegetate this area was destroyed by vandalism with most of the freshly planted trees physically removed.

- Ongoing fill-in and replacement plantings in previously revegetated areas, especially where there has been pressure from high visitor numbers.

- In cooperation with TREAT, Barron Catchment Care, Tableland Regional Council and local landholders, explore opportunities to protect and enhance riparian vegetation along the length of the Peterson Creek, and to develop vegetation corridors to link the Creek with other conserved areas, such as Curtain Fig National Park.

### Weed management

- **Weeding on the creek bank and walking tracks** is an ongoing priority because of the narrow riparian vegetation and the edge effect (light penetration and disturbance) created by the walking track corridors. The anticipated vegetation clearing on private land in Penda Street adjacent to the walking track from the Allumbah Pocket Entrance to Platypus Bend will exacerbate this problem.

- **Removal of frogbit and other aquatic weeds.** Weekly on-water patrols of Peterson Creek will continue to suppress the re-establishment of Amazonian frogbit which would once again blanket the water surface from the suspension bridge to Frawley's Pool if left uncontrolled. By regular hand removal of the small outbreaks of frogbit we aim to prevent this species from maturing and producing new seeds. Once the current seed bank along the creek edges is exhausted, our hope is that the creek may be finally rid of this serious pest. The weekly on-water patrols will also monitor several other aquatic weeds which will be removed by hand as required.

Frogbit seedlings

- **Preparation of a Weed Manual for Peterson Creek** will assist our volunteers to recognise terrestrial and aquatic weeds and to understand the most effective responses. Training on weed recognition and treatment will be incorporated into induction of new volunteers.

## Walking track maintenance and tourism infrastructure

## NURTURING PETERSON CREEK

In recent years, an increasing effort of YLG volunteers has focused on maintaining walking tracks and associated tourism infrastructure. We seek to minimise the environmental impacts of visitors along Peterson Creek and reduce track erosion from the combination of foot traffic and heavy rainfall. Our proposals for addressing these challenges include:

- **Construction of boardwalk and viewing platform at Platypus Bend.** This is a major project that will require careful planning, access to relevant technical expertise, dedicated funding and approval by Tableland Regional Council. The project, which includes up to 200m of the track, seeks to achieve several aims:
    - To protect vegetation and reduce erosion on the track from Allumbah Pocket Entrance to Platypus Bend.
    - To prevent visitors from creating their own access tracks to the creek bank.
    - To enhance access to Platypus Bend to enable people of diverse abilities to experience the creek environment.
    - To protect the creek bank integrity and vegetation from visitor impacts.
    - To provide safe and rewarding opportunities for visitors to view platypus and other wildlife.
    - To blend in with the natural environment, with minimum aesthetic impact.

- **Maintenance of bush track from Platypus Bend to Frawley's Pool and beyond.** While most tourists go no further than Platypus Bend, some visitors like to venture further along the creek. To facilitate this ongoing use, we propose maintaining a simple bush track to Frawley's Pool and on to the Railway Cutting, undertaking the necessary tasks to minimise erosion and control weeds, but not adding to the existing track infrastructure.

- **Re-establishing the walking track from the suspension bridge to the Yungaburra road bridge** would provide enhanced visitor appreciation of the creek, and reduce visitor impacts on other portions of the track. We recognise this goal is dependent on consent and cooperation from the current landowner, with whom we wish to respectfully engage, along with Tablelands Regional Council, during the life of this Plan.

- **Maintenance of track infrastructure.** Existing track infrastructure, such as foot bridges and safety rails, will be maintained or replaced as required, while keeping the natural amenity of the area to the greatest possible extent.

- **Maintenance of equipment** is an ongoing priority to ensure the safety and effectiveness of our hand tools and motorised machinery, including the hydro-powered pump delivering water to our irrigation storage tanks. Most of this maintenance work is carried out using the in-house expertise of our volunteers.

- **Research and monitoring** will continue to be an important element of our work, subject to available funds and research collaborators. Current research and monitoring priorities include:
    - Platypus monitoring using motion-activated camera traps provides information about the use of a known breeding burrow high up on the creek bank during

the breeding season.

- Opportunistic camera trap monitoring of other wildlife, such as rakali, possums and tree kangaroos.

- Collaboration with researchers from James Cook University, School for Field Studies and other institutions where their research projects and interests include Peterson Creek environments and wildlife.

- Ongoing water quality monitoring to follow up the water sampling and testing described above, and collaboration with Tableland Regional Council, and other partners to achieve water quality objectives set by Qld Department of Environment and Science in 2020 in order to protect environmental, social and cultural values of Peterson Cree.

## Communication, community engagement and education

We recognise the importance of enhancing our communication and engagement to maintain the support we currently enjoy within the Yungaburra community, local government and other regional organisations. Subject to human and other resources, our priorities in this endeavor include:

- Creating a You-Tube channel and/or other social media to promote our revegetation, research and monitoring projects – including providing access to our camera trap videos of platypuses and other wildlife.
- Expanding the scope of our website to include more detailed information about the cultural and natural values of Peterson Creek and regular updates about our projects.
- Using local print media to enhance awareness of, and build support for, our operations.
- Exploring opportunities for collaboration with local primary and high schools to foster appreciation of the values of Peterson Creek and to enable students to build their understanding of their local environment.

## Tourism

In response to increasing tourism and its impacts, we wish to:

- **Engage with Yungaburra Visitor Centre volunteers** to share information about the significant values of Peterson Creek and how to minimise visitor impacts on those values - for example through information sessions at the creek for volunteers.

- **Develop a Tourism Code of conduct to:**
  - Provide information to tour groups about the natural and cultural values of Peterson Creek and to minimise their impacts on the area; and
  - Negotiate appropriate financial contributions to the management of Peterson Creek, commensurate with the benefits the tour operators receive from the area.

## Transition to solar-charged electric equipment

Our current stock of maintenance machinery (mowers, trimmers, sprayers, blowers etc.) comprises a mixture of petrol-driven and battery-powered devices. During the life of this Plan, we aim to transition to primarily battery-powered equipment charged via an on-site solar array – made possible by a recent donation of solar panels and associated charging apparatus from the Wooden Boat Association of Cairns.

**Occupational Health and Safety**
We are committed to updating and maintaining our Occupational Health and Safety training, protocols and practices during the life of this Plan.

# 5 Plan Finalisation and Implementation

This YLG Strategic Plan will be finalised and implemented through the following steps:

- **Finalisation of the Plan** will involve:
  - Revision following feedback from YLG's partners, Traditional Owners, local community, landholders and any other interested parties.
  - Distribution of the Final Plan, including uploading on the YLG website
- **Implementation of Strategic Plan** will involve
  - Launch of Plan with Traditional Owners, partners and local community
  - Implementation Workshop to develop an initial work program.
  - Ongoing annual work planning to implement, review and update the Strategic Plan.
  - Collaboration with partners to contribute to a whole-of-Peterson Creek Catchment Action Plan.

# APPENDIX 1
# YUNGABURRA LANDCARE GROUP'S PARTNERS

- All-ability groups
- Barron Catchment Care (BCC)
- Dulguburra Yidinji People
- Funders, including the Mt Emerald Wind Farm, North Queensland Wildlife Trust (NQLT), Landcare Australia etc.
- Landholders
- Local schools
- Men's Shed
- Queensland Water and Land Carers
- School for Field Studies
- Tablelands Outdoor Recreation Association and Sixty-and-Over cycle group
- Tablelands Regional Council (TRC)
- Tablelands Regional Council, including the local information centre
- Tablelands Wildlife Rescue
- Terrain NRM
- Tolga Bat Hospital
- Tourist operators
- Trees for the Evelyn and Atherton Tablelands (TREAT)
- Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA)
- Yungaburra Association Inc. (YAI)
- Yungaburra Beautification

# APPENDIX 2

## PETERSON CREEK BIRD LIST[6]

**Key to letter codes:** L=local resident; C=common visitor; S=summer visitor; W=winter visitor; U=uncommon visitor: R=rare visitor

**Megapodes & Waterfowl**

- Orange-footed Scrubfowl – *Megapodius reinwardt* (L)
- Australian Brush-turkey – *Alectura lathami* (L)
- Magpie Goose – *Anseranas semipalmata* (W)
- Pacific Black Duck – *Anas superciliosa* (L)

**Cormorants & Herons**

- Darter – *Anhinga novaehollandiae* (C)
- Little Pied Cormorant – *Microcarbo melanoleucos* (C)
- Little Black Cormorant – *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* (L)
- White-necked Heron – *Ardea pacifica* (C)

**Ibises**

- Australian White Ibis – *Threskiornis molucca* (C)

**Birds of Prey**

- Square-tailed Kite – *Lophoictinia isura* (U)
- Black Kite – *Milvus migrans* (W)
- Whistling Kite – *Haliastur sphenurus* (W)
- Brahminy Kite – *Haliastur indus* (U)
- White-bellied Sea-Eagle – *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (U)
- Spotted Harrier – *Circus assimilis* (U)
- Swamp Harrier – *Circus approximans* (R)
- Brown Goshawk – *Accipiter fasciatus* (L)
- Grey Goshawk – *Accipiter novaehollandiae* (C)
- Collared Sparrowhawk – *Accipiter cirrocephalus* (C)
- Red Goshawk – *Erythrotriorchis radiatus* (R)
- Wedge-tailed Eagle – *Aquila audax* (U)
- Little Eagle – *Hieraaetus morphnoides* (R)
- Brown Falcon – *Falco berigora* (W)
- Australian Hobby – *Falco longipennis* (U)
- Peregrine Falcon – *Falco peregrinus* (R)
- Nankeen Kestrel – *Falco cenchroides* (?)

**Rails, Cranes & Allies**

- Brown Quail – *Synoicus ypsilophorus* (L)
- Sarus Crane – *Antigone Antigone* (W)
- Brolga – *Antigone rubicunda* (W)
- Buff-banded Rail – *Hypotaenidia philippensis* (L)
- Pale-vented Bush-hen – *Amaurornis moluccana* (S)
- Purple Swamphen – *Porphyrio porphyrio* (L)
- Dusky Moorhen – *Gallinula tenebrosa* (R)

[6] Thanks and appreciation to Alan Gillanders for compiling this bird list.

- Red-backed Button-quail – *Turnix maculosus* (U)
- Latham's Snipe – *Gallinago hardwickii* (S)
- Whiskered Tern – *Chlidonias hybrida* (R)

**Pigeons & Doves**

- Rock Dove/Feral Pigeon – *Columba livia* (U)
- White-headed Pigeon – *Columba leucomela* (C)
- Spotted Turtle-Dove – *Streptopelia chinensis* (U)
- Brown Cuckoo-Dove – *Macropygia phasianella* (C)
- Emerald Dove – *Chalcophaps indica* (L)
- Crested Pigeon – *Ocyphaps lophotes* (L)
- Peaceful Dove – *Geopelia placida* (L)
- Bar-shouldered Dove – *Geopelia humeralis* (L)
- Wompoo Fruit-Dove – *Ptilinopus magnificus* (U)
- Superb Fruit-Dove – *Ptilinopus superbus* (U)
- Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove – *Ptilinopus regina* (U)
- Topknot Pigeon – *Lopholaimus antarcticus* (U)

**Parrots & Cockatoos**

- Red-tailed Black-Cockatoo – *Calyptorhynchus banksia* (U)
- Sulphur-crested Cockatoo – *Cacatua galerita* (C)
- Rainbow Lorikeet – *Trichoglossus moluccanus* (L)
- Scaly-breasted Lorikeet – *Trichoglossus chlorolepidotus* (L)
- Double-eyed Fig-Parrot – *Cyclopsitta diophthalma* (C)

**Night Birds & Swifts**

- Eastern Barn Owl – *Tyto javanica* (L)
- Eastern Grass Owl – *Tyto longimembris* (W)
- Tawny Frogmouth – *Podargus strigoides* (L)
- Papuan Frogmouth – *Podargus papuensis* (U)
- Large-tailed Nightjar – *Caprimulgus macrurus* (L)
- Australian Owlet-nightjar – *Aegotheles cristatus* (L)
- Australian Swiftlet – *Aerodramus terraereginae* (C)
- White-throated Needletail – *Hirundapus caudacutus* (S)
- Pacific Swift – *Apus pacificus* (S)

**Kingfishers & Allies**

- Azure Kingfisher – *Ceyx azureus* (L)
- Little Kingfisher – *Ceyx pusillus* (L)
- Laughing Kookaburra – *Dacelo novaeguineae* (L)
- Forest Kingfisher – *Todiramphus macleayii* (L)
- Sacred Kingfisher – *Todiramphus sanctus* (C)
- Rainbow Bee-eater – *Merops ornatus* (W)
- Dollarbird – *Eurystomus orientalis* (S)

**Swallows & Martins**

- Welcome Swallow – *Hirundo neoxena* (L)
- Tree Martin – *Petrochelidon nigricans* (U)
- Fairy Martin – *Petrochelidon ariel* (U)

**Treecreepers & Wrens**

- White-throated Treecreeper – *Cormobates leucophaea* (L)
- Lovely Fairy-wren – *Malurus amabilis* (R)
- Red-backed Fairy-wren – *Malurus melanocephalus* (L)

**Scrubwrens & Gerygones**

- Yellow-throated Scrubwren – *Sericornis citreogularis* (L)
- White-browed Scrubwren – *Sericornis frontalis* (L)
- Large-billed Scrubwren – *Sericornis magnirostra* (L)
- Brown Gerygone – *Gerygone mouki* (L)
- Large-billed Gerygone – *Gerygone magnirostris* (U)
- Fairy Gerygone – *Gerygone palpebrosa* (L)
- White-throated Gerygone – *Gerygone olivacea* (C)

**Honeyeaters & Allies**

- Helmeted Friarbird – *Philemon buceroides* (L)
- Noisy Friarbird – *Philemon corniculatus* (S)
- Little Friarbird – *Philemon citreogularis* (S)
- Blue-faced Honeyeater – *Entomyzon cyanotis* (U)
- Macleay's Honeyeater – *Xanthotis macleayanus* (L)
- Lewin's Honeyeater – *Meliphaga lewinii* (L)
- Bridled Honeyeater – *Bolemoreus frenatus* (C)
- Yellow-faced Honeyeater – *Caligavis chrysops* (C)
- Yellow Honeyeater – *Stomiopera flava* (C)
- White-throated Honeyeater – *Melithreptus albogularis* (C)
- White-naped Honeyeater – *Melithreptus lunatus* (C)
- Brown Honeyeater – *Lichmera indistincta* (L)
- White-cheeked Honeyeater – *Phylidonyris niger* (C)
- Brown-backed Honeyeater – *Ramsayornis modestus* (S)
- Dusky Honeyeater – *Myzomela obscura* (L)
- Scarlet Honeyeater – *Myzomela sanguinolenta* (L)

**Robins & Whistlers**

- Pale-yellow Robin – *Tregellasia capito* (L)
- Eastern Yellow Robin – *Eopsaltria australis* (L)
- Grey-headed Robin – *Heteromyias cinereifrons* (L)
- Eastern Whipbird – *Psophodes olivaceus* (L)
- Varied Sittella – *Daphoenositta chrysoptera* (L)
- Golden Whistler – *Pachycephala pectoralis* (L)
- Rufous Whistler – *Pachycephala rufiventris* (L)
- Little Shrike-thrush – *Colluricincla megarhyncha* (L)
- Bower's Shrike-thrush – *Colluricincla boweri* (C)
- Grey Shrike-thrush – *Colluricincla harmonica* (L)

**Monarchs & Flycatchers**

- Yellow-breasted Boatbill – *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer* (U)
- Black-faced Monarch – *Monarcha melanopsis* (C)
- Spectacled Monarch – *Symposiachrus trivirgatus* (L)

- White-eared Monarch – *Carterornis leucotis* (U)
- Pied Monarch – *Arses kaupi* (L)
- Leaden Flycatcher – *Myiagra rubecula* (L)
- Satin Flycatcher – *Myiagra cyanoleuca* (U)

**Butcherbirds & Woodswallows**

- Magpie-lark – *Grallina cyanoleuca* (L)
- Rufous Fantail – *Rhipidura rufifrons* (U)
- Grey Fantail – *Rhipidura albiscapa* (L)
- Willie Wagtail – *Rhipidura leucophrys* (L)
- Spangled Drongo – *Dicrurus bracteatus* (C)
- Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike – *Coracina novaehollandiae* (C)
- Barred Cuckoo-shrike – *Coracina lineata* (C)
- White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike – *Coracina papuensis* (C)
- Cicadabird – *Edolisoma tenuirostre* (C)
- Varied Triller – *Lalage leucomela* (L)
- Olive-backed Oriole – *Oriolus sagittatus* (U)
- Australasian Figbird – *Sphecotheres vieilloti* (L)

**Woodswallows, Butcherbirds & Allies (Family: Artamidae, Cracticidae)**

- White-breasted Woodswallow – *Artamus leucorynchus* (C)
- Pied Butcherbird – *Cracticus nigrogularis* (L)
- Australian Magpie – *Gymnorhina tibicen* (U)
- Pied Currawong – *Strepera graculina* (W)
- Torresian Crow – *Corvus orru* (U)

**Bowerbirds & Birds-of-Paradise (Families: Ptilonorhynchidae, Paradisaeidae)**

- Victoria's Riflebird **– *Ptiloris victoriae* (U)**
- Spotted Catbird **– *Ailuroedus maculosus* (L)**

**Pipits & Wagtails (Family: Motacillidae)**

- Australasian Pipit – *Anthus australis* (L)

**Finches & Mannikins (Family: Estrildidae)**

- Plum-headed Finch – *Aidemosyne modesta* (R)
- Red-browed Finch – *Neochmia temporalis* (L)
- Nutmeg Mannikin – *Lonchura punctulata* (R)
- Chestnut-breasted Mannikin – *Lonchura castaneothorax* (L)

**Sunbirds (Family: Nectariniidae)**

- Olive-backed Sunbird – *Cinnyris jugularis* (L)

**Flowerpeckers (Family: Dicaeidae)**

- Mistletoebird – *Dicaeum hirundinaceum* (L)

**Grassbirds & Warblers (Family: Locustellidae, Cisticolidae)**

- Tawny Grassbird – *Cincloramphus timoriensis* (L)
- Golden-headed Cisticola – *Cisticola exilis* (L)

**White-eyes (Family: Zosteropidae)**

- Silvereye – *Zosterops lateralis* (L)

**Starlings (Family: Sturnidae)**

- Metallic Starling – *Aplonis metallica* (S)

- Common Myna – *Acridotheres tristis* (L)

# APPENDIX 3

# PETRSON CREEK PLANT LIST[7]

**List of species planted or found growing along Peterson Creek by YLG.**

Not all species are currently found along the creek. Question mark after a species name indicates identification uncertainty.

| Plant name | Botanical family | Common name |
|---|---|---|
| *Acacia celsa* | Fabaceae | Brown Salwood |
| *Adiantum hispidulum* | Pteridaceae | Rough maindenhair fern |
| *Agathis microstachya* | Araucariaceae | Bull kauri |
| *Agathis robusta* | Araucariaceae | Kauri pine |
| *Aleurites rockinghamensis* | Euphorbiaceae | Candlenut |
| *Allocasia brisbanensis* | Araceae | Cunjevoi |
| *Allocasuarina torulosa* | Casuarinaceae | River Oak |
| *Alpinia caerulea* | Zingiberaceae | Ginger |
| *Alstonia scholaris* | Apocynaceae | Milky pine |
| *Antidesma bunius* | Phyllanthaceae | Herbert river cherry |
| *Antidesma erostre* | Phyllanthaceae | Tucker bush, wild currant |
| *Archontophoenix alexandrae* | Arecaceae | Alexandra palm |
| *Argyrodendron peralatum* | Malvaceae | Red Crowsfoot |
| *Argyrodendron trifoliolatum* | Malvaceae | Brown Booyong |
| *Aristolochia* sp. | Aristolochiaceae | Native Dutchman's Pipe |
| *Asplenium australasicum* | Aspleniaceae | Birds-nest fern |
| *Asplenium nidus* | Aspleniaceae | Birds-nest fern |
| *Atractocarpus fitzalanii* | Rubiaceae | Orange Randia |
| *Austrosteenisia blackii* | Fabaceae | Blood vine |
| *Austrosteenisia stipularis* | Fabaceae | Northern blood vine |
| *Breynia macrantha* | Phyllanthaceae | Atherton Sauropus |
| *Brachychiton acerifolius* | Malvaceae | Flame Tree |
| *Buckinghamia celsissima* | Proteaceae | Ivory Curl |
| *Cananga odorata* | Annonaceae | Ylang Ylang |
| *Cerbera floribunda* | Apocynaceae | Cassowary Plum |
| *Chionanthus ramiflorus* | Oleaceae | Native Olive |
| *Calamus australis* | Arecaceae | Wait-a-while |
| *Calamus caryotoides* | Arecaceae | Fishtail lawyer cane |
| *Callitris macleayana* | Cupressaceae | Brush cypress pine |
| *Cardwellia sublimis* | Proteaceae | Bull Oak |
| *Castanospermum australe* | Fabaceae | Black Bean |
| *Castanospora alphandii* | Sapindaceae | Brown Tamarind |
| *Casuarina cunninghamiana* | Casuarinaceae | River she-oak |
| *Chionanthus ramiflorus* | Oleaceae | Native olive |
| *Clerodendrum longiflorum* | Lamiaceae | Flowers of magic |
| *Cordyline cannifolia* | Asparagaceae | Palm Lily |

[7] Thanks and appreciation to Alan Gillanders and Dinah Hansman for assistance in compiling this plant list.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Corymbia intermedia?* | Myrtaceae | Pink Bloodwood |
| *Cryptocarya hypospodia* | Proteaceae | Northern Laurel |
| *Cyathea cooperi* | Cyatheaceae | Tree fern |
| *Cymbidium madidum* | Orchidaceae | Rainforest Cymbidium |
| *Darlingia darlingiana* | Proteaceae | Brown silky oak |
| *Dianella atraxis* | Hemerocallidaceae | Flax lily |
| *Dianella caerulea* | Hemerocallidaceae | Flax lily |
| *Diospyros laurina* | Ebenaceae | Brown Ebony |
| *Diploglottis diphyllostegia* | Sapinaceae | Wild Tamarind |
| *Drynaria rigidula* | Polypodiaceae | Basket fern |
| *Dysoxylum mollissimum* | Meliaceae | Red bean |
| *Dysoxylum parasiticum* | Meliaceae | Yellow Mahogany |
| *Elaeocarpus grandis* | Elaeocarpaceae | Blue quandong |
| *Elaeocarpus foveolatus* | Elaeocarpaceae | White quandong |
| *Emmenosperma alphitonioides* | Rhamnaceae | Bonewood |
| *Eucalyptus tereticornis* | Myrtaceae | Forest red gum |
| *Eumachia frutescens* | Rubiaceae | Turkey Bush |
| *Eupomatia laurina* | Eupomatiaceae | Bolwarra |
| *Euroschinus falcatus var. falcatus* | Anacardiaceae | Cudgerie |
| *Ficus benjamina* | Moraceae | Benjamin Fig |
| *Ficus congesta* | Moraceae | Red Leaf Fig |
| *Ficus crassipes* | Moraceae | Banana Fig |
| *Ficus henneana* | Moraceae | Superb Fig |
| *Ficus leptoclada* | Moraceae | Atherton Fig |
| *Ficus obliqua* | Moraceae | Small-leafed fig |
| *Ficus septica* | Moraceae | Septic Fig |
| *Ficus virens var. virens* | Moraceae | Strangler Fig |
| *Flindersia bourjotiana* | Rutaceae | Queensland silver ash |
| *Freycinetia scandens* | Pandanaceae | Climbing pandan |
| *Glochidion ferdinandi* | Phyllanthaceae | Buttonwood |
| *Gmelina fasciculiflora* | Lamiaceae | White beech |
| *Grevillea baileyana* | Proteaceae | White oak |
| *Guioa lasioneura* | Sapindaceae | Silky tamarind |
| *Guioa acutifolia* | Sapindaceae | Glossy tamarind |
| *Hibbertia scandens* | Dilleniaceae | Climbing Guinea flower |
| *Hoya australis* | Apocynaceae | Wax flower |
| *Litsea leefeana* | Lauraceae | Brown Bollygum |
| *Lomandra hystrix* | Asparagaceae | Creek mat-rush |
| *Lomandra longifolia* | Asparagaceae | Spiny-Headed mat-rush |
| *Mackinlaya macrosciadea* | Apiaceae | Blue umbrella |
| *Mallotus paniculatus* | Euphorbiaceae | Turn-in-the-wind |
| *Mallotus philippensis* | Euphorbiaceae | Red Kamala |
| *Maniltoa lenticellata* | Fabaceae | Cascading Maniltoa |
| *Melaleuca viminalis* | Myrtaceae | Bottlebrush |
| *Melastoma malabathricum* | Melastomataceae | Native Lasiandra |
| *Melicope elleryana* | Rutaceae | Pink evodia |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| *Melicope rubra* | Rutaceae | Little evodia |
| *Myristica insipida* | Melastomataceae | Australian nutmeg |
| *Neolitsea dealbata* | Lauraceae | Grey Bollywood |
| *Pavetta australiensis* | Rubiaceae | Pavetta |
| *Phaleria clerodendron* | Thymelaeaceae | Scented phaleria |
| *Piper* sp. | Piperaceae | Native pepper vine |
| *Pipturus argenteus* | Urticaceae | Native mulberry |
| *Pittosporum ferrugineum* | Pittosporaceae | Rusty Pittosporum |
| *Pittosporum venulosum* | Pittosporaceae | Rusty Pittosporum |
| *Placospermum coriaceum* | Proteaceae | Rose silky oak |
| *Platycerium bifurcatum* | Polypodiaceae | Elkhorn fern |
| *Platycerium superbum* | Polypodiaceae | Staghorn fern |
| *Podocarpus elatus* | Podocarpacea | Plum Pine |
| *Podocarpus grayae* | Podocarpaceae | Brown pine |
| *Prumnopitys amara* | Pococarpaceae | Black pine |
| *Pseuderanthemum variabile* | Acanthaceae | Pastel Fower |
| *Sarcopteryx martyana* | Sapindaceae | |
| *Sarcotoechia serrata* | Sapindaceae | Fern-Leaved Tamarind |
| *Schefflera actinophylla?* | Araliaceae | Umbrella tree |
| *Schizomeria johnsonii?* | Myrtaceae | Crabapple |
| *Scolopia braunii* | Saliaceae | Flintwood |
| *Sloanea langii* | Elaeocarpaceae | White carabeen |
| *Sloanea australis* | Elaeocarpaceae | Blush Carabeen |
| *Smilax* glyciphylla | Smilacaceae | Sweet Tea |
| *Stenocarpus sinuatus* | Proteaceae | Firewheel tree |
| *Symplocos gittinsii* | Symplocaceae | Hazelwood |
| *Syncarpia glomulifera* | Myrtaceae | Turpentine |
| *Syzygium australe* | Myrtaceae | Creek cherry |
| *Syzygium claviflorum* | Myrtaceae | Grey satinash |
| *Syzygium cormiflorum* | Myrtaceae | Bumpy Satinash |
| *Syzygium gustavioides* | Myrtaceae | Grey satinash |
| *Syzygium luehmannii* | Myrtaceae | Small Leaved Lillipilli |
| *Syzygium unipunctatum* | Myrtaceae | Watergum |
| *Syzygium wilsonii* | Myrtaceae | Powderpuff lillypilly |
| *Terminalia microcarpa* | Combretaceae | Damson plum |
| *Toona ciliata* | Meliaceae | Red Cedar |
| *Trema orientalis* | Cannabceae | Tree peach |
| *Vitex queenslandica* | Lamiaceae | Vitex |
| *Whyanbeelia terrae-reginae* | Picrodendraceae | |
| *Wikstroemia indica* | Thymelaeaceae | Wikstroemia |
| *Xanthostemon whitei* | Myrtaceae | Atherton Penda |
| *Zanthoxylum ovalifolium* | Rutaceae | Thorny yellowood |