

Threatened Fauna of the Mary River Catchment

Take steps to protect waterway fauna



Photo courtesy of John Cann

Mary River turtle
Elusor macrurus
Endangered (EPBC 1999)
Habitat: Occurs only in the Mary River catchment, in deep water holes and undisturbed, slow flowing sections with partially submerged rocks and logs on which to bask.
Threats: Loss of riparian vegetation, decreased water quality, changes in water flow, erosion and siltation, disturbance of eggs.



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Water mouse
Xeromys myoides
Rare (NCA 1992)
Habitat: Tidal zones. Requires mangroves in which to feed and nearby reedbeds and salt marshes above high tide for burrows.
Threats: Coastal development, predation by domestic pets and feral animals.



Photo - Eva Ford, MRCCC

Giant barred-frog
Mixophyes iteratus
Endangered (EPBC 1999)
Habitat: Rocky and deep, slow-moving streams with good riparian vegetation.
Threats: Tree clearing, fungal disease



Photo - Eva Ford, MRCCC

Cascade treefrog
Litoria pearsoniana
Endangered (NCA 1992)
Habitat: Found in low vegetation within 1-2 m of wet forest streams in ranges of south-east Queensland.
Threats: Fungal disease, loss of riparian vegetation.

Don't pollute waterways

Revegetate with local native plants



Photo courtesy of Kathie Atkinson

Don't release non-local fauna species in waterways

Control weeds - early is best



Image courtesy of Sally Elmer, technical info. by John Young

Coxen's fig-parrot
Cyclopsitta diophthalma coxeni
Endangered (EPBC 1999)
Habitat: Various forest types with an abundance of fig trees.
Threats: Tree clearing, habitat fragmentation



Photo - Eva Ford, MRCCC

Queensland lungfish
Neoceratodus forsteri
Vulnerable (EPBC 1999)
Habitat: Endemic to the Mary and Burnett River systems only particularly slow flowing and still water. Eggs and young need macrophyte beds.
Threats: Removal of riparian vegetation, impoundments, siltation.

Waterways are sensitive to impacts by livestock

Tusked frog
Adelotus brevis
Vulnerable (NCA 1992)
Habitat: Rainforests, dry forests near streams and ponds, farming areas where creek banks are free from grazing.
Threats: Tree clearing, fungal diseases.



Photo courtesy of Gunther Schmida

Oxleyan pygmy perch
Nannoperca oxleyana
Endangered (EPBC 1999)
Habitat: Found in coastal waterways (streams, lagoons) in wallum environments. Prefer presence of macrophytes and sedges.
Threats: Land clearing and coastal development have reduced suitable habitats. Increased nutrients and weed growth also reduce habitat suitability.

Leave near-stream vegetation intact

Richmond birdwing butterfly
Ornithoptera richmondia
Vulnerable (NCA 1992)
Habitat: Rainforest environments containing *Pararistolochia pravenosa* vines on which its eggs are laid.
Threats: Clearing of lowland rainforests. The exotic weed Dutchman's pipe is mistakenly used to lay eggs on; toxins in the plant kill young caterpillars.



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Barriers to flow are barriers to fish



Photo courtesy of Gunther Schmida

Mary River cod
Maccullochella peelii mariensis
Endangered (EPBC 1999)
Habitat: Deep slow flowing pools with overhanging vegetation or rocks.
Threats: Removal of logs from waterways, siltation and illegal fishing.



Photo courtesy of Chris Corben

Giant spiny crayfish
Euastacus hystrixosus
Vulnerable (IUCN 2000)
Habitat: Upland rainforest and wet sclerophyll streams.
Threats: Habitat loss, feral animal disturbances.



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Illidge's ant-blue butterfly
Acrodipsas illidgei
Vulnerable (NCA 1992)
Habitat: Mostly Grey mangroves along the coast between Mary and Brunswick River estuaries.
Threats: Mangrove loss due to coastal development.

This poster developed by the Mary River Catchment Coordinating Committee with support from: For information contact MRCCC, QPWS or your local Landcare group.

NCA 1994 - Queensland Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 1994.
EPBC 1999 - Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.
IUCN 2000 - International Union of Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (Red list)
Images of the Birdwing Butterfly, Water Mouse and Illidge's Ant Blue Butterfly courtesy of the Queensland Museum ©

