

Soil Erosion Solutions

Helping North Coast landholders reduce soil erosion

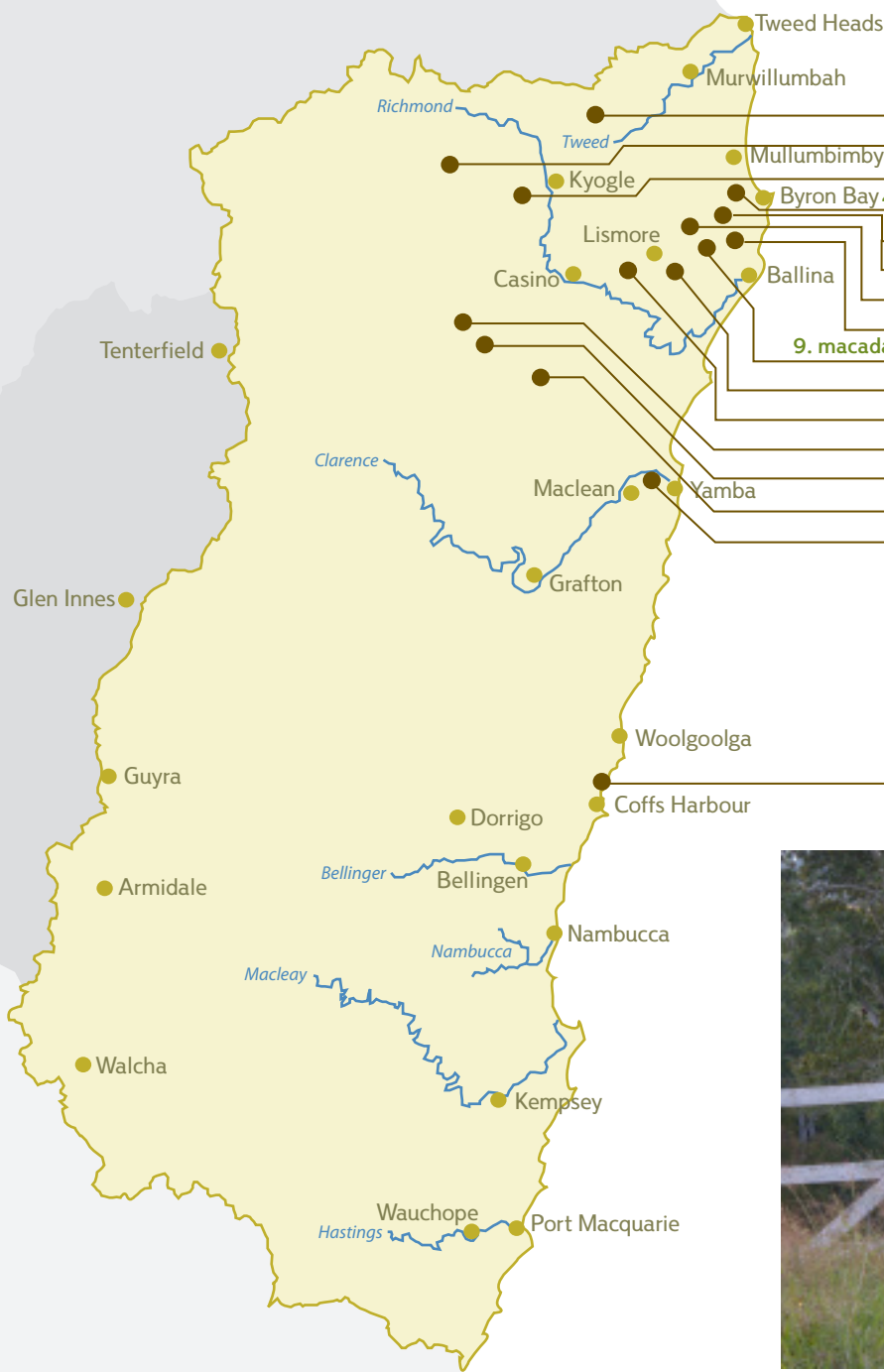


Soil erosion projects completed in the Northern Rivers, NSW 2007/2008

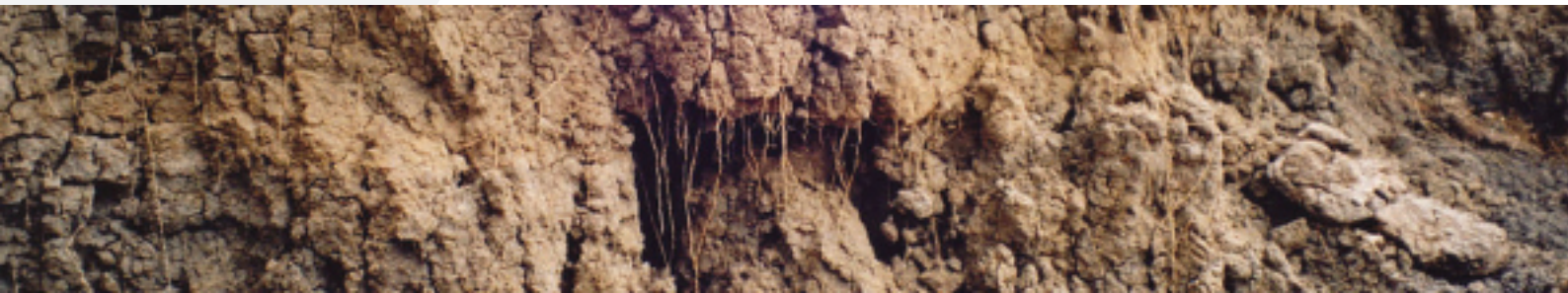
Funded by Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority



Project locations



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Soil Erosion Solutions supported work to repair, reduce and prevent soil erosion on agricultural land in the northern rivers region.

From 2005 to 2008 the Soil Erosion Solutions (SES) program was funded by the Northern Rivers CMA, and run by NSW DPI in partnership with Landcare community support officers in the region.

This program provided funding to landholders for onground works to control soil erosion on their properties. We asked for expressions of interest from landholders with soil erosion problems they wanted to address, then worked with them to develop plans for their projects, providing advice and technical support. The landholders then carried out their own projects with the support of funding from SES.

In the first year of the project, 15 landholders completed works on their properties. These were described in a previous booklet, available on the web at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/resources/soils/erosion/soil-erosion-solutions.

After our third year more landholders have completed erosion control works with assistance from SES. Funds were targeted towards responding to a high level of interest received from landholders in the Richmond Catchment, and addressing the specific issues of steep lands in the Byron and Coffs Harbour areas, and gullies in the Clarence Catchment and Casino region.

In November 2006 we took a group on a bus tour of mass movement sites in the Upper Richmond around Barkers Vale to examine the causes and options for dealing with landslips.

In May 2007 we piloted a soil erosion management course, developed with the North Coast Institute TAFE at Wollongbar. Taught by horticultural consultant, Alan Coates and soil conservationist, Gerry Ryan, the course was targeted specifically to macadamia growers. Morning sessions were held in the classroom and afternoons were spent looking at real erosion control works and strategies on farms. The 3 day course was fully enrolled, and feedback from the growers who attended was very positive.



A field day held at the Brooklet project described in this booklet (page 9) was attended by 72 people, mostly fellow macadamia growers who showed a keen interest in improving their farm infrastructure and introducing practices to reduce soil erosion.

As well as this publication which documents our onground works projects, the Soil Erosion Solutions team has compiled a technical manual for landholders to provide more detailed information on soil erosion management and rehabilitation.

We encourage landholders interested in developing a soil erosion project for their property to contact the Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority for assistance.

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