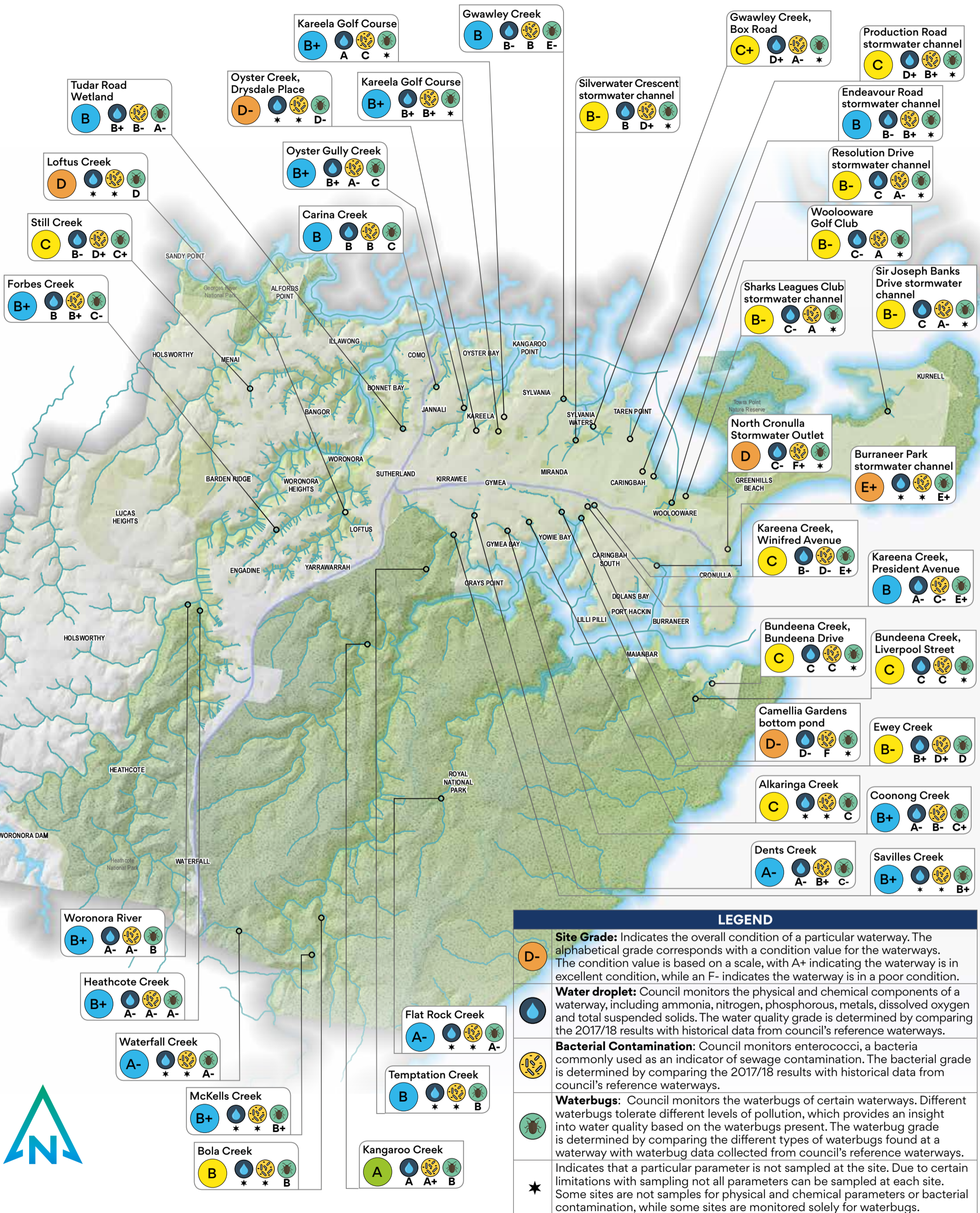


SUTHERLAND SHIRE

**2017/18
SUTHERLAND SHIRE
WATERWAYS
HEALTH
REPORT CARD**

SUTHERLAND SHIRE RIVERS CATCHMENT GRADES



Site Grade

Site name

B **F** **A+** **B**

Physical and chemical condition **Bacterial contamination**

This report card provides a visual snapshot of the condition of waterways in and around the shire for 2017/18.

The grades are calculated from council's Strategic Water Monitoring Program (SWaMP). The alphabetical grades represent the 2017/18 result for that particular waterway.

WATER QUALITY GRADES	
A+ to A	Excellent
A- to B	Good
B- to D+	Fair
D to F-	Poor
Fail	Degraded
*	Not sampled

ABOUT THIS REPORT CARD

Community surveys have told council that residents want catchments managed effectively to improve the cleanliness, health and biodiversity of the Shire's waterways.

Council monitors our waterways through its Strategic Water Monitoring Program (SWaMP). In 2017/18 council expanded the traditional physical and chemical SWaMP analysis to include freshwater macroinvertebrates (waterbugs) as an additional indicator of stream health.

This report card provides a visual snapshot of the condition of the shire's waterways for 2017/18. The alphabetical grades provide a familiar rating system to aid in the interpretation of scientific information. The grades represent the yearly result for each waterway and are determined by comparing monthly 2017/18 results with historical data from council's reference waterways. For a more detailed analysis please visit council's water quality webpage.



Collecting waterbugs



Sorting waterbugs



Sediment contamination



Rubbish contamination

PRESSURES FACING URBAN CREEKS

Creeks flowing through urban catchments generally suffer from increases in sediment, nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorous), metals and rubbish. They also experience a reduction in biological diversity and habitat complexity.

Urban catchments have roads, roofs, driveways and other types of impervious surfaces that direct rainwater, usually via a piped network, into local creeks. This process bypasses water's natural pathway and introduces the contaminants found on impervious surfaces into local waterways.

MANAGING URBAN CREEKS

Sutherland Shire Council has installed more than 250 devices to improve stormwater quality, including artificial wetlands, gross pollutant traps (GPTs), continuous deflective separators and natural sand drainage systems. We are currently developing a new Catchment and Waterways Management Strategy as part of our 2017-2021 Delivery Program. This will ensure the value placed on local waterways by the community will be maintained.

October 2018



Savilles Creek



Baby Eastern Water Dragon, Forbes Creek