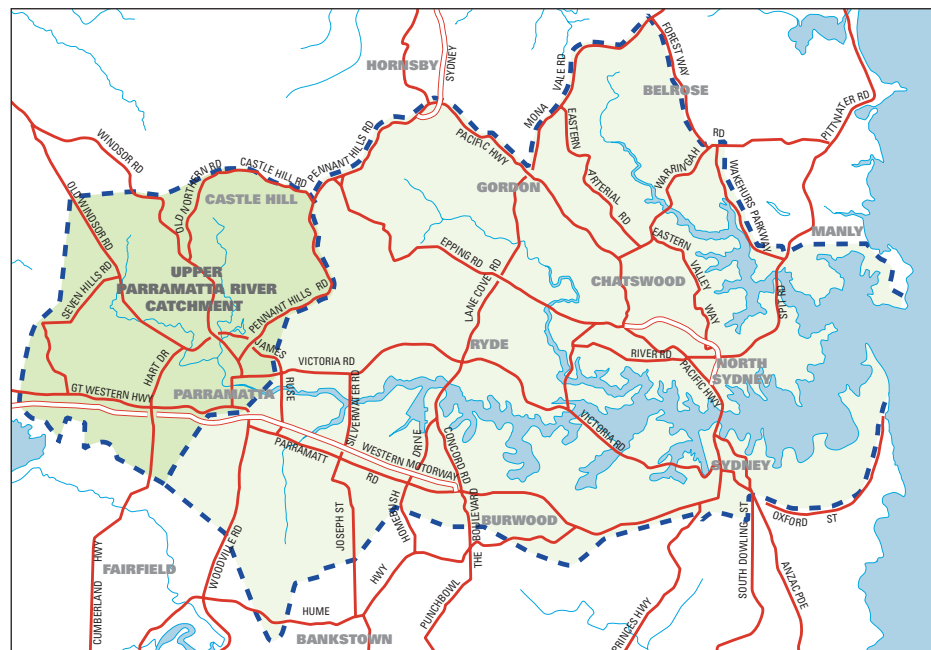


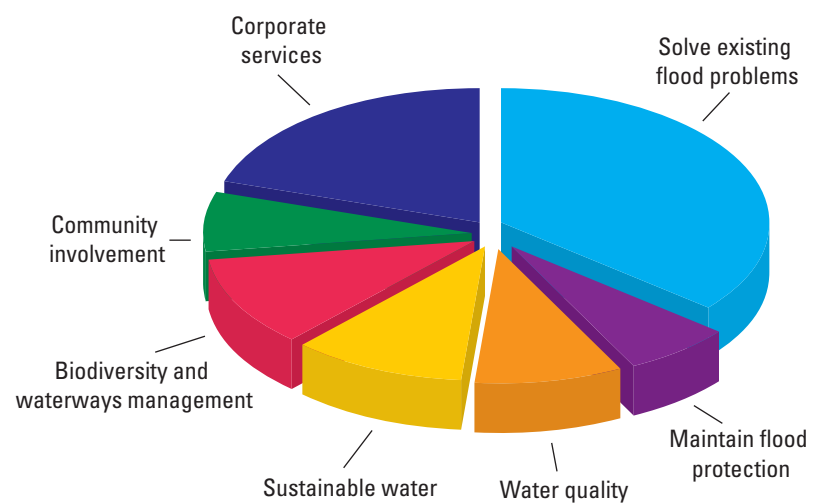
Catchment Facts

The Upper Parramatta River catchment of 110 km² covers the upper reaches of the Sydney Harbour catchment. It includes part of Parramatta, Blacktown, Holroyd and Baulkham Hills local council areas. The catchment is home to 230,000 residents and contains 85,000 properties.

Sydney Harbour Catchment



Expenditure by Key Performance Areas 2002/2003



Board of Trustees

Mr Bob Junor (Chairman appointed February 2003) – nominated by the Minister for Land and Water Conservation
 Mr George Whitehouse (Chairman deceased January 2003) – nominated by the Minister for Land and Water Conservation
 Mr Axel Tennie (Deputy Chairman) – nominated by the Minister for Land and Water Conservation
 Cllr Roy Potter – nominated by Baulkham Hills Shire Council
 Cllr Larry Bolitho – nominated by Baulkham Hills Shire Council
 Cllr Allen Ezzy – nominated by Holroyd City Council
 Cllr Peter Herlinger – nominated by Holroyd City Council
 Cllr Chris Worthington – nominated by Parramatta City Council
 Cr Patricia Camerilli (resigned February 2003) – nominated by Parramatta City Council

Cllr Barbara Gapps – nominated by Blacktown City Council
 Cllr Kathie Collins – nominated by Blacktown City Council
 Ms Pam Smith – nominated by the Minister for the Environment
 Ms Lois Gray – nominated by the Minister for Urban Affairs and Planning

Contact Details

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UPPER PARRAMATTA RIVER
CATCHMENT TRUST

UPPER PARRAMATTA RIVER CATCHMENT TRUST



ANNUAL Report SUMMARY 2002-2003

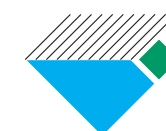
About the Trust

The Trust is a statutory authority established by the New South Wales Government in 1989 to implement flood mitigation works and measures, improve water quality, promote water sensitive urban design, improve the condition of vegetation within the catchment and undertake associated activities in the Upper Parramatta River catchment.



Highlights of 2002-2003

- Following an independent review of the Trust in late 2002 by Mr Bob Wilson, the Trust's Minister, the Hon. Craig Knowles MP, accepted the review report's recommendation that the Trust continue for a least another four years.
- In a year when severe drought gripped NSW, the Trust lead a consortium of local councils, regional organisations and State agencies that conducted two major projects to promote Water Sensitive Urban Design in Sydney.
- The Trust co-ordinated the preparation of a common Floodplain Risk Management Plan for the catchment, whose draft was placed on public exhibition.
- Frank Samuel, a 97 year old retired farmer of Old Toongabbie, won the Diamond Award and over \$6,000 for a future environmental project in the Trust's 3rd annual Regional Environment Awards.
- George Whitehouse, Chairman of the Trust since its establishment, died suddenly in January after a short illness. Mr Bob Junor of West Pennant Hills was appointed as Trust Chairman in February 2003.



UPPER PARRAMATTA RIVER
CATCHMENT TRUST

Review of Year's Achievements

Solve existing flooding problems



Pendle Hill Creek Floodway

The Trust commenced a program of investigations to determine possible solutions for all outstanding flood problem areas in the catchment. Studies were completed in the vicinity of Cornell Street (Blacktown), Hartley Road and Michigan Road (Seven Hills), Orange Grove (Castle Hill), Bogalara Road (Toongabbie), Irrigation Road (Wentworthville) and Watkins Road, Lindsay Street and Roxborough Park Road (Baulkham Hills).

Parramatta City Council constructed the second last stage (3A) of the Pendle Hill Creek Floodway at Toongabbie with financial and technical help from the Trust.

The Trust partly funded Parramatta City Council's purchase and demolition by of two severely flood affected houses as part of the implementation of the North Wentworthville Floodplain Management Plan.

Maintain flood protection

A draft catchment-wide Floodplain Risk Management Plan, with common flood-related development controls to apply throughout all four council areas, was completed and placed on public exhibition.

With growing interest in on-site stormwater management for water quantity, quality and conservation purposes, the Trust continued ground-breaking research aimed at revising the catchment's 12 year old On-site Stormwater Detention policy to allow for rainwater tanks and to control site runoff in both large and small storms.

Improve water quality



As part of the WSUD Capacity Building Program, participants at one of the seminars visited Rockdale Council installing an underground tank to store rainwater for non-potable uses in the Council building.

Working closely local councils, regional organisations and other State agencies during a particularly dry year, the Trust played the key role in managing two NSW Stormwater Trust-funded projects to raise awareness of Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) amongst council officers and others throughout Sydney.

The Trust was the lead organisation in the Western Sydney WSUD Demonstration Sites project. In the coming year this will deliver state-of-the art demonstration projects at Model Farms High School, a Seven Hills aged housing development and a Kellyville display home, as well as a detailed technical specification for WSUD for use by local councils.

The Trust temporarily employed two project officers who ran the Sydney WSUD Capacity Building program for council staff. This program included seminars, inspections, a design competition and preparation of model WSUD planning provisions.

Promote sustainable water usage

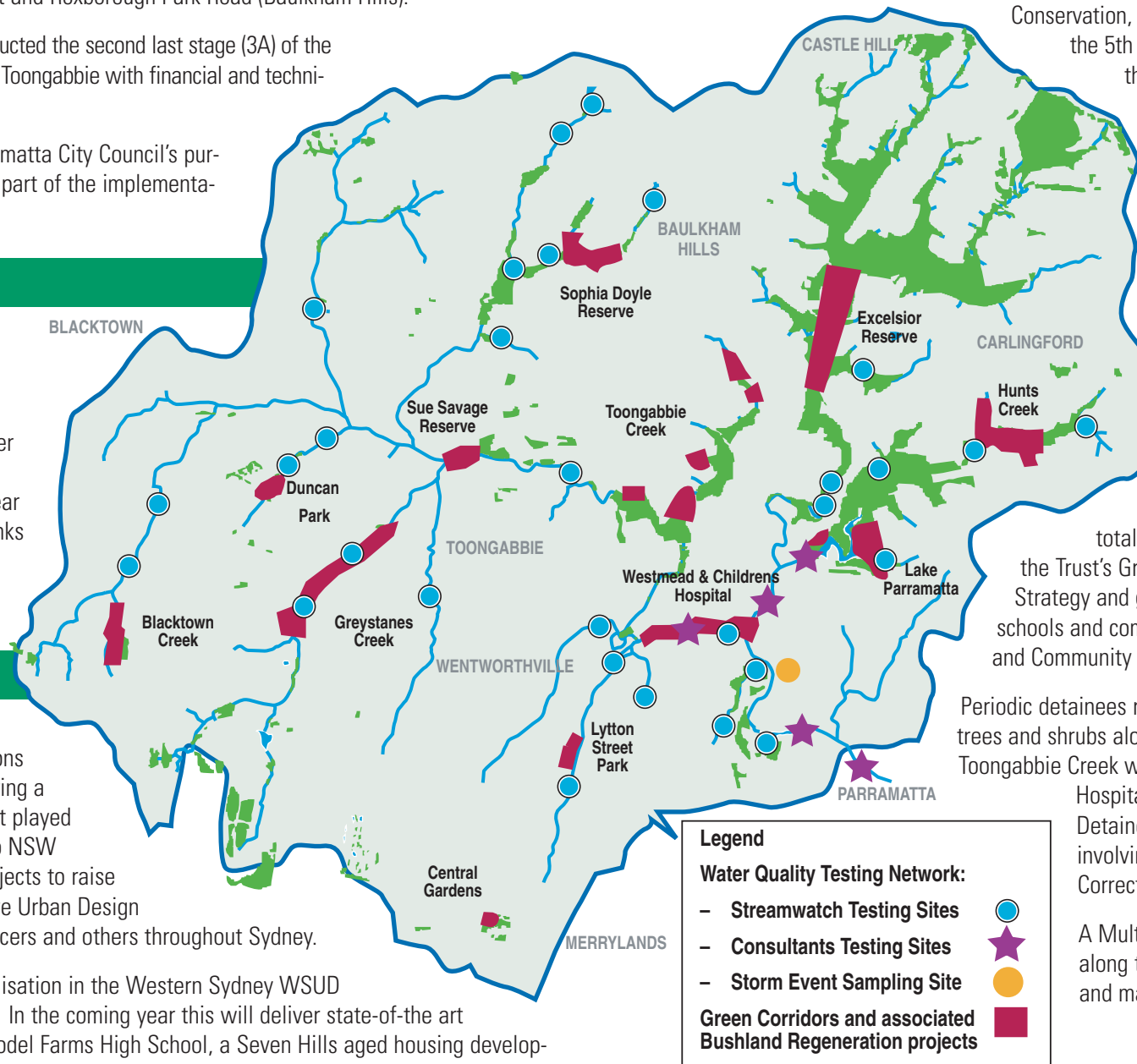
A review of progress in implementing the catchment's 1999 Stormwater Management Plan was completed and the Plan was completely revised to reflect changing technologies and capacities of the local councils – the first comprehensive revision of such a plan in NSW.

In March 2003, the then Minister for Land and Water Conservation, Hon John Aquilina MP, officially opened the 5th annual Lake Parramatta Open Day at the Lake Reserve. Over 5,000 people took part in the festivities.

More than 1,700 people from 18 secondary schools, 11 primary schools and 4 community groups, took part in water quality testing at 52 locations around the catchment under the Trust's Waterwatch program.



Blacktown South Public School testing water quality in Lancelot Street Wetland at Blacktown.



Biodiversity and waterways management

The condition of native vegetation in the catchment was further improved as a result of Trust grants totalling \$200,000 to the four councils under the Trust's Green Corridors Vegetation Management Strategy and grants totalling almost \$30,000 to 12 schools and community groups and Greener Schools and Community Groups small grants program.

Periodic detainees removed weeds and planted native trees and shrubs along a kilometre of the bank of Toongabbie Creek within the Westmead and Children's Hospitals under an ongoing Periodic Detainees' Creek Bank Improvement program involving the Trust, the Department of Corrective Services, both hospitals and, now, Parramatta City Council.

A Multi-use Recreational Pathways Plan strategic plan that integrates pathways along the major creeks for jogging, cycling, walking, rollerblading, skate boarding and maintenance purposes was finalised and issued to the four councils.



As part of the PDC program, Toongabbie Creek at Westmead has undergone native revegetation.

Community education, involvement and marketing

This year's Regional Environment Awards were very successful, with 38 nominations received in the five categories. The Hon Diane Beamer MP, Minister for Western Sydney, presented the overall Diamond Award to 97-year-old Mr Frank Samuel of Old Toongabbie, who has been undertaking bush regeneration along Toongabbie Creek for the last 27 years.

The Trust launched its curriculum-based Environmental Education Kit for secondary schools in December 2002. Free kits were distributed to all catchment secondary schools, libraries and selected primary schools. Training in use of the kit was provided to local teachers.