

2026 REPORT CARD

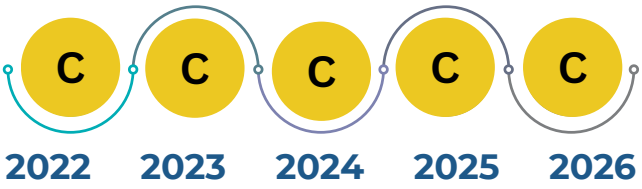
MANGROVES

Gladstone Healthy Harbour Partnership

What are mangroves?

Mangroves are flowering trees adapted to marine and estuarine conditions, providing important habitat for marine wildlife. Their roots help stabilise shorelines, trap sediments and provide nursery areas for fish.

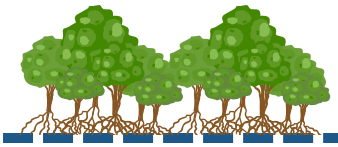
Mangroves are protected under the Queensland Fisheries Act 1994 due to their environmental importance.



The 2026 Report Card uses 2024 monitoring data as mangroves are assessed every five years.

Seven monitoring zones were in Good condition, six zones improved in grade, and two zones (Auckland Inlet and Mid Harbour) were in Poor condition.

Changes are measured against 2013/14 data, with data collection every five years.



How are they measured?

Mangroves form part of tidal wetlands throughout Gladstone Harbour. GHHP monitors mangroves with researchers from James Cook University TropWATER, and the MangroveWatch Hub.

Three sub-indicators assess their health:

- **Mangrove extent** shows the proportion of mangroves and salt marsh to salt pan area in wetlands.
- **Mangrove canopy** condition or canopy density (number of leaves) indicates mangrove health - healthy forests have dense canopies.
- **Shoreline condition** measures the response of shoreline mangroves to water quality, climate, and tidal changes.

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