## Tegan McVicker



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## Home

grew up in Gympie, which was settled on the Mary River or Moocooboola in Gubbi Gubbi County. On this river we use to play as children, our uncles would take us boating and fishing for eel-tailed catfish and freshwater perch for Nanna up one of the creeks that it feeds. Moocooboola stretches from the Conondale Range, moving through Booroobin, Kenilworth, Gympie, Tiro and Marybough (towns that have settled on the river), and opens her mouth on the Great Sandy Strait between mainland Australia and K'Gari. The Mary River turtle, Mary River Cod, Queensland Lungfish and Coxen fig parrot are all endangered species that are found in and around the river system. These days unfortunately I wouldn't go swimming or fishing on the river, it had become so unhealthy that you would get sick. But over the years I have noticed a difference, the effort people are putting in to her, healing our waterways and making it possible for these endangered animals to hopefully thrive again.

