

Onkaparinga Waterwatch Snapshot 2

Northern Coastal sites monitored		
Code	Group Name	Site Description
CRI005	Friends of Christies Creek	Eastern End of property - Roger Brine site 1
CRI014	Upper Christie Creek Group	Christie Creek, olive lane at bottom of property
CRI333	Upper Christie Creek Group	Dam on Jeff Smith's property
CRI400	Debbie Dunn Home School	Main Ck in Wilfred Res, draining golf course from E
CRI702	Christies Beach High School	Main Christie Ck on Brodie Rd bridge upstream side
CRI704	Christies Beach High School	Christie Creek, track straight from end Sunningdale Rd
CRI705	Christies Beach High School	E end of tunnel where railway line X's Christie Creek
CRI706	Christies Beach High School	W end of tunnel, where railway line X's Christie Creek
CRI709	O'Sullivan Beach P.S.	Christie Ck next 2 bridge on Dyson Rd on downstream side
CRI990	O'Sullivan Beach P.S.	Christie Ck, reserve adj to S of O'Sullivan Bch PS
CRI999	O'Sullivan Beach P.S.	Christie Ck next to bridge upstream of mouth
FLD409	Aberfoyle Hub P.S.	Thalassa Creek near school, Outlook Drive
FLD485	Braeview PS	Tripoli Road Bridge
FLD487	Braeview P.S.	Braeview site 2. located downstream from site 1. Fountain valley
FLD490	Woodend P.S.	Hallet Reserve, near Hallet Bridge just downstream from South Rd
FLD504	Woodend P.S.	Field River under Young St bridge
FLD505	Arbury Park Outdoor School	D/strm Young St ford blw join of 2 main branches
FLD510	Woodend P.S.	Wetland between Young St & Charles Tank Ave
FLD900	Reynella South P.S.	Tributary in reserve, corner of Karyn Cres & Robertson St
FLD935	Sheidow Park P.S.	Creek cross under Lander Road from NE, downstream of road
FLD940	Woodend P.S.	Field River tributary below park, downstream of Berrima Rd
FLD944	Woodend P.S.	Watercourse on corner of Lander Ave & Berrima Rd
FLD995	Hallett Cove Conservation Park	Field river, Cormorant Drive
FLD999	Hallett Cove Conservation Park	Mouth of Field River on beach South of Hallett Cove
WAT500	Hallett Cove East P.S.	Waterfall Creek in park off Madison Ct, reedy area, pool
WAT700	Hallett Cove School	Waterfall Creek at the end of Sandison Rd

Northern Coastal catchments
 Incorporating: Waterfall Creek, Field River, Christie Creek catchments



A Yellow fish once again but this time a lot closer to being a blue fish. Salinity levels have improved, however along with nitrate and some turbidity readings the levels still remain moderately elevated.



Catchment overview

Salinity

Salinity levels have very much improved since the last snapshot. Each river system has salinity levels generally lower than last time. Sites in the Christie Creek in particular have shown a marked drop from around 6000 to below 1000 ECUs. Some sites still have levels that could indicate possible problems.



pH

All sites recorded a pH level within the acceptable range.



Nutrients

As with last snapshot the phosphate levels are mostly in the good category, with only a couple of sites having levels in the may be of concern range. Nitrate levels too are similar to last snapshot. The majority being high enough to indicate possible problems. WAT700 once again has an extremely high nitrate level of 4.0mg/l



Turbidity

Turbidity levels also are similar to the previous snapshot. However CRI014 had incredibly cloudy water—a turbidity reading of 300! This was enough turn last months blue fish rating into a yellow fish this month.



What does your fish mean?		
Good water quality	Possible problems	Poor quality water



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Frogs heard:



- Common froglet ✓
- Spotted grass frog ✓
- Brown tree frog
- Banjo frog
- Bibron's Toadlet
- Painted frog

Macroinvertebrates:



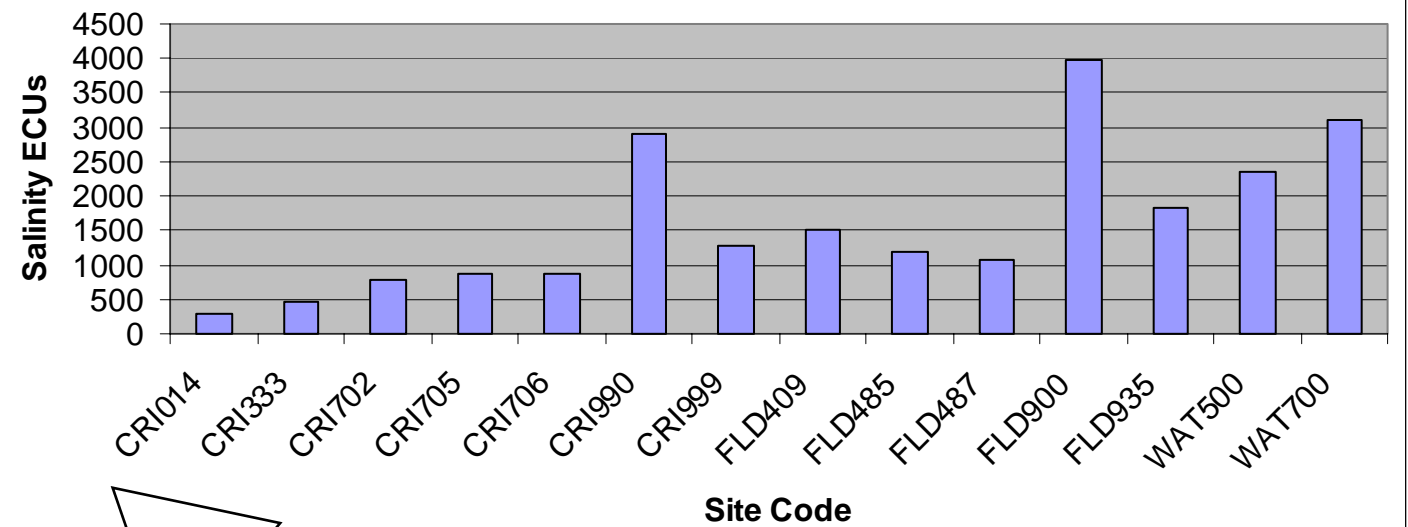
No samples collected:

Macro of the Month

Fly larvae (diptera)

Fly larvae have simple bodies which work "a bit like an elastic-sided garbage bag and can stretch to accommodate a large meal better than a nymph like body can." There are so many different kinds as well; some are very hardy actually prefer organically polluted sites (such as the rat-tailed maggots – Syrphidae) and some – like the non-biting midges (Chironomidae) can provide a lot of information about the surrounding environment. Source: The Waterbug Book; Gooderham and Tsyrlin © 2002 CSIRO Publishing

Comparison of Salinity May 2006



Saltwatch (salinity) Results -in Electrical Conductivity (EC) Units-

The salinity data collected during the May Snapshot Week has been used in **Saltwatch**. It can be used by scientists and government agencies to track the spread of salinity throughout the State.

Salinity data is important for local communities as elevated salinity levels affect not only aquatic ecosystems, but can also have adverse impacts on human activities relating to irrigation of crops, and provision of water supplies for people and stock.

Data collected from previous years indicates that salinity across the State is highly variable, with the highest salinity readings found in the Broughton and Wakefield, South East and Lower Murray Catchments. Lower readings were observed in the Riverland and Mt Lofty Ranges.

Table of Results May 2006

Code	Date	EC (uS/cm)	Nitrate (mg/l)	pH (Units)	Temp (Degrees C)	Phosphate (mg/l)	Turbidity (NTU)
CRI014	9/05/2006	300	0.8	7.0	14.6	0.025	300
CRI333	9/05/2006	460	0.05	7.5	14.2	0.025	15
CRI400	12/05/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
CRI702	12/05/2006	790	0.4	7.5	15.5	0.025	15
CRI705	10/05/2006	880	0.4	7.0	15.9	0.025	15
CRI706	10/05/2006	885	0.4	7.0	14.8	0.025	15
CRI990	11/05/2006	2910	0.4	6.0	16.0	0.4	10
CRI999	11/05/2006	1290	0.8	6.0	15.0	0.025	15
FLD409	8/05/2006	1510	0.8	7.5	14.7	0.05	<10
FLD485	11/05/2006	1190	0.	7.5	16.0	0.025	30
FLD487	11/05/2006	1060	0.	8.0	16.0	0.025	20
FLD490	12/05/2006		0.1	7.5	14.0	0.2	15
FLD504	12/05/2006		0.2	7.0	15.0	0.05	50
FLD510	12/05/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
FLD900	12/05/2006	3990	0.4	7.0	17.0		10
FLD935	10/05/2006	1840	0.08	7.5	15.0	0.1	<10
FLD940	10/05/2006		0.4	7.0	15.0	<0.025	20
FLD944	11/05/2006		0.4	7.5	17.2	0.1	20
WAT500	10/05/2006	2350	0.8	8.0	14.9	0.05	<10
WAT700	10/05/2006	3100	4.0	7.5	20.3	0.025	45

Sites with a '0' reading for all parameters were dry this month. * indicates an estuarine site.

How healthy is your site?

	Good	Possible problems	Poor
pH	6 - 8.5		<6 or >8.5
Salinity (ECUs)	<1000	1000-2000	>2000
Turbidity (NTU's)	<20	20-50	>50
Nitrate (mg/L)	<0.1	0.1-1.0	>1.0
Phosphpate (mg/L)	<0.1	0.1-1.0	>1.0

This table is based on water quality criteria as recommended by the SA EPA (1998). This table should only be used as a guide to water quality. There are many substances and organisms which have not been tested for which may or may not be present in the water and which can have effects on the ecosystems.