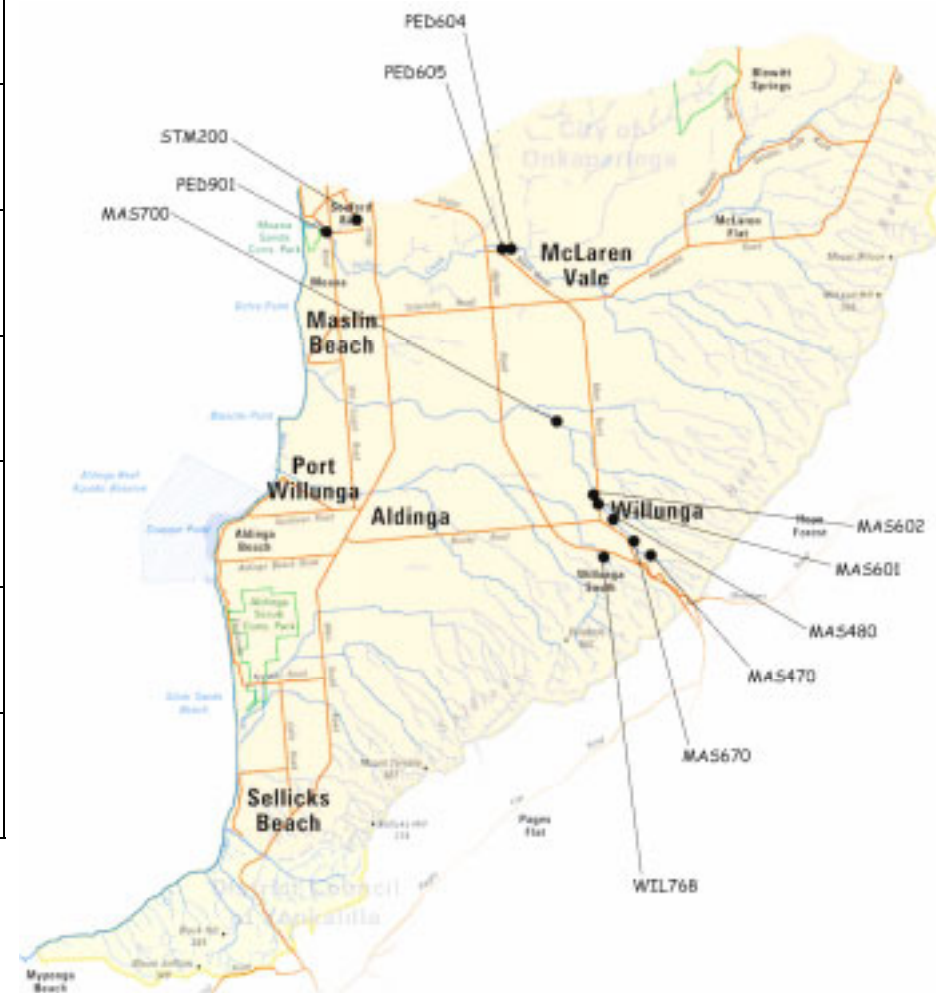


# Onkaparinga Waterwatch Snapshot 3

Southern Coastal sites monitored		
Code	Group Name	Site Description
MAS470	National Trust of SA - Willunga Branch	Maslin Creek before it enters Willunga in Govt House Grounds
MAS480	Willunga Trees for Life	Maslin Creek in Willunga Wirra, St Peters Tce
MAS602	Willunga PS	Maslin Creek on Linear Park near PS at footbridge
PED604	McLaren Vale PS	Pedler Creek behind McLaren Vale information centre
PED605	McLaren Vale PS	McLaren Vale Information Centre lake/dam
PED700	Tatachilla Lutheran College	Pedler Creek tributary Eco-classroom at Tatachilla
STM200	All Saints Catholic P.S.	Drain behind school, flows thru to Seaford/Commercial Roads

## Southern Coastal Catchments Incorporating Pedler Creek and Maslin Creek



A blue fish this month...  
Some nutrient and salinity levels were slightly elevated but over all the remaining measurements were within the acceptable range.



### Catchment overview

#### Salinity

Salinity levels have improved since last snapshot. (Though it should be noted that there are slightly different sites being monitored this snapshot.) However having said that the sites that have recorded salinity readings for both months have an improved salinity reading this time around. The majority of sites are within the acceptable range to qualify for a blue fish. Just MAS470 has readings that remain elevated.

#### pH

All sites recorded a pH level within the acceptable range.

#### Nutrients

The level of nutrients (nitrates, phosphates) were generally quite low this snapshot. There were just a few sites (MAS470, MAS480 & PED605) that had readings which were high enough to just push the overall results up into the 'possible problem' category.

#### Turbidity

Generally the turbidity levels this snapshot were excellent. All but one site had turbidity readings in the very good category.

### What does your fish mean?

Good water quality	Possible problems	Poor quality water

**Frogs heard:**



Common froglet: PED604 & PED 605

Spotted grass frog: -

Brown tree frog: -

Banjo frog: -

Bibron's Toadlet: -

Painted frog: -

Unspecified frog species: PED700

**Macroinvertebrates:**



Samples collected: at MAS470

**Macro of the month:**

Water boatmen

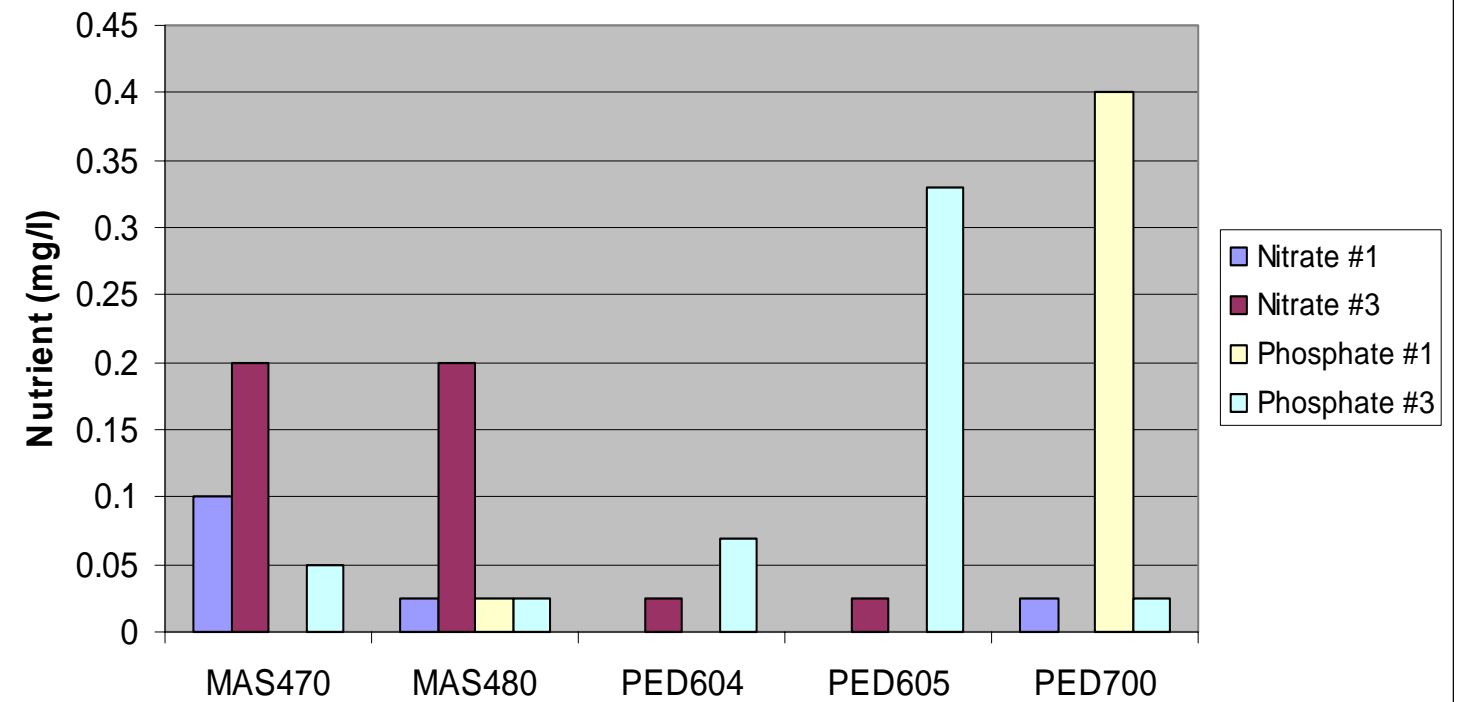
There are over 300 species of Corixidae worldwide. They grow 4 - 10 mm long, depending on the species.

Water boatmen have hind legs that are long and oar-like and are used for swimming. Their middle legs are used for clinging to the substrate. The first pair have scoop-shaped 'tarsi' (the segments at the end of their front legs), which are used to scoop up detritus or in finding prey. Their wings are only present in the adult stage. Their bodies are so buoyant that, when underwater, they must swim or they float to the surface. Therefore they cannot stay still!

Water boatmen are often the first colonisers of newly flowing water. They are very common in almost all aquatic habitats in SA, including saline and polluted waters. Fly-fishers sometimes tie flies that resemble water boatmen as they are a favoured food source for freshwater fish.

Source: EPA Critter Catalogue

**Nutrient Comparison March vs June 06**



**Table of results June 2006**

Code	Date	EC (uS/cm)	Nitrate (mg/l)	pH (Units)	Temp (Degrees C)	Phosphate (mg/l)	Turbidity (NTU)
MAS470	14/06/2006	1980	0.2	8.0		0.05	10
MAS480	13/06/2006		0.2	8.5	10.0	0.025	<10
PED604	16/06/2006	450	<0.05	7.5		0.07	40
PED605	16/06/2006	520	<0.05	8.0		0.33	20
PED700	13/06/2006	230		7.5	14.0	0.025	20
STM200	15/06/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0

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