

Onkaparinga Waterwatch Snapshot 6

2006 MIDDLE ONKAPARINGA sites monitored		
Code	Group Name	Site Description
ONK235	Engler family	Small creek in tiny catchment East of Carey Gully
ONK324	Hahndorf Landcare	Below Hahndorf golf course on private property
ONK330	Hahndorf Landcare	Hahn Creek just downstream of landcare site at carpark
ONK382	Arbury Park Outdoor School	Cox Creek just u/stm of new Dav bridge in Mt George CP
ONK395	Arbury Park Outdoor School	Wetland in Mt George Picnic ground, up northern end
ONK397	Arbury Park Outdoor School	Cox Ck from Ford at Tiersmens Bridge in Mt George C.P.
ONK411	Arbury Park Outdoor School	From outflow pipe at bottom of APOS wetlands
ONK418	Arbury Park Outdoor School	Johnson's Creek just before enters Cox Creek in Dean Res.
ONK419	Arbury Park Outdoor School	Cox Creek on d/stm side of Dean. Bridge in Dean. Res.
ONK423	Hills Montessori School	Kain Ave tributary in middle of Carripook Park
ONK454	Friends of Stirling Linear Park	Stirling Park Creek just before Woorabinda Dam water joins
ONK456	Friends of Stirling Linear Park	Woorabinda Dam before outlet
ONK462	Aldgate P.S.	At net court before Madurta branch joins main creek
ONK464	Stirling East P.S.	Creek enter from W before Snows Rd bridge, next to Kindy
ONK470	Stirling East P.S.	Before Creek crosses under Pirallila Place just off Snows Rd
ONK475	Aldgate P.S.	Below Aldgate township at Arundel Rd bridge
ONK484	Aldgate P.S.	Aldgate Creek near Blackwood Lane on Aldgate Valley Rd
ONK486	Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary	Ponding pond
ONK487	Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary	The Swamp run-in
ONK488	Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary	The Swamp run-out
ONK489	Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary	Blackwater Lake run-in
ONK490	Warrawong Wildlife Sanctuary	Blackwater Lake decking
ONK534	Jurlique	Mylor Herb Farm - Property Entrance
ONK535	Jurlique	Mylor Herb Farm - Chook Shed Gully
ONK536	Jurlique	Mylor Herb Farm - Property Exit

Middle Onkaparinga catchment
 Incorporating: Scott Creek, Cox Creek,
 Aldgate Creek



What does your fish mean?

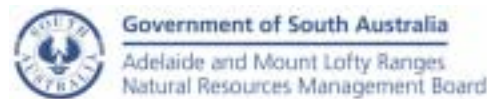
Good water quality	Possible problems	Poor quality water

A blue fish again this month....
 With the exception of some elevated salinity and nutrient readings the remainder of the results this month are very good indeed



Catchment overview

- Salinity**
 Once again virtually every site this month recorded a slight increase in salinity compared to the previous snapshot. However, as was the case last time the majority of sites still had salinity levels that would be considered good. There are still 5 sites that recorded salinity levels well into the poor category. Hence overall a yellow fish has been allocated.
- pH**
 All sites recorded a pH level within the acceptable range.
- Nutrients**
 Nutrient (nitrate & phosphate) levels this month have decreased slightly since the previous snapshot, overall remaining quite low. The majority of sites had both nitrate and phosphate levels either below the detectable limit or at lowest recordable level. There are however a small minority of sites that have levels that might be of concern.
- Turbidity**
 Turbidity levels are exceptionally good. Virtually every monitored site recorded the lowest possible turbidity reading of <10. The remaining 3 sites that did not, recorded the next best turbidity reading of 10!



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Frogs heard:



Common froglet: ONK330, ONK395, ONK454, ONK456, ONK462, ONK475, ONK535, ONK536

Spotted grass frog: -

Brown tree frog: ONK330

Banjo frog: ONK382, ONK454, ONK456

Bibron's Toadlet: -

Painted frog: -

Unspecified frog species: ONK235

Macroinvertebrates:

No samples collected this snapshot

Macro of the month:

Freshwater mites

Water mites are found in almost every aquatic habitat, but are more common in still waters than they are in running water. Mites can often be found among aquatic vegetation. They tend to be absent from extremely polluted or saline waters.



Aquatic mites vary in shape and colour. They have eight legs and most have spherical bodies. Many of these mites are brightly coloured-sometimes red, blue or green. Larger aquatic mites grow to 2.5 mm long and may be seen with the naked eye, but many species are smaller and may go unnoticed without the aid of a microscope.

Many mites parasitise larval or pupal insects that have terrestrial adult life stages, staying inside the insect as it pupates to the adult, and then travelling to other water bodies with the unsuspecting winged insect. This enables mites to colonise new water bodies.

Source EPA Critter Catalogue & The Waterbug Book

Turbidity Comparison October 2006

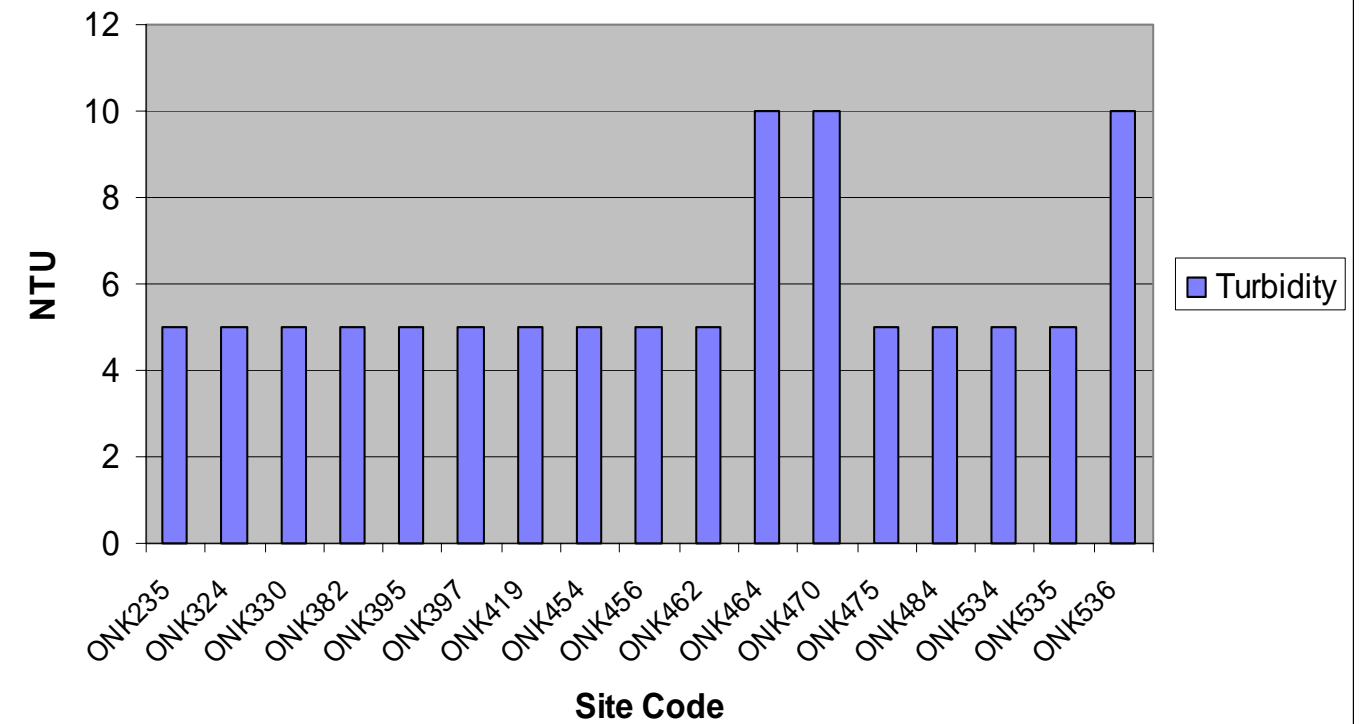


Table of Results October 2006

Code	Date	EC (uS/cm)	Nitrate-N (mg/l N)	pH (Units)	Temp (Degrees C)	Phosphate-P (mg/l P)	Turbidity (NTU)
ONK235	26/10/2006	250	0.05	7.5	19.3	0.1	<10
ONK324	27/10/2006	3480	0.05	7.5	11.5	0.05	<10
ONK330	27/10/2006	3420	0.05	7.5	13.0	0.025	<10
ONK382	26/10/2006	470	<0.05	7.5	14.8	<0.025	<10
ONK395	26/10/2006	190	<0.05	7.5	16.2	<0.025	<10
ONK397	26/10/2006	490	<0.05	7.5	16.7	<0.025	<10
ONK411	26/10/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
ONK418	26/10/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
ONK419	26/10/2006	580	<0.05	7.0	16.8	<0.025	<10
ONK454	23/10/2006	380	0.2	6.5	19.0	0.1	<10
ONK456	23/10/2006	100	<0.05	6.5	22.0	0.025	<10
ONK462	24/10/2006	550	<0.05	6.5	14.6	0.1	<10
ONK464	25/10/2006	480	0.8	7.0	13.8	0.025	10
ONK470	25/10/2006	480	0.4	7.0	15.6	0.05	10
ONK475	24/10/2006	520	0.1	6.5	14.1	0.025	<10
ONK484	24/10/2006	520	<0.05	6.5	14.3	<0.025	<10
ONK534	24/10/2006	2470	0.2	7.2	11.0	0.1	<10
ONK535	24/10/2006	2680	0.05	7.2	13.3	0.1	<10
ONK536	24/10/2006	3050	0.05	7.3	14.5	0.1	10

<i>How healthy is your site?</i>			
	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
Phoshpate (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.

Sites with a '0' reading for all parameters were dry this month.