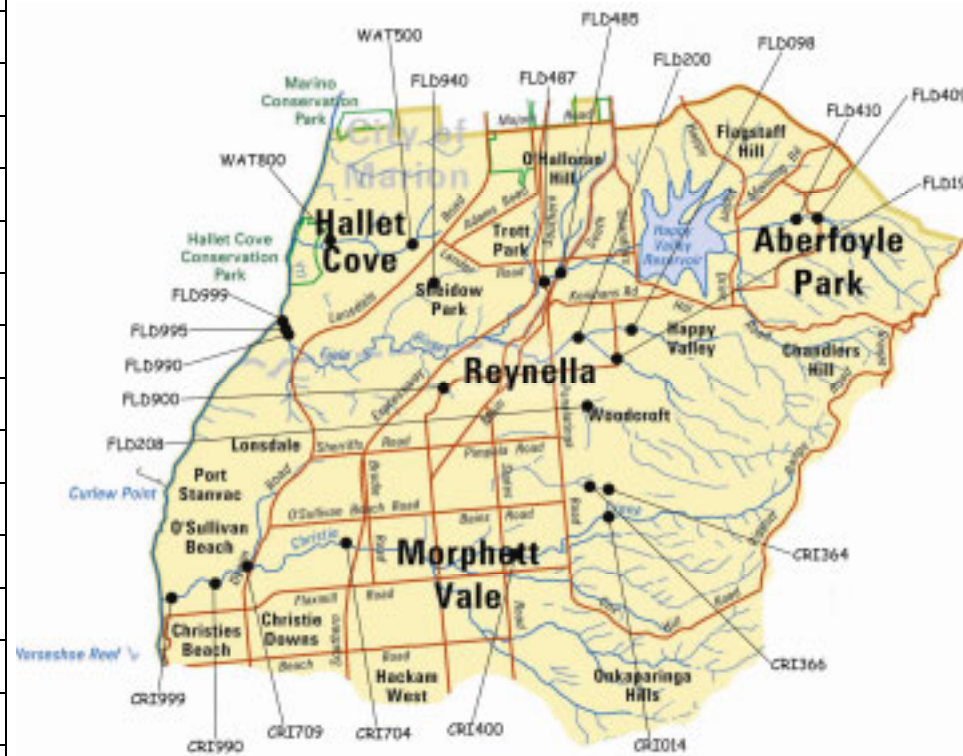


# Onkaparinga Waterwatch Snapshot 6

2006 Northern Coastal sites monitored		
Code	Group Name	Site Description
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 Creek in Wilfred Res, draining golf course from E
CRI702	Christies Beach High School	Main Christie Creek 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
CRI860	Hallett Cove Yr 12 Seniors	Tributary in reserve off O'Sullivan Beach Rd
CRI990	O'Sullivan Beach P.S.	Christie Creek, reserve adjacent to S of O'Sullivan Bch PS
CRI999	O'Sullivan Beach P.S.	Christie Creek next to bridge upstream of mouth
FLD065	Happy Valley PS	Panatalinga Creek behind school grounds
FLD409	Aberfoyle Hub P.S.	Thalassa Creek near school, Outlook Drive
FLD410	Heysen PS	Field River, under footbridge over creek between school and BMX track
FLD485	Braeview PS	Tripoli Road Bridge
FLD487	Braeview P.S.	Braeview site 2. located downstream from site 1. Fountain valley
FLD490	Woodend P.S.	Hallett Reserve, near Hallett Bridge just downstream from South Rd
FLD504	Woodend P.S.	Field River under Young St bridge
FLD510	Woodend P.S.	Wetland between Young St & Charles Tank Ave
FLD889	Sunrise Christian School	Creek directly behind shops across road from school
FLD900	Reynella South P.S.	Tributary in reserve, corner of Karyn Cres & Robertson St
FLD935	Sheidow Park P.S.	Creek cross under Lander Rd from NE, downstream of road
FLD940	Woodend P.S.	Big pond in park adjacent to Nolte St
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 adjacent to corner of Zwerner Drive & Sarga Sreet
WAT700	Hallett Cove R-12 School	Waterfall Creek at the end of Sandison Rd

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



A yellow fish again this month....  
Salinity and some turbidity levels are very worrying.



## Catchment overview

### Salinity

Salinity levels this month are once again very high. As with last snapshot the salinity levels have increased since the previous snapshot. These poor ratings occur in all three of the southern coastal catchments and are overall some of the highest that we've seen this year. In particular the FLD900 result of 9500EC is by far the highest non estuarine result from any site that was monitored this year.



### pH

Almost all sites recorded a pH level within the acceptable range. The exception being FLD900 that had a very acidic reading.



### Nutrients




Nutrient (nitrate & phosphate) results this snapshot are once again quite similar to the previous snapshot. Roughly half of the sites have nitrate and phosphate levels that are low enough to be of no concern. However the other half of the sites have levels that could indicate possible problems. As usual WAT700 still has nitrate levels that are very high!



### Turbidity

Turbidity levels at a number of sites are very high this month. FLD940 & FLD944 in particular are extremely high! Overall there is an even mix of poor sites, possible problem sites and good sites.



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: -
- Unspecified frog species: -

**Macroinvertebrates:**

Samples collected at: FLD940

**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.

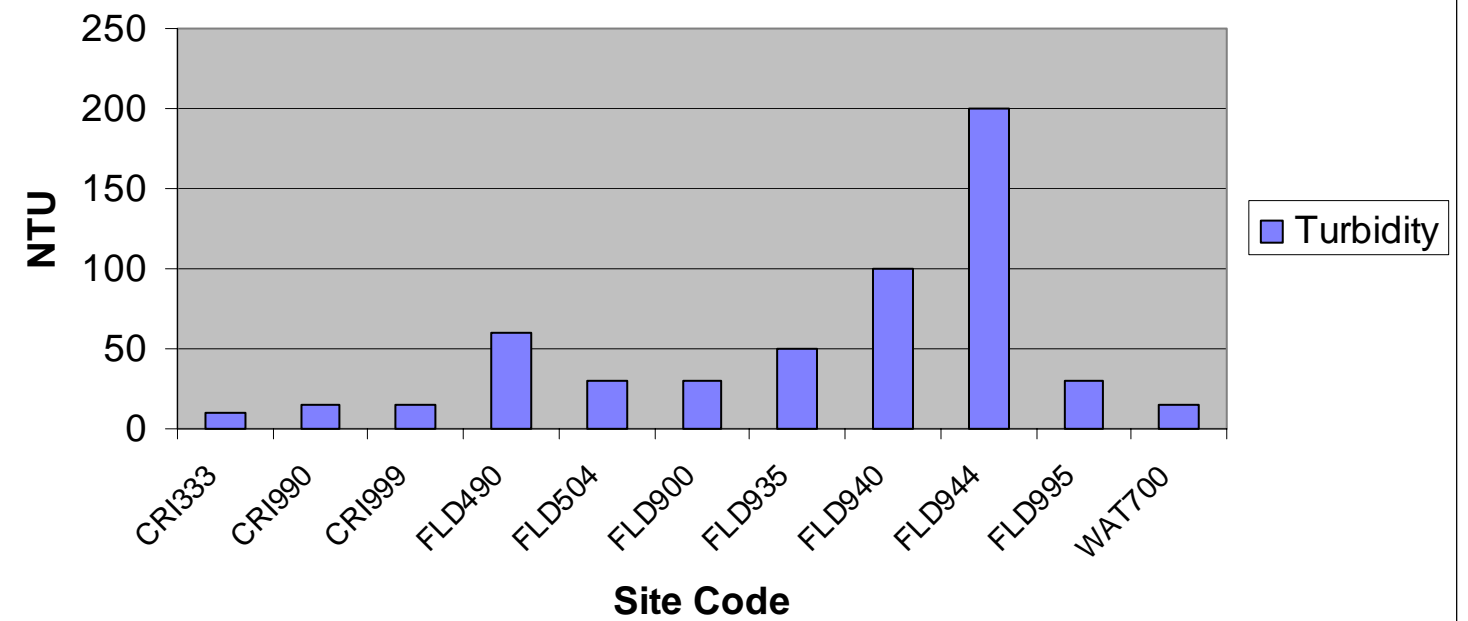


Aquatic mites vary in shape and colour. They have eight legs and most have spherical bodies. Many of these mites are brightly coloured-sometimes red, blue or green. Larger aquatic mites grow to 2.5 mm long and may be seen with the naked eye, but many species are smaller and may go unnoticed without the 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)
CRI014	23/10/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
CRI333	23/10/2006	410	<0.05	8.0	22.2	<0.025	10
CRI400	1/11/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
CRI860	7/11/2006	0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0
CRI990	24/10/2006	7230	0.1	8.0	20.0	0.1	15
CRI999	24/10/2006	7800	0.05	8.0	20.0	0.05	15
FLD490	27/10/2006	1720	0.05	8.0	21.0	0.1	60
FLD504	27/10/2006	4000	0.05	8.0	13.5	0.05	30
FLD510	26/10/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
FLD900	27/10/2006	9500	0.4	4.7	17.0	0.4	30
FLD935	25/10/2006	2805	0.8	8.5	12.0	0.1	50
FLD940	27/10/2006	1210	<0.05	8.5	16.0	0.4	100
FLD944	26/10/2006	590	0.05	8.0	18.0	0.2	200
FLD995	24/10/2006		0.8	7.5		0.025	30
WAT500	26/10/2006	0	0.	0.0	0.0	0.	0
WAT700	25/10/2006	4130	4.5	8.0	17.4	0.025	15

*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
Phosphate (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. \* indicates an estuarine site.