

Hello Ginninderra and Yass Volunteers!

It's been a very hot few months – thanks to everyone who went out in the heat and collected their data! We experienced some very low dissolved oxygen readings on Ginninderra Creek around the Umbagog Stepping Stones and the Gooromon Ponds confluence and unfortunately a fish kill was reported mid-Jan, no doubt contributed to by the extremely low dissolved oxygen observed there. Gooromon Ponds was also observed to have the highest EC of January of 650, but in Yass the highest was 850. Dissolved oxygen levels were not so low in Yass, the lowest being 3.6 at Wamboin, which had no flow at that time of year and was an isolated pool.

Kippax Creek has had some high Phosphorus readings – being beneath the GPT after some rainfall is generally what causes those. A water rat was spotted at Giralang Pond during February monitoring, and doing RARCS out in Yass this week was a great way to observe some of the get revegetation and recovery that has occurred on some of the Yass River after the Willow removal – river red gums sprouting almost up to our ears!

We welcome a few new volunteers for Ginninderra – Alex, Valentina and Portia! Looking forward to working with you, and introducing you to the other volunteers throughout Yass and Ginninderra Catchment. Next opportunity for this will be the next QAQC event – keep an eye out for it!

Below is a message from a the University of South Australia asking Waterwatch Volunteers to fill out a quick survey for some research they are conducting – if you have the time, please fill it out!

Have your say!

We'd love to learn more about the amazing volunteers who have contributed to the success of Waterwatch in the Upper Murrumbidgee and ACT people like you!

The University of South Australia is conducting a research project to explore participation in citizen science, and Waterwatch has been invited to participate. We are excited to contribute to this important study and hope you can spare 5-10 minutes to help.

All you need to do is complete an online survey to help us understand our volunteers, which will help improve people's experience of volunteering in the future. The survey is anonymous and once completed, you can request a copy of the results. We greatly appreciate your help!

<https://www.research.net/r/participant-waterwatch-uppermurrumbidgee-ginninderra>

Thanks as always for getting out and doing your monitoring every month and contributing to your community and the Catchment Health Indicator Report, and let me know if there is anything I can do to help. Stay safe out there!

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