

Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc



Waterwatch Report 18 September 2022

Inc No A0037872K

Scope

- Aquatic invertebrate sampling at sites 1a, 1b (the upstream sites). •
- Basic chemistry tests at all sites.
- Dissolved Oxygen and Phosphate tests at sites 1a, 1b (the upstream sites)
- Ammonium tests at all sites.
- Flow measurement and/or observations at all sites. •

Weather Conditions

Previous week: 19 mm rain Previous 24 hours: Cloudy, rain overnight 9 mm. During testing: Cloudy, then light showers

Water Quality Results **YSC010 YSC012 YSC020 YVA100** Site 1A Site 1B Site 3 Site 2 Fiander Crosby Regent Valley Creek arm arm St Air Temp C 10 10 10 10 Water Temp C 11.5 11.5 11.5 11 7.5 G 7.3 7.2 7.1 pН G G G Oxygen Conc. mg/l 9.6 E 9.8 Ε Conductivity 420 250 F E.C. F 310 F 250 F Turbidity F.T.U D Р 38 26 Р 40 D 26 Phosphorus, soluble ppm 0.036 F 0.075 Р Ammonium NH4+ ppm 0.08 G 0.00 E 0.00 E 0.00 E Stream Flow estimate l/s 73.5 28.0 94.5 3.5

(E = Excellent, G = Good, F = Fair, P = Poor, D = Degraded)

Macro Invertebrates Results

"Waterwatch" method		YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm	YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm
	Bug score	Number found	Number found
Sensitive			
Damselfly larvae	6	0	4
Freshwater mussel	5	0	1
Tolerant			
Snails (freshwater)	3	30	30
Flatworms	3	5	0
Freshwater Slaters	5	1	0
Very Tolerant			
Freshwater segmented worms	1	50	10
Blood worms	1	1	5
Total Number Found		87	50
Total Bug Score		13	16
Stream Condition		Poor	Poor

Comments:

- All new chemical reagents received. The ammonium results are good to excellent.
- Turbidity was Poor to Degraded; both upstream branches were muddied by a water mains burst in Crosby Drive 2 weekends ago, and some diesel was lingering in the Crosby arm (think it came from the upstream piped areas). Even so, the oxygen concentration was excellent.
- There was a mystery bug which cannot be identified successfully from the quick sheets and the Waterbug Book, If it was a very sensitive caddisfly larva, that gives a bug score of 7, but if it was a very tolerant fly larva the score is 2. Either way the site's total bug score is well below the break point of 35, and the total count below the break of 200, so it's rated Poor. We should be careful about finding very sensitive creatures in one of our creeks, especially a fortnight after a few days of low flow and diesel smell.
- The invertebrate survey ratings ('Waterwatch' method) were Poor for both the upstream sites.

ML / FGB 18/9/22.