

Hi Waterwatch teams,

Spring has arrived and that means that it is **Spring Bug Blitz** time again. I have many waterways that need surveying. If your team is interested, let me know.

**pH method reminder:** Please remember when doing your pH test that you need to leave the strip in for **at least 5 minutes**. The strips can take that long to react in 'mildly buffered' liquids, which includes water samples.

Cheers,

Martin Lind.



## WW Calendar and shared links;



The annual **FrogCensus**, run by the **ACT and Region Frogwatch Program**, is near and requires your action!! This year the frog monitoring frenzy will encompass all of October instead of only one week. This will provide everyone with many more opportunities to take part in this awesome program.

Link to booking **survey sites** <https://ginninderralandcare.org.au/frogs/>

**Training seminars** will be run at the Jerrabomberra Wetland Education Centre and are compulsory for all new Frogwatch volunteers prior to doing any monitoring activities. Each seminar covers all you need to know about the when, where and how of frogwatching- no prior knowledge required!! Bring sturdy shoes, a torch and warm clothing as newly learnt skills will be put into practise during a walk around the wetland. A soup dinner and hot drinks will be provided.

**When?? 27. September and 18.October, 18:00 - 20:30.**

**RSVPs are essential.** Go to <https://jerrabomberrawetlands.org.au/events-and-activities/>

**Cost:** \$15 p. P. (children under 16 free). Numbers per seminar are limited to 30.

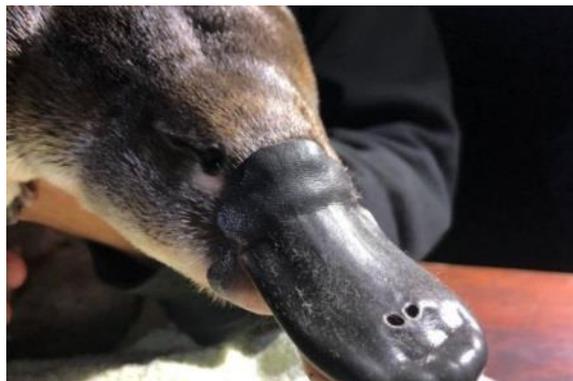
**Info:** Anke Maria Hoefler; Frogwatch Coordinator (ACT & Region)

[frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au](mailto:frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au) Phone 62783309



To wind up **Platypus Month** here's a link from **Deb Kellock** at **MolongloCG** with a 'Video of platypus mating (or fighting? waggling back legs at each other... ), taken in Sept 2018 in Mudgeeraba Creek. <https://goldcoastcatchments.org/platypuswatch/>

**ABC** [Platypus struggle to survive, with huge national decline over last 200 years, research finds](#)





## SACTCG Calendar/News;



Brindabella Ranges with snow taken from Mt Taylor. (Photo MtTaylor PC)

### Coolleman Ridge Parkcare Group

- **September 15<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm-4pm Meeting** End of Lincoln Place.  
**Bring:** hat, gloves, secateurs, dabber-doover, hacker, drink, raincoat if it is wet.  
**Task:** plant identification, weeding.
- **October 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting** Mt Arawang **Contact:** Linda Spinaze 6288 6916 for more info.



### Mt Taylor Parkcare Group

- **September 25<sup>th</sup> 9:30am-12:00pm Corporate volunteering meet with KPMG employees.**  
**Meeting point:** Car park at end of Waldock Street, Mt Taylor Reserve. **Please Bring:** Hat, long sleeves, comfortable closed sturdy shoes, and water.
- **December 8<sup>th</sup> 10am-12pm Butterfly walk with Suzi Bond** followed by a Christmas cuppa and eats at the Waldock picnic area.

For more info [mttaylorparkcaregroup@gmail.com](mailto:mttaylorparkcaregroup@gmail.com) and <https://www.facebook.com/MtTaylornaturereserve>

### Friends of Black Mountain

- **October 12<sup>th</sup> Black Mt spring wildflower ramble** is assisting Jean Geue to organise this popular ramble again this year.  
 Contact Linda Beveridge Email: [friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofblackmountain@gmail.com) Mobile: 0437 298 711



From Coolleman Ridge Parkcare Newsletter September 2019

### Does this wombat know something we don't?



*"It has been several months since the Old Dam has had any water in it and it seems that it will be a long time before it is full again. Recently a wombat has dug a burrow into the side of the dam under the huge log on the bank. Does it know that the dam will never be full again? Or is it just a rainfall denier?" Rob Lundie*

Wombat hole in the Old Dam Photo: Rob Lundie



“Dear all -

ACT NRM in EPSDD has funded a permanent soil moisture probe on a rural property "Congwarra" in the Tidbinbilla/Paddys River area (on the opposite side of Paddys River Road to the Deep Space Tracking Station). Data from the soil moisture probe is fed daily into a website managed by South East Local Land Services which also hosts data from more than 19 other soil moisture probes located on farms across the Southern Tablelands, Slopes and the Monaro.

Up until now we have only had access to the raw data for Tidbinbilla Soil Moisture Probe (very useful but not user friendly). Now after calibrating our Tidbinbilla Soil Moisture Probe for more than two years - the Tidbinbilla Soil Moisture Probe webpage has gone live!

This means anyone can check out realtime records at this site in an easy to read and understand format:

- \* Rainfall since 9.00am - measured to a minimum of to 0.2mm
- \* soil moisture (at following depths: 10cm, 20cm, 40cm, 60cm - 80cm and 100cm are also available but not useful for landholders)
- \* soil temperature (at following depths: 10cm, 20cm, 40cm, 40cm, 80cm 100cm).

Other information on the Tidbinbilla Soil Moisture Probe Webpage includes a site description and photos including soil type, altitude, land use, annual rainfall, pasture composition and a detailed soil description.

To check out the Soil Moisture Probe website, go to: <https://www.soilmoistureprobes.com.au/> And to check out the rainfall, soil moisture and soil temperature being recorded at the Tidbinbilla Soil Moisture Probe, go to: <https://www.soilmoistureprobes.com.au/tidbinbilla/>. You can also check out what is happening at the 19+ probes across the Southern Tablelands and the Monaro.”

Anna van Dugteren

Natural Resource Management Facilitator

ACT NRM

Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate

## Other News and links:

[Native Plant Use Forum 27-28 September](#)



**NATIVE PLANT USE**  
Care for Country and Country will care for you  
ACT NRM CANBERRA  
27-28 SEPTEMBER 2018



[Waterway closures.](#)

[Recreational Water Quality](#)

[Bacteria alerts](#)

For water and sewerage faults and emergencies phone 02 6248 3111 (option 1)



### Eflow releases;

Below is a summary of water releases from Icon Water dams in the Southern ACT, courtesy of Elizabeth Turner, Icon Water.

Currently not overflowing.

Current release via scour valve is approximately 60 ML/d

Releases are at licence requirements:

4 Sep	71.0 – 74.6 ML/d	1.05– 1.06 m
5 Sep	Temporary outage of eflows for essential dam maintenance	
9 Sep	Possible outage of eflows for essential dam maintenance (TBC)	
11 Sep	212.5 – 220.3 ML/d	1.33– 1.34 m

### Corin

Currently not overflowing.

Current release via cone valve is approximately 140 ML/d

5 Sep	45 – 48.6ML/d	0.38 – 0.39 m
12 Sep	134 – 145 ML/d	0.53 – 0.54 m

### Cotter

Currently not overflowing.

Current flow 40 MLD via M2C

Licence release requirements:

Base release flow of >15 ML/d, with bi-monthly riffle release of >100 ML/d for >24 hours. OR

Flow requirements as set out under Murrumbidgee to Cotter eflow return.

Click on these links to go to the latest newsletters or events;

Some of the icons below are hyperlinked to online newsletters if there is no adjacent article.

The views expressed in some media releases and opinion pieces are not necessarily the same as SACTCG or UMWW. But they make interesting reading and all sites linked to here are bonafide.



[Water delivery options to meet demand through the Murray Audit finds holes in water compliance systems](#)



["Clean up Fadden Pond"](#)

[2XX strike in solidarity with Global Climate Strike – Friday September 20](#)



[Webinar: Are your pumps about to fail?](#)

[Life in plastic, not fantastic: reducing waste in our oceans](#)

