

Hi Waterwatch teams,

While you are keeping a > 1.5m distance from my magnetic personality, self-isolating and recovering from the Easter chocolate hoard-bingeing sugar-over, breathe a sigh of relief as my colleagues and I are out and about checking the water bug status of all our water ways this autumn and conducting water tests on your behalf until you may once again get your test-tubes dirty. (Hint: now is a great time to give your kits a thorough clean out.) I will write up my findings in the next SACTCG Newsletter. For starters, the Gudgenby River is already much clearer than a month ago after the fires swept through its catchment. I have also gathered some exciting snippets to keep you informed and up to date including, among others, shared links from the other fabulous Waterwatch Coordinators about COVID-19. Take care and stay well.



Martin Lind.



Click here ↓ to head to the latest on the SACTCG website  
[SACTCG Calendar/News](#)

**If you must visit us, please phone the office on 62966400. Do Not drop in.**

- **2020-2021 ACT Environment and Nature in the City Grants**

The 2020-21 ACT Environment and Nature in the City Grants were opened for application on Tuesday 17 March 2020.

Funding of \$285,000 is available for community projects.

There are maximum limits per application:

- ACT Environment Grants - \$35,000 per grant application
- Nature in the City - \$20,000 per grant application

The assessment criteria for the Grants are detailed in the application information pack.

To apply for a grant you need to read the [2020-2021 ACT Environment and Nature in the City Application Information Pack](#) carefully and complete the online Application Form.

The link to the Application Information Pack and Application Form can be found at:

<https://www.environment.act.gov.au/act-nrm/grants-and-support-packages/act-environment-grants>

Applications close AEST at 11:59 pm on Tuesday 28 April 2020.

SACTCG has been supporting the Southern Canberra community and its catchments for over 18 years, and we need your help to continue to do so in the years ahead. There has never been a more important time to be stepping up to protect our local environment now and for the future. SACTCG's environmental work is mostly funded by competitive grants, which are often small, short term, intermittent and don't meet all our community or catchment needs. If you would like to support us, please consider donating to the Southern ACT Catchment Fund through [our secure online platform](#) or via [direct debit](#).

## WW Calendar and shared links;



## **ABC** [How to keep your home clean and free from coronavirus](#)

- From Antia Brademan's desk in Cooma;



We have some exciting webinars coming up in April.

Register now to secure your spot for webinars on:

[Sustainability Advantage Program](#)

**12pm - 1pm, Tuesday 21 April**

If you have any questions about the webinar series, please [contact us](#).

Kind regards,

**External Stakeholder Education Team**

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

- From Bruno Ferronato's desk in Kippax;



[Quantifying the contribution of citizen science to broad-scale ecological databases](#)

- ... and from Deb Kellock's desk in Fyshwick;



[Amphibian chytrid fungus: impacts on Australian frogs and ongoing conservation challenges](#)

- ['A moment of complete despair': last population of Macquarie perch all but wiped out in NSW river carnage](#)
- The **Australian Freshwater Sciences Society** will be hosting a one day conference in **December**. Please fill out the very short survey if you are interested in attending. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MDCFTXL>



[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 Chris Martin, Icon Water.

**Bendora**

Currently not overflowing.

Current release is approximately 20 MLD.

Release currently at licence requirements:

15 Apr      32.9 – 36.2 MLD      0.93 – 0.94 m

22 Apr      11.5 – 13.1 MLD      0.84 – 0.85 m

Through scour valves

22 Apr      152.1 – 158.1 MLD      1.24 – 1.25 m

Through cone valve

25 Apr      11.5 – 13.1 MLD      0.84 – 0.85 m      By WDE

18 Mar      9.5 MLD

*Licence requirements:*

15 Apr      36.0 MLD

22 Apr      12.0 MLD

**Cotter**

Currently not overflowing.

Current flow 25 ML/d via M2C

**Corin**

Currently not overflowing.

Current release is approximately 9 MLD.

Release currently at licence requirements:

16 Apr      22.3 – 24.2 MLD      0.29 – 0.30 m

20 Apr      155 – 166 MLD      0.55 – 0.56 m

23 Apr      6.63 – 7.69 MLD      0.17 – 0.18 m

*Licence requirements:*

16 Apr      22.5 MLD

23 Apr      7.5 MLD

*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 described in M2C section of the Water Abstraction EMP.

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 UMW. But they make interesting reading and all sites linked to here are bonafide.



[We've had good rain, but let's be clear - the drought's not over](#)  
[Managing water quality as Darling meets Murray](#)  
[Alert to river levels in an unusual autumn on the River Murray](#)  
[World Water Day offers opportunity to reflect on our changed climate](#)  
[Progress a glass half full for Murray-Darling water resource plans](#)



[Australia's Environment in 2019](#)



Snapshot  
Science news highlights



National Landcare Program



Regional Agriculture Landcare Facilitator



ICE WaRM  
International Centre of Excellence  
in Water Resources Management