

Hi Waterwatch teams,

Spring just popped out of nowhere. Luckily, this season keen folk will be allowed to join me in waterbug hunting. If you are one of them and have time available during the week let me know. There are plenty of places that need a good netting any time between now and the end of November. Also on the calendar is the **October QA/QC**, the **FrogWatch** census and the **SACTCG AGM**. Details of all this and more below. Keeping busy is a great way to chase away the 2020 blues. Good news is that the nice wet weather so far this year will hopefully translate into lots and frog and bug activity in our waterways!

Martin Lind.



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



You're invited to the
**Southern ACT Catchment Group
AGM and Member Group Meeting**



Tuesday 29th September
@at the SACTCG Conference Room,
Building B, Erindale Business Park,
Wanniassa

5:00pm- Annual General Meeting
5:30- 7:30pm- Member Group Meeting

Drinks and Delivered Hot Food Provided



Discussion Questions:

1. What are the current issues you are addressing in the area you work?
2. What are some recent challenges and successes your group have had?
3. How can SACTCG support your group better? *see list in email for current services.
4. Have you got a project in mind you'd like funding for in the next 2-3 years?
5. Do you think SACTCG's current projects are useful for your group?

RSVP: info@sactcg.org.au

Note: COVID safe arrangements will be in place for this event. Please do not attend if you are feeling unwell.



WW news and shared links;



Waterwatch QAQC

Burra Hall- Burra

18th October 2020, 10:00am-2:00pm

10:00am-Midday: QAQC testing

1. Mystery solution tests for Nitrates, Phosphorus, Electrical Conductivity and pH. There will be a station for each parameter overseen by a Waterwatch coordinator. There will also be a station set up to check the condition of your dissolved oxygen kits.

2. All QAQC forms will need to be checked at each station and given to a Waterwatch staff member after the completion of all four tests.

3. Remember to bring your kits, including bottles to **update your EC calibration** solution.

12:00-1:00pm: Lunch

Lunch will be available during this time allowing for people to complete their QAQC forms.

1:00-2:00pm: Frogwatch - Eavesdropping on our local frogs in the name of science - what has been unearthed so far?

Join Frogwatch Coordinator, Anke Maria Hoefer, to hear about unexpected shifts in frog breeding activities due to a warming climate, species specific habitat preferences of frogs in the ACT, the overall prevalence and persistence of local frogs since 2002 and how the world's first FrogPhone could revolutionise auditory surveys in the future. Strictly no frog legs for snacks!!

WHERE: Burra Hall, 1 Lagoon Rd, Burra, Burra, NSW

RSVP: Tuesday, 13 October to your Waterwatch coordinator or to Woo O'Reilly 0413 246 761. Please let us know if you are coming to QAQC and if you are staying for lunch and have any dietary requirements.

Are you interested in assisting other Citizen Science Projects?



FrogWatch is now recruiting volunteers for their October FrogCensus

Eavesdropping on frogs at night is heaps of fun and a great way to learn more about our local amphibians. No previous knowledge required, just come to one of our training sessions!

When? Tue 29.09., Wed 30.09. and Thu 01.10. 18:00 to 20:30

What? Some theory, a hot soup diner and a walk through the wetlands (learning by doing!)

Where? At the Jerrabomberra Wetlands Centre.

How? Simply book your spot on the Jerrabomberra Wetlands Events page

<https://jerrabomberrawetlands.org.au/events-and-activities/>

Looking forward to talking frog with you!!

Anke Maria Hoefler

ACT & Region FROGWATCH Coordinator

frogwatch@ginninderralandcare.org.au

02 6278 3309, 0429066046



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 Sarah McLaren, Icon Water. ***This data is operational information and subject to change.***

Bendora

Currently not overflowing.

Current release is approximately 75 MLD.

Release currently at licence requirements:

16 September	212 – 220.3 MLD	1.33 – 1.34 m
23 September	71.0 – 74.6 MLD	1.05 – 1.06 m

Licence requirements:

16 September	216 MLD
23 September	72 MLD

Corin

Currently not overflowing.

Current release is approximately 131 MLD.

Release currently at licence requirements:

17 September	134 – 145 MLD	0.53 – 0.54 m
24 September	45 – 48.6 MLD	0.38 – 0.39 m

Licence requirements:

17 September	138 MLD
24 September	46 MLD

Cotter

Currently not overflowing. Current flow approximately 17 ML/d from dam.

23 September 100 MLD by WDE

24 September 15 MLD by WDE

Licence release requirements:

Base release flow of >15 ML/d, with bi-monthly riffle release of >100 ML/d for >24 hours. [QR](#)

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



- [MDBA welcomes the focus on Basin communities](#)
- [Nation's water blueprint must evolve to remain effective](#)
- [Sir Angus Houston Interview with Fran Kelly](#)
- [Speech to the Murray Darling Association \(MDA\) Conference](#)

COVID-19

Restrictions have eased, **but your responsibility hasn't**

- Maintain good hand hygiene
- Stay 1.5m apart
- Stay home if you are unwell
- Get tested if you have symptoms of COVID-19

Visit COVID19.act.gov.au or call **6207 7244** to stay up-to-date on COVID19 in the ACT.



National
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This came in from the supplier of our QA/QC chemicals, ALS. I include it for your interest and reading pleasure.

COVID-19 analysis in wastewater



Studies have shown that SARS-CoV-2 is shed in the stools of individuals within three days of infection. This timeframe is much faster than the time taken for people to develop symptoms severe enough for them to seek medical attention and get an official diagnosis, a process that could take anywhere up to two weeks or more.

Wastewater streams are therefore a gold mine of critical information capable of providing better “realtime” estimates for how widespread the coronavirus is in comparison to results from clinical samples. Wastewater surveillance can also account for those who have not been tested or are asymptomatic thereby providing a more thorough and valuable insight into the prevalence of COVID-19¹.

Routine wastewater surveillance can therefore be used as a non-invasive early-warning tool to alert of new or previously undetected COVID-19 infections, clusters or hotspots.

ALS has recently developed in collaboration with the Water Research Australia ColoSSoS project, a robust methodology for the analysis of COVID-19 in wastewater.

[Methodology](#)

[Industry applications](#)

[Sampling requirements](#)

[Download PDF](#)

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