

## SACTCG WATERWATCH BULLETIN FEBRUARY 2021

Hi,

I hope you are all enjoying the cool wet summer this year. I know I am! However, there have been some outbreaks of blue green algae around the lakes. If you notice blue green algae at your sites remember to wear gloves while collecting your test sample. Take a photo too and send it to me. If you have concerns, please feel free to contact me before undertaking your monitoring.

Autumn is coming and if your group would like to join me in conducting a waterbug survey send me a email and we can arrange a date.

Cheers,

Martin Lind

Waterwatch Coordinator.



### Southern ACT Catchment Group news and events;

Head to [SACTCG Calendar/News](#) for the latest on the SACTCG website.



**From Mt Taylor PC** Reptile Awareness and Snake Safety session being run at Jerrabomberra Wetlands midday 20th of February, these book out quickly so if interested get in quick! There are a range of other events at Jerra like birdwatching tours and activities designed for kids and families.

Go to: <https://www.jerrabomberrawetlands.org.au/whats-on>

**New Seat at Kathner St Dam** (Excerpt from **Coleman Ridge PC** Newsletter Feb 2021)



'Many of us enjoy Coleman Ridge by walking, running, cycling and horse riding along it. Others also enjoy just admiring the views or contemplating life on the dams. Unfortunately, the seats have not always invited people to linger for long as they are not overly comfortable. However, in early February this was remedied at the Kathner St Dam. The old wooden seat was replaced with a brand new metal one which provides greater back support and thus provides a more relaxing contemplative experience. It would be great if something similar could be done at the Old Dam.'

(Photo and text: Rob Lundie and Malcolm Gill)



### Upper Murrumbidgee Waterwatch news and events;

**From Deb Kellock Molonglo Waterwatch;** Launch of Queanbeyan Drain Campaign coverage by [WIN news](#)



**Entangled Wildlife Australia** citizen science project (on [ABC Radio](#)). The EWA project is looking for members of the public to log occurrences of wildlife entangled in traps, fishing line, netting etc. For Waterwatch, there is a keen interest on platypus and rakali. However any records of other incidents such as animals in fruit netting or barbed wire are also needed. <https://bit.ly/3q1EHPH>

### ACT Government Waterway updates;



[Waterway closures.](#)

[Recreational Water Quality](#)

[Bacteria alerts](#)

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

### Icon Water Eflow releases;



Below is a summary of water releases from Icon Water dams in the Southern ACT, courtesy of Chris Martin, Icon Water. This data is operational information and subject to change.

#### **Bendora**

Currently overflowing. Flow below Bendora Dam approximately 150 MLD. Release currently at licence requirements: 17 February 21.9 – 24.4 MLD 0.89 - 0.90 m 24 February 7.3 – 8.6 MLD 0.81 – 0.21 m  
Licence requirements: 17 February 24 MLD 24 February 8 MLD

## Corin

Currently overflowing. Flow below Corin Dam approximately 260 MLD. Release currently at licence requirements: 18 February 14.8 – 16.1 MLD 0.24 – 0.25 m 25 February 4.75 – 5.62 MLD 0.15 – 0.16 m  
Licence requirements: 18 February 15 MLD 25 February 5 MLD

## Cotter

Currently overflowing. Current flow approximately 225 ML/d below dam. 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

## Other newsletters and links;

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.

## Murray Darling Basin Authority



- The Murray–Darling Basin Authority met on 10-11 February 2021. [Read more](#)
- **First Nations' knowledge supercharges environment's response to flows.** The traditional water knowledge of our First Nation Peoples is helping to supercharge the long-term benefits of environmental flows in the Murray–Darling Basin, while helping First Nations connect more with Country. [Read more](#)
- **MDBA research finds centuries-old sand 'slug' in Barmah Choke** Reports released today by the Murray–Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) reveal a surprising cause of decreasing capacity in a key part of the Murray River. A massive 'slug' of sand, believed to be mobilised by gold-mining and land clearing upstream in the 19th and early 20th centuries has been slowly moving downstream—and is now accumulating in the Barmah Choke. [Read more](#)
- **Northern Basin enters the new year still in drought** Much of the northern Basin is beginning 2021 with little reprieve from its prolonged dry period. This is despite drought-breaking rain in other parts of the Murray–Darling Basin over the past couple of months. [Read more](#)

CSIRO [Snapshot Science news highlights](#)



Invasive Species Council [Feral Herald](#) [10 years of pest monitoring](#)



Murrumbidgee Landcare [Newsletter](#)



Greening Australia [Capital Region Events](#)



Canberra Environment Centre [February News letter](#)



CSIRO [ECOS newsletter](#)

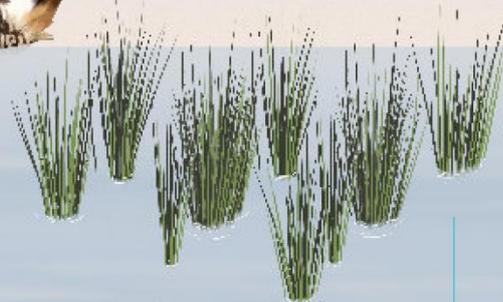


From Lisa Evans, ACT Conservation, Planning and Research [Conservation Research Snapshot 2020](#)

Jan 17  
Feb 21  
Mar 21  
April 18  
May 16  
June 20  
July 18  
Aug 22  
Sep 19  
Oct 17  
Nov 20  
Dec 12

AWESOME ADAPTATIONS *at Namadgi*  
SPECIES DISCOVERY WITH BUSH BLITZ *at the ANBG*  
BUSH FIRE RECOVERY *at Namadgi*  
WATERWATCH  
INDIGENOUS COOKING  
TREE PLANTING  
FIRST AID AWARENESS  
SNAKES & REPTILES  
FROGWATCH  
GRASSLAND CRITTERS  
SPOTLIGHTING *at Mulligans Flat*  
RIVERS *at the Cotter*

# YOUNG RANGERS CLUB 2021



*Third Sunday of each month 10am – 12pm  
2 Dairy Rd Fyshwick*

Contact Miriam:  
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0428 113 533

## DON'T LET COMPLACENCY SET US BACK

- ✓ Wash your hands
- ✓ Stay 1.5m apart
- ✓ Stay at home if you're unwell
- ✓ Get tested if you have symptoms



For updates, visit  
[covid19.act.gov.au](https://covid19.act.gov.au)

