Waterwatch

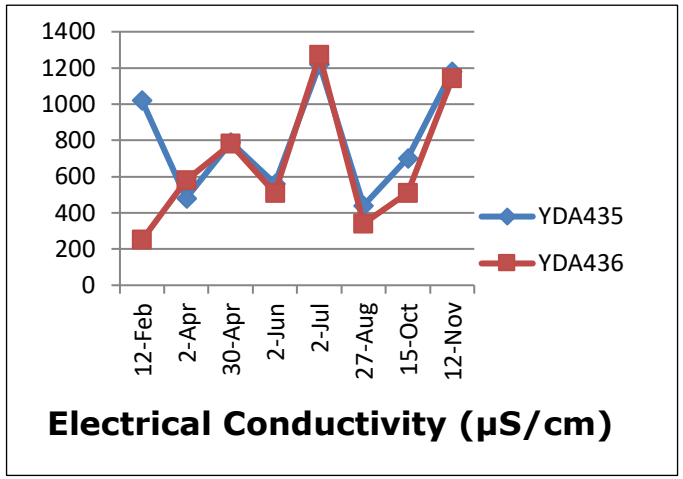
2017 Water Quality Site Summary

Site Name and Description

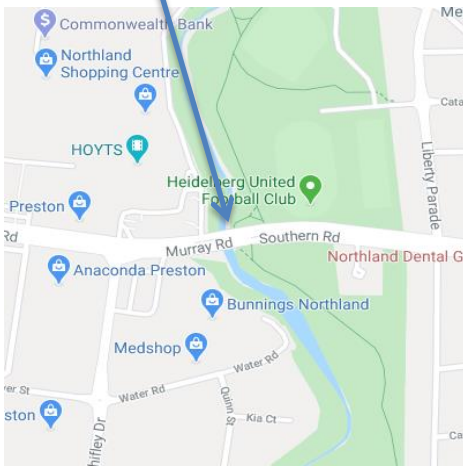
ME_YDA435 Darebin Creek, upstream Murray Road/Southern Road bridge, Preston/Heidelberg Heights.
Monitors: Ebina Siby and Irena Casserati

Objectives

- Create a longitudinal data set of water quality
- Gather data on the effects of the stormwater drain on the water quality of Darebin Creek at this site
- Reporting to the EPA major pollutants that have resulted in historical fish kills.



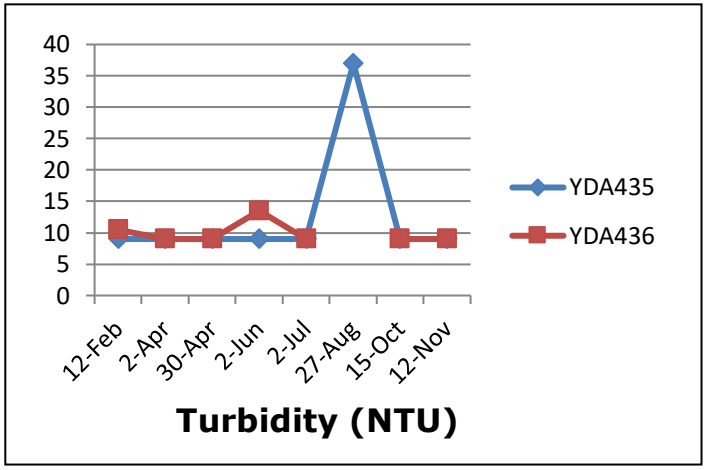
Electrical Conductivity (µS/cm)



Monthly Parameters

- Temperature
- Dissolved Oxygen
- pH
- Electrical conductivity (salinity)
- Turbidity
- Reactive Phosphate
- Ammonium

To look at further water quality data for this site visit the Waterwatch online database



Turbidity (NTU)

Site Introduction

Darebin Creek flows along a 50 km course from its headwaters in farmland north of Woodstock, through a number of highly urbanised suburbs until it reaches the confluence with the Yarra River. This site often sees polluted water coming through the stormwater system. Previous events have involved high turbidity (sediment), surfactants (detergents) and pesticides. These events have sometimes caused fish kills.

Summary

Please refer to the YDA436 (major stormater drain) 2017 Water Quality Site Summary for further information about the water quality of the storm water drain outlet situated clsoe to this site.

In August there was a spike in turbidity, most likely owing to heavy rainfall upstream. Turbidity was only measured at YDA435 on this occasion.

Electrical conductivity (salinity) fluctuated quite a lot at this site. Five times in 2017, the electrical conductivity measured fell into the 'degraded' Waterwatch Quality Guidelines category.

This salinity (EC) data represents a higher than average level in the creek. Across the two sites, the average EC measured between 2001-2019 was 791 µS/cm.

Throughout the year pH measurements were fairly stable, fluctuating between 6.4-7.5.

Phosphate peaked at 0.3 mg/L in October but generally sat around 0.1 mg/L.