



Friends of Scotchmans Creek and Valley Reserve Inc



Inc No A0037872K

Waterwatch Report 25 January 2026

Scope

- Basic chemistry and ammonium tests at all sites.
- Dissolved Oxygen and Phosphate tests at sites 2, 3 (our downstream sites)
- Flow measurement and/or observations at all sites.
- Aquatic invertebrate sampling at sites 2, 3 (our downstream sites).

Weather Conditions

Previous week: 1 mm rain

Previous 24 hours: Sunny, hot.

During testing: Overcast, warming up.

Water Quality Results

	YSC010 Site 1A Fiander arm	YSC012 Site 1B Crosby arm	YSC020 Site 2 Regent St	YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek
Air Temp C	17	17	20	20
Water Temp C	18.5	19.5	18	18
pH	7.1 G	6.8 E	6.9 E	6.9 E
Oxygen Conc. mg/l			1.8 D	4.7 P
Conductivity E.C.	577 P	459 F	647 P	406 F
Turbidity F.T.U	20 P	17 G	41 D	36 D
Phosphorus, soluble ppm			0.088 P	0.042 F
Ammonium NH ₄ ⁺ ppm	0.00 E	0.15 F	0.40 D	0.00 E
Stream Flow estimate l/s	2.0	26.3	14.1	0.67 (estimated)

(E = Excellent, G = Good, F = Fair, P = Poor, D = Degraded)

Macro Invertebrates Results

		YSC020 Site 2 Regent St	YVA100 Site 3 Valley Creek
	Bug score	Number found	Number found
Very Sensitive			
<i>Caddisfly larvae</i>	7	1	0
Sensitive			
<i>Damselfly larvae</i>	6	7	30
<i>Dragonfly larvae</i>	6	2	1
<i>Freshwater mussel</i>	5	1	0
<i>Freshwater Yabbies/Crayfish</i>	5	0	1
<i>Water Mites</i>	5	3	0
Tolerant			
<i>Beetles/Dytiscid beetles, Whirligig beetles</i>	3	1	0
<i>Leeches</i>	3	12	11
<i>Snails (freshwater)</i>	3	30	30
<i>Flatworms</i>	3	3	5
Very Tolerant			
<i>Mosquito larvae</i>	2	0	20
<i>Fly larvae</i>	2	3	2
<i>Freshwater segmented worms</i>	1	10	5
<i>Blood worms</i>	1	30	5
Total Number Found		103	110
Total Bug Score		45	32
Stream Condition		Good	Poor

Comments:

- The water looked black, we think due to ash from bushfires in Victoria.
- Chemical results typical of the low flow conditions were: Low flow, high turbidity and high conductivity. The sample from site 2 (YSC020, Regent St) had high conductivity, not seen since July 2023 (660 μ S/cm).
- We sample the invertebrates rather often, about 6 times a year at each site, including visits by school and TAFE classes. We used a less aggressive netting method to reduce the possible damage to the aquatic vegetation.
- The invertebrates samples rating is Good for site 2; the last time it rated Good was back in March 2024.