



An invitation to participate in Saltwatch 2018.

Do you want to learn more about the saltiness of the water you use from your local dam, bore, wetland or creek?

Do you want to educate others (schools, groups and individuals) about the impact of salt on water quality?

Do you know how much salt plants and animals can tolerate?

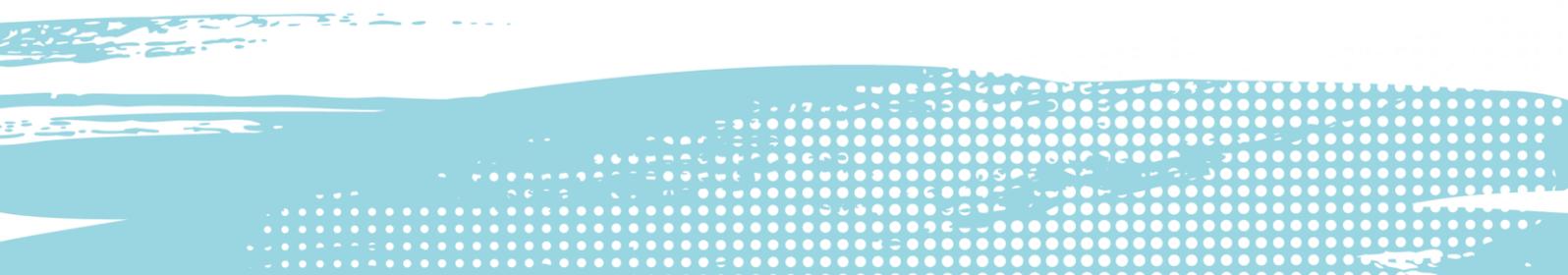
You are invited to take part in this year's Saltwatch snapshot monitoring in 2018.

Test a water sample from a dam, creek, river or wetland between 21st and 27th May, and your data will contribute to a picture of salinity levels across Victoria

To get involved, you will need an electrical conductivity meter to measure the salt content of the water sample (as salt levels increase, so does the conductivity of the water sample). If you would like a refresher in the use of an EC meter or you are new to water quality testing, please let your local Waterwatch facilitator know and they can help (Visit [Contact Us](#) to find your local Waterwatch program)

The steps involved in testing and uploading your data are outlined on the Waterwatch website. The [Saltwatch Data Portal](#) will show your data on the map of Victoria. These steps are outlined on the next page as a quick reference

Some examples of "fitness for use" are given at the end of this document. This is a guide only and people wanting additional information on salinity can contact their local DELWP office. Alternatively, call the general DELWP number 136186 to be directed to the appropriate office.



Want to get involved? It's easy, follow these 8 steps:

1. Log on to <http://www.vic.waterwatch.org.au> and visit the Monitoring page. Select the Saltwatch image or the Saltwatch tab on the left hand side. Visit the [About Saltwatch](#) to learn more about this salinity snapshot and to download a record sheet. Now click on the [Saltwatch Registration](#) page to get started.
2. Register your details - you will need to select a 'Group' name and the system will provide you with a username for Saltwatch log in. Note down this username as it will probably be different from your group name.
3. Click the Login at the top left hand side of the Waterwatch web page and use your user identification and password to access the Saltwatch portal.



4. You are now in the Saltwatch portal and you can add your data by clicking the “add new observation” tab. Choose your group name and region.

For your records:

My Group name is _____

My password is _____

My Username is _____

5. Enter the date of your observation, your electrical conductivity data ($\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$) and the type of waterway. Zoom and drag the map to locate your sampling site. Alternatively you can enter map coordinates to locate the sampling sites
6. Enter the name of the sampling location, and to finish, click the “Add Observation” button. You will be given the opportunity to add more data or to leave the page.
7. Logout and view the updated map by visiting the [Saltwatch Data Portal](#).
8. Contact your local Waterwatch coordinator to find out where and when you can monitor, and organise access to sampling equipment.

SALINITY IN WATER

Relationship between units:

1 dS/m = 1 mS/cm = 1000 EC = 1000 uS/cm = 600 mg/l = 600 ppm

dS/m mS/cm	uS/cm EC	mg/l ppm	USE
0	0	0	Distilled water 
0.2	200	120	Colac town water
0.5	500	300	Typical Deans Creek salinity in high flow
0.83	830	500	Desirable limit for drinking water
1	1000	600	Typical Woody Yaloak river salinity in high flow
1.3	1300	780	Significant biological effects begin in streams 
1.5	1500	900	Limit for peas, apricots, grapes
2	2000	1200	Typical salinity of Barwon River at Inverleigh
2.5	2500	1500	Maximum for drinking water
2.6	2640	1580	Lake Colac (August 94) 
3	3000	1800	Limit for pears, apples, tomatoes
4	4000	2400	Deans Creek salinity in low flow (January 94) Water given to hens causes eggs to soften/crack 
5	5000	3000	Woody Yaloak river salinity in low flow (Jan 94)
5.4	5400	3240	Groundwater in well at Cundare North
5.8	5800	3500	Limit for poultry
6.5	6500	3900	Dam filled by groundwater spring at Barongarook 
7.5	7500	4500	Limit for pigs
10	10,000	6000	Typical salinity of Thompsons Ck at Moriac 
14	14,000	8400	Limit for horses, dairy cows, ewes with lambs 
14.2	14,150	8500	Groundwater at Moriac
14.2	14,150	8500	Lake Bullen Merri (July 94) 
16.5	16,500	10,000	Limit for beef cattle
23	23,000	13,800	Limit for adult dry sheep
23.3	23,300	14,000	Adult yabbies display signs of stress 
			Approximate tolerance limit for trout
30	30,000	18,000	Peak salinity levels in Barr Creek at Kerang 
41.7	41,700	25,000	Yabbies die
46.2	45,760	27,460	Lake Corangamite (August 94)
58.3	58,300	35,000	Salt water in the Pacific Ocean
550	550,000	330,000	Dead Sea