



the regions wimmera



Partners/Sponsors

Wimmera Catchment Management Authority, Wimmera Mallee Water, Grampians Water, Mr Dudley Hall, Horsham Rural City Council, Yarriambiack Shire, Hindmarsh Shire, West Wimmera Shire, Stawell Gold, Nufarm, Gov's Office Needs/ Yarri Printing, Regional Waste Management Groups.

Monitoring Groups/Site Information

71 Groups, 514 participants, 532 sites

Coordinators

Jeanie Clark, Patrick Monaghan, Harvey Champness, Wendy Shea

2002 was a busy year for the Wimmera Community Waterwatch program. In March the 8th autumn water quality snapshot was conducted at the Wimmera Machinery Field Days in Horsham. Once again there was a good response with many samples brought in for testing from across the region. Early in the year three Jeparit Waterwatch members reached their five-year monitor milestone and the number of groups involved in Saltwatch increased from 2001.

On the community education front, a Wimmera environmental education directory was developed and circulated to schools and other stakeholders. An exciting new upper catchment project with Stawell Secondary College was launched in 2002. Titled 'Past, Pleasant and Future', the project will involve a sub-catchment plan for Pleasant Creek and monitoring of waterways over the next three years, with support from a number of organisations including Waterwatch and the Wimmera Catchment Management Authority.

This year there were three Wimmera participants in the 'Murder Under the Microscope' catchment planning exercise, Edenhope College, Apsley Primary School and Dimboola Memorial Secondary College. National Water Week was a huge success with over 1000 primary school children enthralled by 'Earth



Beulah Primary School students enjoy water bug identification during World Water Week Day in Horsham, March 2002.

Laharum Primary School students take part in a Saltwatch tree planting activity, May 2002.

Quest', a water conservation show proudly supported by the Wimmera CMA, Grampians Water, Wimmera Mallee Water, Desert Fringe and Grampians Regional Waste Management Groups. Winning sticker designs for the secondary school water quality sticker competition were launched and many schools also took part in the annual macro invertebrate snapshot.



From a data collection perspective, site information from the West Wimmera Waterwatch database has been utilised in the development of the Millicent Coast Basin Water Quality Scoping Study.

Overall 2002 has been a great year and we thank all our sponsors, supporters and monitors for their contributions to Waterwatch, and we look forward to continuing to build the Wimmera Community Waterwatch network in 2003 and beyond.



Beulah Primary School student Cody Shannon tests a farm water sample for salinity during Saltwatch Week, May 2002.