

# SPOTTING SALT



**Salt Lake near Boort**



**Salt affected land in the Avon-Richardson Catchment**

## Where does salt come from?

Salt in the landscape comes from the breakdown of rocks, carried in rain, and from past inland seas. Salinity refers to the movement and concentration of salt in the environment, usually by water. A number of alterations to the environment have accelerated and increased the effects of salinity across Australia.

The two main types of salinity are: dryland and irrigation salinity. Both types of salinity occur within the North Central region of Victoria.

## Possible signs of salt

- Decline in crop/pasture production
  - Salt scalds on soil surface
  - Decline in health of stock
- Growth of salt tolerant plant species

## How YOU can help

Tree planting and perennial pasture establishment incorporated into whole farm planning are great ways to reduce the effects of salinity on your property.

Monitoring your local waterways for salinity is another way of helping to increase awareness and knowledge of water quality across the region. North Central Waterwatch has received funding from the Australian government through the National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality allowing the development of a Community Stream Sampling Program for the region. This program provides interested community members with the capacity to become salinity monitors. Community monitors receive technical water quality training as well as water quality testing equipment free of charge.

Information gathered from this program will be used to map salinity within the Murray-Darling Basin which will then aid in prioritising areas for targeted salinity management.

For more information contact the Regional Waterwatch Coordinator, Leigh Mitchell, on 5440 1829 or [leigh.mitchell@nccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:leigh.mitchell@nccma.vic.gov.au).



**Salt scalds on banks of the Richardson River**



**Salt scalds in a gully on farmland in the Avoca Catchment**



**Australian Government**

**Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry**  
Bureau of Rural Sciences

**Department of the Environment and Heritage**



**NORTH CENTRAL**

Catchment Management Authority