



Why monitor waterways?

Through *RiverScan*, community members will have the opportunity to become citizen scientists by helping us monitor the response of waterbugs and water quality at selected locations in Box-Pyramid Creek, Gunbower Creek, the lower Loddon River and the Little Murray River.

Waterbugs (or macroinvertebrates) are excellent indicators of river health and are one of the ways that we can measure the success of works we undertake through the Native Fish Recovery Plan. The *RiverScan* program will see community monitors receive training and then undertake monitoring at selected sites each spring.

Water quality monitoring looks at the temperature, turbidity, salinity, dissolved oxygen and nutrient levels of water and helps us to understand how conditions change over time. Monitoring results can alert waterway managers if water-quality parameters are at levels where they may be affecting the survival of native fish, and can also detect improvements in the water. *RiverScan* participants will have access to a water quality monitoring kit to collect and test monthly samples of water and report the data on the Waterwatch Victoria web portal.

Each year North Central Waterwatch and the *Native Fish Recovery Plan* will release an Annual River Health Snapshot Report that will highlight changes in ecosystem health of these waterways using citizen science data.

RiverScan


Calling all Citizen Scientists, we need your help!

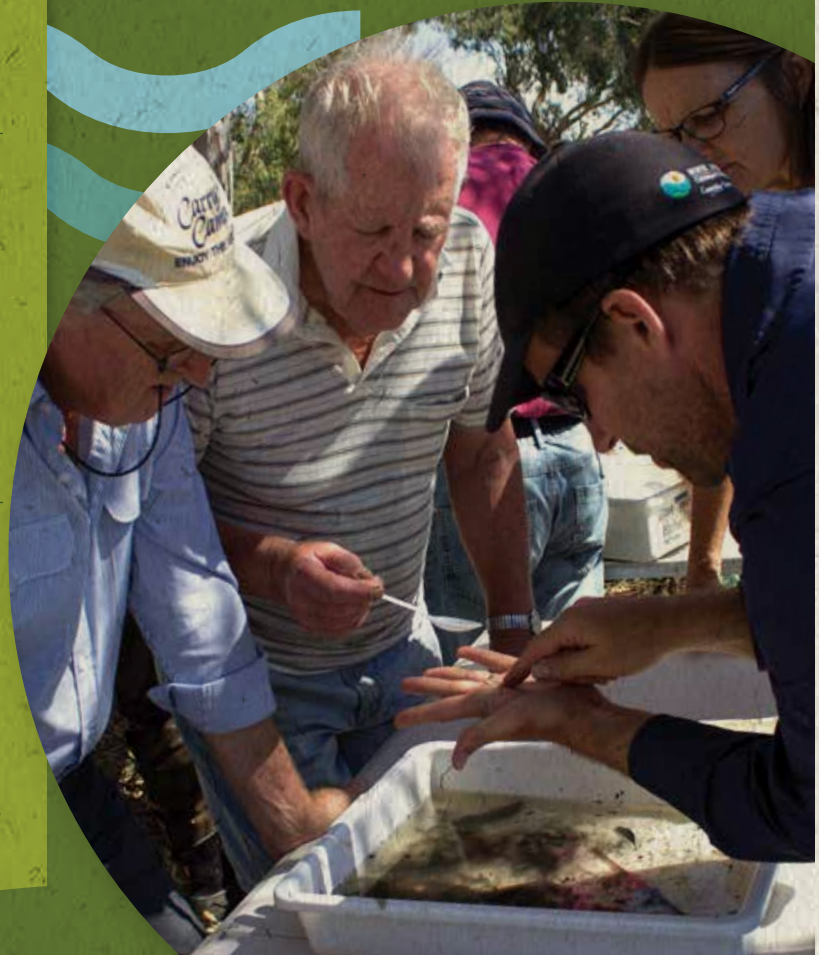
Help us monitor your local waterway

North Central Waterwatch and the Native Fish Recovery Plan have teamed up to create *RiverScan*, a program to engage local community members in monitoring the health of waterways to support recovery of native fish in north central Victoria.

Native Fish Recovery Plan

The *Native Fish Recovery Plan* is a long-term project aimed at improving native fish populations and river health in over 200 km of streams and wetlands in the Gunbower and lower Loddon area of north central Victoria.

 Being a citizen scientist is a great opportunity to volunteer and connect with the community and the environment.



Want to get involved?

We are looking for volunteers to help us monitor each of the sites on the map below:



'By participating in the workshops for this project and knowing that the data we were collecting would go towards research in a significant project was rewarding and drove mine and other participant's interest.'

Kelly Button, Bendigo TAFE student.



If you'd like to help:



Contact the **Native Fish Recovery Plan Project Manager** or the **North Central Waterwatch Coordinator** at the **North Central Catchment Management Authority**

✉ Via post: **PO Box 18, Huntly VIC 3551**

📍 Drop in to see us: **628-634 Midland Hwy
Huntly Victoria 3551**

📞 Phone: **03 5448 7124**

✉ Email: **info@nccma.vic.gov.au**

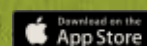
Or follow us on:  

The government is supporting community partnerships over the next four years through Waterwatch and other citizen science initiatives to address local waterway priorities.

The priorities are being addressed as part of the Victorian Government's \$222 million investment over the next four years to improve catchment and waterway health across regional Victoria. This investment is a key component of Water for Victoria – the government's plan for management of our water resources now and into the future.



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