

EstuaryWatch Update February-March 2008-03-06

This is the first monthly email to let people know of the upcoming events for EstuaryWatch. It is designed to be brief and informative to supplement the larger newsletter releases (which are likely to be bi-annual).

If you receive this and would like to be removed from the mailing list please reply to email requesting to be removed.

Any person interested in adding something to the update, please send me an email with your written piece and I'll include for you. This should be circulating early in month so send contribution toward the end of the month.

Kate Wynn on leave

If you have yet to be informed, Kate Wynn is on leave until early 2009. I have assumed responsibility for the role, so any correspondence should be forwarded to:
Rhys Collins
EstuaryWatch Coordinator
Corangamite CMA
5 Pakington Street
Geelong
0429192589.

Upcoming training

There are two EstuaryWatch training sessions coming up- Wednesday 19th March in Anglesea and Saturday 19th of April in Apollo Bay. They are both aimed at people interested in becoming involved in existing EstuaryWatch groups and also anyone interested in starting up a new site.

Potential new sites include the Thompsons Creek near Breamlea, Barham River, Wild Dog Creek and Skenes Creek near Apollo Bay, the Aire River at Horden Vale and the Curdies, Peterborough. At these sites estuary mouth monitoring

Currently monitored sites

Full monitoring programs are in place on the Barwon River, Spring Creek, Anglesea River, Painkalac Creek and Gellibrand River, and mouth condition monitoring is taking place at Kennett River, Erskine River and St George River

Database

The EstuaryWatch online database is working well. Data is available for public viewing at www.ccma.geomatic.com.au Most monitoring groups have participated in basic database training to allow them to enter their own data.

Using Data for management

Over next few months the program will explore the utilisation of our data. We hope to engage managers and decision makers in this process. More news on that one later.

Aire River

The Aire River was artificially opened on Friday the 29th of February. Samples were taken prior to the opening. Results showed the water to be very oxygen rich at all depths with a very low salinity. Follow up monitoring will take place very soon.

Thanks all for the late February early March update.

Best regards, Rhys