







As part the Louisa Creekwatch National Water Week activities, students from Heatley Special Education Unit, with assistance from the Creekwatch team, took part in the Waterwatch Waterbug Survey or "Snapshot". The activity encourages communities to become involved in assessing the water quality of their local waterways. Community members from across Queensland collected macroinvertebrates (waterbugs) from local rivers, creeks and streams, in order to get a better picture of the health of our waterways.

The Louisa Creek survey took place at Greg Jabs Court on Tuesday 19th October. Students and Creekwatch members armed themselves with dip nets, buckets, magnifying glasses, identification sheets and went in search of all creatures aquatic. The results of the day is summarised below:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Identified	Sensitivity No.	
Caddis fly larva	Trichoptera	1	10	
Damselfly larva	Odonata	1	4	
Dragonfly larva	Odonata	1	4	
Freshwater shrimp	Decapoda	1	4	
Water scorpion	Hepiptera	1	3	
Scavenger water beetle adult	Coleoptera	1	3	
Freshwater snail	Gastropoda	1	2	
Predacious diving beetle adult	Coleoptera	1	2	
	Totals	8	34	
		1		
	Taxa Gro	oups	This total divided by the number of Taxa groups is the site sensitivity score	

Last year, 2003'S results were:

Common Name	Scientific Name	Identified	Sensitivity No.
Mayfly nymph	Ephemeroptera	1	10
Caddis fly larva	Trichoptera	1	10
Crane fly larva	Diptera	1	6
Water mite	Acariformes	1	6
Damselfly larva	Ondonata	1	4
Dragonfly larva	Ondonata	1	4
Freshwater shrimp	Decapoda	1	4
Water strider	Hemiptera	1	4
Mosquito larva	Diptera	1	3
Freshwater snail	Gastropoda	1	2
Predacious diving beetle adult	Coleoptera	1	2
Segmented worm	Oligochaeta	1	1
	Totals	12	56

2004 Sensitivity Score for Louisa Creek at Greg Jabs Court = 4.25

Last years sensitivity score was 4.6

Rating catergories		Sensitivity Score (S)			
		S>4.5	3.5 <s<4.5< td=""><td>S<3.5</td></s<4.5<>	S<3.5	
Taxa Richness	X>9	Good	Moderate	Moderate	
	3≤X≤9	Moderate	Moderate	Poor	
	X<3	Moderate	Poor	Poor	

The results given in the above table indicate that for 2004 Louisa Creek at Greg Jabs Court is rated as MODERATE. This rating translates into the creek having a moderate diversity of aquatic animals as well as having some animals that are sensitive to a decline in water quality present in the water body. While this result is not as positive as that gathered last year we would really need to get more results to confirm it. Conditions such as weather, water temperature, time spent netting the creatures and/ or a recent mild disturbance of the site could explain the results as a temporary blip.





We are looking to expand our surveys next year, so if you would like to conduct a snapshot in your local Townsville waterway please contact Evan at Conservation Volunteers Australia on email: ekruckow@conservationvolunteers.com.au.

Dragonfly Larva