

Wungong Catchment Trial

Aquatic Fauna Biodiversity Assessment, September 2010

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background and Objectives

This is the sixth in a series of annual surveys commissioned by the Water Corporation to assess the effects of the Wungong Catchment Trial Project (WCTP) on the biodiversity of aquatic fauna (principally aquatic macroinvertebrates) in tributary streams of the Wungong catchment. The monitoring program has been designed to detect changes in aquatic macroinvertebrate assemblages in response to changes in flow regime or water quality conditions associated with the WCTP. Streams which used to flow all year, but which now flow seasonally due to reduced rainfall and catchment vegetation characteristics, may once again become perennial, and streams that are currently drying may have more secure flows (*i.e.* flow duration in seasonal streams may increase). Perennial streams tend to support greater biodiversity than seasonal streams.

The annual aquatic fauna monitoring surveys meet the Water Corporation's Key Performance Indicator (KPI) for monitoring stream biodiversity, where the performance measure is "diversity of aquatic macroinvertebrate species" and the performance target is "no statistical change in diversity from the historic range of variability or from the "current reference condition".

The aquatic fauna monitoring surveys commenced in 2005, when the Water Corporation commissioned the Aquatic Research Laboratory (ARL) of The University of Western Australia, to develop a monitoring programme for aquatic fauna. In order to separate short-term stochastic fluctuations from any effects of the Wungong Catchment Trial, ARL (2006) recommended that collection of pre-treatment baseline data and post-treatment monitoring data each be continued for a period of years. The original recommendation was that reference and exposed sites be sampled for at least three years prior to commencement of treatments in each sub-catchment (ARL 2006, 2007). This has not been possible for all exposed sites owing to commencement of trial thinning in Treatment Area 1 (TA1) in 2006 and commercial harvestings in TA2 in 2007 and 2008 (Table 1).

The current report documents the results of the September 2010 round of sampling for the program against all data collected since 2005.

2. Methods

As in previous monitoring years, changes in biodiversity were assessed by comparing macroinvertebrate and fish communities between streams in treated (exposed) and untreated (control/reference) sub-catchments. Quantitative sampling of aquatic macroinvertebrates was conducted in riffle habitat using a Surber sampler (25 x 25 cm metal quadrat with 250 µm mesh) with six replicate samples taken at each site. Qualitative sampling for fish is conducted using a back-pack electrofisher over a standardised 40 m at each site. Fish and crayfish were surveyed using standardised CPUE electrofishing (Smith-Root backpack electrofisher). *In-situ* measurement of a range of physical and water quality parameters was made in conjunction with the fauna sampling together with qualitative visual assessment of changes in riparian vegetation. Full details of methods are provided in previous annual reports (ARL 2006, 2007, 2008 & 2009).

The design of the sampling program is based on a Before-After-Control-Impact (BACI) type design. Univariate (ANOVA) and multivariate (ANOSIM) analysis of quantitative replicate samples is used to determine change in macroinvertebrate community structure. Historic data (1984-1990) collected at control (reference) sites in the Canning and North Dandalup catchments are included in analyses to compare how reference sites change over time relative

to their historic condition. ANOVA is performed using SPSS software (Version 17.0 for Windows). ANOSIM is based on similarity matrices (*i.e.* Bray-Curtis similarity matrices for species data or Euclidean distance matrices for physico-chemical data) generated by the computer program PRIMER version 6 (Clarke & Gorley 2006).

The similarity matrices provide a measure of statistical 'distance' and are used to compare:

- i). how impact (exposed) sites change over time relative to control (reference) sites, and
- ii). how control (reference) sites change over time relative to their historic condition.

For example, a Bray-Curtis similarity value of 100% indicates species assemblages in macroinvertebrate communities are identical, while a value of 0% indicates communities have no taxa in common. ANOSIM is used to test for statistically significant changes ($p < 0.05$) in similarity over time. The expectation is that there will be no change in similarity between the current and future condition of treated sites, if the WCTP effectively offsets the reductions in flow associated with climate change.

2.1 Sampling Sites

Table 1 provides a list of all sites sampled and locations are indicated in Figures 1A and 1B. Sites sampled in 2010 included:

- Four sites downstream of treatment areas -
 - TA1, TA2 and Vardi Road, which have been sampled annually since 2005;
 - More Seldom Seen Brook, which has been sampled annually since 2008. The choice of locations for monitoring the impact of upstream treatments on this brook was limited. The only suitable site was one which supported minimal gravel riffle habitat, being located in a very shallow, and largely swampy reach upstream of the More Seldom Seen gauging station. As such, data collected from this site are not expected to be the same as data collected from other monitoring sites which are dominated by gravel or cobble riffle runs. It is still important however, to compare and track how this site diverges from / converges with other sites over time. Flow in the More Seldom Seen Brook is also highly seasonal and in 2010, there was not enough surface water to enable collection of all six replicate macroinvertebrate samples for statistical comparison (only two replicates were taken in 2010).
- Four reference sites -
 - Waterfall Gully, 31 Mile Brook and Foster Brook have been sampled annually since 2005;
 - Wilson Brook, which has been sampled annually since 2007;
 - 39 Mile Brook (Jack Rocks), which has been sampled annually since 2007. Sampling at Jack Rocks was not strictly part of the original WCTP monitoring, but was included to provide data on the effects of fine-scale mosaic burns proposed by DEC. While DEC no longer plan to undertake these trials burns, the aquatic fauna sampling has continued in order to provide additional control/reference data for the WCTP.

Table 1 Aquatic fauna sampling sites

Site Name (& Code)	Catchment	Stream Order	Site Type	Treatment Area 'Exposure'	Treatment Indicative Status	Sampling Years	Sampling Location	UTM (zone 50) WGS84	
Waterfall Gully (WF)	Wungong	1	Reference	Control	No treatment required	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Upstream from road culvert 400m above gauging station.	413201 E	6436061 N
Treatment Area 1 (TA1)	Wungong	1	Exposed	WCTP TA1	Treatment Area 1 Total area 2,540ha Available for treatment 1,620ha Treatment already completed 1,070ha	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Along Chandler Rd, immediately down-stream of Coronation Rd intersection.	417987 E	6428604 N
Treatment Area 2 (TA2)	Wungong	1	Exposed	WCTP TA2 & 3	Treatment Area 2 Total area (TA2): 2 780ha Available for treatment: 1 780ha Treatment completed: 340 ha Within TA2: Cobiac cub-catchment - Total area 360ha Available for treatment 260ha Treatment completed 260ha	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Pumping Station Rd 300 m upstream of the Coronation Rd bridge.	419389 E	6428254 N
Vardi Road (VR)	Wungong	2	Exposed	WCTP TA1, 2 & 3	As for TA1 & TA2	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Immediately downstream from gauging station and near 'flying fox'.	416382 E	6431737 N
More Seldom Seen Brook (MSS)	Wungong	1	Exposed	WCTP TA5	Not yet treated	2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Immediately upstream from gauging station 616022 on More Seldom Seen Brook.	413350 E	6431007 N
31 Mile Brook (31MB)	Canning	1	Reference/ Exposed	Control	No treatment required	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Off 31 Mile Road; immediately upstream from gauging station.	420806 E	6434022 N
Jack Rocks 39 Mile Brook (JR)	Serpentine	1	Reference/ Exposed	Control	No treatment required	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Jack Rocks. Off Kennedia Rd (via Balmoral Rd), immediately upstream from gauging station.	420689 E	6417649 N
Foster Brook (FB)	Nth Dandalup	1	Reference	Control	No treatment required	2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Immediately upstream of Sharp Rd culvert, above Nth Dandalup reservoir.	410324 E	6403239 N
Wilson Brook (WB)	Nth Dandalup	1	Reference	Control	No treatment required	2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011	Off North Road, above Nth Dandalup reservoir. First sampled in 2007 as replacement for 31MB which will be impacted by CSIRO thinning trials.	410084 E	6399053 N

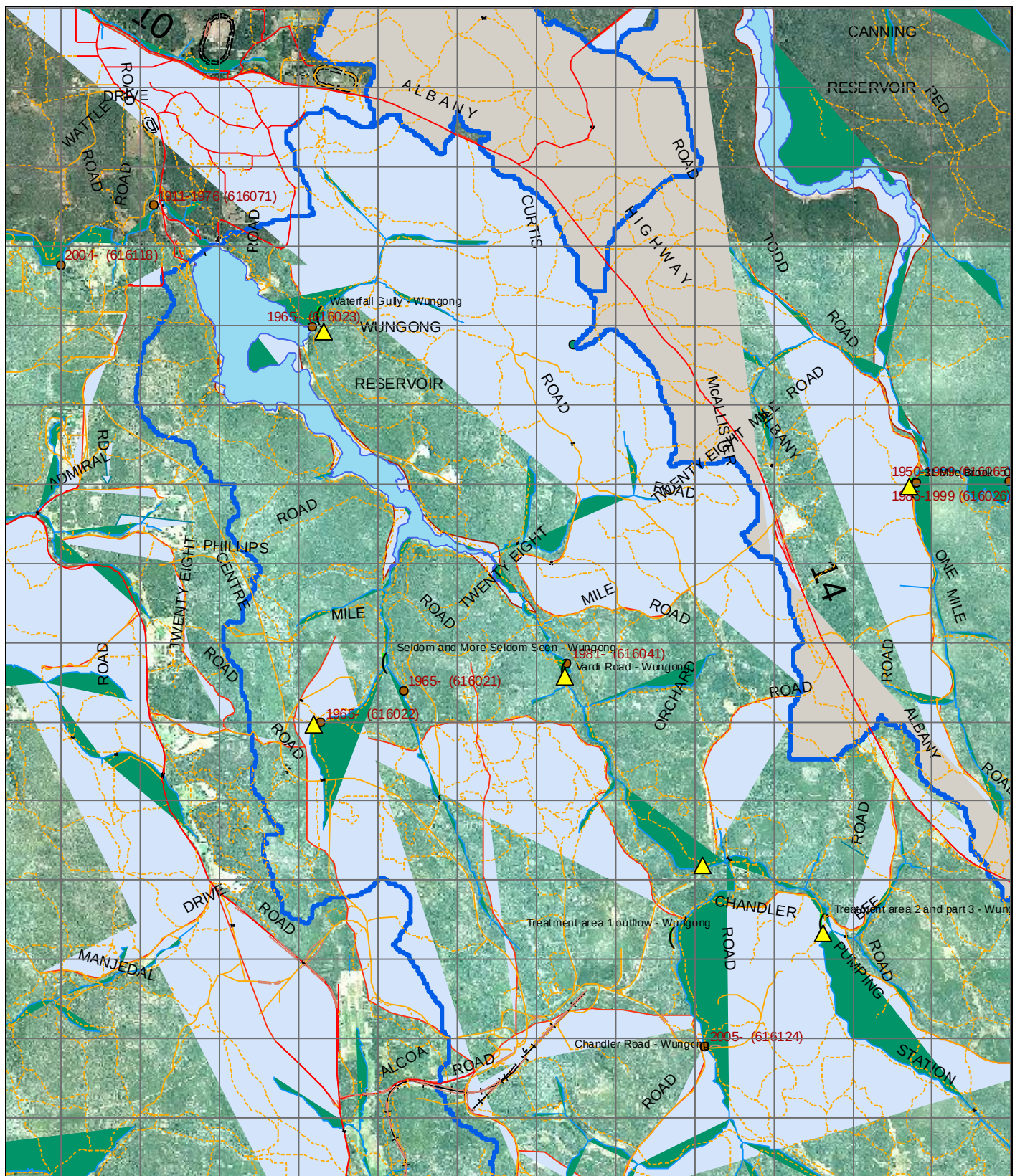


Figure 1A Location of aquatic fauna survey sites (▲) Wungong catchment and on 31 Mile Brook in the Upper Canning catchment

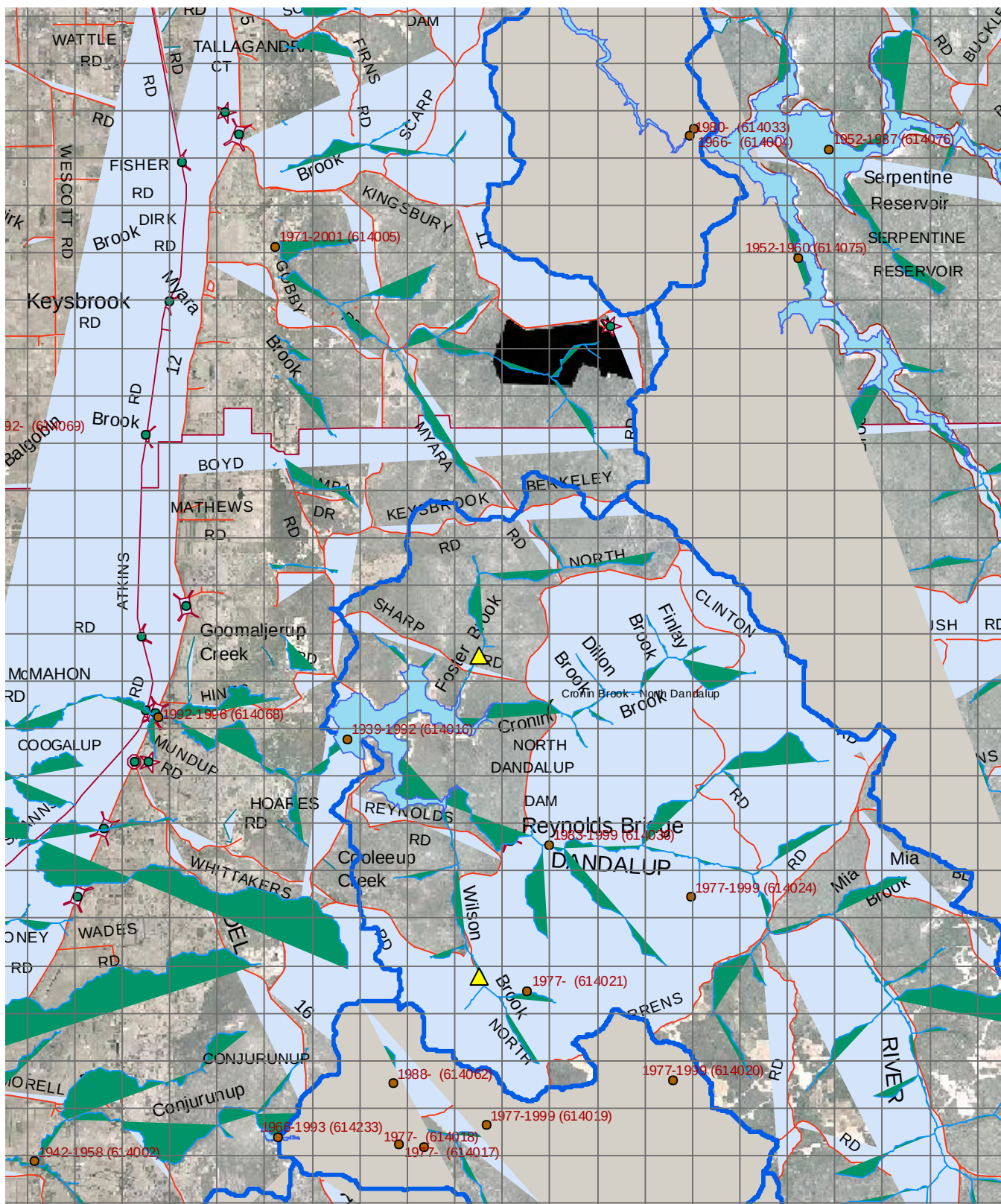


Figure 1B Location of aquatic fauna reference sites (▲) on Foster Brook and Wilson Brook in the upper North Dandalup catchment

3. Results

Photographs of each sampling site are presented in Appendix 1 and all raw data collected during the 2010 survey are provided in Appendices 2 to 4. Major results and trends from the current and previous years' sampling are summarised below.

3.1 Physico-chemistry

Since monitoring commenced in 2005, there have been no obvious changes in riparian vegetation (Appendix 2) and no obvious differences in water chemistry between the treated (exposed) group and control (reference) group. For some water quality parameters (*e.g.* water velocity, temperature, DO), the differences between 2005 and all later monitoring years are due to the fact that monitoring was undertaken in summer (December) in 2005, rather than spring (September-October) in subsequent years due to a delays for project start date. Differences therefore largely reflect seasonal differences.

Significant spatial and temporal differences in water velocity were however, recorded at individual sites (refer Table 2). Examples of changes in water chemistry at individual sites are provided in Figure 2. Water velocity is dependent on the influence of rainfall prior to and during surveys and natural variation between sites and between years was not unexpected. The most consistent trend was the strong decline in water velocity in 2009 and 2010. This was observed at all sites, both exposed and controls. There was an accompanying decline in dissolved oxygen levels and an increase in water temperature at most sites (Figure 2). The pH of waters also appeared to be in decline, though this trend was not as strong, nor as consistent, across sites. Salinity levels too were highly dependent on rainfall events, most notably at shallow-water sites where low values in 2010 were a direct result of rainfall during sampling days.

Although changes in water quality variables were observed at individual sites, all values remained within the range recommended by ANZECC/ ARMCANZ (2000) for the protection of aquatic fauna. In general, salinity levels have remained low ($<500 \mu\text{S cm}^{-1}$), dissolved oxygen levels moderate to high (68 - 116% saturation) and pH largely within the range of 6 to 8.

Table 2 Summary of results from one-way ANOVA on change in physico-chemistry at individual sites over time (2005–2010). Only statistically significant results are shown (Bonferroni adjusted p value = 0.002)

Treated Sites					Control Sites				
Site	Variable	df	F	p	Site	Variable	df	F	p
Vardi Road	Water velocity	5	8.133	<0.0001	Waterfall Gully	Water velocity	5	24.614	<0.0001
	Dissolved oxygen	5	116.8685	<0.0001		Dissolved oxygen	5	23.821	<0.0001
	Temperature	5	6265.584	<0.0001		Temperature	5	351.529	<0.0001
	ECond	5	5.351	<0.0001		ECond	5	265.748	<0.0001
	pH	5	284.500	<0.0001		pH	5	490.190	<0.0001
TA1	Water velocity	5	25.399	<0.0001	31 Mile Brook	Water velocity	5	63.768	<0.0001
	Dissolved oxygen	5	79.738	<0.0001		Dissolved oxygen	5	38.934	<0.0001
	Temperature	5	1040.449	<0.0001		Temperature	5	254.295	<0.0001
	ECond	5	223.939	<0.0001		ECond	5	1550.662	<0.0001
	pH	5	235.861	<0.0001		pH	5	195.190	<0.0001
TA2	Water velocity	5	20.742	<0.0001	Foster Brook	Water velocity	5	13.918	<0.0001
	Dissolved oxygen	5	71.204	<0.0001		Dissolved oxygen	5	9.579	<0.0001
	Temperature	5	2178.116	<0.0001		Temperature	5	1033.310	<0.0001
	ECond	5	171.703	<0.0001		ECond	5	595.092	<0.0001
	pH	5	50.072	<0.0001		pH	5	43.587	<0.0001
Jack Rocks	Water velocity	5	136.818	<0.0001	Wilson Brook	Water velocity	3	24.614	<0.0001
	Dissolved oxygen	5	37.897	<0.0001		Dissolved oxygen	3	23.821	<0.0001
	Temperature	5	14.878	<0.0001		Temperature	3	351.529	<0.0001
	ECond	5	417.626	<0.0001		ECond	3	265.748	<0.0001
	pH	5	95.300	<0.0001		pH	3	490.190	<0.0001

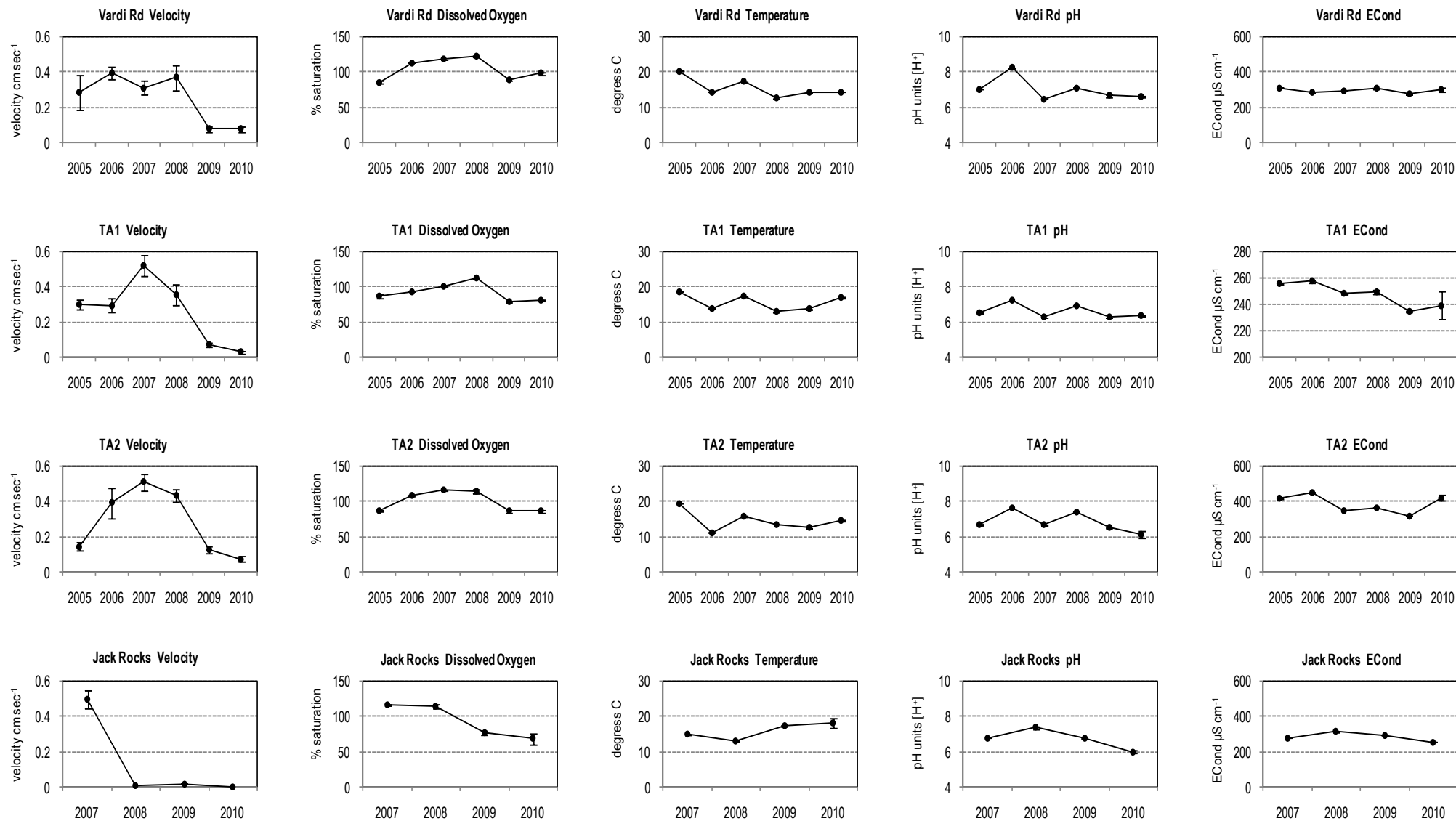


Figure 2A Annual variability in selected physico-chemical parameters (means ± SE) at treated (exposed) sites Vardi Road, TA1 and TA2, and at Jack Rocks

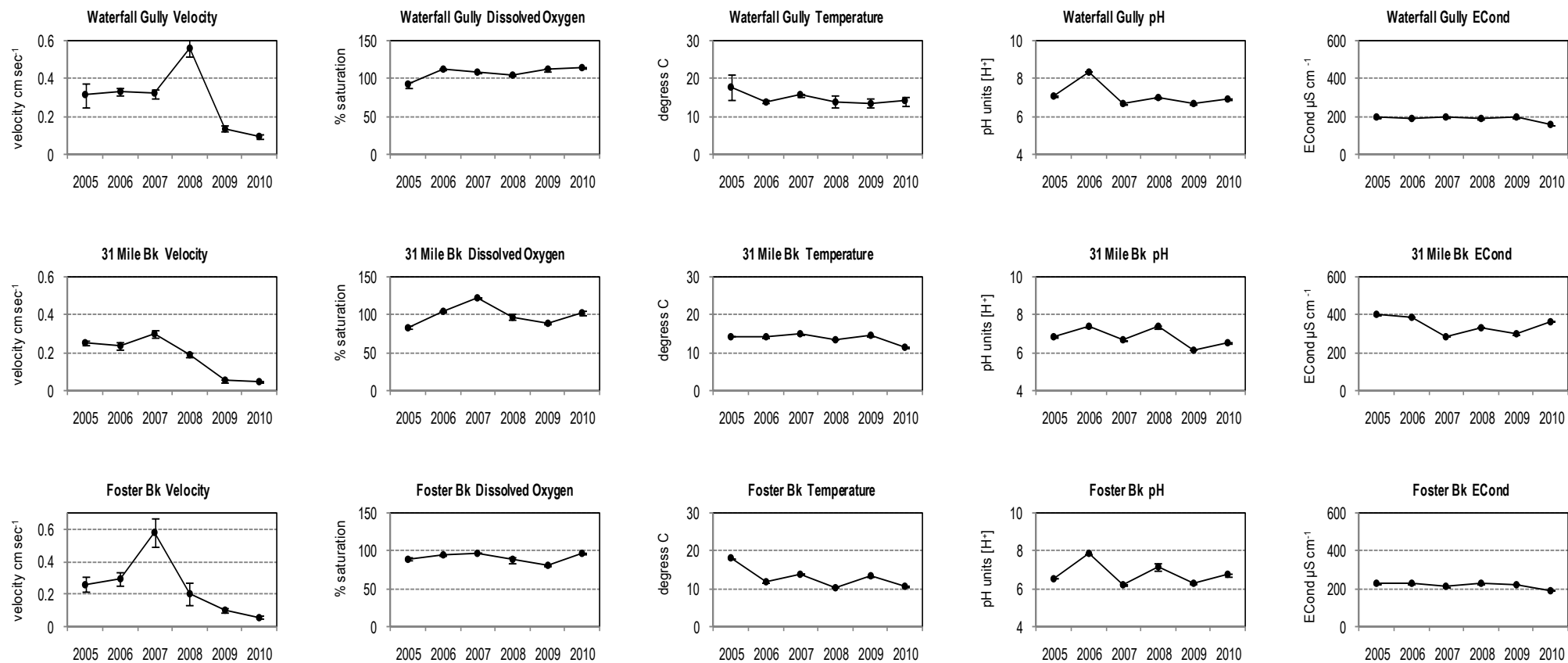


Figure 2B Annual variability in selected physico-chemical parameters (means $\pm$ SE) at control (reference) sites Waterfall Gully, 31 Mile Brook and Foster Brook

Analysis of Similarity (ANOSIM) based on Euclidean distance was used to investigate multivariate patterns in physico-chemistry. In all years, there were significant differences between treated sites and reference sites (Table 3). However, these differences existed before treatment commenced, and for most treated sites, the degree to which they differ from reference sites has not shown a consistent trend over the monitoring period.

Change in similarity was plotted (Figure 3) to provide a time series of change in physico-chemistry at exposed sites relative to reference sites and relative to the baseline condition at each site (*i.e.* condition during initial spring sampling). More Seldom Seen Brook and Jack Rocks were the only sites to show a strong trend toward decreasing similarity with reference sites. Contributing most to the decreased similarity were declining DO levels, increasing water temperature and increasing proportion of clay and silt substrate at both More Seldom Seen Brook and Jack Rocks. Obvious reductions in flow and water level were also observed at these sites during spring sampling between 2008 and 2010. Reduced flows in spring will lead to increased water temperatures and reduced flushing, which in turn will lead to higher silt levels and increased biological oxygen demand BOD.

Table 3 Summary results from one-way ANOSIM (Analysis of Similarity)

Summary results from one-way ANOSIM (Analysis of Similarity) on 2005-2010 physico-chemical data, comparing treated sites with control sites. Where R -statistic >0.75 = groups well separated, R -statistic >0.5 = groups overlapping but clearly different, and R -statistic >0.25 = groups barely separable. For all pairwise comparisons, significance level $p <0.05$; ns = not significant.

Exposed Site	Year	R-statistic for Pairwise Test with Reference Site			
		Waterfall Gully	Foster Bk	31 Mile Bk	Wilson Bk
Vardi Rd	2005	0.517	0.926	0.867	--
	2006	0.991	0.581	0.948	--
	2007	0.441	0.876	0.752	1.000
	2008	0.469	0.594	0.487	0.665
	2009	0.635	0.457	ns	0.437
	2010	0.633	0.643	0.472	0.793
TA1	2005	0.598	0.554	0.809	--
	2006	0.865	ns	0.781	--
	2007	ns	0.600	0.778	0.998
	2008	ns	ns	ns	0.659
	2009	ns	ns	ns	ns
	2010	0.719	0.969	0.409	0.941
TA2	2005	0.639	0.863	0.524	--
	2006	1.000	0.961	0.996	--
	2007	0.856	1.000	0.952	1.000
	2008	0.861	0.896	0.681	0.956
	2009	0.926	0.456	0.607	0.604
	2010	0.561	0.659	0.596	0.693
More Seldom Seen Bk	2008	0.774	ns	0.728	0.846
	2009	0.646	0.559	0.612	ns
	2010	--	--	--	--
Jack Rocks	2007	ns	0.635	0.722	0.833
	2008	0.691	ns	0.620	0.565
	2009	0.772	0.772	0.656	ns
	2010	0.776	0.987	0.773	0.869

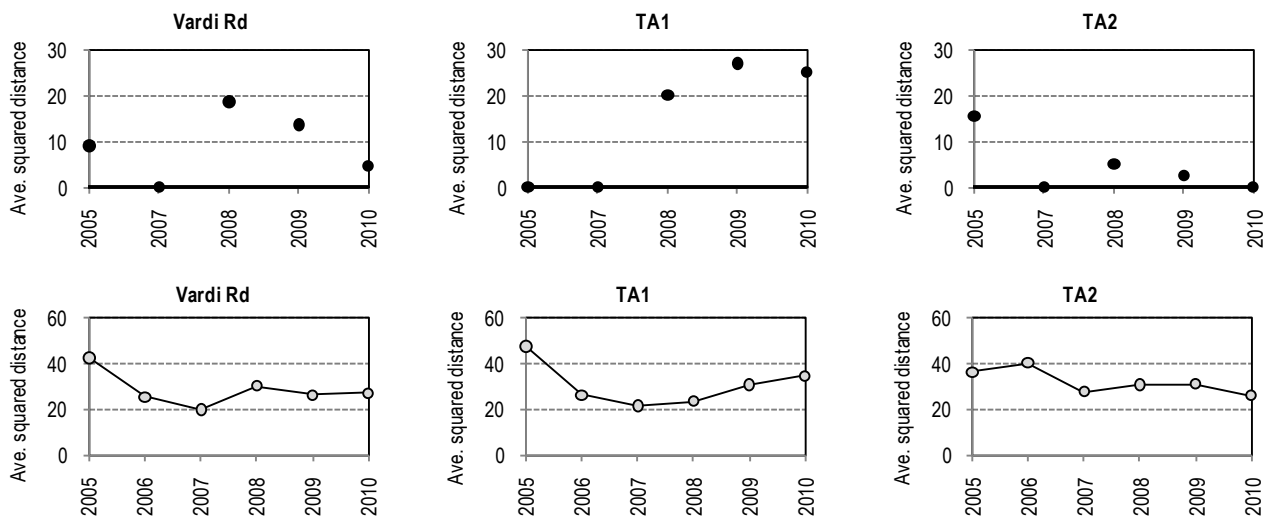


Figure 3A Change in similarity of physico-chemistry at individual sites (Vardi Road, TA1 & TA2) in treated areas, relative to their baseline condition (top) and their similarity to reference sites (bottom).

Baseline condition is equivalent to an average squared Euclidean distance of zero, and is based on the spring 2006 condition. All data are average squared distances determined from pairwise Euclidean distance matrices. As Euclidean distance increases, similarity decreases, i.e. the treated site is becoming less similar to the reference sites over time.

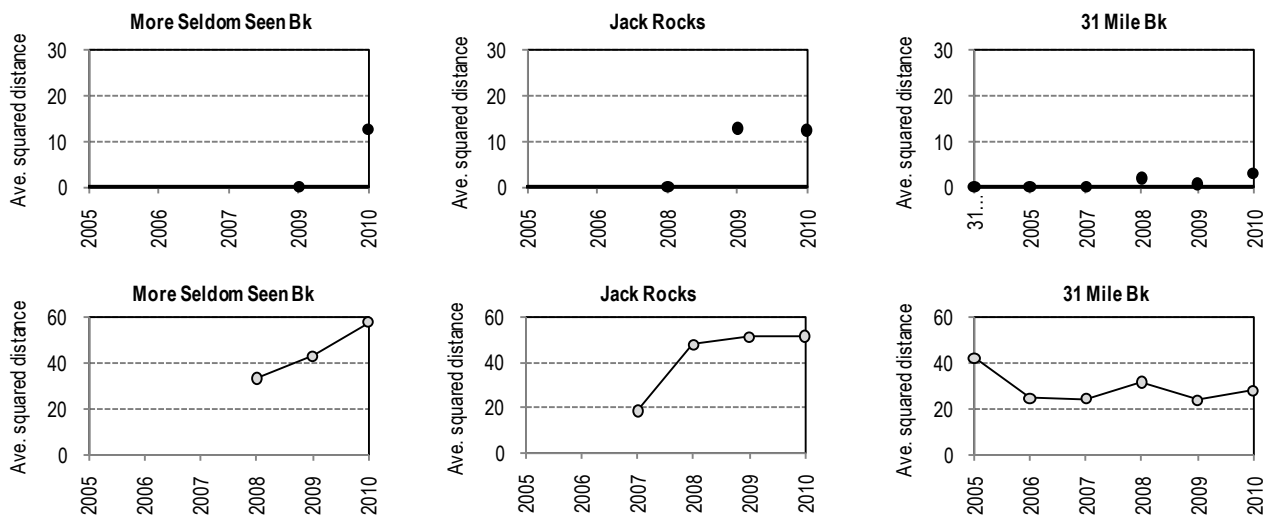


Figure 3B As for Figure 3A, but showing WCTP site More Seldom Seen Brook and control sites Jack Rocks and 31 Mile Brook.

Baseline condition is equivalent to an average squared Euclidean distance of zero, and is based on spring 2008 condition for More Seldom Seen Brook, spring 2007 for Jack Rocks and spring 2006 for 31 Mile Brook (i.e. year of initial spring sampling). 31 Mile Brook has been included to illustrate the extent of variation at individual control sites relative to all other reference sites.

3.2 Macroinvertebrates

A total of 7,518 individuals representing at least 95 taxa were collected from the 9 sites sampled in spring 2010. This was considerably more than the 4,956 individual from 86 taxa collected from the same sites in spring 2009 (with taxonomy standardised between years). Based on estimated abundance per m^{-2} , this equated to a total 116,624 individuals present in 2010 and 79,296 present in 2009. In 2010, as in all previous years, insects (88%) and in particular the Chironomidae (non-biting midges; 28%) constituted a large proportion of the total fauna richness. A systematic list of all macroinvertebrate taxa collected is provided in Appendix 4.

During 2008, 2009 and 2010 macroinvertebrate species abundance and richness showed varying degrees of recovery following significant declines in 2007 (Figure 4A-B), which were considered to be a lag response to low annual rainfall in 2006 (Figure 5). At most sites in 2010, there was a notable increase in total species richness and abundance above 2009 levels. This was despite low rainfall in winter and spring of 2010 and associated low streamflow (Figure 5). Monitoring in 2011 should reveal if there is a species response to this low rainfall, or if it requires more than one year of low winter flow and/or late onset of flows to elicit a detectable change in the fauna, such as occurred in 2006-07.

Trends in the total number of EPT taxa and the total number of south-west endemic species followed the same general trends evident for the total number of species at each site (Figure 4A-B). The most notable exceptions were More Seldom Seen Brook and Jack Rocks where most species metrics have continued to decline, and at Vardi Road, where numbers of EPT taxa and south-west endemics do not appear to have recovered despite an increase in species richness abundance between 2009 and 2010. It is likely that the continued late onset of flows at Vardi Road in 2007, and the relatively short flow duration prevented some EPT Taxa completing their life cycles, resulting in their loss from this site.

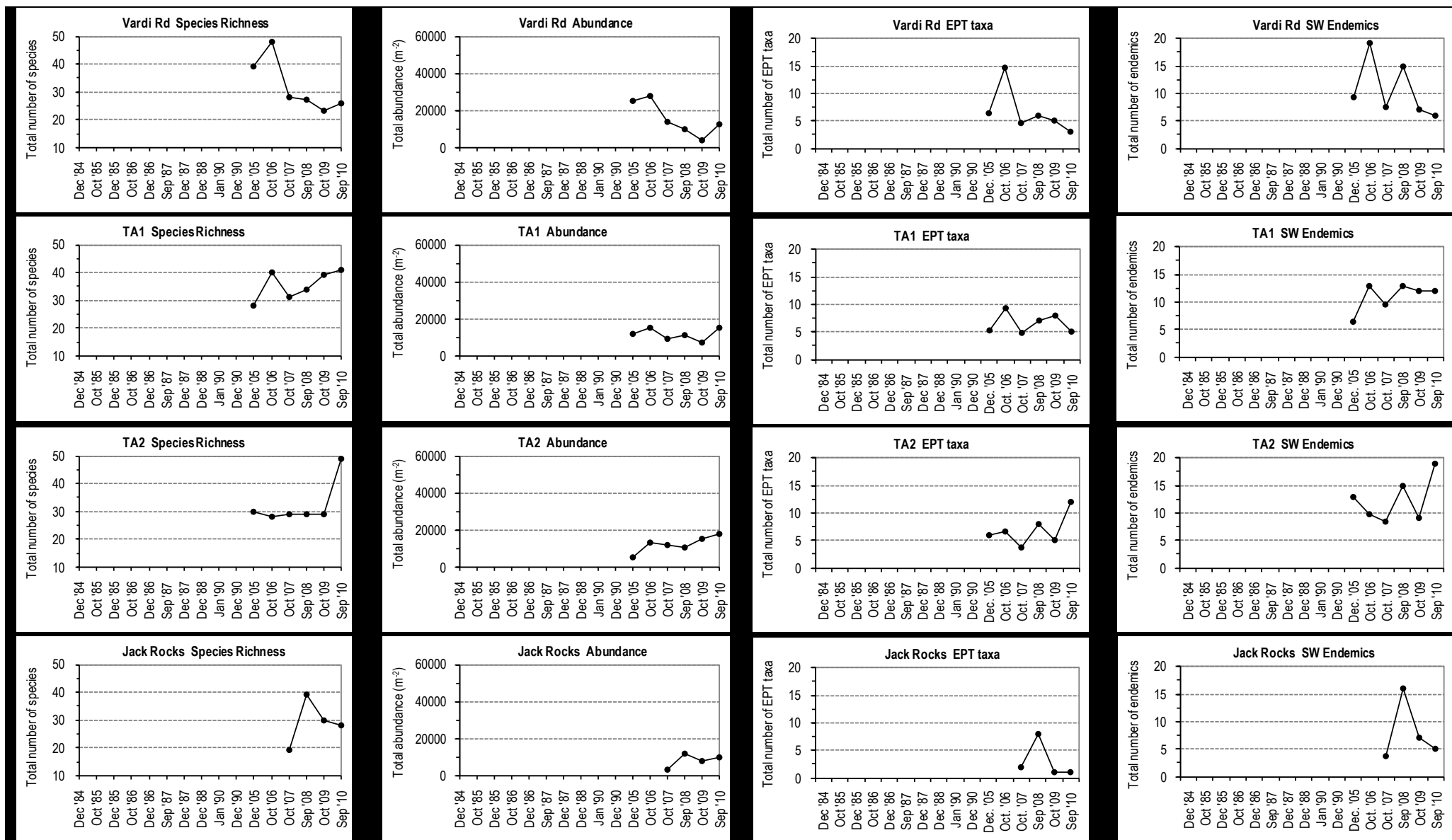


Figure 4A Annual variability in macroinvertebrate species metrics

Total richness, total abundance, total number of EPT taxa and total number of south-west endemics at treated sites and Jack Rocks. *Note: taxonomy has been standardised across years and sampling dates for historic data (1984–1990) included on x-axes for comparison with reference sites in Figure 3B.*

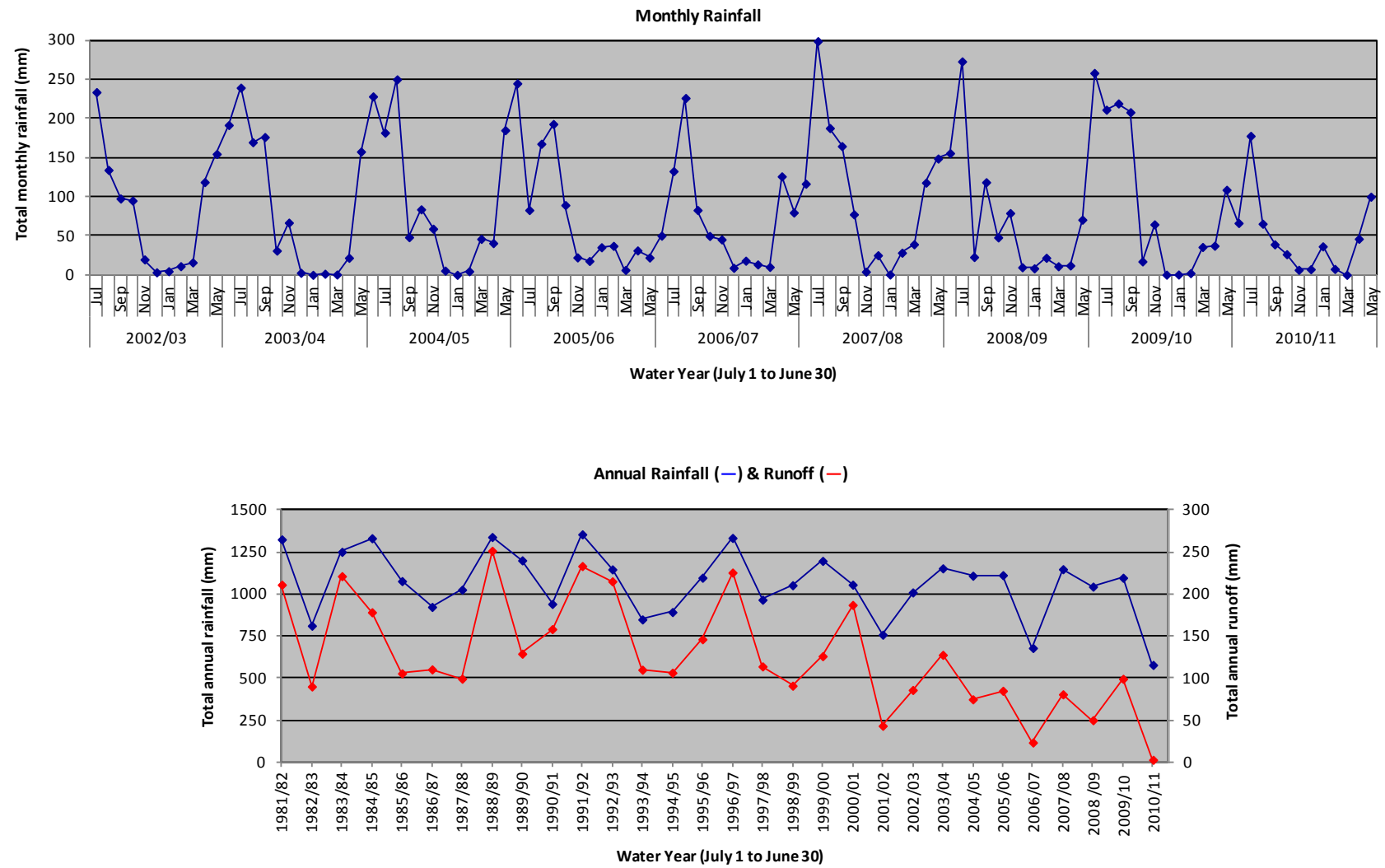


Figure 5 Rainfall (Stn 509269 - Seldom Seen Brook - Gardens) and runoff (Stn 616041 - Vardi Road) in the Wungong catchment

Monitoring since 2005 has revealed significant variation in species richness, abundance, number of EPT taxa and number of endemics amongst years (Table 4) and sites, both within and between control and treated groups. Similar results were found for species assemblage data when ANOSIM (based on Bray-Curtis similarity) was used to investigate multivariate patterns in community structure (Table 5). In all years, there were significant differences between faunal assemblages at treated sites and those at reference sites. As noted in previous reports, these differences existed before treatment commenced, and for most treated sites, the degree to which they differ from reference sites has not shown a consistent increasing or decreasing trend over the monitoring period.

Table 4 Summary of results from one-way ANOVA on change in macroinvertebrate species richness (number of species), log (x+1) transformed abundance (m^{-2}), number of EPT taxa and number of south-west endemics at individual sites over time (2005 - 2010). Significance level for p value ≤ 0.05 ; ns = not significant. Where significant differences are indicated, refer to Figure 4 to determine year differences.

Treated Sites					Control Sites				
Site	Variable	df	F	p	Site	Variable	df	F	p
Vardi Road	Richness	5	13.580	<0.0001	Waterfall Gully	Richness	5	4.686	0.003
	Abundance	5	11.017	<0.0001		Abundance	5	10.611	<0.0001
	EPT taxa	5	13.662	<0.0001		EPT taxa	5	2.359	0.004
	SW endemics	5	12.362	<0.0001		SW endemics	5	3.774	0.003
TA1	Richness	5	2.289	ns	31 Mile Brook	Richness	5	2.602	0.045
	Abundance	5	1.378	ns		Abundance	5	1.661	ns
	EPT taxa	5	1.926	0.070		EPT taxa	5	2.662	0.032
	SW endemics	5	2.282	nsn		SW endemics	5	3.591	0.023
TA2	Richness	5	3.704	0.010	Foster Brook	Richness	5	2.547	0.049
	Abundance	5	1.597	nsn		Abundance	5	4.613	0.003
	EPT taxa	5	1.892	0.024		EPT taxa	5	3.321	0.055
	SW endemics	5	1.656	0.022		SW endemics	5	3.487	ns
Jack Rocks	Richness	5	5.734	0.005	Wilson Brook	Richness	3	2.185	ns
	Abundance	5	2.150	ns		Abundance	3	0.952	ns
	EPT taxa	5	6.321	0.003		EPT taxa	3	1.362	0.044
	SW endemics	5	9.653	0.003		SW endemics	3	2.642	ns

Table 5 Summary results from one-way ANOSIM on log ($x+1$) transformed macroinvertebrate species abundance data (m^{-2}) for 2005-2010, comparing treated sites with control sites. Significance level $p < 0.05$; ns = not significant. Refer Table 3 for explanation of the R-statistic.

Exposed Site	Year	R-statistic for Pairwise Test with Reference Site			
		Waterfall Gully	Foster Bk	31 Mile Bk	Wilson Bk
Vardi Road	2005	0.669	0.630	0.657	--
	2006	0.996	0.993	1.000	--
	2007	0.861	0.991	0.641	0.957
	2008	0.767	0.457	0.641	ns
	2009	0.777	0.489	0.602	ns
	2010	1.000	0.622	0.978	0.630
TA1	2005	0.840	0.565	0.507	--
	2006	0.978	0.563	0.869	--
	2007	0.930	0.915	0.652	0.919
	2008	0.815	0.615	0.726	0.457
	2009	0.856	0.688	0.701	0.491
	2010	1.000	ns	0.919	0.917
TA2	2005	0.948	ns	0.480	--
	2006	0.994	0.843	0.722	--
	2007	0.917	0.819	0.770	0.935
	2008	0.785	0.580	0.670	0.424
	2009	0.743	0.592	0.666	0.457
	2010	0.830	0.511	0.515	0.900

Exposed Site	Year	R-statistic for Pairwise Test with Reference Site			
		Waterfall Gully	Foster Bk	31 Mile Bk	Wilson Bk
More Seldom Seen Bk	2008	0.570	0.635	0.474	0.724
	2009	0.600	0.592	0.484	0.785
	2010	--	--	--	--
Jack Rocks	2007	1.000	0.963	0.998	0.930
	2008	0.948	0.833	0.893	0.706
	2009	0.956	0.801	0.899	0.753
	2010	0.950	0.824	0.956	0.835

Change in pairwise percentage similarity was used to provide a time series analysis of change in spring faunal assemblages at treated sites relative to reference sites and relative to their baseline condition, *i.e.* in the first spring sampled (Figure 6). In accord with the changes in species richness and abundance noted above, there have been shifts in the type of species present at sites, *i.e.* shifts in species assemblages. Of most note were the changes at Vardi Road, TA2 and the reference site on 31 Mile Brook.

At Vardi Road, there has been only a slight shift in species assemblages away from the baseline condition. This occurred in spring 2009 and 2010 however, the direction of change was not consistent over these years. Relative to the baseline condition in spring 2006, species assemblages were slightly less (-5%) similar in 2009, but slightly more (3%) similar in 2010. Between 2006 and 2009, there was also an increase in similarity (~10%) between species assemblages at Vardi Road and those at reference sites. These small changes do not signify a major ecological response, but rather change in a few taxa that are more sensitive to environmental disturbance. Primarily, a reduction in abundance and number of "high-flow" taxa, such as simuliids (black flies) and baetid mayflies, and an apparent increase in plecopterans (stoneflies) and leptophlebiid mayflies. The latter may be a response to changes in stream temperature regime as much as changes in flow regime.

Temperature (as well as flow) is known to play a critical role in hatching, larval development and adult emergence (Bunn 1988, Sutcliffe *et al.* 2002). These changes were most obvious between 2007 and 2009 and are likely the result of particularly low rainfall in 2006. Some recovery of these species was apparent by 2010.

In contrast, TA2 (downstream of Cobiac sub-catchment) recorded smaller annual fluctuations in species richness and abundance than other exposed sites. Species assemblages at TA2 also showed little inter-annual variation in their similarity to reference sites, with virtually no change since 2006 (Figure 6). Like Vardi Road, taxa contributing most to fluctuations at TA1 and TA2 included griptopterygid stoneflies, the mayfly *Nyungara bunni*, paramelitid amphipods and simuliids. However, there have been relatively large shifts in species assemblages at TA2, relative to the baseline spring 2006 condition at this site (Figure 6). The relatively large

change from baseline condition compared to the small change relative to reference sites indicates annual variation in species assemblages at TA2 more closely mirrors that at reference sites.

Faunal assemblages amongst reference sites have shown significant spatial variation in most years as evidenced by ANOSIM tests (see example in Table 5). However, species assemblages at 31 Mile Brook (Figure 5) and Foster Brook showed a small increase in similarity (~5%) between 2006 and 2009. This was also attributed to antecedent rainfall and the loss (likely temporary) of taxa more sensitive to change in annual flow regime. Since 2006, there has also been a shift (~10%) away from the historic condition at these sites and at Wilson Brook, based on data collected between 1985 and 1987 (Figure 7). In general, these changes were associated with an increased abundance of species more common to seasonal and/or slow flowing waters (ostracods, acarines & the chironomid *Cricotopus annuliventris*), increased abundance of stoneflies and the leptophlebiid *Nyungara bunnii*, and decreased abundance of taxa more typically associated with higher water velocities and fast-flowing reaches (caddis-flies, baetid mayflies, several midge species & the dragonfly *Austrosynthemis cyanitincta*).

Table 6 Summary results from one-way ANOSIM on $\log(x+1)$ transformed macro-invertebrate species abundance data (m^{-2}), comparing recent data (2005 -2010) for 31 Mile Brook with (A) recent data from other reference sites and (B) with historic (1985-87) baseline data. Significance level $p < 0.05$.

Site	Year	R-statistic for Pairwise Test		
		Waterfall Gully	Foster Bk	Wilson Bk
(A) 31 Mile Bk	2005	0.687	0.554	--
	2006	0.993	0.891	--
	2007	0.826	0.980	0.874
	2008	0.891	0.683	0.656
	2009	0.821	0.660	0.633
	2010	0.974	0.626	0.915
		31 MB 1985	31MB 1986	31MB 1987
(B) 31 Mile Bk	2005	0.891	0.881	0.913
	2006	0.706	0.598	0.589
	2007	0.830	0.754	0.841
	2008	0.772	0.602	0.563
	2009	0.856	0.716	0.672
	2010	0.889	0.652	0.594

Other macroinvertebrate fauna of note included stygal paramelitid amphipods. These are obligate groundwater species that require permanent water. Between 2005 and 2009 there was a trend toward declining abundance of these amphipods at TA1, Vardi Road and Waterfall Gully. In 2010, this continued at TA1 and Vardi Road, but there was a considerable increase at Waterfall Gully and TA2. Change in their abundance may reflect frequency and/or duration of connectivity between ground and surface waters. Where there is strong connectivity between ground and surface waters it is assumed they will frequent surface waters in search of food, particularly during wetter months.

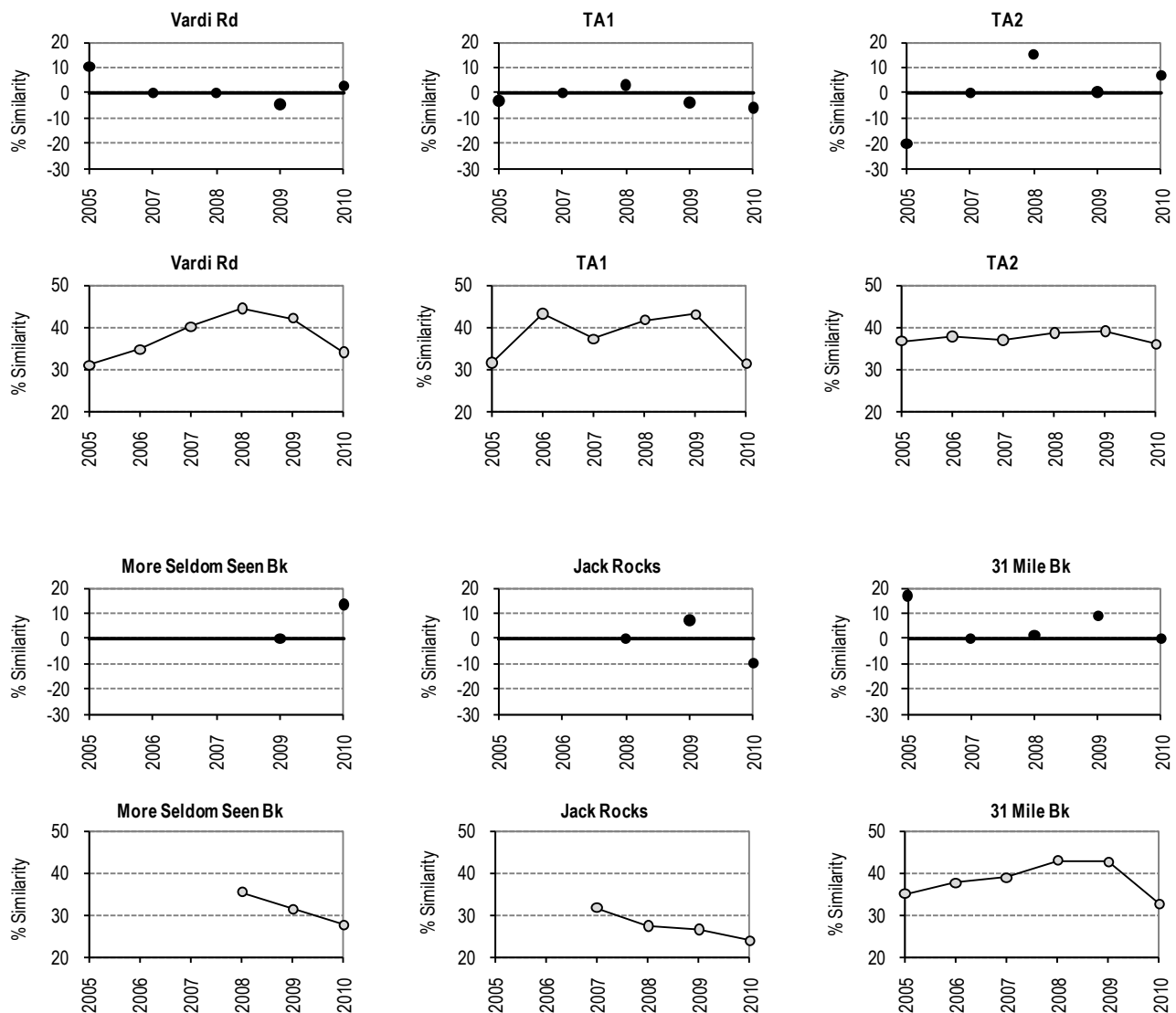


Figure 6 Change in similarity of macroinvertebrate species assemblages at individual sites

Vardi Road, TA1, TA2, More Seldom Seen Bk, Jack Rocks & 31 Mile Bk — relative to their baseline condition (top rows) and their similarity to reference sites (bottom rows). Baseline condition is indicated as the solid dark line and is based on condition at the time of the first spring sampling; i.e. spring 2006 for Vardi Rd, TA1, TA2 and 31 Mile Bk; spring 2007 for Jack Rocks; spring 2008 for More Seldom Seen Bk. All data are percent similarity values determined from pairwise Bray-Curtis distance matrices based on species abundance. As Bray-Cutis similarity increases, similarity between species assemblages increases, i.e. the treated site is becoming more similar to the reference sites over time.

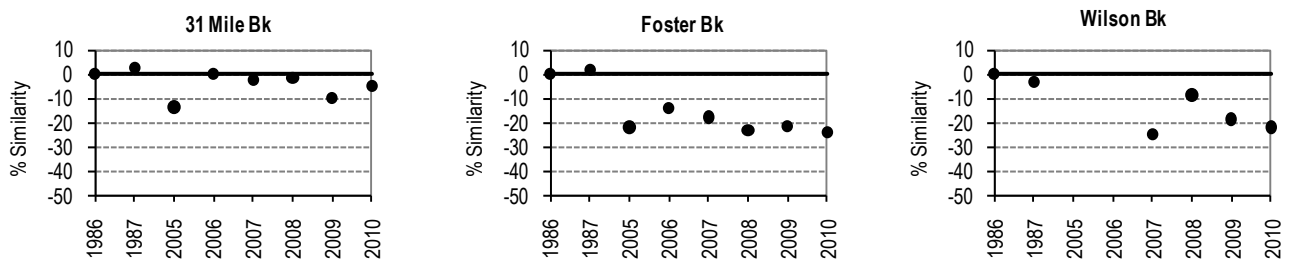


Figure 7 Change in similarity of macroinvertebrate species assemblages at reference sites

31 Mile Brook, Foster Brook and Wilson Brook — relative to their historic condition. Baseline condition is indicated as the solid dark line and is based on spring data collected in 1985. All data are per cent similarity values determined from pairwise Bray-Curtis distance matrices based on species abundance.

3.3 Fish and Crayfish

Four freshwater fishes (three native and one introduced), and two freshwater crayfish species (one native and one introduced) were again recorded from the study sites in 2010. Fishing effort is not standardised due to the physical nature of stream habitats, *i.e.* large number of snags and densely fringing vegetation. Data are therefore tabulated as relative abundance categories (Table 7). To date the most obvious changes in distribution or abundance of native fish and crayfish, have been the lower numbers in 2009 and 2010 (associated with low water levels).

Table 7 Fish and crayfish recorded. Codes: † introduced species ★ present; ★★common, ★★★abundant

Site	Season/Year	Fish				Crayfish	
		Western minnow	Western pygmy perch	Nightfish	Trout†	Gilgie	Yabby†
TA1	Summer 2005					★ ★	
	Spring 2006					★ ★	
	Spring 2007		★ ★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2008			★		★ ★	
	Spring 2009		★ ★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2010	★	★	★		★ ★ ★	
TA2	Summer 2005					★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2006			★		★ ★	
	Spring 2007	★ ★	★ ★	★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2008	★ ★	★ ★			★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2009	★ ★	★ ★			★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2010		★	★		★ ★ ★	
Vardi Road	Summer 2005					★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2006		★ ★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring /2007		★ ★		★	★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2008		★ ★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2009		★ ★	★ ★	★	★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2010		★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
More Seldom Seen Bk	Spring 2008					★ ★	
	Spring 2009					★ ★	
	Spring 2010					★ ★	
Waterfall Gully	Summer 2007					★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2006	★				★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2007					★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2008					★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2009	★ ★				★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2010	★ ★				★ ★ ★	
31 Mile Bk	Summer 2005	★				★ ★	
	Spring 2006	★ ★ ★				★ ★	
	Spring 2007	★ ★ ★				★ ★	
	Spring 2008	★ ★ ★				★ ★	
	Spring 2009	★ ★ ★		★		★ ★	
	Spring 2010	★ ★ ★				★	
Foster Bk	Summer 2005				★ ★		
	Spring 2006				★ ★	★ ★	
	Spring 2007	★ ★			★	★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2008	★			★ ★	★ ★	
	Spring 2009	★ ★	★		★ ★	★ ★	
	Spring 2010	★ ★			★ ★	★ ★	
Wilson Bk	Spring 2007	★ ★				★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2008	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2009	★ ★	★ ★	★ ★		★ ★ ★	
	Spring 2010	★ ★	★ ★	★		★ ★ ★	
Jack Rocks	Spring 2007	★ ★ ★				★ ★	★ ★
	Spring 2008	★ ★ ★				★ ★	★ ★
	Spring 2009	★ ★ ★				★ ★	★ ★
	Spring 2010	★				★	★ ★ ★

4. Discussion

To date, monitoring has shown no adverse effects of the Wungong Catchment Trial Project (WCTP) on aquatic fauna biodiversity, however, assemblages at the previously perennial Vardi Road appear to be showing effects of a drying climate, in particular, the low annual rainfall in 2006. While this appeared to have at least a temporary affect on fauna in a number of creeks, species richness at Vardi Road has not recovered. The authors have also observed a general decline in aquatic macroinvertebrate species diversity in several other northern jarrah forest streams (*i.e.* in the upper Dandalup and Serpentine catchments) between 2006 and 2009. Fauna most affected include those species more typically associated with higher water velocities.

It is difficult to define what effect the WCTP has had on offsetting the effects of further declines in rainfall. It is probable that warmer stream temperatures in autumn and early winter, reduced winter rainfall and increased late spring rainfall all combine to alter life history patterns of aquatic macroinvertebrates. Some species, such as the stoneflies and leptophlebiid mayflies, may be better able to cope by way of extended periods of egg hatching and the ability to alternate between slow and fast larval development dependent on environmental conditions. Studies conducted by Bunn (1988) during the early 1980's in the Wungong and North Dandalup catchments, suggested many macroinvertebrate species that inhabit perennial streams have fast and slow univoltine¹ cycles or are capable of cohort splitting. Consequently community structure in south-west streams is less complex and has a high degree of seasonality that is atypical of temperate streams of Australia and New Zealand. The higher degree of seasonality implies many species evolved during periods when the south-west was drier than it is today (Bunn 1988).

Briers *et al.* (2004) similarly established a relationship between climatic conditions and the growth of aquatic insects in North American streams. Mayfly nymphs were found to grow faster during warmer years when stream temperature was warmer (*i.e.* they had a shortened life cycle), with emergence of adults varying by almost two months between years. By contrast, Briers *et al.* (2004) found no relation between growth in stonefly nymphs and climate variation. This was considered to be due to the fact that they were less dependent on temperature and they displayed a semivoltine lifecycle.

Despite the fact that many species that inhabit south-west perennial systems may already be pre-adapted to drought conditions, it is predicted that on-going decline in rainfall will have a pronounced effect on community structure. Prolonged drought, the late onset of flows and short flow duration are likely to result in loss of species richness and abundance as some species will not be able to complete their life-cycles. Boulton (2003) found prolonged drought "eliminated or decimated" atyid shrimps, stoneflies and caddis-flies. Although these taxa persisted through early stages of drought, they did not recruit successfully the following year, even with a return to higher-than-baseflow conditions. This would appear to be the case for macroinvertebrates at Vardi Road and would also account for the shifts in taxa richness and abundance observed at reference sites relative to historic faunal assemblages.

There is also likely to be a minimum threshold for flow duration in seasonal creeks, below which fauna cannot complete their life-cycles. Thus, even fauna that are pre-adapted to seasonal flow may not survive if the duration of flow falls below a critical minimum.

Continued monitoring will be able to detect future changes in biodiversity at WCTP sites, using reference sites to separate the effects of climate change.

¹ Univoltine = breeding once per year; semivoltine = having a lifecycle that takes longer than one year to complete.

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6. Appendices

Appendix 1 — Photographs of sampling sites taken in September 2010



Vardi Road weir



View downstream from Vardi Road weir



Site TA1 — view upstream



Waterfall Gully — view upstream from road bridge



Site TA2 — view upstream



Site TA2 — view downstream



Sampling site on More Seldom Seen Brook, very low water levels



V-notch weir on More Seldom Seen Brook, down-stream of sampling site



Jack Rocks on 39 Mile Brook, in the Serpentine catchment - view upstream



Jack Rocks on 39 Mile Brook - view downstream



31 Mile Brook in the Canning catchment- view upstream from weir



Foster Brook in the North Dandalup catchment - immediately downstream of sampling site, showing large permanent pool (trout habitat) upstream of road culverts



Sampling site on Wilson Brook in the North Dandalup catchment – view downstream



Electrofishing at Wilson Brook

Appendix 2 — Foreshore condition rating

Foreshore condition and stream environmental ratings based on visual, qualitative methods of Pen & Scott (1995) and WRC (1999). Refer to ARL (2006) for descriptions of ratings. NA = not assessed.

Site	Baseline Foreshore Condition in 2005	Baseline Stream Environmental Rating in 2005	Condition/Rating 2006 - 2010	
			2006	2007 - 2010
Waterfall Gully	A1-2 (near 'pristine')	Good	A1-2 / Good	A1-2 / Good
Vardi Road	A1-2 (near 'pristine')	Excellent	A1-2 / Excellent	A1-2 / Excellent
TA1	A3 (soil exposed due to recent burn)	Good	A3 / Good	A3 / Good
TA2	B1-2 (local weed infestation)	Good	B1-2 / Good	B1-2 / Good
More Seldom Seen	NA	NA	NA	A1-2 / Excellent
31 Mile Brook	A1-2 (near 'pristine')	Excellent	A1-2 / Excellent	A1-2 / Excellent
Foster Brook	A3 (soil exposed due to recent burn)	Moderate (severe burn)	A3 / Moderate (some regrowth)	A2 / Good (strong regrowth)
Wilson Brook	NA	NA	NA	A1-2 / Excellent
Jack Rocks	NA	NA	NA	A1-2 / Excellent

Appendix 3 — Physico-chemical data recorded at each site in September 2010 in conjunction with aquatic fauna sampling

Site	Date	Start Time	Rep#	Ave. Velocity m/s	DO %	DO mg/L	Temp deg C	pH	Econd. uS/cm	Turbid. NTU	Depth m	Width m
Foster Bk	28/09/10	830	1	0.02935333	97.8	10.92	10.5	6.82	192	0	0.15	2
Foster Bk	28/09/10		2	0.06350667	99.5	11.34	10.4	6.59	190.8	0	0.05	1.5
Foster Bk	28/09/10		3	0.06132667	92.6	10.38	10.4	6.59	192.3	0	0.1	1
Foster Bk	28/09/10		4	0.09039333	96.1	10.8	10.9	6.74	192.8	0	0.1	1
Foster Bk	28/09/10		5	0.05551333	99.4	11.16	11.4	6.96	194	0	0.05	2
Foster Bk	28/09/10		6	0.04679333	96.6	10.8	11	6.79	193.8	0	0.05	1
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10	1100	1	0.04316	114.6	12.2	11.9	6.56	365	0	0.2	3
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		2	0.06423333	108.9	11.8	11.6	6.75	366	0	0.15	3
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		3	0.02935333	101.1	10.9	11.4	6.5	367	0	0.1	2.5
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		4	0.05551333	94.9	9.4	11.1	6.46	367	0	0.05	2.5
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		5	0.05188	97.5	9.6	11.5	6.48	367	0	0.15	2.5
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		6	0.05478667	97	9.71	11.1	6.46	367	0	0.1	1.5
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10	1100	1	0.05042667	115.6	11.96	13.9	6.79	155	0	0.3	2
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		2	0.09620667	116.1	12.03	13.9	6.82	155.1	0	0.35	1
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		3	0.12825333	112.6	11.58	14.1	7.07	156.3	0	0.2	1.5
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		4	0.12276222	113.5	11.38	14.2	7.05	156	0	0.1	1.5
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		5	0.10928667	117.2	12.08	14.6	6.85	156	0	0.2	1.2
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		6	0.06568667	109.4	11.29	14.4	7.06	156.4	0	0.18	2.2
Wilson Bk	28/09/10	1200	1	0.06714	99.2	10.5	11.3	6.2	223	0	0.3	2
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		2	0.017	88.8	10.47	11.2	6.23	224	0	0.25	3
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		3	0.03371333	86.8	9.65	11.2	6.2	224	0	0.2	2
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		4	0.03008	93.8	10.3	12.1	6.13	224	0	0.15	4.5
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		5	0.03008	94.5	10.38	11.3	6.1	224	0	0.05	4.8
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		6	0.02354	87.1	9.18	11.3	6.09	224	0	0.05	4.8
TA1	27/09/10	1200	1	0.05769333	89	8.58	17.5	6.6	383	0	0.05	2.3
TA1	27/09/10		2	0.05769333	81.8	7.82	17.2	6.32	445	0	0.1	2.3
TA1	27/09/10		3	0.017	83.4	8.07	17.4	6.3	445	0	0.1	2
TA1	27/09/10		4	0.017	79.4	7.7	17.2	6.36	449	0	0.15	2
TA1	27/09/10		5	0.017	76.8	7.55	16.7	6.34	446	0	0.05	2
TA1	27/09/10		6	0.017	76.9	7.52	16.5	6.41	374	0	0.1	2

Appendix 3 — Continued

Site	Date	Start Time	Rep#	Ave. Velocity m/s	DO %	DO mg/L	Temp deg C	pH	Econd. uS/cm	Turbid. NTU	Depth m	Width m
TA2	27/09/10	1400	1	0.08385333	86.6	8.57	15	6.38	238	0	0.1	1.2
TA2	27/09/10		2	0.05478667	94.7	9.7	15	6.88	237	0	0.1	1.5
TA2	27/09/10		3	0.08312667	91.5	9.37	14.3	6.07	231	0	0.1	1.5
TA2	27/09/10		4	0.017	86.3	8.88	14.3	6.07	290	0	0.1	2
TA2	27/09/10		5	0.12337111	78.9	7.99	15	5.73	220	0	0.1	2.2
TA2	27/09/10		6	0.08748667	81.1	8.27	14.9	5.78	221	0	0.16	1.5
Vardi Rd	27/09/10	1600	1	0.08821333	99.7	10.18	14.5	6.61	324	0	0.1	2.5
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		2	0.12700667	107	10.35	14.4	6.54	258	0	0.15	2.5
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		3	0.05406	94.7	9.7	14.2	6.56	324	0	0.05	3.5
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		4	0.05842	93.4	9.51	14.4	6.63	324	0	0.1	3.5
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		5	0.03734667	95.7	9.78	14.3	6.62	259	0	0.1	3.5
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		6	0.10347333	98.1	10.07	14.3	6.66	324	0	0.2	2.75
More Seldom Seen Bk	29/09/10	900	1	0	70.5	7.98	11.2	4.99	251	0	0.05	0.5
More Seldom Seen Bk	29/09/10		2	0	80.2	8.84	11.6	4.94	244	0	0.1	0.4
Jack Rocks	28/09/10	1430	1	0	89.7	7.85	21.8	6.07	258	0	0.18	8
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		2	0	81.3	7.35	20.9	6.04	259	0	0.4	6
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		3	0	65.2	7.3	16.1	5.9	259	0	0.3	6
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		4	0	51.3	5.4	14.6	5.86	258	0	0.3	6.7
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		5	0	42.6	4.35	15	5.89	247	0	0.2	5.8
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		6	0	82.8	7.5	20.7	6.32	255	0	0.45	6

Appendix 3 — Continued

Site	Date	Start Time	Rep#	%Habitat variables												
				Boulders / Bedrock	Cobbles	Pebbles	Gravel	Sand	Clay	Silt	Leaf Pack	Epiphytes	Filamentous algae	Submerged macrophytes	Emergent macrophytes	Canopy cover
Foster Bk	28/09/10	08:30	1	0	35	5	50	10	0	0	0	35	0	0	0	30
Foster Bk	28/09/10		2	0	14	5	70	5	0	0	0	60	0	0	0	30
Foster Bk	28/09/10		3	5	20	30	40	5	0	0	0	20	0	0	0	50
Foster Bk	28/09/10		4	0	10	30	40	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
Foster Bk	28/09/10		5	0	5	5	70	10	5	5	0	5	0	0	5	60
Foster Bk	28/09/10		6	0	5	20	65	5	5	0	0	60	0	0	0	70
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10	11:00	1	0	5	0	20	55	5	15	0	0	0	0	0	20
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		2	0	3	5	30	50	0	12	0	30	0	0	0	20
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		3	0	0	2	50	45	0	3	0	15	0	0	0	25
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		4	0	5	0	55	30	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	30
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		5	0	0	15	60	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
31 Mile Bk	27/09/10		6	0	30	0	70	0	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	30
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10	11:00	1	5	5	10	50	25	0	5	0	40	0	0	0	20
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		2	0	0	5	60	30	0	5	0	30	0	0	0	20
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		3	0	0	0	5	76	20	2	0	0	0	0	0	50
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		4	0	0	15	74	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	50
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		5	0	0	15	15	70	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	50
Waterfall Gully	29/09/10		6	0	0	30	65	5	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	20
Wilson Bk	28/09/10	12:00	1	0	5	10	35	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	90
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		2	0	0	5	50	45	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	60
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		3	0	0	7	75	15	0	3	0	7	0	0	0	60
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		4	0	5	15	65	10	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	70
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		5	0	5	10	70	15	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	60
Wilson Bk	28/09/10		6	0	0	30	50	5	0	15	0	30	0	0	0	70
TA1	27/09/10	12:00	1	0	0	2	80	16	0	2	10	0	0	0	0	5
TA1	27/09/10		2	2	0	2	68	25	0	3	20	0	0	0	0	20
TA1	27/09/10		3	0	0	10	60	18	0	2	0	30	0	0	0	0
TA1	27/09/10		4	0	0	2	85	11	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
TA1	27/09/10		5	1	1	2	71	20	0	5	0	20	0	0	0	5
TA1	27/09/10		6	0	1	30	50	15	0	4	0	10	0	0	0	50

Appendix 3 — Continued

Site	Date	Start Time	Rep#	%Habitat variables												
				Boulders / Bedrock	Cobbles	Pebbles	Gravel	Sand	Clay	Silt	Leaf Pack	Epiphytes	Filamentous algae	Submerged macrophytes	Emergent macrophytes	Canopy cover
TA2	27/09/10	14:00	1	0	0	1	40	30	0	29	0	0	0	0	0	0
TA2	27/09/10		2	20	5	10	50	13	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
TA2	27/09/10		3	5	5	40	40	9	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	10
TA2	27/09/10		4	5	0	40	40	9	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	30
TA2	27/09/10		5	0	7	5	45	40	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	10
TA2	27/09/10		6	12	2	10	50	25	0	1	0	5	0	0	0	0
Vardi Rd	27/09/10	16:00	1	15	20	15	15	33	0	2	0	35	0	0	0	0
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		2	0	10	5	70	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		3	17	20	0	50	12	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	20
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		4	0	30	35	25	9	0	1	0	30	0	0	0	0
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		5	0	25	20	40	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Vardi Rd	27/09/10		6	0	30	20	45	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	30
More Seldom Seen Bk	29/09/10	09:00	1	0	0	2	26	20	2	50	0	0	40	0	0	40
More Seldom Seen Bk	29/09/10		2	0	0	5	33	10	2	50	0	0	40	0	0	40
Jack Rocks	28/09/10	14:30	1	0	2	5	18	5	0	70	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		2	0	1	10	54	25	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	5
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		3	0	0	0	50	5	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		4	0	0	5	60	20	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	80
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		5	0	0	2	60	5	0	33	0	0	0	0	0	75
Jack Rocks	28/09/10		6	0	1	9	60	20	0	10	15	0	0	0	0	70

Appendix 4 — Total macroinvertebrate abundance (m⁻²) recorded at each site in September 2010

Species Codes: F = female; L = larvae; P = pupa; imm. = immature larva; dam. = specimen damaged.

Cons. Cat. (conservation category): C = cosmopolitan (Australia and beyond, however not necessarily worldwide); A = Australia; I = indeterminate; I* = indeterminate but probably occurs only in SW; S = endemic to SW but commonly occurring; L = endemic to SW but with a restricted distribution.

Phylum/Class/Order	Family/Species	Cons. Cat.	TA1	TA2	Vardi Rd	More Seldom Seen Bk	Waterfall Gully	31 Mile Bk	Foster Bk	Wilson Bk	Jack Rocks
NEMERTEA	Nemertea sp.	I	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
NEMATODA	Nematoda sp.	I	240	224	96	0	144	176	16	64	0
PLATYHELMINTHES	Turbellaria sp.	I	96	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ANNELIDA	Oligochaeta	I	752	2896	4240	80	10976	1184	1136	2144	176
ARACHNIDA	Hydracarina spp.	I	192	544	1472	0	176	112	160	192	0
	Oribatidae spp.	I	0	192	0	32	32	16	0	32	0
CRUSTACEA											
COPEPODA	Copepoda spp.	S	416	32	64	0	0	2368	16	112	560
OSTRACODA	Ostracoda spp.	I	608	96	48	0	0	480	0	0	368
AMPHIPODA	Ceinidae										
	<i>Austrochiltonia subtenuis</i>	A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64	96
	Paramelitidae	S	176	2096	0	976	5536	2256	0	0	0
	Perthidae										
	<i>Perthia</i> sp.	S	0	32	16	48	0	0	0	80	64
DECAPODA	Parastacidae (imm.)										
ARACHNIDA	Hydracarina spp.	I	192	544	1472	0	176	112	160	192	0
	Oribatidae spp.	I	0	192	0	32	32	16	0	32	0
COLLEMBOLA	Collembola spp.	I	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
	Entomobryoides sp.	I	0	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	0
	Poduroidea sp.	I	0	0	0	416	0	0	0	0	0
INSECTA											
EPHEMEROPTERA	Ephemeroptera (imm.)	I	0	912	0	0	0	0	0	64	0
	Baetidae										
	<i>Baetidae</i> sp. (imm.)	I	0	32	0	0	128	0	0	0	0
	<i>Cloeon</i> sp.	A	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0
	<i>Offadens soror</i>	A	0	0	0	0	672	0	0	16	0
	Leptophlebiidae										
	<i>Leptophlebiidae</i> sp. (dam.)	I	144	2800	48	0	208	1008	368	64	0
	<i>Neboissophlebia occidentalis</i>	S	0	0	0	0	160	0	0	0	0
	<i>Nousia</i> sp. AV16	S	0	0	0	0	608	0	0	0	0
	<i>Nyungara bunni</i>	S	0	128	0	0	256	16	32	0	0
PLECOPTERA	Plecoptera spp. (imm.)	S	64	0	0	0	0	496	0	0	0
	Gripopterygidae										
	<i>Gripopterygidae</i> spp. (imm.)	S	32	704	64	0	0	2240	80	48	0
	<i>Leptoperla australica</i>	S	0	80	96	0	16	2144	0	0	32
	<i>Newmanoperla exigua</i>	S	0	544	32	0	0	0	16	0	0
ODONATA	Anisoptera spp. (imm.)	I	0	48	0	0	160	0	0	80	0
	Gomphidae										
	<i>Amagomphus armiger</i>	S	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0
	<i>Austrogomphus (Z) lateralis</i>	S	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
	Libellulidae										
	<i>Orthetrum caledonicum</i>	A	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0
	Synthemistidae										
	<i>Austrosynthemis cyanitincta</i>	S	0	0	0	0	128	0	0	0	0
	Telephlebiidae										
	<i>Austroaeschna anacantha</i>	S	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	0

Appendix 4 — Continued

Phylum/Class/Order	Family/Species	Cons. Cat.	TA1	TA2	Vardi Rd	More Seldom Seen Bk	Waterfall Gully	31 Mile Bk	Foster Bk	Wilson Bk	Jack Rocks
COLEOPTERA	Curculionidae		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Curculionidae sp. (L)	I	16	0	32	0	0	16	32	0	0
	Dytiscidae										
	Dytiscidae sp. (L)	I	0	48	0	16	0	0	0	0	64
	<i>Allodessus bistrigatus</i>	A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
	<i>Allomatus</i> sp. (L)	S	0	32	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Necterosoma</i> sp.	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48
	<i>Paroster</i> sp. (L)	I	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Platynectes</i> sp. (L)	I	96	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Sternopriscus</i> sp.	S	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Sternopriscus</i> sp. (L)	S	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	400
	<i>Sternopriscus browni</i>	S	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Sternopriscus marginatus</i>	S	48	0	48	0	0	0	0	16	0
	<i>Tiporus</i> sp. (L)	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
	Tribe Bidessini spp. (L)	I	320	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
	<i>Dineutus australis</i>	A	0	0	0	0	0	0	48	0	0
	Hydrochidae										
	<i>Hydrochus</i> sp.	I	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Scirtidae										
	Scirtidae sp. (L)	I	1040	896	2176	128	32	336	608	224	16
DIPTERA	Athericidae	I	16	32	0	32	0	48	0	0	0
	Ceratopogonidae	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ceratopogonidae (P)	I	0	0	0	0	32	0	16	0	0
	Ceratopogoninae spp.	I	1344	368	896	64	1200	384	64	880	96
	<i>Dasyheleinae</i> sp.	I	0	208	0	0	96	0	32	0	16
	Chironomidae										
	Chironomidae spp. (P)	I	752	96	96	96	32	144	656	32	128
	Chironomidae sp. (V14)	S	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0
	Aphroteniinae										
	<i>Aphroteniella ?filicornis</i> (V23)	A	0	0	0	0	544	16	0	224	0
	<i>Aphroteniella tenuicornis</i>	A	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	16	0
	Chironominae										
	<i>Botryocladus freemani</i>	S	16	48	0	0	112	0	64	16	0
	<i>Chironomus</i> aff. <i>altmans</i>	C	32	16	0	0	16	16	0	0	3920
	<i>Dicrotendipes</i> sp. (V47)	S	16	0	0	0	16	0	0	0	768
	? <i>Paratendipes</i> sp. (V12)	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	560	0
	<i>Polypedilum</i> sp. (V3)	I	0	16	96	0	80	16	48	160	32
	<i>Polypedilum watsoni</i>	A	0	128	0	0	96	16	0	240	16
	<i>Rheotanytarsus</i> sp. (V18)	I	0	0	80	0	0	0	16	16	0
	<i>Riethia ?stictoptera</i> (V5)	I	32	112	592	0	32	128	0	112	32
	<i>Riethia ?zeylandica</i> (V4)	I	0	0	0	0	320	0	0	608	0
	<i>Stempellina</i> sp. (V7)	I	16	256	32	0	304	0	0	64	0
	<i>Tanytarsus</i> sp. (V6)	I	1856	576	1136	16	3424	256	32	112	2352
	Orthocladinae										
	<i>Cricotopus annuliventris</i>	C	4448	1520	608	0	160	48	528	64	16
	<i>Parakiefferiella</i> sp. (nr <i>variegatus</i>) (VSC9)	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0
	<i>Paralimnophyes</i> sp. (V42)	I	96	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
	<i>Strictocladus ?uniserialis</i> (V8)	S	96	64	0	1104	592	992	368	224	0
	<i>Thienemanniella</i> sp. (V19)	A	176	192	112	0	80	64	288	16	0

Appendix 4 — Continued

Phylum/Class/Order	Family/Species	Cons. Cat.	TA1	TA2	Vardi Rd	More Seldom Seen Bk	Waterfall Gully	31 Mile Bk	Foster Bk	Wilson Bk	Jack Rocks
TRICHOPTERA	Unknown orthoclad genus (V15)	I	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
	Unknown orthoclad genus (V31)	I	608	160	0	624	16	48	352	32	16
	Unknown orthoclad genus (V59)	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0
	Unknown orthoclad genus (VSC11)	I	0	0	0	0	0	16	0	0	0
	Tanypodinae										
	<i>Paramerina levidensis</i>	S	560	48	32	0	16	0	48	96	400
	<i>Pentaneura</i> sp. (V10)	I	64	16	0	0	256	32	0	144	0
	? <i>Zavrelimyia</i> (V20)	I	16	0	48	0	0	0	32	400	0
	Culicidae										
	<i>Adedes</i> sp.	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
	Empididae	I	0	16	16	16	0	48	80	32	0
	Ephydriidae	I	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0
	Psychodidae	I	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Simuliidae	I	0	960	0	0	704	288	48	16	0
	Tanyderidae	I	16	16	32	0	16	0	0	16	48
	Tipulidae	I	64	16	0	0	128	16	16	48	0
	Thaumaleidae	I	32	0	0	0	640	0	0	0	0
	<i>Trichoptera</i> sp. (imm.)	I	0	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Ecnomidae										
	<i>Ecnomus</i> sp.	I*	0	0	0	0	48	0	0	0	0
	<i>Daternomina</i> sp.	I*	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0	0
	Hydrobiosidae										
	<i>Hydrobiosidae</i> sp.	I*	0	0	0	0	128	0	0	0	0
	<i>Taschorema pallescens</i>	S	0	0	0	0	112	0	0	0	0
	Hydropsychidae										
	<i>Hydropsychidae</i> sp. (imm.)	I*	0	80	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
	<i>Smicrophylax australis</i>	S	0	0	0	16	720	0	0	0	0
	Hydroptilidae										
	<i>Hydroptilidae</i> sp. (imm.)	I*	0	224	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Orthotricia</i> sp.	I*	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Oxyethira</i> sp.	I*	0	304	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Leptoceridae										
	<i>Leptoceridae</i> sp. (imm.)	I	0	64	0	0	16	0	0	0	0
	<i>Notalina</i> sp. AV14	S	0	0	0	0	0	32	16	0	0
	<i>Notalina</i> sp. AV15	S	128	112	64	0	0	32	32	32	0
	<i>Notalina</i> sp. AV16	S	0	0	0	0	0	32	0	0	0
	<i>Lectrides parilis</i>	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	0
	<i>Triplectides</i> sp. AV1	S	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	32	0
	<i>Triplectides</i> sp. AV21	S	176	0	0	0	16	0	48	0	0
	<i>Triplectides australicus</i>	A	0	0	0	48	0	16	0	0	0
	<i>Maydenoptila</i> sp.	I*	0	48	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<i>Maydenoptila baynesi</i>	S	0	64	0	0	0	0	0	32	0
	Philopotamidae										
	<i>Philopotamidae</i> sp. (imm.)	I*	0	0	0	0	16	16	16	0	0
	<i>Hydrobiosella michaelsoni</i>	S	16	48	0	0	0	0	32	0	0
Total abundance m^{-2}			15,072	19,264	13,760	3,744	29,632	15,712	5,568	7,680	9,840
Total number of 'species'			43	59	29	17	56	41	37	45	29