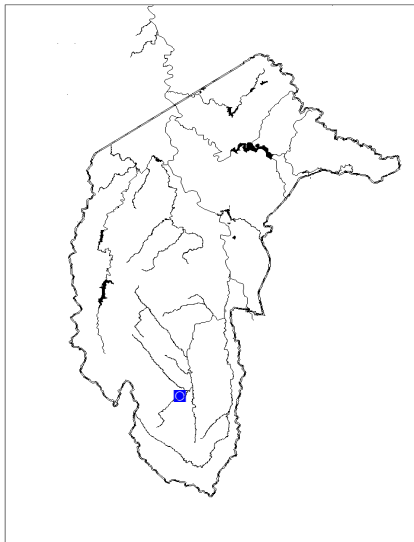


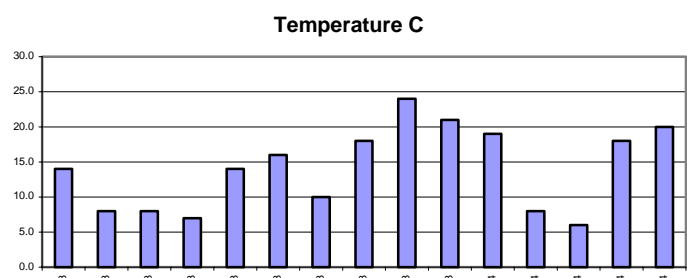
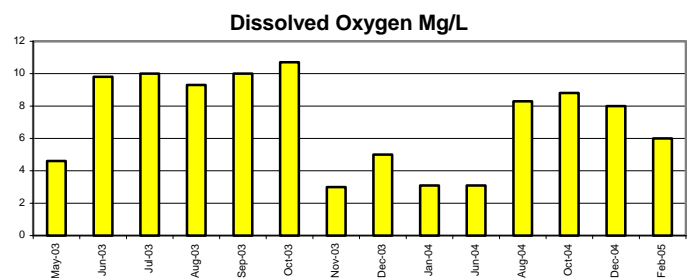
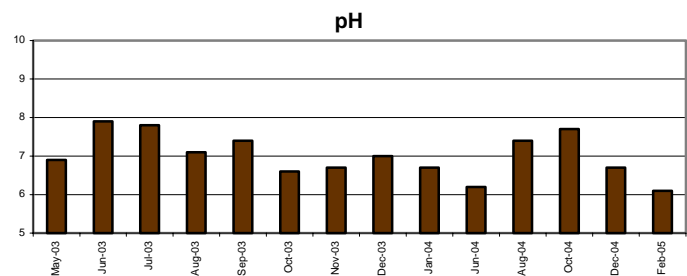
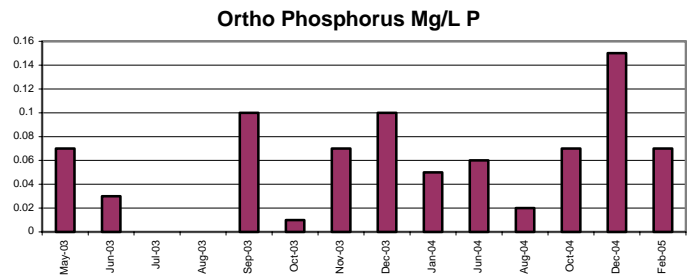
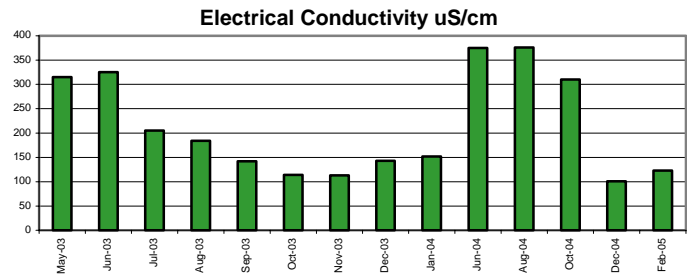
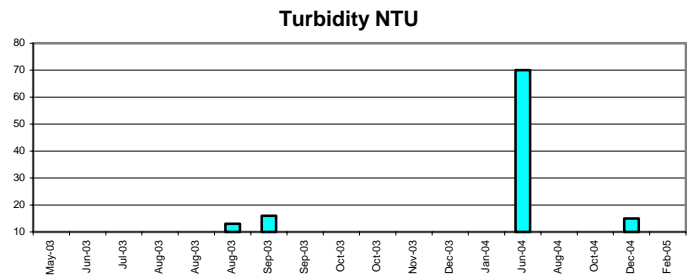
10.4 Hospital Creek North—Hospital Creek



Water quality

Participant comments: M. Chalk & C. Horan, J Goodrum

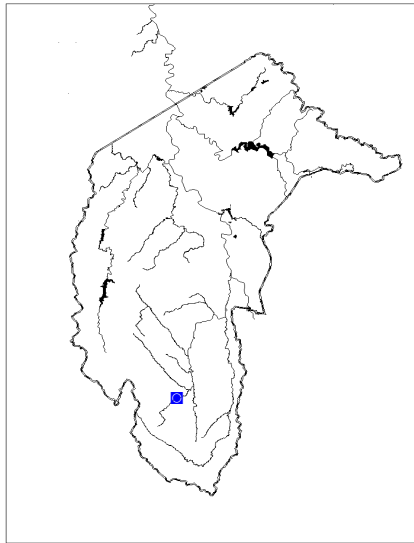
- Water collected from still pool. The creek was no more than a series of these.
- Localised scum beginning to form in now flowing creek.
- Frogs evident. Abundant water plants and flying insects.
- EC levels were markedly higher than last month and have reversed the downward trend of the last three months. Algae in pools possibly Cladophora or Enteromorpha.
- Four wood ducks, white faced heron, water muddied by activity, new reed growth, frogs present.
- Oily film on the surface.
- Prolific aquatic and riparian plant life—considerable increase in the past 5 weeks.
- Creek reduced to pools only. Congestion of creek bank by grasses and shrubs may eventually prevent access to site.
- Stream is now a small pond.
- Water had a slight oily appearance at its edges.
- Water existed in pools only with evidence of slight subterranean flow.
- Turbidity can be partly explained by the level of tannin in the water.



Habitat recovery



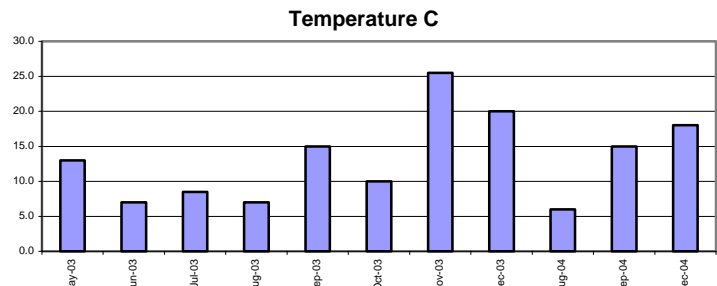
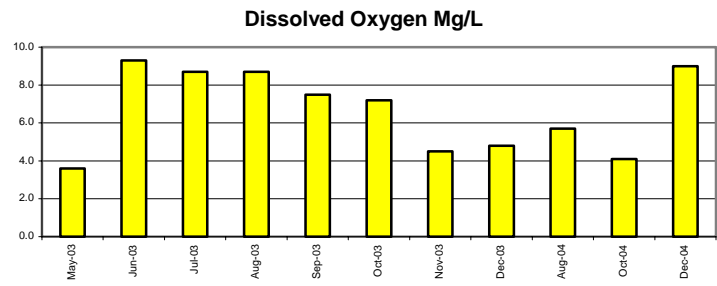
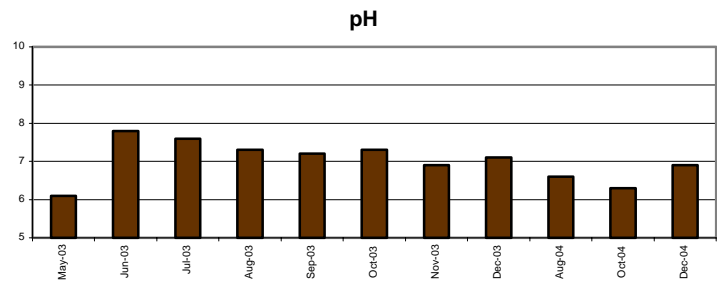
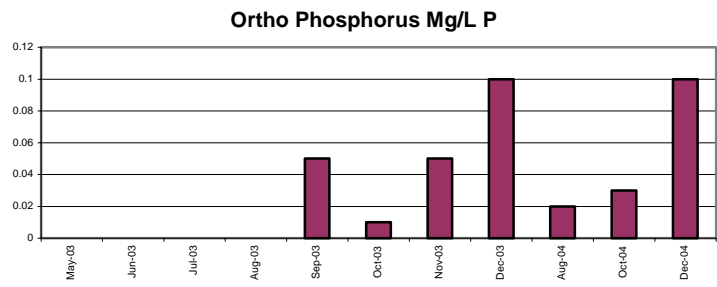
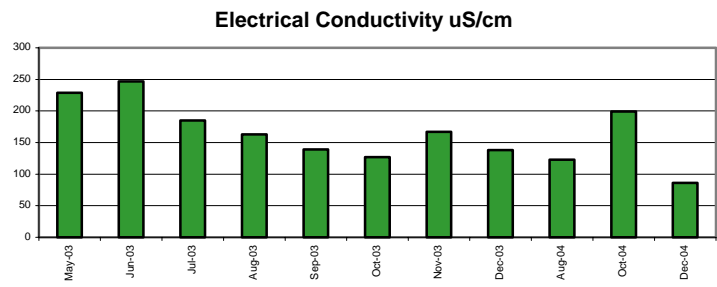
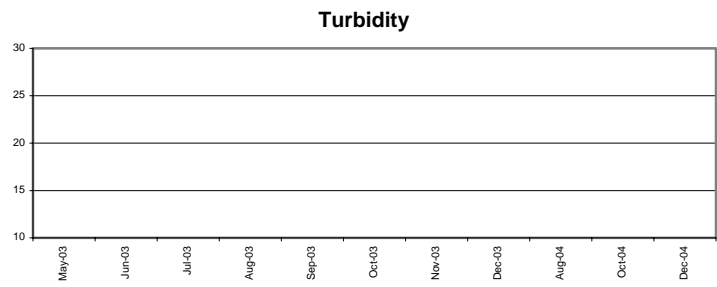
10.5 Hospital Creek Central–Hospital Creek



Water quality

Participant comments: M. Chalk, C. Horan

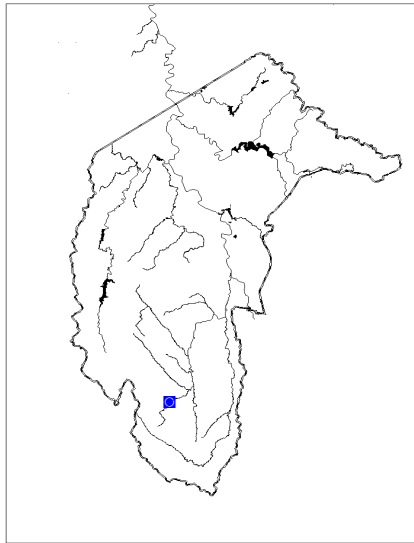
- May 03: Creek a series of pools with a small flow between each. This section of creek is in the middle of a swamp that had been completely burnt in the fires. Still much bare earth.
- June 03: Water flowing through the burnt remains of sphagnum and other swamp species.
- July 03: Grass regeneration is good but the swamp plants are showing no sign of regrowth as yet.
- October 03: No algae in flowing water. About 50% cover in still water.
- December 03: Prolific riparian plant growth—signs of Jan 2003 bushfires all but gone!
- This creek is dry for some of the year.



Habitat recovery



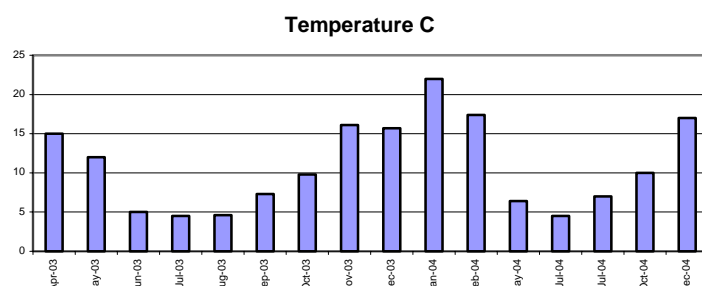
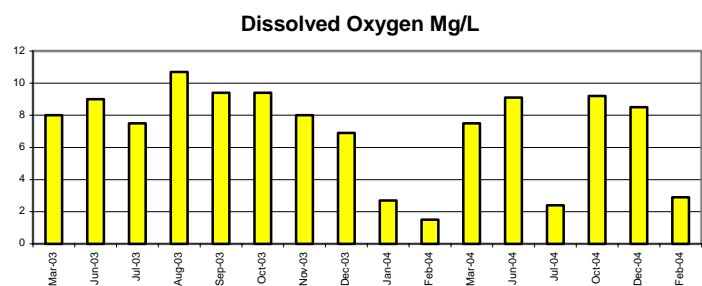
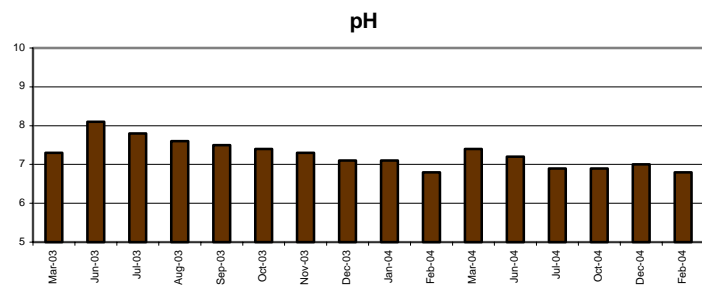
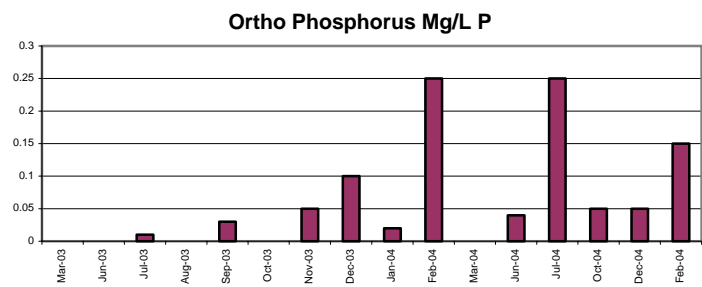
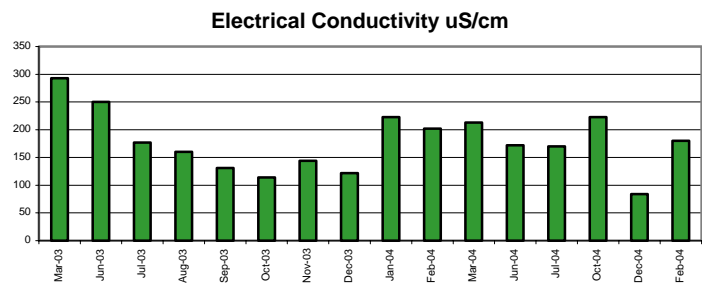
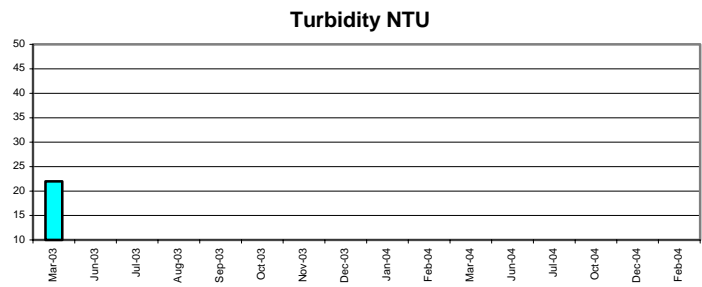
10.6 Hospital Creek South—Hospital Creek



Water quality

Participant comments: M. Chalk, C. Horan

- Plants in and around the creek at this location appeared to be healthy. The immediate location was not affected by the bushfires.
- Aquatic plant growth has increased considerably in the last month.
- Aquatic plants continue to grow.
- Water levels through the length of Hospital Creek have dropped markedly in the last month. Given the sustained flow rates in Bogong Creek and the Gudgenby River, suspect this drop has more to do with the nature of the catchment rather than high water temps and evaporation as the creek crosses fire blackened open ground.
- Huge increases in phosphorus.
- Orthophosphate reading is correct—water sample is blue.
- Phosphate reading was beyond the scale of my low range kit.
- Aquatic plants showing signs of degeneration compared with last two months.
- The pool which had the higher EC reading also had a strong smell of rotting vegetation about it and the surrounding creek bed had been trodden down by large animals.
- Rotten egg smell to the water when disturbed to take samples.



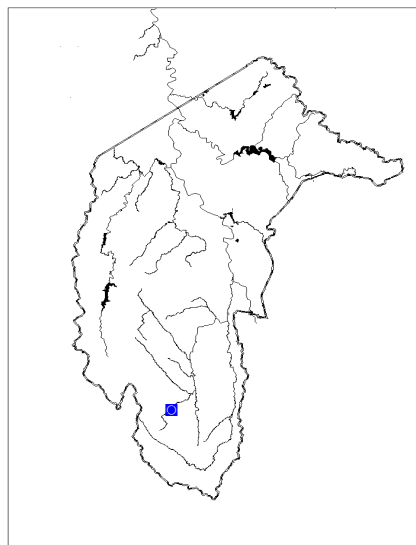
Habitat recovery



Black coloured bacteria dominated pond high in turbidity and phosphorus.

Green coloured algae dominated pond, low in turbidity and phosphorus.

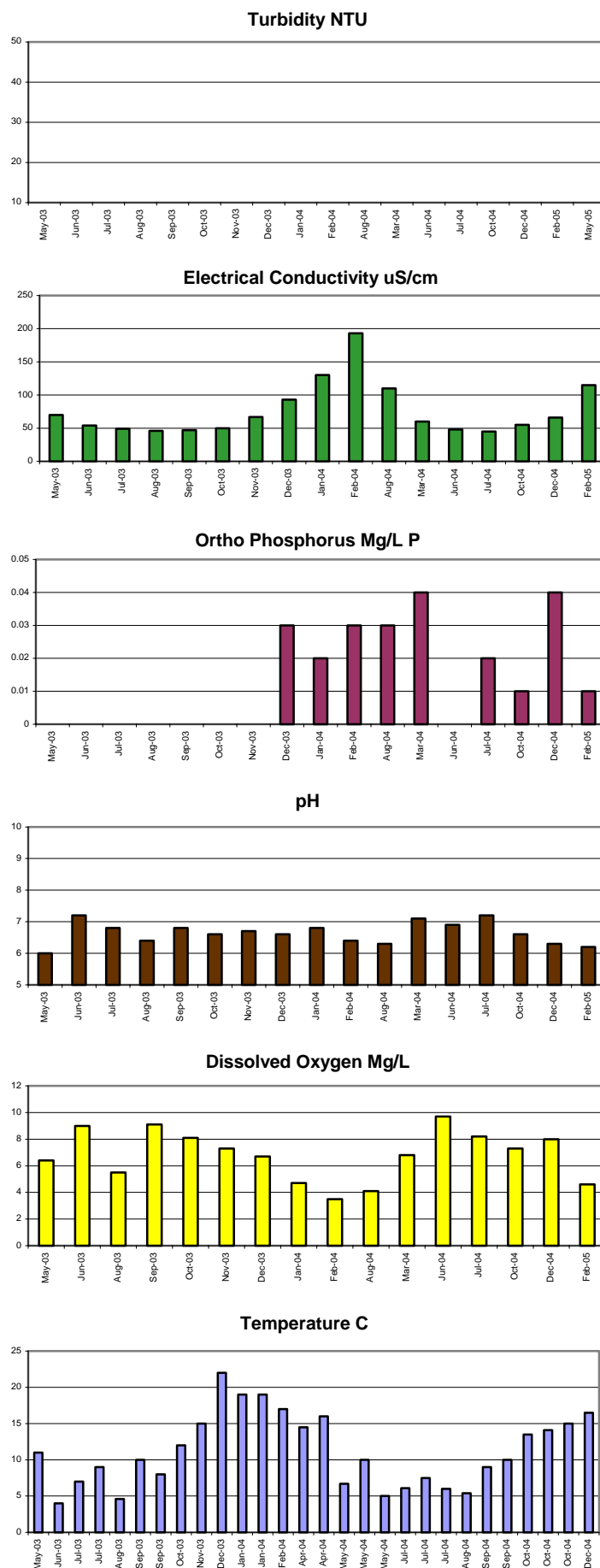
10.7 Bogong Creek North–Bogong Creek



Water quality

Participant comments: M. Chalk, C. Horan

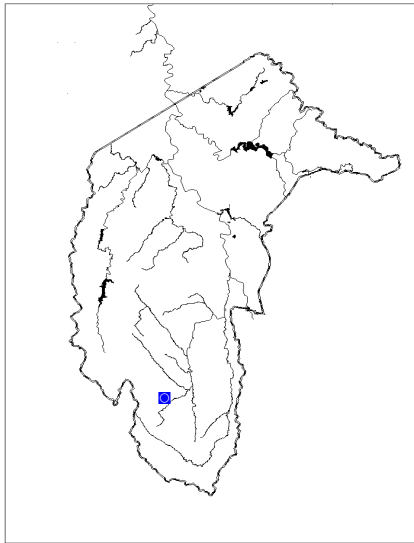
- May 2003: Plants in and around the creek in good condition.
- Must be the frog capital of the ACT!
- February 2004: Slight oily film on water's edge. Plant growth prolific
- April 2004: Slight oily film at the water's edge adjacent to plants. Seeps rather than flows between ponds.
- May 2004: Frogs present. Brown algae.
- July 2004: Grasses eaten to the base. 2 frogs, birds include crows, magpies, pipits, lyrebirds seen near nursery creek.
- September 2004: 35 mm rain last 2 days, sand across road.
- October 2004: Blue dragon and snake in reeds probably copperhead did not wait to investigate! Billy buttons coming into flower. Pigs still in the area.



Habitat recovery



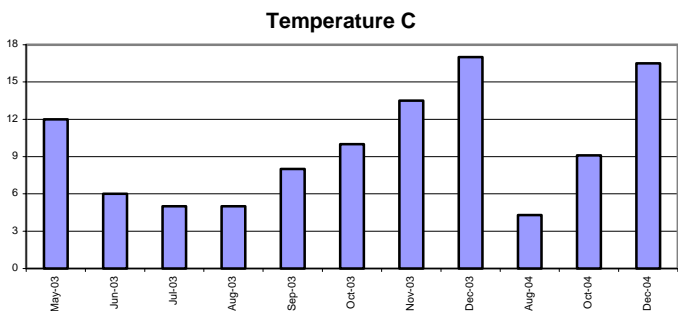
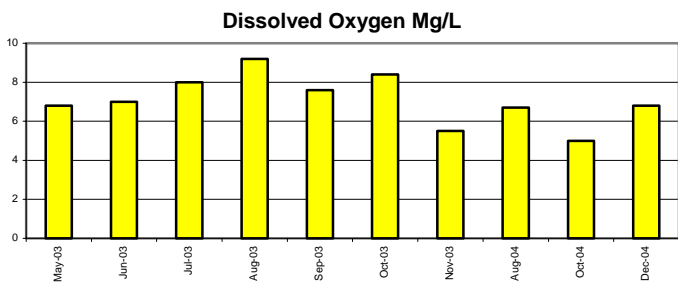
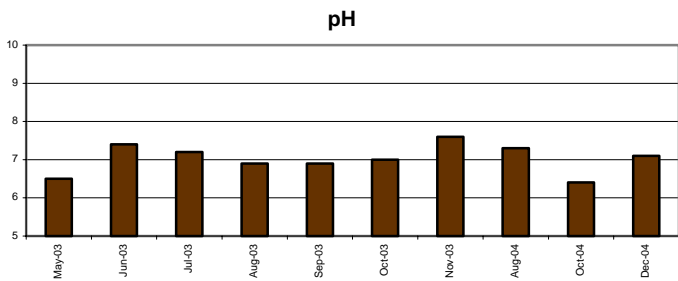
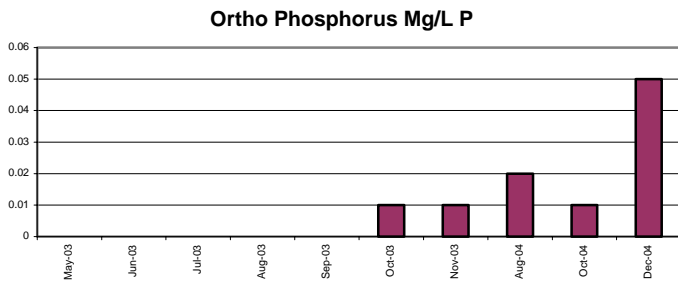
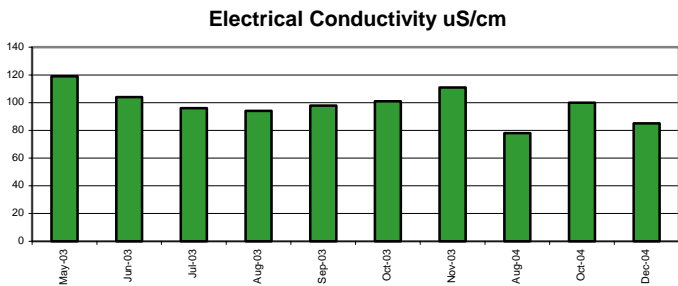
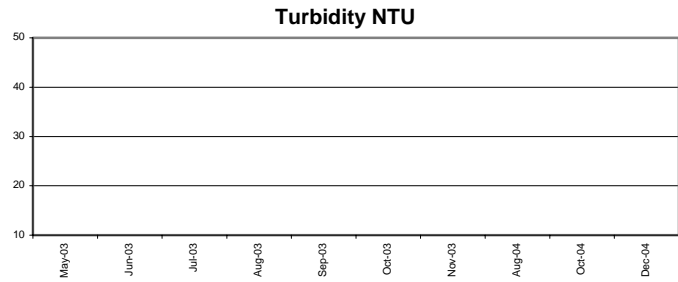
10.8 Bogong Creek Central–Bogong Creek



Water quality

Participant comments: M Chalk, C. Horan

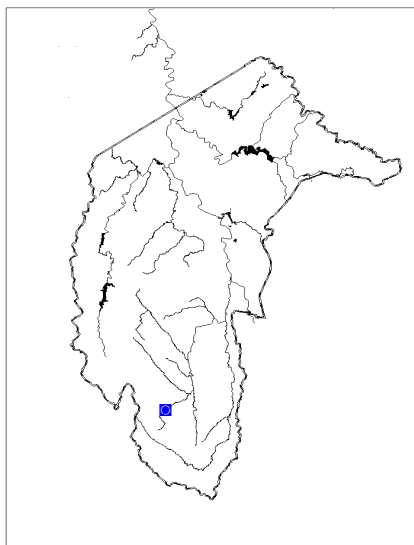
- June 2003: Creek is a minor tributary of Bogong Creek and flows through a grassy water course. Condition of the grass is good and the immediate area was not affected by the fires.
- August 2003: Algae is probably Spirogyra—it had a soapy feel and was formed into filaments.
- September 2003: Creek banks were grassy, no sign of frogs, few aquatic plants. Water had a slight grey colour to it.
- October 2003: Kangaroo carcass still intact.
- November 2004: Kangaroo carcass well on the way to decomposition.
- Stream had no flow for much of the year.



Habitat recovery



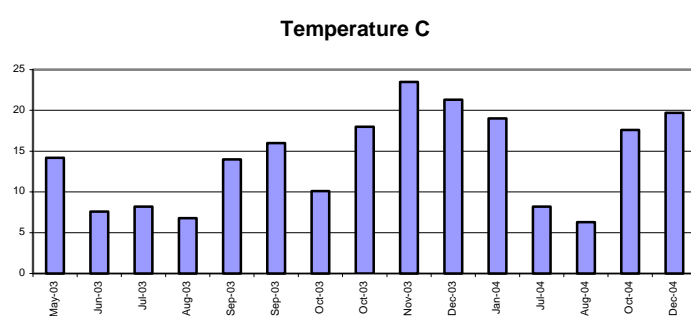
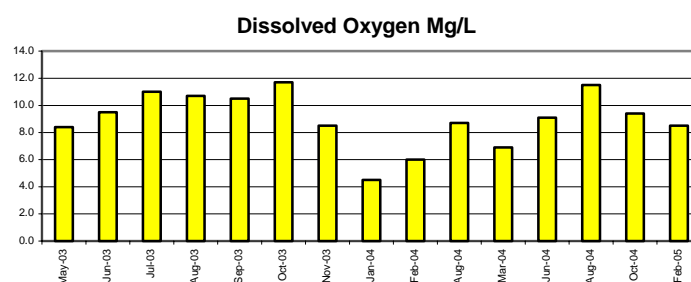
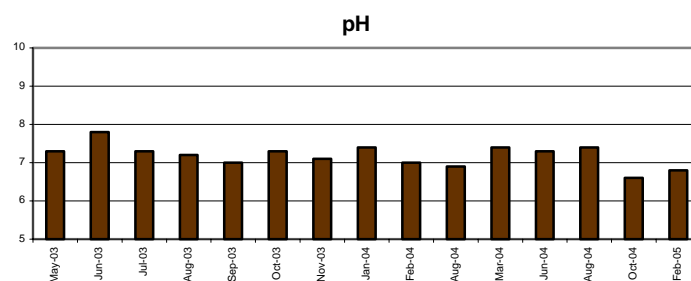
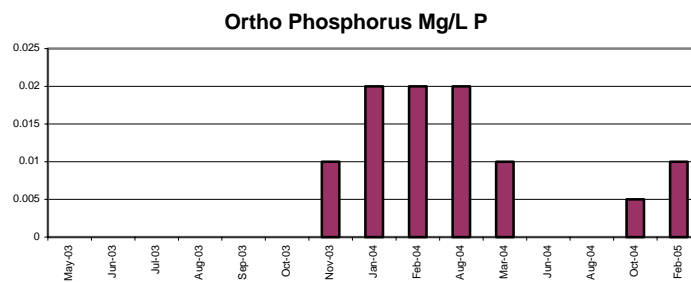
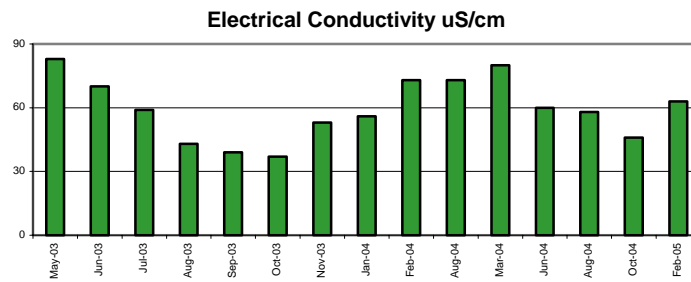
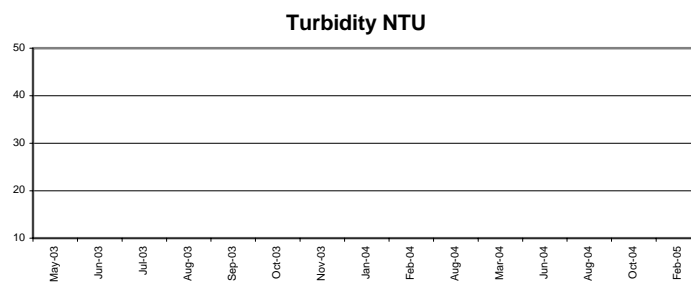
10.9 Bogong Creek South—Bogong Creek



Water quality

Participant comments: M Chalk, C. Horan

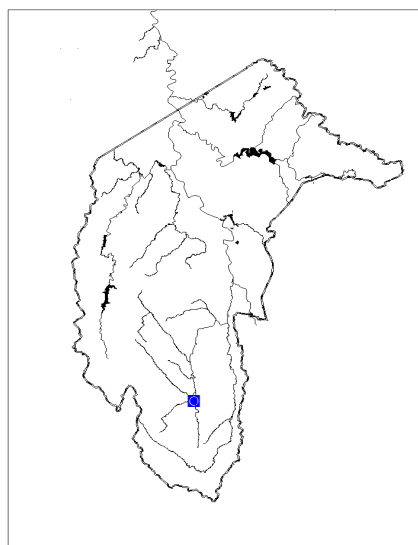
- May 2003: Creek and surrounds in good condition—no recent fire within about 1 km.
- June 2003: Site appears healthy, numerous kangaroos and water plants.
- August 2003: Numerous aquatic plants.
- September 2003: No sign of tannin in this creek at this location.
- December 2003: Heavy rain in the catchment 48 pervious no significant increase in turbidity.
- January 2004: Algae possibly Cladophora.
- February 2004 Riparian environment little change from last months.
- April 2004 All other sites in the Gudgenby area were dry.
- May 2004 Other sites in Gudgenby dry.



Habitat recovery



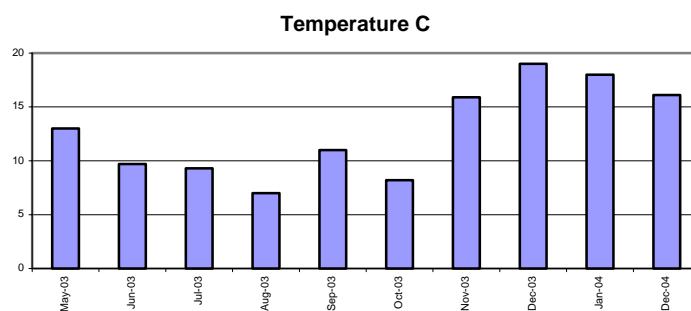
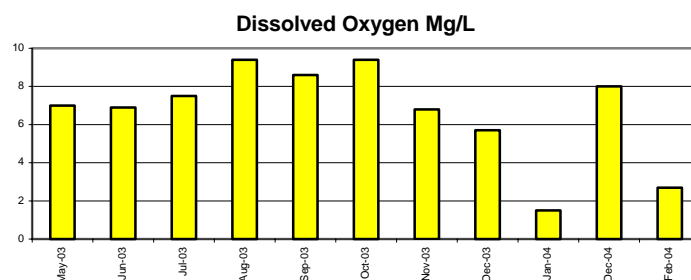
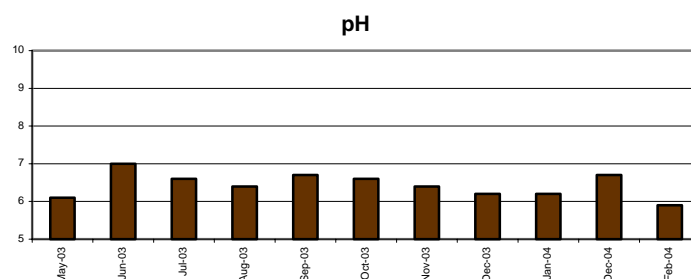
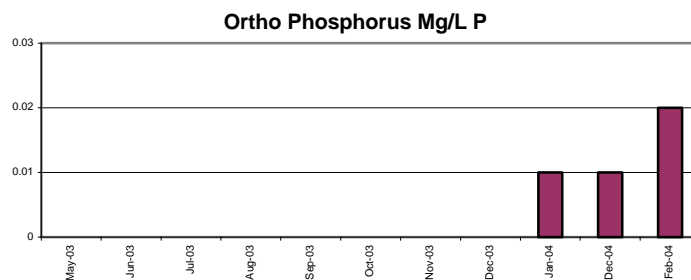
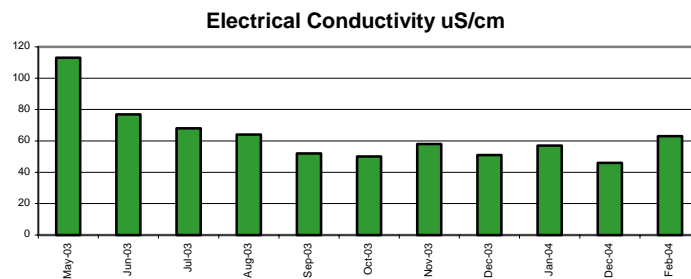
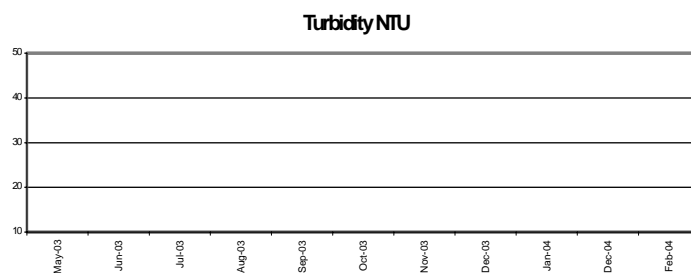
10.10 Little Dry Creek



Water Quality

Participant comments: M Chalk, C. Horan

- May 2003: Plants in and around creek were in good condition. Grass fires evident in the area but growth recovering well. Many blackberry bushes regenerating on the creek bank.
- September 2003: Frogs present.
- October 2003: Red bellied black snake sunning itself on creek bank.
- January 2004: Grasses and shrubs may prevent access to this site in the future.
- February 2004 dry.
- August 2004 dry.
- October 2004 dry.



Habitat recovery

