Part 2: CAMPFIRE Project Development

Monitoring Strategy

1. Why Are We Monitoring?

Aim: 'To monitor the ecological affects of bushfires on our waterways'.

Objectives:

1. To assess how urban and rural streams have been affected by fire in their catchments.
2. To monitor how long it will take for streams to recover from such impacts.
3. What are the implications for stream ecology?
4. What are the implications for human uses?
5. What are the implications for stream rehabilitation?

2. How the Data Will be Used?

- The data will be used to assist and guide Catchment, Landcare, Parkcare, Friends and NRM groups to rehabilitate streams and catchments.
- Monitoring data will be used to raise awareness of catchments and promote the protection and conservation of these significant waterways.
- Results will be used as part of the Waterwatch education and awareness programs to help protect and conserve water and a natural, vital resource.
- Provide feedback to asset managers on human health issues such as algae.

3. What We Tested For and How Often?

INDICATOR / PARAMETER	2003 Dates of testing	Sampling
pH, Electrical Conductivity, Turbidity, Orthophosphate Dissolved Oxygen Water/Air Temperature Presence of rubbish & algae	Once a month, ideally the third Saturday morning of each month	Long term Effect & Event Sampling
Photographic Pictorial	Once a month, ideally the third Saturday morning of each month	Medium term Effect & Event Sampling
Macro-invertebrate snapshots	April, October	Long term Effect & Event Sampling
Riparian Vegetation Surveys	April, July, October, January	Long term Effect & Event Sampling

4. Who Participated?

Community Waterwatch volunteers undertook monitoring across the Upper Murrumbidgee region. Volunteers include; Waterwatch, Landcare, Parkcare, Catchment, volunteers and Friend's of groups.

5. How We Will Ensure the Information is Credible?

Quality Assurance/Quality Control checks included:

- comprehensive training for all community monitoring volunteers;
- cleaning and calibrating of all equipment;
- mystery solution testing of all equipment;
- rainfall data collected from the Bureau of Meteorology; and
- refresher training when required.