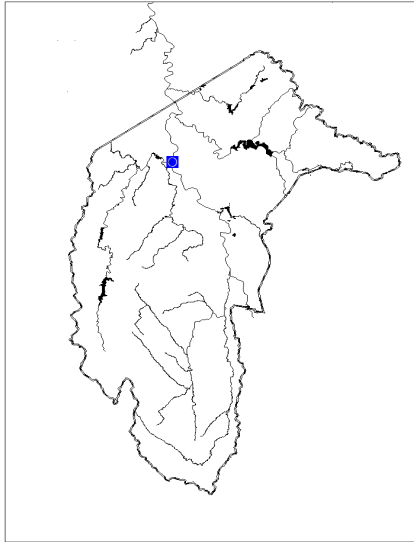
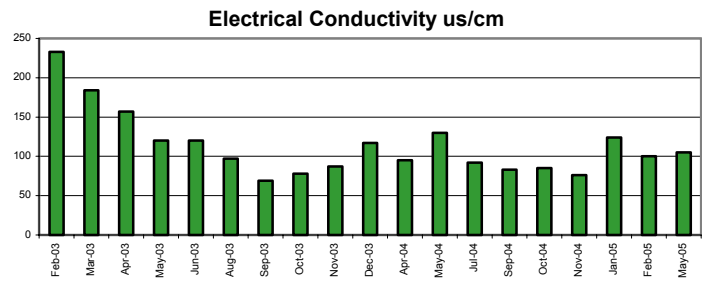
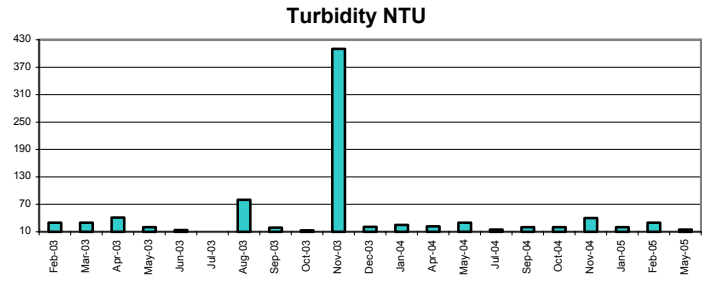


# 6.4 Casuarina Sands—Murrumbidgee River

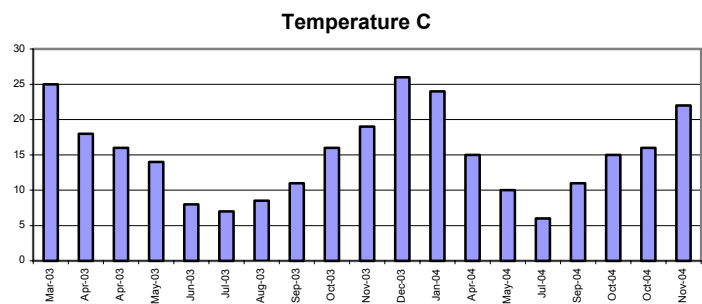
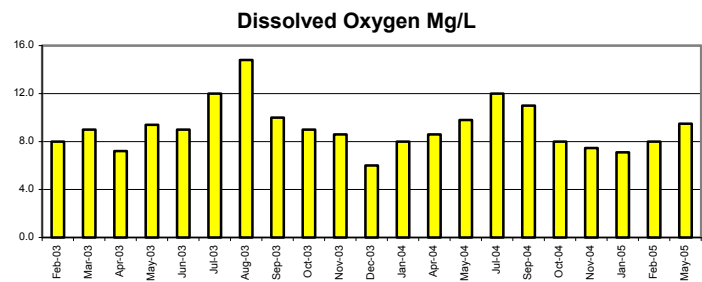
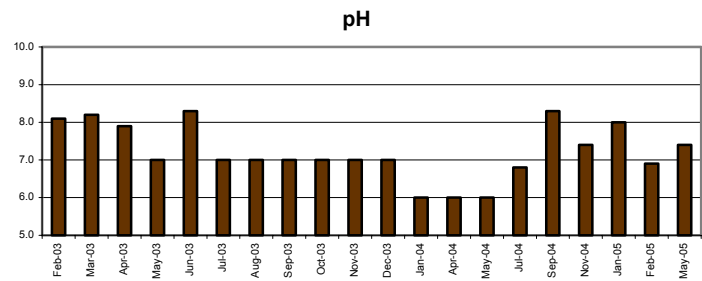
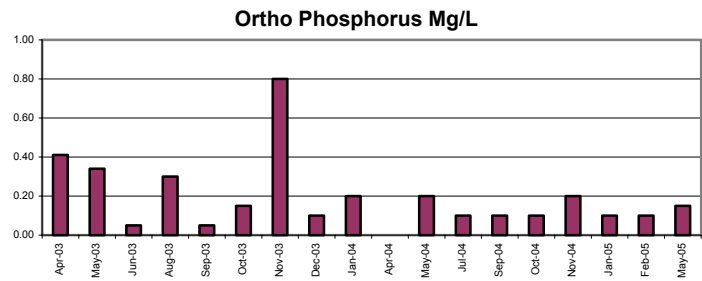


## Water Quality



### Participant comments: Bidgee Blue Group

- Heavy rain caused high turbidity and spikes in phosphorus levels.
- At times high turbidity made algal monitoring difficult due to visibility.
- Algal growth fluctuated with increased algae observed at times of low turbidity, slow flows and moderate water levels.
- After rain, extreme amounts of black sooty silt deposited on river banks after the water level dropped.
- Slow regrowth of vegetation on the surrounding hillsides.
- Few insects sighted along river and fewer insect eating birds present.
- No point source pollution activities noticed.
- Weeds have become a major problem with noticeable increases in areas severely affected by fire.
- Casuarina's struggling to regrow.
- Fires have impacted on recreational opportunities including picnics and swimming.
- Drought seems to have severely affected recovery.
- Casuarinas that were initially recovering have died (80-90% of large trees).
- Erosion on steep slopes has stabilised but is vulnerable to heavy rain.
- Sediment smothered stream habitats, few birds, insects or reptiles were seen at the site.



## Habitat recovery upstream



February 2003



February 2003



July 2003



November 2003



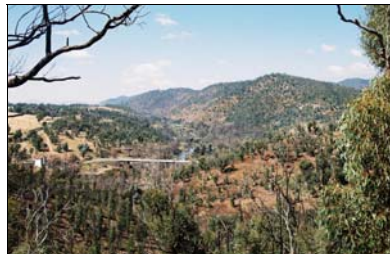
March 2004



August 2004



February 2005



February 2005



May 2005

## Habitat recovery downstream



February 2003



February 2003



July 2003



August 2003



November 2003



March 2004



August 2004

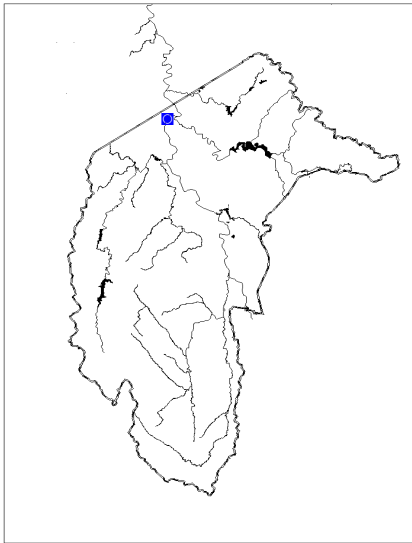


February 2005



May 2005

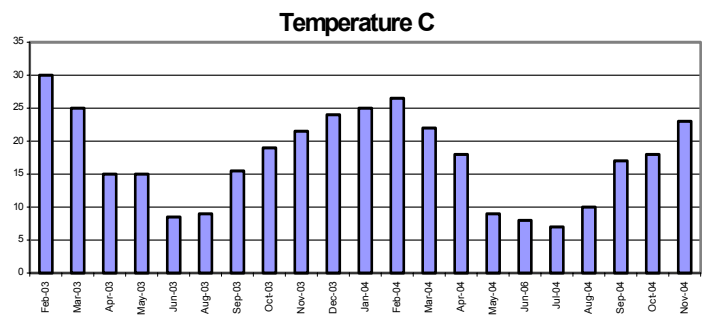
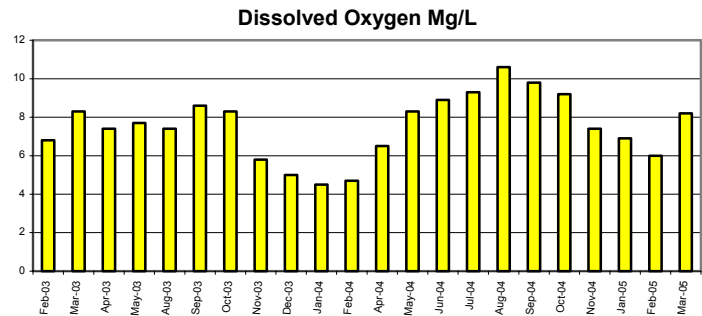
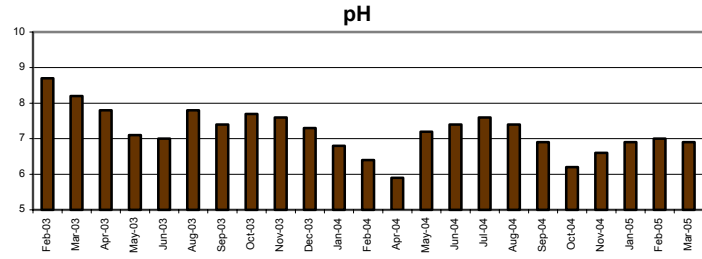
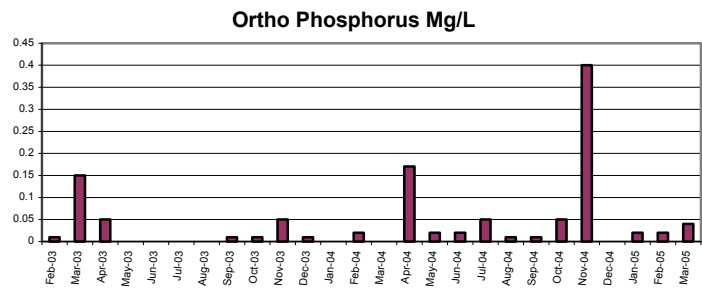
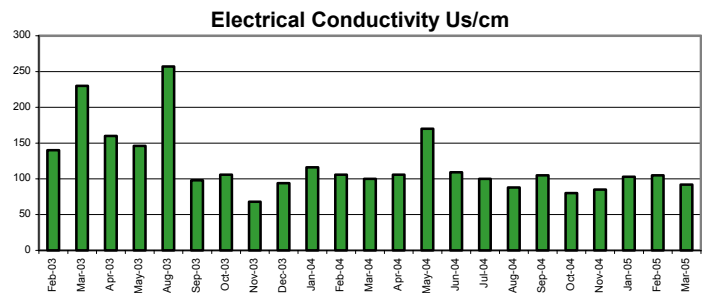
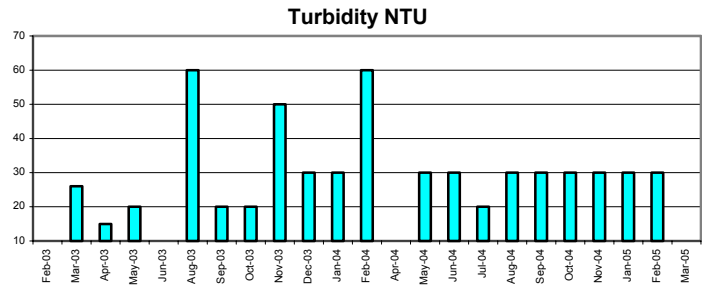
# 6.5 Uriarra Crossing—Murrumbidgee River



## Water Quality

### Participant comments: Dunlop Group

- Occasional slight rainfall recorded within 24 hrs of monitoring had no impact on results.
- Relationship between lower flows and temperature and a slight increase in algae and low dissolved oxygen.
- Weeds species are flourishing.
- Very dense weed growth at site; blackberry and Paterson's curse, castor plants, Datura weed, capeweed and melon.
- Eastern snake necked tortoise spotted.
- Site was moved after weed growth made former site impossible to reach.



## Habitat recovery upstream



February 2003



March 2003



May 2003



November 2003



March 2004



August 2004



November 2004



February 2005



May 2005

## Habitat recovery downstream



February 2003



March 2003



May 2003



November 2003



March 2004



August 2004



November 2004



February 2005



May 2005