



Water Quality Monitoring Program for 2015/2016

Objective: To enhance and support BSC’s water quality monitoring program so that the parameters of available PO₄, dissolved oxygen (DO), pH, ion content (EC), temperature and turbidity are monitored throughout the year in all 3 major waterbodies around Lennox Head. In addition, to trial the monitoring of heavy metal accumulation and the NO₂/NO load in Lake Ainsworth.

Rationale: We believe that it is valuable to the community to develop a database, over time, which establishes benchmarks for the water quality of our local water bodies and can also be monitored for the development of any significant patterns or trends. Such monitoring is specifically recommended in the Lake Ainsworth Management Plan 2002. In addition, we have a unique opportunity to supplement Council resources in critical ways:

- Our members comprise an environmental biologist, an industrial chemist, a chemical engineer and a Sci grad with extensive experience in the chemistry and biology of water quality in natural bodies of water. These people have both the time and the expertise to supplement Council programs which are always competing for resources themselves.
- We have the equipment required to deliver highly reliable results, including field titration equipment, digital meters and a colorimeter.
- Our results so far have been corroborated, at different times, with independent testing by BSC, SCU Environmental Analysis Laboratory and by the Northern Rivers Water Catchment Authority team.

Funding: Being a non-profit organisation our income is mainly reliant on a small membership fee, supplemented from time to time by grants for specific programs. This project was initially funded by the Northern Rivers Catchment Authority then continued for a time by BSC but neither are available at this point in time. We cannot fund this program from our other sources of income.

Requirements:

Consumables such as reagents, glassware, batteries, electrodes etc	\$280
Heavy metals testing - 4 samples @ \$45	\$180
NO ₂ /NO testing - 2 samples 3 monthly at \$41.60	\$333