



Geographical concepts for a floodplain and catchment

Part 3: Change over time at a site

**Example- Jeparit Primary School's Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940 –
A visual history of its changes 1996-2015**

**By Jeanie Clark Wimmera CMA River Detectives Wimmera Northern and Western Facilitator
(and former Wimmera Community Waterwatch facilitator)**

Photos by Jeanie Clark, unless otherwise acknowledged.

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Jeparit Primary School's Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940 - A visual history of its changes 1996-2015

Look for changes in :

Water levels and water colour

Health of riparian vegetation (plants along a river)

The tallest trees - River Red Gums

The bushes - Salt Paperbarks, with exposed roots

The downstream reeds - Phragmites

The ground cover - grasses, Pigface and Samphire

The instream plants - algae and reeds

Forms of erosion

Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: October 1996, during a Spring flood (300 EC's)

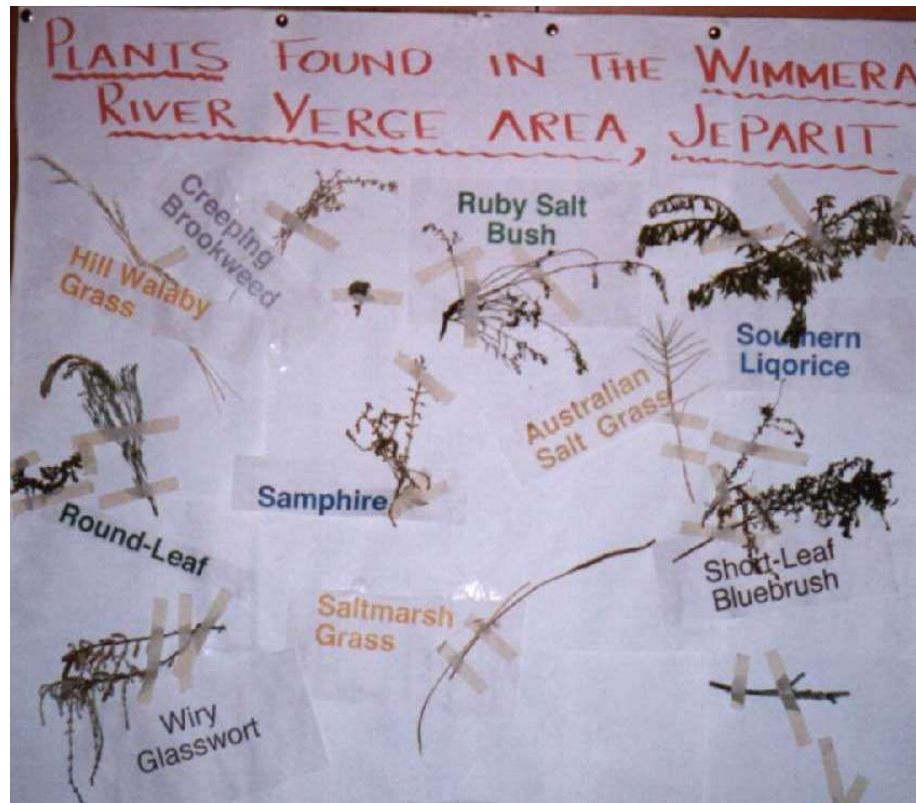


Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: August 1997, during a high flow (4,500 EC's)

Photo 5: Jeparit Primary School pupils collect a water sample for testing from Showgrounds site



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: 1997, the senior class created a plant reference poster



Verge Plants

Hill Wallaby Grass, Creeping Brookweed,
Ruby Saltbush, Southern Liquorice

Round-leaf Pigface, Samphire, Australian Salt Grass, Short-Leaf Bluebrush

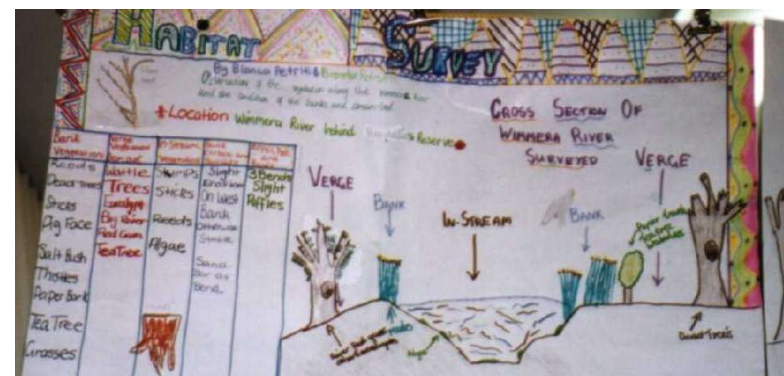
Wiry Glasswort, Saltmarsh Grass,

River Red Gums, Tea-trees, Wattles.



Instream Plants

Reeds, Algae

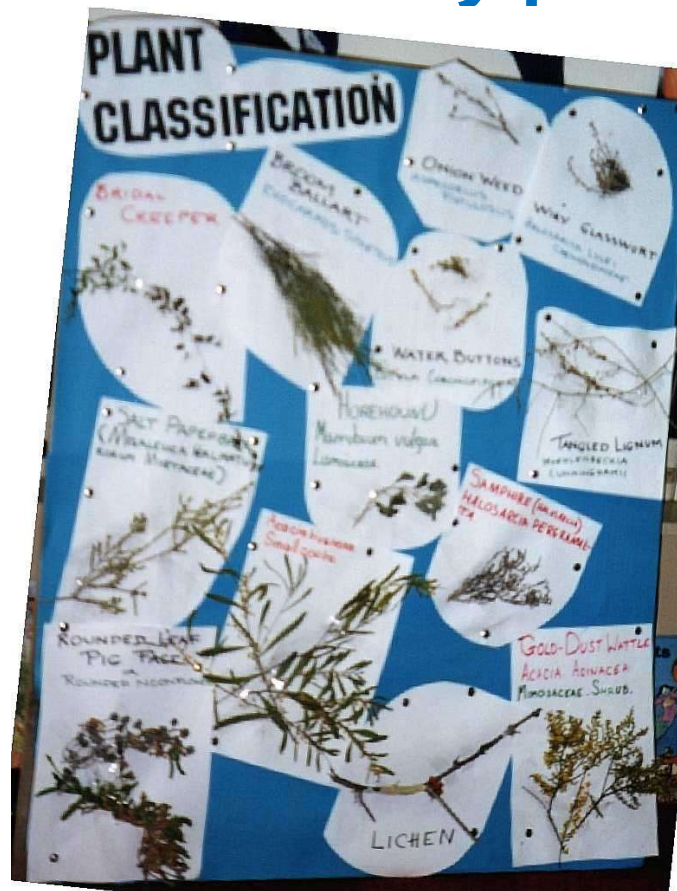


Bankside Plants

Pigface, Saltbush, Thistles, Paperbark

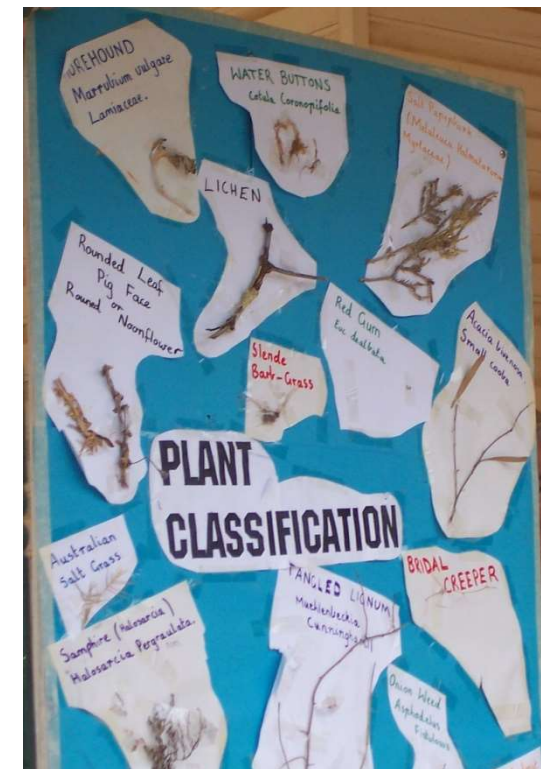
Identifications with teacher Mrs. H. Barton.

**Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940:
1999, the students updated the reference poster.
The updates were used at 2003's Saltwatch Day and
2005's Jeparit Waterwatch's 10th Birthday.**



Plants of the showgrounds
site and swamp feeding it.

(Lichen)
Water buttons,
Samphire,
Wiry Glasswort
Rounded Leaf Pigface,
Slender Barb-Grass,
Australian Salt Grass,
Broom Ballart
Tangled Lignum,
Salt Paperbark,
Small Cooba (Wattle),
Gold Dust Wattle
Onion Weed,
Bridal Creeper
Horehound



2005 (Drought) version,
photo WCMA, B. Hollis.

Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: January 2000, drought has set in, (6000 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: November 2003, Millennium Drought (14,000 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: August 2005, Millennium Drought (32,000 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: August 2005 , Millennium Drought

Phragmites
downstream

Showgrounds site

Exposed roots
upstream



Looking down the slope at the erosion

Salt Tolerant samphire remains



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: December 2007, Millennium Drought (112,000 EC's)



The white on the bank opposite is a layer of salt on the surface

Geographical Concepts 3: Change over time, (cc) J. Clark, enviroed4all, 2020

Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: December 2007, Millennium Drought

Mini-gully (rill) erosion to the water's edge

Erosion hole



Grey clay subsoil exposed

Erosion undercutting
the Phragmites

(Yes, the water was a very
dark green/black colour)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: April 2008, Millennium Drought (150,000 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: April-May 2008, height of Millennium Drought



Mini-gully (rill) erosion at the water's edge

Erosion hole



The river is so low that it is below the groundwater layer and that there are two seepages into the river – of different colours

Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: April 2010, six months after water returned (21,000 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: December 2014, four years after flood (2,700 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: March 2015, four years after flood (2,500 EC's)



Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940: March 2015, four years after the January 2011 flood



Phragmites downstream

Showgrounds site



Exposed
roots
upstream



Samphire and pigface still survive

Jeparit Waterwatch Group Senior citizens reported that the original reeds along the Wimmera River was what they called the 'Native Reed' – Sea Club Rush.



They were in their 70's and remembered it being prolific along the River's banks from the 1930's to 1970's.

They said that the Phragmites came down from the upper catchment from the 1970's floods, where it had been planted to combat soil erosion until the 1960's.

Some pockets of 'Native Reed' still remained around the backswamps in the early 2000's.

Pockets were also along the River downstream of Dimboola.



**Jeparit Showgrounds Site 1996-2015 History
Webex and ppt Professional Development
T3 2020 date completed:**

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this survey. The results will be used to plan and improve our events in the future and to attract funding for additional events. Your comments are confidential and will only be reported in summary form.

This topic was initiated by Jeparit P.S. after a JPS-WCMA-RD webex meeting was held. The ppt provides specific Jeparit Waterwatch information about the plants at the Showgrounds site 1996-2015.

1. Before this webex & ppt, what was your level of knowledge of the topic?

None Some Reasonable Good Excellent

2. How much has this webex & ppt improved your knowledge of this topic?

Not at all Slightly Moderately Reasonably Considerably

3. Please note any additional aspects to this topic that you would have liked included.

4. After this webex & ppt, how likely are you to include parts of this topic in your classroom activities?

Not at all Unlikely Uncertain Likely Definitely

5. Please briefly outline what you might do:

6. Please describe what limiting factors may prevent you from including these activities in your classroom?

7. Please assess how suitable this webex & ppt training was for you. If you did not use any part, please indicate this, by putting a line through it.

VL = Very Low L = Low M = Medium H = High VH = Very High											
Part of the ppt		Quality of information					length				
Visual images		VL	L	M	H	VH	VL	L	M	H	VH
Plant name information		VL	L	M	H	VH	VL	L	M	H	VH
Changes suggested for observation		VL	L	M	H	VH	VL	L	M	H	VH
Webex session and notes		VL	L	M	H	VH	VL	L	M	H	VH

8. How could we improve training, like this?

9. What information or events (up to three) would you be most interested in your local RD - CMA delivering for RD teachers and schools?

Jeannie Clark, North and West Wimmera CMA River Detectives Facilitator July 2020

River Detectives, T3 2020.

Jeparit Waterwatch Showgrounds Site WIM940 1996-2015 History

Professional Development Webex & ppt Training Evaluation

A **DOCX copy** of this form has been attached on this email for you. Please **complete** this and **email** it back to me.

Your **feedback** on this **PD** is essential.

A **PD certificate** will be sent to you on my receipt of this.

Thank you

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