PORT PHILLIP BAY CATCHMENTS - RIVER / CREEK BANK LITTER AUDIT DATASHEET

Waterway name: **Date:**

Quadrat 1 GPS: **Stormwater outlet GPS:**   **Quadrat 2 GPS:**

Quadrat 1 (upstream) location: *# m from outlet:*

Quadrat 2 (downstream) location: *# m from outlet:*

Start & Finish times: **Survey by:**

Note: use the blank fields under each MATERIAL TYPE to record harmful items not already listed on the datasheet.

MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Total	Quadrat 2	Total	MATERIAL TYPE	Quadrat 1	Total	Quadrat 2	Total
Plastics					**Plastics (cont.)**				
bags - bait					sauce sachets				
bags - ice					soy sauce (fish)				
bags - shopping (grey)					straws				
bags - shopping (white)					syringes				
bags - shopping					takeaway food tubs (hard)				
bottles - soft drink					takeaway food lids (hard)				
bottles - fruit juice					ties (cable)				
bottles - water					tile spacers				
bottle caps									
bottles - bleach/cleaner					**Polystyrene**				
bubble wrap					beads				
cartons - fruit juice					cups				
cellophane wrap					food boxes / trays				
cigarette lighters					pieces <5mm				
cigarette butts					pieces 5mm +				
cling wrap / film					packaging				
cups / cup lids					**Glass**				
confectionery wraps					broken pieces				
dental floss					bottles - beer				
fishing line					bottles - beer stubbie				
fishing lures					bottles - wine				
food packaging (soft)									
forks, knives, spoons					**Metal**				
lollypop sticks					bottle tops - metal				
nurdles					cans - aerosol				
pens / markers					cans - beer				
pieces - hard <5mm					cans - soft drink				
pieces - hard 5mm +					cans - spirits				
pieces - soft <5mm					fish hooks				
pieces - soft 5mm +					**Rubber / Elastic**				
rope / twine					balloons				
6 pack can-holders					bands				
strapping (scrap)					hair ties				
strapping (whole)					foam rubber pieces				
TOTALS									

NOTES FOR EACH QUADRAT - Record any plastic items not listed on datasheet

QUADRAT 1.	QUADRAT 2.	OTHER NOTES

GUIDE TO RIVER/CREEK BANK LITTER AUDITS

BEFORE YOU START: Have First Aid Kit and gloves on-site. Check entire site to note possible hazards, eg SNAKES!.
Warn all collectors: **DON'T PUT YOUR FINGERS WHERE YOU CAN'T SEE THEM.**

PURPOSE: Reference sites are regularly audited to track any increase or decrease of litter items that are known to *threaten wildlife and/or human health, or are the subject of ongoing campaigns,* eg Container Deposit Legislation.
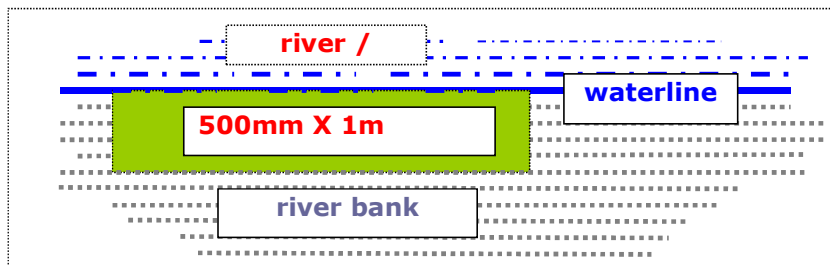The data will help make a case for improved strategies to reduce these items in our waterways.

The data is entered into the Port Phillip Bay Litter Database and the *'Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database'.*

Litter collected from 500mm X 1m quadrats is recorded in the correct column on the datasheet. *Quadrat 1* is located **upstream of the stormwater outlet. Quadrat 2** is located **at least 50m downstream of the stormwater outlet.**

Q*uadrat locations* are identified by a permanent landmark on or near the stream bank, eg tree, signpost.
Place the quadrat wherever litter is most concentrated, stranded on or above the waterline.

As the quadrats are upstream or downstream of the stormwater outlet they may indicate what types of litter are emerging from the outlet.

EQUIPMENT: 50m tape, 500mm X 1m quadrat, compass, clipboard, datasheet, pen, gloves, collection bucket/s.

GUIDE TO AUDIT SET-UP

1. Note a permanent landmark at the top of the streambank to ensure repeated surveys of the same quadrat area.
   Quadrats can be moved up or down the bank to capture litter accumulated on the high tide strandline.

2. Describe the *permanent landmark* (start point) the *"Start landmark"* field at top left side of the datasheet.

3. Measure distances between the stormwater outlet and each quadrat; and record distances on datasheet.

4. Note the s*tart landmark* on the datasheet.

5. As you walk to the waterline look for the ***most recent high flow strandline*** (usually a trail of leaf litter along the bank).

6. Place the 500mm X 500mm quadrat on the ***strandline*** to begin data collection. When all litter is collected, flip the quadrat 3 times along the strandline to extend the data collection zone 3 times to complete the collection area.

TIPS ON LITTER COLLECTION

TO SAVE TIME: each collector should target a particular item, eg 'cigarette butts' and collect and count them before telling the Data Recorder as they put the litter into the collection bag.

All litter in audit area quadrats is to be collected, recorded, bagged, and responsibly disposed.
Note: If any litter is collected from outside of the quadrats please don't record it on this datasheet.

TIPS ON DATA RECORDING

A separate datasheet is required for each transect. Be sure to complete all details at the top of datasheet!

Record the number of items in the correct quadrat column (1 for upstream quadrat and 2 for downstream quadrat).

Any harmful litter items found that are not listed on the datasheet are to be recorded at the bottom of the page.

If you run out of space for a particular item, write the name of the item in one of the *blank fields*.

Any additional unlisted items are to be recorded in the appropriate column under NOTES FOR EACH QUADRAT.

To save time and space on the datasheet, record items in groups (rather than single items) as they go in the bag.

If more than 1 entry is made in a data field, put a comma after each entry so it's clear that *5,5 equals 10* (not 55).

Send completed audit to:	More information: phone Neil on 0409 138 565
Port Phillip Baykeeper	**Australian Marine Debris Initiative Database**
Port Phillip EcoCentre	http://www.tangaroablue.org/database.html
55A Blessington St	**Victorian Litter Action Alliance** http://www.litter.vic.gov.au/
St Kilda VIC 3182	**CSIRO** https://blog.csiro.au/tag/marine-debris/

baykeeper@ecocentre.com	**Beach Patrol Australia**	http://www.beachpatrol.com.au/
www.bay-keeper.com	**Yarra Riverkeeper**	http://www.yarrariver.org.au
	Werribee Riverkeeper	http://www.werribeeriver.org.au