

Rapid Creek Monitoring

Rapid Creek is the largest freshwater stream in the Darwin city area. The creek flows well into the dry season, and provides habitat for several types of fish and freshwater invertebrates such as water bugs, snails and dragonfly larvae. The presence of these invertebrates is a good indicator of the stream's health. The wetlands in the upper part of the creek also provide habitat for at least 10 types of frog.

The invertebrates have been used to measure the ecological health of the stream. Monitoring is undertaken by the Department of Land Resource Management, and Darwin International Airport. Our assessment is that in broad terms the creek is in good condition, especially considering it is located within urban Darwin. The trees and other plants along the creek are looked after by local residents and members of the Rapid Creek Landcare group. This helps to keep the creek healthy and close to natural condition.

