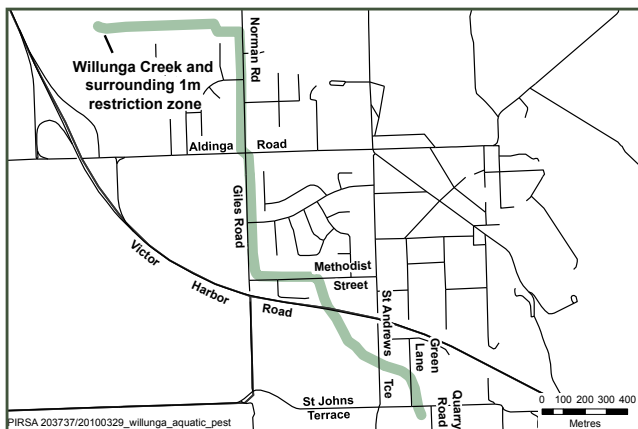


## Where and when will treatment take place?

The creek will be treated in stages, commencing on Tuesday 13 April 2010. SARDI officers will start treatment up-stream on Quarry Road and work their way down the creek line, completing around 50-100 metres per day.

Access to resident's properties may be required if the creek runs through property boundaries and we seek your co-operation on this. Under the *Fisheries Management Act 2007*, PIRSA can require access to properties to manage exotic fish.

Landholders will be notified of the date that treatment will occur in their area prior to application. Signage will clearly mark the area affected and will be removed once treatment is complete (normally 24 hours).



*The shaded area on the map is the section of Willunga Creek that will be treated. It includes a 1m buffer surrounding the creek, which will be restricted during treatment.*

Willunga Creek will be treated in stages, commencing on Tuesday 13 April 2010. Treatment is very quick. Each stage will take less than 24 hours. After this time, the water will be able to be used as normal.

## Contact Details

If you have questions or concerns regarding the rehabilitation, please contact:

**Vic Neverauskas**  
Manager, Aquatic Pests, PIRSA Biosecurity  
8226 2873 or 0417 882 460

For more information visit:  
[www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/biosecurity)

*The information in this publication can be provided on request in an alternative format or another language for those who need it. Please call 8226 0278.*

# REHABILITATION OF WILLUNGA CREEK

## Eradication of Speckled Livebearers (*Phalloceros caudimaculatus*)

Eradication  
Program begins on  
Tuesday 13 April  
2010

This brochure provides you with all the information you need to know about the rehabilitation of Willunga Creek and the eradication of an exotic fish species, Speckled Livebearers. PIRSA appreciates your cooperation in this operation.



Government of South Australia  
Primary Industries and Resources SA



Government of South Australia  
Primary Industries and Resources SA

## Introduction

A four-week rehabilitation program of Willunga Creek will commence on **Tuesday 13 April 2010** with the eradication of an exotic fish species commonly called the **Speckled Livebearer**.

The species was first found in a section of the Willunga Creek in 2008. Today there are approximately 100,000 Speckled Livebearers in the creek.

Eradication will involve treating small sections of the creek in stages using an organic, natural substance called **Rotenone**.

## What are Speckled Livebearers?

Speckled Livebearers (*Phalloceros caudimaculatus*) are brightly coloured and native to eastern South America.

They are an introduced species with the potential to degrade water quality and displace native species. They are thought to have been introduced through escaped aquarium fish.



**The Speckled Livebearer**  
(*Phalloceros caudimaculatus*)

## Why do they need to be eradicated?

Based on extensive surveys, no native fish have been found in the creek, despite significant populations in neighbouring streams. This means it is likely that the pest has already severely impacted upon native species.

It is essential that the species be eradicated to ensure the creek has the best possible chance of being returned to its natural state.

## How will the pest be eradicated?

With the support of the Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Natural Resources Management Board and the City of Onkaparinga Council, PIRSA Biosecurity will aim to eradicate the fish species using an organic, odourless powder called Rotenone.

Rotenone will be applied directly to the water by officers from the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI). They will apply the treatment in stages, 50 -100 metres per day. The water may look slightly frothy and oily, this is normal and will only remain for a short period.

Treatment is very quick. Each stage will take less than 24 hours. After this time, the water will be able to be used as normal. Signage will clearly mark the area affected and will be removed once treatment is complete.



**Rotenone will be applied directly to the waters of the Willunga Creek by officers from the South Australian Research and Development Institute**

## Is Rotenone safe?

Made naturally from tree roots, Rotenone is an odourless, organic compound that affects the gills of fish. It is a comparatively safe treatment and was originally used by indigenous people to hunt fish.

Rotenone is not toxic to humans or other animals, besides fish and aquatic fauna. However, for safety reasons no person or animal should consume water or fish from the creek during treatment. If for any reason you suspect illness has been caused by ingesting water from the creek, please contact a doctor or vet or call the Poisons Information Centre on 13 11 26.

## Will other fish be harmed?

Extensive surveys have shown that no native fish currently reside in the creek. It is likely however that tadpoles and yabbies will be affected by the treatment. SARDI will remove these species from the creek where possible before starting treatment. They will be returned to the creek after the water has returned to its natural state.

For safety reasons, no person or animal should consume water or fish from the creek during treatment. Signage will clearly mark the areas which are under treatment and will be removed once treatment is complete.