

Snowy River Mail

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FIRE ACTION WEEK

INSIDE THIS EDITION



Paddlers head through Tulloch Ard Gorge on the Snowy River during last week's environmental flow release. (PS)

It's all flow on Snowy

There was movement aplenty on the Snowy River last week with the release of a significant environmental flow from the Jindabyne Dam.

The equivalent of 3200 Olympic swimming pools of water was released in a single day.

Close to the New South Wales border, McKillops Bridge became a temporary home to rafts, canoes and kavaks as paddlers

keen for adventure navigated the river and its rapids downstream to where the Buchan River joins the Snowy.

The local wildlife was also out in force with platypus foraging, water dragons basking in the sun and birds of prey kept busy feeding their young.

Further downstream, scientists from the Arthur Rylah Institute (ARI) spent the week monitoring

nutrient levels flowing down the river. The project, administered by the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and funded by the Victorian State Government, is looking to determine what positive effect the nutrients are having on the wetlands and estuary.

Dan Stoessel, from ARI, said if the nutrients are not coming down at the appropriate time then you

don't get all of the ongoing benefits for the fish, so it's important that these events occur, especially in the spring.

CMA chief executive officer, Graeme Dear, said the "Water Plan for Victoria provides for long-term investment in waterway health that also improves the recreational value of our rivers for people like last week's kavakers".