

Monitoring programs contributing to the Report Cards

The Northern Territory Government undertakes water quality monitoring and testing throughout the Darwin Harbour region. While most of this monitoring is undertaken to determine ecosystem health of the region, monitoring is also undertaken to determine the suitability of beaches for swimming.

The Darwin Harbour Region Report Card includes data collected from the following monitoring programs.

Marine and estuarine water quality monitoring

Between June 2011 and June 2012, DLRM monitored water quality at 151 sites in Darwin Harbour. Marine and estuarine sampling for the 2012 reporting year is detailed below:

Report Card	Estuary region and class*	Number of sites sampled quarterly	Number of sites with other sample frequencies	Collaborator contribution***
Darwin Harbour	Outer	5	9	10
Darwin Harbour	Mid	5	12	
Darwin – Palmerston	Upper	4	4	5
Myrmidon	Upper	1		8
Elizabeth	Upper	3	16	
Blackmore	Upper	8	31	10
West Arm and Woods Inlet	Upper	4	18	
Rapid Creek	Upper	1		
Shoal Bay	Outer	2	4	4
Shoal Bay	Upper	3	3	5
Buffalo Creek	Upper	1	1	7

*Water class is typically derived from the sites location in the estuary, water quality and the hydrodynamic characteristics (flushing) it is subject to and have different water quality objectives.

*** PowerWater Corporation, Aquaculture industry and Darwin International Airport data.

Freshwater monitoring

DLRM monitored water quality during recession flows at 28 freshwater sites in 2012 within the Darwin Harbour catchment. The number of sites monitored during May 2012 for each reporting catchment were:

Report Card catchment	Freshwater routine site	Other freshwater sites
Darwin-Palmerston	2	
Elizabeth	9	
Blackmore	7	
Rapid Creek	3	3*
Shoal Bay	4	

* data supplied by Darwin International Airport

