



Water pH Hardness Factsheet

Snowy Monaro Regional Council undertakes water testing in accordance with NSW Health Drinking Water Monitoring Program for populations < 5000 (2 x per year) and > 5000 (12 x per year)

Water samples are sent for chemical testing. This is undertaken independently by the NSW Health pathology lab in Sydney. This is done twice per year for each supply system except for Cooma which is once per month.

Snowy Monaro drinking water test results are generally within the Australian drinking water guidelines for hardness and pH for each supply area. Council is notified of the results if they exceed any of the health guides for drinking water and adjust operational procedures where possible.

Hardness

Ranges of hardness, usually expressed in units of milligrams per litre (mg/L) of equivalent Calcium Carbonate (CaCO₃) are rated by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) Australian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines as follows:

CaCO ₃	Hardness
<60mg/L	Soft but possibly corrosive
60-200mg/L	Good quality
200-500mg/L	Increasing scaling problems
>500mg/L	Severe scaling



Coolumbooka River, Bombala

pH

PH is a measure of the hydrogen ion concentration of water. The Australian Drinking Water Guidelines do not set a health-based guideline for pH, however, the World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines recommend a pH range of 6.5 to 8.5. pH is monitored daily by our Water and WasteWater Operations team to ensure it is within a safe range for consumption.

24/7 Customer service line 1300 345 345

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Typical hardness and pH of drinking water supplied by Snowy Monaro Regional Council in each supply area, as tested at the NSW Health pathology lab between 2010 and 2023;

Water Supply	Hardness as CaCO ₃ (mg/L) Latest Test			pH Latest Test		
	Range	Average	Latest Results	Range	Average	Latest Results
Lake Eucumbene - Adaminaby	8 -25	10	13.2	6.5-8.4	6.8	6.9
Lake Eucumbene - Eucumbene Cove	5-13	9	10.5	6.4-7.8	7	6.59
Lake Jindabyne- Jindabyne	10-17	14	14.7	6.7-8	7.1	7.1
Lake Jindabyne- East Jindabyne, Tyrolean and Berridale	10-138	21	32.2	6.6-9.5	7.4	8.99
Lake Jindabyne- Kalkite	10-18	14	18.1	6.6-7.8	7.4	7.4
Bredbo- Groundwater Bores	18-151	69	55.8	7.6-8.1	8	7.9
Bombala WTP from Coolumbooka River	28-132	65	25	7.2 - 8.8	7.9	7.4
Cooma WTP from Murrumbidgee River	12-60	27	53.6	7.1-8.8	8	7.5
Dalgety Groundwater Bores	17-139	76	103.5	7.7-8.6	8	8.1
Delegate River	11-27	17	19.1	4.6-7	6.1	6.71
Nimmitabel - Groundwater Bores and McLaughlin River	38-373	148	223	7.6-8.2	7.8	7.7

