**Metadata Content**

1. **Title and Short Description:**
   * **Title:** Seasonal and Geographic Variation in Packed Cell Volume and Selected Serum Chemistry of Platypuses
   * **Short Description:** This study investigates the variation in packed cell volume (PCV) and selected serum chemistry metrics (total protein, albumin, globulin, urea, creatinine, and triglycerides) in platypuses across different seasons and geographic locations in New South Wales and Victoria, Australia.
2. **Data Generation:**
   * **How, When, and Where the Data Were Originally Generated:**
     + The data were generated through field samples collected from platypuses in three river catchments in New South Wales and Victoria between January 2016 and May 2018. Blood samples were taken from 249 unique platypuses using fyke and gill nets and then analyzed for PCV and serum chemistry metrics.
   * **Details on Data Collection:**
     + Field samples were taken from seven rivers: Tenterfield Creek, Severn River, Eucumbene River, Snowy River, Thredbo River, Mitta Mitta River, and Ovens River. The elevation, sex, age, and body condition of each platypus were recorded.
3. **Responsibility for Data Collection:**
   * **Original Data Collectors:**
     + Jana Stewart, Gilad Bino, Tahneal Hawke, and Richard T. Kingsford from the Centre for Ecosystem Science, School of Biological, Earth & Environmental Sciences, UNSW, Sydney, NSW 2052, Australia.
   * **Current Contact for Data Inquiries:**
     + Contact Jana Stewart at jana.stewart@student.unsw.edu.au for any questions regarding the data.
4. **Required Data-Specific Information:**
   * **Metrics Analyzed:**
     + Packed cell volume (PCV)
     + Total protein (TP)
     + Albumin
     + Globulin
     + Urea
     + Creatinine
     + Triglycerides
   * **Analytical Approach:**
     + Generalized Linear Models (GLM) and Generalized Additive Models (GAM) were used to analyze the data, examining variations by season, sex, age, and elevation. The study also established reference intervals for hematology and serum chemistry parameters.
   * **Significance of Study:**
     + The study provides baseline health metrics for mainland platypuses, highlights the importance of considering seasonal variation, and offers valuable data for future assessments of individual and population health.