

# Dam to get jobs flowing

KAROLIN MacGREGOR

MORE than 50 new jobs could be created in Tasmania's North-West after the official opening of the state's newest irrigation scheme.

Extra water is flowing into one of the state's most productive agricultural areas after the \$10.6 million Kindred-North Motton Irrigation Scheme was completed.

It was opened yesterday by Primary Industries and Water Minister Bryan Green.

More than 40 farmers in the region have invested \$3 million to buy water from the scheme.

"Their investment will see 35 on-farm jobs created and 18 indirect jobs, which will help grow the region's economy," Mr Green said.

"The district services highly productive pasture and cropping land around the townships of Kindred, Sprent, Abbotsham, Forth, Gawler, Ulverstone and North Motton."

The scheme can supply 2500ML of water a year, underpinned by releases from Lake Palooana.

This scheme is the sixth project completed under the state's \$400 million irrigation expansion plan.

karolin.macgregor@news.com.au



**BIG SPLASH:** Beef and crop farmer Luke McConnon tests the waters at Sprent's new dam, part of the irrigation scheme. Picture: CHRIS KIDD