

Tasmanian Irrigation

North Esk Irrigation Scheme - March 2016

Water Sales

Governmental approval has been received for the progression of the scheme to water sales. The official letter was received in early March and those in the region should expect to hear additional information regarding the water sales period in the very near future. The water sales period will run for a period of four (4) weeks starting 5 April 2016.

Water for the NEIS will be sold for \$1,500/ML and anybody interested in participating in the scheme, irrespective of the proposed alignment and its proximity to their property, should submit an application to purchase water during the water sales period.

Interested persons should make contact with Tasmanian Irrigation staff or speak to their NEIS Working Group community representatives.

Scheme Update

Since the last newsletter in September flora and fauna surveys have been completed and a draft report received in addition to the final reports for Cultural and Historic Heritage which have been received and submitted to the relevant bodies. Permits and applications have been progressing and submitted as and where possible with some of these including:

- Dam Permit Application
- Aboriginal Heritage permit application
- Irrigation District application

Tasmanian Irrigation has also met both Aboriginal Heritage Tasmania and Heritage Tasmania to discuss the final reports, permit applications and any additional phases of investigation.

Additional hydrology and environmental flow investigations were completed on the North Esk River during the first week of December with the river, after several months of waiting, finally dropping to a level low enough for consultants to safely enter and conduct the assessment.

The irrigation seminar run in late October was very well attended with approximately 60 people in attendance. Tasmanian Irrigation would like to again thank our speakers on the night for their insight and to all those who took time out of their busy schedules to attend.

Transfer Pipeline

Following detailed engineering review it has been determined that a gravity feed from the North Esk River will not be feasible. The transfer will involve a shorter pipeline alignment and require a small pump station to lift water to the storage site. The distribution side of the scheme remains viable under gravity in its current design up to a maximum elevation of RL200 - which decreases moving away from the Dalness Dam.

Properties above this elevation, if feasible, may require boost pumping to satisfy any interest. Additional operational charges may be applicable to properties above this elevation.

Water Trading

When water entitlements are purchased on the NEIS they are comprised of two components: an irrigation right and a delivery right. An irrigation right entitles the holder to a particular volume of water to be made available for delivery each irrigation season whilst a delivery right entitles the holder to a share of the capacity of the pipe in order to have the aforementioned irrigation right volume delivered at a set flow rate.

Water is delivered evenly 24 hours a day 7 days a week for the duration of the irrigation season. If an irrigator has a purchased entitlement volume of 120ML they will receive 1ML/day (11.57 liters/second) for the duration of the 120 day delivery period. It is important for potential irrigators to note that water delivery is designed to be put into a storage facility and used from there as required however, should sufficient volume be purchased, there may be capability to irrigate directly from the scheme.

Both irrigation rights and delivery rights are separable from land and are tradable commodities in their own right.

There are three types of transfers:

- Permanent
- Limited term
- Short term

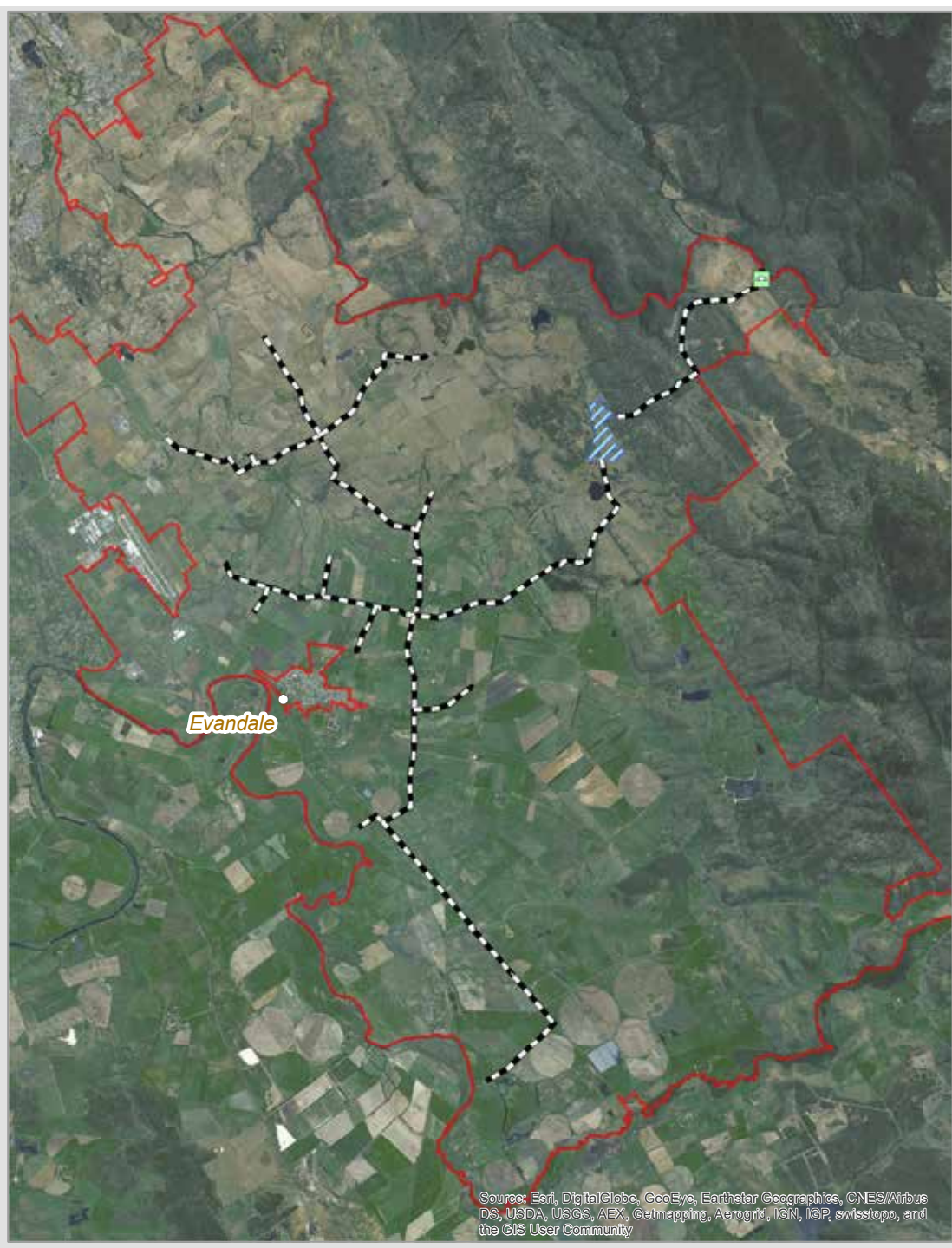
Both permanent (sale) and limited term (lease for more than one irrigation season) are classified as Entitlement Trades whilst short term trades, which have a duration of one irrigation season, are classified as Allocation Trades.

Trading is limited by the various zones of the scheme which relate to the capacity of the pipeline at different locations within the scheme. As a general rule, water can be traded back up the line back to the dam but cannot be traded down the line due to capacity constraints. Full terms and conditions of water trading can be found on the Tasmanian Irrigation website under the buy/trade tab immediately however more information regarding this will be provided during the water sales period.



NEIS Irrigation seminar: Michael Chilvers speaking about the on-farm benefits of reliable water and diversification.





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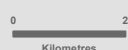
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- Legend**
- Proposed Pump Station
 - Proposed pipeline
 - Proposed Irrigation District
 - Proposed dam



Proposed North Esk Irrigation Scheme



Map Scale 1:100,000
When printed at A4

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Tasmanian Irrigation



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This newsletter contains information of a general nature and reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy at the time of publication. Scheme details and policies may change and individual circumstances may vary. This newsletter should not be relied upon as a basis of individual decision-making. For more information and details regarding the articles in this issue, please contact:

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