



Montagu and Welcome river-works districts - overview October 2020



Role of Tasmanian Irrigation (TI)

- TI is the responsible entity for the management of the Welcome and Montagu river districts. TI is responsible for maintaining the rivers so that it provides a drainage benefit to the district landholders.
- In July 2020 TI re-instated Community Consultative Committees made up of 6 local land-holder representatives from each district.
- In early 2020 works were completed within the drainage district to remove blockages from the drainage channels, undertake weed spraying and maintain access pathways required for ongoing maintenance works.
- TI has recently sought and gained approval from the Minister of Primary Industries and Water for a revision to the levying of charges to district landowners. All costs associated with maintaining the district will be recovered by TI through the levying and collection of charges to district landowners.

Responsibilities of a Water Entity

- Removing, cutting and trimming vegetation and other matter in or on the bed and banks of watercourses and lakes...
- Undertaking works in channels ...to stabilise streambeds and streambanks and militating against the adverse effects of flooding.
- Protecting the banks of watercourses and lakes by the use of vegetation, riparian fencing and appropriate river engineering techniques.
- Removing obstructions where appropriate technical advice has identified that those obstructions are contributing to flooding or bank damage.
- Changing the course of watercourses.
- Controlling or regulating the flow of water in watercourses.
- Raising or lowering the level of lakes.
- Planting trees and other vegetation for the purpose of slowing down water running into watercourses and lakes and of protecting banks ..
- Protecting areas of important natural values, such as native vegetation, threatened species, sites of significance...
- The maintenance, repair, control and management of watercourses and lakes...

Montagu river district

- The drainage scheme was formally established in 1978 under Part III of the Water Act 1957
- Providing flood mitigation and drainage outfall to 29 landowners across 125 properties
- 51.0 kilometres of river and major drains are covered/within scope



Welcome river district

- Established in 1986 under Part IV of the Water Act 1957 as a Drainage Area.
- 19km's of main drain (Welcome river) provide a drainage outfall to each ratepayer whose land is impacted by flooding.
- Other drains (7km's) also provide drainage outlets to flooded zones for ratepayers who do not have direct outlets to the main drain.
- Administered on behalf of 17 local ratepayers who own 65 land parcels in the Welcome catchment by Tasmanian Irrigation Pty Ltd



2019-20 Works



Future works

- 5-year plan has been developed
- Scoping of 2020/21 works starts Nov/Dec,
- Works to occur Jan-May.
- The plan will include,
 1. Weed management
 2. Ongoing maintenance consistent with the responsibilities of the water entity
 3. Environmental assessments where required
 4. Oversight and supervision



Community consultative committee

- TI is committed to maintaining effective lines of communication through an active and representative committee of landholders.
- Each district has 6 landowners representatives making up the Committee with a chairperson nominated by committee.

Purpose

- To act on behalf of all land-holders in the following,
 - Review of the 5-year plan
 - Assist in development of the annual Scope of Works
 - Overseeing weed management
 - Supervising where necessary
 - Providing feedback on performance of contractors
 - Consulting with TI representative as required (minimal annual)