



*Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Program*

# Strategic Framework



*The Tamar Estuary and Esk River systems  
healthy, productive, valued and enjoyed*

*-Our Rivers of Life*



# Introduction



In August 2008 key stakeholders and community leaders from government, industry, business and the community came together to develop a vision and strategic framework for the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers systems.

This Strategic Framework is the future blueprint that will guide the operation of the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers (TEER) Program and our partners to work towards improving the health of the region's waterways from 'catchment to coast'.



The TEER Program was established in 2008 as a regional partnership between NRM North and the Tasmanian Government, Launceston City Council, West Tamar Council, Meander Valley Council, George Town Council and Hydro Tasmania.

## Vision & Values

### 2030 Vision

The Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems

Healthy, productive, valued and enjoyed

-Our Rivers Of Life



### Values Statement

In all our work and dealings we will:

Lead with vision

Build trust and engagement

Be fair and open

Make informed decisions for the long term



# Future Directions

## 1. Work together to provide integrated governance, planning and management

Working together is the way to achieve the desired outcomes for the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems. TEER is well positioned to play a facilitation role and help bring about a coordinated and consistent approach to planning and management. If all players work as a team the activities associated with improving The Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems can be based on informed decision making and a strategic approach. This way of working will have the best chance of attracting the funds necessary to achieve success.

Strategies	TEER Role	Who can help	Performance measures
Use the TEER program to review who does what in the Catchment, identify gaps and encourage better linkages	Provider Facilitator Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM North and TEER stakeholders</li> <li>State Government Department of Justice (Land Use Planning)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Joint projects</li> <li>Tamar Estuary Responsibility Framework Report (revised and adopted)</li> <li>Land use strategies adopted (including the Regional Land Use Plan)</li> </ul>
Seek and advocate funding for agreed priorities	Provider Facilitator Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal, state and local government</li> <li>NRM North</li> <li>Industry partners</li> <li>Community groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Levels of funding achieved</li> </ul>
Support and encourage consistent and informed decision making across responsible organisations	Provider Facilitator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM North and TEER stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Number of decisions made involving TEER input</li> </ul>

## 2. Build community knowledge and awareness

It is important the entire community understands the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems, the role they play in our lives, the need for them to be healthy and what we can do to help. Everyone needs to play their part. Using fact and science based information will build credibility. Promoting the role individuals and groups can play will help build attitudes and behaviors to benefit the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems.

Strategies	TEER Role	Who can help	Performance measures
Develop and implement a strategy to influence community attitudes and behaviour to benefit the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems	Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM North</li> <li>TEER committees</li> <li>Tamar NRM</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy developed and adopted</li> </ul>



### 3. Protect, maintain and enhance natural values

Healthy River Systems help build healthy communities. They are integral to the future bio-diversity of the entire TEER catchment area. Protecting, maintaining and where appropriate improving the natural values of the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems will make sure the water quality and natural environment is healthy and productive now and in the future.

Strategies	TEER Role	Who can help	Performance measures
Monitor evaluate and report on the health and biodiversity of the river systems	Provider Facilitator Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government</li> <li>State government</li> <li>NRM North</li> <li>Key industry groups (eg. Bell Bay precinct industry groups, Hydro Tasmania, NRM North)</li> <li>Research institutions</li> </ul>	Trends from baseline data on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fish health</li> <li>Water quality</li> <li>biodiversity values (eg. flora and fauna)</li> <li>water flow rates</li> </ul>
Improve the integrity of native plants, animals and geodiversity in and around the rivers	Facilitator Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Lomond Water</li> <li>NRM North stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extent of riparian vegetation planted and improved</li> <li>Number of property management plans</li> </ul>
Reduce pollution in the river systems	Facilitator Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Lomond Water</li> <li>Industry groups</li> <li>Local government</li> <li>NRM stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State of the Tamar Reports</li> <li>Number of reportable pollution incidents</li> <li>Number of Lake Trevallyn algal bloom incidents</li> </ul>

### 4. Build sustainable futures

Water is a precious resource. Many of the actions needed to make sure we make best use of our available water resources are beyond the scope of the TEER program. However, so great is the need to manage water in a way that respects both our environment and our production potential that an advocacy role has been included. The TEER program will at every opportunity encourage the best use of available water resources within the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems.

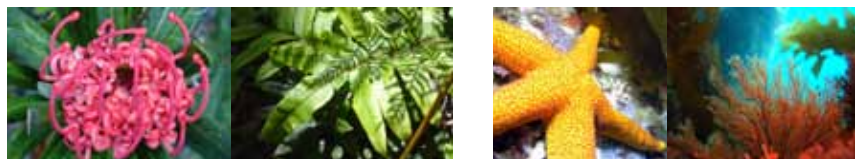
Strategies	TEER Role	Who can help	Performance measures
Advocate the best use of available water resources within the catchments of the TEER Program.	Advocate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ben Lomond Water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Media coverage</li> <li>Promotion programs</li> </ul>



## 5. Improve the amenity of the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers

How the rivers look and how they are used is important to our community. The amenity of the Tamar Estuary and Esk River Systems falls outside the scope of the TEER program. However, providing fact and science based advice and information will influence and assist decision making. Central to the TEER program is the improvement of the water quality. Improved water quality will assist with improving amenity.

Strategies	TEER Role	Who can help	Performance measures
Provide advice and information to the Launceston City Council to assist with siltation management	Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launceston City Council</li> <li>Launceston Flood Protection Authority</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice provided</li> </ul>
Advise and inform on the impacts to the River Systems regarding development initiatives, tourism and recreation	Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM North and TEER stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice provided</li> </ul>
Provide information and advice on the management of water and fish life contaminants like blue green algae, E-coli and heavy metals	Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NRM North and TEER stakeholders</li> <li>Research institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice provided</li> </ul>



### Glossary of Terms

Provider	Providing the resources to deliver or contribute towards achieving the strategy.
Facilitator	Facilitating or coordinating stakeholders to work together to achieve the strategy (eg. securing resources, coordinating forums for discussion and action).
Advocate	Encouraging and lobbying stakeholders to achieve the strategy.
Geodiversity	The natural diversity of geological, landform and soil features, and processes.
TEER stakeholders	Organisations and individuals who have an interest in protecting, managing and conserving the waterways within the Tamar catchment area. Key stakeholders are represented on the TEER committee's and working groups.
NRM North stakeholders	Organisations and individuals represented on the NRM North Association. These include representatives from a diverse group of people from the Aboriginal community, industry, local government, conservation groups, public and private land managers and other's who have an interest or expertise in the region's natural resources.



## Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers

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