

Rural Water Use Strategy

2021

The Tasmanian Government has developed the Rural Water Use Strategy to support the wise use of water and ensure that our freshwater resources are available to support the wide range of water uses and environments that depend on them as well as new opportunities for innovation and growth.

Freshwater is vital for the Tasmanian economy, environment and way of life. Freshwater is:

- a key economic enabler for agriculture, energy, mining, forestry, industry and commercial uses;
- underpins urban water security for drinking water, commercial uses and liveability; and
- essential for maintaining environment, ecosystems and landscapes for intrinsic value, biodiversity, recreation and tourism.

The Rural Water Use Strategy contains 4 Goals and 29 Actions to guide Tasmania's future water management arrangements to ensure integrated, fair and efficient regulation of our water resources to deliver sustainable outcomes for rural water users, rural communities and the environment, while maintaining Tasmania's competitive advantages in a changing climate.

Rural Water Use Strategy Overview

Our focus

Linking with complementary policies and frameworks including:

Resource Management and Planning System of Tasmania

Tasmanian Land Use Planning System

Policies and legislation for natural and cultural heritage protection in Tasmania

Tasmania's Natural Resource Management Framework

Tasmanian regulatory system for environmental management and pollution control

State Policy on Water Quality Management

Linking with other strategies and plans including:

Competitiveness of Tasmanian Agriculture for 2050

Tasmania's Sustainable Agrifood Plan

Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target

Tasmanian Renewable Hydrogen Action Plan

Battery of the Nation initiative

Climate Action 21: Tasmania's Climate Change Action Plan

Digital Transformation Strategy

Draft 30-Year Infrastructure Strategy

Recommendations from the Premier's Economic and Social Recovery Advisory Council on strategies and initiatives to support the short to medium, and the longer-term recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic



Sustainable management of Tasmania's water resources

- Better enabling evidence-based policy and decision making by enhancing our understanding of our freshwater resources and the potential effects of climate change
- Enhancing monitoring of our freshwater resources



Strategic development to maximise opportunities from water resources

- Supporting emerging water developments within the framework for water management in Tasmania



Effective regulation, strong entitlements and planning

- Ensuring the water allocation policy framework delivers benefits across commercial sectors and supports delivery of non-financial benefits to environmental and social values
- Providing for an adaptive, risk-based water management planning system that is inclusive of stakeholders
- Involving local people and communities in water management within the water management framework
- Enhancing water management outcomes where there are multiple water managers
- Further reducing regulatory burden for owners of small private dams to ensure the safety of dams whilst minimising the imposition of onerous and financial requirements
- Enhancing positive and sustainable water market and trading outcomes



Optimising services

- Ensuring contemporary and fit for purpose water resource management legislation
- Enhancing water information sharing, transparency and useability

Benefits

Economic Growth

Community Value

Sustainability

Protecting the Environment

For further information see:

www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/water/water-legislation-policies-and-strategies/rural-water-use-strategy