



Derwent Estuary
Program

2021/22 Annual Report

Derwent Estuary Program Limited





Acknowledgement of country and the timtumili minanya

We would like to pay respect to the traditional and original owners of the land, the Tasmanian Aboriginal people – to pay respect to those that have passed before us and to acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal people who are the custodians of this land.

The Tasmanian Aboriginal Centre's (TAC) Language Program has undertaken both linguistics and historical research on the original languages of Tasmania to retrieve and revive Aboriginal language in Tasmania – *palawa kani*. The name of the River Derwent in *palawa kani*, is timtumili minanya.

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Our mission

To enable informed decisions.

Our vision

The Derwent Estuary Program is the voice of the Derwent.

Our history

The Derwent Estuary lies at the heart of the Hobart metropolitan area and is an integral part of Tasmania's natural, cultural and economic heritage. Approximately 40 percent of Tasmania's population – 228,000 people live around the estuary's margins and the Derwent is widely used for recreation, boating, fishing and marine transportation. The estuary supports several large industries, including paper production, zinc smelting and boat building, and is Tasmania's fourth busiest port. The estuary is an important and productive ecosystem, supporting large areas of wetlands, seagrasses, tidal flats and rocky reefs. These areas support a diversity of species, including internationally protected wading birds, handfish and whales.

A number of environmental issues affect the Derwent Estuary, in particular:

- severe heavy metal contamination of sediments and biota by mercury, zinc, cadmium, lead, copper and arsenic;
- elevated nutrient concentrations, localised algal growth and, in the upper estuary, seasonally depressed oxygen levels;
- loss and degradation of estuarine habitat and species;
- severe infestation by invasive species, including harmful algal blooms;
- altered environmental flows and physical barriers to fish migration associated with dams;
- intermittent faecal contamination of beaches and bays; and
- climate change.



• Sea cliffs at Taroona

The Derwent Estuary Program (DEP) was established in 1999 as a partnership between state and local governments, industries, scientists and the community to restore and promote the Derwent Estuary. In 2017 we became a registered not-for-profit, company limited by guarantee. A key role of the DEP is to coordinate and support monitoring activities and scientific investigations, and to compile and distribute the resulting information in regular reports, including five-yearly State of the Derwent Report and annual Report Cards.

The Derwent Estuary





About us



About us

Established in 1999, the Derwent Estuary Program (DEP) is a voluntary partnership between state and local governments, industries, scientists and the community to share science to guide environmental management of the Derwent estuary. Our key role is to coordinate and support monitoring activities and scientific investigations, and to compile and distribute the resulting information in regular reports, including five-yearly State of the Derwent Report and annual Report Cards.

We currently manage monitoring activities, projects and communications valued at over \$1 million per year. Our partners and supporters include:

- Tasmanian Government.
- Brighton Council.
- Clarence City Council.
- Derwent Valley Council.
- Glenorchy City Council.
- Hobart City Council.
- Kingborough Council.
- TasWater.
- Norske Skog Boyer.
- Nyrstar Hobart.
- Hydro Tasmania.
- Tasmanian Ports Corporation.
- Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS).
- EPA Tasmania.
- NRM South.

Project support also provided by:

- CSIRO Marine Research.
- Derwent Catchment Project.
- Wellington Park Management Trust.
- Parks & Wildlife Service.



- Supporting Clean Up Australia Day

- Sandy Bay Rivulet sediment – stormwater management is still a focus for the DEP



Since 1999 more than \$200 million has been invested in environmental improvements by our partners and the Derwent is now showing promising signs of recovery. During the past decade, there have been substantial reductions in discharges of organic matter (greater than 90 percent), heavy metals (greater than 60 percent), and sewage-derived nutrients (10 – 20 percent), as well as improvements in stormwater treatment.

As the condition of the estuary improves, there is growing interest in conserving and enjoying the Derwent's natural features. We have led initiatives to increase the area of protected wetlands by 40 percent and to preserve iconic species such as the Little Penguin and the endangered spotted handfish. Encouraging the enjoyment of the Derwent through the use of foreshore tracks through our Greater Hobart Trails website has been a focus this year. This improved and accessible website was developed in cooperation with our six Council partners, Wellington Park Management Trust and the Parks and Wildlife Service.

We are guided by our Business Plan 2019 – 2024 which enables us to develop focused annual work plans and staff action plans. In August 2019, twelve DEP partners renewed their commitment to the Derwent Estuary Program for another five years by signing the voluntary Partnership Agreement 2020 – 2025. In 2021-22 we welcomed three new organisations to the partnership including the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, EPA Tasmania and NRM South.

Our supporters

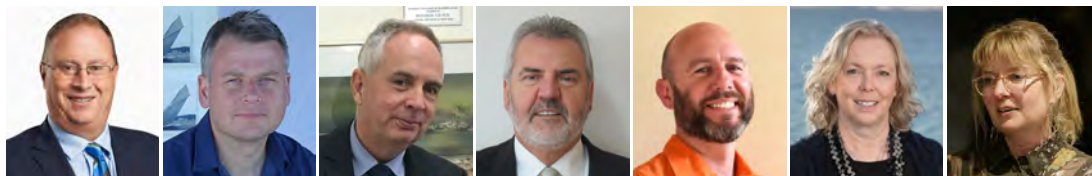


- Business, government and community representatives clean up Prince of Wales Bay



Our people

BOARD MEMBERS



Nick Heath
Chair

Charles Livesey
Director
(Commenced Oct 2021)

Greg Davoren
Director

Gary Arnold
Director

Todd Milne
Director

Professor Catriona MacLeod
Director

Ursula Taylor
Company Secretary

EMPLOYEES

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Ursula Taylor	CEO	
Inger Visby	Biodiversity Officer	
Akira Weller-Wong	Estuary Scientist	
Bernadette Proemse	Catchment Scientist	
Anna Wilson	Stormwater Officer	Commenced July 2021
Alice Doyle	Office Support	
Emily Shen	Social media support	December 2021 – March 2022

VOLUNTEER SUPPORT

Name	Position	Dates acted (if not for whole year)
Katrina Monash	Volunteer, Little Penguin monitoring	July 2021
Peter Vertigan	Volunteer, Little Penguin monitoring	From July 2021
Jordy Monash	Volunteer, Little Penguin monitoring	From July 2021
Jordan Kath	Volunteer, Little Penguin monitoring	From January 2022
Zoe Bucher Edwards	Volunteer, Little Penguin monitoring	July – November 2021
Sarah Birbeck	Volunteer, Little Penguin monitoring	April 2022



• Derwent Estuary Program staff 2021. L-R: Alice Doyle, Inger Visby, Emily Shen, Bernadette Proemse, Akira Weller-Wong, Ursula Taylor, Anna Wilson.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Name	Position
Kelsie Fractal: <i>Understanding the effects of sediment nutrient loads on seagrass rhizome microbial communities and health (with the aim of identifying seagrass restoration sites)</i>	Masters' candidate, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania
Caillin Wise: <i>Assessing the ecological importance of seagrass beds in south-east Tasmania (2 sites in the Derwent).</i>	Honours candidate, Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, University of Tasmania
Le Thuy Duong Ha: <i>Natural Capital Accounting for the Derwent Estuary</i>	PhD candidate, College of Business and Economics, University of Tasmania
Liam Andrews: <i>Assessing the impacts of sea level rise on Little Penguin colonies in the Derwent Estuary using inundation modelling</i>	Third year spatial research project: University of Tasmania
Harrison Stevens: <i>Reconstructing atmospheric deposition, nutrient cycling, and history of Tasmanian Central Highland Lakes</i>	PhD candidate, University of Tasmania

Supporting our people are policies and procedures to facilitate work, health and safety and provide flexible working arrangements to recognise the commitments we have for families and the community.

Highlights: 2021–22

BEACH WATCH

18/20 beaches

18 out of 20 beach sampling sites in Hobart are suitable for swimming and have a Good or Fair long-term water quality rating.

The Australian Labor Party committed **\$500,000** to the DEP for key projects through their Urban Rivers and Catchment Fund.

State of the Derwent Report 2021 **update released** highlighting environmental trends in the estuary.

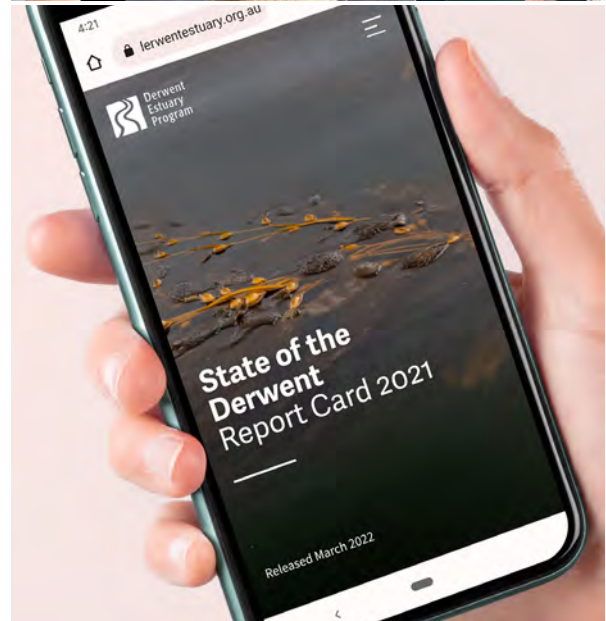
Six real-time water quality analysers installed in the Derwent catchment.

DEP welcomed **three** new organisations as funding partners including IMAS, EPA Tasmania and NRM South.

Winner of Landcare Tasmania's Australian Government for Partnerships award.

1000 percent increase in DEP Facebook Page reach.

- Talking about DEP science for Beaker Street Festival at Nyrstar Hobart



- Installing the first real-time water quality analysers at Turriff Lodge Wastewater Treatment Plant with TasWater, EcoDetection and UTAS

Governance



Structure and management

Derwent Estuary Program Limited (DEP) is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC), Australian Securities and Investment Commission (ASIC) and the Register for Environmental Organisations. DEP Limited was registered as Company Limited by Guarantee on 29 March 2017.

An independent Board has responsibility for managing the DEP's governance and is supported by the Members Committee which includes the CEOs and General Managers of the DEP's partners. Guiding the DEP is its constitution which outlines the following objects of the company:

- to advance the natural environment connected with the Derwent Estuary through its protection and enhancement;
- to maximise the health and diversity of the Derwent Estuary, such that it supports a wide range of recreational, tourism and commercial uses and initiatives and is a source of community pride and enjoyment;
- to coordinate initiatives to reduce water pollution, conserve habitats and species, monitor river health, and to promote greater use and enjoyment of the Derwent Estuary;
- to support monitoring activities and scientific investigations, and to compile and distribute relevant information in internal and public reports, in each case connected with the Derwent Estuary;
- to support the management and reduction of pollution in the Derwent Estuary, including sewage, contaminated sediments, industrial discharges, marine waste and urban and catchment runoff;
- to support the conservation of estuarine habitats and species, and management of marine pests, coastal weeds and river flows;
- to support informed planning, policy and assessment by providing scientific information, guidelines and professional advice;
- to provide information and education about the Derwent Estuary, so as to improve understanding, awareness of, and participation in, the Derwent Estuary, as well as celebrating achievements;
- to participate in and support other organisations and programs whose focus is the advancement of the natural environment connected with water systems other than the Derwent Estuary;
- to establish and maintain a public fund to be called the Derwent Estuary Fund (or with such other name as the Board determines) (Fund) for the specific purpose of supporting the environmental objects and purposes of the Company. The Fund is established to receive all gifts of money or property for this purpose and any money received because of such gifts must be credited to its bank account. The Fund must not receive any other money or property into its account and it must comply with subdivision 30-E of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 (Cth);
- to undertake fundraising activities for the purposes of implementing the objectives and strategies of the Company in furtherance, or in aid, of the objects above; and
- to take such other steps which are necessary or preferable to achieve or further the objects above.

To ensure the DEP manages and completes tasks at a project level we have the generous support of our partner organisations with their representatives on a Review and Planning Committee, a Communications Advisory Group and topic specific working groups including the Monitoring Task Force, Stormwater Task Force, Catchment Working Group, Penguin Advisory Group and Tracks and Paths Working Group. These groups typically meet two to four times per year. The commitment to cooperative arrangements to coordinate monitoring and communications activities of the DEP is formalised in a five-year voluntary partnership agreement.

Chairperson's report



Activity at the Derwent Estuary Program has been busy the past financial year. We welcomed three new partners to the Derwent Estuary Program in 2021–22 including the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, EPA Tasmania and NRM South. Our partnerships are

the backbone of our organisation and each offers unique skills and expertise that supports our goals. We are looking forward to building our connections with our new partners, including advancing key research, policy development and on-ground works.

A notable highlight this year was the DEP being awarded Landcare Tasmania's Australian Government for Partnerships award. I am very proud the DEP has been recognised for establishing and maintaining a 22-year partnership with governments, industry, scientists and the community that work together for a common purpose, which is to restore the Derwent Estuary.

Pleasing developments this year include funding from The Ian Potter Foundation for a three-year trial of real-time water quality analysers in the Derwent catchment. The Australian Labor Party committed \$500,000 to projects through their Urban Water and Catchments Fund, which will be available in 2022–23.

The DEP has delivered on its promise of completing several projects funded by the Tasmanian State Government including Derwent foreshore weed priority maps, the upgrade of our Greater Hobart Trails website and the establishment of monitoring methods to measure the impact of ferry wake on Derwent shorelines. The weed maps support councils and other land managers in their decision making. Greater Hobart Trails is a popular resource for both locals and visitors to Hobart and offers access to the beautiful natural areas on our doorstep. I am particularly delighted that this project is an all-Tasmanian creation involving local web designers, use of the Tasmanian state government theLIST maps and content from our council partners in cooperation with the Wellington Park Management Trust and the Parks and Wildlife Service.

There has been some change to the Board and I would like to farewell Sophie Grace and thank her for her expertise and insightful, considered contribution to the DEP's strategic approach. In Sophie's stead, I'd like to welcome

Charles Livesey. Charlie's background in environmental management in the maritime industry is a welcome skill set and he has been instrumental in supporting the DEP to align the Business Plan with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). This year's annual report highlights the work we are doing that supports the SDGs. I would like to thank all the DEP Board members for guiding a vibrant and proactive organisation.

Financially the DEP remains stable which means we can continue to provide our core monitoring and reporting services, and the additional grants are supporting Business Plan initiatives. This year we are including the in-kind contribution of our partners in our financial reporting, to recognise the significant contribution they make to our organisation. The DEP could not exist without this generous support. Thank you again for being part of this unique partnership that is measurably improving the condition of the Derwent Estuary.



Nick Heath

Chair, Derwent Estuary Program

- Real-time water quality analysers. Project supported by The Ian Potter Foundation, Eco Detection, TasWater, EPA Tasmania, Hydro Tasmania.



CEO's report



The Derwent Estuary Program has much to be proud of in 2021-22.

We successfully bid for funding from The Ian Potter Foundation to trial real-time, in-situ water quality analysers.

This three-year project is in full swing with all six analysers installed in the catchment. An important aspect of the project is to work with our catchment stakeholders to understand how best these analysers operate and understanding the data they provide. We intend to summarise the project in 2023 once we have validated the data.

Addressing sediment and erosion control on new developments has been a key focus, as this is critical for protecting waterways from pollution. A collaborative effort produced the Tasmanian Stormwater Policy Guidance and Standards for Development, which provides a statutory framework to support councils set conditions for stormwater management. Many councils have already adopted the framework. This work was possible with support from the Local Government Association of Tasmania, the Tamar Estuary Esk Rivers program, Brighton Council, City of Launceston, City of Hobart and Clarence City Council. I commend the people who committed their time to complete this important contribution to pollution management not only for the Derwent Estuary, but also for Tasmania.

Understanding knowledge gaps in our Business Plan has led to a strong partnership with the Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies, where we are supporting students on projects that address these gaps. This collaboration will lead the next generation to gain the skills they need to contribute to scientific research and science to guide management, which in turn will benefit our community.

We have an important role to share information and inspire the community to understand and care for the estuary. Access to the estuary is important to the community, and this inspired us to coordinate a focal point for track and trail information. The Greater Hobart Trails website, first launched in 2013 was upgraded in 2021-22 with funding from Healthy Tasmania.

The improvements enable locals and visitors to easily search and find over 90 tracks and trails for walking with dogs, prams, wheelchairs, cycling, horse riding or even for a kayak in the Hobart, Glenorchy, Kingborough, Clarence, Derwent Valley, and Brighton municipalities.

Water quality at beaches and bays in 2021-22 had mixed results with two of 22 beach sampling sites now rated as 'Poor', based on five years of data. While this is disappointing, it has been an opportunity to investigate the catchment and repair some of the ageing stormwater and sewer network. Cooperation between councils and TasWater has seen many improvements and we are hopeful that this will lead to improved water quality in the coming swimming season.

Our achievements this year has provided a strong foundation for our future. This includes the integration of Sustainable Development Goals into our reporting and building our capacity to restore seagrass, saltmarsh, rocky reefs and our remaining natural shorelines. Pollution from stormwater continues to be significant so we will focus on education support for sediment and erosion control. This will involve workshops and updated reference materials. In the coming year, we will celebrate industry best practice in pollution management on development sites by sponsoring a Tasmanian Master Builders Association award in collaboration with the Tamar Estuary and Esk Rivers Program.

Finally, I would like to thank our staff for their continued professional and enthusiastic approach to helping us achieve our goals through field work, managing and supporting our working groups, preparing successful grant applications and analysing and sharing information. Thanks also to the Board and Partners for their continued support and commitment in building on our successes and embarking on new projects that will benefit the estuary for years to come.

Ursula Taylor
Chief Executive Officer



- Sediment and erosion control training







Our objectives and activities



Our objectives and activities

The following summarises the activities carried out by the Derwent Estuary Program (DEP) in cooperation with its partner organisations in 2021–22. These objectives and actions also align with our charitable purpose which can be found in the DEP Constitution.

CORE MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE

The DEP provides executive support to the Members Committee and Board. In doing so the DEP prepares annual work plans, administers the finances, supports staff and sub-programs. In 2021-22 we continued implementing the five-year Business Plan and have embarked on new projects that have been generously funded by grants from the State Government of Tasmania.

A review of the Business Risk Register was undertaken by the Board in March 2022 to update and consolidate the categories.

Risks identified for management include:

- Partner Relationships.
- Clarity of roles, purpose and priorities.
- Independence and objectivity – DEP Brand.
- Governance.
- Resources – funding, staff capacity and capability.
- Work, Health and Safety including public safety.
- Technology – cyber security, data management.

Our consideration of risks and ongoing management is of great importance and benefit. In 2021-22 the DEP experienced a cyber security breach in the form of a ransomware attack. Our backup systems were such that we were able to restore all our files. A review of our IT systems has resulted in a changed approach to our file storage with ongoing maintenance and backup support provided by IT consultants. The DEP has also invested in cyber security insurance.

GOALS




- 1 Science to guide management.
- 2 Facilitate pollution reduction.
- 3 Facilitate nature protection.
- 4 Engage, inspire and grow the DEP.



At a Glance

Working to meet DEP Business Plan Objectives and related UN Sustainable Development Goals

OBJECTIVE 1: OPERATE THE DEP SO THAT IT IS LEGALLY COMPLIANT AND FINANCIALLY SOUND

Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
All DEP partners continue to support the DEP through the Partnership Agreement – financially and in-kind.	DEP continues to be funded.	Previous Partnership Agreements.	Partnership Agreement – current to 30 June 2025. 100% compliant with ACNC, ASIC, ATO.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Target 17.17 	The DEP maintains effective government, industry, science and community partnerships – through evidence based, apolitical, transparent communication. DEP has 15 partners across industry, state and local government, research and community that contribute financial and in-kind support to further the objectives of the Company, guided by the principles in the Partnership Agreement.		
Targets: 16.6, 16.7, 16.10 	The DEP ensures that its operations are accountable, effective and transparent. All financial and science program outcomes shared publicly through Annual Reports and Report Cards which are available online www.derwentestuary.org.au/publications .		
Target 13.2 	DEP changed financial institutions to divest from fossil fuel investments.		

1. Science to guide management

Highlights for 2021-22 include coordination and reporting on the recreational water quality program in cooperation with our council partners and the Environment Protection Authority (EPA), ambient monitoring program in cooperation with industry and the EPA, and publication of the annual State of the Derwent 2021 update.

Each year the DEP and its partners monitor:

- Summer recreational water quality each week from December until the end of March.
- Whole of estuary ambient water quality each month including nutrients and heavy metals.
- Heavy metal levels in recreationally targeted seafood.
- Seagrass health and dissolved oxygen levels in the upper estuary.

1.1 Recreational water quality (RWQ)

The DEP summer recreation water quality program commenced 1 December 2021 and concluded on 31 March 2022. The program included 20 'BeachWatch' swimming sites and 22 'BayWatch' environmental sites. Public reporting was provided weekly on the DEP website and Facebook page.

Whilst the water quality at most of our swimming beaches was predominantly good throughout the past monitoring season, this summer did see numerous sampling failures, i.e. when the enterococci results exceeds the trigger level of 140 MPN 100 mL⁻¹ set by the Tasmanian Recreational Water Quality Guidelines 2007. This season saw 49 exceedances, compared with 28 last summer. At the end of this season, five swimming sites were graded as Good, nine sites graded as Fair, two as Poor, with four sites yet to be classified. The sites that dropped in their rating were Bellerive Beach (west), Kingston Beach (mid), New Norfolk (Esplanade) – all changing from Good to Fair; and Kingston Beach (north) changing from Fair to Poor. Currently, the two beach sampling sites with the consistently best water quality in the program are both at Little Sandy Bay.

Water quality at the 22 environmental sites was also poorer compared to the previous season. On 51 occasions enterococci results over 140 MPN 100 mL⁻¹ were recorded, compared to 40 times last season. After updating the long-term ratings at the end of the season there are now ten environmental sites graded as Good, one as Fair, ten as Poor, and one sit not yet classified. One site dropped from Good to Fair (Victoria Dock) and five sites changed

from Fair to Poor (Geilston Bay, Berridale Bay, New Town Bay, Lindisfarne Bay and Watermans Dock). Two sites did improve their grade, from Fair to Good (Elwick Bay, Cameron Bay). After this season, the Mid-river Derwent sampling location continues to be the environmental site with the consistently best water quality, followed by Montagu Bay and Brooke St Pier.

The [2021-22 Recreational Water Quality Monitoring report](#) prepared by the DEP is publicly available on the DEP website.

The DEP will continue to support councils to investigate water quality at beaches and bays.

1.2 Ambient water quality monitoring

The Derwent Estuary Program, Nyrstar Hobart, Norske Skog Boyer and the Environment Protection Authority sample up to 17 water quality indicators from multiple depths at 31 sites throughout the Derwent each month. Data is submitted to the Derwent Estuary Program for quality assurance, storage, analysis, public release on request and reporting. Our program is now one of the longest running (22 years) and most cost-effective waterway monitoring programs in Australia.

There was a reduction in metal levels in the estuary in 2021-22, influenced by the remediation work at the zinc smelter operated by Nyrstar. Nutrients from wastewater treatment plants including Prince of Wales Bay, Blackmans Bay and Cameron Bay decreased due to process optimisation. However, increases in nitrogen in the upper estuary were observed. Investigations to assess the role of river flow, riverine and industry inputs on nutrient concentrations continue.

1.3 Seafood safety monitoring

Seafood species that recreational fishers commonly target in the Derwent Estuary are contaminated with toxic metals derived principally from historical operations at the Hobart zinc smelter site and the Boyer paper mill. Metal concentrations in Derwent Estuary seafood have been assessed periodically since the early 1970s when high concentrations of zinc, cadmium, lead and mercury were detected in oysters from Ralphs Bay. The most comprehensive and continuous seafood monitoring program in the Derwent is carried out by the current and previous owners of the Hobart zinc smelter, with analysis conducted by the Derwent Estuary Program. The sampling program has sampled flathead fish (*Platycephalus bassensis*) since 1984, wild oysters and mussels since 1992 and deployed caged oysters since 2004.



For a full report see [Metal Contamination in Fish and Shellfish of the Derwent Estuary 2020](#) which summarises all metals in fish data up to summer 2019–20. The DEP will update the report with 2020–2021 data (deployed oysters and flathead) and review the metals in fish monitoring programs prior to the next data collection in 2022–23.

Generally, there does not appear to be a difference in metal accumulated by fish collected from mid versus lower-Derwent sites, so health advice applies throughout the Derwent Estuary as far as Tinderbox and the Iron Pot, including Ralphs Bay. Consumption advice for Derwent Estuary seafood provided by the Department of Health remains so that the consumption of shellfish and bream from the Derwent is not recommended but all other species can be consumed with limits. <https://www.derwentestuary.org.au/fishing-and-seafood-safety/>

1.4 Upper estuary monitoring and special studies

Seagrass

Seagrass health is vulnerable to low river discharge and excessive nutrient enrichment. Its condition in the last five years has fluctuated, but it has generally improved since 2015–2016 when large algal blooms smothered this habitat. The DEP is supporting two Institute for Marine

and Antarctic Studies students to better understand the seagrass in the estuary and the conditions it needs to survive and regenerate.

Hypoxia project


The Derwent Estuary, Tasmania, is a saltwedge estuary that naturally causes a hypoxic (oxygen deficiency) zone near New Norfolk. In 2021–22 DEP monitored and analysed this zone in cooperation with key stakeholders to solidify our understanding of hypoxia dynamics so to inform management decisions.

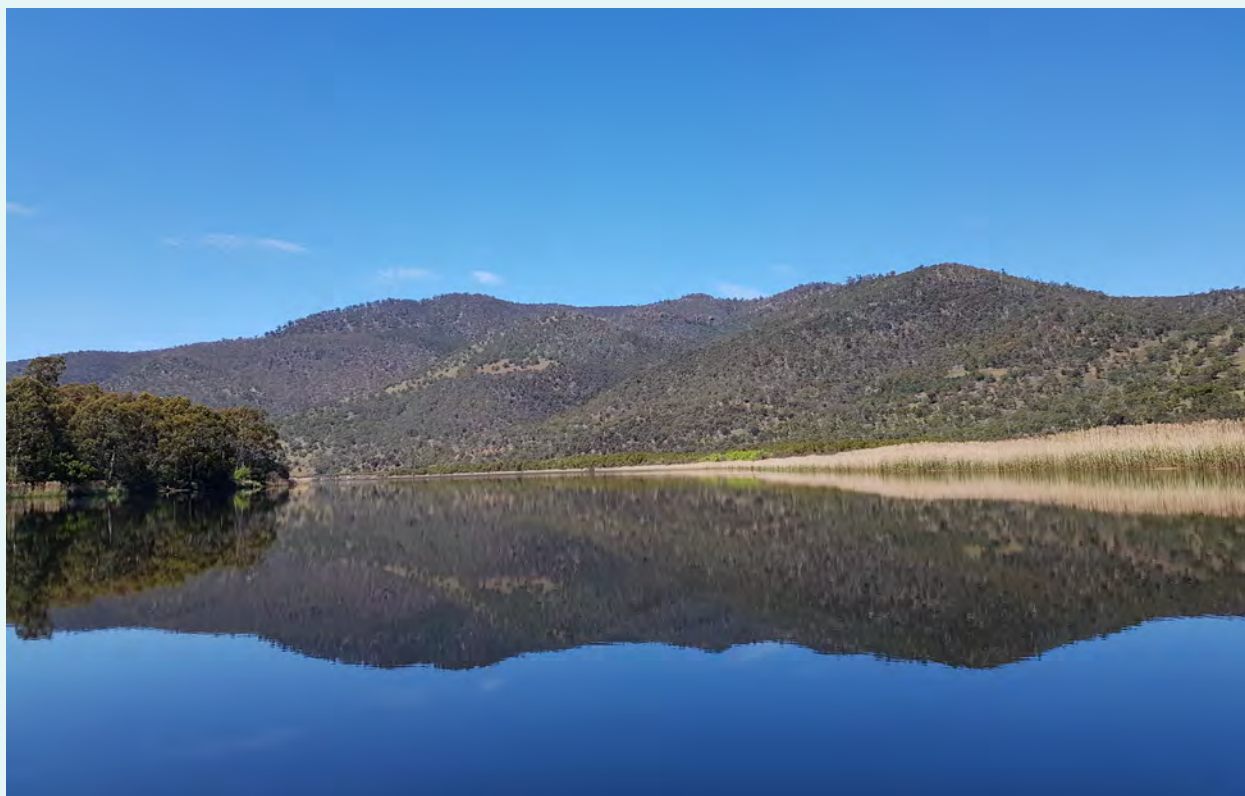
Tasks included:

- Loggers redeployed at the Sorrell Creek and the Motorboat Club sill.
- DEP conducted profile analysis of the upper estuary to monitor hypoxia dynamics during scheduled outages at Tarraleah hydro power station in March 2022.
- DEP continued to explore the relationship between local sources of biological oxygen demand and oxygen depletion in upper estuary sills.



OBJECTIVE 2: CONTINUE AND IMPROVE MONITORING METHODS OF WATER, SEDIMENTS, SEAFOOD AND HABITATS

Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
Monitoring programs reviewed and consensus with partners on DEP monitoring aims, based on asset/threat risk assessment.	Monitoring results used by partners for adaptive management.	If monitoring is modified, it is still comparable to existing long-term data sets.	Monitoring programs reviewed by Monitoring Task Force. Special studies e.g. seagrass, hypoxia included in program. Data analysed and shared with partners annually.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Target 14b 	Investigations/research to increase knowledge of the estuary including effect of pollution on estuarine condition – seagrass monitoring, hypoxia studies, rapid visual assessment of rocky reefs. Continuation of regular monitoring programs – Ambient and Recreational Water Quality.		



- Murphys Flat conservation area in the upper estuary

2. Facilitate pollution reduction

2.1 Sewage

- DEP continued to provide monitoring data to TasWater and EPA.
- Process changes at wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs) in the Derwent showed reduced nutrient output.
- Sediment assessment by IMAS Honours student showed a decline in nutrients from wastewater treatment plants.

2.2 Industry

- Nyrstar completed installing an underground grout curtain along the foreshore to prevent contaminated groundwater reaching the Derwent Estuary. This groundwater will be extracted and reprocessed to extract the zinc. It is expected they will extract an additional 100 tonnes of zinc per annum from this process.
- DEP provided feedback on eight development applications relevant to the Derwent in consultation with council planners particularly on topics relating to stormwater, saltmarshes and wetlands.
- DEP provided scientific assistance to the Bridgewater Bridge project and associated consultants.

2.3 Stormwater and litter

- The DEP facilitated the stormwater in developments working group to create a policy guidance document to bring together stormwater requirements to create a resource for transparent and streamlined stormwater management in Tasmania. The policy guidance document will inform and assist Councils acting as a Planning Authority to regulate development through the Tasmanian Planning Scheme and under the Urban Drainage Act. The Tasmanian Stormwater Policy Guidance and Standards for Development can be used by Council's, developers and consultants as a guidance document for stormwater management in development. It is presented in two separate parts with Part 1 outlining the why of stormwater management and Part 2 the practical section on the how to implement stormwater management.
- Two sediment and erosion control training sessions were held for council operations staff and planners.
- The annual Clean Up Australia Day event involved eight businesses and collected over 25 bags of litter from Prince of Wales Bay. The litter load at this site has noticeably decreased with the installation and maintenance by Glenorchy City Council of a litter trap.

2.4 Catchment

The DEP was successful in its bid for funding to The Ian Potter foundation in 2021-22 to trial six nutrient real-time analysers in the River Derwent. This technology has the potential to transform water monitoring in Tasmania. The six analysers supplied by EcoDetection were installed in 2021 – 22. Data validation and analysis will be undertaken in 2022 – 23. Congratulations also to our Catchment Scientist, Dr Bernadette Proemse for gaining a scholarship to undertake the Peter Cullen Trust Women in Water Leadership Program.


2.5 Storm Bay

There are several research projects underway in Storm Bay to better understand and characterise water quality in this area. The research is centred around three core projects that aim to: strengthen understanding of the spatial extent of aquaculture inputs to Storm Bay and the capacity of the environment to assimilate nutrient loads associated with aquaculture operations; develop a biogeochemical model for Storm Bay; and develop decision support tools for use by regulators and industry to monitor and manage nutrient loads and environmental management.


The broad-scale environmental monitoring program is a collaboration between scientists at CSIRO, Australia's national science agency, the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS), the Natural Resource & Environment Tasmania (NRE) and the Environment Protection Authority (EPA). It is funded by the Fisheries Research and Development Corporation (FRDC) with co-investment from CSIRO and IMAS. The DEP is a member of the Steering Committee and Technical Advisory Group.



OBJECTIVE 3: FACILITATE THE REDUCTION OF NUTRIENTS ENTERING THE ESTUARY FROM POINT AND DIFFUSE SOURCES


Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
Scientific results used by managers so that nutrients from anthropogenic sources are reduced in the estuary.	Industries report a reduction in nutrients to the estuary and monitoring results reflect this reduction.	Long term data reveals a decrease in nutrients in water and key habitats maintain/improve ecosystem function.	Process optimisation at TasWater operated wastewater treatment plants has reduced nutrient outputs to the mid and lower estuary. An increase in nutrients in the upper estuary observed.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Targets 6.3, 6.5, 6b 	Pollution monitoring and management including nutrients, pathogens, metals, litter, emerging contaminants in the estuary is ongoing and having a demonstrable positive effect on water and sediment quality. The Blackmans Bay WWTP that was upgraded in 2019 has reduced dissolved inorganic nitrogen outputs by 80% according to 2020 data.		

OBJECTIVE 4: FACILITATE THE REDUCTION OF HEAVY METAL LEVELS IN THE ESTUARY FROM POINT AND DIFFUSE SOURCES

Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
Scientific results used by managers so that heavy metals in the estuary are reduced.	Industries report a reduction in heavy metals to the estuary and monitoring results reflect this reduction.	Data reveals a decrease in heavy metal in water, sediments and seafood and key habitats maintain/improve ecosystem function.	Ambient data has revealed a decrease in metal levels in water and sediments.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Targets 6.3, 6.5, 6b 	Pollution monitoring and management including nutrients, pathogens, metals, litter, emerging contaminants in the estuary is ongoing and having demonstrable positive effect on water and sediment quality. There has been a 40% improvement in the extraction of zinc from groundwater at the zinc works in 2021 – 22 due to the installation of new groundwater extraction infrastructure.		



OBJECTIVE 5: FACILITATE THE IMPROVEMENT OF WATER QUALITY AT BEACHES AND BAYS


Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
Beaches – good water quality at all sites by 2024. Bays – no poor water quality ratings at bay sites by 2024.	Monitoring during 1 December and 31 March reveals acceptable enterococci levels so that by 2024 beaches record good long-term water quality and bays good or fair water quality.	Five-year 95th hazen percentile results show good water quality at beaches, and good or fair water quality at bays.	In 2021 all beach sites had either a Good or Fair water quality rating. In 2021-22 two sites have a Poor water quality advisory (based on five years of data).
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Targets 6.3, 6.5, 6b 	Pollution monitoring and management of pathogens at beaches and bays in the estuary is ongoing. DEP working with partners to support investigations to repair the stormwater and sewer network that is a source of faecal contamination at popular beaches. Over 60 stormwater network problems were fixed in Clarence and Kingborough in 2021-22.		

3. Facilitate nature protection


- Little Penguins: Monthly monitoring continues, and data supports land managers in their efforts to protect the Derwent's urban population of Little Penguins.
- Spotted handfish: DEP continues to support the National Handfish Recovery Team in their efforts to increase the populations of endangered handfish.
- Restoration of saltmarsh trial at Windermere Bay is proving successful with saltmarsh returning to areas that are no longer mowed.
- Weed control:
 - The DEP continues to provide technical support and some funding to a regional project to manage karamu in the upper estuary.
 - A Derwent Foreshore Weed Strategy was developed in cooperation with relevant stakeholders. This document will inform priority weed management and provide a good basis for funding applications.
 - No rice grass was found in the most recent survey conducted in October 2021.



OBJECTIVE 6: GROW, MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE FUNCTION OF HIGH PRIORITY HABITATS

Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
The Conservation Action Plan is updated and implemented.	Management of priority habitats undertaken by land managers.	The Conservation Action Plan first developed in 2011 is updated and informs management of priority habitats.	Saltmarsh condition assessed and management recommendations are being implemented.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Targets 15.5, 15.8, 15.9 	Monitor condition of saltmarsh and foreshore habitats. Recommend and implement management. Integrate natural values into planning and development. Reduce invasive species e.g. the weeds rice grass and Karamu.		

OBJECTIVE 7: FACILITATE AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBERS OF ICONIC SPECIES

Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
All native species of plants and animals have viable populations in the Derwent.	Actions of stakeholders involved in the National Handfish Recovery Team and the Penguin Advisory Group increase population of these species through habitat improvement. Native oysters survive and form reefs.	Endangered and vulnerable species populations increase including the spotted handfish, Little Penguins and native oysters.	DEP continues to coordinate Little Penguin monitoring and support the National Handfish Recovery Team to find research and management funding. DEP supports native oyster reef establishment and saltmarsh restoration.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Target 17.17 	Maintain effective government, industry, science and community partnership to advance species management e.g. Little Penguins and the spotted handfish. Support partners in restoration projects e.g. native oyster reefs, saltmarsh rehabilitation.		



4. Communications and engagement

Awards:

- Winner of the Tasmanian Landcare, Australian Government for Partnerships Award.
- Catchment Scientist, Dr Bernadette Proemse awarded scholarship to undertake the Peter Cullen Trust Women in Water Leadership Program.

Media:

- End of season recreational water quality report – 28 June 2020. In cooperation with Kingborough Council and TasWater. ABC radio, Southern Cross and WIN TV, The Mercury newspaper.
- Water quality analyser project update – May 2022. ABC radio.
- State of the Derwent Report 2021 – 31 March 2022. Southern Cross TV, ABC breakfast radio, social media.
- Clean Up Australia Day – 8 March 2022. Glenorchy Gazette, Southern Cross and ABC TV, The Hobart Magazine.
- Brighton Council saltmarsh sign unveiling – 19 February 2022 – The Mercury.
- Saltmarsh feature in Glenorchy and Brighton – ABC TV news and online – 30 Dec 2021.
- In-situ water quality analyser trial funded – 18 October 2021. ABC radio, The Hobart Magazine.
- Release of Beach Watch report at Howrah beach in cooperation with CCC and TasWater June 2022. Good coverage on TV, radio and newspaper.
- Beaker Street festival – interview with Leon Compton on ABC to promote Derwent science – August 2021.
- UTAS/IMAS partnership established – 27 August 2021.

Websites:

- Greater Hobart Trails website upgrade completed and was launched 9 June 2022.

Improved search filters have simplified looking for places great for families with prams, people who use wheelchairs, bikers, dogs, riders, or people who want to get on the water for a paddle. There's also a sliding scale, making it easier to look for tracks by difficulty and distance. The search fields include tracks close to parking and public transport, and you can still search by region. www.greaterhobarttrails.com.au

- DEP website – natural phenomena page (e.g seafoam, algal blooms) added and featured on DEP social media to answer some frequently asked questions. www.derwentestuary.org.au/natural-phenomena

Facebook

- Sharing of DEP science and reporting was boosted through social media in 2021-22 with a 1000% increase in Page reach across the year.

Publications

- DEP Newsletter: May 2022.
- State of the Derwent Report Card 2021 – released March 2022.
- Annual Report for 2020-21.
- Seafood safety report.
- Annual Technical Report (internal).

www.derwentestuary.org.au/publications

Conferences/ events – including DEP presentations:



- Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Water Association conference August 2021: Water quality analyser project.
- Beaker Street science festival presentation.

Briefings:

Briefings about the Derwent Estuary Program were provided to managers of the following organisations in 2021-22:

- George Theo, new CEO of TasWater – June 2022.
- Senator Carol Brown – Australian Labor Party – May 2022.
- EPA Board – March 2022.
- Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania – February 2022.

OBJECTIVE 8: INCREASE AWARENESS OF DEP AND ITS PROGRAMS

Measures of Success	Performance Indicator	Basis for comparison	Status 2021-22
50% increase in community recognition of DEP.	The Derwent Estuary Program messages are regularly disseminated to partners and the public (many methods).	Results from 5 yearly community surveys show increase in awareness of DEP and our key messages compared with 2013 survey.	Community survey in 2019 revealed that awareness of the DEP in Greater Hobart (six municipalities) was 23% which was similar to the result in 2013. In 2007 awareness of the DEP was 16%. 1000% increase in the DEP Facebook Page reach in 2021-22.
DEP contribution to SDGs			
Targets 17.7  17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	The voluntary DEP partnership has been in existence since 1999 highlighting the services we provide are valued by our partners and the community. Our funding partners increased from 12 to 15 in 2021 – 22.		
 16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	DEP publicly shares science to promote inclusive societies for sustainable development e.g. Annual State of the Derwent Report Cards, Beach Watch, Greater Hobart Trails website, technical publications and newsletters.		



- Top: Secondary treatment plant at Norske Skog Boyer
- Bottom: Saltmarsh recovers at Windermere Bay

How you can help

VOLUNTEERING

There are big and small things we can all do to make a difference to the Derwent and the places we live. It could be as simple as cleaning up after your dog or collecting litter from your local beach. For those looking for something more there are many opportunities to connect with the community through Coastcare or Landcare. Every little bit counts and lots of little actions add up to a healthier river.

Here are some volunteering suggestions:

- Conservation Volunteers Australia.
 - Wildcare Friends of the Derwent and Channel Penguins.
 - Coastcare – Southern Tasmania.
 - Clean Up Australia Day.
 - Your local council – Bushcare or nature based community program.
-
- Derwent and kunyanyi views from Sandy Bay (photo: Peter Mathew)

MAKE A DONATION

Tax deductible financial contributions can be made via our Donate Now facility on the DEP Home Page.

Donations received will help us with our science and restoration including restoration of Little Penguin and spotted handfish habitat, restoration of saltmarsh, wetlands, and rocky reefs, monitoring of heavy metals in water and seafood, monitoring of bacteria levels at beaches, to name a few of our initiatives to improve this wonderful waterway.

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR NEWSLETTER

www.derwentestuary.org.au/get-involved





Looking to the future

For 2021–22 – Implement the Business Plan 2019 – 2024, monitor the estuary, identify gaps, deliver externally funded projects, seek funding for Business Plan priorities and communicate with partners and the public.

GOVERNANCE

- Board and Members meetings.
- Financial audit.
- Compliance with ASIC, ACNC, ATO.
- Participate in and build on relevant state, regional, national and international initiatives.

SCIENCE TO GUIDE MANAGEMENT

- Review Beach Watch season and implement recommendations.
- Work with councils and state government to adopt voluntary stormwater policy.
- Continue project to monitor using real-time in-situ nutrient analysers in the catchment.
- Support University of Tasmania students researching the Derwent.
- Host scientific forums with partners to share and discuss challenges e.g. data management, monitoring methods.

FACILITATE POLLUTION REDUCTION

- Devise rivulet monitoring program in cooperation with councils.
- Implement stormwater communications campaign.
- Litter awareness and clean-ups.
- Share science with partners to enable them to make informed decisions to reduce pollution.

FACILITATE NATURE PROTECTION

- Maintain species working groups – Little Penguins and spotted handfish.
- Little Penguin monitoring.
- Expand the rice grass survey to include other foreshore values.
- Saltmarsh condition management.
- Seagrass restoration projects.
- Determine sites to measure foreshore erosion in the estuary.
- Participate in oyster reef restoration project.

ENGAGE, INSPIRE, GROW THE DEP

- Host public event during National Science Week – Meet the Scientists of the DEP.
- Host science and management symposium in 2023.
- Regular Roadshows – partners, politicians.
- Prepare internal Annual Technical Report and external Annual State of the Derwent Report Card.
- Add DEP data to digital visualisation platforms.
- Share our science with the public via a variety of media channels.
- Maintain regular presence on social media.



- Accessing science on the DEP Facebook site





Our finances

Audit closing letter



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Pty Ltd**

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5 September 2022

Derwent Estuary Program Limited
Level 4, 24 Davey Street
Hobart
TAS 7000

Dear Directors

Audit Closing Letter

We have completed our audit of the financial statements of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2022 and bring the attached matters to your attention.

You will appreciate the matters dealt with in this letter were noted during the conduct of audit procedures designed to enable us to express an opinion on the financial statements. Consequently, our work does not encompass a detailed review of all aspects of accounting systems and procedures and cannot necessarily be relied upon to disclose defalcations or other irregularities or to include all possible improvements to internal control, which a more extensive, special examination might develop. It includes a discussion of matters which we consider appropriate for consideration by the Directors and is intended solely for the use of the Directors.

This report is aimed at communicating to the Board significant matters identified during the course of our audit. The report aims to provide:

- An understanding of the audit process; and
- Information to assist the Directors in discharging their duties.

We would like to thank your management team for their courtesy, professionalism and co-operation in completing our audit procedures.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries in respect of the above report.

Yours sincerely

Mike Derbyshire
Director



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- Advisors
- Accountants
- Auditors



**DERWENT ESTUARY PROGRAM
LTD**

REPORT OF AUDIT FINDINGS

30 JUNE 2022





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

We have conducted our audit of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

To assist the Directors in understanding our role as external auditor, our audit responsibilities and the scope of the work to be performed to meet those responsibilities was detailed in our engagement letter.

As part of our audit process, we aim to advise our clients of any areas in which we believe further improvements could be made, where such possible improvements come to our attention in the ordinary course of our audit testing.

Our audit methodology is determined with a view to achieving the most efficient and cost-effective outcome to reduce audit risk and formulate an opinion on the financial statements. For Derwent Estuary Program this comprises a substantive approach involving sample testing and extensive analytical review.

We do not express an opinion on the adequacy of the internal control structure, as this is beyond the scope of an audit of the financial report. We mention this to make you aware that weakness in internal controls may exist, which were not uncovered by our audit of the financial report. Should you wish us to extend our testing to enable us to report on the adequacy of, and provide recommendations for the improvement of, internal controls, please feel free to contact us.

INDEPENDENCE

The independence of the auditor is considered by the audit profession and the regulators as one of the most important professional standards that auditors must comply with. Our audit services are subject to independence requirements of the following legislation and professional standards:

- Corporations Act 2001
- APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants
- APES 320 Quality Control for Firms
- Bentleys National Policy on Independence

We enforce these rules and policies in order to maintain objectivity and to be free of conflicts of interest when conducting our audit each year.

For the benefit of the Board we confirm that other services that we have provided during the year do not compromise our independence.



How we have maintained independence?

Bentleys Tasmania Audit ensures its independence by:

- Conducting regular training on threats to audit independence;
- Annual reviews of our audit client base to identify any potential conflicts of independence;
- Obtain confirmation from all of our audit staff as to their independence from our audit clients;
- Obtain confirmation from all of the partners as to their independence from our audit clients.

Our independence

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, we are independent having regard to Bentleys policies, professional rules and relevant statutory requirements regarding our independence.

OVERVIEW OF PERFORMANCE

Accounting Administration

We would like to acknowledge the co-operation and competence of the management staff of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd. Our experience as auditors over the last two years is that minimal accounting adjustments are required each year and any audit issues can be dealt with and resolved without having to raise any audit differences.

On this basis, while we have not performed any detailed testing of internal controls, our general assessment is that the internal control environment is efficient and effective. Board oversight compensates for any unavoidable weaknesses resulting from inadequate segregation of duties and we have not encountered any area where there is a material risk.

MATERIALITY

It is normal practice for auditors to determine a materiality threshold for the audit of a Company. This threshold is determined based on a number of quantitative and qualitative factors.

By their very definition, any items identified during our audit under this materiality threshold are not normally considered and accordingly not communicated to the Directors.

However, it is our policy to discuss any such items with management and resolve differences before completing our audit. Consequently there are no material unadjusted differences resulting from our audit for 2022.



ADJUSTED AMOUNTS

No material adjustments were required to be recorded and processed by management, when finalising the financial statements, as a result of our audit findings.

UNADJUSTED AMOUNTS

Our auditing standards require us to bring to the attention of the Directors, omissions in the reported accounts determined during the audit, even though they had been assessed as immaterial to the Company or later adjusted by the Company.

There were no unadjusted differences in respect of the year ended 30 June 2022.

EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING DATE

As part of our audit, we did not note any events after the reporting date that would appear to impact on the 2022 financial statements.

AUDIT OPINION

Following the adoption of the financial statements by the Directors we will issue an unqualified audit opinion.

MATTERS FOR THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

Fraud

Whilst fraud is not the primary consideration when conducting an external audit, we always consider potential areas where the company is susceptible to fraud during our audit. We do not have any reason to believe that there is currently a material risk of company and financial reporting fraud, or individual employee fraud.

We believe it is important for the Board to continually consider and assess the control environment of the entity to identify areas where fraud can occur and ensure that those opportunities are removed and or monitored to reduce the risk and impact of fraud. If you should require our assistance in this regard, please contact us.

Legal compliance

Through our audit procedures have not become aware of any non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

*Financial reporting and accounting policies*

We believe the accounting policies elected for Derwent Estuary Program Ltd are reasonable and their application provides sufficient information for use of the decision makers, and have been consistently applied throughout the reporting period.

Going Concern

As part of our assessment we considered the appropriateness of the going concern assumption concluded by the directors and management. Our procedures indicate that this assumption is fair and that the going concern convention is appropriate.

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**Current Year:**

There are no matters arising from the 2022 audit that we wish to bring to the attention of the Board.

5 September 2022

Representation letter

5 September 2022

Mr M.I.Derbyshire
Bentleys Tasmania Audit Pty Ltd
39 Sandy Bay Road
Hobart TAS 7000

Dear Mike

This representation letter is provided in connection with your audit of the financial report of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd for the year ended 30 June 2022 for the purpose of expressing an opinion as to whether the financial report is presented fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012.

We acknowledge our responsibility for ensuring that the financial report is in accordance with Accounting Standards and relevant statutory and other requirements and confirm that the financial report is free of material misstatements, including omissions.

We confirm that, to the best of our knowledge and belief, having made such enquiries as we considered necessary for the purpose of appropriately informing ourselves:

Financial Report

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities, as set out in the terms of the audit engagement dated 22 June 2022 for the preparation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012.
2. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
3. Related party relationships and transactions have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in accordance with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.
4. All events subsequent to the date of the financial report and for which Australian Accounting Standards require adjustment or disclosure have been adjusted or disclosed.
5. The effects of uncorrected misstatements are immaterial, both individually and in the aggregate, to the financial report as a whole.

Information Provided

1. We have provided you with:
 - Access to all information of which we are aware that is relevant to the preparation of the financial report such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - Additional information that you have requested from us for the purpose of the audit; and

- Unrestricted access to persons within the entity from whom you determined it necessary to obtain audit evidence.
2. All transactions have been recorded in the accounting records and are reflected in the financial report.
 3. We have disclosed to you the results of our assessment of the risk that the financial report may be materially misstated as a result of fraud.
 4. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to fraud or suspected fraud that we are aware of and that affects the entity and involves:
 - Management;
 - Employees who have significant roles in internal control; or
 - Others where the fraud could have a material effect on the financial report.
 5. We have disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud, or suspected fraud, affecting the entity's financial report communicated by employees, former employees, analysts, regulators or others.
 6. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial report.
 7. We have disclosed to you the identity of the entity's related parties and all the related party relationships and transactions of which we are aware.
 8. We have provided you with all requested information, explanations and assistance for the purposes of the audit.

Yours faithfully,



Director

5 September 2022

Profit and loss

for the year ended 30 June 2022

	2022 \$	2021 \$	2020 \$
TRADING INCOME			
Grants	336,800.00	191,409.00	151,449.00
Interest Income	1,717.25	1,358.24	4,088.97
Member Contribution	418,228.00	339,085.00	455,188.00
Other Revenue	700.00	22.73	433.81
Training Income	18,999.18	-	-
Total Trading Income	776,444.43	531,874.97	611,159.78
Gross Profit	776,444.43	531,874.97	611,159.78
OTHER DEP INCOME			
Cash Flow Boost (ATO)	-	57,216.00	42,020.00
In-Kind Contributions – IPF Grant	18,000.00	-	-
In-Kind Contributions – Partners	381,360.00	-	-
Donations Received	5,950.00	4.00	-
Total Other Income	405,310.00	57,220.00	42,020.00
OPERATING EXPENSES			
Advertising	-	-	136.36
Annual Leave Provision	(5,083.30)	(1,570.69)	26,372.36
Bank Fees	42.64	0.43	74.62
Computer Support	6,141.00	2,225.00	1,570.00
Consulting and Accounting	95,024.00	24,189.42	81,271.88
Contribution to Channel Project	-	-	10,000.00
Depreciation	17,358.90	-	10,-.00
Equipment Purchases under \$10,000	4,901.00	2,933.27	4,768.38
Field Expenses	5,598.65	232.70	894.60
Freight & Courier	-	60.00	83.00
Grant IPF Expenses	22,059.39	-	-
In-Kind Contributions – Consulting Support	18,000.00	-	-
In-Kind Contributions – Partner Support	381,360.00	-	-
Insurance	9,634.04	5,946.99	5,513.59
Legal expenses	970.00	518.00	1,981.00
Long Service Leave Provision	8,971.16	20,181.48	8,509.64
Meeting Costs	1,725.13	509.61	851.18
Motor Vehicle Expenses	606.67	1,143.50	2,054.83
Office Expenses	936.60	2,464.71	1,279.55
Printing, Graphics and Website	11,840.36	16,615.05	20,464.67
Professional Development/Training	2,836.32	1,505.00	2,912.99
Protective workwear	309.09	-	657.36
Rent	20,600.01	20,600.04	20,600.04
Repairs and Maintenance	-	10.00	50.00
Subscriptions/Registrations	15,286.28	11,836.08	11,071.73
Superannuation	39,908.90	37,187.57	40,172.48
Sponsorships	1,020.45	-	-
Telephone and Internet	4,249.71	4,376.90	6,300.21
Travel – National	2,573.23	1,391.44	813.12
Wages and Salaries	399,727.95	373,485.12	401,724.59
Total Operating Expenses	1,066,598.18	525,841.62	650,128.18
NET INCOME (DEP OPERATIONS)	115,156.25	63,253.35	3,051.60
Other Non-Operating Income			
Equipment Donation – IPF Grant	190,000.00	-	-
COMPREHENSIVE NET INCOME FOR THE YEAR	305,156.25	63,253.35	3,051.60

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Balance sheet

as at 30 June 2022

	30 June 2022	30 June 2021	30 June 2020
	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS			
Bank			
DEP – Public Management Fund CBA	-	4.57	1.00
DEP Ltd Operations – CBA	-	241,080.28	103,211.24
Derwent Estuary Program Ltd CBA	-	220,990.78	226,207.12
DEP Public Management Fund (MyState)	96.14	-	-
DEP Primary Acct (MyState)	210,870.05	-	-
DEP Operations Acct (MyState)	5,018.93	-	-
Total Bank	215,985.12	462,075.63	329,419.36
Current Assets			
Accounts Receivable	-	-	59,163.50
Term Deposit	450,000.00	210,942.60	209,584.36
TFN Withholding Tax	-	-	-
Total Current Assets	450,000.00	210,942.60	268,747.86
Non-Current Assets			
Field equipment – IPF Project	330,000.00	-	-
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(17,358.90)	-	-
Total Non-Current Assets	312,641.10	-	-
Total Assets	978,626.22	673,018.23	598,167.22
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	1,358.64	24,801.67	26,372.36
Annual Leave liability	19,718.37	24,801.67	26,372.36
GST	(3,238.45)	3,763.36	6,388.50
PAYG Withholdings Payable	7,320.00	6,468.00	7,598.00
Rounding	(0.60)	(0.30)	-
Superannuation Payable	11,695.86	10,340.51	13,598.20
Total Current Liabilities	36,853.82	67,291.84	53,957.06
Non-Current Liabilities			
Long Service Leave liability	37,662.28	6,772.52	8,509.64
Total Non-Current Liabilities	37,662.28	6,772.52	8,509.64
Total Liabilities	74,516.10	74,064.36	62,466.70
NET ASSETS	904,110.12	598,953.87	535,700.52
EQUITY			
Current Year Earnings	305,156.25	63,253.35	3,051.60
Retained Earnings	598,953.87	535,700.52	532,648.92
Total Equity	904,110.12	598,953.87	535,700.52

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



Movements in equity for the year ended June 2022

	2022	2021	2020
	\$	\$	\$
EQUITY			
Opening Balance	598,953.87	535,700.52	532,648.92
Current Year Earnings	305,156.25	63,253.35	3,051.60
Total Equity	904,110.12	598,953.87	535,700.52

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows for the year ended June 2022

	2022	2021	2020
	\$	\$	\$
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers	823,269.11	628,945.24	619,515.08
Payments to suppliers and employees	(1,058,712.27)	(513,962.35)	(666,417.91)
Cash receipts from other operating activities	561,286.30	24,990.30	15,245.21
Net Cash Flows from Operating Activities	325,843.14	139,973.19	(31,657.62)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payment for property, plant and equipment	(330,000.00)	0.00	0.00
Other cash items from investing activities	210,942.60	(1,358.24)	(3,118.77)
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities	(119,057.40)	(1,358.24)	(3,118.77)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Other cash items from financing activities	(2,876.25)	(5,958.68)	20,302.68
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(2,876.25)	(5,958.68)	20,302.68
NET CASH FLOWS	203,909.49	132,656.27	(14,473.71)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS			
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	462,075.63	329,419.36	343,893.07
Net change in cash for period	203,909.49	132,656.27	(14,473.71)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	665,985.12	462,075.63	329,419.36

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended June 2022

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared on the basis that the company is a nonreporting entity because there are no users dependent on general purpose financial statements. These financial statements are therefore special purpose financial statements that have been prepared in order to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012. The company is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the mandatory Australian Accounting Standards applicable to entities reporting under the *Australian Charities and Notfor-profits Commission Act 2012* and the significant accounting policies disclosed below, which the board has determined are appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with those of previous periods unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs unless otherwise stated in the notes. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

Significant Accounting Policies:

a) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

b) In-Kind Support

In September 2021, DEP was successfully awarded a significant 3 year funding grant from The Ian Potter Foundation. The grant includes cash and in-kind contributions. In-kind contributions received were primarily equipment donations of water quality analyser units from Eco Detection. These assets are recorded in the Balance Sheet. Eco Detection are also providing remote support which is recorded in the Profit and Loss statement.

As part of our Annual Workplan each year, we estimate a value of in-kind support provided by our partners. This year, we have incorporated this in-kind value into our Profit and Loss statement. This has been done to provide a clearer, more transparent representation of the value of the DEP, both in cash contributions received and in-kind support.



Board statement

for the year ended June 2022

The board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board, the attached financial report:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd as at 30 June 2022 and its performance for the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022;
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Derwent Estuary Program Ltd will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

DIRECTOR

COMPANY SECRETARY

Dated at Hobart this 16th day of September 2022



Auditor's Independence Declaration



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AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO DERWENT ESTUARY PROGRAM LTD

A.B.N. 14 618 265 571

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2022 there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Australian Charities And Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

Bentleys Tasmania Audit Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company

Hobart

Michael Ian Derbyshire
Director

Date: 21 September 2022



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- ▶ Advisors
- ▶ Accountants
- ▶ Auditors

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**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS
OF DERWENT ESTUARY PROGRAM LTD
ABN: 14 618 265 571*****Opinion***

We have audited the special purpose financial report of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd (the Company), which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2022, the profit and loss statement, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows, notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the statement by the members of the Board.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Derwent Estuary Program Ltd has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the registered Company's financial position as at 30 June 2022, and of its financial performance for the year ended on that date; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 1, and Division 60 the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The special purpose financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the responsible entities' financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.



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-  Advisors
-  Accountants
-  Auditors

***Responsibility of the Board for the Financial Report***

The Board of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the ACNC Act and the needs of the members. The Board's responsibility also includes such internal control as the Board determines is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the registered Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board.



- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bentley's Tasmania Audit".

Bentleys Tasmania Audit Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company

Hobart

21 September 2022

A handwritten signature in black ink that appears to read "Michael Ian Derbyshire".

Michael Ian Derbyshire
Director





Derwent Estuary Program

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