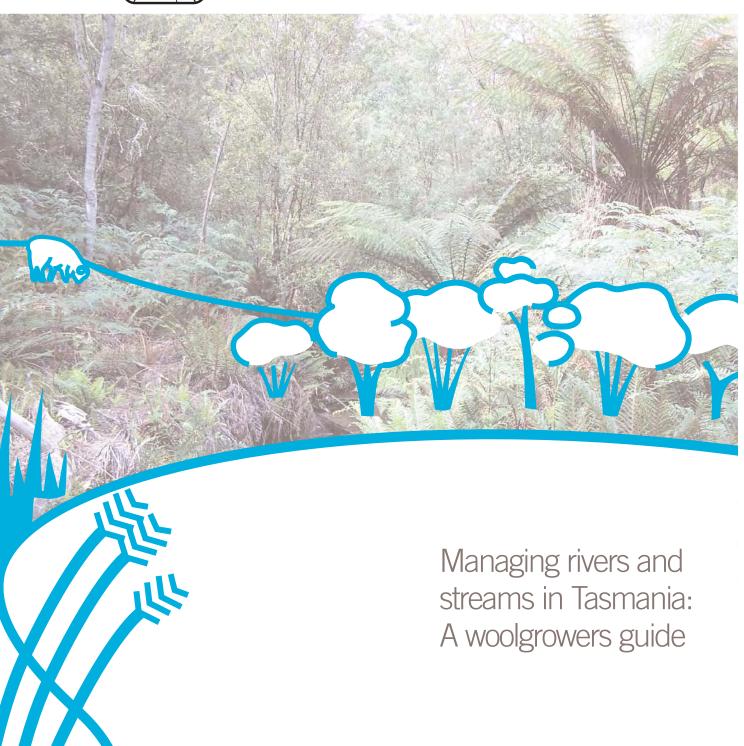




rivers and water quality



#### RIVERS AND WATER QUALITY















Managing rivers and streams in Tasmania: A woolgrowers guide

Published by: Land & Water Australia

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Land, Water & Wool is a research partnership between Australian Wool Innovation Limited and Land & Water Australia.

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Citation: Lovett, S. & Price, P. (eds) 2007, Managing rivers and streams in Tasmania: A woolgrowers guide, Land & Water Australia.

Print ISBN: 1 921253 49 5 Electronic ISBN: 1 921253 50 9 Product code: PX071295

Photographs: Front cover, Robyn Watts. Back cover, left to right and shears copyright Laura Eves.

Design and production: Angel Ink Printed by: Paragon Printers

June 2007

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## Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge all of those involved in the Land, Water & Wool – Rivers project and the publication of this Guide. These include the landowners who opened their properties to the project team; Henry and Simon Foster, Lindsay and Rae Young, Alan and John Cameron, Julian von Bibra, Bill Webster and Bob Graham and Helen Gee. Valerie Le Maitre provided a house to rent for project staff and participated in the landowner interviews and various project forums. Other landowners who also provided their time to be interviewed were Sue Rapley, Sam Riggle, Emma Haswell and Ricky Watson.

Steve Leonard, Bonnie Wintle and Leanne Sherriff, Sarah Joyce and Bronwyn Tilyard contributed to fieldwork and other aspects of the project and the results of that work is reflected in different sections of this Guide.

Eric Hutchinson from Roberts Ltd and Andrew Johnson, Executive Officer for Tasmanian Quality Wool contributed to both of the Tasmanian Land, Water & Wool projects, participating in various forums and field days, and in sharing their extensive knowledge of the Tasmanian wool industry. The Department of Primary Industries and Water (DPIW) provided the resources to deliver the project. The historical survey maps were provided by the Department's Information and Land Services Division with the help of Robert Higgins and Peter Devine.

Australian Wool Innovation provided the funding for the project that was delivered by Land & Water Australia through the national Land, Water & Wool program.

Rae Young, Amy Jansen, Siwan Lovett, Phil Price and Jo Dean were responsible for delivering different aspects of the project in Tasmania and in compiling this Guide for woolgrowers. Portions of the text in the Proof section are based on unpublished work by Sharon Cunial (DPIW).

Special thanks to Rae Young (nee Glazik) who worked on this project for three years before succumbing to the lure of wool growing and marrying Lindsay Young.

Michael Askey-Doran and Biz Nicolson



Photo Laura Eves

#### by Biz Nicolson and Siwan Lovett

## Introduction

Australian Wool Innovation and Land & Water Australia have developed a unique sub-program combining the skills of researchers and the knowledge of woolgrowers to develop ways to measure and remind us that every stream is special, distinctive and worth appreciating. This sub-program is called Land, Water & Wool – Rivers & Water Quality.

Whilst the focus of projects of this kind is generally on practical outcomes such as the kilometres of fencing completed, amount of trees planted or the success of revegetation treatments, the people working on the Land, Water & Wool program believe that the real success of any natural resource project is when the mind or hearts of the farmers involved have been changed, and they have a long-term commitment to their project outcomes.

A key element of this program is the recognition that landowners have a rich knowledge of their landscape and that it expresses itself as a "knowing" which has more to do with sight, sound, touch and feeling of the place. The "knowing" and the science are talking about the same issues; but separated by a different language — a bridge we need to cross together.

Through the Land, Water & Wool – Rivers & Water Quality sub-program, scientists and woolgrowers have worked together to look at ways rivers and riparian areas can be managed within the farming system to meet a range of different objectives. What became clear during this work was that river and riparian areas are far more than a source of drinking water for stock, and that woolgrowers have many reasons for wanting to care for these parts of the farm.

In recognition of this, the Five Ps of People, Place, Profit, Proof, and Promise were used to highlight the many different ways rivers and riparian areas are thought about, valued and managed by woolgrowers. The Five Ps are:

- People investing in people and communities is important so that their experience is recognised and valued, and people can share ideas, stories and knowledge.
- Place we need to appreciate that the land where experimental or demonstration sites are located is also someone's farm and home and therefore special to them and to their identity. These 'places' are also important because they have environmental and social values for the wider community.
- Profit the outcomes from the research into river and riparian management needs to consider economic implications of management decisions as well as the environmental implications. Landowners have a greater capacity to implement change if it contributes to the overall profitability of the farm business. Profit is also used to express the environmental and social gains that can be made from improving river and riparian management.
- Proof excellent science is needed with credible researchers investigating how river and riparian areas will respond to different management approaches. Woolgrowers need good science to have confidence to act.
- Promise a promise to give something back to wool growing communities we work with so that they can benefit from the research and implement the recommended management approaches that are developed.





This Guide summarises the work of the Rivers & Water Quality sub-program in Tasmania and is divided into sections based on the Five Ps.

The first of these is 'People', and Jo Dean introduces the work she has done in compiling a number of stories from woolgrowers around Tasmania. The woolgrowers in these stories reflect the very essence of their social and biophysical landscape with lightness and honesty, reminding us that wool growing is not just a business, it's also an emotional

connection with the landscape. The full collection of stories entitled 'Reflections of Tasmanian woolgrowers', is on the CD-ROM in the sleeve at the back of this publication.

In section two, Cynthia Dunbabin, a woolgrower from the Tasman Peninsula and Ross, writes about the importance of 'sense of Place', and reminds us that it is fundamental to a person's identity and, as such, must be respected and cared for when working together to 'improve' river management on farms.

Sections three and four focus on the practical realities of managing rivers and waterways within the context of a commercial wool growing farm. We look at the 'Profit' that can be gained, in so many ways, from managing rivers to achieve multiple objectives. The section on 'Proof' explains how river systems work and provides a range of recommended management practices to get the most out of the waterways on your farm. These two sections have been prepared by Amy Jansen and Michael Askey-Doran from the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water.

This Guide delivers on the promise we made at the outset of this project which was to listen to woolgrowers, work with them to develop joint solutions, and leave them with the skills and resources to enable them to continue working for improved river and riparian management. We hope that you will dip in and out of the sections and find something inspirational, useful and relevant to assist you to manage rivers, streams and creeks on your farm.

**P**eople



**P**lace



**P**rofit



**P**roof



**P**romise



Small photos from left: Laura Eves, Jean Bentley, Laura Eves, Michael Askey-Doran collection, Roger Charlton.

## People Valuing woolgrower experiences

by Jo Dean and Biz Nicolson



**people** (pe'pl) *n*. 1. Persons composing community, tribe; persons belonging to a place; commonality. 2. Stories, history, shared memories of family, group.

3. Pride; empathy; knowledge; community; sense of belonging. 4. memories of rivers; shared or individual; rivers of memories.

"I think most people love their own home. They love home. It's my job, it's where my husband and I have a happy time. It is where grandchildren come and play and people visit and I think it is the same for 99.9% of all people, it's home. It also happens to be a business and it is a happy marriage between the two. It's all the people that are in it which makes it work. It's the whole thing."

VALERIE LE MAITRE

People and their connection to their land, family and community are a most precious 'natural resource'. This often goes unrecognised in our attempts to improve water quality, save remnant vegetation or protect a rare bird. Through our work with woolgrowers it became clear that people and their relationships with each other are fundamentally important to achieving healthier rivers and streams. Woolgrowers in Tasmania have a wealth of experience about their land and livelihoods and we have combined this knowledge gained through experience with science, to develop this Guide. In so doing, we talked to woolgrowers and recorded their stories, giving us an insight into their lives, their loves and motivation to do the things they do to protect, maintain and restore the environments they live in. The full transcripts of these stories are in the 'Reflections of Tasmanian woolgrowers' CD in the sleeve at the back of this Guide. The following section introduces these fascinating discussions.

Royal George Landcare Group. Photos Laura Eves.



### Great people working in great places – reflections of Tasmanian woolgrowers

On the CD are stories told by 23 woolgrowers in Tasmania. They have been selected as a broad representation of people involved in wool growing and caring for the land and rivers in their regions. Interviews were conducted at kitchen tables, alongside rivers, on top of hills, in bush, on verandahs, in gardens, shearing sheds, offices, front of utes and nestled close to shelter belts. The purpose of the discussions was to capture a glimpse of the underbelly of wool growing, to allow people the space to talk about the things they are passionate about. Sometimes we are frightened of passion because it can express itself as anger or pain. Other times it can show itself as love for something beyond our understanding. Either way, there is an energy associated with these feelings which influences what people do and where they direct their efforts on a daily basis. Some people call it motivation, or the driving force of action — what gets people out of bed each day to do what they do.

The Land, Water & Wool Steering Committee, consisting of woolgrowers from around Australia, defined the project as "The Five P Project", with the Ps being — People and their sense of Place, Proof, Profit and Promise. Proof was explored along the lines of what indicators people use to determine the effectiveness of a particular management technique; be it land, water or animal management. The definition of Profit was encouraged to include the unmeasurable; the sorts of things that enrich people on a personal or 'feel good' level as well as financial. Promise revealed how people felt about the future of wool growing and management of riparian areas. Together, the Five Ps formed the guiding framework for questioning, with the underlying P of Passion being the binding thread.

The project was first explained to me as an historical exploration of rivers in the landscape and recognising the important role they play in the livelihood of woolgrowers. Knowing that everybody has a story to tell, it is interesting to hear the way in which rivers connect people through the landscape and how a river can become the focus for bringing people together. The stories on the CD are a reflection of various woolgrowers and their associations with the water that passes through the patches of land on which they grow wool.

There are a lot of things which I want to say 'thank you' for with this project, mostly the way in which people so warmly gave of their time to be involved. I constantly left people's properties with an admiration of human spirit. There were a lot of things which people spoke of which expressed times of difficulty and I left with a sense of admiration of people's strength, tenacity and courage.

Change is the only certainty in this life and the changes in rural communities sometimes seem swift and many. Humans are such adaptable creatures, finding new ways to be successful in agriculture which is developing as part of a global economy and experiencing constraints imposed by a changing climate. Part of this current age of agriculture is a willingness to care for land and water for future generations. As someone living close to a river in an urban setting I feel thankful for the people I met upstream who respect the catchment. It is in good hands and I have been very fortunate to meet them.

Also thanks to everyone interviewed for the many cups of tea, home-baked treats and snippets of lives told through the stories. Great people working in great places. The wider world needs to hear about these people because it is their strength, compassion, courage, sense of community, optimism and mateship which makes rural communities so special and needing to be shared across the world. Selling their wonderful wool, of course!

70 Dean

#### The stories and people featured on the CD-ROM and throughout this Guide are:



Biodiversity for long term benefits — Lindsay and Rae Young, 'Lewisham', Ross ~ Macquarie River and 'Green Valley', Bothwell ~ Clyde River



Never a dull moment — Valerie Le Maitre, 'Lochiel' and 'Wetmore', Ross ~ Macquarie River



We do what we do, because we want to do it! — Tom and Cynthia Dunbabin, 'Bangor' Tasman Peninsula and 'The Quoin', Ross ~ Macquarie River



It's the place that makes it all worthwhile — Bob and Patricia (Pat), Adam and Grainne Greenhill, 'Gala', 'Glen Gala' and 'Riversdale', Cranbrook ~ Swan River





Look after what we have got — Frank and Melissa (Milly) Youl, 'Barton', Cressy ~ Macquarie River



No banks in heaven — Sue Rapley, 'Roseneath' and 'Plassey', Ross ~ Macquarie and Isis Rivers

Sue Rapley photo Jean Bentley. Other photos Laura Eves.





All about living — Royal George Landcare Group, Tony and Joan Gee, Guy Marshall, Damian Gee, Trevor Williams ~ St Pauls River





I wonder what it will be like next year? — Angie, Bob and Damian Gee, 'Royslea' and 'North View', Royal George ~ St Pauls River



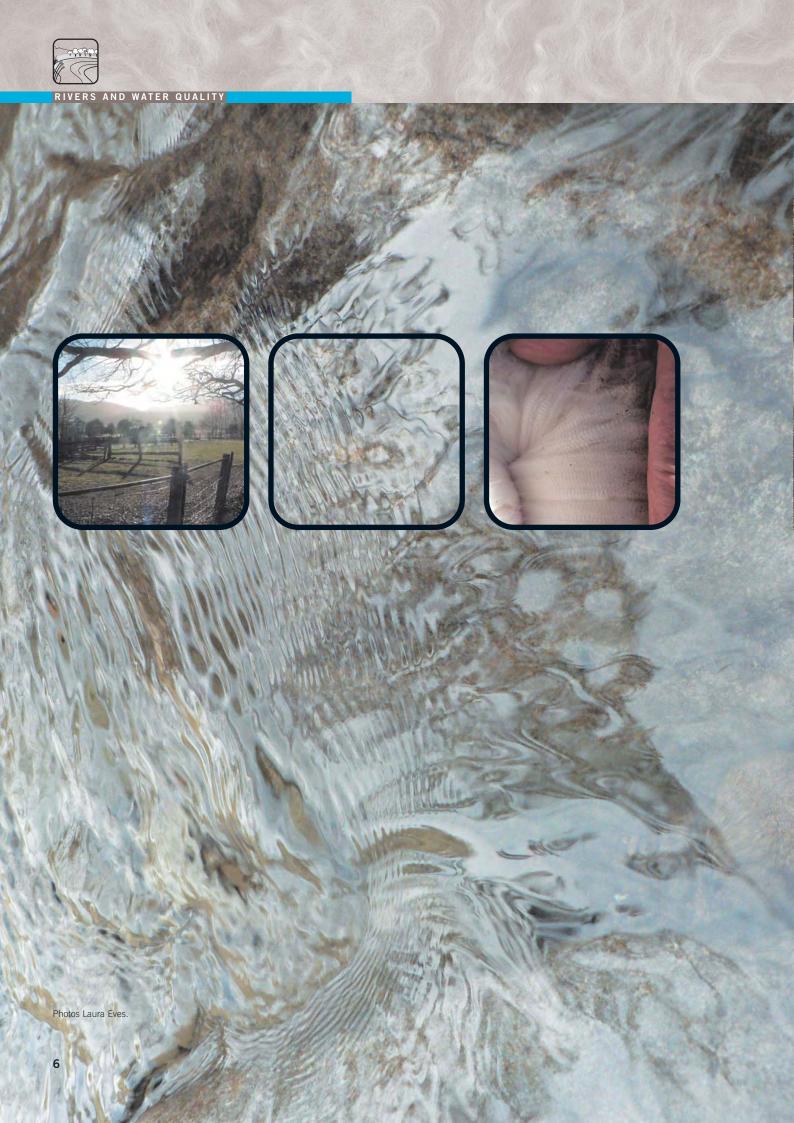
Helping nature look after itself — Andrew and Diana Cameron, 'Marathon', Deddington ~ Nile River



Doing the best that we can— Tim and Jane Parsons, 'Curringa Farm', Hamilton ~ Clyde River

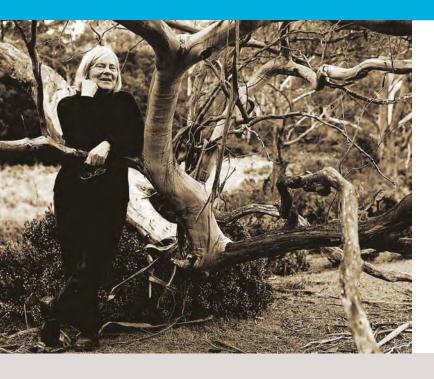


Two years on — Lindsay and Rae Young, 'Lewisham', Ross ~ Macquarie River and 'Green Valley', Bothwell ~ Clyde River



## Pace Understanding 'sense of place

by Siwan Lovett and Cynthia Dunbabin



place n. 1. Particular part of space; part of space occupied by person or thing or feeling. 2. Town, village, farm, etc., usu. one not forming a street; residence, dwelling; country-house with surroundings; river; hills; paddocks. 3. Find ~ for connection, contemplation, fishing, family outings, peace. 4. To make room for, special place.

"No orchestra in the world can match the sounds of the bush at the base of the Tiers at sunrise. Some people see it and feel it and some don't. I can't explain it, you can only know if you have experienced it for yourself. My whole senses change, I just get this feeling, I feel it in every part of my body, it is not describable. I can't explain it to you; I just wish that all my friends could have been there. I can't explain to you how I feel because there are no words to explain or describe it. The words just aren't there." **SUE RAPLEY** 

When you ask someone what motivates them to change their behaviour, it generally comes down to a feeling, for example, wanting to leave their 'place' in good condition for future generations, or wanting to preserve the special 'place' where they went fishing with their Dad. Emotion is what drives us to do most things, yet it is often not talked about and few resources are allocated to taking the time to understand the socio-cultural context within which someone is located. Without this understanding it is difficult to develop guidelines, management recommendations or tools that will be used. Trust and confidence take a long time to build, and asking someone to change their behaviour overnight is difficult when there may be no immediate benefit to them. Cynthia Dunbabin is one of the woolgrowers we have worked with through the Land, Water & Wool project, and she writes about a 'sense of place' as follows:

Photo Jean Bentley.





The Land has Spirit. Indigenous Australians have known this for millennia. Theirs has been a close association with the land, seeing, smelling, hearing, tasting, touching and thinking about it. For me, my every-day existence is entwined with the land and I cannot help but to be powerfully affected by its spirit. It defines my sense of place, my belongings in life. I belong to the land, it doesn't belong to me. I am a steward of this land and I have a fierce passion for, and a sense of responsibility towards it.

This spiritual connection underpins my actions as a farmer and drives my natural resource management (NRM) actions and activities. My passion drives my thirst for knowledge, my desire to intimately know the land. In turn, my knowledge enhances my sense of place and connectedness. Not surprisingly, I have found this passion for the land, this strong sense of place, is shared by other farmers, and they agree that this deeply personal aspect of our lives must be talked about. And it hasn't just been women, but older men, those who have been on the land for years, those guys who have weathered everything nature and society is capable of delivering.

Too often I have heard that "farmer's attitude to the land must change". Why should anyone want to change the connectedness and responsibility felt by farmers? What is needed is for the passion to be shared, for the pooling of skills and resources to enable us to move forward. We need growth together, not enforced change in the form of regulation and social stigmas.

### So what does this tell us about Natural Resource Management?

Social research tells us that for NRM to be successful, farmers need recognition, ongoing support and trust. I would take this notion further and suggest that recognition needs to be not only for the works done on the land, which represents one aspect of our sense of place, but

a deeper recognition of the meaning of sense of place. Recognition, support and trust are not one way. They are things that happen between people. They require each person to have respect and an understanding of the other.

We all have our own personal sense of place
Each individual's place, and their sense of place,
is different. If we are going to be successful in
our cooperative efforts to repair and enhance
Australia's natural environment it is imperative
that we recognise the importance and the
meaning of each person's place to them
and understand and respect differences.

People can have different connections to the same place. This is often the case with an NRM officer and a farmer. For the officer the farm is a place of interest, a place where the community's, and more specifically the regional Catchment Management Authority's goals and aspirations can be met. For the farmer the land is very much a place of identity, and changes imposed from the outside can be difficult to make, particularly if they do not respect the farmer's sense of place and vision. The implications of this difference in perception of the same place can be very profound.

The diagram shows that the area of overlap can be a place of conflict and destruction, or it can be a place of enhancement and **creativity**.

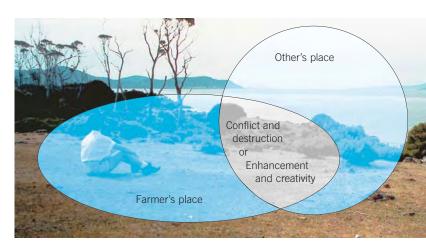


Photo Tom and Cynthia Dunbabin.

- To develop creative solutions to NRM issues it is essential that we have respect for each other. Each person is valuable and their 'sense of place' is very important.
- Expect diversity; not only expect it, but welcome it! Encourage new players.
   The more diverse the group of people the more knowledge, ideas, experience and energy available to harness. All knowledge is important. People on the land have a relationship of knowledge with the land, and this is as valuable when it comes to managing the environment as scientific knowledge.
- Be prepared to learn, learning can be exciting and transcending your boundaries can also be exciting. Remember, there is only a small step between fear and excitement!
- Always focus on what you want and not on what you don't want. What you concentrate on is what you will get!
- We must establish meaningful dialogue and processes that are inclusive. Jargon can be exclusive and creates power hierarchies.
- Processes must be based on solutions.
   It is the goal that is important. Don't get stuck on the steps.
- Processes that make people feel good are essential. They nurture growing involvement and generate energy.
- Enhance relationships within groups.
   Partnerships based on respect, common interest, support and encouragement can be very creative.
- Celebrate successes. Notice what has been achieved, not just what needs to be done.
- Security and economic viability of all involved is fundamental. Without a sound economic base farmers are unable to carry out the works required, no more than NRM officers are able to work without wages!

In summary, it is my belief that we have to talk about and recognise peoples' sense of place in order to achieve the environmental outcomes we desire and that are so urgently needed.



to Laura Eves

"Practices that respect and enhance people's spirit and sense of place produce outcomes that respect and enhance the environment."

#### **CYNTHIA DUNBABIN**



oto Laura Eve

"It's the place that makes it all worthwhile."

BOB, PAT, ADAM AND GRAINNE GREENHILL

Pictured here Grainne and Adam with Auley.









"If you are driving home from the airport, as soon as I can get to the coastal sea, just as I get a lovely glimpse across to Freycinet and Schouten Island I feel, ahh, I'm home."

PAT GREENHILL

Grainne Greenhill pictured here

"Every day is a free art show.
There is a sunrise and a
sunset and everything in
between. Every day is one.
Fresh air and fresh water."

TONY GEE

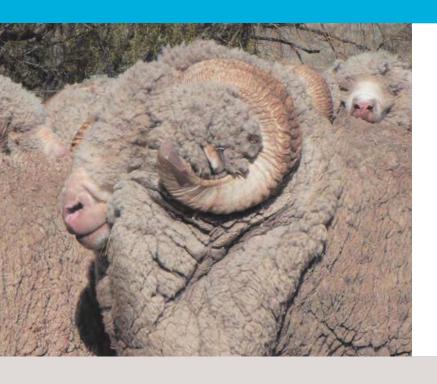
"I think the lake in front of the house is my special spot. I have a little row boat and I row up the lake, no distractions apart from birds black swans, ducks, moor hens, native hens and even the odd sea eagle. As a child I spent many an hour on the lake. It was a happy playground for me. We swam in it, water skiied from one end to the other, watched the birds in the reeds."

VALERIE LE MAITRE

Photos Laura Eves

## Matching environmental action with economic sustainability

#### by Amy Jansen and Michael Askey-Doran



pro'fit *n*. 1. Advantage, benefit; pecuniary gain, excess of returns over outlay (usu. pl.); ~ and loss account, (book-keeping) account in which gains are credited and losses debited so as to show net profit or loss at any time; change in management leading to profit; stock benefit. 2. ~ to a community; pride; belonging; cooperation; knowledge.

3. ~ sharing demonstrating richness in spirit, connection, memories and love of place.

"There are other drivers that give far greater satisfaction than money. But the trouble is that they are few and far between. There are no banks in heaven. So much more joy comes from one's success just through one's abilities than one's bank account."

**SUE RAPLEY** 

Rivers, creeks and wetlands are the focal points of our landscapes. They provide the water to sustain not only wool growing and other agricultural industries, but also support many different plant and animal communities. They are highly productive and provide many benefits for humans and their activities. However, they are also increasingly under threat, having been damaged by past clearing of vegetation, overgrazing, weed infestation, channelisation and dam construction. In this section we outline some of the many benefits that flow to woolgrowers and the wider community from well-managed riparian areas. More detailed information on the processes which lead to these benefits can be found in the following chapter on Proof.

Photo Laura Eves.



Andrew and Diana Cameron, Marathon

"...the other reason for fencing off the river is to maintain good water quality because both Deddington and Nile directly take water out of the river. It is a good idea if those people can drink the water without having cattle in the river and that sort of thing."

These riparian zones are in healthy condition and are providing a range of benefits including clean water, stable banks and healthy ecosystems. Photos Roger Charlton (left), Tim Cohen (right).



Some of the many benefits of well-managed riparian areas include the following.

#### 1. Clean water

- safer water for domestic use
- healthier livestock
- more fish and platypus.

#### 2. Healthy floodplain soils

- better retention of water, nutrients and sediment
- improved agricultural production
- healthier soil organisms.

#### 3. Stable banks

- less erosion of land and productivity
- retention of fences, infrastructure and stock.

#### 4. Flood control

- slow down and reduce "flashiness" of floods
- erosion problems reduced
- fewer losses of stock and infrastructure.





Lindsay and Rae Young, Lewisham and Green Valley

"The floodplains add real balance to the grazing because if you have two or three beneficial floods over them in the spring time you get tremendous summer grazing at a time of the year when the rest of the farm is closed down basically. It adds real balance. Five per cent of our land is floodplains so it is significant beneficial grazing that we get over the summer time. The pastures on the flats are mainly ryegrass and annuals and the silver tussocks are definitely coming back in one section of the floodplain. It seems to provide a good balance of pasture feed. At certain times of the year they really eat Poa, especially the heavier black soils which hold on into the summer. With careful management, with short grazing and long rest, they seem to get plenty of green leaves on them and sheep eat them readily at certain times of the year."

Riparian areas remain green longer, providing a store of feed for drought periods when other parts of the property are becoming dry — however, they must be used with care, so that overgrazing does not occur. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.

#### 5. Healthy plant communities

- good shade and shelter for stock, particularly off shears and during lambing
- good stock fodder during less productive times
- good habitat for birds and other animals
- control of weeds
- perennial plants help stabilise banks
- woody debris and leaf litter provide habitat for fish and other in-stream wildlife
- moderate stream temperatures
- trap carbon
- create corridors across the landscape.









Tim and Jane Parsons, Curringa

"It is my view that anything that we do and touch, if you are going to plant a tree somewhere or divert a bit of water to prevent erosion, or pull out some weeds it is a universal thing. It is doing good and fitting in. What we are doing on this farm and the farm next door and the farms right through, it is generational contracts. It is lifetime stuff. So I think if somebody wants to plant some trees somewhere, be it on that hill or down in that gully or whatever there is a benefit. Even if it is just a benefit for bees or butterflies or insects and ants or birds. It is just a little toe hold."

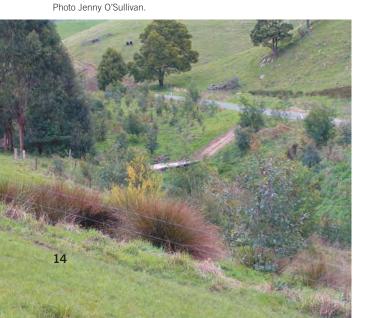
#### 6. Healthy animal communities

- birds and bats help control crop pests
- insects provide pollination and help control pests and diseases
- fish for recreation and tourism opportunities
- greater biodiversity overall improves farm productivity.

#### 7. Better stock management with fenced riparian areas

- losses of stock, either into the river or over to the neighbours, are minimised by the additional fencing
- reduced mixing of stock with that of your neighbours can reduce disease transmission across properties
- mustering stock is easier.

#### Controlled stock access and a protected riparian zone.



#### Fencing around the Blackman River.

Photo Laura Eves





Adam Greenhill, Gala, Glen Gala, Riversdale "Biodiversity on the farm is really important, for hundreds of reasons that I can't even see or tell you about, but there is always an imbalance in something. If you have something in its natural state next door it tends to even things out. If you have a reserved forest you are unlikely to have an insect plague start in the paddock next door because you have a population of birds. With the vegetable seed crops we certainly notice the pollination is a lot better around the reserved areas because the native insects do a better job than the bees. Last year we paid \$10,000 to hire bees to pollinate our crops. That's a big deal. You think you are doing a better job with the native insects anyway, so what's reserving a bit of bush?"



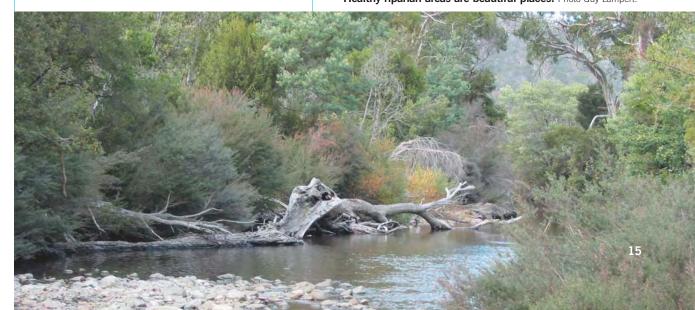
#### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Tom Dunbabin, Bangor and The Quoin "If you are going to fence off a streamside for example or a riparian area, you think there is a whole lot of things that are going to be important as outcomes, including water quality and habitat, stock management is easier. Certainly in terms of business, I didn't appreciate how big the gains were going to be for grazing management and productivity of pastures once you start putting up fences."

#### 8. Aesthetics

- diversity of plants and animals contribute to a unique and special environment
- recreation
- increase in land value.

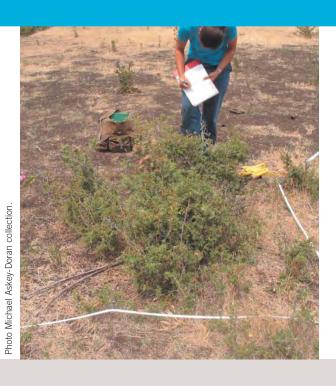
Healthy riparian areas are beautiful places. Photo Guy Lampert.





## Proof Understanding, managing and rehabilitating riparian areas

#### by Amy Jansen and Michael Askey-Doran



proof *n*. 1. Evidence sufficing or helping to establish a fact; proving, demonstration.

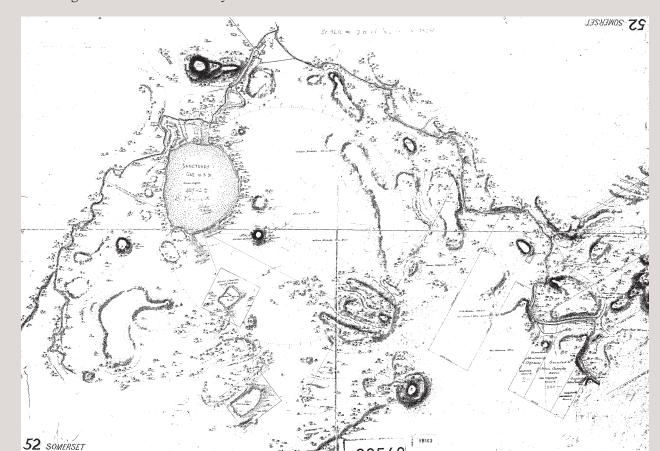
2. Test, trial. 3. Compare old maps with present day maps. 4. Photographic evidence change over time. 5. Ability to implement management based on sound scientific principles. 6. Indicators to provide proof of positive or negative management.

7. Evidence of participation, ownership of issues. 8. Proof of understanding, past, present, future.

Proof of environmental change can be gauged by remembering the past and how things were — the look, feel, sound and movement of the bush or animals. Proof can also be measured by comparing old maps and diaries with knowledge and memories of today.

Lachlan Macquarie described his travels through the Midlands. He notes many interesting things about the landscape:

Map from the 1830s of the Blackman River and surrounding Salt Pans Plains. Map courtesy DPIW.





#### Wednesday 4th December 1811.

I have named this 'High Hill' or mountain on account of the fine view it commands, *Prospect Hill.* — After descending from this Hill, we pursued our Journey to *Jerico Plains*, where we halted at 1/2 past 10 a.m. close to the *River Jordan*, a small stream running through an extensive meadow; this being 8 miles distant from our last Ground. — We travelled over a succession of very fine Hills and fertile Vallies for 10 miles to a Jungle with fine Springs of fresh Water —.

#### Thursday 5th December 1811.

Having left Salt Pans [sic] Plains, and passed Grimes's Lagoon, a very fine one a quarter of a mile long, on our left, we entered Argyle Plains—and Encamped on the Banks of "Macquarie River" (so named now) which flows out of Grimes's Lagoon and runs by many windings all the way to Port Dalrymple.



This figure shows an overlay of one of the original surveyor's maps on a current aerial photograph of the Macquarie River south of Ross. Map courtesy DPIW.

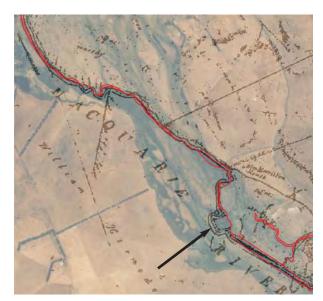
#### Friday 6th December 1811.

At 6 a.m. Set out from Macquarie River travel for 3 miles through Argyle Plains which contains good Pasturage; thence through Hills & Vallies for 3 miles more — poor Soil to "Mount Campbell" leaving it on our left; then enter "Maclaine Plains" and travel through them for 2 miles to a rising Ground covered with wood, which separate them from the next Plains. Thence travel 2 miles over "Antill Plains", which are beautifully interspersed with Trees and contain good Pasturage for Cattle. — At 10 a.m. halted on the Left Bank of Elizabeth River in Antill Plains.— At 1/2 past 3 p.m. Pursued our Journey from Elizabeth River, which we forded close to where we Encamped, and travelled for 7 miles across "Macquarie Plains" (— now so named and commencing from Elizabeth River, and which is 40 miles from the settlement at Port Dalrymple); these Plains are very extensive and beautifully interspersed with Trees and small Eminences and skirted by fine ranges of Hills, well calculated for grazing of Horned Cattle & Sheep, the Plains also being in most Places a good Soil for Tillage & Pasturage.

#### Saturday 7th December 1811.

— travelling for 10 miles through *Epping Forest*, which is all very poor bad soil, to the open Plains; which I have named *Henrietta Plains*; — These Plains are by far the richest and most beautiful we have yet seen in Van Diemen's Land; forming a grand, and interesting fine Landscape, and having a fine noble view of *Ben-Lomond*, *the Butt*, and a long lofty Range of smaller Mountains on the East and West of our Track, extending all the way to Port Dalrymple; the New River, or *South Esk*, meandering in a beautiful manner through the Plains, making the Landscape complete. — The Soil and Herbage of Henrietta Plains far excel anything of the kind we have yet seen. —

Macquarie, Lachlan, *Journal to and from Van Diemen's Land to Sydney in New South Wales.* 4 November 1811 – 6 January 1812. Original held in the Mitchell Library, Sydney. ML Ref: A777, pp. 1–34. [Microfilm Reel CY302 Frames #347–380.]

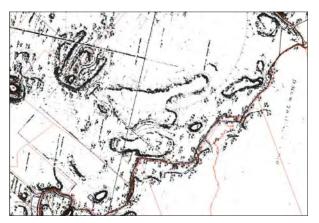


The black arrow indicates channel change on the Macquarie River. Map courtesy DPIW.

By the 1830s surveyors were marking blocks of land along the Macquarie River for settlers in the region. The figure on the opposite page shows an overlay of one of the original surveyor's maps on a current aerial photograph of the Macquarie River south of Ross. These original maps are accurate as well as artistic: the surveyors spent time drawing the hills as well as the essentials of property boundaries and the location of the river.

Today, we can use these maps to see if there have been changes to the river. The figure above shows the original survey map (in black) overlain on the current aerial photograph, and overlaid with the current cadastral boundaries (in red). The arrow indicates where it looks like the channel has been straightened.

Often we think that the river is very unstable and we need to spend a lot of money repairing it. However, a time series of maps and photos shows the river has actually been relatively stable for a long time and that erosion is localised. Most changes to the river and the surrounding landscape probably occurred in the 1800s. The photos at the right show that, since the 1940s there have been no obvious changes to the position of the river channel.



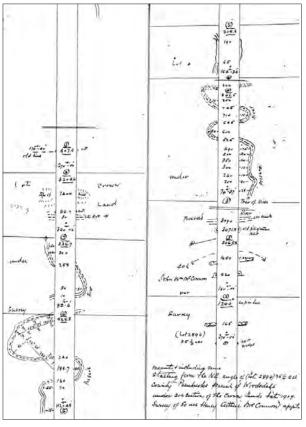


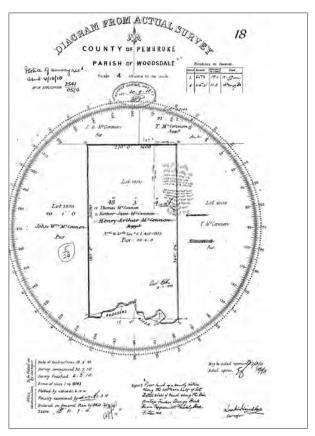


These figures are of the same location on the Macquarie River showing an early surveyors map from the 1830s, an aerial photograph from the late 1940s and an aerial photograph from 1997. Maps courtesy DPIW.

The most evident changes have been an increase in the amount of vegetation along the river (mainly willows and gorse) and a decrease in the number of trees on the hillslopes. These changes in the vegetation have led to significant changes to the riverine environment.







Above: The surveyor's notes. Right: The original survey. Images courtesy DPIW.

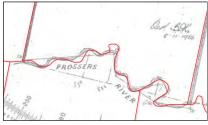
Lindsay Young, Lewisham

"I was talking to an older fellow in Ross the other day and he said that a late friend of his could remember when the bottom of the river around our area was covered in tea-tree and it was clear enough to see the bottom in his young day which was about 90 years ago. I think there has been a steady decline because stocking rates have gone up over the last 50 years and stock have had access to the river, grazing there and tracking down for drinks. Now stock water is pumped all over the farm anyway so it is no problem just to put a trough in the paddocks that are fenced off."



A similar assessment of the Prosser River in Tasmania's south-east was also completed. An early surveyor carefully mapped all the bends in a section of the Prosser River in drawing a plan of a property which was sold to Henry Arthur McConnon in 1911.

Since then there have been major changes to this section of the river. It became infested with Crack willow and in 1992 the willows were removed and the channel altered (Prosser Landcare Survey 1995). These changes are evident in the time series shown in Figure 1 on the opposite page. Both the original survey and the photograph from 1984 show the channel in a similar position to that shown by the cadastral layer (with some minor changes that may be due to errors in the surveys, or to small changes in the channel). However, the photograph from 2003 shows that the channel in this section has been completely straightened (and significantly shortened).



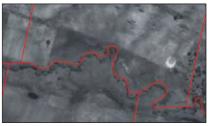




Figure 1. The original survey map completed in 1910, an aerial photograph from 1984, and an aerial photograph from 2003 of the same section of the Prosser River, with the cadastral layer overlain in red for reference. Source Prosser Landcare Survey 1995.

Proof can also be assessed scientifically in terms of current condition and trajectory of change. As part of the Rivercare planning process, the entire length of the upper catchment of the Macquarie River was assessed. Figure 2 summarises the condition based on this assessment.

- 'Intact' reaches are in very good condition, with good coverage of native vegetation both in the riparian areas and on adjacent hillslopes.
- Reaches with 'Some impact' have been cleared to some extent but retain native vegetation in patches and are often under threat from overgrazing by livestock, weed infestations and further clearing.
- 'Impacted' reaches contain some remaining native vegetation but have been extensively cleared and are subject to stock access and weed invasion.
- 'Heavily impacted' reaches have been almost entirely cleared of native vegetation and the channels have been altered by straightening or construction of weirs.

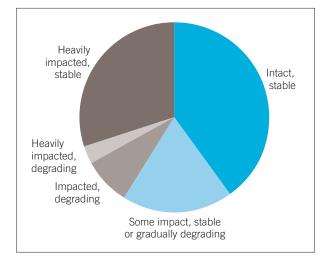


Figure 2. Proportional lengths of the upper Macquarie River and main tributaries classified according to condition and trajectory of change. Data from Rivercare Plan, Hamlet 2002.

Figure 2 shows that 40% of the length of the river and its main tributaries is in 'Intact' and stable condition (all in the higher parts of the catchment). However, 60% of the river shows some signs of impact, and is either degrading or so heavily impacted that it can get little worse (including all of the lowland floodplain areas of the river).

This reach shown in the photo below would be classified as having 'some impact', whilst the photo below right shows a stretch of river that has been heavily impacted by stock and vegetation clearing. Photos Michael Askey-Doran collection.





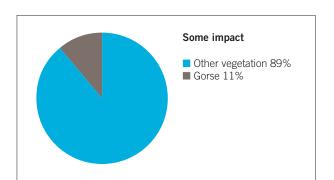


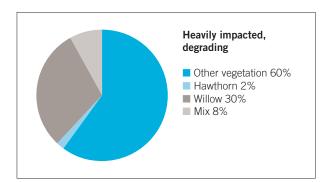
#### RIVERS AND WATER QUALITY

As an indication of the impact of agricultural activities, 63% of the riparian area in the reaches not classified as 'intact', was agricultural land, i.e. either improved pasture and cropland or land cleared for agriculture. One of the major problems in these areas is weed infestation. Figure 3 shows the total lengths of serious weed infestations along reaches of the upper Macquarie River in the different condition categories (there were virtually no serious weeds found in the 'Intact' reaches).

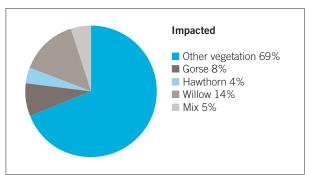
In total, of 188.5 kilometres of river length assessed for vegetation, 12.9 kilometres were dominated by gorse, 8.1 kilometres by hawthorn, 16 kilometres by willow and 1.7 kilometres by a mix of these weeds as well as briar rose. This compares to 74.7 kilometres that was classified as 'intact'.

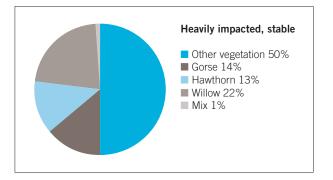
Figure 3. Proportional lengths of serious weed infestations along the upper Macquarie River and main tributaries in reaches classified according to condition (see previous figure — data from Rivercare Plan). 'Mix' is a mixture of the serious weed species, 'Other vegetation' is dominated by improved pasture but can also include native riparian vegetation.













Willows, gorse and hawthorn dominate this riparian area. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.

It is clear that agricultural land use and invasion by exotic weeds have had major impacts on the Macquarie River and its tributaries. The majority of these impacts probably happened 100–150 years ago, although weed invasion is an on-going process, as is localised degradation due to uncontrolled stock access. These problems are not unique to the Macquarie River, but are fairly typical of many rivers in agricultural landscapes. The Macquarie landowners have undertaken Rivercare planning and a series of rehabilitation projects so that they can rectify these problems in an effective and strategic way.

#### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Tim and Jane Parsons, Curringa

"It is my view that anything that we do and touch, if you are going to plant a tree somewhere or divert a bit of water to prevent erosion, or pull out some weeds it is a universal thing. It is doing good and fitting in. What we are doing on this farm and the farm next door and the farms right through, it is generational contracts. It is lifetime stuff. So I think if somebody wants to plant some trees somewhere, be it on that hill or down in that gully or whatever there is a benefit. Even if it is just a benefit for bees or butterflies or insects and ants or birds. It is just a little toe hold."



to Lours Ever

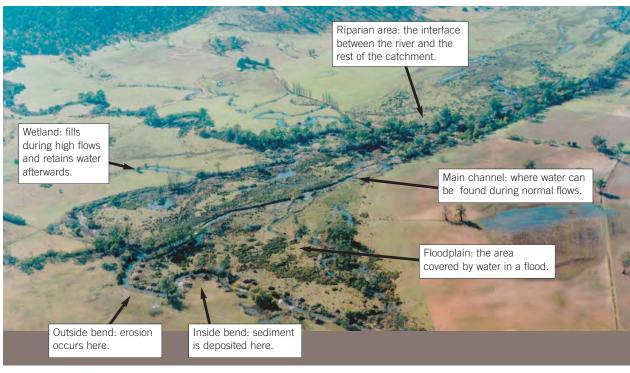


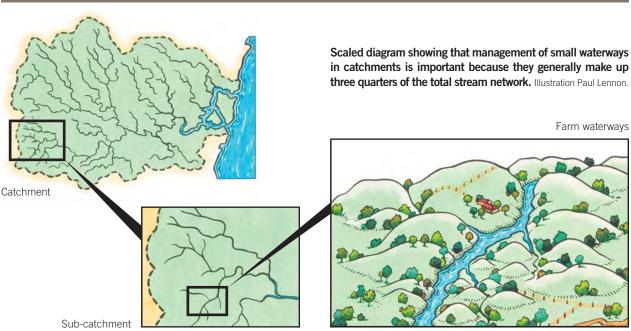
### What makes up river systems?

The flow of water through the landscape, down gullies, depressions, drainage lines into creeks and streams and further into the main rivers helps define catchments. The ridges, hills and mountains that act as catchment boundaries are also the sources or headwaters for a catchment's river system. Catchments occur at different scales

in the landscape. For example, the Macquarie River is a sub-catchment of the South Esk River and the Blackman River is a sub-catchment of the Macquarie River. A range of smaller tributaries flow into these rivers making up a complex network of drainage lines that can greatly exceed the length of the main part of the river.

River systems are made up of a number of components as shown in the photograph below. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.







As well as the main channel, there are a number of types of wetlands which can be a part of the river, or off to the side:



Marsh



Lagoon.

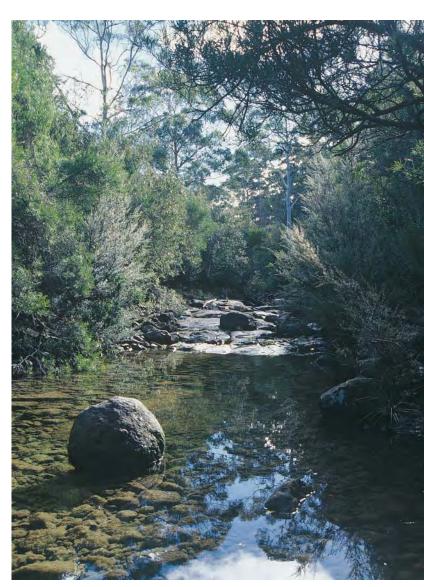


In-stream wetlands are a feature of rivers in the Midlands.

The riparian area is a highly productive but vulnerable, part of the landscape. This is where management can make a difference: what we do in riparian areas has implications for the entire catchment. Understanding the importance of these riparian areas, and learning how to better manage them, are the focus of this Guide.

## What are riparian areas and why are they important?

Riparian areas are at the boundary between land and water, so they are important buffers between what happens on land and what occurs in the water. Because of their position in the landscape, they are also moister and more fertile than surrounding areas, making them important resources both for humans and native plants and animals. They are often small in area (commonly only 2–5% of the landscape), yet they are critical parts of the catchment, performing many important functions and providing many benefits to human users.



Riparian vegetation is distinct from the drier vegetation up-slope. Photos this page Michael Askey-Doran collection.



Healthy vegetation traps sediment. Photo Jenny O'Sullivan.



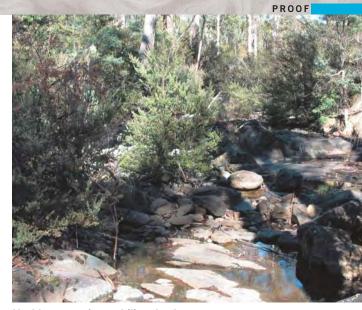
A channel that has filled with sediment.

#### **Key functions**

Riparian areas perform many important functions within the landscape:

#### 1. Trap and store sediment

- sediment from land adjacent to the riparian area is prevented from entering the water
- sediment builds soil and banks in the riparian area.



Healthy vegetation stabilises banks.



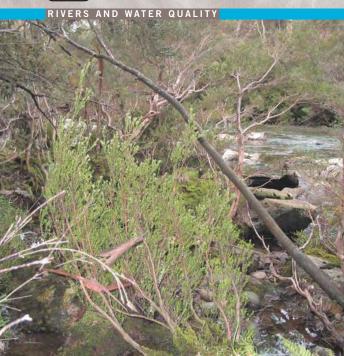
Unstable banks and woody weeds.

#### 2. Stabilise banks

 stable banks resist erosion, preventing movement and widening of the channel.

Photos on pages 27–29 Michael Askey-Doran collection unless credited otherwise.





Healthy vegetation slows down and takes up water.



Flood waters have stripped this floodplain.

#### 3. Store water and energy

- flood waters are slowed down,
   reducing erosion and flood damage
- high flows over the floodplain are trapped to recharge underground aquifers.

#### 4. Filter and buffer water

- riparian plants absorb and trap nutrients,
   preventing them entering the water
- sediment and contaminants such as nutrients, pathogens are trapped and prevented from entering the water
- overhanging vegetation shades the water, reducing high temperatures which may kill in-stream animals and allow unwanted algae to grow.

### 5. Provide food and habitat for *in-stream* plants and animals

- in-stream animals rely on inputs of organic matter (dead leaves and wood from the riparian area) for their food
- many animals living in the river also require dead wood or litter on the bottom to hide from predators or shelter from fast-flowing water.



Overhanging and in-stream vegetation provides habitat for animals.



### 6. Provide habitat for *riparian* plants and animals

- many plants and animals can only live in riparian areas, where there is abundant water, rich soils, and cool, moist conditions
- many other animals which aren't dependent on riparian zones year round may use them during certain times of the year or in certain parts of their life-cycle.

### 7. Provide corridors for movement of animals and seeds across the catchment

 plants, via their seeds, and animals move about the landscape along corridors between patches of native vegetation.

Left: Standing dead trees provide hollows and perching sites for a variety of animals.



Riparian corridor of vegetation.



#### What shapes rivers?

Rivers aren't as simple as they look; there are many different processes at work which control how they function. Understanding these processes is important in order to manage rivers effectively. Rivers are dynamic environments and water is a powerful agent of change. The processes operating in healthy river systems can be seen to be in balance. The natural balance is reflected in the relationship between discharge (the amount of water conveyed) and sediment load (gravels, sands, debris etc.) that move through the system. Rivers become unstable when this relationship slips out of balance and there is either too much or too little of either water or sediment available to the river. Too little sediment and the river may start to erode its bed and banks; too much and the river can't shift it and the channel begins to fill in. Similarly if there is an unnatural increase in the amount of water in the river, streambanks will begin to erode; too little water, and the river won't be able to maintain its channel shape. Geology, climate, vegetation and land-use all influence condition and the way that rivers function.

#### Geology determines:

- the slope and topography (shape) of the drainage system
- controls channel form and position
- the nature of bed and bank material and sediment that moves through the channel
- soil types and characteristics
- vegetation communities across the catchment.

#### Climate influences:

- the volume and timing of rainfall, run-off and flooding
- seasonal changes and temperature extremes,
   such as freeze and thaw
- vegetation communities across the catchment.

#### Vegetation helps:

- control the energy of the river
- stabilise the streambanks
- filter sediments and nutrients from the surface and sub-surface water.

#### Patterns of land-use affect:

- the catchment water and sediment yield by altering vegetation, topography, drainage and soils
- the physical condition of channels and banks.

Plants return organic matter to the soil which increases the soil's water holding capacity. Organic material can hold nine times its own weight in water. Sediments build more quickly on well-vegetated riparian areas. The cycle of flooding, sediment deposition and soil building increases the capability for water absorption and storage. Where vegetation is lacking sediment capture is less as is the capability for water absorption and storage.

#### **Erosion processes**

There are two main types of erosion that landowners usually have to manage for — streambank erosion and streambed erosion.

#### Streambank erosion

Even healthy rivers erode their streambanks, it's a normal process that shapes the river. However, a problem begins to occur when changes along the river affect the rate at which streambank erosion occurs. Such changes include clearing of native riparian vegetation and the introduction of stock along the river. The loss of vegetation reduces the stability of the banks, whilst the mechanical action of stock on the streambank causes the bank to break away and start to erode. This can also lead to erosion downstream, as the riparian vegetation hanging over the river helped to slow the river, reducing its erosive impact on the river channel.



Collapsing streambank. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.

Streambank erosion can be caused by many different factors, and often they act in combination. By observing the river in its many different stages and monitoring changes that have occurred along its length, it may be possible to identify the likely causes of the erosion. The rate and extent of bank erosion is influenced by:

- the erosive or abrasive effect flowing water and sediment can have on streambanks
- the type of bank material and its susceptibility to erosion
- the presence and condition of riparian vegetation
- the presence of obstructions within the channel that constrict or redirect flow
- irregular bank alignment
- streambed erosion increasing the relative height of banks, making them vulnerable to collapse
- increased channel capacity enabling greater flood volumes

- poorly managed stock access resulting in stock tracks, loss of soil structure, soil compaction, *pugging* of the wetted edge of the stream and damage to protective riparian vegetation
- rapid fall (or *draw down*) in stream water level, particularly in highly regulated stream systems, leaves saturated soil banks without the buoyant support of water
- the entry of water into the channel from off-stream sources, such as dams, road works, contour banks and floodplain channels
- wave action due to wind
- the wash from boats.

#### Streambed erosion

Streambed erosion occurs when the bed of the river starts to erode away and the channel deepens. Streambed erosion is a sign that the channel gradient has become steeper, and the river is adjusting itself to a more stable gradient. Bed erosion is commonly caused by straightening of the channel or through removal of bed materials such as gravel. An obvious sign of bed erosion is a headcut, which appears as a sharp change in gradient, like a small waterfall, in the bed of the river. The headcut makes its way upstream until the river establishes a new gradient.

An example of a gully with several active head cuts moving up the slope. Photo Samantha Burt.







There are four main processes leading to bed erosion:

- sediment starvation when weirs, dams and blockages obstruct the downstream movement of sediment
- increased channel slope arising from channel straightening, gravel extraction and de-snagging activities within the channel
- channel constrictions that narrow the channel and increase the energy (velocity) of flow sufficiently to erode the streambed
- increasing flow (energy) due to an increase in the amount of water that enters the drainage system through catchment clearance, releases from dams, de-snagging and riparian vegetation clearance.

Some cases of bed erosion are quite obvious, whilst others are much more subtle and require a trained eye and some technical experience to identify. There are a number of observable indicators to suggest that bed erosion is affecting, or has affected, a stream:

- a steepening in the bed, often a very steep riffle (shallow, turbulent section) that is moving upstream
- bank erosion on both sides of the channel
- a lowering of pool levels
- hanging streamside vegetation or a perched line of lichen on rocks
- exposed bridge footings
- significant alteration to channel shape and behaviour downstream, including sedimentation
- exposure of bedrock, old bed logs or clays in the channel base.

### Potential impacts include:

loss of channel stability and normal stream behaviour

- bank erosion and downstream sedimentation
- streambank collapse as the height of banks increases
- collapse of streamside vegetation into the channel
- lowering of water levels in pools leading to lower ground water levels
- smothering of aquatic habitat by sediment
- reduced water quality due to sedimentation
- reduced natural flooding regimes due to the enlarged channel capacity
- undermining of stream-related infrastructure such as bridges.

### **Dead wood in rivers**

Fallen logs in rivers, called 'Large Woody Debris' (LWD) are important for many reasons, but are often blamed for problems such as erosion and flooding and hence removed. We now know that LWD is extremely important in rivers and that fallen logs in the channel and on the banks help protect the banks from erosion by slowing down the flow. Fallen logs also provide very important food and habitat for a variety of animals. The logs provide a surface for algae to grow on, and this in turn provides food for bugs and fish. This is particularly true in rivers which lack rocky areas in the bed, such as many parts of the floodplain reaches of the larger rivers. Many animals also shelter from the fast flowing water amongst logs.

While it is true that local erosion can occur around fallen logs in rivers, this is actually beneficial, in creating pools and riffles in the stream, which are favoured habitats for particular kinds of fish and invertebrates. Removing a log to prevent this erosion from occurring may be detrimental to the river, and may also just move the problem further downstream. Fallen logs in some circumstances can increase local flooding, but it takes a *lot* of wood to do so. At any point



In-stream woody debris aligned with the flow. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.

along the river, the cross-sectional area of wood must be at least 10% of the channel capacity to have any significant influence on flooding. Single fallen logs are very unlikely to influence flooding. Wood should only be re-positioned or removed from streams if it can be shown to be causing problems.

The solution may simply be a matter a moving the wood so that it is aligned with the flow. Removing logs from your section of the river is likely to just move any flooding problems downstream.

### Linkages upstream and downstream along the river

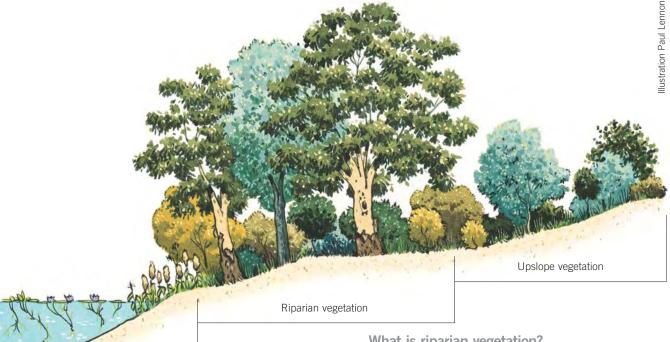
It is important to understand that processes occurring in one part of the river affect other parts of the river. While it may be obvious how some events influence downstream areas, there can also be upstream influences. For example, gravel extraction which causes bed lowering will increase the energy and flow of the water upstream, since the gradient of the channel will increase. This can result in increased erosion *upstream*. Downstream effects may also not be very obvious. For example, straightening

the channel in one section will increase water flow, possibly leading to increased erosion downstream. Planting a section of bank on a small stream may have effects both up and downstream, once the plants get to a reasonable size. The planting can slow down the water flow and reduce its energy, possibly leading to increased flooding upstream, and a lower risk of flooding as well as less erosion downstream.

Linkages are particularly important to consider when it comes to trying to deal with water quality issues. Revegetation and control of stock access along rivers are only likely to have visible, on-site effects on very small channels. If a large river flows through your property, there is unlikely to be anything you personally can do to improve the water quality of your section of it. However, whatever you do will influence the water quality for your neighbours downstream. The effects are cumulative, so the more people who address the issue, the greater the benefits will be.

The bottom line is that you need to consider your neighbours up- and down-stream when planning any works on rivers.





### Riparian vegetation

Aquatic vegetation

The question is often asked: What was the vegetation here like before Europeans arrived? This is an important question because we assume that riparian vegetation in its original state (before 1750) performed all of the essential functions of riparian areas. Thus, if we wish to restore riparian functions, it makes sense to try to restore the vegetation to what it was like before we changed it. Many headwater streams still have riparian vegetation in a state similar to its original condition, so we know what to aim for in restoring these types of sites.

However, vegetation in lowland areas has been significantly altered by clearing and grazing, and we can often only guess what the original vegetation was like. We can get some clues from early explorer's descriptions, and from surveys of existing remnant patches of vegetation. Here we will summarise what we do know about riparian vegetation in Tasmania's wool growing areas, and how it has been altered since European settlement.

### What is riparian vegetation?

The plants that grow alongside water make up riparian vegetation communities. These communities are usually relatively distinct from the communities which grow in drier parts of the landscape upslope, although many species may be common to both areas. It is often the set of species, and the abundances of particular species, which make riparian plant communities distinctive. The extent to which they differ is influenced by the surrounding vegetation. In wetter areas, riparian vegetation might be denser but not very different otherwise to the surrounding vegetation. However, in drier areas, the riparian vegetation might be quite distinctive, containing trees, shrubs and other types of plants which are virtually absent in the surrounding landscape.

### How does riparian vegetation vary?

Riparian vegetation varies both along the length and with distance away from the river. Whilst there will be plants that are common throughout the length of the river, there will also be a range of plants that only occur in the headwaters or on particular rock or soil types. Variation away from the river's edge is a function of the plant species' preferences and/or tolerance of moisture and

disturbance. Plants that are happy to grow in perennially wet areas occur along the river margins, whilst plants that prefer better drained sites will be further away from the stream on higher ground. Tolerance of flooding also influences where plants grow. There are plants that rely on the disturbance that floods create to release seed and establish new generations, however, if flooding occurs too frequently these new generations cannot establish. Conversely, if flood frequency is reduced the triggers for germination may be removed. Some plants can also tolerate being under water for extended periods of time, while others cannot. This will determine the types of plants, and hence the plant communities, that can grow in areas which are inundated frequently or for long periods of time (for example, on floodplains of large rivers). If flood frequency is reduced, for example by damming upstream, then plants less tolerant of flooding may invade and out-compete the floodtolerant species, changing the plant community.

### Typical vegetation communities and plants

The riparian plant communities growing along Tasmania's rivers and their condition vary depending on location and land use.

The healthiest and most diverse vegetation communities are usually found in the upland or headwater areas of catchments. In contrast, native riparian vegetation is usually fragmented and in poor condition on the floodplains, where much of the land has been developed for agriculture.

Riparian areas are special places for plants. Nearly half of Tasmania's native plant species have been recorded in riparian areas. Although only two species of plants in Tasmania are considered to only occur in riparian areas, 76 species mainly occur there. Of these species, nearly 30% are listed as threatened in Tasmania, indicating that riparian areas have been extensively impacted by human activities.



A number of riparian species have seeds which germinate in response to flooding. Photo Laura Eves.



In wetter upland areas riparian vegetation usually consists of a canopy of eucalypts over a tall layer of shrubs and small trees such as blackwood, musk, dogwood and tea-tree. In drier areas the riparian vegetation may consist of scattered eucalypts over a dense shrub layer of tea-tree and wattles, but may also be a more open woodland community with a sparse understorey and a grassy/sedgey ground layer. Remnant riparian vegetation on the floodplain is usually dominated by a mixture of tea-tree, dogwood, wattles and occasional eucalypts (swamp gum, white gum, snow gum).

Surveys of relatively intact riparian vegetation in the Midlands have shown that most riparian areas have a relatively open canopy of *Eucalyptus* species (mainly white gum, snow gum and black gum) a variable shrub layer (often with wattles, dogwood and tea-tree) and usually a grassy and/or sedgey ground layer (dominated by sagg, tussock grass and *Carex* species).

More detailed information on the species of plants and where they are found is in Appendix 1, page 79.

### Weeds of riparian areas

Riparian vegetation in the wool growing areas of Tasmania has been greatly altered by clearing and grazing. This has coincided with the introduction of many non-native (exotic) plants. There are a large number of weed species on Tasmanian rivers (e.g. 22 species of declared weeds are listed in the Macquarie Rivercare Plan, Hamlet, 2002). Generally we think of the highly visible species such as willows, hawthorn and gorse, which are nuisance species and affect river flows. However, there are many other weeds, including aquatic and terrestrial herbs, grasses, sedges, shrubs and trees. Some of these could become noxious weeds in the future. Possible future problem species, which are locally common in certain areas, include sycamore, erica, Elisha's tears, creeping jenny, elderberry and fuschia. The most dominant exotic species in riparian areas are pasture grasses.



Teasel is a locally common weed in riparian areas.



Areas dominated by native tussocks can have many exotic species in the bare spaces between them. Photos on this page Michael-Askey-Doran collection.



Tasmanian scrubwren. Photo Vin Lam.

### **Riparian animals**

Many animals are found in riparian areas. Typical animals that come to mind are frogs, dragonflies, platypus and water-rats, which all depend on rivers and riparian areas. However, many other animals also use riparian areas. Some, such as the Azure kingfisher, are only found there. Others, such as the Tasmanian scrubwren, preferentially use riparian areas, although they can also be found in other wet forests. The structural complexity and diversity of riparian habitats makes them suitable for a wide range of animals. However, due to the extensive alterations to riparian habitats in Tasmania, the numbers and kinds of animals found in them can be greatly reduced. Here we will discuss some typical riparian vegetation communities (natural and altered) and the animals that we might expect to find in them. In Appendix 2 is a list of all Tasmanian birds (excluding seabirds) with their specific habitat requirements.

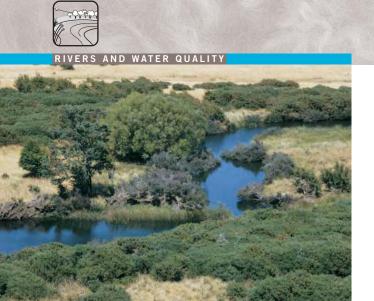
### Cleared and grazed streambanks

Streambanks that have been cleared of native vegetation and grazed are usually dominated by short pasture grasses and there is often bare, compacted ground on the banks. Few animals like these conditions — mostly large farmland birds and insects, rather than those that normally occur in riparian areas. Magpies and crows will use these areas, and provide benefits to the farm by eating beetles, grubs, grasshoppers, etc. which can damage pastures. Birds of prey will also use these areas, and provide a service by eating carrion, grasshoppers and mice and rats.

### Cleared and grazed streambank.

Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.





Gorse and grass dominated riparian area.

The bare, compacted ground and the high nutrient levels favour introduced plants over natives, leading to insects and other small animals living in the soil and ground cover being limited, and often dominated by a few exotic species. The lack of stream shade and few large pieces of wood in the stream mean that water quality can be poor, with little habitat for fish and other animals to live in.

### Gorse or hawthorns and grass

Some riparian areas have patches of woody weeds such as gorse or hawthorns. Exclusion of grazing from these areas can result in the spread of these weeds, which is not a desirable outcome. Whilst these woody weeds can provide habitat for pest animals such as sparrows, starlings, and rabbits they can also provide valuable habitat for native animals. A number of small birds (e.g. wrens) and mammals (e.g. possums, wallabies, wombats, potoroos, bettongs and bandicoots) will use prickly shrubs such as hawthorn for nesting and refuge areas, if there are suitable areas nearby where they can feed (e.g. areas of long grass).

**Right: Fenced long grass.** Photos this page and opposite Michael Askey-Doran collection unless credited otherwise.



Willow dominated riparian area. Photo Rae Young.

#### Willows

Riparian areas dominated by willows provide habitat for a limited range of animals. Some birds and mammals will use the trees for shelter and foraging, but for many species they do not provide suitable habitat. The nutritional value of dead willow leaves is low, and cannot be utilised by most in-stream animals that depend on inputs of native leaf litter. Dead willow wood also rots much more quickly than that of native trees, so its habitat value for fish and other animals is limited.

### Long tussock grasses

Native tussock grasses provide habitat for many small insects, reptiles and frogs that cannot live amongst short pasture grasses. These in turn provide food and feeding areas for a wider range of birds in addition to the larger farmland birds found in pasture areas. These may include waterbirds (e.g. herons and plovers), as well as grassland birds (e.g. pipits and chats). These birds will consume insects in the pastures adjacent to riparian areas. Native reeds and sedges growing along the banks will reduce erosion and provide habitat for waterbirds including ducks and swans, as well as grassbirds and wrens.





Open grassy woodland.

### Open grassy woodland

Riparian areas with a mix of native grasses and scattered native trees can provide habitat for a range of animals. Larger birds such as magpies, crows and birds of prey will readily use these areas because they provide good perching sites as well as suitable open areas in which to forage. Hollows in the scattered trees provide nesting sites for birds and mammals such as cockatoos and parrots, bats and possums. Smaller birds that forage in open areas, such as chats, robins and pipits will also use these areas, as will wetland birds such as ducks, swans, herons and egrets. Frogs can be found in reeds and sedges along the banks. Areas of shade and woody debris in the water will provide habitat for fish and other in-stream animals. The lack of a shrub layer and only a few trees means that small bush birds and mammals may lack shelter and be absent. Noisy miners particularly like these open, 'park-like' habitats, and can be quite common. They also tend to chase away smaller birds, particularly other honeyeaters.



Shrubby riparian vegetation.

### Shrubby riparian vegetation

Good riparian vegetation will have a diverse mix of native plant species of lots of different types, including grasses and herbs, reeds and sedges, a mix of shrubs of different heights, and a tree layer of one or more species, with seedlings of the trees and shrubs evident. There will also be dead timber and leaf litter on the ground and in the stream. These components will provide shelter, nesting sites and foraging sites for a diverse range of animals, including small bush birds and mammals, bats, lizards and frogs, as well as fish, platypus and other animals in the stream. Larger birds and mammals will also use this riparian vegetation for perching and nesting sites, even if they forage over a wider area including nearby paddocks and open areas. All of these animals will help to control insect pests on the farm. The riparian area will also provide habitat for a wide range of beneficial insects that perform services such as pollination and maintenance of soil health.

For more information on animals found in Tasmania, see "Birds on farms" (Donaghey 2005) and the DPIW website.

Platypus. Photo Andrew Tatnell.





### How healthy is my river?

The key to a healthy river is a healthy riparian area, and this is where your management can have an impact. The 'health' (or condition) of a riparian area is a measure of how well it can perform all of the functions discussed earlier. It can be determined by examining a number of indicators, which are related to the key functions. To assess the health of your riparian area, fill in the checklist provided on the following page. In the remainder of this section you will find explanations of the importance of each of the indicators used in the checklist, and some photographic examples. These indicators can be examined at any time, along your stretch of river bank. There are also some larger-scale indicators of river health that will be discussed later. A more in-depth assessment of riparian condition is the Rapid Appraisal of Riparian Condition, which uses similar indicators, and can be used for comparisons and monitoring of riparian areas.

Sheep grazing in riparian areas can cause a decline in stream health. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.



For details about the 'Rapid Appraisal of Riparian Condition: Technical Guideline for the wool-growing regions of Tasmania', see page 76.





### Stream health checklist

Answer yes or no to the questions below			No
1	Does vegetation (of any kind) cover at least 85% of the ground in your riparian area?		
2	Is the ground in your riparian area soft, spongy and full of organic matter, with no pugging evident along the banks?		
3	Does vegetation provide some shade along the banks?		
4	Are the majority of plants in your riparian area deep-rooted perennial species?		
5	Is there a mix of different kinds of plants, including trees, shrubs, grasses, herbs and reeds in your riparian area?		
6	If the answer to 5 is <b>yes</b> is the strip of native vegetation along the banks at least 5 metres wide and continuous?		
7	Are there reeds and other plants growing in-stream, particularly if riparian vegetation is lacking?		
8	Is your riparian area dominated by native plant species?		
9	Is your riparian vegetation connected to other patches of native vegetation?		
10	Is there leaf litter and fallen logs on the ground and in the water?		
11	Are there standing dead trees and hollow-bearing trees in your riparian area?		
12	Are there seedlings of the local native trees and shrubs in your riparian area?		
13	Have there been any alterations to the channel which have caused a change in the frequency or timing of flood events?		
14	Is the water clear and free of surface scums of algae?		
15	Is there a diversity of small woodland birds (e.g. robins, honeyeaters, wrens, fantails), mammals (e.g. bandicoots and bettongs), frogs, reptiles and native fish in your riparian area?		

If you answered "yes" in the majority of these boxes there is a good chance your river is in good health. The boxes answered "no" provide an indication of where work may still be needed. An explanation for what each these checklist indicators means can be found in the next few pages.

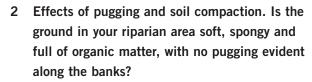


1 Bare ground. Does vegetation (of any kind) cover at least 85% of the ground in your riparian area?

Effects of bare ground:

- increased runoff
- increased sediment, nutrients entering water
- loss of good farming land
- aquatic life smothered

Bare ground can be a result of natural erosion processes along rivers, particularly on vertical banks or after major flooding events. However, bare ground caused by overgrazing and trampling may indicate that the health of the riparian area is declining.



Effects of pugging:

- increased runoff
- increased sediment, nutrients entering water
- poor habitat for soil organisms
- increased bank erosion

Soil compaction and pugging, caused by hardhooved animals, damage the soil structure and exacerbate the problems caused by bare ground in riparian areas.

### Shade along the banks. Does vegetation provide some shade along the banks?

Effects of lack of shade:

- aquatic animals killed by high temperatures
- nuisance algae and aquatic plants grow unchecked

Shade along the banks, preferably in the form of overhanging trees or shrubs, or at least tall reeds, helps keep water temperatures low and reduces light levels. This is particularly important in small streams with low flows, where shade can really make a difference. Clearly larger rivers are not going to be shaded by vegetation out in the middle. However, shade along the banks will benefit aquatic animals and reduce algal growth.









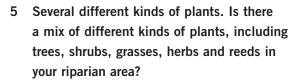


### 4 Deep-rooted plants. Are the majority of plants in your riparian area deep-rooted perennial species?

Effects of shallow-rooted plants:

- less stable banks
- higher water tables
- increased risk of salinity problems
- more prone to drought

Deep-rooted plants, particularly trees and shrubs, but also native perennial grasses, help stabilise the banks. The roots of these plants extend right through the depth of the bank as far as the mean low water level of the stream, and are the major contributor to bank stability, particularly in sandier soils.

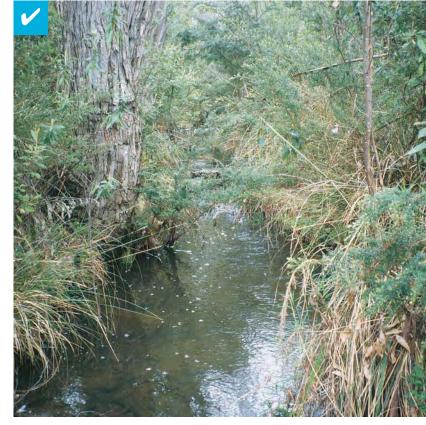


Effects of lack of diversity:

less suitable habitat for riparian animals

A mixture of different kinds of plants, including trees, shrubs, grasses, herbs and reeds, provides structural diversity and contributes to all the key riparian functions. Apart from the benefits already discussed, a range of different kinds of plants provide food and habitat (places to live and breed) for a wide range of animals which depend on riparian areas. For example, many species of woodland birds depend on a shrubby layer for perches and places to hide, while reptiles require low shrubs and tussocks. Many different sorts of insects and other invertebrates such as spiders live in different types of plants, and are important both as predators of other insects and as food for other animals.





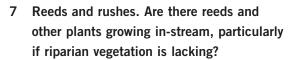


6 Riparian buffers and corridors. If the answer to 5 is "yes" is the strip of native vegetation along the banks at least 5 metres wide and continuous?

Effects of lack of a corridor:

- difficult for small native animals to move across open paddocks between patches of native vegetation
- plants and animals cannot recolonise isolated patches of vegetation
- narrow strips are more prone to weeds and the effects of disturbance

A continuous strip of vegetation, in addition to helping perform the functions discussed above, will also provide a 'corridor', allowing native birds and other animals to move around the landscape. This is particularly important in dry landscapes such as the Midlands, where floodplains have been largely cleared. To be effective, a corridor must be at least 5 metres wide, but the wider the better. A width of 30-40 metres would provide a useful corridor for the majority of animals.



Effects of lack of aquatic plants:

- less suitable habitat for aquatic animals
- increased flow rates and more bank erosion

In the absence of much riparian vegetation, aquatic plants can provide cover, sources of food and shelter from predators for aquatic animals. They also help slow the river and protect the banks from erosion.











### 8 Native plants. Is your riparian area dominated by native plant species?

You may need some help with this one if you are unfamiliar with different kinds of plants. However, the common weeds, such as willows, gorse, hawthorn, briar rose and blackberries, as well as the majority of annual (short-lived) pasture grasses and weeds are introduced species, while the majority of other woody species (trees and shrubs) and many perennial (long-lived) grass, herb and reed species are native. While many introduced species of plants can provide some important riparian functions, such as helping to stabilise banks, shading the stream and providing some habitat for native animals, native species of plants generally perform these functions better. Native animals generally prefer to use native plant species for food and living places, simply because they are adapted to them.

#### Effects of willows:

- widening of small channels
- narrowing of large channels
- logs provide poor fish habitat due to rapid breakdown
- seasonal leaf drop reduces water quality
- outcompete native species

### 9 Connectivity. Is your riparian vegetation connected to other patches of native vegetation?

Riparian vegetation will function best as a corridor if there are other patches of remnant native vegetation connected to it, through which native animals can move. It is recommended that a minimum of 30% of your property should remain uncleared or be restored to native vegetation, and that the patches should be linked by corridors, to provide the best possible chance for native animals, particularly small birds, mammals and reptiles, to survive.

Photo Danielle Warfe









### 10 Logs and leaf litter. Is there leaf litter and fallen logs on the ground and in the water?

Effects of lack of debris:

- little habitat and food for aquatic and riparian animals
- flood waters more powerful, causing more erosion
- riparian soils dry out more quickly

Logs in the riparian area, as well as in-stream, provide important habitat for a variety of small animals. Leaf litter on the ground and falling into the stream, provide an important food source and hiding place for large numbers of small insects and other invertebrates. In fact, a large proportion of aquatic organisms in natural systems rely almost entirely on leaf litter for food and nutrients. Riparian areas which look 'untidy', with lots of logs and litter, etc. are much better places for animals than areas where all of the debris has been removed and should not be 'cleaned up'.

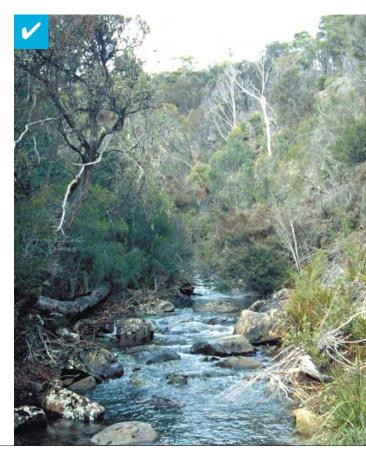
# 11 Dead trees and hollows. Are there standing dead trees and hollow-bearing trees in your riparian area?

Effects of lack of dead trees and hollows:

- few perches and roosts
- lack of nesting sites

Standing dead trees, and hollow-bearing trees (hollows are usually present in large old trees which have dead broken-off branches), provide perching and nesting places for a variety of birds and mammals, including parrots, bats, owls, etc. While a large number of dead trees is clearly not a good sign, particularly if there are no live ones, by keeping a few they will add to the habitat value of your riparian area.









# 12 Seedlings. Are there undamaged seedlings of the local native trees and shrubs in your riparian area?

Effects of lack of regeneration:

 no replacement of existing plants when they are lost

If riparian areas are to remain healthy, there needs to be continuous regeneration for different species to persist. Grazing and browsing animals can damage seedlings every time they start to sprout, so that they never grow. If there has been a flood or fire which has stimulated regeneration, it is a good idea to exclude stock until the seedlings have grown enough to be safe from browsing.



### Other indicators

Some other indicators can be used to assess the 'bigger picture' of the health of the river system as a whole — as part of the landscape and over time. To assess these indicators, you will need to become familiar with your river over time and learn how it functions within the landscape.

# 13 Extent and frequency of flooding. Have there been any alterations to the channel which have caused a change in the frequency or timing of flood events?

Role of flooding:

- floods supply floodplains with water, sediment and seeds
- flood disturbance brings new life to riparian zones

Upstream dams and diversions can affect the frequency and timing of flood events in your section of the river. This can have consequences for the vegetation in the riparian area, which has adapted over a long period of time to a particular pattern of flooding. Too much water and some plants may die from waterlogging, while too little water and some soils may become too dry for riparian plants. The disturbance caused by flooding is also important for the regeneration of many riparian species. Flooding opens up new spaces for plants to colonise, releases seed from canopies and stimulates germination from the soil seed bank. Levee banks, channel straightening and deepening, either on your property or upstream, can affect the extent of flooding, perhaps preventing any flood waters from reaching the riparian area (except in very large floods). The riparian area is unique because it does flood regularly, so reducing flooding here means that the vegetation will gradually change from a riparian community to one adapted to drier and/or less disturbed sites, with consequent loss of diversity and other values.

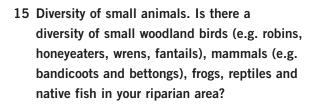


### 14 Water quality. Is the water clear and free of surface scums of algae?

Effects of poor water quality:

- death of aquatic life
- overgrowth of nuisance plants and algae in-stream
- unhealthy for stock and people

Detailed assessment of water quality requires laboratory analysis, but a few simple indicators can be assessed on-site. Clear water, with no sediment, that enables you to see the bottom of the channel, is a good sign that soil is not being washed in from up-slope or upstream. Green scums of algae that cover the surface of the water can be a sign of high nutrient levels and/or light levels. On smaller streams, and near headwaters, water quality can be influenced by what is happening in your riparian area. However, as you move further downstream and into bigger rivers, water quality may be determined much more by what is happening upstream, which you may not be able to influence.



It should be clear from the discussions above that many elements go into making a good place for small native animals to live. If there are lots of these often present, then clearly your riparian area is functioning well in this respect. However, lots and lots of starlings, sparrows and rabbits are clearly not what we want! It matters what kinds of animals are present. Patient looking and listening might be required to detect some of these animals.













Controlling sheep acces to riparian land (right side of diagram) is the key step to maintaining waterways in good condition. Illustration Paul Lennon.

The table below shows the relationships between the indicators discussed earlier and the key functions of riparian areas. A tick shows a positive link between the indicator and the function, while a cross indicates a negative impact.

	Functions						
Indicators	Trap sediment	Stabilise banks	Store water and energy	Filter and buffer water	In-stream life	Riparian life	Corridors
Bare ground	×	×	×	×	×	×	×
Pugging, soil compaction	×	X	×	×		×	
Shade				~	~		
Deep-rooted plants	<b>✓</b>	<b>~</b>	~				
Diversity of plants	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>			<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	~
Continuous vegetation	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	<b>~</b>
Aquatic plants	~	<b>~</b>	~		~		
Native plants		<b>~</b>	~	~	~	<b>✓</b>	~
Connectivity					~	<b>✓</b>	~
Debris	<b>✓</b>			~	<b>~</b>	<b>✓</b>	~
Dead trees and hollows						<b>✓</b>	
Seedlings	<b>V</b>		<b>V</b>	<b>/</b>	WORK TO STATE OF THE STATE OF T	<b>V</b>	<b>V</b>

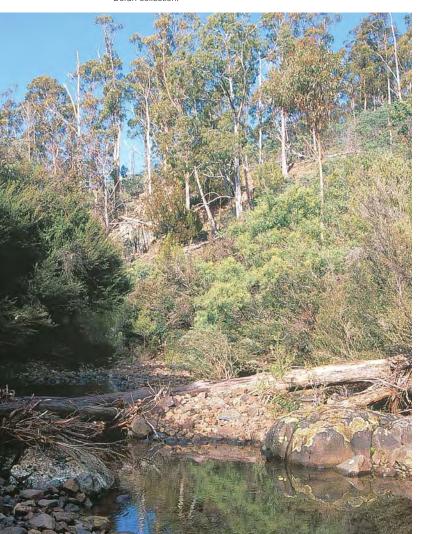


### Managing rivers — how can we do it?

There are a number of things we can do to improve the condition and health of our rivers and riparian areas. Restoring at least some of the key functions of riparian areas will provide many benefits — to our native plants and animals, to the quality of our water, and to our wool growing enterprises and other uses of riparian areas and rivers. This section looks at some of the key issues related to managing and restoring rivers including:

- 1. Appropriate widths for the riparian zone
- 2. Retaining native vegetation
- 3. Revegetation
- 4. Managing stock
- 5. Weed management

This stretch of river is in good condition. Making decisions that will protect and maintain this asset is a part of managing natural resources so that they can provide a range of positive environmental, economic and social benefits. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.



### 1. How wide should my riparian area be?

There is no simple answer to this question; it depends on a variety of factors such as:

- the management objectives
- the size of the river and its floodplain
- the location of your area along the catchment
- the slope of the surrounding landscape.

The following table provides a summary of the minimum widths of native riparian vegetation that are considered necessary to achieve particular management objectives. The best width will vary depending on the circumstances and the condition of the existing riparian zone. As a general rule, wider is better and will last longer. A well managed riparian area will enable you to achieve increases in both productivity and environmental condition. Wider riparian buffers reduce weed invasion, provide greater shade to the stream, reducing water quality problems and improving habitat quality. Healthy, wide riparian zones help prevent erosion, ensuring your land stays where it belongs rather than disappearing down the river to your neighbours.

Management objective	Recommended minimum width
Improve water quality	10 metres
Reduce streambank erosion	Half the channel width
Maintain natural light and temperature levels	10 metres
Provide food inputs and in-stream habitat	10 metres
Provide habitat for riparian life	30 metres
Provide corridors	10 metres

Further information, 'Managing riparian widths', Fact Sheet 13, Land & Water Australia.



### 2. Getting native plants back along your river

Retaining native vegetation

Retaining healthy riparian vegetation is the cheapest and most effective way of preventing degradation, as there is usually no rehabilitation required. Maintaining healthy native vegetation may simply mean keep managing it the way you already are. At most it may require fencing and monitoring for weeds. These native riparian areas are also an important source of seeds to help the recovery of downstream areas.

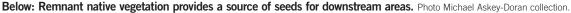
In areas where the native vegetation has been lost, some form of intervention is likely to be needed. Options include natural regeneration, direct seeding, and planting. Each of these options is discussed on the following pages.





### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Andrew and Diana Cameron, Marathon "I started fencing off the creek 15 years ago, back in the last wool boom. It has started regenerating naturally. So I fenced off about two or three kilometres then. There has been very little tree recovery but there has been good native grass and tea-tree recovery, but not many eucalypts. Game are pretty hard on eucalypts. Where there is native vegetation there is not much point doing replanting. As long as the ground is stable, that is the most important thing. If there is tea-tree and sedges and tussocks and then it is OK. We have got 75% of the property in reserve and then on top of that we have got streamside exclusion zones for several kilometres."









The transformation between 1986 and 2004, where the only difference has been a fence to exclude stock. Photos Biz Nicolson.

### Natural regeneration — the best, easiest and cheapest method

Natural regeneration is a cheap and easy way to revegetate riparian areas. For natural regeneration to be successful there needs to be a ready supply of seeds stored in the soil or in the canopy of plants on site or upstream. The fact that there appear to be no small seedlings at the moment does not mean there are no seeds in the soil, as any new seedlings may be grazed immediately. Once stock are excluded anything that germinates naturally will have a better chance of surviving.

Nature has an enormous capacity to heal and rebuild the landscape, just fence the stream, remove livestock, sit back and do nothing! Pioneer plants are the first to establish along rivers, often in large numbers. Species such as Silver wattle *Acacia dealbata* and Tree everlasting

Ozothamnus ferrugineus are pioneer species found along rivers in the Midlands. These plants help rebuild the river landscape. The roots hold, condition and cool the soil ready for other seedlings. A variety of species will eventually dominate the landscape and pioneer plants will only appear again in large numbers when the land is trying to repair itself after damage from flood, fire, overgrazing or other disturbances. Simply fencing from livestock allows long grass to establish and this alone has many positive effects for the river including holding the soil, providing habitat for many small insects, reptiles, frogs and birds that cannot live amongst short grasses, filtering pesticides and nutrients and allowing the soil to become softer and more permeable to water, reducing runoff into the stream. If there is no regeneration after several years planting will need to be undertaken.

Tea-tree seedlings germinate after floods. Photo Rae Young.





### 3. Revegetating riparian areas

Revegetating riverbanks is in some ways a last resort option. That is, it is required where there is little or no native vegetation and the chances for natural regeneration are limited. In Tasmania, revegetation needs to be carefully considered as it involves significant investment in time, effort and resources. However, when successful it can deliver multiple benefits to both the river and the property.

### Purpose of planting and methods

Revegetation of streambanks is usually done:

- to stabilise streambanks
- to improve water quality
- to provide habitat for fauna
- to provide economic benefits.

The aims of the planting will determine the approach to revegetation taken. For example, planting to improve water quality may be most effective along the small drainage lines that run through paddocks. Planting to stabilise banks will be most effective at the toe of the bank and on areas susceptible to erosion.

Once the aims of the revegetation are established it will be important to identify methods. The work may involve several techniques depending on the nature of the site or a single method. Whether it is direct seeding or planting or both, plants and seeds will need to be sourced, equipment and materials (fencing, growing or bulking mediums etc) organised.

The two most common methods used in revegetation are direct seeding and planting nursery stock. Planning is an essential part of successful revegetation and should occur at least 12 months ahead. Planning needs to consider:

- seed collection
- ordering plants, which are likely to require time to grow — up to 18 months depending on method (tubestock, advanced plants, longstem tubestock)
- site preparation (weed control, ripping)
- monitoring and maintenance.

#### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Frank and Milly Youl, Barton

"The long-term plan is to fence the river off. We have got it fenced in odd places, we have got a bit more to do there. We haven't done any replanting but when we fence off there will be enough things happen, silver tussock and tea-tree and stuff that will be there to do that."





Potos Laura F

Replanting was necessary at this location since there were no nearby sources of seed for natural regeneration.



Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection

### **Planting**

Planting is an effective means of revegetating areas and the outcomes are usually more predictable than for direct seeding. A number of different methods can be used including tubestock, longstem tubestock and advanced plants.

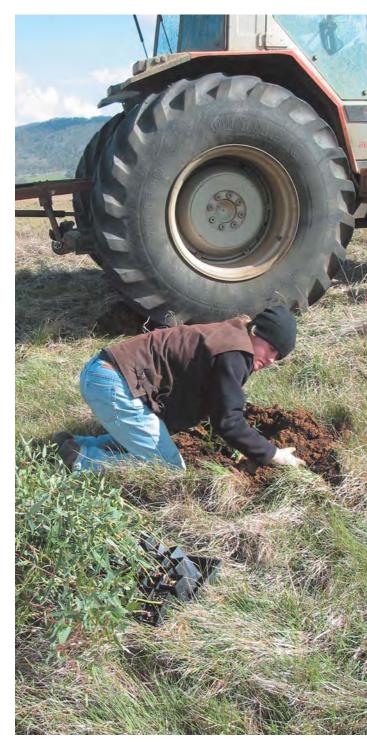
### **Tubestock plants**

Tubestock are grown from seed with an initial addition of fertiliser, grown for 6 months and put outside for hardening after 2 months. They are the easiest way to put in a large number of plants as they are relatively cheap and easy to plant. The site needs to be well prepared, with the removal of competition for water and nutrients from introduced grasses. If the site is in a flood prone area spot spraying is adequate. Planting can be undertaken when the ground is moist and unlikely to dry out for some months. Plant losses can be high if there is an extended dry spell after planting. Guarding will need to be undertaken if browsing is a problem.

### **Advanced plants**

More advanced plants are potted on from tubestock with fertiliser mixed into the soil and grown for 18 months in 140 mm pots or 24 months in 200 mm pots. In sites where browsing animals are a problem a few well grown trees may be a better option than many smaller cheaper trees that don't survive. Advanced plants have bigger root systems, are less likely to dry out, can withstand outbreaks of grazing and competition for moisture from surrounding grasses. Investing in a few advanced trees every year can have a significant effect on the landscape.





Photos Rae Young





Left: Before replanting this site was prepared by herbicide spraying to reduce competition from weeds. Right: It was planted with a mix of trees and shrubs. Photos this page and opposite page Rae Young.

### Success of plantings using different types of nursery stock

The table below shows the success of plantings of different types of nursery stock at two different sites on the Macquarie River. It is clear that survival varied greatly between the different sites, but larger plants tended to do better.

### Per cent survival after two years:

	Lewisham	Beaufront
Plant type	% survival	% survival
Advanced plants (140 mm)	15.3	19.2
Advanced plants (200 mm)	21.5	50.5
Longstems	18.9	50.5
Tubestock	20.1	6.9
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### **Longstem plants**

Longstems are started as seedlings germinated in trays without fertiliser then pricked on into tubes with a special concentrated nutrient regime that aims to stimulate vertical growth but burn off roots (i.e. limit root expansion). These plants remain in tubes for 18 months, making sure the outer layer of the stem is hardened. Advantages of longstems and advanced plants include their improved tolerance to drought because of more deeply penetrating root systems and a capacity to cope with grazing because of their height.

Planting involves making a metre deep hole using a waterjet or post hole digger and the entire plant except for the top 5–10 cm is immersed into the cool, moist sub-soil. Soil is put back into the hole and watered well to remove air pockets. The plant now becomes a live cutting with each leaf node producing roots. The plant quickly develops a robust root system, allowing it to withstand floods and extended dry spells. With a large root system in moist ground these plants grow very quickly and are ideal for erosion control or in dry areas. Plants are more expensive than regular tubestock and take longer to plant.



Regrowth at the site one year later.

### **Direct seeding**

Direct seeding is quick, cheap and effective. Direct seeding of native trees and shrubs, like any field crop, requires excellent site preparation and watering or follow up rains to get good results. The areas to be sown need to be completely bare as grass and weeds will compete with germinating seed. Direct seeding is not appropriate if the site is likely to erode or if in a flood prone area as seed may wash away; however it is ideal along feeder creeks especially if near irrigated paddocks where the site can be watered. Direct seeding can be completed by contractors or by hand spreading of seed. Direct seeding is ideal for revegetating on a broadscale as very little effort is required, it's quick, easy and can be very effective if the conditions are right.

A simple form of direct seeding is the use of slash cut from local bank species; tea-tree works particularly well for this purpose. This can be pinned down with ringlock on bare areas. The capsules on the tea-tree will drop seeds and the slash will protect the seedlings from browsing and weather. Choose slash containing grey and woody capsules closed at the top.

Regrowth at the site two years later.

The ground may need to be prepared including weed removal and ripping / scarifying the soil. On bare patches it may simply be a matter of using a heavy rake on any areas that have formed a hard crust that might inhibit germination and moisture absorption.

### **Species selection**

The species used in riparian revegetation should reflect the locality and purpose of the planting. Local native plants provide the specific food, habitat and structure that birds and other animals require. Seeds and plants will be of the same 'provenance' which means that they will already be adapted to local temperature and other environmental conditions. Information on the common native plants found in riparian areas in some of Tasmania's wool growing districts can be found in Appendix 1.





### Position of plants

When revegetating, the siting of different species is also important. The riparian area can be broken down into sections, each of which have slightly different characteristics, and consequently support different types of plants. For example, along some rivers woolly tea-tree most commonly occurs right on the edge of the stream, whilst blackwood and dogwood occur further back. Tea-tree may find it too dry further back from the river whilst the blackwood and dogwood may find it too wet right on the river's edge. It is important to try and replicate this pattern when revegetating the banks. It will also improve the success of your revegetation.

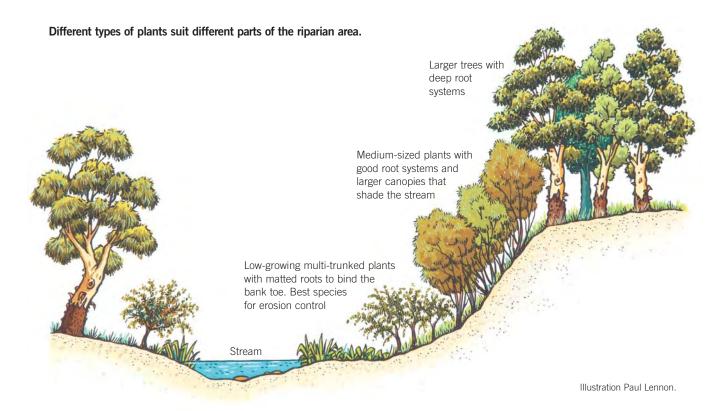
Sedges and herbaceous species are important in protecting the toe area of riverbanks. Species such as *Carex*, *Juncus*, *Schoenus* and *Eleocharis* have extensive underground root systems, which bind the soils. Many nurseries grow these plants, but they should also be encouraged to establish along the river if they occur locally.

Grasses and sedges in the clumps that have fallen from the tops of the banks can establish and help stabilise the toe, but this will only happen once some of the stream energy has been reduced. In some cases other actions may be needed to stabilise the banks before revegetation of the toe and vertical faces of banks can be proceed.

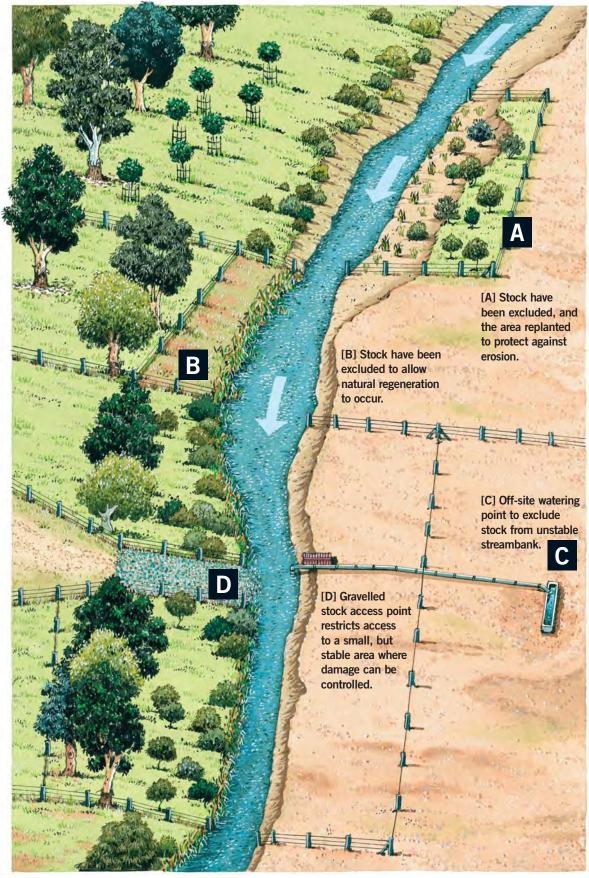
The soils on the bank faces are generally unfriendly, being compacted and having limited fertility. The banks are under regular pressure from the erosive action of water and any vegetation which establishes may be washed away. There may be a need to reduce the angle of the banks and run a heavy rake over them in order to break up any surface crusts, prior to revegetation.

To successfully revegetate the tops of riverbanks, a range of local tree, shrub and groundcover species can be used. The roots of trees and shrubs will penetrate deep into the soil profile helping to bind the soils together.

The information in Appendix 1 indicates where in the riparian area each species is likely to grow.

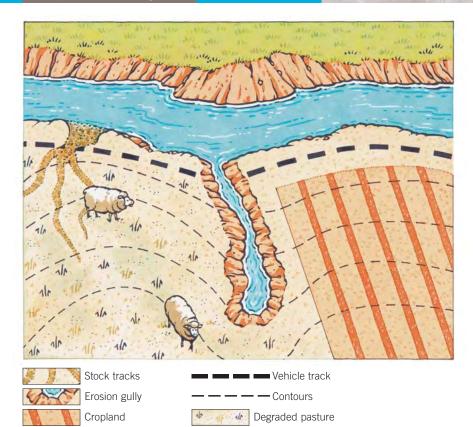


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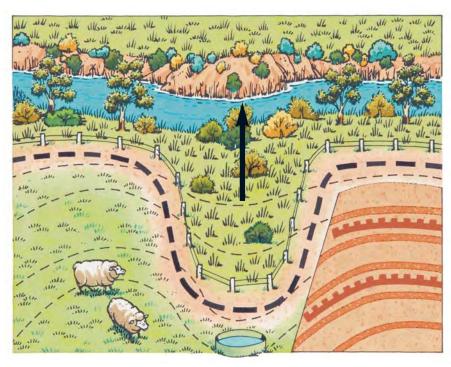


This diagram illustrates how management needs can vary along a watercourse and how you can stage your efforts of revegetating and restricting stock access to when time and resources are available. Illustration Paul Lennon.

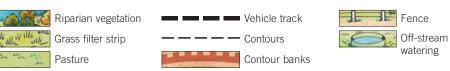




A degraded stream and riparian area. Significant sediment and nutrient is derived from degraded pasture, poor crop layout, unlimited stock access and gully erosion. Illustrations Paul Lennon.

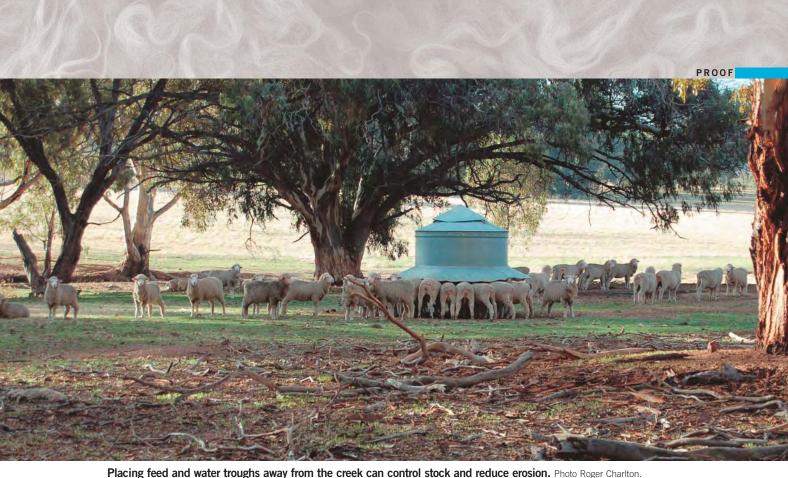


A riparian filter strip protects water quality by trapping sediment, absorbing nutrients and providing shade over the stream to reduce water temperatures. Crop layout and a vigorous pasture with good cover reduce the potential for soil erosion.



Concentrated flow

Cropland



### 4. Keeping stock where they belong

In order to protect plantings or maintain a healthy river environment, it is important that access by stock is controlled. This generally means fencing, but does not necessarily result in stock being totally excluded, rather the timing and stocking rate is carefully managed. Ideally riparian areas should be fenced above the limits of the highest flood, to minimise flood damage to fencing, etc. However, if this is not possible, or if grazing is to be totally excluded, there are a number of things to consider. The location and type of fencing used will depend on the purpose, topography, size of the area, flood regime and stock type.



### **Grazing principles**

There are a number of techniques which can be used to reduce the impact of grazing in riparian areas (and other parts of the property if you wish to maintain healthy native vegetation in your grazing paddocks). These are:

- 1. Balance animal demand with available feed:
  - Determine stocking rates so that available feed is utilised, but there is enough plant material left to allow the plants to regrow and to protect the soils, conserve moisture and trap sediment. A minimum of 70% plant cover should be maintained at all times.
- 2. Distribute livestock impact evenly across the landscape:
  - Use a variety of tools such as fencing (temporary or permanent) and watering points to control where stock graze so that no particular areas become overgrazed (see following pages).

Uncontrolled stock access. Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.



RIVERS AND WATER QUALITY



Well fenced stock crossing. Photo Roger Charlton.

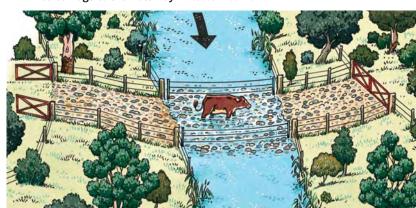
- 3. Minimise or avoid grazing at vulnerable times, including:
  - For riparian areas this may be when soils and banks are saturated and vulnerable to damage from trampling.
  - When there is little available green feed available, and livestock are likely to start browsing trees and shrubs.
  - Periods when native grasses are flowering and setting seed. Some native grasses handle being grazed quite well, but if they are never able to set seed, they will eventually be lost from the site, leading to a decline in feed quality and loss of perennial plants.
  - Periods after fires and floods, while recovery from the disturbance is occurring, and when many native plants are likely to germinate.
- 4. Allow areas rest after being grazed:
  - Plants need some time, during the growing season, to rest so that they can rebuild roots and put on new growth for their long-term survival.

### Stock watering options

Given the choice, stock generally prefer to drink clean water from a trough rather than muddy, contaminated water in a stream. Keeping stock out of streams permanently will involve providing alternative watering. Several options exist:

Formed access points at suitable sites along the watercourse. They should be situated on the inside of meander bends in areas which already have a hardened base. Alternatively, the area can be protected with rocks or other materials to prevent erosion. Points chosen should be relatively flat and stock should not be able to move up or downstream or into adjacent riparian areas. Note that these principles also apply if you need to construct crossing points on your stream, to allow movements of stock between paddocks on opposite sides.

An example of how a stock crossing can be constructed to minimise damage to the waterway. Illustration Paul Lennon.



- Water troughs outside the riparian zone.
   Water can be fed to troughs by gravity or pumping. These can be set up to be shared between two paddocks, or as a central watering point in a cell grazing system.
- There is a range of pumps available, including solar powered, electric and nose pumps (which allow cattle to regulate water in the trough).

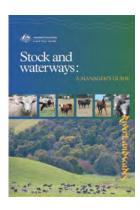
One of the most effective ways to provide off-stream watering is to capture water in higher country using a dam and then gravity feed down to troughs. These may be used as a central watering point in a cell grazing system, shared between paddocks, or moved periodically to spread grazing pressure and improve feed utilisation. The dam needs to be large enough to store enough water for stock needs throughout the year or longer and evaporation losses need to be taken into consideration.

Gravity fed water is the cheapest option but if this isn't possible water can be pumped from the stream to troughs or to a higher storage point where it can then be gravity fed to troughs down slope. There is a range of pumps available including ram pumps which use the streamflow to operate a ram that pumps a smaller volume of water up to a storage tank, solar powered and air—driven pumps.

# For further information about pumps and fences (described overleaf), see publications section beginning on page 75.

Managing Streamsides: Stock control, fencing and watering options, David Wright and Terence Jacobson, DPIW.

Stock and waterways: A manager's guide, Jillian Staton and Jenny O'Sullivan, LWA.





Above: Portable trough. Photo Jenny O'Sullivan.

Below: This "ecotrough", developed by David and Ruth Read, shows reeds planted in a restricting container. When grown the reeds will keep the water temperature down. Photo David and Ruth Read.





**Above: Nose pump.** Photo Michael Askey-Doran collection.

**Below: Solar powered pump with back up petrol pump.** Photo Roger Charlton.





### Fencing options in flood prone areas

Fencing streams is sometimes easier said than done. Streams with high banks that can be fenced above the limits of the highest flood can be fenced using regular farm fencing but streams on the floodplain can be a challenge. In order to ensure the streambank and channel remain stable and benefit the property, an adequate width needs to be fenced (preferably more than 6 metres). Fencing on floodplains can be achieved more readily when the fencing is parallel to water flow but this is often not possible and minimising flood damage to fences can be achieved in a number of ways.

There are a number of fencing options available for riparian areas. These include:

- drop and lay down fences
- electric fences
- suspended fences and flood gates
- non-electric suspended fences
- electrified flood gates
- permanent and semi-permanent electrified stream crossing fences
- semi-permanent fences with disposable sections
- mesh flood gates
- electronic fences.

These types of fences are discussed in more detail in the publications listed on the previous page.

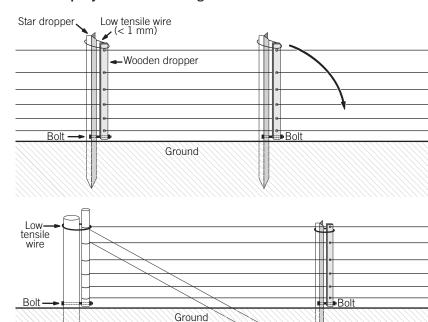
Electrified chain flood gate. Photo Jenny O'Sullivan.



#### Drop and lay down fences

Ian Bell has designed an innovative drop down fence (as seen on ABC's *The New Inventors* program) that has panels hinged at the bottom and held in place by a tension bolt at the top. When flood debris pushes against a slack wire underneath the mesh, the bolt is released and the fence lays flat on the ground allowing flood water and trash to pass over. Once the flood has passed the panel can be lifted up and re-hung using the tension bolt.

### Other drop/lay down fence designs



Drop/lay down fence. Upper diagram showing drop-down wooden posts at star droppers and bottom diagram showing drop-down end strainer post. Photo lan Bell.



### 5. Are weeds a problem?

Weeds like disturbed environments. Rivers are naturally prone to soil disturbances, and water provides a means to disperse weed seeds. Weeds will out-compete native species for light and nutrients, often growing faster than their native counterparts. The number and diversity of weeds in riparian areas increases as the stream or river flows downstream from the healthier headwaters and into more highly developed and fertile alluvial soil flats. Weed infestations can also occur in highly degraded sites once grazing pressure is removed, particularly if there is a lot of bare ground and nutrient levels are high (both are common if livestock previously spent large amounts of time in the riparian area).

#### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Valerie Le Maitre. Lochiel

"We also have to keep track of the invasiveness of some of the odds and ends, which have come in. I think it is impossible to remove the crack willows and the cumbungi and that sort of stuff but I think an effort should be made to control it the best we can. I mean there should be an ongoing mechanism where you have been funded or after you have expended the money and paid for specific cleaning up of the river."





Crack willow infests many rivers in Tasmania. Photo Lizzie Pope.

#### Willows

Willows are a major environmental weed in the wool growing areas of Tasmania. Being naturally riparian species, they are perfectly adapted to colonising and thriving along Tasmania's rivers.

Generally, two methods for removing willows on the bank are used:

- cutting the willow off at stump level and painting it with a herbicide
- poisoning (stem injection, frill cuts or ringbarking) the entire tree on-site and cutting it off at stump level once dead.

Whatever method is used it is important that the stumps are retained in the ground to stabilise the streambanks until native vegetation has established. Willows growing in the stream channel are not so straightforward. Advice should be sought before their removal.









Top: Cut stump. Above: Stem injection. Below: replanting following willow removal. Photos Lizzie Pope.



It is important not to remove too much willow in a short period of time because:

- the greater the amount of willow removed from a river the greater the chance for problems such as erosion, and the harder it will be to manage any subsequent problems.
   Too much willow removal can impact on the ecology of the river
- the potential to release silt and destabilise soil is high. This will increase turbidity and blanket aquatic habitat with silt
- duty of care: we should always be good neighbours, and excessive clearing of willows can lead to water quality, flooding and channel stability problems downstream.
   It is important to work cooperatively with all landowners along the river.

### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Lindsay and Rae Young, Lewisham and Green Valley

"We have removed all the willows from half of the river and this winter we are going to plant longstems to try and get some native vegetation going. The other half of the river I want to actually do it the opposite way; get the native vegetation going before we remove the willows. Because at the moment the willows are the only things that are providing any shade at all for the river, for the fish or whatever."



noto Laura Eves

#### Other weeds

Gorse and hawthorn do not receive as much attention as willows but are significant riparian weeds. Traditionally gorse is controlled by fire, however this can be a problem in fire sensitive riparian vegetation. Fire is only a stop-gap measure as gorse has prolific soil seed banks and germinates freely after fire. Gorse removal needs to be done in a systematic way that may require a number of years of continued action. Hawthorn can be eradicated by the cut and paint method used for willows.

Before removing hawthorn, blackberries or gorse from riparian areas it is important to identify the role that they play in bank stability and habitat provision. Blackberries can protect seedlings from browsing animals. When no other riparian vegetation exists, blackberries and hawthorn should be left in place, or removed in small sections at a time (revegetating areas as they are cleared). In landscapes where little remnant vegetation remains, riparian areas, even if they are dominated by introduced species, may provide the last refuge for native animals.

Use only herbicides registered as suitable in water-courses. Seek advice from DPIW on the most suitable herbicide to use and how it should be applied.

#### **Further information**

Willow Management Guideline, Rivercare, DPIW.

Guideline for safe and effective herbicide use near water, Rivercare, DPIW.

Strategic planning for willow management in Tasmania, 2003, Tasmanian Conservation Trust.

'Controlling willows along Australian rivers', *Technical Guideline*, no. 6, LWA.





## Photo Laura

#### WOOLGROWER PERSPECTIVES

Damian Gee, Royslea and North View

"As kids we used to go down to the waterhole on St Paul's River with Mum in a vehicle and have a swim for an hour or so in the afternoon. It used to be all thick with gorse on the floodplain there. As part of the Landcare project we mulched the gorse and it did a good job. It is starting to come back in places so I will need to come in and spray it or rip it up to get on top of it. At a certain stage of the gorse, when it is really young, coming up from seed and shooting, the sheep actually eat it when it is still soft. The gorse was knocked down with a big roller on the front of the tractor and then behind it was mulched 6 inches into the ground. The gorse was over 10 feet high in places."

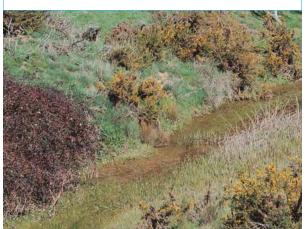


Photo Roger Char



## Bringing it all together — rivercare planning

The condition of our rivers is a major concern for land managers in Tasmania. Over the last decade community groups have undertaken a broad range of river rehabilitation projects ranging from straightforward fencing and revegetation through to more complex erosion and woody weed control measures. As these projects became more complex, and risks associated with undertaking works increased, the need for careful planning became essential. Rivercare planning is a means of documenting the condition of a river, identifying the issues affecting that condition, determining the appropriate strategies to improve condition and prioritising where works will be done.

Rivercare planning allows you to develop a clear picture of your river along with the issues and solutions so that right from the start you have a good idea of where the investment of time, effort and money can be most effective. It also helps you to avoid pitfalls, such as problems that are too difficult to tackle or the actual benefit received is relatively minor compared to the effort required. Planning places the problems along a river in context and helps you to determine the real causes



Water quality sampling, Tasmania. Photo courtesy Peter Davies.

for issues such as erosion. For example, erosion on one part of the river may appear bad, but in actual fact, it could have been like that for a long time, and is relatively minor compared to erosion elsewhere along the river. Additionally, the cause of that erosion may stem from a problem further upstream, and unless that is fixed, tackling the erosion on site may be a waste of time.

Rivercare planning can be broken down into a number of stages:

- 1. Initial consultation with landowners/ community group
- 2. Desktop study to gather information related to the river
- 3. River survey to identify:
  - biological and physical characteristics
  - river condition
  - important assets
  - management issues
- 4. Document findings of the river survey
- 5. Report findings and consult with community on priorities
- 6. Complete plan.

#### **Community consultation**

It is important that the rivercare plan is owned by the landowners that live along the river. For this to happen community consultation is essential to the development of the plan. The amount of consultation will vary from group to group, but there needs to be at least an initial meeting at the start and a reporting session towards the end before the plan is completed. Landowners should also participate in the surveys, as this allows them to pass on their knowledge of the river and its problems, as well as learn from the various "experts" that might be involved in the survey work.



#### **Desktop study**

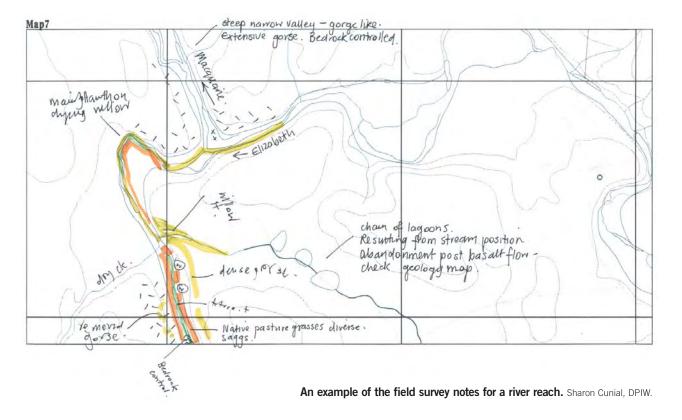
A desktop study provides an opportunity to gather any existing information on your river. This can be in the form of existing reports on water quality, flora and fauna surveys etc. Historical information exists in the form of old survey maps, aerial photos starting from the late 1940s, old paintings and sketches, diaries and historical studies. This information provides some insight into changes in the river over time and some clues on how the river looked when Europeans first arrived.

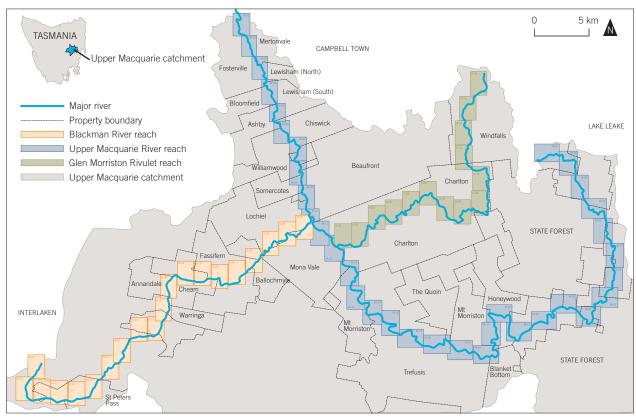
#### River characterisation

The aim of the river survey is to identify the natural biological and physical components of the river, determine the important functions they perform and assess their condition and potential to be restored. The physical component of the river is based on geomorphic or river-based landform units. These might include features such as valleys, gorges, floodplains and broadwaters. The biological component focuses largely on riparian vegetation, but there is no

reason that other biological components such as terrestrial fauna and aquatic bugs could not be included. Linkages between the physical and biological components are identified, especially in relation to condition and functions. For example, particular plant species and/or plant communities may be confined to rocky gorges or alluvial floodplains. By linking the biological surveys to the physical surveys, these relationships can be identified.

In assessing the condition of the river, scores or categories are used to define the relative condition of the vegetation and physical condition of the river. The vegetation is divided into areas dominated by woody weeds versus native vegetation, whilst the physical condition is broken down to different types of streambank and streambed problems. The extent to which the different components are broken down depends on the level of detail required in the plan. There are different methods available to assess condition including River Styles®, Rapid Assessment of Riparian Condition (RARC) and vegetation benchmarking.





River sections for the Upper Macquarie River Rivercare Plan. Hamlet (2002).

#### The rivercare plan

A rivercare plan contains the results of the surveys, desktop analysis and landowner consultations. The river survey results and condition analysis are usually presented in the form of maps and tables that cover sections of river from 1–2 kilometres in length. However, the scale at which the plan operates depends on the objectives of the plan and the amount of time and resources that are available. One of the main outputs of the plan is the list of priority actions for the landowners to implement. The priorities are classified from highest to lowest and include an explanation of possible actions required to address the problem.

The rivercare plan is most useful if it covers either the entire river or sub-catchments within a large river system. This allows the plan to address a range of issues that are affecting the condition of the river along multiple reaches. This provides a more accurate picture of what might be causing particular problems. Determining priorities for

rehabilitation is a much easier and more effective use of limited resources when done over several property frontages rather than for a single property. This however does not stop individual landowners implementing actions identified for their section of the river.

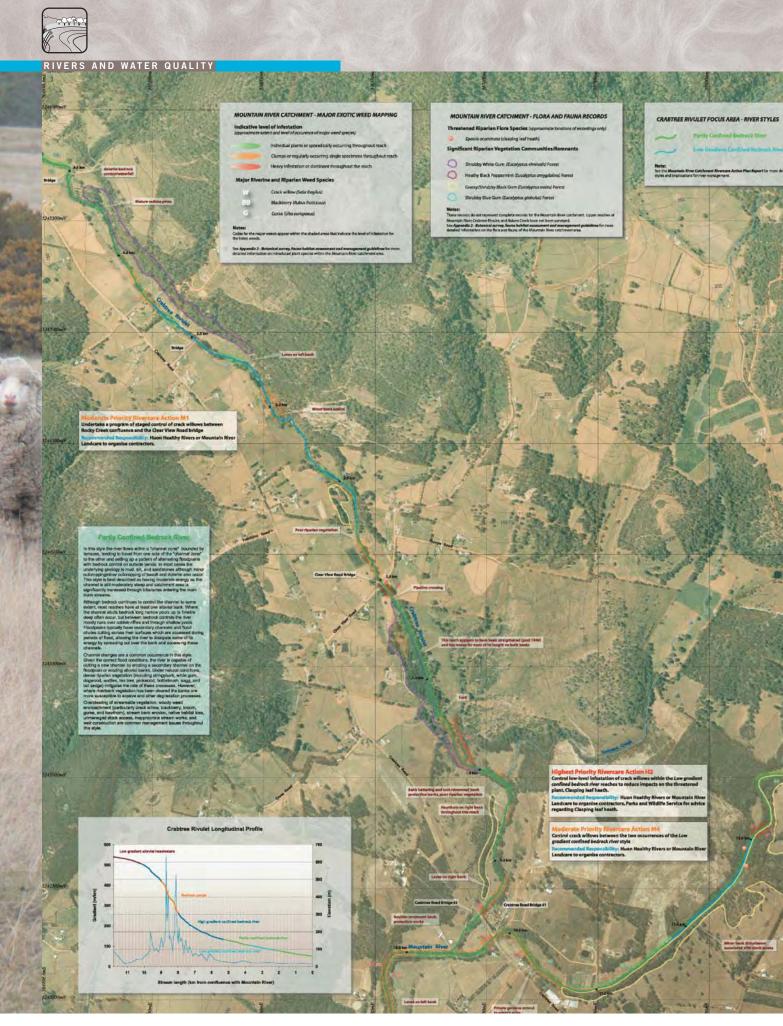
The map on the following pages shows an example of a rivercare plan represented as a map, with significant physical and biological characteristics identified and priority actions for different sections of the river outlined.

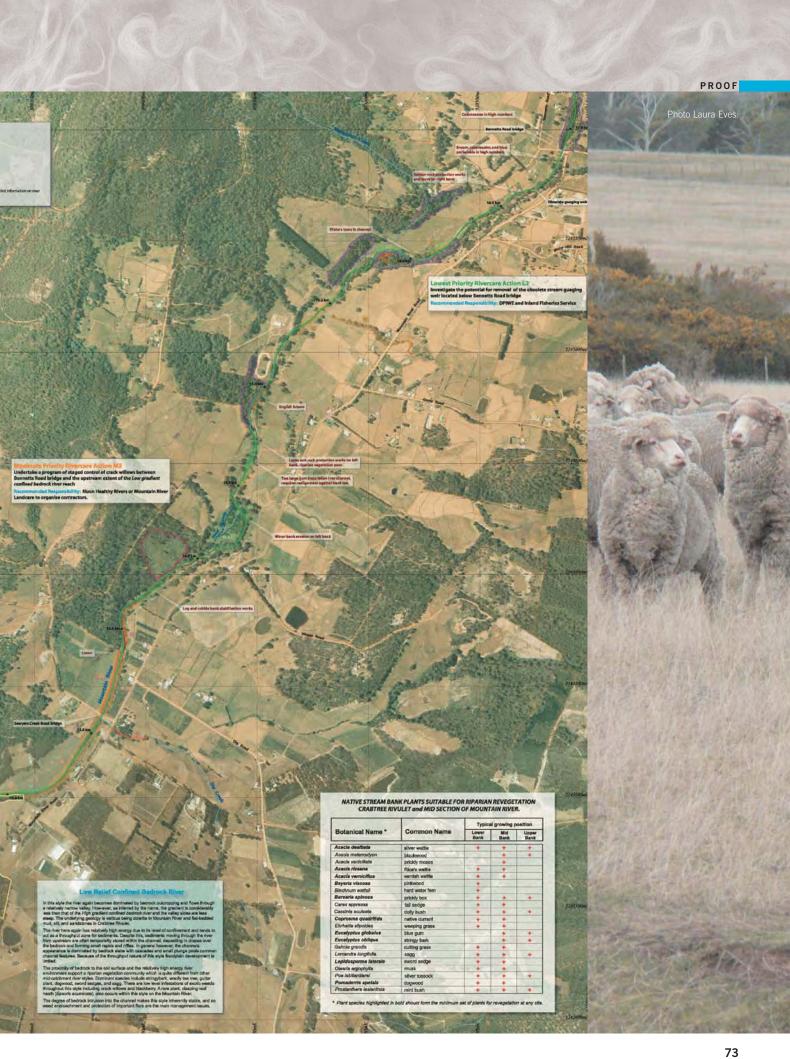
#### **Further reading**

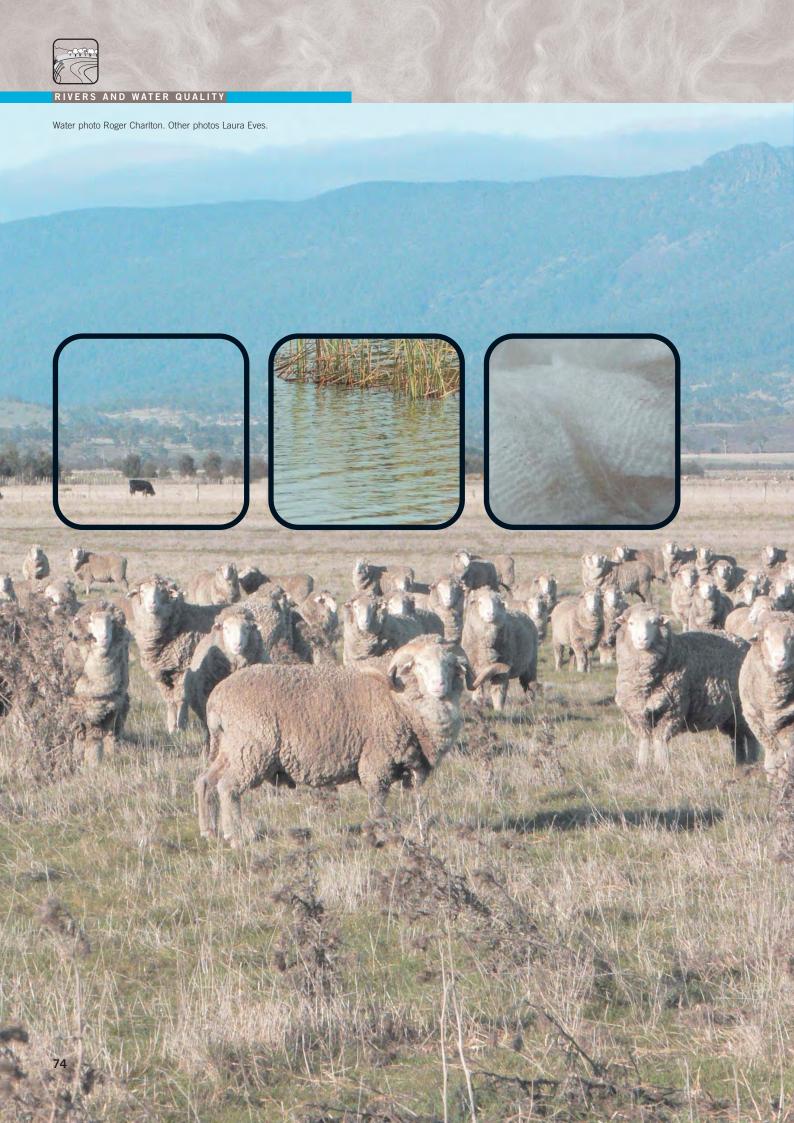
Geomorphology and River Management — Application of the River Styles Framework, 2005, Brierley, G. & Fryirs, K., Blackwell Publishing.

A Rehabilitation Manual for Australian Streams Volumes 1 & 2, 2000, Rutherfurd, I., Jerie, K. & Marsh N., Land & Water Australia.

Overleaf: Crabtree Rivulet Rivercare Plan. Telfer (2003).

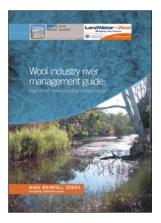




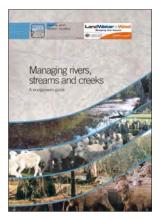


# Further information

## Publications for woolgrowers









The Wool industry river management guides bring together the latest science and recommended management practices for riparian areas within the context of a commercial wool growing property. The Guides are available for the high rainfall regions (above 600 mm) and sheep/wheat regions (300–600 mm) of Australia. Each book has over 200 full-colour pages.

In addition www.rivers.gov.au/lww offers an active contents list which will give you a snapshot of what is in each section.

High rainfall zone: product code PX050951 Sheep/wheat zone: product code PX050952 Managing rivers, streams and creeks:

A woolgrowers guide — is a summary of the key recommendations from the 'Wool industry river management guides' and provides an introduction to river and riparian management issues on farm.

Product code PX051003

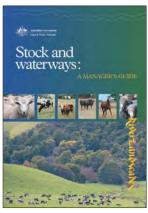
Are my waterways in good condition? — is a checklist that provides colour coded pictures that you can use to assess the condition of your stream or creek. It is a quick and easy way to work out the health of the streams or creeks running through your property, and it suggests management actions to improve or maintain these vital parts of your farm.

Product code PB061114

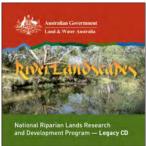












River insights — this publication features the stories of ten woolgrowers and what has motivated them to manage their rivers, creeks and streams in ways that make both economic and environmental sense.

Product code PK050950

Stock and waterways: a manager's guide — offers practical advice on how stock farmers can manage riparian land both productively and sustainably, and includes a number of case studies from farmers throughout Australia who have seen the benefits of changing their management practices.

Product code PR061132

Rapid Appraisal of Riparian Condition: Technical Guideline for the wool-growing regions of Tasmania — the Rapid Appraisal of Riparian Condition (RARC) is a 'tool' that enables people to assess the ecological condition of riparian habitats using indicators that reflect different features of riparian zone functioning. Training is required to use the RARC, contact DPIW on page 78.

Product code PB061229 (also available from DPIW)

River Landscapes Legacy CD — brings together 15 years of work by the National Riparian Lands R&D Program. It contains fact sheets, guidelines and manuals on different riparian management issues, as well as PowerPoint presentations that highlight key findings from the Program.

Product code EC061241

These products are available from CanPrint Communications on freecall 1800 776 616 in hard copy, or can be downloaded from — www.landwaterwool.gov.au or www.rivers.gov.au



## Tasmanian publications

Tasmanian Streambank Plants, Glazik, R., Askey-Doran, M. & Black, L. 2004, Rivercare Section, Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Hobart. This book aims to help people identify common plants that occur along Tasmanian streams. Thirty two plant species are described, with notes on their distribution, habitat, propagation and revegetation potential. Guidance is also provided on how to care for and manage these plants in riparian areas.

Willow Management Guideline, Rivercare Section, Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Hobart. The purpose of this guide is to provide an introduction to the impacts of willows on our environment and to offer a range of options for their management and control. The guide covers basic information on impacts, biology, planning, control techniques, monitoring and evaluation.









Growing native plants from seed in Tasmania,
Glazik, R. 2006, Rivercare Section, Department
of Primary Industries and Water, Hobart.
Propagating plants from seed requires little
equipment and can be very rewarding.
This pamphlet has information on: seed
collection, cleaning and storage, propagation
mixes, basic materials required for growing
plants, pre-germination requirements, time
from sowing to planting and, seed longevity.

Guideline for safe and effective herbicide use near water, Noble, M. 2002, Rivercare Section, Department of Primary Industries and Water, Hobart. This guide discusses ways to minimise the use and impacts of herbicides on waterways.







Postcard fact sheets on river management issues that matter to woolgrowers. These postcards provide fast facts on topics identified by woolgrowers as being important to know about when managing rivers and stock. Topics include managing cumbungi, algal blooms and the problems of rivers as unreliable boundaries. The easy-to-read style puts woolgrowers in touch with where to go for more information.

These Tasmanian products are freely available from the Department of Primary Industries and Water — www.dpiw.tas.gov.au

#### Other useful publications

Common Grasses of Tasmania:

An agriculturalists' guide, Lane, P., Morris,
D. & Shannon, G. 1999, Tasmanian
Environment Centre Inc., Hobart (www. tasmanianenvironmentcentre.org.au).

Managing Streamsides: Stock control, fencing and watering options, Wright, D. and Jacobson, T. 2000, Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment, Tasmania.

### Tasmanian contacts

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#### Cradle Coast NRM

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Web: www.nrmtas.org/about/regionSelect.shtml

### References

Askey-Doran, M.J. 1993, *Riparian vegetation in the Midlands and Eastern Tasmania*, Parks and Wildlife Service, Hobart, Tasmania.

Barrett et al. 2003, *The new atlas of Australian birds*, Birds Australia, Hawthorn East, Victoria.

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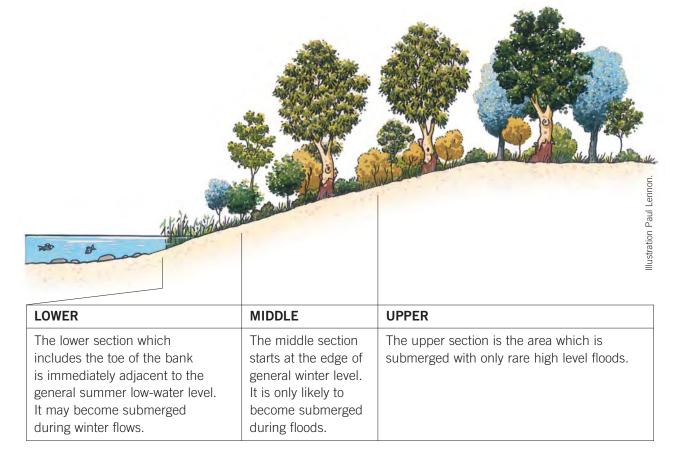
Telfer, D. 2003, *Mountain River Catchment* — *Rivercare Plan*, Mountain River Catchment Landcare Group.

# **Appendices**

# Appendix 1. Plant species found on some rivers in the wool growing areas of Tasmania

On the following pages are lists of plant species found within the given altitudinal ranges (metres above sea level) for a number of rivers in the wool growing areas of Tasmania (see map at the end of the section). For each river and altitudinal zone, lists of ground covers, shrubs and trees are provided for the lower, middle and upper sections of the riparian area. The figure below indicates these sections.

The lower section of the river may include marshes and the toe of the streambank. These areas will probably be submerged during flood events. The grassy or non-woody plants in this area often regenerate readily without the need for planting. Shrubs growing along the streambank edge are multi-trunked plants with fine matting roots that hold and bind the soil together. These plants are designed to bend without breaking during floods.



Note that only the most common plants found in each situation are listed. Asterisks indicate groups suitable for planting. These lists are derived from a survey of riparian vegetation in the Midlands by Askey-Doran (1993) and published in Munks (1996).

Profile 1. Macquarie River 100-200 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
Gratiola peruviana Austral brooklime	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Euryomyrtus ramosissima Rosy heath myrtle
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Acaena echinata Sheeps burr	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Gratiola peruviana Austral brooklime	Rumex brownii Swamp or slender dock
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Acaena echinata Sheeps burr
SHRUBS	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Gratiola peruviana Austral brooklime
TREES	SHRUBS*	Veronica gracilis Slender speedwell
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Melaleuca gibbosa Small leaved melaleuca	Carex appressa Tall sedge
	Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea	Juncus pauciflorus Loose flower rush
	TREES	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Themeda triandra Kangaroo grass
		Lomandra longifolia Sagg
		SHRUBS*
		Melaleuca gibbosa Small leaved melaleuca
		Epacris impressa Common heath
		TREES*
		Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree

Profile 2. Macquarie River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Dichondra repens Kidney weed
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Carex appressa Tall sedge
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
SHRUBS	SHRUBS*	SHRUBS*
Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Acacia verticillata Prickly mimosa
Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Acacia verticillata Prickly mimosa	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	TREES	TREES*
Olearia lepidophylla Clubmoss daisy bush	Eucalyptus viminalis White gum	Eucalyptus viminalis White gum
TREES	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
Allocasuarina littoralis Black she-oak	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood		



Profile 3. Macquarie River 300-400 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Lagenophora stipitata Blue bottle daisy	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Euchiton collinus Cud weed
Carex breviculmis Sedge	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Lagenophora stipitata Blue bottle daisy
Carex polyantha Sedge	Clematis aristata Australian clematis	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-edge	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poranthera microphylla Small poranthera
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Galium australe Tangled bedstraw	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Carex breviculmis Sedge	Pultenaea juniperina Prickly beauty
Juncus Rush	Lepidosperma filiforme Common rapier sedge	Rytidosperma dimidiatum Wallaby grass
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-edge	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
SHRUBS	Rytidosperma dimidiatum Wallaby grass	SHRUBS*
Cyathodes glauca Cheese berry	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Cyathodes glauca Cheese berry
Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
TREES	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Poa sieberiana Tussock grass	Dodonaea filiformis Fine-leaved hop-bush
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Pomaderris phylicifolia Narrow leaf pomaderris
	SHRUBS*	TREES*
	Cyathodes glauca Cheese berry	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Poranthera microphylla Small poranthera	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	
	Agrostis parviflora	
	TREES	
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	

Profile 4. Macquarie River 400-500 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Hydocotyle muscosa	Hydocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort	Hydocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort
Hydocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort	Lagenophora stipitata Blue bottle daisy	Euchiton collinus Cud weed
Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Ranunculus amphitricus River buttercup	Clematis aristata Australian clematis
Nymphioides exigua Marshwort	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Mazus pumulio Swamp mazus	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Veronica gracilis Slender speedwell	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike-rush	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Schoenus apogon Common or fluke bog-rush
Schoenus apogon Common or fluke bog-rush	Gonocarpus tetragynus Poverty raspwort	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Lachnagrostis filiformis Blown grass	Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike-rush	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	SHRUBS*
Juncus australis Austral rush	Schoenus apogon Common or fluke bog-rush	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
SHRUBS	Lachnagrostis filiformis Blown grass	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Notodanthonia semianularis Wallaby grass	TREES*
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Pomaderris phylicifolia Narrow leaf pomaderris
	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	
	SHRUBS*	
	Epacris gunnii Heath	
	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	
	TREES	
	Pomaderris phylicifolia Narrow leaf pomaderris	

Profile 5. Elizabeth River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Centella cordifolia	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Bossiaea riparia River leafless bossiaea	Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Poa sieberiana Tussock grass
Rytidosperma dimidiatum Wallaby grass	Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike-rush	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Echinopogon ovatus Hedgehog grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Juncus pauciflorus Loose flower rush
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	SHRUBS*	SHRUBS*
SHRUBS	Melaleuca ericifolia Swamp paperbark	Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea
Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Melaleuca ericifolia Swamp paperbark
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	TREES	TREES*
Melaleuca ericifolia Swamp paperbark	Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
		Pomaderris apetala Dogwood

Profile 6. Elizabeth River 300-400 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Hypericum japonicum Matted St John's wort	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Veronica calycine Hairy speedwell
Gratiola peruviana Austral brooklime	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass
Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike-rush	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass
Isolepis subtilissima	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Schoenus maschalimus Dwarf bog-rush	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass
Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Viola betonicifolia Purple violet	Poa gunnii Tussock grass
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
SHRUBS	SHRUBS*	Galium australe Tangled bedstraw
Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	Hakea epiglottis Beaked hakea	SHRUBS*
Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	TREES*
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
TREES	TREES	Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush
Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	
Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	
Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush	
	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	

Profile 7. Elizabeth River 400-500 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Veronica formosa Tasmanian speedwell	Lilaeopsis polyantha
Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
SHRUBS	Ozothamnus ferrugineus Tree everlasting	Rumex brownii Slender dock
Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike-rush	Clematis aristata Australian clematis
TREES	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Schoenus maschalinus Dwarf bog-rush	Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike-rush
	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass
	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Isolepis inundata Swamp club-rush
	SHRUBS*	Austrodanthonia racemosa Wallaby grass
	Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	Deyeuxia quadrisesta Reed bent-grass
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Poa gunnii Tussock grass
	Leptospermum scoparium Manuka	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
	TREES	Veronica calycina Hairy speedwell
	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	SHRUBS*
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Epacris acuminata
	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa
		Leptospermum scoparium Manuka
		Hakea epiglottis Beaked hakea
		Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
		Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush

Profile 7. continued

	TREES*
	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood

Profile 8. Elizabeth River 500-600 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Hydrocotyle hirta Pennywort	Hydrocotyle hirta Pennywort	Hydrocotyle hirta Pennywort
Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Hydrocotyle pterocarpa Pennywort	Euchiton collinus Cud weed
Myriophyllum pedunculatum	Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort
Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort	Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Phyllanthus australis Austral spurge
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Viola hederacea lvy-leaf violet	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Viola hederacea Ivy-leaf violet
Schoenus maschalinus Dwarf bog-rush	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge
Agrostis parviflora Grass	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
	Lachnagrostis filiformis Blown grass	Schoenus maschalinus Dwarf bog-rush
	Agrostis parviflora Grass	Agrostis parviflora Grass
	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass

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Profile 8. continued

LOWER	MIDDLE	טירפא
SHRUBS	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Callistemon viridiflorus Bottlebrush	Notodanthonia semianularis Wallaby grass	Deyeuxia monticola Bent grass
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Pentapogon quadrifidus Five-awned spear grass	Dichelachne rara Plume grass
Leptospermum scoparium Manuka	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	Juncus australis Austral rush	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass
	SHRUBS*	Poa gunnii Tussock grass
	Callistemon viridiflorus Bottlebrush	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
	Epacris acuminata	SHRUBS*
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Epacris acuminata
	Acacia axillaris Midlands mimosa	Acacia axillaris Austral spurge
	Leptospermum scoparium Manuka	Callistemon viridiflorus Bottlebrush
	TREES	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Eucalyptus rodwayi Swamp peppermint	Leptospermum scoparium Manuka
		TREES*
		Eucalyptus rodwayi Swamp peppermint

Profile 9. Nile River 100-200 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Viola hederacea Ivy-leaf violet	Uncinia riparia River hook-sedge	Uncinia riparia River hook-sedge
Uncinia riparia River hook-sedge	Clematis aristata Australian clematis	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Agrostis parviflora Grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Clematis aristata Australian clematis	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Agrostis parviflora Grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Carex longebrachiata Drooping sedge
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	SHRUBS*
Blechnum wattsia Hard water-fern	Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
SHRUBS	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Poranthera microphylla Small poranthera
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	SHRUBS*	TREES*
	Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood
	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Poranthera microphylla Small poranthera	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive
	TREES	
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	



Profile 10. Nile River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Hibbertia riparia Erect guinea-flower	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Carex breviculmis Sedge
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Viola hederacea lvy-leaf violet	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Clematis aristata Australian clematis	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Schoenus apogon Common or fluke bog-rush
Viola hederacea Ivy-leaf violet	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Schoenus apogon Common or fluke bog-rush	SHRUBS*	SHRUBS*
Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box	Leptecophylla juniperina (1) Pink mountain-berry
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
SHRUBS	Grevillea australis Australian grevillea	TREES*
Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	TREES	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	
Bursaria spinosa Prickly box	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	
TREES	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	
Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood		
		1. Lenteronhulla iuniperina cuben, paniflora
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Profile 11. Nile River 500-600 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	SHRUBS*
Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort	Lomatia tinctoria Guitar plant
Schoenus apogon Common bog-rush	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
SHRUBS	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Pultenaea juniperina Prickly beauty
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Ranunculus pimpinellifolies Bog buttercup	TREES*
Pultenaea juniperina Prickly beauty	Urtica incisa Nettle	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood
Olearia stellulata Starry daisy-bush	Viola hederacea Ivy-leaf violet	Banksia marginata Silver banksia
Olearia viscosa Daisy bush	Lachnagrostis filiformis Blown grass	
Leptecophylla juniperina (1) Pink mountain-berry	Dichelachne rara Plume grass	
Epacris impressa Common heath	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass	
Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	
TREES	SHRUBS*	
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	
Pittosporum bicolor Cheese wood	Olearia argophylla Musk	
Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	Olearia lirata Dusty daisy bush	
Banksia marginata Silver banksia	Olearia stellulata Starry daisy-bush	
	TREES	
	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	
	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	
1. Leptecophylla juniperina subsp. parviflora		



Profile 12. Blackman River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Veronica gracilis Slender speedwell
Indigofera australis Native indigo	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	TREES	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	TREES*
Elymus scabrus Rough wheat grass		Eucalyptus viminalis White gum
SHRUBS		Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree		Eucalyptus pulchella White peppermint
TREES		
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle		

Profile 13. Blackman River 400-500 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Veronica calycina Speedwell	Ajuga australis Austral bugle	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	SHRUBS*
Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Corysanthes diemenica Stately helmet orchid	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	SHRUBS*	Zieria arborescens Stinkwood
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	TREES*
SHRUBS	TREES	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Epacris lanuginosa Swamp heath	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Olearia argophylla Musk
Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower	Eucalyptus viminalis White bum	
TREES	Eucalyptus delegatensis Stringy bark	
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Bedfordia salicina Tasmanian blanket leaf	
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	Olearia argophylla Musk	
Eucalyptus amygdalina Black peppermint		
Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood		
Olearia argophylla Musk		

Profile 14. Coal River 100-200 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Chrysocephalum apiculatum Everlasting	Ozothamnus ferrugineus Everlasting	Juncus pauciflorus Loose-flower rush
Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Juncus pauciflorus Loose-flower rush	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Juncus pauciflorus Loose-flower rush	Juncus sarophorus Rush	Austrodanthonia racemosa Wallaby grass
Juncus sarophorus Rush	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Myriophyllum pedunculatum Milfoil	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Carex appressa Tall sedge	SHRUBS*
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
Epilobium billardierianum Common willowherb	Epilobium billardierianum Common willowherb	Cassinia aculeata Dolly bush
Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	TREES*
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	SHRUBS*	Eucalyptus viminalis White gum
Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood
Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Indigofera australis Native indigo	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Blechnum wattsia Hard water-fern	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	
SHRUBS	TREES	
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	

Profile 15. Coal River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Juncus pauciflorus Loose flower rush	Senecio linearifolius Fireweed groundsel	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern
Senecio linearifolius Fireweed groundsel	Dicksonia antarctica Tree fern	Asplenium flabellifolium Necklace fern
Senecio minimus Fireweed	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Dicksonia antarctica Tree fern
Epilobium billardierianum Common willowherb	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Hymenophyllum cupressiforme Common filmy-fern
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Microsorum pustulatum Kangaroo fern
Carex appressa Tall sedge	SHRUBS*	SHRUBS*
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
Poa sieberiana Tussock grass	TREES	Olearia lepidophylla Clubmoss daisy bush
Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass	Asterotrichion discolor Currajong	TREES*
Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Olearia argophylla Musk
Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern		Acacia dealbata Silver wattle
SHRUBS		Pittosporum bicolor Cheese wood
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree		Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant		
TREES		
Olearia argophylla Musk		
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle		



Profile 16. Clyde River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Eleocharis acuta Common spike rush	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Epilobium billardierianum Common willowherb
Juncus pauciflorus Loose flower rush	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Lemna disperma Common duck weed		Poa sieberiana Tussock grass
		Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass
		Austrodanthonia tenuior Wallaby grass
		SHRUBS*
		Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree

Profile 17. St Pauls River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Dichondra repens Kidney-weed
Carex breviculmis Sedge	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Poranthera microphylla Small poranthera
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
SHRUBS	SHRUBS*	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Carex breviculmis Sedge
Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
TREES	TREES	Agrostis parviflora
Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	SHRUBS*
Allocasuarina littoralis Black she-oak	Callitris oblonga South Esk pine	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
		Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
		TREES*
		Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush



Profile 18. St Pauls River 500-600 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Isolepis subtilissima Club rush	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Pennywort	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Pennywort
Drosera pygmaea Dwarf sundew	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass
Lepidosperma filiforme Common rapier-sedge	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Schoenus apogon Common bog-rush
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Ranunculus amphitrichus River buttercup
Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike rush	Schoenus apogon Common bog-rush	Gonocarpus teucrioides Rasp wort
Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Rytidosperma dimidiatum Wallaby grass	SHRUBS*
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Callistemon viridiflorus Bottlebrush
SHRUBS	SHRUBS*	Bauera rubioides Bauera
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Bauera rubioides Bauera	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
Bauera rubioides Bauera	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
Leptospermum scoparium Manuka	Callistemon viridiflorus Bottlebrush	Leptospermum scoparium Manuka
Melaleuca squamea Swamp melaleuca	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Melaleuca squamea Swamp melaluca
Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Leptospermum scoparium Manuka	TREES*
Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	TREES	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
TREES	Eucalyptus gunnii Cider gum	Banksia marginata Silver banksia
Allocasuarina littoralis Black she-oak		Eucalyptus gunnii Cider gum
Banksia marginata Silver banksia		

Profile 19. St Patricks River 400-500 metres above sea level

GROUND COVERS*  GREChnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	MIDDLE	
Cishbone water-fern		UTTER
Fishbone water-fern	SROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
	Olearia stellulata Starry daisy-bush	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Blechnum penna-marina Alpine water-fern Lo	otus pedunculatus	Galium australe Tangled bedstraw
Blechnum wattsii Hard water-fern De	Deyeuxia gunniana Bent grass	Uncinia riparia River hook-sedge
Senecio minimus EF	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Stellaria flaccida Forest starwort
Pratia pedunculata Wetdew	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
Lotus pedunculatus Pc	Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass	Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass
Euchiton collinus Cud weed BI	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern
Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium Ge	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	4 <i>caena novae-zelandia</i> e Biddy-widdy	Blechnum penna-marina Alpine water-fern
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Dicksonia antarctica Tree fern
Viola hederacea Ivy-leaf violet	SHRUBS*	SHRUBS*
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Olearia ramulosa Twiggy daisy bush
Juncus sarophorus Rush Pi	Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower	Olearia stellulata Starry daisy-bush
Deyeuxia gunniana Bent grass	REES	Sambucus gaudichaudiana Native elderberry
Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Pennywort No.	Nothofagus cunninghamii Southern myrtle	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass		Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass		Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
SHRUBS		Olearia erubescens Daisy bush
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree		Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant		Pimelea linifolia Slender rice-flower
Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower		Tasmannia lanceolata Mountain pepper
Pimelea linifolia Slender rice-flower		





		se wood	p00/	Stringy bark	Southern myrtle
UPPER	TREES*	Pittosporum bicolor Cheese wood	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Eucalyptus delegatensis Stringy bark	Nothofagus cunninghamii Southern myrtle
MIDDLE					
LOWER	TREES	Nothofagus cunninghamii Southern myrtle			

Profile 20. St Patricks River 500-600 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Pennywort	Agrostis parviflora Grass
Isolepis habra Club rush	Agrostis parviflora Grass	Stellaria flaccida Forest starwort
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Stellaria flaccida Forest starwort	Deyeuxia gunniana Bent grass
Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Asperula gunnii	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern
Blechnum penna-marina Alpine water-fern	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Blechnum fluviatile Ray water-fern
Blechnum wattsia Hard water-fern	Pimelea linifolia Slender rice-flower	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern
SHRUBS	Isolepis habra Club rush	Uncinia riparia River hook-sedge
Tasmannia lanceolata Mountain pepper	Uncinia riparia River hook-sedge	
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	

Profile 19. continued

Profile 20. continued

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
TREES	GROUND COVERS*	SHRUBS*
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Aristotelia peduncularis Heart berry
Nothofagus cunninghamii Southern myrtle	Poa tenera Slender tussock-grass	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
Atherosperma moschatum Sassafras	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower
	Blechnum fluviatile Ray water-fern	Tasmannia lanceolata Mountain pepper
	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Blechnum penna-marina Alpine water-fern	TREES*
	Grammitis billardiera Finger fern	Nothofagus cunninghamii Southern myrtle
	SHRUBS*	
	Aristotelia peduncularis Heart berry	
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	
	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	
	Tasmannia lanceolata Mountain pepper	
	TREES	
	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	
	Nothofagus cunninghamii Southern myrtle	



Profile 21. Prosser River 0-100 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Eleocharis gracilis Slender spike rush	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Isolepis inundata Swamp club-rush	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Clematis aristata Australian clematis	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Carex fascicularis Tassel sedge	Carex longebrachiata Drooping sedge	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Viola hederacea lvy-leaf violet	SHRUBS*
SHRUBS	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	SHRUBS*	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	TREES*
	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
	TREES	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive

Profile 22. Prosser River 200-300 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Eleocharis sphacelata Tall spike-rush	Agrostis parviflora	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Carex inversa Knob sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Viola betonicifolia Purple violet	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Isolepis subtilissima	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Dianella revoluta Black-anther flax-lily
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Juncus pauciflorus Loose flower rush	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Juncus pauciflorus Loose flower rush	SHRUBS*	Veronica calycine Hairy speedwell
Dichelachne rara Plume grass	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	SHRUBS*
Isolepis aucklandica Club-rush	Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush	Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush
Glyceria australis Australian sweet-grass	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
SHRUBS	TREES	Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea
Cyathodes glauca Cheese berry	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood	TREES*
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Beyeria viscosa Pinkwood
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant		Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
TREES		Banksia marginata Silver banksia
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood		



Profile 23. Prosser River 300-400 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Juncus pauciflorus Loose-flower rush	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Shining pennywort
Agrostis parviflora Grass	Lagenophora stipitata Blue bottle daisy	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Deyeuxia contracta Bent grass	Lagenophora stipitata Blue bottle daisy
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Dichelachne rara Plume grass	Viola hederacea Ivy-leaf violet
Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Agrostis parviflora Grass	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Carex appressa Tall sedge	Comesperma volubile Blue love creeper	Gastrodia sesamoides Potato orchid
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Clematis aristata Australian clematis	Deyeuxia contracta Bent grass
Isolepis inundata Swamp club-rush	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Billardiera longiflora Climbing blueberry	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
SHRUBS	Carex longebrachiata Drooping sedge	Blechnum nudum Fishbone water-fern
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Juncus pauciflorus Loose-flower rush	SHRUBS*
TREES	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Olearia lepidophylla Clubmoss daisy bush
	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Acacia mucronata Variable sallow wattle
	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Cassinia aculeata Dolly bush
	Polystichum proliferum Mother shield-fern	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
		Acacia verniciflua Juniper wattle
		Cyathodes glauca Cheese berry
		Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush

Profile 23. continued

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
	SHRUBS*	TREES*
	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
	Pimelea drupacea Cherry rice-flower	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Acacia verticillata Prickly mimosa
	TREES	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle
	Olearia argophylla Musk	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
	Asterotrichion discolor Currajong	
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	
	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	
	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box	



Profile 24. Lake River 100-200 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass
Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass	Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Schoenus maschalinus Leafy bog-rush	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Carex longebrachiata Drooping sedge
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Carex polyantha Sedge	SHRUBS*
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Lomandra longifolia Sagg	Epacris acuminata Heath
Isolepis inundata Swamp club-rush	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
Dichelachne rara Plume grass	SHRUBS*	TREES*
SHRUBS	Epacris acuminata Heath	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush
Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Micrantheum hexandrum Box micrantheum	Eucalyptus amygdalina Black peppermint
Hakea microcarpa Small-fruit hakea	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
Epacris acuminata Heath	TREES*	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive
Coprosma quadrifida Native currant	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box	Bursaria spinosa Prickly box
TREES	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	
Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush	
Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	
Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	
Callistemon pallidus Yellow bottlebrush	Notelaea ligustrina Native olive	

Profile 25. Lake River 400-500 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Hydrocotyle sibthorpioides Pennywort	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Senecio minimus Fireweed	Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Senecio minimus Fireweed
Isotoma fluviatilis Swamp isotoma	Stellaria palustris Swamp starwort	Bossiaea riparia River leafless bossiaea
Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
Crassula helmsii Swamp stonecrop	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Gonocarpus tetragynus Poverty raspwort
Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Epilobium billardierianum Common willowherb	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Clematis aristata Australian clematis
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Veronica gracilis Slender speedwell	Poa gunnii Tussock grass
Eleocharis acuta Common spike rush	Carex inversa Knob sedge	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Isolepis setacea Club rush	Eleocharis acuta Common spike rush	Carex inversa Knob sedge
Juncus sandwithii Rush	Isolepis setacea Club rush	Isolepis setacea Club rush
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	Isolepis subtilissima Club rush	Juncus planifolius Broad-leaf rush
	Schoenus apogon Common bog-rush	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass
	Juncus planifolius Broad-leaf rush	SHRUBS*
	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree
	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass	TREES*
		Acacia dealbata Silver wattle

Profile 26. Lake River 500-600 metres above sea level

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Euchiton collinus Cud weed	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium
Hypericum japonicum Matted St Johns wort	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Geranium potentilloides Mountain geranium	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Clematis aristata Australian clematis
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Carex inversa Knob sedge	Carex longebrachiata Drooping sedge
Schoenus apogon Common bog-rush	Carex longebrachiata Drooping sedge	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass
Schoenus maschalinus Leafy bog-rush	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass
Juncus procerus Robust rush	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass	Poa sieberiana Tussock grass
Juncus sandwithii Rush		TREES*
Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass		Eucalyptus rodwayi Swamp peppermint
Austrodanthonia tenuior Wallaby grass		
Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass		
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass		
Poa rodwayi Tussock grass		
Poa sieberiana Tussock grass		

Profile 27. Lake River 600-700 metres above sea level

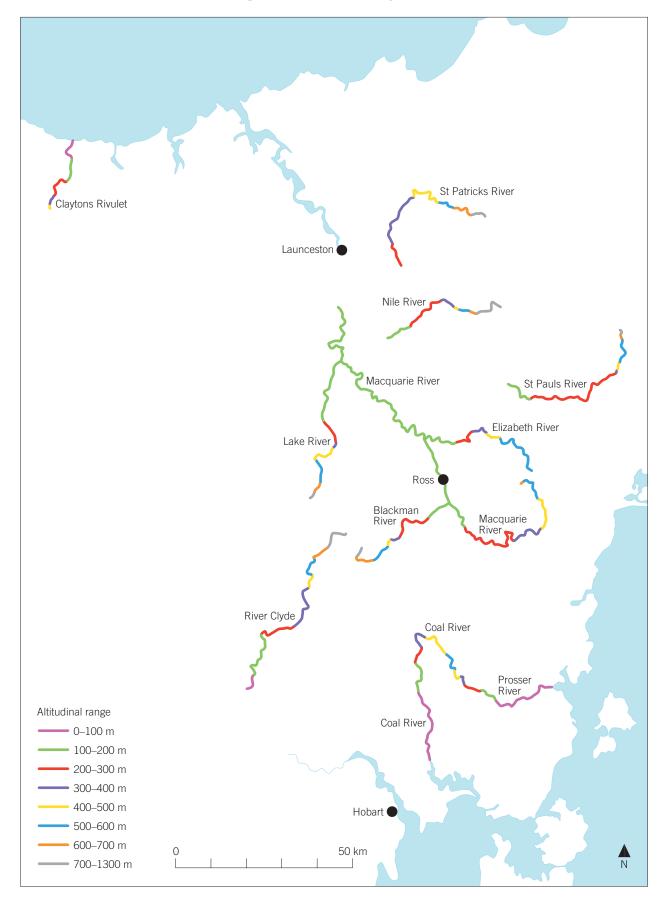
LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Ozothamnus ferrugineus Everlasting	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass
Oxalis perennans Native oxalis	Carex appressa Tall sedge	Austrodanthonia racemosa Wallaby grass
Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy	Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass
Asperula gunnii Mountain woodruff	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass	Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass
Carex breviculmis Sedge	SHRUBS	Dichondra repens Kidney-weed
Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge	Olearia phlogopappa Dusty daisy-bush	Oxalis perennans Native oxalis
Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Leptecophylla juniperina (1) Pink mountain-berry	Acaena novae-zelandiae Biddy-widdy
Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Poa compressa Tussock grass
Dianella tasmanica Blue berry	Dodonaea filiformis Fined-leaved hop-bush	Poa labillardierei Tussock grass
Austrodanthonia penicillata Slender wallaby grass		Lomandra longifolia Sagg
Deyeuxia quadriseta Reed bent-grass		Carex gaudichaudiana Sedge
Dichelachne rara Plume grass		Lepidosperma inops
Ehrharta stipoides Weeping grass		Lepidosperma laterale Variable sword-sedge
Elymus scaber Rough wheat grass		Dianella tasmanica Blue berry
Poa labillardierei Tussock grass		SHRUBS
Lomandra longifolia Sagg		Dodonaea filiformis Fined-leaved hop-bush
		Pimelea pauciflora Poison rice-flower
		Leptecophylla juniperina (1) Pink mountain-berry
		TREES
		Acacia dealbata Silver wattle
		Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
	1. Leptecophylla juniperina subsp. parviflora	Eucalyptus rodwayi Swamp peppermint



Profile 28. Claytons Rivulet

LOWER	MIDDLE	UPPER
GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*	GROUND COVERS*
Juncus pallidus Pale rush	Gahnia grandis Cutting grass	Lomandra longifolia Matt rush
Isolepis nodosa Knobby rush grass	Acacia verticillata Prickly moses	SHRUBS*
SHRUBS	Atherospermum moschatum Sassafras	Acacia verticillata Prickly moses
Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Clematis aristata Old mans beard	Cassinia aculeata Dolly bush
Leptospermum scoparium Common tea-tree	Lomandra longifolia Matt rush	Coprosma quadrifida Native currant
TREES	Muehlenbeckia gunnii Macquarie vine	Leptospermum scoparium Common tea-tree
Acacia melanoxylon Blackwood	SHRUBS	Monotoca glauca Goldiewood
	Leptospermum lanigerum Woolly tea-tree	Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush
	Leptospermum scoparium Common tea-tree	Pultenaea juniperina Prickly beauty
	Monotoca glauca Goldiewood	Olearia lirata Dusty daisy bush
	Olearia lirata Dusty daisy bush	Olearia phlogopappa Daisy bush
	Olearia phlogopappa Daisy bush	Pittosporum bicolor Cheese wood
	Pittosporum bicolor Cheese wood	TREES*
	Prostanthera lasianthos Christmas bush	Eucalyptus obliqua Stringybark
	Pultenaea juniperina Prickly beauty	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle
	TREES	Eucalyptus regnans Mountain ash
	Nothofagus cunninghamii Myrtle	Eucalyptus viminalis White gum
	Olearia argophylla Musk	Phebalium squameum Satinwood
	Phebalium squameum Satinwood	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood
	Pomaderris apetala Dogwood	Olearia argophylla Musk
	Acacia dealbata Silver wattle	

Tasmanian rivers and altitudinal ranges referred to in the species lists.



## Appendix 2. Tasmanian birds (excluding seabirds) and their habitat requirements

Information in the table on the following pages was compiled from 'Birds on farms' (Donaghey 2005) and 'The new atlas of Australian birds' (Barrett et al. 2003).

\* denotes endemic species (species which only occur in Tasmania).

A tick indicates that the species requires this habitat.



Tasmanian native hen. Photo Andrew Tatnell.

	Family name	Common name	Scientific name	Well vegetated wetland area	Tree	Mature trees	Under- storey shrubs
Waterbirds	Anatidae	Chestnut teal	Anas castanea	>			
		Grey teal	Anas gracilis				
		Australasian shoveler	Anas rhynchotis	>			
		Pacific black duck	Anas superciliosa	>			
		Musk duck	Biziura lobata	>			
		Cape Barren goose	Cereopsis novaehollandiae				
		Australian wood duck	Chenonetta jubata		>		
		Black swan	Cygnus atratus	>			
		Blue-billed duck	Oxyura australis				
		Australian shelduck	Tadoma tadornoides	>	>		
	Ardeidae	White-faced heron	Egretta novaehollandiae	>	>		
		Cattle egret	Ardea ibis			>	
		Australasian bittern	Botaurus poiciloptilus	>			
		Great egret	Ardea alba				
		Little egret	Egretta garzetta				
		Intermediate egret	Egretta intermedia				
		Nankeen night heron	Nycticorax caledonicus	>			
	Charadriidae	Masked lapwing	Vanellus miles				
	,	Banded lapwing	Vanellus tricolor				
		Black-fronted dotterel	Elseyornis melanops				



	Family name	Common name	Scientific name	Well vegetated wetland area	Tree	Mature	Under- storey shrubs
Waterbirds cont.	Podicipedidae	Hoary-headed grebe	Poliocephalus poliocephalus	>			
		Australasian grebe	Tachybaptus novaehollandiae	>			
		Great-crested grebe	Podiceps cristatus	>			
	Rallidae	Eurasian coot	Fulica atra	>			
		Tasmanian native hen	Gallinula mortierii*	>			
		Dusky moorhen	Gallinula tenebrosa	>			
		Purple swamphen	Porphyrio porphyrio	>			
		Australian crake	Porzana fluminea	>			
		Baillons crake	Porzana pusilla	>			
		Spotless crake	Porzana tabuensis	>			
		Lewins rail	Rallus pectoralis	>			
		Buff-banded rail	Rallus philippensis	>			
Raptors (Birds of prey) Accipitridae	Accipitridae	Collared sparrowhawk	Accipter cirrhocephalus			7	
		Brown goshawk	Accipiter fasciatus			>	
		Grey goshawk	Accipiter novaehollandiae			>	
		Swamp harrier	Circus approximans	>			
		Whistling kite	Haliastur sphenurus			>	
		White-breasted sea eagle	Haliaeetus leucogaster			>	
		Wedge-tailed eagle	Aquila audax			>	

Raptors cont.	Falconidae	Brown falcon	Falco berigora			7
		Australian kestrel	Falco cenchroides			7
		Australian hobby	Falco longipennis			>
		Peregrine falcon	Falco perigrinus			
Nocturnal birds	Aegothelidae	Australian owlet-nightjar	Aegotheles cristatus		>	
	Podargidae	Tawny frogmouth	Podargus strigoides			7
	Strigidae	Southern boobook	Ninox novaehollandiae		>	7
	Tytonidae	Masked owl	Tyto novaehollandiae		>	
Pigeons	Columbidae	Common bronzewing	Phaps chalcoptera			>
		Brush bronzewing	Phaps elegans			>
Cockatoos and parrots	Cacatuidae	Sulphur-crested cockatoo	Cacatua galerita		7	
		Galah	Cacatua roseicapilla		>	
		Yellow-tailed black cockatoo	Calyptorhynchus funereus		>	7
	Platycercidae	Swift parrot	Lathamus discolor		>	7
		Orange-bellied parrot	Neophema chrysogaster			
		Blue-winged parrot	Neophema chrysostoma		>	
		Ground parrot	Pezoporus wallicus			>
		Green rosella	Platycercus caledonicus*		>	
		Eastern rosella	Platycerus eximius		>	
	Loriidae	Musk lorikeet	Glossopsitta concinna		>	
Kingfishers	Alcedinidae	Azure kingfisher	Alcedo azurea	~		
Swifts	Apodidae	Fork-tailed swift	Apus pacificus			
		White-throated needletail	Hirundapus caudacutus			



	Family name	Common name	Scientific name	Well vegetated wetland area	Tree	Mature	Under- storey shrubs
Cuckoos (parasitic)	Cuculidae	Horsfields bronze-cuckoo	Chrysococcyx basalis				7
		Shining bronze-cuckoo	Chrysococcyx lucidus				>
		Pallid cuckoo	Cuculus pallidus				
		Fan-tailed cuckoo	Cacomantis flabelliformis				>
Quails and Button-quail	Phasianidae	Brown quail	Coturnix ypsilophora	7			
		Stubble quail	Coturnix pectoralis	>			
	Turnicidae	Painted button-quail	Turnix varia	>			
Bush birds	Artamidae	Dusky woodswallow	Artamus cyanopterus			>	
	Campephagidae	Black-faced cuckoo-shrike	Coracina novaehollandiae			>	
	Acanthizidae	Yellow-rumped thornbill	Acanthiza chrysorrhoa				
		Tasmanian thornbill	Acanthiza ewingii*				>
		Brown thornbill	Acanthiza pusilla				>
		Tasmanian scrubwren	Sericornis humilis*				>
		Striated fieldwren	Calamanthus fuliginosus				
		Scrubtit	Acanthornis magnus*				>
	Corvidae	Little raven	Corvus mellori			>	
		Forest raven	Corvus tasmanicus			>	

								>	>	>	>		>				>	>	>		
	>	>										>		>	>	>					
					7	>															
				>																7	
Cracticus torquatus	Gymnorhina tibicen	Strepera fuliginosa*	Strepera versicolor	Epthianura albifrons	Hirundo ariel	Hirundo nigricans	Hirundo neoxena	Malurus cyaneus	Stipiturus malachurus	Acanthorhynchus tenuirostris	Anthochaera chrysoptera	Anthochaera paradoxa*	Lichenostomus flavicollis*	Manorina melancephala	Melithreptus affinus*	Melithreptus validirostris*	Phylidonyris melanops	Phylidonyris novaehollandiae	Phylidonyris pyrrhoptera	Anthus novaeseelandiae	
Grey butcherbird	Australian magpie	Black currawong	Grey currawong	White-fronted chat	Fairy martin	Tree martin	Welcome swallow	Superb fairy-wren	Southern emu-wren	Eastern spinebill	Little wattlebird	Yellow wattlebird	Yellow-throated honeyeater	Noisy miner	Black-headed honeyeater	Strong-billed honeyeater	Tawny-crowned honeyeater	New Holland honeyeater	Crescent honeyeater	Richards pipit	
Cracticidae				Ephthianuridae	Hirundinidae			Maluridae		Meliphagidae										Motacillidae	
Bush birds cont.																					



Under- storey shrubs	>			>	>	>		>	>	>	>								>	
Mature			7									7	7	7						
Tree		>											>	>						
Well vegetated wetland area																>	>	>		
Scientific name	Colluricincla harmonica	Melanodryas vittata*	Myiagra cyanoleuca	Pachycephala olivacea	Pachycephala pectoralis	Petroica rodinogaster	Petroica phoenicea	Petroica multicolor	Rhipidura fuliginosa	Zoothera lunulata	Cinclosoma punctatum	Pardalotus punctatus	Pardalotus quadragintus*	Pardalotus striatus	Stagonopleura bella	Acrocephalus stentoreus	Cisticola exilis	Megalurus gramineus	Zosterops lateralis	
Common name	Grey shrike-thrush	Dusky robin	Satin flycatcher	Olive whistler	Golden whistler	Pink robin	Flame robin	Scarlet robin	Grey fantail	Bassian thrush	Spotted quail-thrush	Spotted pardalote	Forty-spotted pardalote	Striated pardalote	Beautiful firetail	Clamorous reed warbler	Golden-headed cisticola	Little grassbird	Silvereye	
Family name	Muscicapidae										Orthonychidae	Pardalotidae			Ploceidae	Sylviidae			Zosteropidae	
	Bush birds cont.																			

ae																					
Dromaius novaehollandiae	Anas platyrhynchos	Cygnus olor	Lophortyx californicus	Pavo cristatus	Phasianus colchicus	Gallirallus australis	Columba livia	Streptopelia chinensis	Cacatua sanguinea	Cacatua tenuirostris	Nymphicus hollandicus	Melopsittacus undulatus	Dacelo novaeguineae	Menura novaehollandiae	Alauda arvensis	Turdus merula	Carduelis chloris	Carduelis carduelis	Passer domesticus	Sturnus vulgaris	
Emu	Mallard	Mute swan	California quail	Indian peafowl	Common pheasant	Weka	Rock dove	Spotted turtle-dove	Little corella	Long-billed corella	Cockatiel	Budgerigar	Laughing kookaburra	Superb lyrebird	Skylark	Blackbird	European greenfinch	European goldfinch	House sparrow	Common starling	
Introduced species																					

## RIVERS AND WATER QUALITY

Reflections of Tasmanian woolgrowers									
File	name in bold	Woolgrower story and location	File size						
	Reflections	This is the complete document	3.8 MB						
00	Introduction	Acknowledgements The process — Jo Dean	354 KB						
01	Young	Biodiversity for long-term benefits — Lindsay and Rae Young, 'Lewisham', Ross and 'Green Valley', Bothwell	339 КВ						
02	LeMaitre	Never a dull moment — Valerie Le Maitre, 'Lochiel' and 'Wetmore', Ross	365 KB						
03	Youl	Look after what we have got — Frank and Melissa (Milly) Youl, 'Barton', Cressy	483 KB						
04	Dunbabin	We do what we do, because we want to do it! — Tom and Cynthia Dunbabin, 'Bangor', Tasman Peninsula and 'The Quoin', Ross	450 KB						
05	Greenhill	It's the place that makes it all worthwhile — Bob and Patricia (Pat), Adam and Grainne Greenhill, 'Gala', 'Glen Gala' and 'Riversdale', Cranbrook	448 KB						
06	Rapley	A successful blend — genetics, environment, wool and lateral thinking — Sue Rapley, 'Roseneath' and 'Plassey', Ross	472 KB						
07	RoyalGeorge	All about living — Royal George Landcare Group: Tony and Joan Gee, 'Snow Hill'; Guy and Debbie Marshall, 'Rock House' and 'Brookstead'; Trevor and Jeanette Williams, 'Robin Lawn'; Damian Gee, 'Royslea' and North View', Royal George	508 KB						
08	Gee	I wonder what it will be like next year? — Angie, Bob and Damian Gee, 'Royslea' and 'North View', Royal George	435 KB						
09	Cameron	Helping nature look after itself — Andrew and Diana Cameron, 'Marathon', Deddington	307 KB						
10	Parsons	Doing the best that we can — Tim and Jane Parsons, 'Curringa Farm', Hamilton	382 KB						
11	Young	A couple of years down the track — Lindsay and Rae Young, 'Lewisham', Ross and 'Green Valley', Bothwell	258 KB						

