

Rural Water Roundtable

16 February 2023

COMMUNIQUE

Members of the Rural Water Roundtable met on 16 February 2023 as part of their ongoing discussions to guide the implementation of Tasmania's Rural Water Use Strategy. The focus of the meeting was to provide an update on key projects being implemented under the Rural Water Use Strategy. Members were also given a presentation on the process for selecting case study catchments for research about to be undertaken for the River Health Advisory Project, and an update on work underway to renew the National Water Initiative.

Update on implementation of Rural Water Use Strategy

Update provided on key projects underway:

- Catchment Yield Science Update Project: Pilot work has been completed to test suitable new climate information in three catchment hydrological models: Pipers River, Leven/Gawler Rivers and North-West Bay Rivulet.
- Groundwater Assessment Project: A draft Groundwater Risk Analysis Tool has been developed and is being refined through testing.
- Water Accountability, Metering and Reporting Framework Project: Initial water accountability options and possible solutions are being explored in three catchments: Macquarie River, Lake River and the Leven River.
- River Health Advisory Project: The main state-wide water managers (NRE Tasmania, Environment Protection Authority, Inland Fisheries Service, Hydro Tasmania and Tasmanian Irrigation) have provided metadata on state-wide river health and water quality data sets that they are regularly collecting. This will inform a data assessment and gap analysis to develop options and recommendations for improving coordination and sharing of waterway health data between water managers.