

Improving the health of kanamaluka/Tamar estuary

TasWater update April 2023



Tamar Estuary River HealthAction Plan

The Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan (TERHAP or the Plan) is an initiative of the Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce (TEMT) and the Launceston City Deal, to improve the health of kanamaluka/Tamar estuary.

TERHAP is a \$129.2 million investment jointly funded by the Australian and Tasmanian governments, the City of Launceston and TasWater.

We are doubling our network's capacity to transfer sewage and stormwater, reducing overflow events to kanamaluka/Tamar estuary.

Our project timeline

Project	Status
St John Street Pump Station upgrade	Completed November 2022 
Margaret Street Sewer Diversion project	Construction commenced October 2022. Scheduled for completion mid 2023.
Margaret Street Sewage Pump Station upgrade	Construction - 2023
Covered storage at Ti Tree Bend	Construction - 2023
Rising Main Pipeline - New pipeline from the combined sewage and stormwater network to the Ti Tree Bend Sewage Treatment Plant	Construction - 2023

We are delivering improvements to the health of kanamaluka/Tamar estuary through upgrades to the sewerage network.

TasWater proudly acknowledges the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of lutruwita – Aboriginal land, sea and waterways. We pay our deep respects to the Elders past and present and acknowledge today's Tasmanian Aboriginal community.

Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan is a partnership between:



Construction updates

Margaret Street Sewer Diversion Project

We've been making great progress to construct an underground diversion chamber at our Margaret Street Pump Station. Local contractors, Bridge Pro Engineering have been using a specialised construction method to sink large, prefabricated concrete segments deep underground. This method of construction is often used when site conditions do not allow for open excavation.

In February 2023, we installed the final concrete segments to a depth of 10.9 metres and we have begun connecting the new diversion chamber to our existing pipeline network. The diversion chamber will improve the way we manage the flow of sewage and stormwater to the Margaret Street Pump Station and onto the Ti Tree Bend Sewage Treatment Plant.

Work on the Margaret Street Diversion Project is scheduled to be completed in mid-2023 and we will also be undertaking a project to increase the capacity at the Margaret Street Pump Station which will continue into early 2024. Overall, \$17 million in upgrades are planned for the Margaret Street Sewage Pump station.

Diversion chamber sunk 10.9m underground



New Sewer Pipeline Project

The next major project that will be delivered as part of TERHAP is the construction of a major pipeline from the Margaret Street Pump Station to our Ti Tree Bend Sewage Treatment Plant, which is located in Invermay.

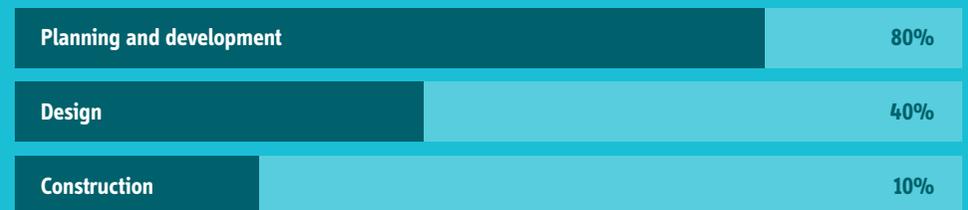
The new pipeline will improve our capacity to transfer the combined sewage and stormwater and reduce the volume and frequency of overflows tokanamaluka/Tamar estuary.

To finalise our design, we have recently undertaken additional geotechnical drilling at a number of locations around Launceston to further inform design and construction requirements.

Geotechnical drilling involves drilling to collect rock and soil samples, as well as to determine soil stability, which is crucial before we commence construction of the new pipeline.

We anticipate work to commence on the new pipeline in late 2023.

Our project timeline completion



kanamaluka/Tamar estuary is an iconic part of the Tasmanian landscape. As the longest navigatable estuary in Australia it is important to us, and we want to invest in our natural local assets.

What our TERHAP partners are doing

NRM North Catchment Works Program:

Progress on farms to improve waterways

Tamar Action Grants aim to improve water quality in the kanamaluka/Tamar estuary by excluding sheep and cows from waterways on farms. Since 2019, NRM North has been working with landholders to install 637 km of stock exclusion fencing. So far, over 420 km of fencing has been installed, and another 170 km is on the way. This has contributed to a reduction of pathogens in zone 1 (Launceston to Legana) of the estuary by an estimated 7.3 per cent, which is significantly more than the 4.7 per cent target. Further improvements are expected by the end of the program in 2024.

Improvements are already visible on farms too. On a farm just outside of Longford, where landholders have installed 13 km of waterway fencing and six troughs, vegetation has recovered quickly. Sheep and dairy cows on the property no longer have access to waterways, improving stock management and, in turn, improving water quality on the farm and for the kanamaluka/Tamar estuary.



Before: Proposed fence line looking downstream of waterway.



After: Completed fence looking downstream of waterway.



Precast concrete segment lifted into place for the new under-ground diversion chamber at our Margaret Street Pump Station.

For more information about other **kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary River Health Action Plan** click below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

For more information about the **Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce** click below.

[CLICK HERE](#)

For more information about these projects visit taswater.com.au

