



MEDIA RELEASE

25 JUNE 2008

Derwent Estuary a finalist in the 2008 National Thuess Riverprize

The groundbreaking river management project initiated by the Derwent Estuary Program (DEP) has been announced as a finalist in the prestigious \$150,000 National Thuess Riverprize – the largest award in its field and presented in partnership by International Riverfoundation (IRF) and Riverfestival.

The DEP, a partnership between the Tasmanian state government, councils, industry partners, scientists and the community, was chosen as a finalist for its efforts to restore and promote the Derwent Estuary.

Riverprize Judging Panel Chair, Professor Paul Greenfield, said those involved in delivering the project should feel proud their efforts have been recognised as a finalist in the award.

“The inspirational outcomes of this project were made possible through the co-operation of a large dedicated group and exemplifies the spirit of the National Thuess Riverprize,” Professor Greenfield said.

Three other Australian finalists competing for the prestigious prize are the Swan Canning River System in Western Australia, Lake Macquarie and the Tweed River in New South Wales.

“A large number of regions across Australia are facing a water crisis. This year’s finalists have demonstrated how collaboration between private, government and community groups can make extraordinary changes,” Professor Greenfield said.

“Now more than ever it is important to reward and promote projects addressing river and water issues through science, public policy and community action,” he said.

The winner will be announced at the Thuess Riverprize Presentation Dinner on Monday 1 September 2008 at Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Queensland during the 11th International Riversymposium (1 – 4 September 2008). This year also marks the 10th anniversary of the award.

The Thuess Riverprize is a joint partnership between IRF and Riverfestival - a dynamic ten day event in celebration of Brisbane’s river, people, culture and environment held from 29 August to 7 September 2008.

For further information on the 2008 International Thuess Riverprize and its finalists visit www.riversymposium.com.

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Riverfestival is an initiative of Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government.