



MEDIA RELEASE

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FINALISTS ANNOUNCED IN THE 10TH INTERNATIONAL THIESS RIVERPRIZE

Three groundbreaking river management projects including two from Australia and one from United States of America have been announced as finalists in the esteemed \$AUD 350,000 International ThieSS Riverprize – the leading award in its field presented in partnership by International Riverfoundation (IRF) and Riverfestival.

The government and community groups received recognition from the prestigious Australian prize for their management of water quality, pollution, erosion and flooding.

International Riverprize Judging Panel Chair, Professor Paul Greenfield, said the finalists exemplified the spirit of the International ThieSS Riverprize.

The finalists selected in this, the 10th anniversary year of the prize are; a group established to ensure the sustainable use and protection of water resources for the benefit of the people of St Johns River, Florida USA; a collaborative approach by 10 government groups in New South Wales to manage the Lake Macquarie waterway improvement project and the co-operation of scientists, community groups and government agencies to enhance the ecological health and long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning River System in Western Australia.

“The groundbreaking results of these finalists were achieved from their long-term commitment to the sustainable future of their respective waterways,” Professor Greenfield said.

Professor Greenfield said the announcement of finalists is a timely reminder to many countries facing a water crisis of the importance of such projects in addressing pressing river and global warming issues.

The international winner will be presented during the ThieSS 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 ThieSS 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 ThieSS Riverprize and its finalists visit www.riversymposium.com.

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