



MEDIA RELEASE

25 JUNE 2008

2008 NATIONAL THIESS RIVERPRIZE FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Four groundbreaking river management projects have been announced as finalists in the prestigious National ThieSS Riverprize – the country's largest prize in its field worth \$150,000 and presented in partnership by International Riverfoundation (IRF) and Riverfestival.

Government and community groups from Tasmania, New South Wales and Western Australia have received recognition for their management of water quality, pollution, erosion and flooding.

Riverprize Judging Panel Chair, Professor Paul Greenfield, said the leading projects combined science, public policy and community action, whilst exemplifying the spirit of the ThieSS Riverprize.

There are four Australian projects in the running for the \$150,000 National ThieSS Riverprize including; a group established to implement an improvement project to manage the long-term sustainability of Lake Macquarie, NSW; a regional partnership between 11 government, private, business and community groups to restore and promote the Derwent Estuary, TAS; a collaborative effort to protect and enhance the ecological health and long-term community benefit of the Swan Canning River System in Western Australia; and a local government initiative to develop a sustainable management program of its natural resources including the Tweed River, NSW.

"The inspirational outcomes of each project were made possible through the co-operation of scientists, community groups, industry members and government agencies which has ultimately created a more sustainable future for their respective waterways," Professor Greenfield said.

The national winner will be announced at the ThieSS Riverprize Presentation Dinner on Monday 1 September at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland during the 11th International Riversymposium (1-4 September 2008).

The ThieSS Riverprize is a 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. This year also marks the 10th anniversary of the award.

More information on the 2008 National ThieSS Riverprize and the 11th International Riversymposium can be found at www.riversymposium.com.

ENDS

Further information on each finalist and images are available on request.

Media Contact: Sian Yewdall, Sequel Communications on (07) 3251 8132 / 0403 090 914



**Queensland
Government**

Dedicated to a better Brisbane

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