

Clean Rivers Program for Circular Head Dairy and Beef Farms



Your Levy at Work

Thank you to Cradle Coast NRM for funding which is provided as part of implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plan for the Duck, Welcome and Montagu Rivers.



DairyTas in conjunction with **Cradle Coast NRM** is pleased to be providing funding for **"Cows out of Creeks"**

This is a collaborative approach between dairy and beef industries to help protect our waterways. It builds on the Clean Rivers program undertaken in the dairy industry, which has seen 107 dairy businesses undertake effluent upgrades or off-stream watering projects to protect and improve water quality in Tasmanian catchments.

\$588,500 has previously been committed from our funding partners to on-ground projects. This has seen over \$1.5 million investment from dairy farmers, plus time and labour costs.

Grant funds of \$5,000 (+GST) per farm are available to cover off-stream watering systems including troughs, pump, pipe, water tanks and fencing to ensure cattle are not accessing waterways.

Applications open 11 August 2017, close 15 September 2017. Applicants will be notified by 6 October 2017. All projects must be completed by 30 June 2018 and claim forms with invoices submitted by 30 June 2018. Applicants need to complete the Application Form for assessment – see last page.

Every Tasmanian farmer should be happy to swim, fish and drink the water downstream from their farm

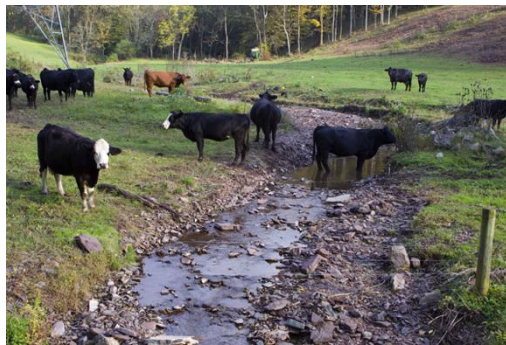


Project supported by Greenhams



Why fence creeks and put in water troughs:

- Contain stock within farm boundaries – stock management is easier if cattle are drinking from water troughs and using dedicated stock crossings.
- Better production and animal welfare with cattle drinking clean, fresh water. Preliminary research by Meat and Livestock Australia has shown reduced % of dark cutting meat when cattle drinking clean water.
- Allowing cows in creeks puts pathogens and nutrients in the waterway and stirs up sediment. Young stock are more likely than adult animals to spread *E.coli* and *Cryptosporidium*, which can make humans extremely sick. *E.coli* OH157 is carried by cattle and can cause kidney failure in humans.
- Nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P) and sediment are the main impacts on environmental water quality. Excess nutrient and sediment in waterways can cause algal blooms and reduce dissolved oxygen levels, impacting fish and aquatic life. This is called eutrophication.
- Cattle accessing creeks erode stream banks making them more prone damage and loss of paddock area in floods. As we see more extreme weather events, we need our waterways to have stable banks that will better withstand floods.
- Swimming and picnics at the river are nicer with no cow poo, trees, shade and birds.



Clean Rivers process

Applicants need to complete the Application Form for assessment – see following page.

The funds will be paid on a reimbursement basis for works undertaken by 30 June 2018. Completion of the claim form with relevant invoices as evidence of payment is required by 30 June 2018. Reimbursement is via direct deposit to bank account within 28 days of correct claim form being submitted.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be assessed by an independent panel nominated by DairyTas and Cradle Coast NRM. Projects will be prioritised on their contribution to water quality improvement or mitigation of potential impacts. Only projects based on good science and planning will be funded. All successful project sites will be visited by the Projects Officer (Rachel Brown). Farmers will sign a straight forward Project Commitment form outlining the detail of their project. Before and after photos will be required as evidence of completion. DairyTas reserves the right to withdraw a funding offer after the site visit if the project does not meet Clean Rivers objectives. 24 projects will be funded in this round.

Funding will cover:

- Fencing and off-stream watering systems including troughs, pump, pipe and water tanks to ensure cows are not accessing waterways
- Stock crossings so that cows are not walking through creeks
- Farms in Circular Head

Ineligible activities include:

- Compliance costs
- Gravel for laneways
- Funds will not be provided retrospectively

APPLICATION FORM

Clean Rivers Program



Your Levy at Work

Trading name:.....ABN:.....

Contact person:.....

Mobile:..... Landline:

Email:.....

Postal address:.....

Farm address:.....

Property ID number (PID – see top of your Council rates notice).....

What river catchment is your farm in?.....

How many cattle do you run on your farm?.....

Describe your Clean Rivers project? Describe area to be fenced, how many cows excluded, anticipated number of troughs etc. You are welcome to attach maps or photos to describe your project.

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How will your project contribute to keeping our rivers clean?

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You are welcome to attach more info eg. maps & photos. Please call Rachel Brown 0409 333 381 rbrown@landly.com.au if you have questions about your application. Return application to DairyTas by **15 September 2017**. DairyTas. PO Box 1352, Burnie, 7320 Fax: 6432 2277 admin@dairytas.net.au