

PROJECT DATA

Gordon River 10/20 Environmental Flow Assessment

CLIENT	Hydro Tasmania
PROJECT LOCATION	Gordon River, Tasmania
DATE OF PROJECT	2002-2005
SERVICES PROVIDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strategic water management planning,• Environmental flow management



Hydro Tasmania has committed to the release of a continuous minimum environmental flow (19 cumecs in summer, 38 in winter) in the Gordon River with the commencement of Basslink. The main purpose of this minimum flow is to mitigate the anticipated environmental impacts associated with increased hydropeaking with Basslink.

The proposal to implement a smaller (10/20) minimum environmental flow for the Gordon River was raised as a possibility during the Basslink approvals process as a means of testing the relative benefits provided by different minimum flows.

The justification for this proposal was accepted by the Basslink Joint Advisory Panel (JAP). The regulator determined that there was a need for more comprehensive data on the likely associated benefits and risks before a trial was undertaken.

As a result, Hydro Tasmania Consulting is developing a comprehensive assessment program to determine the need for, and scope of, a trial that will meet the requirements of the regulator and determine to an appropriate level the impacts on the river while meeting the needs of the client.



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