

Rivers to Ramsar – Improving catchment and wetland health at Pitt Water-Orielton Lagoon

Request for Proposal (RFP)

NRM South is seeking a suitably qualified contractor to deliver fencing services for the Rivers to Ramsar project.

ABOUT US

NRM South is one of three regional natural resource management organisations in Tasmania, established in 2003 under the *Natural Resource Management Act 2002*. We work to protect and enhance southern Tasmania's land, water, and biodiversity, supporting environmental health, economic resilience, and community wellbeing.

As a regional hub, we build partnerships, secure investment, and deliver strategic, on-ground projects guided by science and community knowledge. We collaborate with landholders, governments, researchers, community groups, and the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, committing to respectful and culturally safe engagement.

NRM South sets regional NRM priorities, implements strategic plans, and monitors outcomes to ensure lasting benefits for future generations. To learn more, including details of our 2030 Regional Strategy, visit: www.nrmsouth.org.au

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Australian Government's Urban Rivers and Catchments Program supports projects that restore the health of waterways for native plants, animals, and local communities.

NRM South's *Rivers to Ramsar – Improving catchment and wetland health at Pitt Water-Orielton Lagoon* project is one of 57 project funded under Round 2 of this program. Delivered over three years with Landcare Tasmania, Sorell Council, and the Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service, the project focuses on restoring riparian zones along Frogmore Creek, Orielton Rivulet, Sorell Rivulet, and Orielton Lagoon (see *Attachment 1*).

The project will address threats such as weeds, runoff, stormwater, and climate change to improve riparian and wetland habitats, reconnect habitat corridors, and reduce nutrient and sediment loads.

Key actions include:

- Monitoring environmental and physical changes
- Removing debris to improve habitat and water flow
- Controlling willows and other weeds
- Restoring native vegetation
- Installing fencing to reduce stock impacts
- Improving tidal hydrology by removing infill in key wetland areas

SCOPE OF WORK

NRM South is undertaking riparian restoration works across private properties in the Sorell Council area and is seeking a suitably qualified contractor to deliver fencing services. The works are expected to include the following:

Waterway	Property	Stock	Fencing Works
Frogmore Creek	Small (2ha), hobby farm	None	Up to 100m new fencing; contractor to propose suitable design
Frogmore Creek	Small (2ha), hobby farm	None	Up to 80m new fencing; contractor to propose suitable design
Frogmore Creek	Small (2ha), hobby farm	Horses	Up to 600m new fencing, including electric fencing to be connected to existing solar network
Orielton Rivulet	Medium (10ha), hobby farm	Horses	Up to 200m new horse-safe fencing
Orielton Rivulet	Medium (42ha), Agricultural Property	Sheep	Repair ~690m sheep-proof fence; install ~50m new fence to exclude neighbouring cattle
Orielton Rivulet	Large (123ha), Agricultural Property	Cattle & Sheep	Upgrade ~1,200m existing fence to exclude both cattle and sheep
Sorell Rivulet	Medium (10ha), hobby farm	Horses	Up to 600m new horse-safe fencing
Sorell Rivulet	Medium (60ha), Agricultural Property	Sheep	Install up to 600m new sheep- proof fencing; repair up to 800 m existing fence

Revegetation works are planned for late autumn to early winter 2026. All fencing works must be completed prior to the commencement of revegetation to ensure protection of newly planted areas. Contractors should allow sufficient time for mobilisation, site preparation, and any unforeseen delays to ensure fencing is fully installed and operational ahead of revegetation activities.

FORM OF RESPONSE

Interested contractors are asked to provide a brief proposal addressing the following:

1. Fencing design

- Outline the proposed fencing design for each fence type (e.g. sheep/cattle-proof, horse-safe).
- Explain the rationale for your material choices, particularly in relation to:
 - Durability
 - Suitability for different livestock types and allow for wildlife movement where possible
 - Site conditions (e.g. proximity to the brackish Orielton Lagoon, bushfire risk, and other environmental factors).

2. Rates and costs

- Provide unit rates for supply and installation, including:
- Labour (e.g. per hour or per metre)
- Travel or mobilisation costs
- Removal and disposal of existing fencing (e.g. per metre of fencing)
- Unit rates for proposed materials (e.g. per metre of fencing, per gate, per strainer post) etc.
- 3. Insurances Responses must confirm that the contractor holds current public liability and workers' compensation insurance.

Following review of the submitted proposals, shortlisted contractor(s) will be invited to undertake property site visits to refine and confirm final quotes based on site-specific conditions and requirements.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Proposals will be assessed according to the following criteria. Assessment weightings will apply as indicated for each criterion.

Criteria	Weighting	
Proposed fencing approach – practical, durable, and appropriate for site conditions, livestock, and environmental requirements		
Experience with similar fencing projects		
Value for money – clear and competitive costs for labour and materials		
Ability to complete the work within the required timeframe		
Previous experience working with not-for-profits or community-based environmental projects		

Other criteria that may be considered in the assessment (unweighted) include:

- Demonstrated approach to workplace health and safety, including compliance with WHS requirements.
- Environmental awareness, including measures to protect waterways, wetlands, and sensitive habitats during the works.

- Awareness and consideration of Aboriginal cultural values and heritage in planning and delivery of works.
- Local procurement use Tasmanian businesses for materials and services where possible
- Support for Aboriginal outcomes in Tasmania e.g., Aboriginal employment or services, Reconciliation Action Plan or similar policy in place

CLOSING DATE

Proposals must be received by 5:00 pm on Thursday, 16 October 2025.

If you require an extension beyond the specified deadline, please contact the personnel below.

Proposals are to be submitted via email to:

To: Laurel McGinnity < Imcginnity@nrmsouth.org.au>

Cc: Joshua Glen < jglen@nrmsouth.org.au>

Respondents will receive acknowledgement of receipt by email.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For further information, please contact:

Laurel McGinnity NRM South - Program Coordinator (Water) 0437 659 076 Imcginnity@nrmsouth.org.au

Attachment 1 – Broad Project Area

The project works will be undertaken on suitable private properties within the broader project area.

