

APPENDIX A

Glossary of Terms and Units

Al	aluminium
ANZECC	Australia and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council
Ba	barium
BOD	biochemical oxygen demand
Cd	cadmium
Cr	chromium
cfu/100ml	coliform unit per 100 millilitres of water
CN(WAD)	cyanide (weak acid dissoluble)
COD	chemical oxygen demand
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
Cu	copper
cumecs	cubic metres per second
DO	dissolved oxygen
DP&EMP	Development Proposal and Environmental Management Plan
DELM	Department of Environment and Land Management
DPIF	Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries
E&P	Division of Environment and Planning
EIP	Environmental Improvement Program
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
ERL	effects range low
ERM	effects range median
F	fluoride
Fe	iron
ha	hectare (10 000m ²)
HEC	Hydro Electric Commission (Tasmania)
Hg	mercury
kL	kilolitres (1 000 litres)
km	kilometre
km/day	kilometre per day
L	litre
m	metre
m/s	metre per second
m ²	square metre
m ³	cubic metre
m ³ /day	cubic metre per day
mg/L	milligram per litre (one thousandth of one gram per litre)
µg/L	microgram per litre (one millionth of one gram per litre)
Mn	manganese
ML	megalitre (1,000,000 litres)
mm	millimetre
NFR	non-filterable residue
NH&MRC	National Health and Medical Research Council
NH ₃ -N	nitrogen as ammonia
NO ₃ -N	nitrogen as nitrate
NO _x	nitrogen oxides
°C	degree Celsius
org/100 ml	organisms per 100 millilitres
PAH	polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
Pb	lead
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenols
pH	hydrogen potential (measure of acidity)
PO ₄	orthophosphate
RDS	refuse disposal sites
ppt	parts per thousand
SO ₂	sulphur dioxide
SO _x	sulphur oxides

SPM	suspended particulate matter
STP	sewage treatment plant
TEMCO	Tasmanian Electro Metallurgical Company
TDS	total dissolved solids
TSS	total suspended solids
TN	total nitrogen
TP	total phosphorus
USEPA	United States (of America) Environment Protection Agency
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant
Zn	zinc

Tables

Table 1	Land use areas within the Tamar catchment	6
Table 2	Rainfall statistics for Launceston (Ti-Tree Bend)	9
Table 3	Intertidal invertebrate species in the Tamar Estuary	12
Table 4	Birds observed near Tamar Island, upper Tamar Estuary	13
Table 5	Introduced species in the Tamar Estuary	13
Table 6	Local government areas bordering on the Tamar Estuary	17
Table 7	Ten largest imports and exports to/from Tamar (1995/96)	21
Table 8	Sewage treatment plant discharge limits under the Environment Protection (Water Pollution) Regulations, 1974	24
Table 9	Tamar sewage treatment plants: average daily flows, mean concentrations and annual inputs	26
Table 10	Tamar sewage treatment plants: plant type and improvements	27
Table 11	Comalco: summary of 1996 emissions	32
Table 12	TEMCO: summary of 1996 mass emissions	34
Table 13	North Forest Products: summary of 1996 mass emissions	35
Table 14	Boral Timber Tasmania Ltd.: summary of 1996 mass emissions	36
Table 15	Summary of annual industrial inputs to the Tamar Estuary (1996)	38
Table 16	Typical pollutant loading ranges for various land-use categories	39
Table 17	Estimated inputs from urban run-off - Tamar Estuary	40
Table 18	Concentration ranges of metals in the South Esk River	45
Table 19	Summary of estimated annual inputs to the Tamar Estuary (1996)	50
Table 20	Qualitative assessment of mass inputs to the Tamar	52
Table 21	ANZECC guidelines for bacteria in recreational waters	61
Table 22	ANZECC guidelines for nutrients and chlorophyll <i>a</i> in estuarine and coastal waters	66
Table 23	Ranges of heavy metals in Tamar Estuary waters compared with ANZECC guidelines	69
Table 24	Ranges of heavy metals in Tamar Estuary surface sediments compared with sediment quality guidelines	73
Table 25	Ranges of heavy metals in Tamar Estuary biota compared with National Food Standards	76
Table 26	Hydrocarbon concentrations in Tamar Estuary bivalves compared with values reported elsewhere	82
Table 27	Benzo (a) pyrene levels which indicate extent of pollution in estuaries	84
Table 28	Phenol concentrations in lower Tamar Estuary and Deceitful Cove (1990/91)	85
Table 29	Dredging in the Tamar Estuary since 1987 - locations, volumes and costs	89
Table 30	Metal concentrations in dredged silt from the Tamar Estuary	90
Table 31	Summary of environmental issues in the Tamar Estuary	96

Figures

Figure 1	The Tamar Estuary	4
Figure 2	The Tamar Estuary catchment	5
Figure 3	Mean annual rainfall map, Tasmania	7
Figure 4	Launceston - 1996 monthly precipitation compared with long-term mean	8
Figure 5	Chloride - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	11
Figure 6	Rice grass distribution in the upper Tamar Estuary (1997)	15
Figure 7	Rice grass distribution in the lower Tamar Estuary (1997)	16
Figure 8	Uses of the Tamar Estuary	18
Figure 9	Local government areas	19
Figure 10	Wastewater discharges	23
Figure 11	Tamar sewage treatment plants: mean daily flows and concentrations	28
Figure 12	Tamar sewage treatment plants: relative flows and inputs	29
Figure 13	Refuse disposal sites, industrial stockpiles, contaminated sites and mines	41
Figure 14	Zinc concentrations in the South Esk River	46
Figure 15	Cumulative inputs to the Tamar from all major sources	51
Figure 16	Water quality monitoring sites - Tamar Estuary monitoring program	56
Figure 17	Dissolved oxygen - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	57
Figure 18	Suspended solids - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	59
Figure 19	Secchi depths - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	60
Figure 20	E. coli - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	63
Figure 21	Faecal streptococcus - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	64
Figure 22	Orthophosphate - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	67
Figure 23	Metals in Tamar Estuary waters	70
Figure 24	Metals in Tamar Estuary surface sediments	72
Figure 25	Metals in Tamar Estuary oysters	77
Figure 26	Fluoride - Tamar Estuary monitoring program 1988 - 1996	81
Figure 27	Dredged areas and silt deposit sites in Home Reach	88
Figure 28	The Tamar Estuary: major environmental issues	95