

WHAT'S GOING DOWN WITH WEIRS?

"In affiliation with Riverfestival 2002"

Tuesday 3rd September 2002
Rydges South Bank, Brisbane
Queensland, Australia



The 2nd Australian Weirs Conference – What's Going Down With Weirs?

Time: 9am - 5pm
Tuesday 3rd September 2002
Rydges South Bank, Queensland, Australia \$75

Titled/Prof/Dr/Mr/Ms _____ Name _____

Organisation _____ Position _____

Postal Address _____ Suburb/Town _____

State _____ Country _____ Postcode/Zip _____

Telephone _____ Facsimile _____

Mobile Telephone _____

Email _____ Organisation URL _____

Affiliated Event - River Symposium

Registration (Wed + Thurs + Fri) \$655 Discount*

Riverfest (Wed + Sat) \$175 \$365

Day only \$275 per day Wednesday Thursday Friday

* Please provide details on Organisation/ Institution, status (eg: fulltime student, member, president) and proof (eg: student card, membership number)

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Registration Form and Tax Invoice

Please complete and fax with payment details to
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For Australian taxation purposes this document, when fully completed, becomes a tax invoice on the date the total due is paid. It is the responsibility of the holder to retain their proof of payment showing the amount and date paid.

In registering for the 2nd Australian Weirs Workshop, relevant details will be incorporated into a delegate list for the benefit of all delegates, and may be made available to parties directly related to the symposium, including the organisers, sponsors, exhibitors and accommodation venues for the purpose of accommodation bookings only.



In June 2002 demolition workers moved in and began the long process of dismantling and removing Wellington Dam.

Built on a usually dry creek over 100 years ago as a water supply for steam trains running through the New South Wales Central West, Wellington Dam had long passed its use-by date.

The cost of public liability insurance maintenance, and the dreaded spectre of collapse meant its removal should have been a cinch.

It wasn't.

It took more than 2 years of negotiations, bureaucratic manoeuvrings and legal wranglings before the workers could move in. All of this for a structure that nobody needed and fewer wanted.

Rivers right across the Murray-Darling Basin are under severe stress from over-regulation, with fish breeding patterns, environmental flows and river geomorphology altered by structures that impede natural flow. This has been recognised by governments, conservationists, scientists and industry, and the search for solutions has begun.

What have we learned from Wellington Dam, and how can we apply this knowledge to all of the dams and weirs across the Murray-Darling Basin that are, or should be earmarked to come down over the next few years?

The Inland Rivers Network and the Queensland Conservation Council, the leading non-government organisations that have put dams and weirs on the policy agenda, pose this question: **What's going down with weirs?**

This one-day, facilitated workshop will examine the institutional impediments to dam and weir removal, and explore ways to clear a path through the tangled web of regulation, confusing jurisdictions and legal obstacles to make their removal a reality.



Scientific, legal, environmental and policy experts will present a variety of talks on the impacts of dams and weirs, the environmental and financial costs of maintaining these structures, and the institutional obstacles inhibiting their removal. The workshop will also highlight the need for all levels of government to show more determination and flexibility regarding dam and weir removal.

Inland Rivers Network



www.irnsw.org.au

Queensland Conservation Council



www.qccqld.org.au



The Inland Rivers Network represents conservationists and individuals aligned with the goal of restoring and conserving the biodiversity and natural function of the inland rivers and wetlands of NSW.

The Queensland Conservation Council (QCC) is Queensland's peak environmental organisation. In partnership with its members, QCC works to Protect, Conserve and Sustain Queensland's natural environment.

www.riverfestival.com.au