

KYOGLE COUNCIL

Media Release



Date: Thursday 12 October 2017

The Kyogle Council Fishway project has won Division A of the Local Government NSW Excellence in the Environment Awards, announced in Sydney yesterday.

The Fishway project won the Natural Environment Protection and Enhancement: On-Ground Works award for excellence.

Kyogle Mayor, Danielle Mulholland said, "it is a just reward for the hard work and outstanding effort that went into this remarkable project".

"We partnered with DPI Fisheries, NSW Public Works, Restart NSW, the NSW Environmental Trust and the NSW Recreational Fishing Trust to deliver this project," she said.

"It is a brilliant example of cross government cooperation. Alone we do great work, but in partnership with other government agencies we can excel and this award win is proof."

Built by Kyogle Council at a cost of \$1.37 million, the fishway has reduced the 1.8 meter straight drop of the old Kyogle weir to 24 x 100mm lifts over 48 meters moving down stream.

As part of the fishway's innovative design, pre-fabricated v-shaped concrete baffles were installed into the bed of the river to create the graduated 48 metre climb to the weir.

It allows native fish, particularly the Australian bass and the Eastern freshwater cod, to cross the weir to spawn, feed and seek refuge in the upper reaches of the Richmond River.

The innovative design allowed the fishway to be constructed in challenging conditions at half the cost of traditional technical fishways.

The concrete baffles for the fishway were pre-fabricated by Kyogle Council's bridge and concrete crew and installed by Woodenbong-based contractor MJ Smith Ground Preparation.

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Photo: The Kyogle Fishway.