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MEDIA RELEASE

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SAFETY FIRST IN DIFFICULT WEATHER CONDITIONS

As a precautionary measure, TasRail advises that it has temporarily suspended all train operations across its network.

TasRail CEO Damien White said the disruption to customers is regrettable, but the safe operation of rail services is paramount.

"TasRail has deployed all available staff to inspect and assess the track and critical infrastructure including rail bridges and facilities", Mr White said. "While heavy rain is continuing to fall across the State, the rail network appears to be withstanding the flood conditions reasonably well, but there are a number of areas, particularly on the North West Coast where water levels are a concern".

TasRail is in close contact with its customers, and will continue to provide regular updates throughout the day.

TasRail would like to publicly acknowledge the efforts and commitment of staff who are out in difficult conditions to assess and monitor the safety of the rail network.

Members of the public are urged to heed the advice of Tasmania Police and the State Emergency Services, and to monitor the TasAlert website.

Ends

For more information:

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About TasRail

TasRail is a State-owned Company, established on 1 December 2009 by an Act of the Tasmanian Parliament. The principal objectives of the business are set out in the Rail Company Act 2009 and require the Company to operate a rail business in Tasmania, effectively and efficiently and to operate its activities in accordance with sound commercial practice.

With a workforce of around 240 men and women, Tasmania's hauls around 50 per cent of Tasmania's contestable freight task - generating annual revenue in the order of \$34 million. TasRail conservatively estimates that the freight it transports by rail each year effectively removes the equivalent of 200,000 B-Double truck movements from the State's road network.