

**Position:**

Senior Consultant

Qualifications:

B Agr Sci (Hons)

Currently studying MBA
(Agricultural Innovation)**Professional Associations:**Member, Australasia-Pacific
Extension Network (APEN)Member, Agricultural Institute
of Australia**Contact Details:**

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Franklin, PO Box 149, Glenorchy
TAS 7010**INTRODUCTION**

Mel Rae graduated from the University of Tasmania in 2006 with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science and first class honours. Mel's areas of specialisation at uni were soil science and landscape management.

Since joining the company in 2007, Mel has worked on a wide range of water resource, agricultural production and natural resource management projects. Mel has specific skills in project management, group facilitation and event management, and technical experience in recycled water irrigation and environmental monitoring.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2007-Present: Macquarie Franklin
(formerly Agricultural Resource Management)

2007: SFM Soil Solutions: 2007

RECENT PROJECTS

- TasWater - Recycled Water Services - Technical advice, scheme management, environmental monitoring and auditing of recycled water schemes, coordinating extension events and general liaison services to irrigators. (2009 - 2016)
- Meat & Livestock Australia – Producer Research Site State Coordinator, Tasmania (2014-2016)
- Meat & Livestock Australia – Communications Coordinator for national sustainable feedbase resources portfolio (2016)
- Meat & Livestock Australia – More Beef from Pastures Program Coordinator, Tasmania (2014-2016)
- Meat & Livestock Australia – Farm300 project. Develop M&E and Communications Plan for national project focused on skill development in red meat producers to lower greenhouse gas emissions (2014-2015)
- Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) – Water for Profit Irrigation Group project advisor (2015)
- Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) – Development of an Irrigation RD&E Program for TIA (2014)
- Meat & Livestock Australia – Red Meat Updates. Coordination of annual Red Meat Updates events in Launceston, attracting 200-300 delegates and industry wide sponsorship (2013-2016)
- Lion Dairy & Drinks – Develop Waste Water Irrigation Transition & Emergency Management Plan for new factory at Burnie, ongoing consulting to assist with implementation and reporting (2012 – 2016)

Areas of Expertise

- Project management
- Program & event coordination
- Communications
- Red meat industry extension
- Recycled water management
- Environmental monitoring
- Soil management
- Climate analysis
- Irrigator compliance programs
- Literature reviews
- Group facilitation
- Application writing
- Irrigation and environmental management plans

Macquarie Franklin Expertise

- Economic studies
- Business and farm management
- Feasibility studies
- State and regional development
- Irrigation and water development
- Land capability and mapping
- Natural resource management
- Training and extension
- Technical agricultural consulting

- Mondelez Australia – Annual soil monitoring of for land receiving factory waste products. (2013-16)
- Ashgrove Cheese – Recycled water irrigation management plan for new irrigation area & business EMP update (2015-2016)
- Horticulture Australia – Biosecurity Survey. Survey development and coordinate promotion of survey of Australian vegetable industry preparedness for biosecurity risks. (2013)
- NRM South – Salinity & Irrigation Bus Tour for Irrigators (2013)
Southern Water – Clarence Reuse Supply and Demand Study. Modeling of supply and demand scenarios for the Clarence Recycled Water Scheme to inform future management strategies. (2013)
- Southern Water – Brighton Reuse Feasibility Study. Assessment of current and future supply and demand scenarios for the use of recycled water from sewage treatment plants in the region. (2012)
- Wine Tasmania – Soil Health Field Day. Coordinated and facilitated a field day at Richmond for viticulturists focusing on the basics and benefits of soil health. (2012)
- Southern Water - Secondment as *Leader-Recycled Water*
This role involved all aspects of recycled water management in the Southern Water business. (2011 –2012)
- Caring for Our Country Making Good Better: Understanding Soil Carbon Project - Bothwell group facilitator. (2011)
- Lion Dairy & Drinks, Burnie – Annual soil monitoring program (2007-ongoing)
- NRM North – Property Management Planning farmer group facilitator.
- NRM North - Best Practice Salinity Management Project - Facilitated the development of Salinity Management Plans for over 40 farmers in Tasmania, followed by the roll out of incentives funding to assist with implementation of key on-ground activities identified in the plans. (2009-2011)
- Intelligent Irrigation Training Course, Northern Tasmania - project support and event facilitator (2008-2009)
- Clarence Recycled Water Board of Management – Clarence Recycled Water Scheme Services - Prior to the formation of Southern Water in 2009, Macquarie Franklin (formerly ARM) managed all aspects of the Clarence Recycled Water Scheme. This included delivery of training events that focussed on sustainable irrigation of soils. (2007 – 2009)
- Entura - Project liaison officer, Tasmanian Water Use Management (TWUM) Project (2007-2008)