**MOU with Parks & Wildlife
re use of the Mersey slalom course**

Update as at 10th Dec 2015

Jonathan K is leading the development of this MOU on behalf of CanoeTas and TamarCC.

Jonathan recently went to see Chris Colley (Parks Regional Manager) and got the following understandings about the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CanoeTas and Parks & Wildlife.

Parks have their busy season coming up with fire and visitors so are not too fussed about doing anything fast. We might not get the MOU done until March. (The WA end of the Nationals organisers (Lucy Anne Williams?) are formalising arrangements for the Nationals so no rush with the MOU for the Nationals.)

Chris will get David Fulford or Rob Buck (Deloraine Parks people) to call me and they will do the business with us. Jonathan K will try to get a sample of an MOU from David F or Rob B so we know what their MOU looks like and so we understand what we are working on.

Probably will need a meeting with slalom reps (Peter E, John Boro, Dave Boro or Paul B) to sort out details. This might be a casual thing, as David F or Rob B are still likely to come to working bees with us so we could allow some time to have informal natters then about what Parks and Canoe Tasmania need. The best opportunity for a get together is when sufficient people will be in the one place. David Bevan and Jonathan K can represent TCC at such get togethers. We will update the TCC executive on progress and take back TCC concerns. We will also engage with TasCC.

Chris C recommends that, while running the Nationals, we should consider our future needs for running such events so they can be fed into Parks’ future planning.

Chris C plans to attend the Nationals because of his personal interest in kayaking.

One purpose for the MOU is to establish a plan for the site that is not dependent on current people and facilitates ongoing progress over say a 5 year period.

Another big purpose is OH&S and all non-Parks people working in the area will need to be signed up as volunteers. There is an on-going need for briefings on safety issues at the commencement of each day. That could be done by club members, possibly, eventually, but at the moment Parks people need to be there for working bees. Think chainsaws, manual handling, the lot. Volunteers working on the site will have same responsibilities, endorsements and protection as Parks employees.

It is noted that the conversation Jonathan K had with Chris C was just to understand what the process would look like. No attempt has yet been made to convey what we might want in such a document.

The Deloraine guys might approach it slightly differently from Chris C, so watch this space…