

# Baffling solution for our flummoxed fish

By ELLEN WHINNETT

TINY fish flummoxed by fast-moving currents could soon find navigating the lower Derwent waterways much easier.

Up to 1000 baffles will be installed in culverts and pipes to make it easier for native fish to swim upstream.

The Tasmanian Conservation Trust will spend more than \$6000 investigating which locations need the devices.

The baffles, which create eddies and backwaters, will be installed as stage two of the project.

Tasmanian company Freshwater Systems, which

invented the Biobaffle, has been retained for the project.

The company showcased the invention to engineers in early December, after testing them in a Styx Valley stream.

Biobaffle developer Peter Davies said the area from Meadowbank Dam to Hobart would be targeted.

"The first stage will be identifying the road culverts which are causing the problems for native fish," Dr Davies said.

The project will identify up to 10 locations where fish are finding upstream passage difficult or impossible due to fast-flowing currents, and up to 150 of the tiny baffles will be installed in each culvert.