



April 2016

Recreation area to be opened at Lake Wivenhoe

Visitors to the eastern side of Lake Wivenhoe may have noticed construction on the bridges at Hine Road, Dundas. The Somerset Regional Council are currently upgrading the bridges, which will literally pave the way for the re-opening of the Billies Bay and Hays Landing recreation areas.

Once the bridge repairs are complete, we will upgrade the recreation area at Billies Bay and Hays Landing. With support from the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing, we will improve the access roads, boat ramp, picnic facilities, toilet amenities and landscaping and establish a swimming area, so you can take a dip on those warm summer days.

Located at a beautiful part of the lake, the re-opening of these recreation areas to public access was overwhelmingly supported during the recreation review. We hope to open these recreation areas during the middle of this year. Stay tuned for further updates!

Opening hours change 1 May as part of trial period

We received feedback during the recreation review about the times we open and close our lakes and parks. As a result, on 1 December 2015 we commenced a year long trial into revised opening hours at our lakes and recreation areas.

The revised hours for the trial period are

September – April	5.30am – 6.30pm
May – August	6.30am – 5.30pm

What this means for you

The new hours apply to all Seqwater lakes and parks (public access areas), including on-water access, in line with current permitted activities at each lake.

With 1 May fast approaching, visitors are reminded to be aware of the change to opening hours. As always, night-time access is prohibited due to operational and safety requirements.

Tell us what you think

We will trial the new hours until 30 November 2016. A decision will be made towards the end of the trial period as to whether the new hours will continue.

Let us know what you think of the new hours by calling 1800 737 928 or emailing recreation@seqwater.com.au.

Lake Macdonald dam improvement project update

On Wednesday 23 March 2016 the Lake Macdonald Community Reference Group held their third meeting at Cooroy Library. We formed the group in 2015 to ensure community involvement in all stages of planning for the dam improvement project at Lake Macdonald. Originally built in 1965, this will be the first major upgrade of the dam since the dam wall was raised in 1980.

At the last community reference group meeting in 2015, we presented the group with a number of options under consideration for Lake Macdonald. These options included a new dam, an upgrade to the existing spillway or decommissioning of the dam.

At the most recent meeting in March, we provided an update on the options assessment process. The group also discussed a preliminary design, if we opt to upgrade the existing dam. The preliminary upgrade design includes replacing the current dam spillway with a new labyrinth spillway and an upgrade to the dam embankments. If we proceed with this option, the dam water level would need to be lowered during the construction of the new spillway to provide a safe working environment.

To support the options assessment, additional site investigations will be undertaken in May 2016 to determine rock and soil characteristics below the current spillway. Seqwater will continue to engage with the Lake Macdonald Community Reference Group during the next few months regarding dam improvement options with a view to seek feedback from the wider community early in the second half of 2016. There is also a formal comprehensive Board and Government approvals process that must be undertaken to consider all aspects of the project.

New picnic facilities on the way for Hinze Dam

The picturesque Waterside Park at Hinze Dam will soon receive some brand new picnic tables and shelters.

The addition of these shelters and picnic tables will see some much needed shade and seating added to the parkland area. Implemented with the support of the Department of National Parks, Sport and Racing, this improvement is sure to be popular with visitors vying to get a piece of the fantastic water views!

Changes at Wivenhoe Information Centre

The Wivenhoe Information Centre will no longer be open to the public on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The centre will continue to operate as a base for our school and community education program from Wednesday to Sunday inclusive each week. Please note, the centre may be closed at times during the day when staff are in the field leading educational experiences.

Visitors are still able to access information about recreation facilities at Lake Wivenhoe and Lake Somerset at any time by visiting the Seqwater [website](#).

Looking to purchase a boating permit? Boating permits are now available from the following outlets:

- Camp Somerset
- Captain Logan & Lumley Hill Campgrounds (Lake Wivenhoe)
- Dutch Pancakes – mobile food vendor
- Esk Visitor Information Centre
- Fernvale Futures Complex
- Kilcoy Information Centre
- Lake Somerset Holiday Park

- Mitre 10 Fernvale
- Somerset Park Campgrounds
- The Dam Shed (previously the Somerset General Store)

Did you know....

Swimming is not a permitted recreation activity at all of our lakes. To protect your safety, please only swim in designated swimming areas, which are delineated by on-site signage and buoys. Visit the Seqwater [website](#) to find out which of our lakes permit swimming.

If you wish to unsubscribe, please email recreationreview@seqwater.com.au with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.