

Dam Improvement Program Lake Macdonald



August 2018

A chance to tell us what you think – Lake Macdonald Dam Safety Upgrade impact assessment

As a recreational user of Lake Macdonald Dam, we would like to inform you of the future upgrade of the dam and invite your input on the potential impacts the project will have on you and the community.

Lake Macdonald Dam is one of several dams in South East Queensland to be upgraded as part of Seqwater's Dam Improvement Program over the next five years. At Seqwater, some of the dams we operate were built decades ago, and just like cars, they need regular maintenance to keep them in good working order and meet changing safety standards and guidelines.

This is the first major upgrade of Lake Macdonald Dam since the wall was raised in 1980 and will involve building a new spillway and reconstructing the existing earth embankments. Once the upgrade is complete, the dam will be protected against earthquakes and extreme flood events. At this stage, construction is expected to start in mid-2019, subject to approvals, and will take up to two years to complete.

Temporary recreation changes

Due to the temporary lowering of the lake, there will be [no on water access](#) during the construction period. There will also be temporary closures to parks and facilities around the lake. The Noosa Botanical Gardens and the Noosa Trail Network will remain open, however access points to the trails may change. [Click here](#) for more information about the recreation impacts. Once the upgrade is complete, Lake Macdonald will be reopened to recreation.

How to get involved

In December 2017, the dam upgrade was declared a 'coordinated project' under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*. The project is currently in the detailed design and approvals phase, which involves preparing an Impact Assessment Report (IAR) for the Office of the Coordinator General.

The impact assessment allows us to investigate the potential impacts of the project such as traffic, noise, dust, water quality, recreation, cultural heritage, and the environment, as well as identify ways to reduce or manage these impacts. The process also gives the community an opportunity to provide feedback on the potential impacts of the project and how they might be avoided or mitigated.

We encourage you to take this opportunity to provide feedback. A range of engagement activities are happening between early August and early September 2018, including an online interactive impacts map, discussion forums and surveys. To provide input, visit yourseqwater.com.au now.

Alternatively, if you live in the area, you can visit the Cooroy Library any time during opening hours to find out more about the project and fill out a survey in person. Staff will also be available to collect your feedback and answer questions at the library on 4 August, 14 August, 18 August and 21 August 2018. Check out the website for more information.

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