

## Dam Improvement Program Lake Macdonald



### December 2018

It's been a busy few months for the project team collating and assessing your feedback for the project's [Impact Assessment Report \(IAR\)](#). A preliminary draft IAR has been submitted to the Coordinator-General and we expect the document to be available for community review in early 2019.

Thank you to everyone who provided comments, completed a survey, gave us a call or sent us an email.

#### Public comment

You will have an opportunity to make submissions on the draft IAR in early 2019.

Public notices inviting submissions on the draft IAR will be published in local, state and national newspapers.

[Click here](#) to find out more about what an IAR is and the submission process.

Once consultation begins, the draft will be available to view at [haveyoursay.dsd.qld.gov.au](http://haveyoursay.dsd.qld.gov.au), as well as at the Cooroy Library and Noosa Council's Tewantin office.

At this stage, the consultation period is expected to start in mid to late January 2019 and will be open for at least 28 calendar days.

#### Project timing

Since the last edition of this e-newsletter, we have revisited the project schedule and with regulatory and environmental approvals still pending, we have decided to start construction in 2020.

The best time of year to lower the lake's water level is March to avoid the wet season, as well as aquatic fauna breeding seasons in and downstream of the lake.

2012-14	<b>DAM SAFETY REVIEW</b>	✓
2014-15	<b>OPTION ANALYSIS &amp; CONCEPT DESIGN</b>	✓
2016	<b>PRELIMINARY DESIGN &amp; APPROVALS</b>	✓
2017-19	<b>DETAILED DESIGN &amp; APPROVALS</b>	←
2019-20	<b>PROJECT PLANNING</b>	👁
2020-22	<b>CONSTRUCTION</b>	👁

The lake will be lowered following the wet season in early 2020 to allow construction to begin in mid-2020, subject to approvals.

The timing change also means Lake Macdonald will remain open to recreation in 2019.

We appreciate the patience and understanding stakeholders and the local community have had over the past few years as we've progressed planning. If you have any questions or concerns about the project timing, please email [lakemacdonald@seqwater.com.au](mailto:lakemacdonald@seqwater.com.au)

### Proposed traffic routes

We received lots of feedback about the potential traffic impacts expected during construction of the dam upgrade.

Key issues raised included road safety for pedestrians and motorists, increased congestion, noise and dust from construction trucks and the condition of local roads.

Detailed traffic management plans have not been developed yet, but construction traffic is expected to use local roads including Elm Street, Lake Macdonald Drive, Sivyers Road, Gumboil Road and Collwood Road to access the construction areas. We are considering a few options including creating a one-way traffic loop where construction vehicles enter the site one way and exit the other. [Click here](#) to view the proposed traffic routes map.

It's critical we find a safe way to use local roads and will be looking at all the possible options before finalising our traffic management plans in consultation with Noosa Council. More information about these plans will be shared once they become available.

### Making a model

One way to better understand how a dam's spillway will perform in a flood is to make a physical model of it.

We are working with AECOM and the University of New South Wales (UNSW) – Water Research Laboratory to assess how water will flow over the dam's new spillway.



The hydraulic performance of the dam is assessed on the amount of water it can pass (release) through the spillway and the amount of energy dissipation the concrete area (basin) downstream can provide. A similar physical model dam was built to assess the hydraulic performance of the Hinze Dam spillway, which was upgraded in 2011.

A team of specialist technicians and engineers are working to construct the 1:20 scale physical hydraulic model and simulate a range of flood flows. This information will be used to support the detailed design of the upgrade.



### Realities of rain

Could you imagine South East Queensland without water? It's a future no one wants to see. Our climate is changing, and our population is growing. So how do we make sure we have the water we need, and don't run out?

The dams we use for drinking water have served us well, but they count on rain falling where and when we need it.

So, if we can't always count on the rain, what do we do?

If you want to join the conversation, visit [yourseqwater.com.au/realities-of-rain](http://yourseqwater.com.au/realities-of-rain)

### Play it safe during the storm season

Remember to be aware of the risks of changing weather patterns, in particular sudden storms, during summer.

Summer is the busiest time for Seqwater's lakes across the region.

Our rangers and the police can't be everywhere so it's important you [play it safe](#) this summer.

Check for [safety and recreation notices](#) on our website before you head off.

And make sure you [sign up](#) to our free dam release notification service to get alerts when Lake Macdonald is spilling.

### For more information

[w yourseqwater.com.au/lake-macdonald-dam-upgrade](http://yourseqwater.com.au/lake-macdonald-dam-upgrade)

[e lakemacdonald@seqwater.com.au](mailto:lakemacdonald@seqwater.com.au)

[p 1800 902 294](tel:1800902294)

