

PLANNING YOUR WATER FUTURE



WATER FOR A GROWING SUNSHINE COAST

We're planning for your water future. Because we can't always count on the rain.

The plan might look different depending on where you live in South East Queensland.

We might have differences but we are one region, and Seqwater is planning for a reliable and sustainable water supply for all South East Queenslanders.

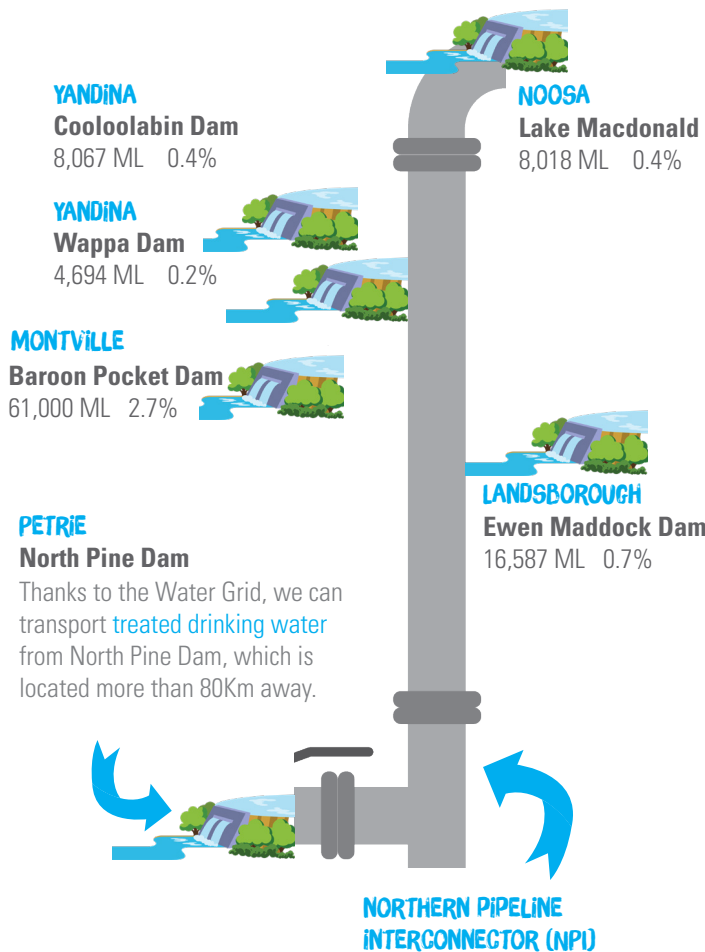


SUNSHINE COAST WATER

THERE ARE **FIVE** DRINKING WATER DAMS ON THE SUNSHINE COAST.

THAT MIGHT SEEM LIKE A LOT OF DAMS FOR ONE AREA. IN FACT, TOGETHER THEY ONLY CONTRIBUTE ABOUT **4% OF THE SEQ WATER GRID'S CAPACITY.**

WHILE WE CAN MOVE WATER AROUND THE REGION, DRINKING WATER IS **USUALLY SOURCED AND TREATED LOCALLY** TO MINIMISE COSTS.



PETRIE
North Pine Dam
Thanks to the Water Grid, we can transport **treated drinking water** from North Pine Dam, which is located more than 80Km away.

We use the NPI to transport water north from Brisbane to the Sunshine Coast when needed, including when dam levels are low, or water treatment plants are offline for maintenance.

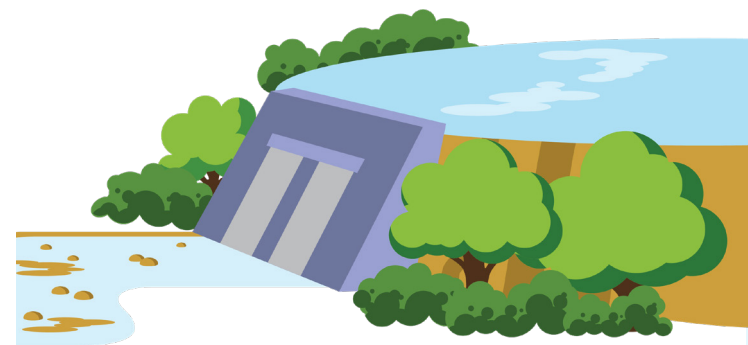
BY 2028, THE POPULATION OF THE SUNSHINE COAST IS PREDICTED TO GROW BY **MORE THAN 100,000** PEOPLE.

AVERAGE DAILY RESIDENTIAL WATER USE ON THE SUNSHINE COAST IS **196L PER PERSON.***

Sunshine Coast dams have traditionally been **very reliable** - historically they receive more rainfall than most other parts of SE QLD.



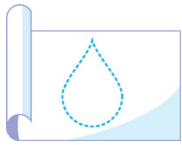
These dams were designed for this **quick and frequent** replenishment - but this means their levels can also **drop quickly**.



If we can't count on it to rain when and where we need it to, coupled with a growing population, part of our **water future discussion on the Sunshine Coast** is about what type of water sources communities would like to see in the future.



WATER IN THE FUTURE



OUR PLAN

The Water Security Program is Seqwater's plan to provide South East Queensland with drinking water over the next 30 years. This includes planning for extreme weather — both flood and drought.



POPULATION AND WATER USAGE IS GROWING

Currently South East Queensland uses around 300,000 million litres a year. By 2046, with our increasing population, the forecast medium demand is around 525,000 million litres a year. With all South East Queensland water grid assets available and operating (including the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme), our region's bulk water system can supply about 440,000 million litres a year.



NEW WATER SOURCES NEEDED

Our bulk water supply system meets our region's current needs but in the future new sources will be required to meet the needs of our growing population, expected to reach 5.1 million by 2046.

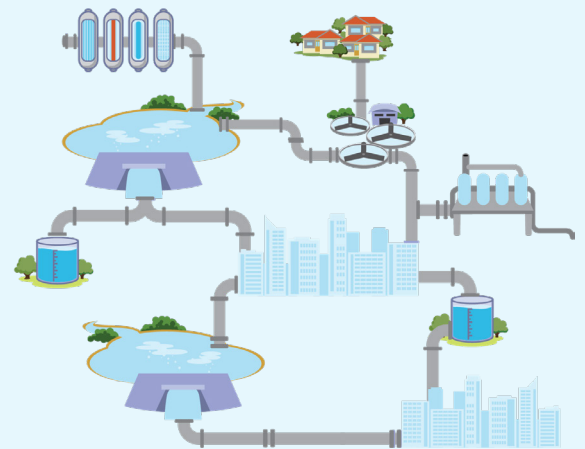
The next new source is expected to be needed on the Sunshine Coast before 2040. New water source options have been identified but no decisions have been made. The options have been assessed at a strategic level and will be subject to further assessment and community feedback.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW



UPGRADING LAKE MACDONALD

We're upgrading Noosa's Lake Macdonald to better protect the dam against earthquakes and extreme floods. A new spillway will be built and the existing earth embankments will be reconstructed. At this stage, construction is expected to start in the latter half of 2019, subject to approvals.



IMPROVING THE WATER GRID

We're making improvements to the Water Grid so we can move water from Wivenhoe and Somerset Dams to North Brisbane, and then use water from North Pine Dam to supplement supply on the Sunshine Coast.

Without the water grid, the system could only supply about 355,000 million litres of water a year. By boosting the yield of the system, the grid helps delay the need for additional water supply infrastructure.

INVESTING IN CATCHMENT PROTECTION

Most of our water comes from rainfall run-off flowing into creeks, rivers and our dams. The condition of the catchment impacts how much water can be stored, the quality of the water available and the cost of water treatment.

That's why we're investing millions of dollars in catchment protection programs to improve the quality of water coming into our dams.



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WATER WISE TIPS

Water is a precious resource and South East Queenslanders are encouraged to be water efficient all the time.

Water outside before 10am and after 4pm

If you water in the heat of the day, you can lose up to 50% of the water to evaporation.

Check for leaks

You can lose thousands of litres of water a day without even knowing it due to underground leaks. Use your water meter to check for leaks at home and in your irrigation system.

Use a good mulch

A good mulch will help your plants retain water through the scorching summer days and reduce weeds that compete for water.

Use your pool cover

Pool covers reduce evaporation by about 90%.

Check how much water you use

Do you really know how much water you use? Use a water audit tool to calculate what appliances are your water guzzlers, where you're using a lot of water and opportunities to make savings.

Take shorter showers

Four minutes is the recommended length.

Turn off the tap

Half fill the sink instead of leaving the tap running to wash fruit and vegetables, and turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.



DROUGHT RESPONSE PLAN

We have introduced a drought readiness phase to better prepare the region for the prospect of drought. Drought response actions are linked to the combined volumes of our region's water storages.



Drought readiness messaging will start when storage levels reach 70%, voluntary water conservation will commence at 60%, water restrictions at 50% and all assets including the Gold Coast Desalination Plant and the Western Corridor Recycled Water Scheme will be operational by 40%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

More information is available at our Realities of Rain hub at

<https://yourseqwater.com.au/realities-of-rain>

You can also subscribe to our email newsletter to stay up to date with news and events.

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