

# Lake Macdonald Dam Safety Upgrade

## Impact Assessment Report



Image: Marc Raffaele Photography

### Background

Lake Macdonald Dam – also known as Six Mile Creek Dam – is in the Noosa hinterland, about four kilometres north-east of the township of Cooroy. It is a zoned earth and rock-fill dam with an un-gated spillway, originally constructed in 1965. The dam will be upgraded in 2019-21 as part of Seqwater's Dam Improvement Program. This will be the first major upgrade of the dam since the walls were raised in 1980.

### Impact Assessment Report

In December 2017, the upgrade was declared a 'coordinated project' under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971*, which would require an Impact Assessment Report (IAR).

An IAR is a streamlined version of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The IAR process is used for well-defined, low to medium risk projects where the likely impacts are relatively predictable. Unlike an EIS, an IAR does not include Terms of Reference.

Seqwater is developing an IAR to better understand the potential impacts of the project and mitigation measures to reduce those impacts. Areas of impact to be assessed include, but are not limited to, traffic, noise, dust, water quality, recreation, cultural heritage, and ecology.

Once the IAR has been drafted, it will be made available for the public and government agencies to comment.





## How can I have my say on the project?

The best way for you to get involved is online at [yourseqwater.com.au/lake-macdonald-dam-upgrade](http://yourseqwater.com.au/lake-macdonald-dam-upgrade). Here you will find a range of engagement activities available from 1 August through to 7 September 2018 for you to provide input:

- **Online interactive impacts map** – provide feedback on the impacts we have identified (pinned) on the map or add your own localised impacts in the areas of traffic, noise and dust, social and environment.
- **Discussion forum** – provide comments or ask a question about a key topic such as construction traffic routes and local roads.
- **Business impacts survey** – a tailored survey for business owners and operators to understand the perceived impacts to the local economy.
- **Social impact survey** – answer a series of questions to help us better understand the perceived impacts the project may have on your way of life.

In addition, you can visit the Cooroy Library between 4 August and 7 September 2018 during opening hours to find out more about the project and fill out a feedback survey in person. Staff will be there in person to collect your feedback and answer questions at the library on 4 August, 14 August, 18 August and 21 August.

All feedback collected will be used to finalise the project's Impact Assessment Report. Once finalised, it will be made available to the public for comment. The IAR will be available online and you will be able to view a hard copy at the Cooroy Library and at the Noosa Shire Council offices in Tewantin.

## Will what I say make a difference?

This is a dam safety upgrade and some aspects of the project are not negotiable. However, it's important we understand what the localised impacts are going to be and what you think can be done to mitigate them. We will consider all feedback, and suggestions will be reviewed for consideration in project planning and where relevant during construction. All comments received during the public notification (disclosure period) of the Impact Assessment Report will be reviewed and assessed by the Coordinator General in determining whether the project will be approved.

### To find out more

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

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