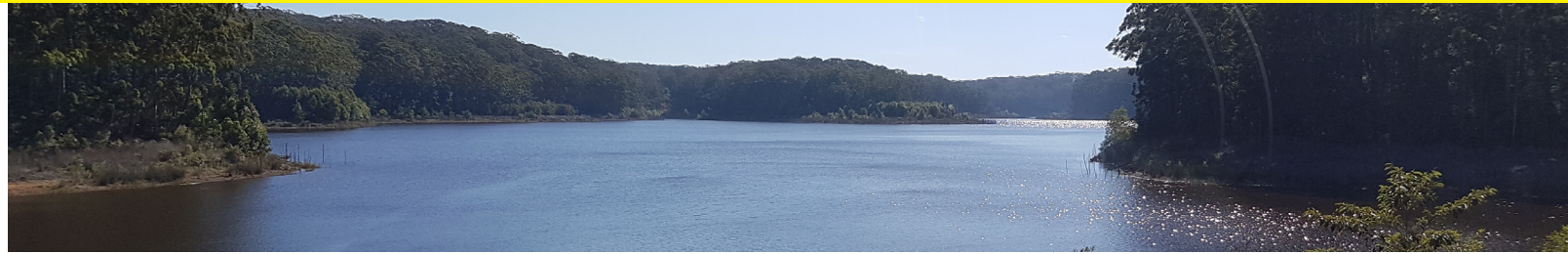


Seqwater Dam Improvement Program

Cooloolabin Dam

September 2017



Dams are long-life assets and require continual assessment, monitoring and maintenance. In 2012-13, Seqwater commissioned an independent review of our 26 referable dams, which found improvements were needed at a number of our dams to meet the Queensland Dam Safety Management Guidelines into the future.

Cooloolabin Dam is located near Yandina in the Sunshine Coast region, and is one of a number of dams identified for upgrade in the next six years.

Assessing our dams

In Queensland, dam owners are responsible for the safety of their dams under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (the Act). The Department of Energy and Water Supply requires Seqwater to comply with the Queensland Dam Safety Management Guidelines under the Act. Like all dam operators across the country, we also seek to meet the national guidelines set by the Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD).

Our Dam Improvement Program considers all of these factors so our dams can operate as they should, now and into the future. There are some key changes since Cooloolabin Dam was built, which impact on its compliance with the dam safety guidelines, including:

- the latest estimates of extreme rainfall
- data from flood events and updated flood modelling
- improved understanding of earthquake probabilities and loads
- significant population growth downstream
- advances in dam design and development of consistent methodologies for assessment.

About the upgrade

The 19 metre high concrete dam was constructed in 1979 on Rocky Creek, west of Yandina. In 2014, the water level in Cooloolabin was lowered as a short-term risk reduction measure while investigations continued to identify a suitable upgrade option.

We've been working to develop a dam upgrade design that will:

- increase the dam's ability to manage severe weather events
- reduce earthquake risk
- comply with modern design and engineering standards and safety guidelines.

The upgrade will involve constructing a filter buttress to reinforce the embankments on either side of the dam's spillway and the lower part of the saddle dam.

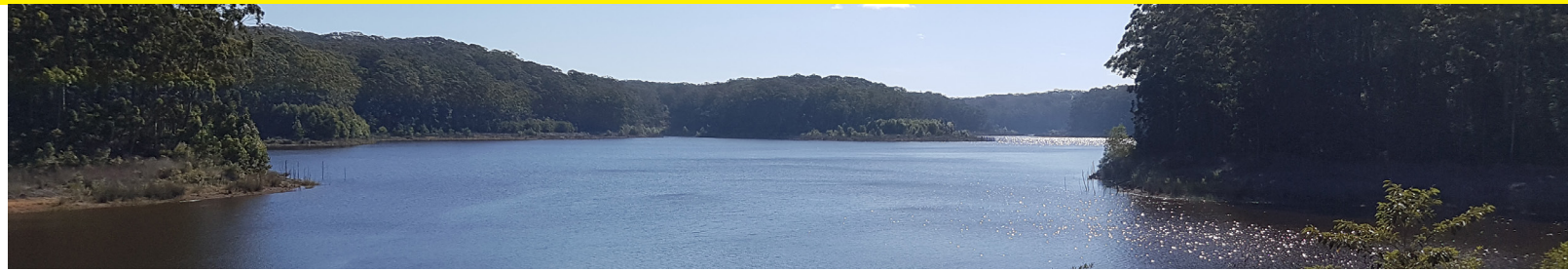
Once construction is complete, Seqwater will maintain Cooloolabin Dam at the reduced Full Supply Level (FSL). There will be minimal impact on the water supply security for the Sunshine Coast as a result of the current FSL.



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Recreation

We will minimise impacts on recreation during the upgrade and plan to keep recreational facilities open throughout the duration of the works where it is safe to do so.

A partial closure of the walking track will be in place during the construction period and temporary signage will be installed to detour visitors. Shore-based fishing is currently permitted at Cooloolabin Dam. Picnic facilities are also available and Mapleton State Forest provides recreational opportunities for bushwalkers.

Timing of the upgrade

Construction will commence the first week of October 2017 and will take about five months to complete, subject to weather and onsite conditions.

Living near our dams

It's important neighbours and people downstream of Cooloolabin Dam know what to do in the unlikely event of an emergency. The dam has an Emergency Action Plan in place to enable us to respond quickly to potential incidents in partnership with emergency services and local council and, through targeted intervention, prevent an incident from developing into an emergency.

You can subscribe to dam release notifications for Cooloolabin Dam on Seqwater's website or by download our app from Google Play or the App Store.

In addition, emergency services have a range of ways to warn the community about severe weather and other emergencies that require preparation and action at the household level. For help with preparing an emergency kit and evacuation plan, visit getready.qld.gov.au

2012-14	✓
DAM SAFETY REVIEW	
2014-15	✓
OPTION ANALYSIS & CONCEPT DESIGN	
2015-16	✓
PRELIMINARY DESIGN & APPROVALS	
2016	✓
DETAILED DESIGN & APPROVALS	
2017	✓
PROJECT PLANNING	
2017-18	←
CONSTRUCTION	

Keeping you informed

You can stay up to date with the progress of the Cooloolabin Dam upgrade by subscribing to our e-updates. To subscribe or for more information:

w seqwater.com.au/damimprovement

e communications@seqwater.com.au

s subscribe to our e-updates via the Seqwater website

p 1800 902 294