

# Dam Improvement Program Lake Macdonald



## March 2016

On Wednesday 23 March 2016 the Lake Macdonald Community Reference Group held their third meeting at Cooroy Library. The group was formed by Seqwater in 2015 to ensure community involvement in all stages of planning for the dam improvement project at Lake Macdonald. Originally built in 1965, this will be the first major upgrade of the dam since the dam wall was raised in 1980.

At the last community reference group meeting in 2015, Seqwater presented the group with a number of options that we were considering for Lake Macdonald, including a new dam, an upgrade to the existing spillway or decommissioning.

At the most recent meeting in March, Seqwater provided an update on progress with the options assessment process and discussed with the group a preliminary design for an option to upgrade the existing dam. The preliminary upgrade design includes replacing the current dam spillway with a new labyrinth spillway and an upgrade to the dam embankments. If we proceed with this option, the dam water level would need to be lowered during the construction of the new spillway to provide a safe working environment.

To support the options assessment, additional site investigations will be undertaken in May 2016 to determine rock and soil characteristics below the current spillway. Seqwater will continue to engage with the Lake Macdonald Community Reference Group over the next few months regarding dam improvement options with a view to seek feedback from the wider community early in the second half of 2016. There is also a formal comprehensive Board and Government approvals process that must be undertaken to consider all aspects of the project.

## Noosa Festival of Water

Seqwater is a proud supporter of the Noosa Festival of Water, which will be held this year on Sunday 26 June. We will be running tours of the Noosa Water Treatment Plant, and setting up an information stall so we can provide the latest news about the Dam Improvement Project at Lake Macdonald.

## Dam release notification service

While the wet season is officially over, just a reminder that Seqwater offers a free dam release notification service, which provides subscribers with notifications by email, text message to mobile phones or recorded message to telephone landlines when Lake Macdonald Dam is spilling. Lake Macdonald is an un-gated dam, so whenever the water level in the dam reaches the top of the spillway, water will flow over the spillway and out of the dam into Six Mile Creek.

To be notified when Lake Macdonald is spilling, sign up to our dam release notification service by visiting [seqwater.com.au/dam-release-information-service](http://seqwater.com.au/dam-release-information-service)

## Keeping you informed

You can keep up-to-date via our website, subscribe to our e-updates to have the latest information emailed to you, or call the Lake Macdonald project information line on 1800 902 294.

Please feel free to share this e-update. To become a subscriber or find out more:

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