

# Dam Improvement Program

## Lake Macdonald



August 2019

### Project Overview

Lake Macdonald Dam is one of several dams across South East Queensland to be upgraded as part of Seqwater's Dam Improvement Program. This is the first major upgrade of Lake Macdonald Dam since the wall was raised in 1980 and will involve building a new spillway and reconstructing the embankments to better protect the dam against earthquakes and extreme floods.

### Lake Survey

Seqwater is currently surveying Lake Macdonald Dam for aquatic life. You may notice a powered boat slowly tracking its way up and down the lake in a grid pattern. Powered boats are not generally allowed on the lake but we have made an exception, due to the importance of the task.

The survey is using a piece of sonar equipment, known as an echo sounder, to detect fish in real time. The survey helps us understand the fish population living within the reservoir. The echo sounder can determine the general size of the fish and an approximate quantity. The survey will also help us to complete an estimate of the variety and number of each species that are present in the lake and where they tend to cluster. We will survey the lake multiple times to ensure consistency between survey results. The data gathered will feed into our fish management plan for the lowering of the lake.



**Figure:** Survey of Lake Macdonald Dam for aquatic life

### Upcoming work

Drilling activities on the area downstream of the spillway will start in the coming weeks. This work requires the closure of the bridge to vehicles between Lake Macdonald Drive and the water treatment plant from Monday 12 August 2019 to Saturday 17 August 2019.

If you currently use this bridge to access the Noosa Trail network, we recommend that you park in Kookaburra Park and access the trails on foot. Please keep an eye out for signage and follow the instructions of our contractors if you are in the area.

### Did you know?

Lake Macdonald has a range of outdoor recreation facilities for you and your family to enjoy. The dam and recreation facilities are open to the public seven days a week, from 5:30am to 6:30pm (September – April) and 6:00am to 5:30pm (May – August).

Lake Macdonald will continue to remain open to recreation until the lake is lowered for the upgrade. We encourage the local community to get onto the lake to enjoy all that it has to offer.



At Lake Macdonald you can enjoy

- BBQs and picnics
- boating (non-powered)
- canoeing
- kayaking
- sailing
- rowing
- fishing
- bird watching

For more details click [here](#).

The Botanic Gardens, Kookaburra Park, Tinbeerwah School Park and Jabiru Park will remain open during the upgrade and The Noosa Trail Network will remain open, however access points to the trails will change during construction. For more information click [here](#).

### **Seqwater and our community**

Seqwater recently attended the Festival of Water at the Botanic Gardens and have committed to continued sponsorship of the event during the dam upgrade. We will also be attending the Cooroy Mountain Spring Festival held by the Rotary Club on 18 August 2019 at Cooroy Mountain from 7am to 3pm please feel free to drop by for a chat with our team about the project.

You can find out more about the Cooroy Mountain Spring Festival [here](#)

### Sign up for e-updates

We will be sending regular e-updates during the construction of this project to keep you informed. This is the best way to get the latest information, so if you know someone who might be interested in this project encourage them to subscribe by clicking [here](#).

### Sign up for free dam release alerts

Sign up to our dam release notification service to be notified when Lake Macdonald Dam (also called Six Mile Creek Dam) is spilling water. This free service provides subscribers with notifications by email, SMS or recorded messages to telephone landlines when gated dams are releasing water or un-gated dams are spilling. [Register](#) now to get dam alerts or download the Seqwater app from the App Store or Google Play on your device.

### For more information

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