

Dam Improvement Program Lake Macdonald



February 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.

Project timing

We have revisited the project schedule and decided to start construction in 2020. The best time of year to lower the lake's water level is March to avoid the wet season, as well as aquatic fauna breeding seasons in and downstream of the lake.

The lake will be lowered after the wet season in early 2020 to allow construction to begin in mid-2020, subject to approvals. The timing change means Lake Macdonald will remain open to recreation in 2019. We appreciate the patience and understanding stakeholders and the local community have had over the past few years as we've progressed planning.

Draft Impact Assessment Report

In December 2017, the dam upgrade was declared a 'coordinated project' under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971. The project is currently in the detailed design and approvals phase, which involves the submission of a draft Impact Assessment Report (IAR) to the Office of the Coordinator General for evaluation.

Between August and September 2018, we collected feedback from key stakeholders and the local community on the potential project impacts and ways to avoid or reduce them. Feedback provided has formed part of the draft IAR. Areas of impact assessed included traffic, noise, dust, water quality, recreation, cultural heritage and ecology. Thank you to everyone who provided comments, completed a survey, gave us a call or sent us an email last year.

Public comment



You have an opportunity to view the draft IAR and make submissions for the Office of the Coordinator-General to consider. The draft is now available to view online at www.dsdmip.qld.gov.au/sixmilecreek and in hard copy at the Cooroy Library and Noosaville Library.

Public notices inviting submissions on the draft IAR have been published in local, state and national newspapers. The consultation period is open until 5pm Monday 11 March 2019.



Photo courtesy of Marc Raffaele

For more information

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