

# Lake Macdonald Dam Upgrade

## Noosa Water Treatment Plant Bridge

October 2020



### Lake Macdonald Dam Upgrade

Lake Macdonald Dam (Six Mile Creek Dam) is scheduled to be upgraded as part of our Dam Improvement Program. It will be the first major upgrade for the dam since the wall was raised in 1980.

Like all major infrastructure, dams are regularly assessed and upgraded to comply with modern engineering guidelines and national standards.

The safety upgrade will involve; temporarily lowering the water level, catching and relocating aquatic fauna, removing the existing dam and spillway structure, rebuilding a new dam and spillway in the same location. The new spillway will be wider and will feature a combined ogee and labyrinth configuration.

In late - 2020, Seqwater are undertaking a range of early work activities for the Lake Macdonald Dam Upgrade.

The early work will involve constructing a new bridge downstream of the existing structure, relocating services and undertaking a safety upgrade of the road entrance to the Water Treatment Plant.

### Noosa Water Treatment Plant Bridge

The existing access bridge to the Noosa Water Treatment Plant is nearing the end of its lifespan and needs replacing. Work to replace the existing bridge has been brought forward to ensure that a new bridge is in position ahead of the main construction work on the Lake Macdonald Dam Upgrade.

The intersection and bridge at the junction of Lake Macdonald Drive and the Noosa Water Treatment Plant access road will be the main entry and exit for the Lake Macdonald Dam Upgrade construction work.

The new bridge will be built downstream of the existing structure, and it will cater for future operational requirements and construction activities.

This will have the benefit of providing safe passage to haul trucks and heavy equipment as well as ongoing access to the Water Treatment Plant and its operations staff.

### Timing

The construction of the new bridge and improvements to the access road are expected to take up to six months, subject to ground conditions, weather and other unforeseen circumstances. A design and construct contract has been awarded, and the contractor will be mobilising to the site from mid – October.

Some of the first work to be undertaken will be the establishment of site fencing and offices, followed by the removal of vegetation in the area where the new bridge is to be constructed.

The area has been environmentally surveyed and vegetation that is to be removed will be re-established locally.

On completion of the Lake Macdonald Dam Upgrade Project, in late - 2023, the old Noosa Water Treatment Plant bridge will be decommissioned and removed.

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**Image:** The existing Noosa Water Treatment Plant access bridge

### What to expect during construction

- Working hours are between 6.30am and 6.30pm, Monday to Saturday.
- Equipment will include, but is not limited to, excavators, piling rigs, utility vehicles, concrete trucks and light vehicles.
- There may be an increase in noise and traffic during this period and we will minimise disruptions where possible.
- There are no planned telecommunication or water service outages related to this work.
- Lake Macdonald Drive will remain open with traffic control in place as required. The work areas will be fenced off and alternate access to the recreation trails will be provided.
- The contractors will adhere to COVID – 19 work safety practices.

### Recreation

To ensure that the multi-use recreation trails can remain open, we will be altering the access points to these trails in collaboration with Noosa Shire Council. For more information please refer to the project website.

### Living near our dams

Lake Macdonald Dam is an urban area, so it's important neighbours and people downstream 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 in partnership with emergency services and local council.

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](http://getready.qld.gov.au) and [seqwater.com.au/dam-release-notification-service](http://seqwater.com.au/dam-release-notification-service)

### Keeping you informed

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