

Mid Brisbane River Irrigators notifications

Information sheet



As part of ongoing improvements to our dam communications, Seqwater has established a new subscriber group to our dam release notification service.

Subscribers to the Mid Brisbane River Irrigators group will receive two specific types of notification before flood releases begin from Wivenhoe Dam. Subscribers need to be aware that these notifications do not account for river rises downstream of Wivenhoe Dam that may occur due to heavy rainfall and creek flows before the start of flood releases from Wivenhoe Dam. Early river level rises can happen quickly after rain over areas downstream of Wivenhoe Dam.

Notification – Forecast flood release alert

The notifications will be similar to the content in the shaded boxes below.

Wivenhoe Dam – Forecast flood release alert

Seqwater advises rainfall forecasts or a Flood Watch issued by the Bureau of Meteorology indicate that flood releases from Wivenhoe Dam may be required from <day>.

These releases could affect irrigation pumps and other infrastructure near and on the banks of the Brisbane River. A decision to start releases from Wivenhoe Dam will depend on actual rainfall and inflows into the dam.

Seqwater will update this notification tomorrow.

Seqwater will aim to issue the Forecast Flood Release Alert notification at least 24 hours before potential flood releases start.

This notification provides the earliest possible indication that flood releases from Wivenhoe Dam may be required and will be based on rainfall forecasts or a Flood Watch issued from the Bureau of Meteorology. These notifications will be updated at least daily until either the flood releases start or the weather threat is no longer current.

This notification is based on rainfall forecasts issued by the Bureau of Meteorology and will contain false alarms from time to time when forecast rainfall does not eventuate. If a flood release is not necessary because the actual rainfall is less than forecast, a Cancellation notification will be issued, similar to the below content.

Wivenhoe Dam – Cancellation of Forecast flood release alert

Seqwater advises rain forecasts from the Bureau of Meteorology no longer indicate that flood releases are required from Wivenhoe Dam. Previous Forecast flood release alerts from Seqwater are now cancelled.

Notification – Flood release start

Seqwater will aim to issue the second type of notification with a **minimum of six (6) hours** from the time of the notification to when flood releases start. If the specific time for the start of flood



releases is not yet known, a second notification will be sent once a starting time for releases is confirmed.

Wivenhoe Dam – Flood Release Start

Seqwater has scheduled flood releases to commence from Wivenhoe Dam at <time and day>. These flood releases could affect irrigation pumps and other infrastructure near to and on the banks of the Brisbane River.

OR

Seqwater has scheduled flood releases to commence from Wivenhoe Dam on <day>. These flood releases could affect irrigation pumps and other infrastructure near to and on the banks of the Brisbane River. Another notification will be issued once the release start time is confirmed.

The time between issuing this notification and the start of flood releases could be substantially more than 6 hours in some situations such as when it is necessary to delay releases to operate in accordance with the Flood Mitigation Manual for Wivenhoe Dam. In some situations, releases may need to commence earlier than 6 hours.

Subsequent notifications

Once flood releases commence, all subsequent notifications will align with the notifications for gated dams as they relate to potential impacts on bridges and crossings downstream. The frequency of these notifications will depend on the severity and duration of the flood event.

The final notification will be issued when flood releases from Wivenhoe Dam have ceased.

Use of the notification information

Flood releases from a gated dam are only one source of water contributing to flows in rivers or watercourses downstream of the dam.

In considering the information provided by the notification service, subscribers should be aware of other sources of potential flooding, including flows from catchments downstream of the dam, overland flows from adjoining or nearby land, localised flash flooding downstream of the dam, and stormwater system releases. Our dam release notification service only provides information about the dams you select and does not provide information about any other potential sources of flooding.

This service does not provide information on river levels at gauges, or predictions about areas that may be inundated by flood waters in a flood event. Other sources of information include:

- details of road closures, inundation flood mapping and information about any evacuation arrangements - your local council and Local Disaster Management Group
- weather forecasts and information on changes in river levels at particular gauge locations - the Bureau of Meteorology
- emergency services warnings - Police and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services.

For information about Seqwater's dam release notification service, visit www.seqwater.com.au/dam-release-information-service.