

**Date:** Monday 19 February 2024

**Time:** 1:00pm – 2:35pm

**Location:** Moura Tavern (8 Bell Street, Moura QLD), & Microsoft Teams meeting

## Attendees

**Chair:** Daryl Conway

**Representing customers:** Ian Becker, Scott Becker, Greg Hutchinson, Mitch Anderson, Andrew French, Kirk Anderson, Simon Green

**Anglo Representatives:** Diego Schmeda, Annette Weier

**Council members:** Terri Boyce

**Department Representatives:** Adriane Leyden, Scott Stevens

**Sunwater representatives:** Daryl Conway (Operations Manager Biloela), Keelie O’Sullivan (Stakeholder Relations Advisor), Jim Fear (Engineer Services), Claudia Smith (Water Resources), Anita Steele (Yield and Planning Manager), Ally Timms (Customer Engagement Coordinator)

## Minutes

Agenda items		
Item no.	item	Presenter
1	Meeting open	Daryl Conway
2	MP/MPA differential in Dawson Valley AA	Jim Fear
3	MOS operation and CSG water	Jim Fear
4	General business	Daryl Conway
5	Meeting close	Daryl Conway

### 1. Meeting open

- Sunwater gave an overview of the agenda.
- Attendees introduced themselves.
- Previous minutes accepted.

### 2. MP/MPA differential in Dawson Valley AA

- Sunwater Water Resources team presented from slide deck on history of the MP/MPA 20 per cent differential and listed some circumstances that have changed since its introduction.
- Members provided additional information on the history of the introduction of the differential:

- In the mid-1980s, MP and MPA was introduced to protect existing customers due to a request for increasing river entitlements. At the time increased supplemented entitlements could be taken up by river customers, but not channel customers.
  - The Strategic Water Infrastructure Reserve (SWIR) was introduced a few years ago. It allows flood water harvesting of unallocated water assigned for Nathan Dam.
  - Being able to trade distribution losses is seen as a significant benefit since transferring channel operation from Sunwater.
  - More water was released in the system off the back of Gyranda.
  - 20 per cent was negotiated when the differential was introduced.
  - Channel customers couldn't apply for unsupplemented licences (flood harvest).
  - Channel customers have access to the SWIR but no access to flood harvest licences. Channel customers now have access to unsupplemented licences (flood harvest).
  - Member asked if there was any preconception to the reasons for the potential change to the differential. Sunwater confirmed there is no preconception, the purpose of the presentation is to get feedback from the committee. Sunwater reiterated that an internal review and modelling would be necessary to determine if progressing to a ROL change process is necessary ie. if there are significant reasons/benefits in the operation of the scheme between MP and MPA customers.
- **Action Item:** Scott Stevens (Department) to share RWA process and provide the Department's archived history about introduction of the differential.  
Update: An overview of the RWAs can be found here:  
<https://www.rdmw.qld.gov.au/water/consultations-initiatives/regional-water-assessment-program>  
Any enquiries can be directed to this email address:  
[regionalwaterassessments@rdmw.qld.gov.au](mailto:regionalwaterassessments@rdmw.qld.gov.au)
  - **Action Item:** Irrigation customers were asked to speak with their peers as irrigation representatives of Dawson Valley irrigators and share history and any feedback with Sunwater.

### 3. Moura Off-stream Storage (MOS) operation and CSG water

- Sunwater presented from slide deck explaining how MOS is operated.
- Sunwater confirmed the purpose of First Post Water Flows (FPWF) is to give the river a break but if everyone is filling their own off-stream storages at that time, it defeats the purpose.
- Sunwater explained how Sunwater managed flood harvest water over December 2023.
- **Action Item:** Sunwater to share CSG water quantity for 2023.  
Update: CSG for 2023 calendar year was a total of 1,873 ML or an average of 5.13 ML/day. Please see graph below:

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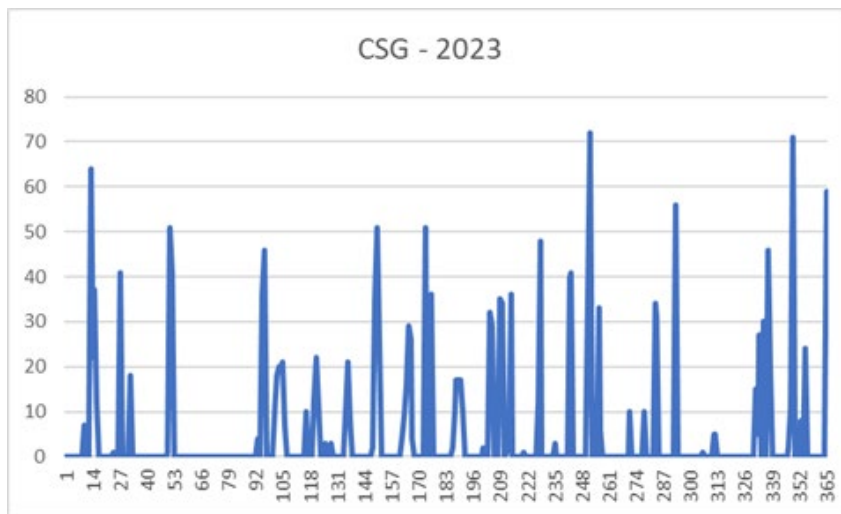


Figure 1: CSG for 2023

#### 4. General business

- The next CAC meeting is scheduled for 19 June 2024 in Theodore, not Moura as suggested at the meeting.
- Member queried if Sunwater could add more customers to the CAC to have a better cross section of customers. Sunwater confirmed there have been multiple instances Sunwater has gone out to a broader customer base, and the opportunity has not been taken up. Sunwater suggested that we could host an open forum for all customers in the middle of the year.
- Member commented about improving release of water down the system from Theodore to Moura. Flow may be restricted at Nun's crossing and other crossings, due to flooding impacts. Sunwater confirmed they have looked at the situation numerous times and confirmed it is a timing issue between who is taking water and at what time.
- Member raised that there is an issue at Paranui Crossing and Council representative suggested flood funding may be used to upgrade crossings due to recent flooding and current funding submissions being developed.
- Member suggested that the public does not understand why the river is low in certain places. Sunwater responded that we would look into improving communication but also noted that education about how the system is operated is always ongoing and not straight forward.
- Member suggested Moura and Glebe Weirs could have signage to explain how the system works. Eg. Glebe Weir is silted and there can be dead fish and the public does not understand why.
- **Action Item:** Sunwater to forward email to Terri Boyce about crossings in relation to potential for flood funding to upgrade crossings.  
Update: Email sent to Terri Boyce.
- **Action Item:** Sunwater will seek advice from corporate affairs on signage. Update to be provided at next CAC meeting.

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5. Approval and review

Chair:	Daryl Conway
Minutes:	Ally Timms
Date:	28/03/24