

## Paradise Dam Community Update

### April 2020

*Sunwater understands the Bundaberg community's concern about water security for the region. Safety is the key driver for the work we are doing at Paradise Dam.*

*We are committed to ongoing customer and stakeholder engagement to ensure that water users have their voice heard as the detailed business case process to determine the future of Paradise Dam is developed.*

#### Essential Works to lower dam wall proceeding

Lowering the wall is the fastest way to reduce the risk to the downstream community and can be done without significantly impacting existing customer access to water.

This gives more confidence that the dam will remain stable for observed flood events such as 2013 or similar, as well as larger events that have been experienced across Queensland in recent years of up to 1 in 500 or 1 in 1000 year flood frequencies.

Lowering the wall also allows time for further investigation of the options to remediate the dam while in the short term reducing the risk to the downstream community.

#### Water available for customers

All customers are currently on 100% of announced allocations. A recent amendment to water-sharing rules that Sunwater applied for in consultation with customers will maximise allocations in the Burnett River sub-scheme for the next water year. Commencing 1 July, high priority allocations will continue at 100% and medium priority allocations are expected to be in a range similar to the past five years.

Growers can also access water without cost as releases are made to maintain the dam's storage level at 42 per cent.

#### Preparation work underway

Site activity is ramping up at Paradise Dam with work underway to level the area where the worker camp will be established, and to install access tracks downstream of the spillway.



#### Further testing will be conducted

Sunwater will conduct further testing of Paradise Dam. This includes more testing of the concrete, an anchoring trial of the Dam's foundations, and creating a 3D geological model.

High-capacity anchors are potentially part of the solution to remediating the dam, but we need to test whether the foundations are strong enough to hold the anchors.

#### Keeping informed about Paradise Dam:

If you live immediately downstream of Paradise Dam, you can **register for SMS updates** at [sunwater.com.au](http://sunwater.com.au)  
**Download the Sunwater App** to receive push notifications when the dam is spilling water and to monitor dam levels.

Follow the **Sunwater Paradise Dam Facebook Page**  
Follow **Sunwater** on **Twitter**

Visit [sunwater.com.au/projects/paradise-dam-essential-works/](http://sunwater.com.au/projects/paradise-dam-essential-works/) for updates.

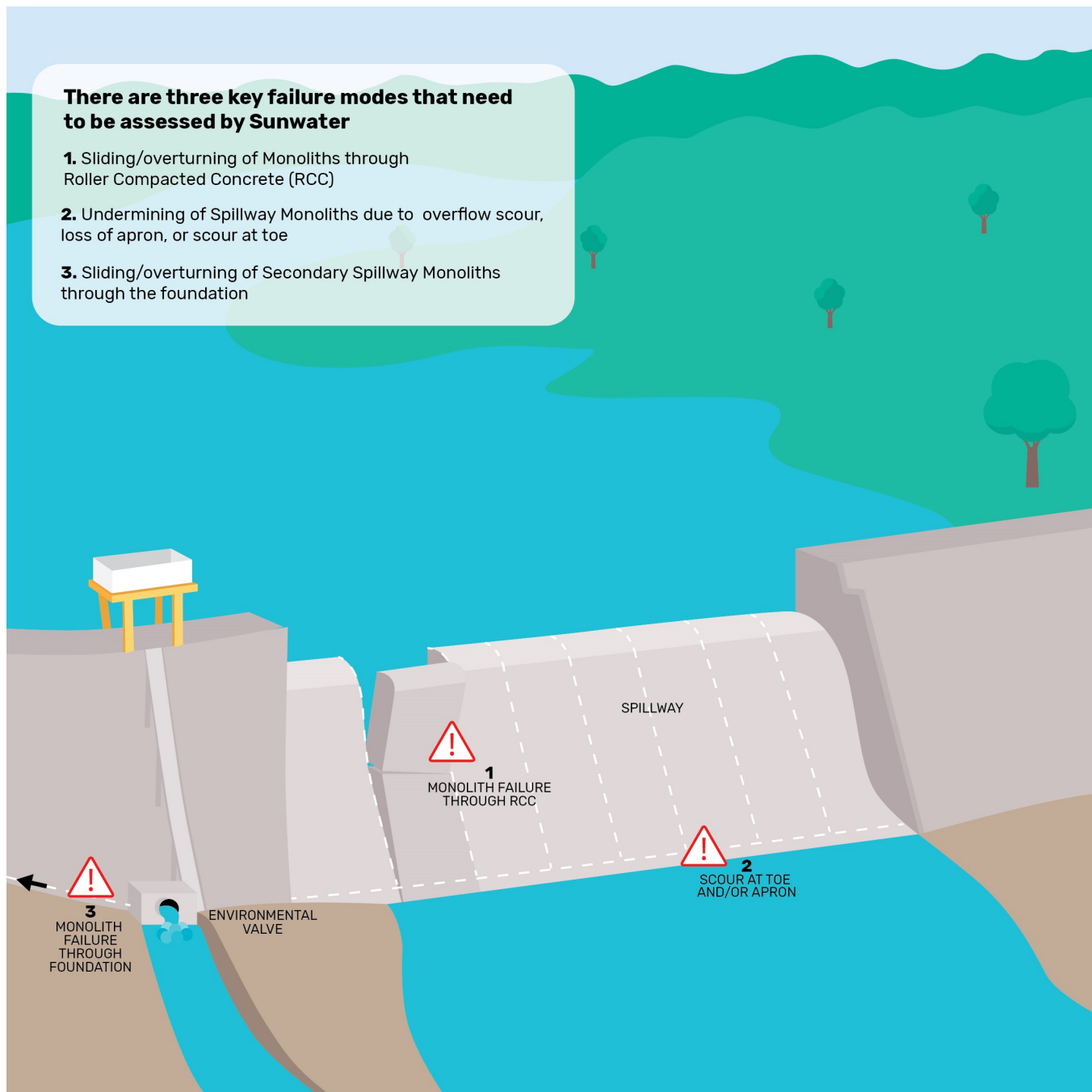
Visit [bom.gov.au/qld/](http://bom.gov.au/qld/) for the latest weather information and your local council website for emergency updates.

## Long-term remediation solution needs to address all dam safety risks

There are three key issues that could result in a failure at Paradise Dam. The condition of the Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) lift joints is one. There are two other issues that contribute almost 50% to the overall dam failure risk as shown in the image below.

For Sunwater to remediate the dam, we need to address all three failure risks.

The Building Queensland detailed business case process now underway will lead to a holistic solution and accurate cost estimate for the dam's full remediation.



For further information on Paradise Dam:

**Community** enquiries, contact:

3120 0270 or via [paradise.dam@sunwater.com.au](mailto:paradise.dam@sunwater.com.au)

**Customers** and non-customers wishing to access water, contact:

13 15 89 or via [customersupport@sunwater.com.au](mailto:customersupport@sunwater.com.au)

**Media** enquiries, contact:

3120 0047 or via [media@sunwater.com.au](mailto:media@sunwater.com.au)