

## Paradise Dam Community Update January 2021

*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' voices are heard as the detailed business case is developed to determine the future of Paradise Dam.*

### Essential Works update

We are on track to complete the final concrete pours for the new concrete crest at Paradise Dam by the beginning of February. The crest further reduces the risk of a dam failure and protects the dam from damage.



Figure 1: Construction activity for the new concrete crest

### Ancillary works

Ancillary works will continue through 2021, including final quality control activities, construction of a new improved fishway and placement of concrete downstream of the dam to protect the apron from scour.

### Engineering testing progress

In parallel with the Essential Works, significant progress has been made with the engineering testing that will help to inform the next stage of stabilising and strengthening works, known as the Paradise Dam Improvement Project (DIP).

- results of the Roller Compacted Concrete (RCC) shear strength testing is currently being analysed and will then be independently reviewed
- the 3D geological model has been completed and the assessment of revised dam foundation strength is being incorporated into future design options
- installation of large post-tensioned anchors (91 and 35 strand steel cables) is progressing, with testing scheduled for February and March 2021.

### Boat ramp closures

The boat ramps at Paradise Dam and Mingo Crossing remain closed to recreational use until further notice due to low water levels. Reopening of the boat ramps will be subject to a safety assessment by the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

You can check Paradise Dam's storage levels here: <https://bit.ly/ParadiseStorageLevels>.

## Plans for a new downstream fishway

One of the current activities at Paradise Dam is demolition of the entrance chamber to the downstream fishway in preparation for a new and improved fish passage structure.

With the lowering of the spillway crest under the Essential Works project, the entrance chamber to the downstream fishway also required lowering to match the typical storage level ranges in the interim period (until the final decision is made for the long term dam, and subsequent improvement works are completed).

A new fishway entrance with a greater operating range will be installed during the next dry season (mid 2021). The revised design will also avoid the need for further major works to the fishway during the next stage improvement project, regardless of the final level. The new fishway entrance is being designed with input from fish biologists and fishway experts. The new design means that the downstream fishway will be able to operate over a wider range of dam water levels.

The downstream fishway is planned to be recommissioned and returned to service by December 2021.



**Note:** Live links to more information are included in the electronic version of this newsletter. If you are reading a printed copy and need help finding the linked information, please call or email and we can assist.

### Keep informed about Paradise Dam:

If you live immediately downstream of Paradise Dam, you can **register for Sunwater Emergency Notification Service** 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 and flood warnings for the Burnett River.

For further information on Paradise Dam:

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

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

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