

Paradise Dam

Community Update

July 2021

Sunwater understands the Bundaberg community's concern about water security for the region. Safety and water security are the key drivers for the next phase of work at Paradise Dam.

Paradise Dam Improvement Project

The long-term remediation of Paradise Dam, known as the Paradise Dam Improvement Project (DIP), is a significant infrastructure undertaking that needs thorough planning to ensure the dam meets safety guidelines and delivers water security into the future.

The Queensland Government has advised it will decide on the preferred option for the full remediation of Paradise Dam by the end of 2021.

Beneficial concrete reuse

Work was completed in June 2021 to place concrete downstream of Paradise Dam to prepare for the apron extension required for the DIP (regardless of the final spillway height). This work also provides interim protection against scour should the dam spill.

Approximately 23,000 m³ of concrete material was removed when lowering the spillway 5.8 metres to reduce the risk of a dam failure. Approximately 72 per cent of this material has been beneficially reused in the works to date, with the remaining 28 per cent of concrete material stockpiled for future use in the DIP.



Response to questions

We have prepared a summary of questions asked of Sunwater during presentations by Sunwater and Natural Capital Economics to stakeholders in April and May 2021. Natural Capital Economics was engaged to undertake the future water demand study by the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (DRDMW). Read the Q&A [here](#) or contact us for assistance if you are reading a hard copy of this update.

See you at the Childers Festival

Sunwater will have a stall at the Childers Festival from 9.00 am to 3.00 pm on Sunday 25 July 2021 to share information and respond to questions from the community.

Please come and see us at our stall on Crescent Street near the Post Office.

A further helping hand for critically endangered turtles

Prior to commencing works for the day, the Paradise Dam construction team recently came across a large turtle in the works area downstream of the dam.

The Department of Environment and Science (DES) was contacted and, with the use of photographs, the turtle was confirmed to be a White-throated Snapping Turtle.

This species is listed as critically endangered under State and Federal legislation and any turtles encountered are taken to DES for data collection.

The turtle was confirmed as a female carrying eggs. The turtle was returned to the Burnett River near the location she was found, and the clutch of eggs has been placed by an authorised person in a protective cage (pictured).

The cage is designed to protect eggs from goannas and feral predators, such as foxes, and it is hoped that the eggs will successfully hatch in early December.

Sunwater will monitor the cage over the coming months to ensure the eggs remain undisturbed.



Workers camp buildings leave site

The workers camp at Paradise Dam has provided accommodation and three meals for up to 100 people a day since May 2020. The camp buildings are now being demobilised and transported off site.

This will result in periods of increased truck movements to and from the dam. While heavy traffic is expected through to mid-July, this activity will not result in any road closures.

Sunwater apologises for any inconvenience caused and encourages all road users to drive safely and to road conditions.

Ancillary works will continue at the dam throughout 2021.



Keep informed about Paradise Dam:

If you live immediately downstream of Paradise Dam, you can register for SMS updates at 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 for updates.

For further information on Paradise Dam:

Community enquiries: 3120 0270 or via paradise.dam@sunwater.com.au

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