

Paradise Dam Community Update

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

Essential Works update

Since our last update work has been completed to install close to 600 steel anchors to secure the upper half of the dam wall and the layers of Roller Compacted Concrete. As a result of this work, and the lowering of the dam wall, the risk of dam failure has reduced.

The team at Paradise Dam is now preparing to install the concrete crest which will further reduce the risk of a dam failure and protect the dam from damage.

We will progress the Essential Works safely and as quickly as possible. Weather permitting, we will work through to late December and return in early January to complete final activities. The short Christmas break (other than minimum staff to maintain the site) is important to avoid fatigue, keep the project team safe and is necessary with contractors taking leave during this period.

In the event of a significant weather event, please ensure you listen to the advice provided by Bundaberg and North Burnett Regional Councils.

Workers and equipment will be moved to safety if a large rainfall event leading to a spill becomes likely.



Figure 1: Steel reinforcement in preparation for concrete pours to construct the new crest

Preparing for wet weather

The works at Paradise Dam are essential for the safety of the downstream community.

As the works at the dam have progressed, the Paradise Dam Emergency Action Plan has been updated in consultation with Local Disaster Management Groups.

Downstream residents should remain prepared and listen to advice from Bundaberg and North Burnett Regional Councils.

You can stay informed of Paradise Dam storage levels by downloading the free [Sunwater app](#).

In an emergency or during significant rainfall events, Sunwater uses the app to update users on the level of their local dam. This is in addition to SMS for immediate downstream residents, Facebook, Twitter, the Sunwater website and radio announcements. The app is available to download on Google Play and the Apple App Store.

Future Water Demand Survey receives 250 submissions

Thank you to the 250 people who have outlined their future water needs by completing the Building Queensland Bundaberg Irrigation Water Demand Survey.

The survey was completed by a mix of landowners, leaseholders and future intended landholders across the diversity of crops grown in the region.

The survey results are an important input to the demand assessment that, together with the results of engineering testing and investigations into alternate water storage options, will be used by Building Queensland next year to enable assessment of options for the future of Paradise Dam.

Water safety reminder

Water releases made last year and earlier this year to facilitate the works at Paradise Dam, together with persistent dry weather, have resulted in a lower water level. This is also apparent upstream at Mingo Crossing where the old Mingo Bridge is submerged.

No matter the water level, submerged hazards are always present. When visiting Sunwater's storages please read the signs, beware of hazards, stay aware of your surroundings and enjoy our waterways safely.

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.

Visit 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

Customer enquiries: 13 15 89 or via customersupport@sunwater.com.au

Media enquiries: 3120 0047 or via media@sunwater.com.au