



Rookwood Weir Project

Delivering water for prosperity



Australian Government

BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Queensland Government

sunwater

Working together to improve Central Queensland's
water security for the future.

About the Rookwood Weir Project

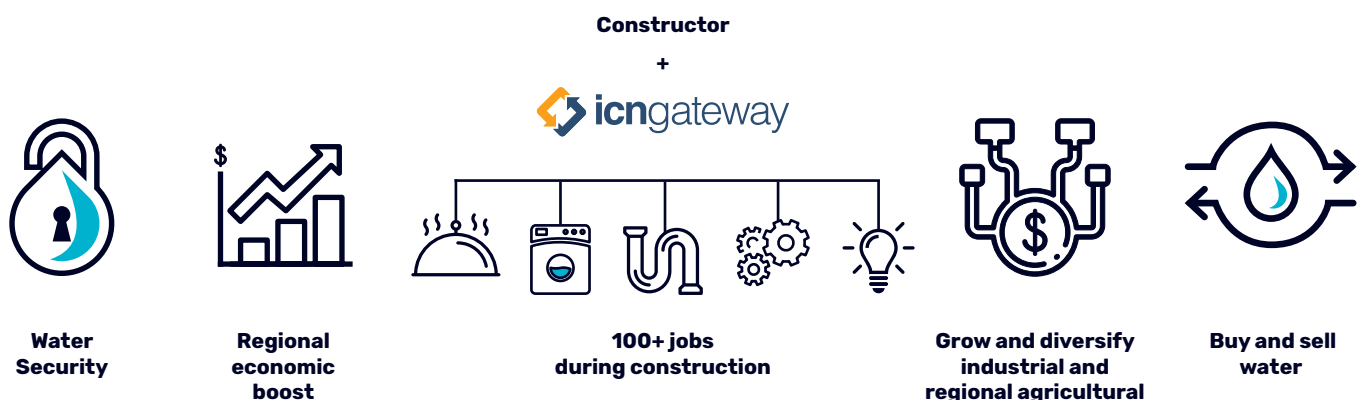
The Rookwood Weir is a landmark project that will capture valuable water in the lower Fitzroy River, 66 km south-west of Rockhampton, for use across the region.

Building the Rookwood Weir will:

improve water security
for the region

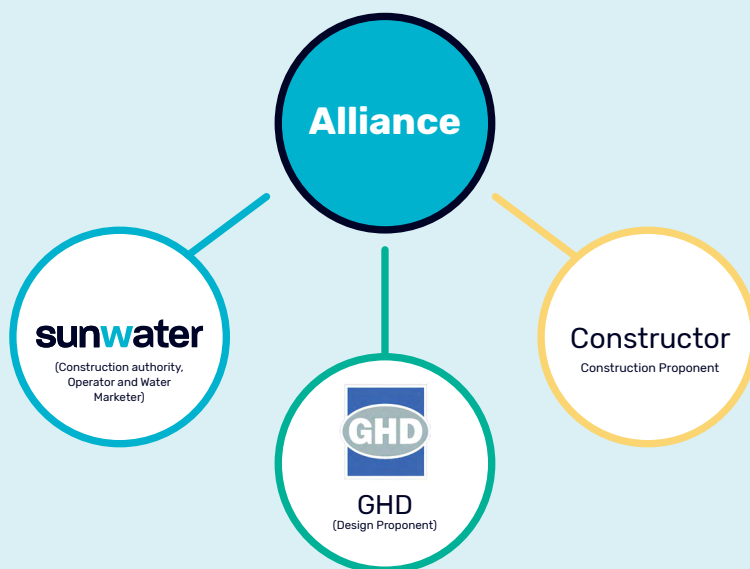
help grow Central Queensland
by increasing water for homes,
agriculture and industry

create jobs and business
opportunities for local residents
and businesses.



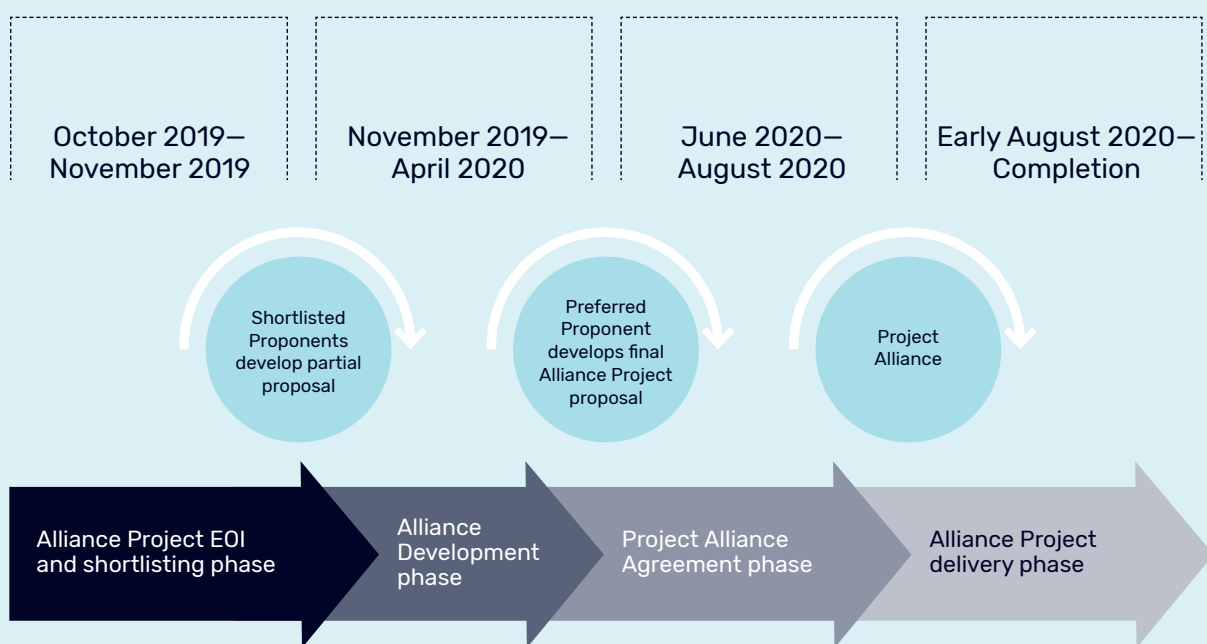
Building the Rookwood Weir

The construction of Rookwood Weir will be managed by the Rookwood Weir Alliance, made up of Sunwater, GHD (as the design proponent) and a Construction proponent (still to be appointed). The Project is jointly funded by the Australian Government and Queensland Government.





Rookwood Weir Alliance formation timeline



Enabling works

Upgrades will also need to be made to existing infrastructure to support both the construction of the weir and operations once it's built. These include:

All work packages
will be available
on QTenders
www.hpw.qld.gov.au/tenders

1. Thirsty Creek Road upgrade

The Thirsty Creek Road upgrade will be delivered by the Rockhampton Regional Council and ensure that the local road network can safely accommodate future construction traffic. Works will include:

- widening a 16.2 km section of Thirsty Creek Road to 6.5 m, from the intersection of Riverslea Road to the Rookwood Weir site
- applying a bitumen seal to identified road segments
- upgrading existing culverts.

2. Gogango Intersection upgrade

The Gogango Intersection upgrade will ensure construction traffic can safely cross the Capricorn Highway when travelling to the site. Works will include:

- relocating the existing intersection approximately 200 m west – from the Capricorn Highway to the Riverslea Road rail crossing
- widening the pavement to create a new intersection layout, including resurfacing and line marking.

3. Riverslea Bridge upgrade

A new bridge at Riverslea will be constructed to replace the existing crossing, which would otherwise be inundated when the Rookwood Weir reaches full supply. As traffic volumes are low, only a single lane crossing is required. Works will include:

- constructing a 190 m long, 4.2 m wide, 18 m high concrete bridge structure
- constructing and line marking a single 3.5 m road lane
- connecting the approaches to the bridge with the existing road, including passing bays at both ends
- demolishing the existing culvert crossing.

4. Hanrahan Crossing upgrade - Design development/finalisation underway.

Project timeline

Oct-Dec 2019	Jan - Mar 2020	Apr - Jun 2020	Jul - Sep 2020	Oct - Dec 2020	Jan - Jun 2021
Thirsty Creek Road Upgrade Award and construction commences			Thirsty Creek Road construction completed		
Weir Alliance EOI	Alliance development phase	Project Alliance Agreement finalisation	Alliance Award	Weir early works commence	Weir construction commences (subject to approvals obtained)
Gogango Intersection Upgrade tender and contract award	Gogango Intersection Upgrade construction commences		Gogango Intersection Upgrade construction completed		
Riverslea Bridge Upgrade tender		Riverslea Bridge Upgrade contract award and construction commencement (subject to environmental approvals)			Riverslea Bridge Upgrade construction completed (subject to environmental approvals and weather)
Hanrahan Crossing Upgrade – hydraulic modelling			Hanrahan Crossing Upgrade tender	Hanrahan Crossing Contract award and construction commences	Hanrahan Crossing construction completed

Water marketing

Once the Rookwood Weir is built, some of the water will be available to be bought for agricultural use. To do this, Sunwater will implement a four-phase marketing and sales campaign:

Oct 2019	Mar 2020	Nov 2020	Six months prior to weir commissioning	Weir commissioning
Phase 1	Phase 2a	Phase 2b	Phase 3	Phase 4
Preparation	Market consultation	Market promotion	Tender/sales process	Award contracts

More information will become available as the weir construction commences. However, Sunwater has already begun working with landowners, industry and potential investors to build awareness and understanding of this new water market and how to make the best use of this valuable new resource.

Sunwater is also working with government departments to establish a central point of contact for potential customers who are interested in purchasing the water and have questions around approvals.



Under project approval conditions, offsets and management measures are required for impacts to the threatened Fitzroy River Turtle (*Rheodytes leukops*) and White-throated Snapping Turtle (*Elseya albagula*).

Nature conservation

During the construction of the Rookwood Weir every effort will be made to mitigate or offset potential impacts on the natural environment.

However, given some impact is unavoidable, Sunwater will establish an offset area adjacent to the Mackenzie River with a mix of vegetation types and ages (mature and growth). This offset area will provide habitat for a range of fauna, including sand banks for turtle nesting.

The offset area will also act as a large sediment trap and intercept sediment (and nutrients) from entering the River, which is currently being eroded within the cultivation area. Reducing sediment and chemicals from entering the River will improve water quality.

“**The turtle studies will help inform the design of Queensland’s first turtle movement ramp.**”

The aim of the offset program is also to enhance fish movement within the Fitzroy Catchment by identifying existing barriers that are currently inhibiting fish movement.

The benefits of these actions will be assessed through detailed environmental monitoring that will be outlined in the Rookwood Weir Offset Management Plan. Monitoring will be undertaken on the offset site and at the fish barrier locations for the life of the approval.

Opportunities

Industry Capability Network

Sunwater has partnered with the Industry Capability Network (ICN) to connect contractors, subcontractors and suppliers with project opportunities. Local industry operators interested in the project are encouraged to register their interest at our ICN supplier portal: <https://rookwoodweir.icn.org.au>



Employment opportunities

In total, a workforce of more than 100 skilled and unskilled construction labourers will be required across the two-to-three-year construction period (weather permitting).

Project-related pathways for jobseekers include employment with:

- Sunwater
- contractors supplying the project directly
- businesses supplying the project as sub-contractors and suppliers.

Contacts

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