

End of water year 2023-24 newsletter

Nogoa Mackenzie Water Supply Scheme

May 2024

Scheme overview for 2023-24

The below table shows scheme water usage and remaining balance as at 28 May 2024.

Asset	Usage from 1 July 2023 (ML)	Remaining balance (allocation) ²	Remaining balance (carryover) ¹	Remaining balance (total)
Channel	78,327	70,149	8,826	70,149
River	73,300	130,992	16,298	130,992
Pipeline	6,613	9,314	612	9,314
All	158,240	210,455	25,736	210,455

1. Unused carryover for this current water year cannot be carried over into the next water year.

2. Remaining balance (allocation) is inclusive of the Remaining balance (carryover).

Fairbairn Dam received inflows throughout December, January and February. As result of these events, the announced allocation for medium priority increased from 52 per cent at the start of the water year to 100 per cent, as of 1 February 2024.

End of water year information

For a smooth end of water year, please ensure any overuse of water for 2023-24 is rectified, and all outstanding accounts are paid in full.

Forecasting model

You can access Sunwater's model for forecasting the storage level at Fairbairn Dam using the [Prediction Graphs](#) on the Sunwater website.

Carryover of unused available water

With a storage level of Fairbairn Dam forecast to be above 197m AHD on 1 July 2023, it is likely the amount of water available to be carried over will be capped at 150,000 ML (including losses).

A fact sheet containing important information relating to your carryover application can be found on the Sunwater website.

The carryover guidelines and conditions can be

viewed on the second page of your scheme's carryover application form, available at www.sunwater.com.au/customer/forms

Irrigation prices 2021-22 to 2024-25

From 2021-22 to 2024-25, irrigators who buy water from Queensland's state-owned irrigation schemes are eligible for a 15 per cent discount.

Irrigators supplied with water from Sunwater-owned schemes will automatically receive the 15 per cent discount on bills issued from 1 July 2021. The total price listed on invoices issued by Sunwater will reflect the discounted price. The current year fees and charges schedules, available on the Sunwater website also reflect irrigation tariffs including the 15 per cent discount.







For further information view the Irrigation Pricing Discounts fact sheet on Sunwater's website, visit the Queensland Government website or email irrigationenquiries@rdmw.qld.gov.au

Irrigation prices 2025-26 to 2028-29

Irrigation prices that will apply from 1 July 2025 will be advised in early 2025 following the irrigation pricing review process.

This process involves the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) reviewing costs and tariffs set out in Sunwater's Irrigation Pricing Proposal 2025-26 to 2028-29, submitted in November 2023. The QCA is required to recommend prices for the Queensland Government's consideration in its Final Report, due in February 2025.

The QCA spent the first half of 2024 reviewing Sunwater's proposal and seeking customer feedback to inform the QCA's Draft Report expected in July 2024. Both Sunwater and customers will have the opportunity to make formal submissions on the Draft Report in the second half of this calendar year.

Predictions for 2024-25	
 Announced allocations	High priority – 100% Medium priority – 25-33% (150,000 ML carryover) This is a prediction only. 2024-25 announced allocation notifications will be sent in the first week of July 2024.
 Forecast storage volume	Fairbairn Dam forecast storage level on 1 July 2024 is 197.027 m AHD (35.7%) – 197.105 m AHD (36.2%).
Key submission dates for end of water year 2023-24	
 24 June 2024	Carryover and temporary transfer application forms.
 3 July 2024	Voluntary meter reads (for customers wishing to take water up to 30 June 2024).
Planned service interruptions	
 1 – 21 July 2024	Selma Pump Station and Selma Channel Outage.
 10 – 31 July 2024	Nogoa River and Weemah Channel Outage.

Commercial and industrial customers

To assist with preparing for end of water year, commercial and industrial customers should contact their relationship manager to discuss any special arrangements currently in place. The Commercial team can be contacted directly by:

- emailing commercial@sunwater.com.au
- phoning 13 15 89 and asking for your relationship manager.

Improvement works at Fairbairn Dam

Work was undertaken to improve the functionality, long term maintenance and safety of the right-bank tower release gate winches at Fairbairn Dam. This involved a major mechanical assessment of the gate winches, followed by the replacement of wire ropes, installation of remote operation, and establishment of operational exclusion zones. Works will continue over the next twelve months to complete the recommended repairs that were identified in the mechanical assessment.

Meter installations

Sunwater has been trialling back-to-base metering technology over the past 18 months in the Macintyre Brook Water Supply Scheme. Results have shown telemetered readings can be provided in areas with limited network service.

Telemetry reduces the need for manual data collection from the physical meter site. The benefits of back-to-base metering and remote operations include:

- improved lead and water order times (due to remote visibility of water levels)
- reduced releases (due to remote visibility of orders and pumping in real time)
- fewer driving hours for Sunwater staff reducing a key safety risk
- increase in operator availability, and
- improved order vs pumping ratio.

Nine meters were installed in the Nogoa Mackenzie Water Supply Scheme this water year as part of a modernisation program, with 11 more in scope.

Are your contact details up to date?

To avoid missing critical communications and streamline managing your Sunwater business, customers are encouraged to check their contact details and authorised account contacts are up to date by contacting Sunwater.

Registered for Sunwater Online?

Sunwater Online is available to customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week. This system puts you in control of your water and business via a secure online portal. To register for Sunwater Online, please contact customer support.

Phone: 13 15 89

Email: customersupport@sunwater.com.au

Visit: www.sunwater.com.au

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