

# Whitemore Irrigation Scheme

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## Scheme Performance

*By Cameron Walker, Scheme Operator*

The 2025/26 irrigation season for the Whitemore Irrigation Scheme delivered strong and reliable performance, with total water delivery volumes reflecting the consistently dry conditions experienced across the district. Approximately 3,874 megalitres (ML) of water was delivered during the season, compared with 3,327 ML last year.

The season was characterised by dry conditions from the outset, which drove early and sustained demand across the scheme.

Delivery performance remained high throughout the busy period, supported by in-house modifications to the electronic Liffey River release control valve, which enabled higher sustained flows and improved overlap between delivery windows.

A highlight of the season was the fine-tuning of the pressure sustaining valve, which contributed to stable flow rates even during peak demand.

Importantly, the Scheme experienced no significant faults that resulted in outages, allowing irrigators to access water consistently throughout the season.



Looking ahead, a key operational constraint will be Hydro Tasmania's shutdown at Poatina scheduled to occur from July through to the end of September. During this period the scheme will be unable to access water.

Irrigators are encouraged to plan ahead for this period.

Despite the challenges of a dry season, the scheme continued to meet irrigator demand, and I thank all irrigators for their cooperation and communication throughout the year.

Maintaining strong relationships and sharing information helps ensure the Whitemore Scheme continues to deliver water where and when it is needed.

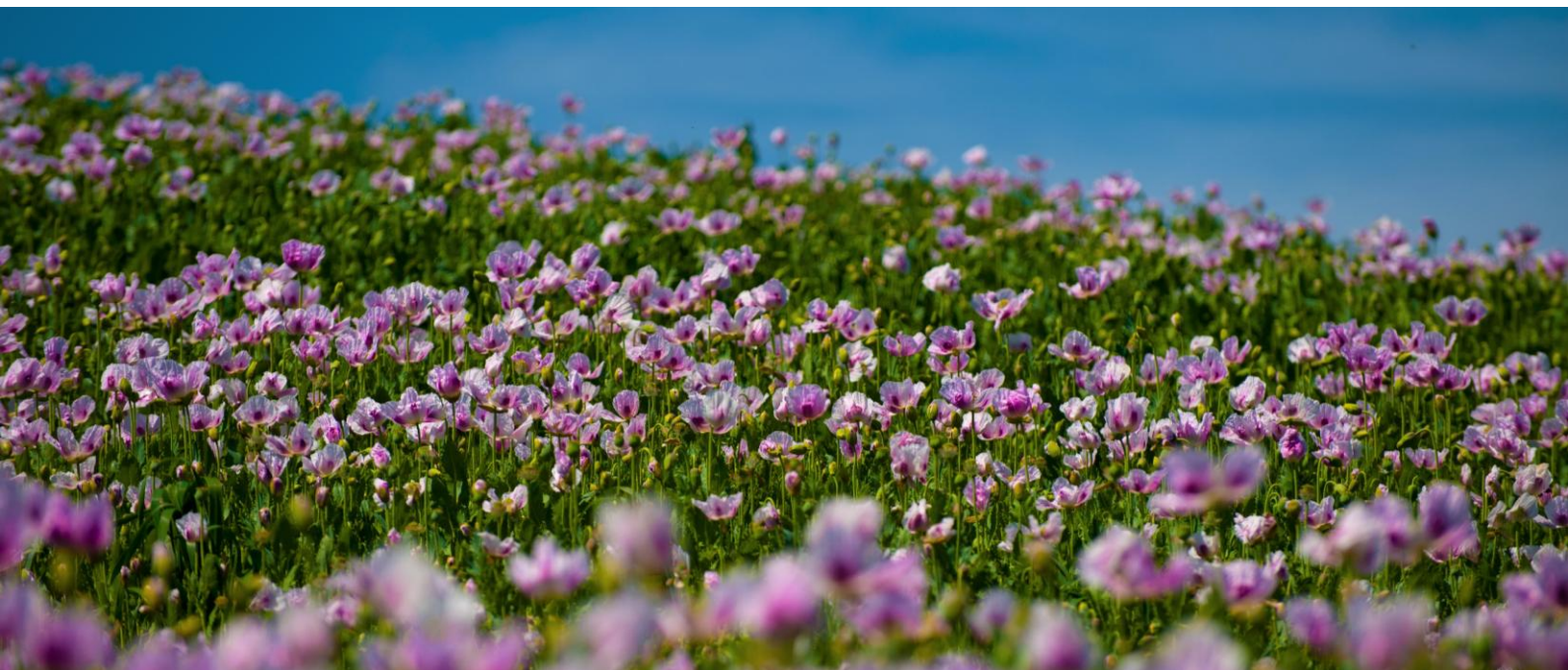
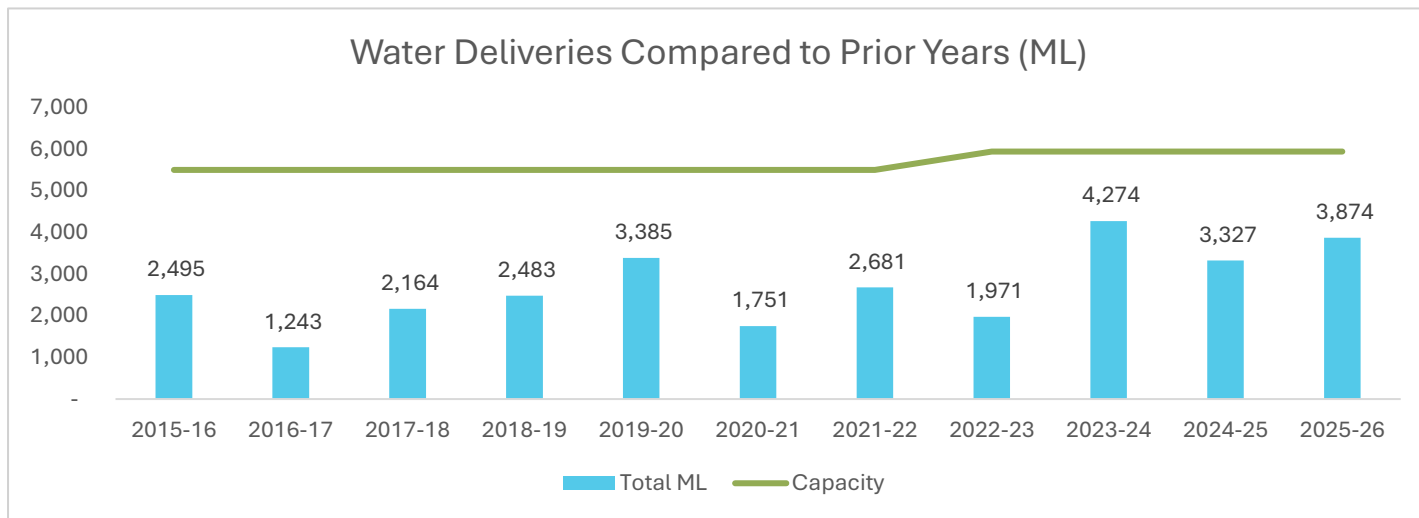
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## Water Delivery

The 2025/26 summer irrigation season ran for 150 days, opening on 1 November 2025 and closing on 31 March 2026.

100 per cent of the Scheme’s water allocation was available and approximately 3,874 ML of water was delivered during the summer season.

The volume delivered represents a 65 per cent utilisation rate of the Scheme’s 5,940 ML total summer capacity.



## Whitemore Irrigation Scheme

### Asset Renewal Levy (ARL)

The ARL makes provisions for major asset repairs and replacements required to ensure the continuing operation of the Scheme.

The table below shows the asset renewal works completed or expected to be completed prior to the next season:

Facility Name	ARL Task Description
Liffey pump station	Turbine pump refurbishment
Liffey pump station	Flow meter replacement
Scheme wide	Water meter replacements
Scheme wide	Pressure sustaining valve monitoring into SCADA
Liffey Holding Dam	Dam asset renewals

### Repairs and Maintenance

The table below shows the general repairs and maintenance completed or expected to be completed prior to the next season:

Maintenance Task Description
Electrical switchboard periodic maintenance inspections
Weed and vegetation management
Motor and pump lubrication
Dam surveillance
Dam repairs and maintenance



## Whitemore Irrigation Scheme

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### Farm Water Access Plan Audits

Tasmanian Irrigation is about to commence the annual Farm Water Access Plan (Farm WAP) audit process to maintain compliance and environmental excellence. Farm WAPs are property-specific documents that guide the responsible use of irrigation water and protect the long-term productivity and environmental values of irrigated farmland.

Audits are randomly selected and generally involve around 10 to 15 per cent of irrigators in each scheme who have used more than five megalitres (ML) of water during the season. If selected, irrigators will be contacted to arrange a suitable time for the audit. To help spread audits across a broader range of properties, irrigators who were audited last season and those currently awaiting updated Farm WAPs will not be included in this year's audit program.

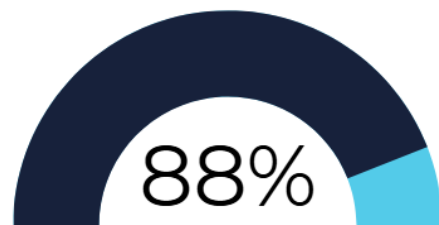
Audits generally involve a site inspection; a discussion with the landholder or irrigation staff; and a review of relevant records and documentation. To help the audit process run smoothly, now is a good time for irrigators to revisit their approved Farm WAP and confirm that irrigation activities align with the approved plan. Common issues identified during audits include irrigation occurring outside approved Farm WAP areas or incorrect dam and storage information.

For assistance or questions, contact the Farm WAP Team on (03) 6398-8433 or email [FarmWAP@tasirrigation.com.au](mailto:FarmWAP@tasirrigation.com.au).

### Dam Update – Liffey Holding Dam

Tasmanian Irrigation took the opportunity to harvest water from rivers into storages during recent rainfall events, boosting dam levels across the State. With long range forecasts pointing to drier-than-average conditions ahead, making the most of rainfall events to replenish our dams is more important than ever.

At the end of June, the Liffey Holding Dam was at 88 per cent of capacity. The current volume is 85 ML, compared to the total volume of 97 ML. Dam levels are updated daily on Tasmanian Irrigation's website here: [Dam Dashboard - Tasmanian Irrigation](#).



Liffey Holding Dam –  
current percentage of capacity

### Get in Touch

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