

Kindred North Motton Irrigation Scheme

Scheme Performance

By Theresa Chapman, Scheme Operator

The 2025/26 irrigation season for the Kindred North Motton Irrigation Scheme delivered overall performance consistent with the previous year, with water delivery volumes broadly unchanged – approximately 974 megalitres (ML) compared to 965 ML last season.

The scheme continued to meet irrigator demand, although performance was impacted at times by flow control issues on key sections of the Forth line.

The season commenced with a notably wet and cold spring, followed by a rapid transition to very dry conditions. This sudden drying placed increased demand on the scheme later than typically expected, with a number of irrigators requesting outlets be activated late in the season. As a result, water demand remained elevated through to the close of the season.

Some of the highlights of the season included improved operational understanding of scheme hydraulics and behaviour, the successful removal and handling of pump motors at the Forth River site, and recognition of the importance of measured, data-informed responses to operational issues.

A key issue was periodic loss of flow control at several property outlets on the Forth line.



This resulted in excess flows within that section and corresponding loss of pressure and delivery performance across other parts of the scheme. Investigations throughout the season successfully identified the underlying causes, representing a significant step forward in improving system reliability.

Despite these challenges, the scheme continued to supply water across all serviced areas.

I sincerely thank all irrigators for their support over the season, especially with water trading and flow sharing.

I very much appreciate the relationships that we are developing and sharing that allow us to work together to ensure the Kindred North Motton Irrigation Scheme continues to deliver water where and when you need it.

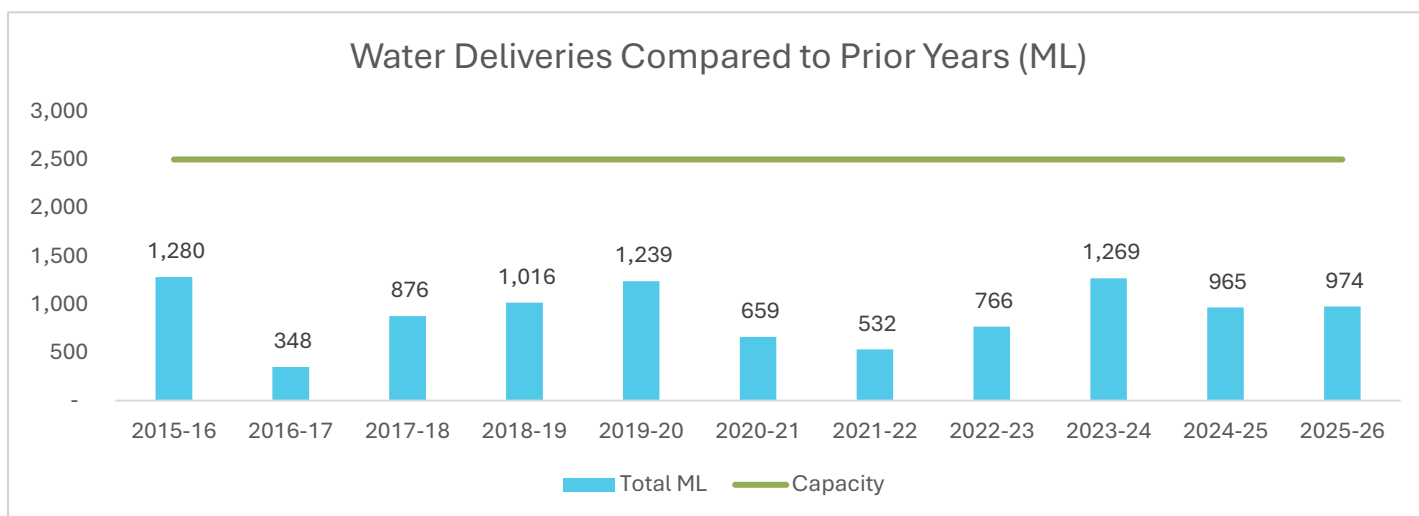
Kindred North Motton Irrigation Scheme

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 974 ML of water was delivered during the summer season.

The volume delivered represents a 39 per cent utilisation rate of the Scheme’s 2,500 ML total summer capacity.



Available Water

Thank you to irrigators for their continued interest in purchasing the remaining water available on the Kindred North Motton Irrigation Scheme. There are currently 540 ML of water available to purchase.

Tasmanian Irrigation Corporate Services Manager Cody Townend said the ongoing interest in purchasing Tasmanian Irrigation water was a direct reflection of the high value that irrigators place on having a secure allocation of water to minimise risk and boost profitability. “These entitlements offer a valuable opportunity for landowners seeking secure, long-term access to irrigation water to support agricultural expansion and business resilience,” Cody said.

Tasmanian Irrigation offers flexible purchase and lease options to help landowners secure access to irrigation water. These options include outright purchase, deferred payment plans, short-term leasing and lease-to-buy arrangements that credit lease payments toward eventual ownership of the water entitlement.

To discuss irrigation water purchasing opportunities contact Cody Townend on (03) 6398-8433 or cody.townend@tasirrigation.com.au.

Kindred North Motton 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 |
|-------------------------|--|
| Forth pump station | Pump critical spares (mechanical seal) |
| Forth pump station | Design and build a cradle to remove motors during the flood season |
| Sprent Dam pump station | Integrate a second variable speed drive for pump two |
| Scheme wide | Flow meter replacements |
| Sprent 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 |
| Pump station vibration monitoring assessments |
| Weed and vegetation management |
| Motor and pump lubrication |
| VESDA service (early fire protection system) |
| Dam surveillance |
| Dam repairs and maintenance |



Kindred North Motton Irrigation Scheme

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.

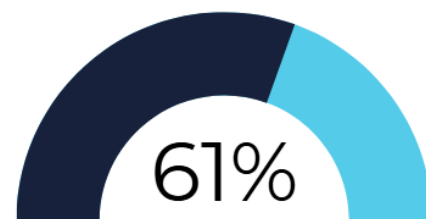
Audits generally involve a site inspection; a discussion with the landholder or irrigation staff; and a review of relevant records and documentation. To help the audit process run smoothly, now is a good time for irrigators to revisit their approved Farm WAP and confirm that irrigation activities align 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.

Dam Update – Sprent 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 Sprent Dam was at 61 per cent of capacity. The current volume is 157 ML, compared to the total volume of 259 ML. Dam levels are updated daily on Tasmanian Irrigation's website here: [Dam Dashboard - Tasmanian Irrigation](#).



Sprent Dam –
current percentage of capacity

Get in Touch

Theresa Chapman, Scheme Operator
Phone: 0428 617 805
Email: theresa.chapman@tasirrigation.com.au
www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au