

South East Stage Three Irrigation Scheme

Scheme Performance

By Daniel Catania, Scheme Operator

The 2025/26 irrigation season for the South East Stage Three Irrigation Scheme delivered overall performance broadly consistent with the previous year, with total water delivery volumes remaining about the same.

Approximately 1,477 megalitres (ML) was delivered this summer season, compared with 1,491 ML last season.

Seasonal conditions were dry throughout, resulting in steady demand across the Scheme. Despite the dry conditions and several supply interruptions, irrigators received the water they required, and delivery performance remained reliable.

Operationally, the scheme experienced minor challenges, including supply issues from TasWater and a significant incident involving a 630mm pipe failure at Brighton. This required the TasWater supply line to be shut down for repairs.

The incident was managed promptly, and no irrigators were adversely affected.



I would like to thank all irrigators for their cooperation and communication throughout the season. Your support helped ensure smooth operation during a year of steady demand and isolated supply interruptions.

Maintaining strong relationships and sharing information helps ensure the South East Stage Three Irrigation Scheme continues to deliver water where and when it is needed.

Please reach out if you require further information about our Scheme or the content of this end of season newsletter.

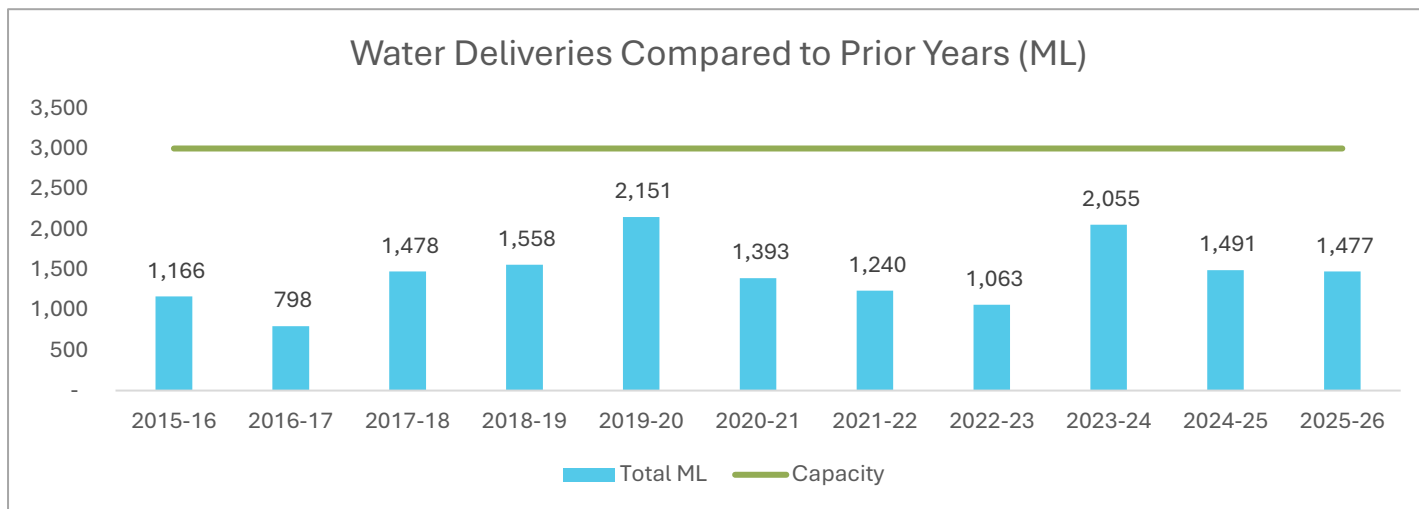
South East Stage Three Irrigation Scheme

Water Delivery

The 2025/26 irrigation season will run for 365 days. The summer season opened on 1 October 2025 and closed on 31 March 2026.

100 per cent of the Scheme’s water allocation was available and approximately 1,477 ML of water was delivered during the summer season.

The volume delivered represents a 49 per cent utilisation rate of the Scheme’s 3,000 ML total summer capacity.



South East Stage Three 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
Tea Tree Road pump station	Pump motor refurbishment
Tea Tree Road pump station	Pump mechanical seal replacement
Scheme wide	Pressure reducing valve frost protection
Rekuna 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
Dam surveillance
Dam repairs and maintenance



South East Stage Three 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.

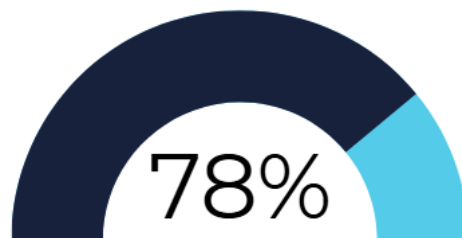
Audits generally involve a site inspection; a discussion with the landholder or irrigation staff; and a review of relevant records and documentation. To help the audit process run smoothly, now is a good time for irrigators to revisit their approved Farm WAP and confirm that irrigation activities align 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 – Rekuna 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, Rekuna Dam was at 78 per cent of capacity. The current volume is 162 ML, compared to the total volume of 207 ML. Dam levels are updated daily on Tasmanian Irrigation's website here: [Dam Dashboard - Tasmanian Irrigation](#).



Rekuna Dam –
current percentage of capacity

Get in Touch

Daniel Catania, Scheme Operator
Phone: 0428 872526
Email: daniel.catania@tasirrigation.com.au
www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au