

# Upper Ringarooma Irrigation Scheme

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## Scheme Performance

*By Troy Bowen, Scheme Operator*

The 2025/26 irrigation season for the Upper Ringarooma Irrigation Scheme delivered reliable overall performance, with approximately 2,190 megalitres (ML) of water supplied to irrigators, compared to 2,494 ML last year.

Seasonal conditions were mixed, with windy weather leading up to Christmas creating some operational challenges, followed by a generally dry period through late summer and early autumn.

Despite these conditions, the Scheme continued to meet irrigator requirements across all serviced areas.

A key operational activity this season was the replacement of the pressure-reducing valve on the Legerwood line, which required a temporary shutdown of water delivery.

This work resulted in improved water delivery and more consistent pressures along the line.

Minor power outages also occurred but caused no significant disruption.



It was great to be able to collaborate with farmers to extend the season by seven days, helping to finish and start crops, and maintain pasture productivity.

I would like to thank all irrigators for their cooperation and communication throughout the season.

Maintaining strong relationships and sharing information helps ensure the Upper Ringarooma 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.

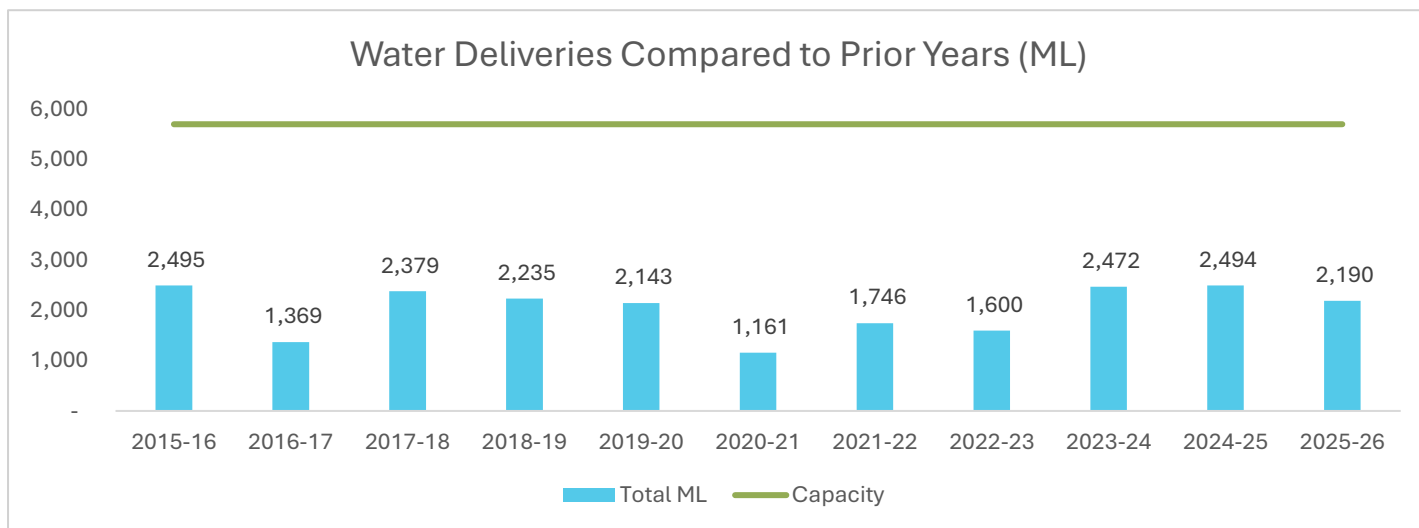
## Upper Ringarooma Irrigation Scheme

### Water Delivery

The 2025/26 summer irrigation season ran for 157 days, opening on 1 November 2025 and closing on 7 April 2026.

100 per cent of the Scheme’s water allocation was available and approximately 2,190 ML of water was delivered during the summer season.

The volume delivered represents a 38 per cent utilisation rate of the Scheme’s 5,700 ML total summer capacity.



### Available Water

Thank you to irrigators for their continued interest in purchasing the remaining water available on the Upper Ringarooma Irrigation Scheme. There are currently 900 megalitres of water available for 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](mailto:cody.townend@tasirrigation.com.au).

## Upper Ringarooma 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
Cottons Bridge pump station	Clean the intake wet well and the surround
Scheme wide	Improve the property outlet cages for frost protection - progressive
Scheme wide	SCADA upgrades
Dunns Creek 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



## Upper Ringarooma 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.

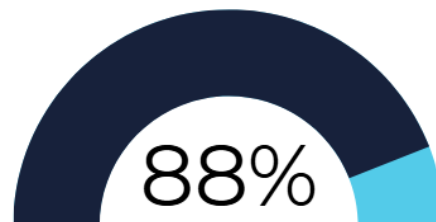
Audits generally involve a site inspection; a discussion with the landholder or irrigation staff; and a review of relevant records and documentation. To help the audit process run smoothly, now is a good time for irrigators to revisit their approved Farm WAP and confirm that irrigation activities align 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 – Dunns Creek 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, Dunns Creek Dam was at 88 per cent of capacity. The current volume is 5,892 ML, compared to the total volume of 6,680 ML. Dam levels are updated daily on Tasmanian Irrigation's website here: [Dam Dashboard - Tasmanian Irrigation](#).



Dunns Creek Dam –  
current percentage of capacity

### Get in Touch

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