

# NEWSLETTER

## End of Season Wrap



## Whitemore Irrigation Scheme

Tasmanian Irrigation's Water Delivery Team sincerely thanks all irrigators for their ongoing support and cooperation as we celebrate the end of another busy irrigation season.

This newsletter provides general information on how the Scheme has performed during the summer season.

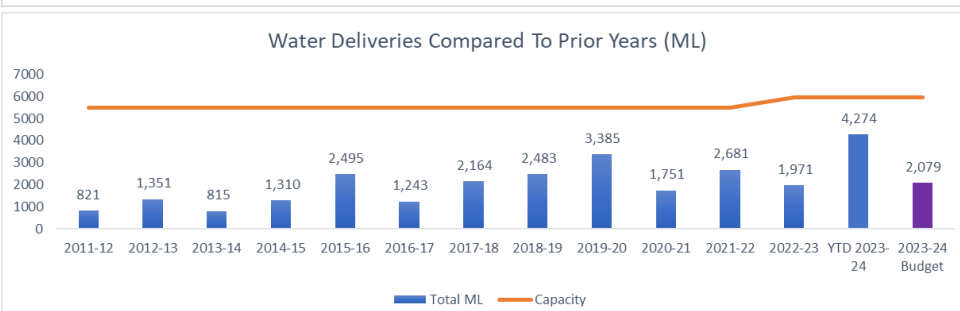
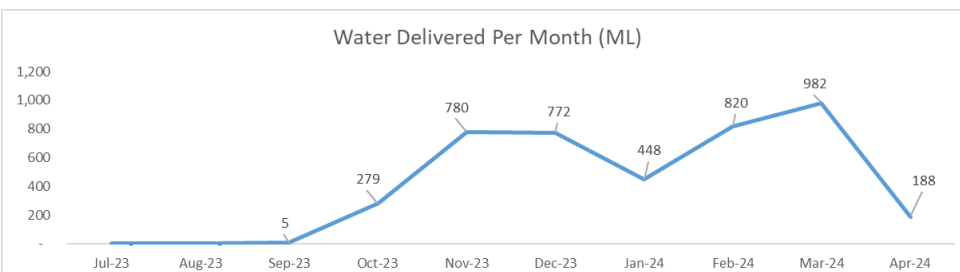
For general information, please visit our website at [www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au](http://www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au), or follow us on Facebook or LinkedIn. If you need specific information telephone us on 03 6398 8433.

### Water Delivery

The 2023-24 summer irrigation season opened on 1 November 2023, running for 173 days and closing on 22 April 2024.

100 per cent of the scheme's water allocation was available, enabling approximately 3,947 megalitres (ML) of water to be delivered this season, and 4,274 ML delivered in the 2023/24 financial year.

The volume delivered this season indicates 66 per cent of the scheme's 5,940 ML capacity was utilised.



## Fast Facts



**3,947 ML**  
WATER DELIVERED



**100%**  
ALLOCATION



**11**  
TRADES



**5,940 ML**  
SCHEME CAPACITY



**Scheme Operator:**

Cameron Walker  
0438 020 974

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## Scheme Performance

As we conclude the season for the Whitemore Irrigation Scheme, we would like to share some key highlights and updates from the past months.

The new, 100kW solar system, installed at the Liffey pump station performed reliably throughout the season, and contributed to the cost efficiency of the scheme as well as reducing the environmental footprint. Read more about the solar array on page 4.

Despite a few minor challenges such as power outages and nuisance trips, both pump stations were operating smoothly, ensuring consistent water supply to the scheme. The pipeline infrastructure has played a crucial role in supplying water throughout the season.

Tasmania's 2023/24 Spring/Summer brought below-average rainfall across the region, particularly impacting the west coast and northern areas. Temperatures were notably warmer than average, with mean maximum temperatures reaching the fourth highest on record. As a result, demand for water was strong and the total volume delivered this season represents a record high for the scheme's history.

We would also like to thank the collaborative efforts of Liffey River users who have worked together to support the scheme during the periods of limited natural water flows.

## Trading Summary

Transfer type	Volume (ML)	Number of trades
Short term transfer (within season)	424	10
Limited term transfer	-	-
Permanent transfer	25	1

## Entitlements

The Scheme is fully sold. Water can only be purchased by trading entitlements.



## Asset Renewal Levy (ARL)

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

The table below shows the asset renewal works planned for the current financial year.

Facility Name	ARL Task
Liffey Pump Station	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pump inspection</li><li>• Solar array installation</li></ul>
Scheme wide	3G obsolescence communications upgrades

Note: Some works cannot be carried out while the scheme is in use. All remaining tasks are expected to be completed before the next season begins.

## Repairs and Maintenance

The table below shows the general repairs and maintenance planned for the current financial year. Again, not all works may have been completed at time of writing, as some works cannot be carried out while the scheme is in use.

Maintenance Task
Electrical switchboard periodic maintenance inspections
Pump station vibration monitoring assessments
Weed and vegetation management
Outlet repairs
Motor & pump lubrication



## Solar Installation - Liffey Pump Station

Liffey Pump Station solar installation, a 100 kW solar system, became operational in June 2023 and has generated 129,903 kWh of electricity for the financial year to date.

Throughout the irrigation season, the solar system generated an average of 13,950 kWh per month.

During this period, 8 per cent of the solar-produced electricity was exported to the grid. The balance was used to power the pump station, representing 23 per cent of its electricity consumption during the irrigation season.

The primary benefit of the solar system lies in its ability to directly power the pump station and reduce reliance on grid electricity. In addition, electricity that can not be utilised by the pump station is being fed into the electricity grid to generate income for the scheme, resulting in total estimated cost savings for the financial year to date of \$15,672 for the scheme.

**Carbon emissions  
reduction**  
**22,084 kg CO2-e**  
**(32%)**

**Cost reduction using  
solar power**  
**\$13,800**

**Feed in to grid income**  
**\$1,872**



## Have your Say - Seeking Your Participation

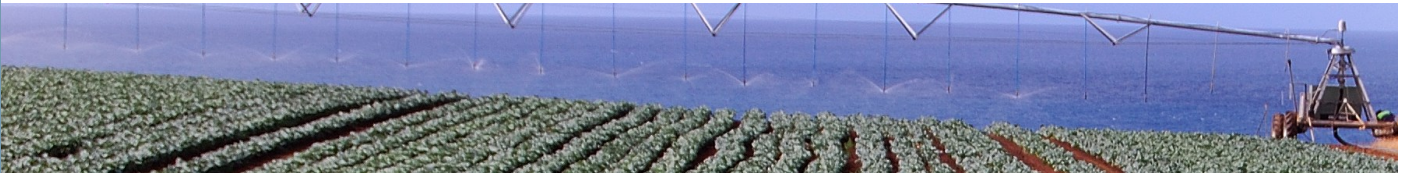
Tasmanian Irrigation is seeking feedback from our customers to better understand your views on our performance, our communication to you, and the issues that matter most to you in your business.

We have engaged independent research firm EMRS to undertake this research on our behalf. What you tell us will help Tasmanian Irrigation improve the way we manage schemes and the way we communicate to you, and help us better understand your needs. It's a chance for you to provide open and honest feedback about what we can do better, and tell us where we are doing well.

We'd like to thank everyone who has supported this work by agreeing to take part in a short phone survey during May. When the research is complete, we will share high-level results with you, giving you an insight into the collective feedback received from customers across our schemes. We expect to receive the research report in August.

All information gathered will be treated in the strictest confidence. No names or personal details are released or stored, and no individuals will be identifiable in the research report provided to us by EMRS.

If you have any questions about the survey, please do not hesitate to contact EMRS' Project Manager, Paul Jamrozik, at [pjamrozik@emrs.com.au](mailto:pjamrozik@emrs.com.au).



## Community management of publicly-owned irrigation schemes

Tasmanian Irrigation would like to thank all irrigators and stakeholders who've attended information and consultation sessions during May regarding community management of irrigation schemes.

In December 2023, the Tasmanian State Parliament passed the *Water Miscellaneous Amendments (Delegation and Industrial Water Supply) ACT 2023* (WMA Act) into law. The WMA Act amends existing legislation relevant to Tasmanian Irrigation, to enable the Government's policy to facilitate community management of publicly owned irrigation schemes, where feasible and appropriate.

In practical terms, the change means that Tasmanian Irrigation can delegate some of our powers and functions to eligible community bodies, with regard to the operation and management of our irrigation schemes. However Tasmanian Irrigation remains the asset owner and the Responsible Water Entity, and not all powers and functions are able to be delegated.

We have drafted documents and processes that would enable irrigator groups to apply for delegation of powers and functions, and which align with the requirements of the WMA Act. During May we've been seeking feedback on the documents and the proposed application process, as part of a two-stage consultation process.

Feedback for the first stage of the consultation process **closes on 21 June**.

Full detail, including draft documents for comment, is available on our website: [Community management of publicly owned irrigation "Community management of schemes" - Tasmanian Irrigation](#)

## Tips to prepare for this year's Farm Water Access Plan audit season

Following the end of another irrigation season, it is time to start preparing for the upcoming Farm Water Access Plan (Farm WAP) audits. These audits are essential for ensuring sustainable management of the scheme's water resources and for regulatory compliance.

To help you navigate this process effectively, here are some key tips:

**Stay Updated:** Between 10 to 15 per cent of irrigators are randomly selected each year to be audited providing they have used over 5 ML. You will be contacted if you are selected.

**Know your requirements:** Take the time to familiarise yourself with the requirements outlined in your Farm WAP. Review any soil or biodiversity action plans and monitoring schedules to understand your responsibilities.

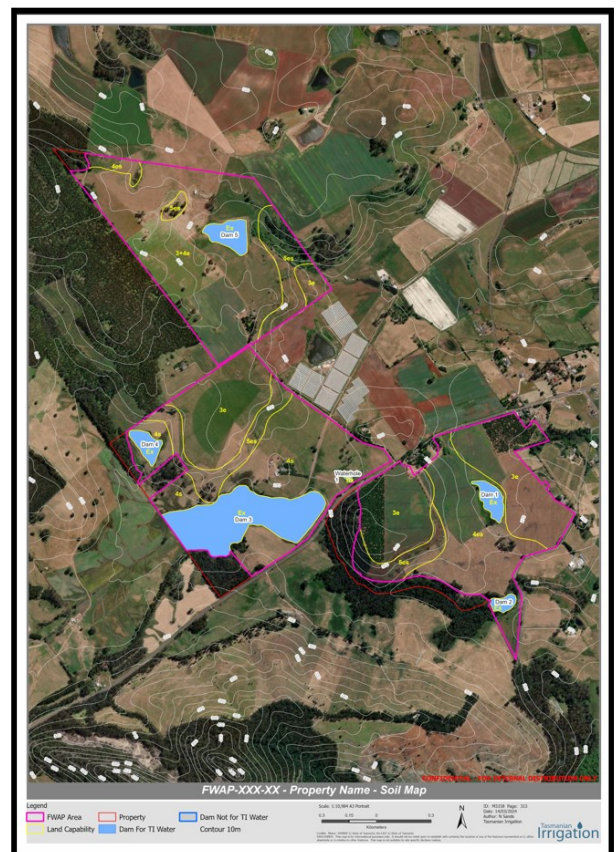
**Organise your documentation:** Audits typically involve farm inspections, interviews, and document reviews. To streamline the process, gather and organise all necessary documentation in advance.

**Address any discrepancies:** Tasmanian Irrigation is tasked with ensuring regulatory compliance, so make sure your plan is up to date. If you come across any discrepancies or issues with your Farm WAP, such as irrigating outside the designated area, it is important to address them. Please contact our Farm WAP Team for assistance, and we can work together to resolve these issues before the auditing season begins.

**Protect your farm ecosystem:** Remember, deriving an income from the land relies on a healthy and sustainable functioning farm ecosystem. By following the guidelines outlined in your Farm WAP, you're not only ensuring compliance but also safeguarding our natural resources for future generations.

Tasmanian Irrigation is committed to protecting the state's natural resources. By participating in our Farm WAP program, you're contributing to this important goal and ensuring the sustainability of our agricultural practices for years to come.

For any Farm WAP-related inquiries or assistance, don't hesitate to reach out to our dedicated Farm WAP Team at (03) 6398-8433 or email [FarmWAP@tasirrigation.com.au](mailto:FarmWAP@tasirrigation.com.au).



*Example Farm WAP soil map*

## Contact Details

If you require any additional information about Tasmanian Irrigation or your scheme, please contact:

Title	Name	Email	Phone
Scheme Operator	Cameron Walker	cameron.walker@tasirrigation.com.au	0438 020 974
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Billing & Invoicing	Jess Hendley	accountsreceivable@tasirrigation.com.au	(03) 6398 8433
Corporate Services Mgr	Usman Ali	usman.ali@tasirrigation.com.au	0467 018 870
Chief Operating Officer	David Skipper	david.skipper@tasirrigation.com.au	0417 279 062

Please note that Scheme Operator Dean Anyon has transitioned into a different internal role within Tasmanian Irrigation and Tasmanian Irrigation's relief operator, Cameron Walker, has taken on Dean's role.

## Irrigator Representative Committee

If you are interested in finding out more about the Committee or are interested in joining, please speak to your Scheme Operator or Chairperson in the first instance.

Title	Name	Email	Phone
Chairperson	Rob Dent	ardentseeds@bigpond.com.au	0419 134 392
Member	Murray Johns	johnsag7303@gmail.com	0419 115 868
Member	Matthew Dent	mountviewe@gmail.com	0419 569 819
Member	Bramwell Heazlewood	meltonvale@bigpond.com	0419 337 927

## Your Contact Details

If any of your contact details have changed, please advise us as soon as possible via email at

[enquiries@tasirrigation.com.au](mailto:enquiries@tasirrigation.com.au).