

NEWSLETTER

Pre-Season Update



Winnaleah Irrigation Scheme

Tasmanian Irrigation's Water Delivery Team and the Winnaleah Irrigation Board are looking forward to working with all irrigators for the upcoming 2023-24 irrigation season.

This newsletter provides general information on the upcoming season, such as the planned season opening date, expected season duration, annual charges, trading information and more.

Water Delivery

The 2023-24 irrigation season opened on 10 October 2023 and will run until 7 May 2024.

Dam Summary

Cascade Dam and Frome Dam opened at full capacity due to a successful dam fill program during the off-season.

Live dam levels are available on the Tasmanian Irrigation website at www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au

From the home page, please select 'Dam Levels' from the top menu banner.

Entitlements for Sale

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

Update on Flow Rate Testing

The modelling of the flow rate testing has been completed and the results are now being reconciled to the entitlement holdings in the Winnaleah Water Entitlements Register.

Due to challenges presented with the historical data, and to ensure the accuracy of the result, Tasmanian Irrigation expect the process will take another couple of months to formalise.

However the results of the initial modelling show that no additional flow will be allocated at this stage.

Fast Facts



10 Oct 2023
SEASON OPENING



7 May 2024
CLOSING



6,948 ML
SCHEME CAPACITY



For more information, please
contact your Scheme
Operator:

Stuart Rainbow

0409 546 227

wis22@bigpond.com

Changes to the Timing of the Annual Billing Process

In an effort to streamline and ensure consistency in the annual billing process, in consultation with the Winnaleah Irrigation Board, the Scheme's billing cycle will now follow the below process and timeline.

Annual Fixed charges will be calculated on total Irrigation Rights and Stock and Domestic holdings held on the first day of the irrigation season.

The charges will be invoiced annually in November each year for payment no later than 28 February (the following year).

At the end of the summer season, water meters will be read to determine if any water has been used over and above the total Irrigation Right and Stock and Domestic holdings. If so, excess water charges will be calculated and invoiced in the month following the end of the summer irrigation season.

Out of Season (winter) water usage will be calculated at the end of the winter season and invoiced in the month following.

2023-24 Annual Charges

The 2023-24 season prices are summarised in the table below :

	2022-23 (\$/ML)	2023-24 (\$/ML)	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Fixed charges				
Operation & maintenance charge	\$ 53.36	\$ 65.63	\$ 12.27	23.0%
Asset renewal levy	\$ 12.64	\$ 13.61	\$ 0.97	7.7%
Total	\$ 66.00	\$ 79.24	\$ 13.24	20.1%
Other charges				
Excess Irrigation water ¹	\$ 130.00	\$ 130.00	\$ -	0.0%
Out of season water ² (winter water)	\$ 20.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 1.00	5.0%
Stock and Domestic Water	\$ 145.00	\$ 152.25	\$ 7.25	5.0%

Changes to the Trading Process

Irrigation rights and delivery rights are tradable within the irrigation district in accordance with the *Irrigation Clauses Act 1973* and the Trading Rules for the irrigation district. Trades are made by transferring volume between irrigation rights and flow rate between delivery rights. To take effect, a transfer must be approved by Tasmanian Irrigation and recorded in the Water Entitlements Register for the irrigation district.

To submit a trade please use the trading forms on the Tasmanian Irrigation website under the *Schemes/Forms* page. Completed forms can be submitted via email or post as noted on the last page of the form.

For more details on how to trade, please refer to the *Quick Reference Guide to Water Trading* available on the Tasmanian Irrigation website under the *Buy / Trade Existing Entitlements* page.

If you are not intending to use all of your current entitlement this coming season, Tasmanian Irrigation strongly advise you to consider your trading options.

Contact Details

If you require any additional information about the Scheme, please contact your Scheme Operator in the first instance:

Title	Name	Email	Phone
Scheme Operator	Stuart Rainbow	wis22@bigpond.com	0409 546 227

Winnaleah Irrigation Scheme Limited contacts:

Title	Name	Email	Phone
Chairman	Robin Thompson	robin.glen@activ8.net.au	0408 129 371
Managing Director	Andrew Lester	aalester@bigpond.com	0417 162 394
Treasurer	Lester Rainbow	lester.rainbow@incitecpivot.com.au	0418 571 384
Co. Secretary	Gary Oliver	gboliver@bigpond.com	03 6354 2442
Director	Gavin Steel	ggsteel@bigpond.com	03 6354 2435
Director	Lee Shaw	lee.shaw7@bigpond.com	0428 542 356
Director	Rodney Moore	rushy@rushy.com.au	0417 576 045

Tasmanian Irrigation contacts:

Title	Name	Email	Phone
TI Hub Leader	Russell McDougall	russell.mcdougall@tasirrigation.com.au	0447 659 041
Sales & Trading	Fiona Buckingham	fiona.buckingham@tasirrigation.com.au	0438 465 338
Billing & Invoicing	Jessica Hendley	jess.hendley@tasirrigation.com.au	(03) 6398 8433

Your Contact Details

If any of your contact details have changed, please advise us as soon as possible via email: enquiries@tasirrigation.com.au.

Winnaleah Irrigation Scheme

Charge rates: 2023-24



In-season annual charges for water entitlements

	2022-23 (\$/ML)	2023-24 (\$/ML)	Change (\$)	Change (%)
Fixed charges				
Operation & maintenance charge	\$ 53.36	\$ 65.63	\$ 12.27	23.0%
Asset renewal levy	\$ 12.64	\$ 13.61	\$ 0.97	7.7%
Total	\$ 66.00	\$ 79.24	\$ 13.24	20.1%
Other charges				
Excess Irrigation water ¹	\$ 130.00	\$ 130.00	\$ -	0.0%
Out of season water ² (winter water)	\$ 20.00	\$ 21.00	\$ 1.00	5.0%
Stock and Domestic Water	\$ 145.00	\$ 152.25	\$ 7.25	5.0%

¹ Excess water charges: payable for each additional megalitre (or part of a megalitre) of water taken, in addition to your authorised volume under your water entitlement, during the irrigation season. These rates have been set within the By-Laws for your scheme.

² Out of season water charges: payable on water supplied outside the irrigation season by agreement with Tasmanian Irrigation. Available to irrigators who hold current entitlement in the irrigation district and only up to the level of their respective holdings.

Interest for late payments

In accordance with the by-laws for the district, Tasmanian Irrigation may issue interest charges when payment is not received within the standard terms of each invoice (30 days). This will be charged at the rate two per cent (2%) per annum above the 3 month Australian Bank Bill Swap Bid Rate (BBSY).

You will be unable to trade your water entitlements if your account is in arrears.

Tasmanian Irrigation understands that on some occasions our customers may experience times of financial hardship due to circumstances outside of their control. As such, you may choose to apply for a payment plan under our Financial Hardship Policy.

Other charges

Transfer registration fee	\$ 50.00	Including GST		
Registration, transfer, variation, or discharge of security interest	\$ 66.00	Including GST		
Application Assessment Fee				
For sale of whole right with related property	NIL			
For sale or lease of all or part of right	\$50/half hour, minimum \$50 (Including GST)			

Further information:

Water charges are levied by Tasmanian Irrigation to recover the costs of operating, maintaining and administering irrigation districts.

In all irrigation districts, a **Fixed Charge** is levied on the volume of your irrigation right holdings on the first day of the irrigation season and is payable regardless of whether water has been consumed.

The Fixed Charge can have up to three components:

- > **Operation & Maintenance** charge recovers the costs for running the scheme which don't normally change materially with the volume of water supplied during a season. This includes costs relating to employment of scheme operators, motor vehicle costs, maintenance, telemetry, compliance, administration, finance and insurance.
- > **Asset Renewal Levy** makes provision for major asset repairs and replacements required to ensure the continuing operation of the district.
- > **Storage Charge** (some districts): recovers costs of pumping any evaporation or seepage losses into the main water storage.

Most irrigation districts also include a **Variable Charge** which is levied on the volume of water ordered or consumed by each irrigator, to recover electricity costs for pumping and water purchase costs incurred by Tasmanian Irrigation. The variable charge is based on the cost to deliver water to the various charge zones. Variable Charges are invoiced following the end of the irrigation season or delivery period.

Excess Water Charges can be avoided entirely by ensuring you have sufficient allocation:

- > Monitor your usage (contact your Scheme Operator if you require assistance).
- > Contact us if you have any questions about your allocation, trading or usage.
- > Trade any required additional allocation. We are unable to accept retrospective trades.

To assist buyers and sellers of water entitlements with establishing trading connections, Tasmanian Irrigation provides a free **Water Trading Notice Board** on our website. This allows parties to advertise their interest in buying, selling or leasing water entitlements. You can access the Notice Board via Tasmanian Irrigation's website: www.tasirrigation.com.au.

All annual water charges are retained within the separate irrigation schemes to be used for the benefit of the irrigators.

If you have any questions, please contact our office on 03 6398 8433 or enquiries@tasirrigation.com.au.