

NEWSLETTER

End of Season Wrap



Great Forester 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.

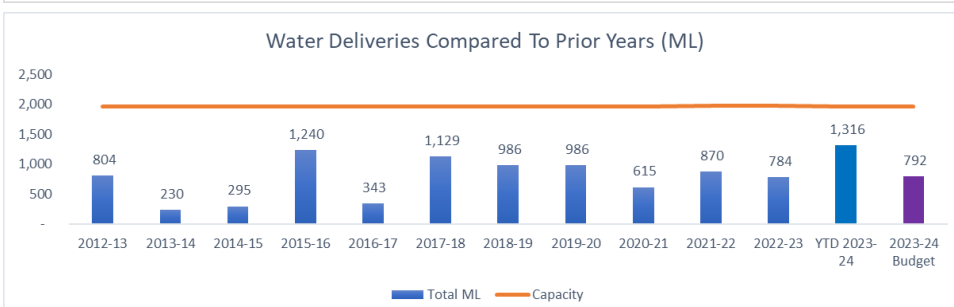
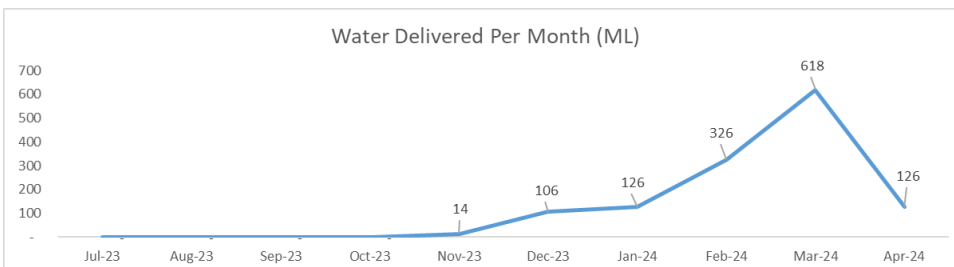
For general information, please visit our website at www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au, or follow us on Facebook or LinkedIn. If you need specific information telephone us on 03 6398 8433.

Water Delivery

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

100 per cent of the Scheme's water allocation was available and approximately 1,316 megalitres (ML) of water was delivered during the season.

The volume delivered represents a 66 per cent utilisation rate of the Scheme's 1,980 ML total capacity.



Fast Facts



1,316 ML
WATER DELIVERED



100%
ALLOCATION



0
TRADES



1,980 ML
SCHEME CAPACITY



Scheme Operator:

Troy Bowen

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Scheme Performance

The irrigation season for the Great Forester Irrigation Scheme commenced on 1 November 2023. This season, there was below-average rainfall, particularly in the west coast and northern regions, coupled with above normal or median temperatures.

As late summer approached, we observed a significant increase in water usage, reaching a record high, with all irrigators demanding water at full capacity. Despite the demanding conditions, the scheme continued to meet the demand and maintained consistent operations throughout the summer months.

Trading Summary

There has been no trading activity during the season.

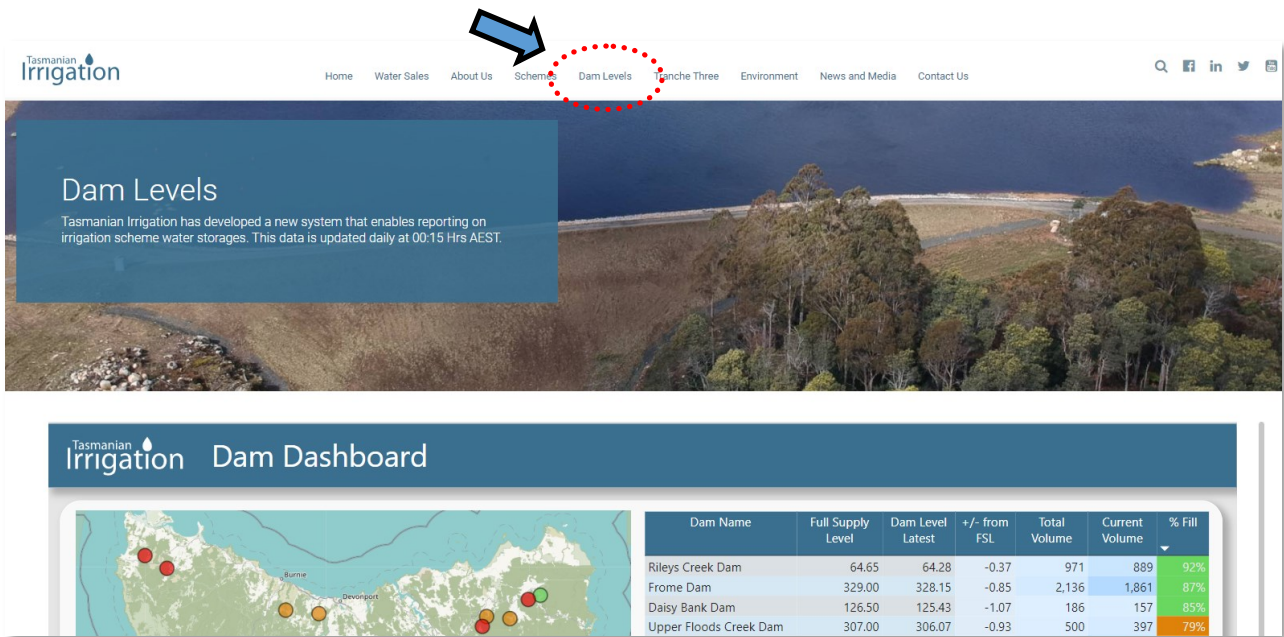
Dam Summary

After a successful dam fill program, Headquarters Road Dam opened the season at 97 per cent capacity with a volume of 2,252 ML and ended the season at 79 per cent capacity with a volume of 1,838 ML.

Note this dam is shared with the Scottsdale Irrigation Scheme.

Tasmanian Irrigation will conduct the dam fill program during the off-season to return the dam to full capacity before the start of next season.

Live dam levels are available on the Tasmanian Irrigation website. From the home page, please select 'Dam Levels' from the top menu banner (see below).



The screenshot shows the Tasmanian Irrigation website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, Water Sales, About Us, Schemes, Dam Levels (highlighted with a red circle and a blue arrow), Branch Three, Environment, News and Media, and Contact Us. Below the navigation bar is a banner for 'Dam Levels' with the text: 'Tasmanian Irrigation has developed a new system that enables reporting on irrigation scheme water storages. This data is updated daily at 00:15 Hrs AEST.' Below the banner is the 'Dam Dashboard' section, which includes a map of Tasmania with dam locations marked and a table of dam data.

Dam Name	Full Supply Level	Dam Level Latest	+/- from FSL	Total Volume	Current Volume	% Fill
Rileys Creek Dam	64.65	64.28	-0.37	971	889	92%
Frome Dam	329.00	328.15	-0.85	2,136	1,861	87%
Daisy Bank Dam	126.50	125.43	-1.07	186	157	85%
Upper Floods Creek Dam	307.00	306.07	-0.93	500	397	79%

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. Note, as some works cannot be carried out while the Scheme is in use, not all works may have been completed at time of writing. Any remaining tasks are anticipated to be carried out prior to the next season.

Facility Name	ARL Task
Headquarters Road	Control cabinet renewal

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
Weed and vegetation management



Have your Say - Seeking Your Participation

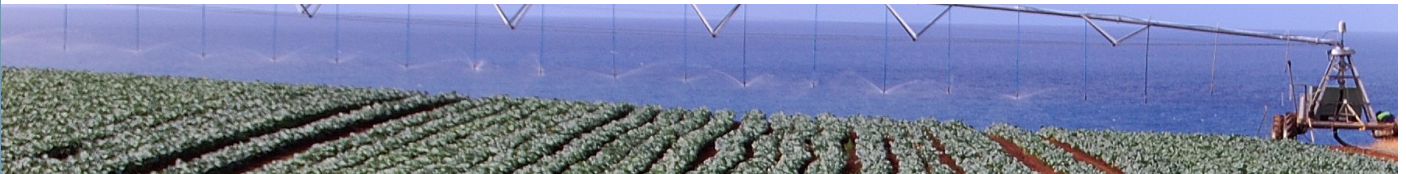
Tasmanian Irrigation is seeking feedback from our customers to better understand your views on our performance, our communication to you, and the issues that matter most to you in your business.

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.



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) audit season. These audits play a crucial role in ensuring the sustainable management of the Scheme's water resources and are also required 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.

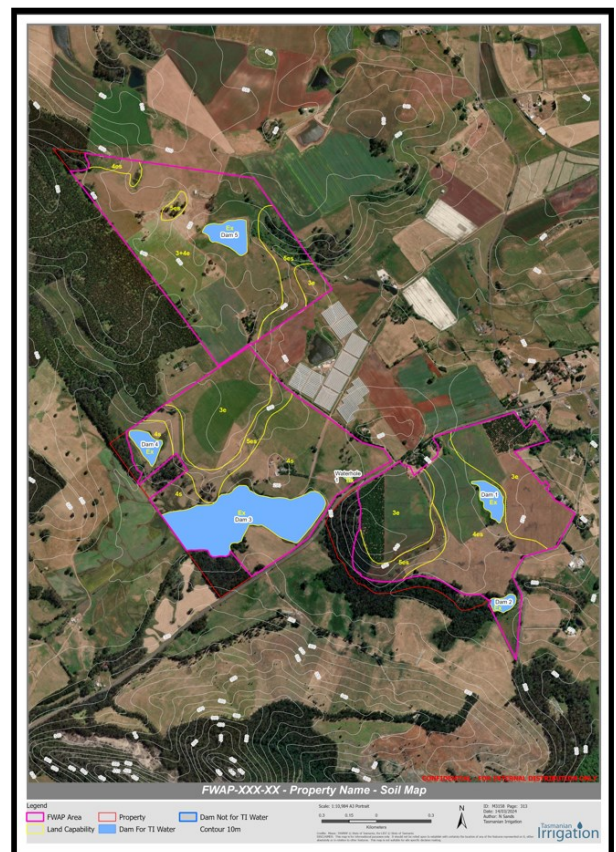
Organise your documentation: Audits typically involve farm inspections, interviews, and document reviews. To streamline the process, gather and organise all necessary documentation in advance.

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.



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	Troy Bowen	troy.bowen@tasirrigation.com.au	0418 388 596
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Sales & Trading	Fiona Buckingham	fiona.buckingham@tasirrigation.com.au	0438 465 338
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

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	Rodney Gofton	riverdale4@bigpond.com	0409 527 379
Member	Ron Forsyth	forsyth.contracting@outlook.com	0417 320 397
Member	Elizabeth Hall	manukapark@bigpond.com	0407 635 522
Member	Gregory Sykes	g_ssykes@activ8.net.au	0458 527 260
Member	Wayne Bowen	pineviewmilk@gmail.com	0429 801 646

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.