

NEWSLETTER

Scheme Snapshot



South East Stage Three (Sorell) Irrigation Scheme

Tasmanian Irrigation’s Water Delivery Team sincerely thanks all irrigators for their ongoing support and cooperation.

This newsletter provides an update on the Season’s progress up until 31 March 2024.

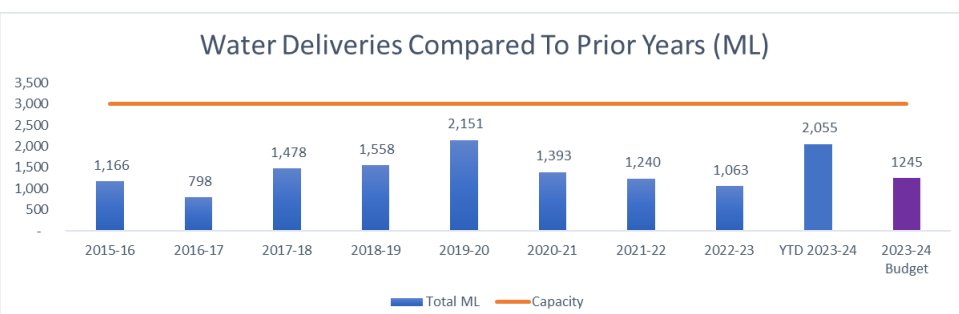
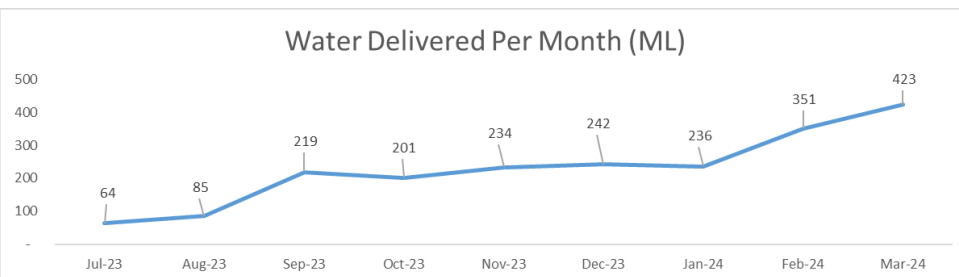
For general information, please visit our website at www.tasmanianirrigation.com.au, or follow us on Facebook or LinkedIn. If you need specific information telephone us on 03 6398 8433.

Water Delivery

The 2023-24 summer irrigation season ran for 182 days, opening on 1 October 2023 and closing on 31 March 2024.

100 per cent of the Scheme’s water allocation was available and approximately 1,687 megalitres (ML) of water was delivered during the summer season and 2,055 ML has been delivered financial year to date.

The 2,055 ML delivered represents a 69 per cent utilisation rate of the Scheme’s 3,000 ML total capacity to date.



Fast Facts

 **2,055 ML**
WATER DELIVERED

 **100%**
ALLOCATION

 **7**
TRADES

 **3,000 ML**
SCHEME CAPACITY

Scheme Operators:



Geoff Young—0459 149 851

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Anthony Monk—0428 872 526

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Scheme Performance

The South East Stage 3 irrigation scheme has performed well throughout the season, delivering its highest seasonal volume to date.

We encountered some challenges with filter cleaning at pump stations due to high flows and we also observed some issues with pressure and flow rates on the Orielson branch line.

Despite some minor challenges, TasWater played an instrumental role in keeping up with demand and ensuring high flow rates, especially during the peak of the season.

Below average rainfall and higher than usual temperatures affected the region. Despite the weather conditions, our Scheme maintained consistent performance throughout the season.

Trading Summary

Transfer Type	Volume (ML)	Number of Trades
Short term transfer (within season)	6	2
Limited term transfer	-	-
Permanent transfer	76	5

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
Scheme wide	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Telemetry box replacement• Deep cycle battery replacements• 3G obsolescence communications upgrades
Rekuna Dam	V-notch and valve pit access upgrades

Repairs and Maintenance

The table below shows the general repairs and maintenance that has been 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
Pump repairs



Have your Say - Seeking Your Participation

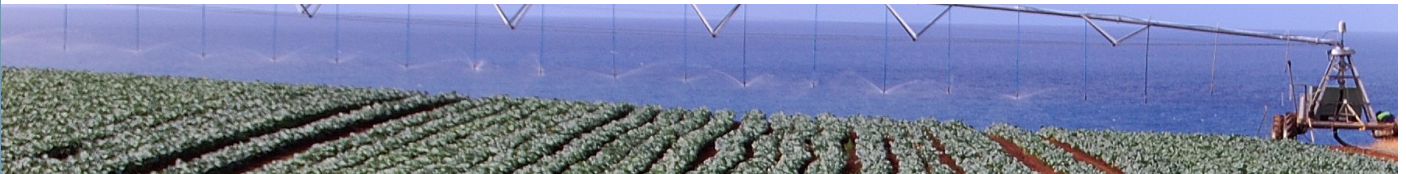
Tasmanian Irrigation is seeking feedback from our customers to better understand your views on our performance, our communication to you, and the issues that matter most to you in your business.

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

Expressions of Interest: Irrigator Representative Committee

Due to retirements and to support succession planning, Tasmanian Irrigation is seeking Expressions of Interest from any financial and currently active entitlement holder in Stage 3 to join the South East Irrigator Representative Committee (IRC).

The IRC currently has good representation from irrigators on Stages 1 and 2, and we want to ensure all three current schemes are represented. The IRC provides advice and information to Tasmanian Irrigation and a mechanism to share information across the schemes and consult on key issues.

It's not an onerous role, involving 2-3 meetings per year regarding scheme operations. We expect there could be an extra 3-4 meetings per year regarding development of the Greater South East Irrigation Scheme.

To submit an Expression of Interest, or if you'd like to know more, contact David Skipper david.skipper@tasirrigation.com.au by 30 June 2024.

Expressions of Interest will be assessed by Tasmanian Irrigation and current IRC members, with the aim of having membership that represents a broad cross section of agricultural industries and entitlement holders in the south east.

Contact Details

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

Title	Name	Email	Phone
Scheme Operator	Geoff Young	geoff.young@tasirrigation.com.au	0459 149 851
Scheme Operator	Anthony Monk	anthony.monk@tasirrigation.com.au	0428 872 526
Mgr Ops & Assets	Anne-Marie du Plessis	annemarie.duplessis@tasirrigation.com.au	0488 153 346
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	TBC	TBC	TBC
Member	TBC	TBC	TBC

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.