

# BURRENDONG DAM SAFETY UPGRADE

*One of seven dam safety upgrades State Water is managing in regional NSW to enable major dams to safely pass extreme floods.*



## ABOUT THE DAM

**Location:** Macquarie River, 30 km south east of Wellington in central NSW  
**Year dam completed:** 1967  
**Storage capacity:** 1,188,000 megalitres  
**Project cost (stage 1):** Approx. \$35 million funded by the NSW Government

## WHY IS THE UPGRADE NEEDED?

The upgrade will ensure Burrendong Dam can safely pass extreme floods. All of State Water's dams were built to the standards of the day and some now require modifications in line with improved knowledge of rainfall and extreme weather patterns since the dams were built. Burrendong is safe for day-to-day operations and can safely pass the largest flood on record but the upgrade will ensure it complies with revised standards for extreme floods as set by the NSW Dams Safety Committee.

## WHAT WILL THE UPGRADE INVOLVE?

### Stage 1A

Stage 1A involved raising the height of the main dam wall and saddle dams B and C by 1.8 metres. Stage 1A was completed in June 2011.

### Stage 1B

Stage 1B will involve raising the spillway access bridge by two metres and installing a gate locking device for the seven spillway gates.

## PROJECT BENEFITS

- Ensure dam can withstand extreme floods
- Local areas retain portion of the funding through supplies and subcontractors
- Bringing new, unique and specialised skills to the area

Once stage 1A and 1B are complete the dam will be assessed to determine the priority of any further works.

## DAM OPERATIONS AS NORMAL

The works will improve the dam's ability to safely pass extreme floods, however the water level of the dam, water allocations and permanent storage capacity will not be affected by the upgrade.

The project will not affect normal water releases which are made through the outlet valve. Works will be scheduled to accommodate potential operation of the spillway.

## LOCATION OF WORKS



Phone: 1300 662 077  
Email: [feedback@statewater.com.au](mailto:feedback@statewater.com.au)  
Website: [www.statewater.com.au](http://www.statewater.com.au)

## ENVIRONMENTAL MITIGATION

As part of its commitment to environmentally sustainable operations State Water completed a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) report for stage 1A. The REF will be revised to include the stage 1B works as well.

REF reports are designed to identify potential impacts to the surrounding environment from the project and suggest measures to mitigate such impacts.

Various impact reduction actions were implemented during construction on stage 1A including noise and dust control measures.

Access to the Burrendong Dam recreation park will not be affected by the project.

## ENVIRONMENTAL OFFSET WORKS

Works will be carried out on downstream weirs to improve fish passage to offset impacts to the environment from the project.

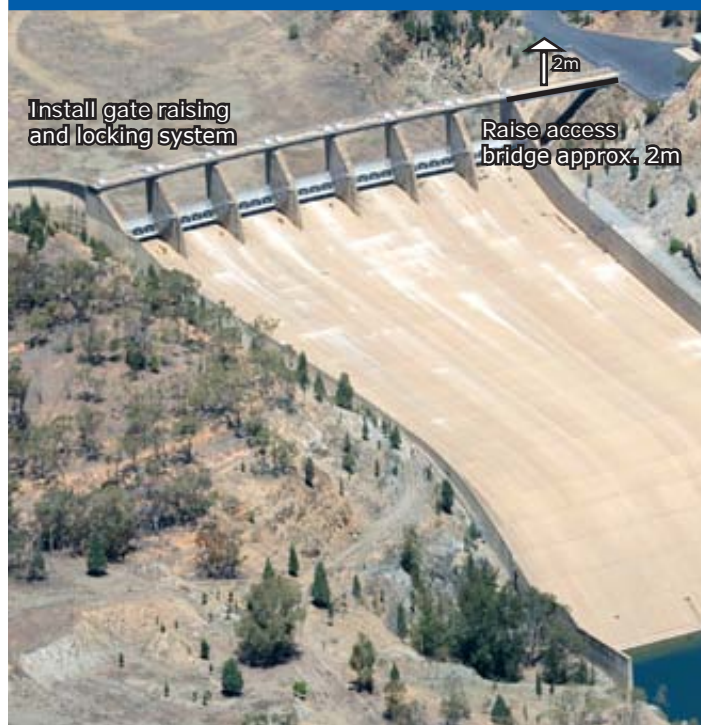
Fish passage will be improved at Marebone, Gin Gin and Gunningbar weirs.

## COMMUNITY UPDATES

State Water is committed to keeping those affected by the upgrade informed as the project progresses. The general community will be kept up-to-date with information sheets, local media and presentations to community groups.

During the REF, specific consultation with stakeholders will be carried out to identify any concerns or possible impacts.

## DIAGRAM OF STAGE 1B WORKS



## TIMELINE OF STAGE 1B WORKS

September 2012	Complete detailed design and review of environmental factors
Late 2013	Release tender for construction
Mid 2014	Commence construction
2015	Complete construction

## DAM WALL AFTER 1A STAGE WORKS



*Burrendong Dam wall following completion of stage 1A works*