

Lake Macdonald Dam Improvement Project - CRG

Date and Time	3 December 2024; 3:00pm-5:00pm
Location	Cooroy Memorial Hall, Cooroy
Project team attendees	Two ODAPTIC representatives Two Seqwater representatives Two John Holland representatives
Member attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul O'Hare• Philip Moran• Russell Manning• Nick Cooke• Trish Gray
Member apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brad Wedlock• Kerry Jones• Norman Bond
Purpose	Meeting 1 of the Lake Macdonald CRG

Meeting Minutes

Item	Description
1.	Welcome ODAPTIC welcomed members and thanked them for their attendance.
2.	Introductions of members and project team.

3. An overview of the project was provided by Seqwater and John Holland.
- Questions from the CRG:
- What are the timeframes for works?
 - o Early works commenced in October 2024. Cofferdam will be constructed in 2025
 - o Works are dependent on the weather.
 - Where would the water flow in the event of a flood?
 - o Seqwater confirmed it would flow along the existing path
 - What happens to water when you are lowering?
 - o Siphoned out and flows into Six Mile Creek
 - o Rates released are low and there would not be any impact in Pomona
 - The area will be rehabilitated at the end of the project.
 - How does the fish relocation work?
 - o There was a change in methodology from the earlier proposal with more water now being retained in the lake. The current survey will determine the quantity/species to be relocated. Some key species will be relocated even with slightly lowered lake level.
 - o Turtles will not be relocated.
 - o As turtles are on the move at the moment due to breeding cycles, concern was raised that with the increase in traffic there could be more turtle and other wildlife deaths.
 - Lake lowering via siphons led by Seqwater Operations, had almost lowered to the level and then rain event filled it up again.
 - o Siphons will be operated over the next few months
 - o Lake Macdonald dam is small, but fills up very quickly due to geography and location
 - Have you got a holding area for the material removed from the dam?
 - o Some material won't be reusable but the intent is to use quarry pits on site and reuse what is feasible.
 - Concerns were raised regarding haulage and speed signs, specifically that the current roadworks signage indicates a speed limit of 60kph, which is also the usual speed limit for the area. This may lead to confusion, as road users perceive 60kph as the reduced speed for the roadworks. It was agreed that an investigation will be conducted to determine whether the speed limit can be reduced during roadworks to address this issue.
- Quarry**
- CRG Member questioned whether quality testing had been carried out and whether there had been deliveries of overburden. John Holland advised there had been no deliveries of overburden as yet, only crushed rock.
 - Concern was raised about GPS data and tracking of trucks, with not all trucks having the devices.
 - o Truck monitoring devices have been written into the contracts.
 - Kristy Lankester recommended if the community are seeing issues to call her and she can organise to review truck data from the quarries. The process will be refined over time if needed and alternative options can be considered after taking on the advice and suggestions of the community.
 - CRG members appreciated the collaboration and clarifications they are receiving.

<p>4.</p>	<p>Seqwater provided a community update and the history of the project to date.</p> <p>Ongoing Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025 Engagement Activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continued engagement with the community through Community Sentiment Survey, CRG meetings, and outreach regarding main construction works. ○ Kristy Lankester will serve as the main point of contact moving forward for all construction related queries. ○ Emphasis on early engagement with Kristy to address and resolve issues proactively. <p>Communication Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter and Updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A quarterly newsletter from Seqwater will be distributed, targeting local residents for specific impacts. ○ Email communication will supplement letterbox drops. <p>Fish Health Monitoring</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question was raised if contractors would continue to monitor fish health during the project. • Seqwater clarified the fish existing in the lake may not need to be relocated. Studies are being conducted and awaiting outcome to determine forward plan. <p>Fishing Platform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed due to proximity to cofferdam construction but will reopen once the cofferdam is removed. • Discussion on design of the dam to protect fish during overflow events. <p>Scout Camp</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The camp facility, deemed unsafe, will be removed as part of the project. • Future use of the site is under design consideration, with community interest noted in maintaining it as a camping ground. <p>Fish Hatchery</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seqwater advised restocking would occur, however more details will be provided. • CRG member suggested exploring the long-term use of the site, potentially designating a small section for community use.
<p>5.</p>	<p>Terms of reference and role of the CRG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being a voice for the community • Purpose of the group is to disseminate information, correct misinformation, have transparent and open discussions and work together to help the community.

6.	<p>Co-creation of future meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What's evolved or changed? (Seqwater / John Holland)• What we've heard on the ground (CRG Members)• Special topics• General business• Confirm parking lot• Future meetings will be held on the following dates:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Wednesday, 12 February 2025○ Wednesday, 21 May 2025○ Wednesday, 13 August 2025○ Wednesday, 19 November 2025
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The meeting closed at 5:00pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, 12 February 2025**.