

ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY

Lake Macdonald Dam Improvement Project

MARCH
2025

Seqwater is undertaking its largest capital investment program to date, aimed at securing water reliability and safety for South East Queensland. As part of this initiative, the Lake Macdonald Dam Improvement Project has commenced to bring the dam up to modern engineering standards, ensuring it continues to function safely during extreme weather events.

Project overview

The Dam Improvement Project includes constructing a temporary upstream cofferdam, a new spillway and reconstructing the existing earth embankments. We are proud to partner with John Holland as the major construction contractor for this essential project. The enhancements will reduce risks associated with extreme weather events, achieve regulatory compliance, and ensure the continued reliability of this water source for the Sunshine Coast region for years to come.

Early site establishment began in November 2024, with main construction activities scheduled to start in 2025.

Community engagement

We value the input of our community, and as part of our ongoing engagement efforts, we hosted four community information sessions in Cooroy and Pomona between January and February 2025. These drop-in sessions provided a platform for local residents, business owners, and stakeholders to connect with the project team, ask questions, and share their feedback.

To ensure broad awareness, these sessions were promoted through our January 2025 community newsletter, distributed in print, and shared via Seqwater's Facebook and LinkedIn pages.

A total of 47 community members attended, reinforcing the importance of maintaining open dialogue as we move into the construction phase. The sessions also complemented consultation led by the Office of the Coordinator-General.

Throughout the engagement, six key themes were identified:

Project information and updates

Many attendees had a general understanding of the project but were keen to learn more about specific details, including project scope and timeframes, and potential community impacts.

Those interested in staying informed were invited to sign up for project updates which will be developed and distributed throughout the project's duration.

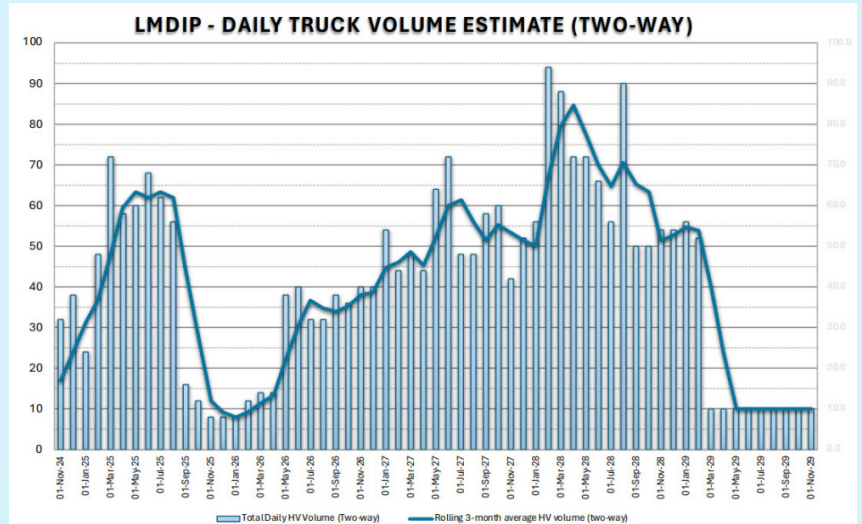
Speed reductions

Some attendees were interested in the possibility of extending speed reduction zones along Lake Macdonald Drive. The speed reductions under the construction program have been approved and set in the Traffic Management Plan (TMP). The project will continue monitoring vehicle speeds surrounding the site and remain responsive to safety concerns where possible.

Truck movements and traffic management

Truck movements were a key concern, given many attendees either live adjacent to the works along Lake Macdonald Drive, or along the haulage route from any of the four quarries where materials are being sourced for the project.

The graph on the right was presented to illustrate the expected fluctuations in vehicle activity throughout the project.



Quarry material sourcing

There was significant interest in the selection of quarries supplying materials for the project. We explained that each of the four quarries is necessary to provide different materials. We also acknowledged the existing relationships and concerns regarding some quarries and are working closely with these operators to mitigate potential community impacts.

Lake lowering

The community expressed interest in how the temporary lowering of the lake will affect aquatic fauna, recreation and local water supply.

To support transparency, we shared a visual representation of the lake at 42% capacity.

Additionally, field surveys conducted in late 2024 assessed the presence of protected species and important habitats. The results of this analysis will guide our next steps.

Work opportunities

Several community members enquired about potential work opportunities with the project.

John Holland representatives were on hand to discuss qualifications, experience, and job openings. Interested attendees had the opportunity to provide their details for inclusion in John Holland's contractor register.

The timeline for the project was of interest as some activities requiring specific qualifications would only be required during certain project phases, and it was important for these attendees to understand the prospect and timeframe for possible employment.

Next Steps

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who participated in the community information sessions. We are committed to ensuring that this feedback is incorporated into project development, where possible. Feedback will also be used in conjunction with further investigations to support the planning of the project.



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