

Fact sheet Baroon Pocket Dam



Baroon Pocket Dam

Seqwater's Baroon Pocket Dam (Lake Baroon) is where a large portion of Sunshine Coast's drinking water is stored, prior to treatment.

The water from Lake Baroon follows the water journey of source, store, treat and supply. This fact sheet will explain the key features of Baroon Pocket Dam.

Source

Baroon Pocket Dam is located in the Sunshine Coast Hinterland, north of Maleny, in Sunshine Coast Regional Council area.

Water supply

Baroon Pocket Dam stores water for supply for the Sunshine Coast area.

The dam was built upstream from Obi Obi Creek, north of Maleny and south of Montville. Obi Obi Creek is a significant tributary of the iconic Mary River.



Key facts

Name	Baroon Pocket Dam (Lake Baroon)
Watercourse	Obi Obi Creek
Location	Upstream of Maleny
Catchment area	67 square kilometres
Length of dam wall	370 metres
Year completed	1989
Type of construction	Central core rock fill embankment
Spillway gates	Ungated
Full supply capacity	61,000 megalitres
Flood mitigation	N/A

The Lake Baroon catchment has three major sub catchments;

- Obi Obi Creek
- Bridge Creek
- Walkers Creek

The entire catchment area encompasses 7,430 hectares (74.3 square kilometres) consisting of urban, rural, residential and agricultural land.

The construction of Lake Baroon, when added to the existing water supply from other parts of South East Queensland, is expected to meet water demand for the Sunshine Coast area well into the future.

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Dam infrastructure features

Baroon Pocket Dam consists of a central core rock fill embankment with an ungated spillway. Many properties were acquired to accommodate the dam.

Flood mitigation

As Baroon Pocket Dam is a water supply dam only, it does not have a flood storage compartment or gates to control the release of water.

Once the dam's full supply level is reached, water begins to flow over the dam wall, down the spillway. The spillway of the dam is at a lower height than the dam embankment so that water can flow over the spillway and safely out of the dam.

All un-gated dams help mitigate flooding to some extent. This is because the peak flow from an un-gated dam during a flood event is always less than the peak flow that would have occurred had the dam not been built, because some water is held back in the dam while it is spilling.

For more information

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Key features of three major dams

	Wivenhoe Dam	North Pine Dam	Hinze Dam
Catchment area (km ²)	5,554.0	348.0	207.0
Capacity – water supply (ML)	1,165,000	215,000	310,730
Capacity – flood storage (ML)	1,967,000	N/A	N/A
Type of structure and volume (m ³)	Embankment 4 million, Concrete 140,000	Embankment 275,000 Concrete 175,000	Embankment central core earth and rockfill
Year of completion	1985	1976	1976
Length of wall (m)	2300	1375	1850
Spillway gates (m)	Gated (5, 12.0 x 16.6)	Gated (5, 12.2 x 8.3)	Ungated
Sluice gates (m)	N/A	Yes – 5 (12.2 x 8.3)	N/A
Regulator valves (m)	Yes – 2 (1.5 diameter)	Yes – 2 (1.4 diameter)	N/A
Average rainfall (mm/year)	940	1175	1354
Hydroelectric station	Yes – 4.5 megawatts	No	No
Major water supply customers	Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan, Gold Coast, Beaudesert, Esk, Gatton, Laidley, Kilcoy and Nanango	Brisbane, Redcliffe, Pine Rivers, Caboolture and other parts of the Moreton Bay Regional Council	Gold Coast