

Lower South Esk Irrigation Scheme

Tranche One

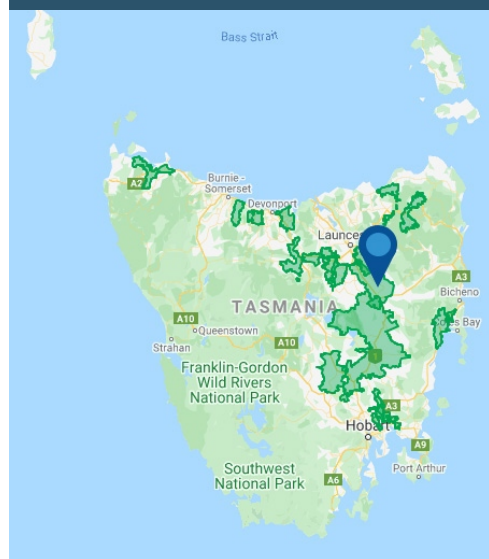
The Milford Dam is used to hold water extracted from the South Esk River in winter and then released to irrigators along the river in the summer when the river runs low

The Lower South Esk Irrigation Scheme commenced operations in October 2013 and services the Conara, Epping Forest, Evandale, Perth and Longford areas in Northern Tasmania. The majority of water in the Lower South Esk system is delivered through the South Esk River. A pump station located on the banks of the South Esk River extracts winter flows from the river and it is pumped via a transfer pipeline to be stored in the 6,000 ML Milford dam.

Releases from the dam are made via the transfer pipeline back to the river during each irrigation season. The scheme's Irrigators draw their water directly from the river further downstream. Water is harvested in the winter when the river is high and held until summer when the river is much lower.

Towns / area serviced	Principal primary production focus of scheme	Length of irrigation season
Conara, Epping Forest, Evandale, Perth and Longford	Cropping, pasture, poppies, potatoes, peas, onions and cereals	180-day summer delivery

1 KM of pipeline	1 Dams	1 Pump Stations	0 Power Stations
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Approval	February 2011
Construction started	March 2012
Operations commenced	October 2013
Capacity	5,298 ML
Cost	\$12.7 million
Number of irrigators	27
Forecast opening	November
Forecast closing	March
Daily flow rate	35.32 ML / day
Initial water sales cost	\$1,170 / ML
Percentage of entitlements sold	100%
ML available to buy	0

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[View scheme on website](#)