

Important information for South East Irrigators

Dear South East Irrigators, Happy New Year for 2022.

I am advising you that our South East Scheme Operators have recently been impacted by COVID-19. Both Operators are in isolation for the next seven days and possibly longer. Luckily, a majority of Stage Two and Three can be managed remotely. However, there are parts of our operations that require onsite, in the field work. At this stage, we have been able to resource this internally from other schemes.

If the COVID outbreak continues and more Tasmanian Irrigation Scheme Operators are required to isolate, we will need to reassess how we can manage our schemes.

Importantly, for you at this point in time, we are not contemplating any restrictions on irrigation supply. We will keep you up to date regarding water storage levels and our ongoing staffing arrangements as we work as hard as possible to minimise any potential disruptions. We are taking each day as it arises and optimistically avoid any outages from the lack of appropriately trained staff as opposed to lack of irrigation water.

In terms of our water supply from TasWater at Bryn-Estyn, there are no issues and our relationship and operational connectivity with TasWater has been excellent. Tasmanian Irrigation and TasWater have been holding weekly and bi weekly meetings with water operations and management to ensure we continue to supply irrigation water and to provide each of our organisations any foresight or concerns that may adversely affect the supply of water during the summer irrigation season.

Suffice to say, we have had no issues that should see a drop in supply. Tasmanian Irrigation has been managing and holding both Rekuna and Daisy Bank Dams as close to full as possible, which allows sufficient buffer and has enabled us to provide continuous reliable irrigation water to irrigators through the season so far. This is credit to Geoff and Anthony, who have kept a close, diligent eye on the demand profiles of Stages Two and Three each day.

Thank you again for your cooperation and I will provide further updates if the situation changes.

Kind Regards,
David Skipper
General Manager - Water Delivery