

Lake Buffalo spillway upgrade

Frequently asked questions

Goulburn-Murray Water (GMW) is upgrading Lake Buffalo's spillway gates to bring them in line with current Australian dam design and construction standards.

What does the upgrade involve?

The upgrade, which began last year, involves replacing all three existing flood gate lifting hoists and refurbishing the spillway gates.

The \$3 million project, funded by GMW, will strengthen the spillway gates and increase the structure's stability, ensuring the long-term reliable supply of water to our customers and the safety of downstream communities.

Last year, work was completed on Gate 1 of the spillway. This year, GMW expects to refurbish Gates 2 and 3 and complete the project.

In April these gates were removed with the gates and associated infrastructure to be re-installed in June.

Will there be any impact on local residents?

We are committed to minimising inconvenience and impact on residents and visitors.

To ensure the safety of road users and workers during the upgrade, we intend to partially close and fully close the section of Buffalo River Rd traversing the dam wall on the following dates*:

- Partial road closure (allowing single-lane traffic) continuing to **Sunday 28 May**.
- Full road closure from 8am to 4.30pm on **Monday 29 May to Thursday 1 June** inclusive. Alternative routes to bypass Lake Buffalo, depending on destination, include using Lake Buffalo Whitfield Rd, Carboor Rd and Long Corner Creek Rd.
- Partial road closure from 7.30am to 4.30pm on **Friday 2 June to Wednesday 14 June** inclusive.

**Inclement weather or other unforeseen events may result in late changes. Road users will be alerted via electronic traffic signage, the media, GMW's website and Facebook page and other means depending on circumstances.*

We expect some increase in traffic, particularly heavy vehicles, on roads near the lake during the upgrade. We advise drivers to take extra care when using these roads.

Will the lake need to be lowered?

Yes. To enable us to undertake the upgrade safely, we must keep the lake to at least 1m below the spillway's sill level during the works.

To achieve this, we have gradually drawn down the lake to about half of its full capacity.

Will there be any impact on water delivery?

The way we release water from the lake will remain unchanged during and after the upgrade.

We will continue to allocate water as usual and does not expect the upgrade works to impact on irrigation or urban water delivery.

Lake Buffalo's usual recreation activities at this time of year will continue. As always, we are advising recreational users to check weather conditions and water levels before heading out on the lake.

Will the lake still be able to capture water?

We have purposely timed the upgrade to have minimal impact on the lake's ability to capture water and we intend to replace spillway gates prior to the traditionally wet winter season.

The lake's storage capacity will remain unchanged.

Where can I get more information?

For more information about our Lake Buffalo upgrade, visit www.gmwater.com.au/lakebuffalo or contact our Customer Service Centre on 1800 013 357.

