

Motorbikes

Trail bike riding is permitted by licensed riders on open public roads above the lake full supply level. Trail bike riding is not permitted on the exposed areas of the shores or the lake bed or off road in the National Park.

Protection of Foreshore Vegetation

With lake levels now returning to areas where considerable vegetation re-growth has occurred, houseboat operators may experience some difficulty in accessing popular mooring areas around the lake. Boat owners are reminded that native vegetation is protected and must not be removed.

Dogs

When a dog is within a G-MW recreational area they must be:

- Under proper control on a leash;
- Effectively restrained from causing injury or annoyance to people, damage or interference to property and disturbance or injury to wildlife;

Dogs of a dangerous or restricted breed are prohibited from entering or remaining within a recreational area.

Parks Victoria remind all recreators that dogs are prohibited within all of Lake Eildon National Park including the boat ramps at Lakeside, Candlebark and Main ramp within the Fraser Block. The only exception is the Jerusalem Creek Camping Area.

On occasions, Predator Control programs will be underway within Lake Eildon National Park for the control of foxes and wild dogs. Notifications will be posted, however keeping your dog secure and out of National Parks will avoid that your pet does not inadvertently take a bait.

For further information on Predator Control Programs around Lake Eildon refer to the Parks Victoria website www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Powerlines warning

With Lake Eildon almost at full capacity and with overhead power lines in mind, please be reminded that a person must not leave or operate a boat that has a mast or aerial exceeding 12 metres above the water line.

G-MW wish you all a safe and memorable holiday break, don't forget to keep a good lookout while on the water.

For further information contact the Eildon office during office hours on (03) 5770 8100 or go to our website www.g-mwater.com.au/lakeeildon

An electronic copy of this newsletter is also available from the website.

Between Christmas and New Year staff will be available via phone (the Eildon office has an answering machine service) as the office may not be attended at all times.



contacts

G-MW can be contacted during normal business hours at any of its offices.

To report emergencies and urgent matters such as pollution incidents call our 24 hour emergency line: 1800 064 184.

All G-MW offices will remain open over the Christmas period except for public holidays.

Eildon Office

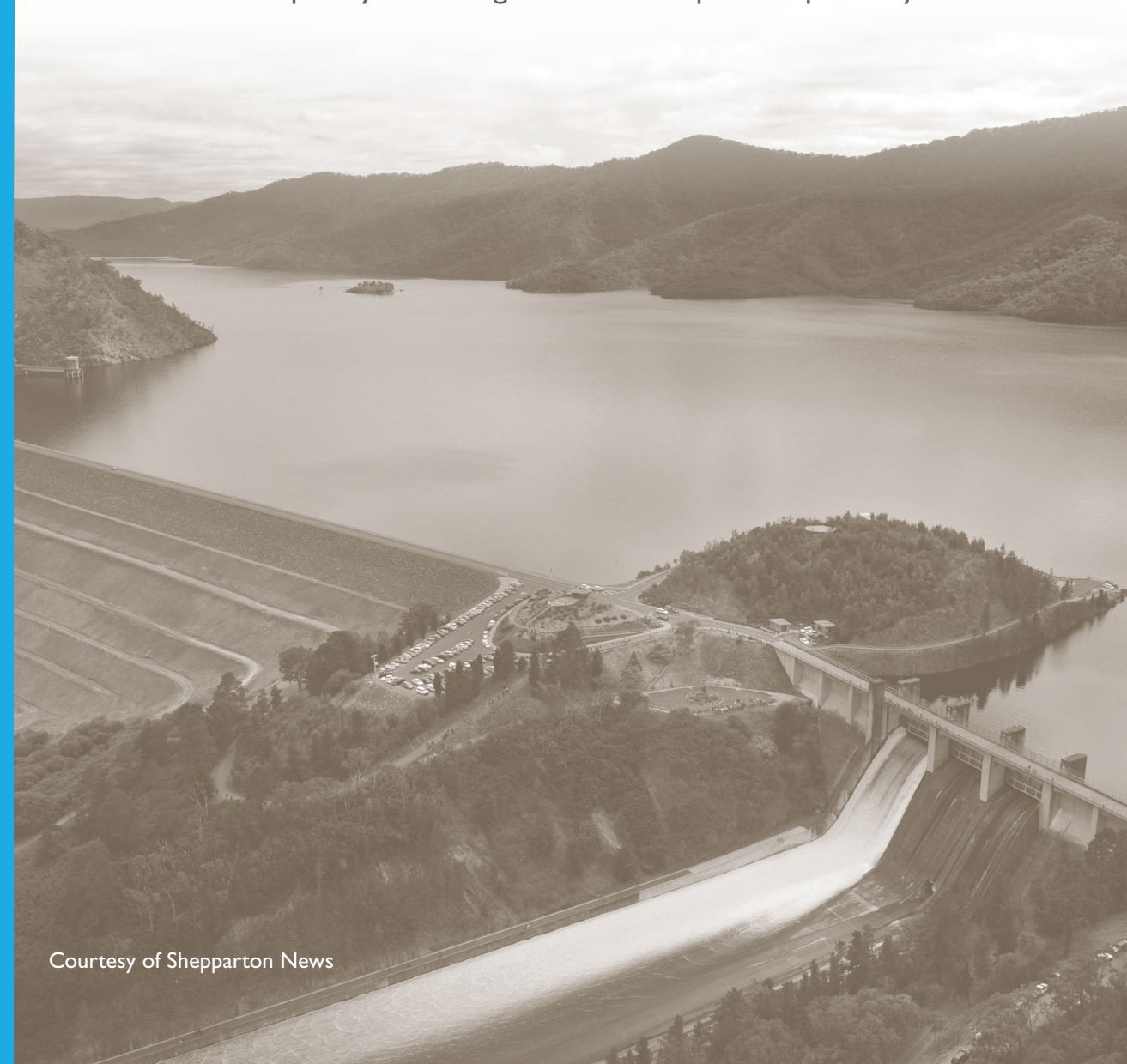
19 High Street, Eildon 3713
(03) 5770 8100

Lake Eildon

What a year it has been for Lake Eildon

Currently sitting at around 99% Eildon has enjoyed in excess of 90% capacity levels since spring – a great boost for the irrigators and agencies whose water it holds and for the tourism and recreational value Lake Eildon brings to the region.

Several hundred onlookers witnessed the testing of the spillway gates operating mechanism in October. The spillway gates were last operated in 1996 and with very low levels in the lake since then, it took until October this year to have the lake at the level it needed to be to completely test the gates – which operated perfectly.



Courtesy of Shepparton News

newsletter

Lake Eildon Land and On-Water Management Plan

The first stage of consultation activities for the Lake Eildon Land and On-Water Management Plan are now complete.

335 participants completed the online survey and over 180 people attended the community and agency meetings and information sessions. Thank you to everyone who has been involved in the consultation process so far.

Information is now being compiled and will form the basis of the Draft Plan that will be released in February 2012, when it will be available for public comment.

A second round of community consultation to discuss the draft plan will be scheduled from February 2012.

If you'd like to be updated with Land and On-Water Management Plans happening across G-MW water storages (including Lake Eildon) register your interest and receive the regular **e-storage update** newsletter by subscribing at www.g-mwater.com.au/storages

Effluent Barges

The Point Worner Mooring Head (new effluent barge) received its 'pre summer' major service prior to Melbourne Cup weekend. Unfortunately there have been several instances of bolts and other foreign matter being pumped out of holding tanks and causing damage to the pumps. Downtime of pumps will be greatly reduced if house boat users are vigilant in ensuring materials such as cloths, nuts and bolts are kept out of houseboat holding tanks.

Please follow the pump procedures as written on signage on the Mooring Head as this also prevents damage to the pumps.

G-MW is currently in the process of completing a design review for the replacement of the Jerusalem Creek Effluent barge and the "Ship to Shore" transfer of effluent and grey water via pipeline to the Eildon Treatment Station. The proposed upgrade has the potential to facilitate additional/oversize houseboat licenses by improving the Jerusalem Creek Effluent system. This upgrade will ensure greater numbers of vessels will be able to be pumped in a shorter time and stop the need for closing the barge while the effluent is transported to Point Worner (as is currently the case).

Water Police update

Water Police Operations are now underway at Lake Eildon and across the State. "Strike Teams" will be out in force concentrating on anti-social behavior. Unmarked patrols will target trouble areas or locations where a number of complaints have been received. A number of general duties police have also been trained and will undertake additional patrols. Transport Safety Victoria, Maritime Section will also have several safety officers on patrol. If you weren't aware, there is also a 5 knot speed limit within 50 metres of the shoreline for the whole perimeter of Lake Eildon.

Another speed limit which will come to attention is the 5 knots within 50 metres of other vessels.

Expect to see patrols targeting:

- Personal Floatation Devices – life jackets
- Speed of vessels within restricted zones. Zones are marked by yellow buoys and are all 5 knot (8 Km/ph) or in layman's terms a quick walking pace
- Passing of vessels too closely
- Boat license checks

Safe boating starts with you, the operator.

Water safety

G-MW's summer water safety campaign is underway.

Enjoy your break and respect our environment.

Look Safe, Play Safe, Stay Safe



FREE BOATING SAFETY SEMINAR

FIRES ON BOATS

Metropolitan Fire Brigade (Maritime Unit) and Transport Safety Victoria (Maritime Branch) will discuss preventing and responding to fires on boats. There will be a fire extinguisher demonstration (subject to conditions on the day) and a prize draw for an inflatable type 1 PFD (life jacket).

Enquiries to Transport Safety Victoria, 1800 223 022 or email marinesafety@transportsafety.vic.gov.au

Seminar 1
Eildon Boat Club
Thursday 12 January 2012, 2pm

Seminar 2
Port of Melbourne Training Centre
Lorimer Street, Port Melbourne
Wednesday 28 March 2012, 6.30pm



Water Plan 3

G-MW has begun planning for its next Water Plan which will be released next year.

Water Plan 3 will set the direction for G-MW pricing for the 3 years commencing 2013/14 by working with our customers and key stakeholders to develop our pricing structure and the service standards expected by our customers. Customers will be asked to participate in the new year through a range of feedback opportunities including surveys and forums, available from our website at www.g-mwater.com.au

Camping & Fires

A reminder that camping and fires are not permitted in any area around Lake Eildon, except in designated fireplaces in designated camping areas.

Boaters can utilise the boat based camps at Mountaineer Inlet, Coopers Point and Taylors Creek within the Lake Eildon National Park. Fires are allowed at Mountaineer Inlet and Taylors Creek only. Mooring within Collier Bay of the Fraser Block is restricted to the northern shoreline only. All rubbish is to be removed.

For more information about camping and where fires are permitted visit www.parkweb.vic.gov.au or phone 131 963.

On Total Fire Ban days all solid fuel campfires, portable gas appliances and kerosene lanterns are prohibited.

This includes all gas stoves, gas lights, and gas fridges (including use inside tents).

Visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au or phone Victorian Bushfire Information Line 1800 240 667.

