

Lake Cargelligo embankment upgrade

Project status

Initial work on the Lake Cargelligo embankment upgrade has been achieved, with prioritised activities to improve the safety of the C2 and C3 embankment structures complete. This work included earthworks, stabilisation and drainage and pipe installation at priority areas.

WaterNSW is now reviewing design and methodology improvement options, aimed at reducing cost, making the construction process more efficient, and identifying alternate supply and material options, before progressing to the next phase of the project.

Works are on hold while the project review is underway allowing the lake to increase from its current level of 75% to full capacity (100%) for the remainder of the irrigation season, benefitting WaterNSW customers and the local community.

Work on the next phase of construction, is expected to re-start later this year.

WaterNSW will keep the community and customers informed as soon as the review of the next phase of work is finalised, including completion timings.

When complete, the project will ensure embankment structures comply with modern engineering standards and continue to function effectively to meet current and future needs of the local community and WaterNSW customers.

Some work will continue during the review period including meeting our Aboriginal Cultural Heritage commitments and ongoing engagement with the projects' Registered Aboriginal Parties.

Visit www.waternsw.com.au/projects for more information.



February 2024

Frequently asked questions

What is the review looking at?

WaterNSW is reviewing design and methodology improvement options. The review will look at ways to reduce cost, make construction processes more efficient and identify alternate procurement and material options before progressing to the next phase of the project.

Any improvements identified will continue to deliver the objectives of the project: to ensure embankment structures comply with modern engineering standards and continue to function effectively to meet current and future needs of the local community and WaterNSW customers.

Are there any environmental impacts caused by pausing the work?

There are no additional environmental risks introduced by pausing the work. Existing controls will remain to manage the environmental risks on the project, including ongoing monitoring and the installation of floating containment barriers and meeting our commitments towards Aboriginal cultural heritage.

Will the embankments be secure and functional while work has paused?

Yes. The embankments remain functional, and work completed on the project so far provides additional controls to ensure the safety and security of the structures while work has paused. WaterNSW will continue to monitor the embankments.

How will the pause in work affect the operation of the lake?

During construction, the lake had been reduced to 75% capacity to enable safe access to all work areas. From mid-February 2024, the lake level will be allowed to re-fill to full capacity (100%), while work is paused (weather and tributary flows permitting). WaterNSW will be in direct contact regarding any operational impacts with those impacted.

Recreational users will continue to have full access to Lake Cargelligo.

What is the cost of the project?

The current budget for the project is \$40.1M, a substantial increase from the original estimate for the project. This has been caused by procurement challenges, inflationary factors, environmental and heritage constraints and accessibility challenges.



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More project information

For enquiries, please contact WaterNSW Community Engagement team on engagement@waternsw.com.au

Contact WaterNSW

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