



12 February 2016

A new year

Welcome to the first edition of the Recreation Review Newsletter for 2016! We hope you had a fantastic Christmas and New Year and were able to spend some quality time with loved ones.

We'll continue to update you throughout the year on the remaining recreation review outcomes, and changes at your favourite lakes and parks. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Twitter!

Lake Samsonvale trails

We've been talking to neighbours and local residents about our plans for the construction of a car park at the end of Postman's Track, Kobble Creek. The trails and car park are part of the Lake Samsonvale trails project that will see approximately 7km of existing maintenance tracks opened to the public for horse riding, walking, trail running and mountain biking.

Recently, the Moreton Bay Regional Council reviewed the Development Application for the car park and advised the approval for its construction will be upheld. In the coming weeks, our staff will survey the site in preparation for the work. We anticipate construction will commence in late April 2016 and run for about four weeks, subject to weather conditions.

If you would like more information about this project, please contact the Seqwater Community Relations team on 1800 771 497 or email communications@seqwater.com.au

Borumba Dam boat ramp on track for upgrade

Borumba Dam, located near Imbil, is particularly popular for fishing and skiing enthusiasts. Feedback during the Recreation Review was that an upgrade to the existing boat ramp would be a great improvement for access.

Establishing an additional access point isn't feasible, however we can advise that the existing boat ramp will be refurbished in the coming months. This will include expanding and transforming the current boat ramp, in line with current Australian Standards, which should make access to this lake a lot more enjoyable and easier.

Stay tuned for further updates!

Changes at Somerset Dam

In 2012-13, as part of ongoing monitoring, Seqwater commissioned an independent assessment of our 26 regulated dams. The assessment identified a program of improvement work needed to ensure our dams meet the required standards and the Queensland guidelines.

Somerset Dam will be upgraded as part of the Dam Improvement Program to ensure the dam meets national and state safety standards into the future. This will be the first upgrade since the dam was completed in 1959.

Until the scope is determined and works can begin, Somerset Dam will be lowered to 80% as a precautionary measure so the dam can continue to safely operate. The dam will remain lowered until an upgrade of Somerset Dam is completed. Recreation on Somerset Dam will still be available, however access at some sites may be affected. This includes the Westvale Road boat ramp. The ramp is currently closed to trailerable vessels due to the reduced water level. The launching of paddle craft, and shoreline fishing are currently permitted at the site.

Please exercise caution when recreating on Somerset Dam as the reduced water level may reveal previously submerged hazards. Don't forget to [Play it Safe](#) as conditions may have changed since your last visit.

Keep an eye on our [Recreation and Safety Notices](#) for any current closures.

Dogs at Lakes Moogerah and Maroon

Do you enjoy taking your pet pooch for an outing? Lake Moogerah and Lake Maroon have designated 'dogs on leash' areas.

These areas are Haigh Park at Lake Moogerah, located off Moogerah Connection Road and the Day Use Area, off Maroon Dam Road, Lake Maroon.

Dogs and other pets are not permitted at the Lake Moogerah Caravan Park or boat ramp areas.

For public safety, owners must take measures to control their pets. Dogs must be kept on a leash and under control at all times, and waste is to be collected and disposed of in the bins provided. Dogs are not permitted to enter the lakes due to potential impacts on water quality.

Little helper tackles water weed at Hinze Dam

A band of little helpers are successfully tackling a water weed infestation at Hinze Dam on the Gold Coast.

The *Salvinia molesta*, a free-floating aquatic fern poses a serious threat to our waterways. If left untreated, the weed could degrade water quality, inhibit water flow and interfere with irrigation and recreation.

Our biosecurity officers re-introduced the *Salvinia* weevil into Hinze Dam last year and are pleased to see this small black insect working its magic. The weevil works by tunnelling through the new growth buds, reducing the *Salvinia*'s ability to grow.

The weed is present within a handful of inflows in the upper reaches of the western arm of Hinze Dam. Fortunately, we've been able to contain the *Salvinia* within this area with floating weed booms, which restrict the dispersal of the weed.

We ask fishing enthusiasts, paddlers and other boaties do not cross the weed booms as this may spread the weed. The booms are an important part of keeping our lakes and waterways safe.

Planned burns starting soon

During the cooler months, Seqwater conducts planned burns around our dams, lakes and parks. This helps us manage fuel hazard levels, lower the risk of wildfires and improve biodiversity.

This year's planned burn season will start in the coming months and continue until August, depending on weather conditions. During this time, we may close trails and other recreation areas in the interest of public safety. If you are visiting an area during a planned burn, please follow the signs and directions of Seqwater personnel. Remain vigilant, as smoke can drift.

Please remember to check the [recreation and safety notices](#) on our website for information about upcoming planned burns and any changes to recreation when visiting our dams, lakes and parks. For more information about the 2016 planned burn program, email communications@seqwater.com.au or phone 1800 771 497.

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