

Department of Planning and Environment

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Increasing recreation opportunities at Prospect Reservoir

Public discussion paper

August 2023





Acknowledgement of Country

The Department of Planning and Environment acknowledges that it stands on Aboriginal land. We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land, and we show our respect for Elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.

Published by NSW Department of Planning and Environment

dpie.nsw.gov.au

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First published: August 2023

Department reference number: PUB23/826

More information

Acknowledgements

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Introduction

Water supply reservoirs are vital for meeting the drinking water demands of communities across New South Wales. Reservoirs are often surrounded by open space and bushland, which is usually done to protect these drinking water sources. Reservoirs can also provide recreational opportunities for the community. These opportunities are particularly valuable in areas with limited access to other open water bodies. Balancing the need to protect public health by supplying good quality drinking water with the provision of recreational access to reservoirs used as a drinking water source is a complex task and requires careful consideration of various factors.

Western Sydney is growing in population, housing, and jobs. As growth of the Western Parkland City continues, demand for recreation areas and water-based recreation opportunities will increase.

There is substantial demand in Western Sydney for more local swimming and recreation opportunities, with about half of local residents enjoying outdoor recreation involving water at least once a week. The largest barrier to accessibility is travel time.

The NSW Government has recognised that there is a lack of access to safe, open water for recreation in Western Sydney. Prospect Reservoir, a 520-hectare waterbody, and its surrounding lands offers an opportunity to improve this. However, opening the reservoir for increased recreational presents risks that must be managed, as the reservoir forms a critical part of Greater Sydney's water supply. Ensuring the city's drinking water supply remains safe and secure is a priority.

The Government is carrying out a feasibility study to identify the best way to increase recreation opportunities at the site, while protecting drinking water quality, cultural values, and the environment. The feasibility study will be informed by the feedback gathered through consultation on this discussion paper.

This discussion paper provides the public with the opportunity to share its view on the potential uses of Prospect Reservoir and surrounding lands. The paper describes the significance of the water body, options to consider for recreational use and the possible impacts of recreational activities on water quality, the environment and public safety in and around the water body.

Purpose of this discussion paper

This discussion paper provides everyone affected, including prospective recreational users and those in Greater Sydney who drink water sourced from the reservoir, with the chance to provide more feedback on the opportunities for recreation at the Prospect Reservoir.

Included in this paper is an overview of some of the recreational possibilities being considered for the area. We aim to understand how the area could be best managed to balance the opportunities for increased recreation whilst protecting Sydney's drinking water supply and the significant environmental and cultural values of the area. There is also a need to consider and ensure public health and safety is protected for each recreational option.

We want to know how you currently use the area and how you would like to use it in the future. Understanding what is important to you will help shape the options considered in the feasibility study.

The study will explore a collection of options for improved access in and around Prospect Reservoir for community recreation. It is worth noting that:

- options that have little to no impact on water quality will be easier to achieve
- options that involve human contact directly with the water in the reservoir are more complex and will need to consider the potential risks to the quality of the water within the reservoir and the risk to Greater Sydney's water supply
- experience indicates some options are not viable and are outlined below as being out of scope.

Your feedback will contribute to the final outcomes around the use of Prospect Reservoir and its surrounding lands.

Figure 1. Prospect Reservoir featuring the submerged pumping station (source: WaterNSW)



Background

What we have heard so far about what is important to people to access water based recreation in Sydney

The 2018 Greater Sydney Outdoor Survey, conducted by Department of Planning and Environment found that:

- Sydneysiders consider access to water very important
- Sydneysiders would like to see more opportunities for swimming and water-based activity less than 30 minutes from their home
- access to waterways for recreation varies significantly across Greater Sydney
- swimming in natural areas is increasing in popularity
- there is an increased demand for access points to water for activities such as kayaking and paddle boarding.

A 2019 Risk Assessment of Recreational Fishing in Sydney Water Supply Dams found that there is high demand for recreational fishing in water supply bodies like dams and reservoirs. The Sydney region has the greatest number of people who fish in the state and there is a lack of accessible fishing locations in Western Sydney.

Sydney Water developed the Urban Plunge team to help make swimming and water recreation opportunities available across the city. A pop-up swim site was established at Prospect Reservoir for 40 days over the summer of 2022/23 (Figure 2).

While the pop-up swimming site was operating, people who visited were asked how they would like to use the area in the future and their interest in swimming options in nearby waterways.

More than 2,300 people visited the site over the 40 days, and 756 surveys were completed. Most people said they enjoyed the convenience of the swim site and 98% were interested in more swimming and recreation opportunities in local waterways. The survey also found that there was a low level of awareness in the community about Prospect Reservoir – with many people incorrectly thinking the whole area is closed.

Other opportunities that were raised during the pop-up swim site consultation included:

- water experiences
- cultural experiences
- food and hospitality experiences
- natural recreational experiences.

We would like to explore these ideas further and are looking forward to hearing more from you about the recreation opportunities you would like to see at Prospect Reservoir.

Figure 2. Sydney Water Urban Plunge Pop-up Swim site (source: Sydney Water)



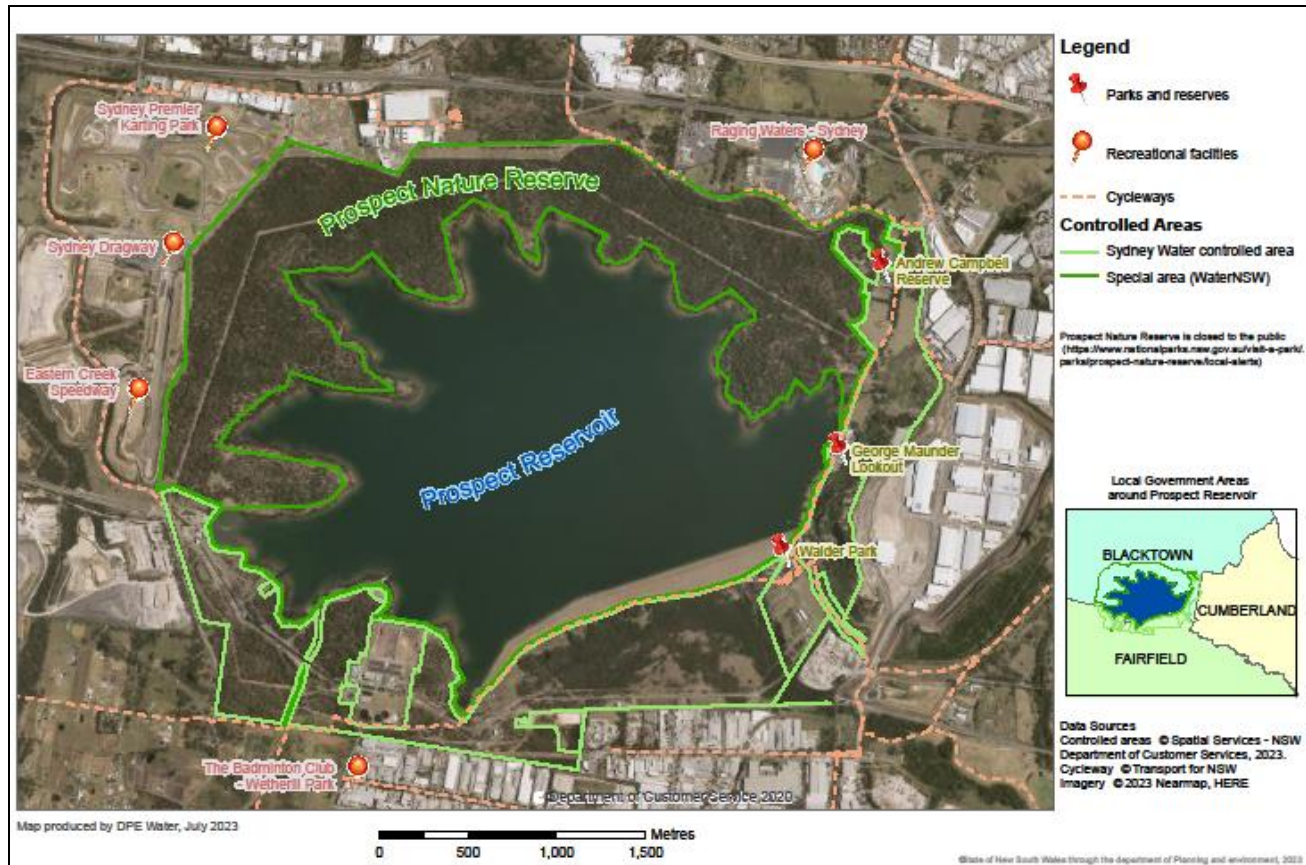
Prospect Reservoir significance

Prospect Reservoir and Nature Reserve are within the Western Sydney Parklands and encompass parts of Blacktown City and Fairfield City local government areas. The area includes a 520-hectare water body of around 50 GL in capacity surrounded by 325 hectares of Prospect Nature Reserve (the Nature Reserve) and 20 hectares of recreational area.

Prospect Reservoir is listed on the New South Wales State Heritage Register for possessing uncommon, rare or endangered aspects of the cultural or natural history of New South Wales.

The map at Figure 3 shows the key features at Prospect Reservoir and Nature Reserve that need to be considered as part of this discussion.

Figure 3. Prospect Reservoir and Nature Reserve location map and key features



Maintaining critical water supply for Greater Sydney residents

The Prospect Reservoir forms a critical part of Sydney's water supply system.

It has three main functions:

- It is used as one of three main supplies for Prospect Water Filtration Plant which supplies 80% of Greater Sydney's drinking water, to around 4 million customers.
- It is used to blend raw water quality from other sources to assist in treatment at Prospect Water Filtration Plant.
- It is used as a critical emergency backup storage for Greater Sydney if supply from Warragamba Dam and the Upper Canal were to be lost.

The reservoir has been in constant use to help maintain Greater Sydney's high level of drinking water quality over the past three years, as bushfires and floods have impacted the quality of water sourced from Warragamba Dam. At times it has been the sole source of water to Prospect Water Filtration Plant and is expected to be needed more in the future, as Sydney's population grows and our climate changes.

Prospect Water Filtration Plant is one of the largest drinking water filtration plants in the world and has a treatment capacity of 3,000 megalitres (ML) a day. The protected catchments in Sydney mean the water quality is already very good, so the plant does not need to use high levels of treatment. This means high quality drinking water is produced at relatively low cost and relatively low energy consumption compared to plants that treat water that have more human activity in the catchment. However, there are times when raw water quality supplied from Warragamba is difficult to treat and raw water from Prospect is required,

The extent of the Prospect supply system is shown in Figure 4, stretching from Palm Beach in the north, south to Sutherland and west to Liverpool, Blacktown and the northwest. As the city grows more customers will connect to the water distribution systems supplied by the water filtration plant.

Figure 4. The extent of the Prospect Water Supply System (source: Sydney Water)



WaterNSW, Sydney Water and NSW Health are responsible for providing safe drinking water, under the *Public Health Act 2010*, *Water NSW Act 2014* and *Sydney Water Act 1994*.

Planning controls for the Sydney drinking water catchment require that any development in the drinking water catchment must have a *neutral* or *beneficial effect* on water quality.

Prospect Reservoir and surrounding lands are listed as a 'Special Area' under the *Water NSW Act 2014*. This is to protect its role as part of Sydney's water supply. Special Areas are those regarded as important for preserving water quality for drinking water sources, and usually restrict public access. Any changes to allow recreation in the Special Areas requires an act of Parliament.

There is currently no public access to Prospect Nature Reserve. For this to change it would require an amendment to the Plan of Management. A nature reserve is also limited to what recreation could be made available – so only passive activities like walking on existing tracks.

Aboriginal significance and cultural heritage

The Darug people are the traditional custodians of the area. The Nature Reserve, including the Eastern Creek Landscape, is an important part of Country for the Darug people. The land is situated within the boundaries of the Deerubbin Local Aboriginal Land Council and includes significant sites.

The site of the reservoir and surrounds has a long history of Aboriginal occupation and is a highly significant cultural location. It was a strategic meeting place for tribes across a wide area because of the access to water and the height of the land. There is a sadness associated with the site due to significant quarrying of Prospect Hill (Marrong), located in the suburb of Pemulwuy. The Aboriginal resistance led by Pemulwuy and the meeting at Prospect Hill was the location of the first recorded act of reconciliation between Aboriginal people and Europeans and marked the beginning of the long road to reconciliation.

All public open space in NSW is 'on Country', and protecting and managing water is a custodial, intergenerational responsibility for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. In this preliminary phase of planning work, it is important to consider Country in terms of collaboration and engagement with the local community.

By incorporating the knowledge and practices of Aboriginal communities, public open spaces can pay respect to the land and provide opportunities for learning and connection to the history and culture of the place.

The NSW Government is committed to open and transparent engagement with Aboriginal people in the area regarding this initiative ensuring free prior and informed consent.

European historical significance

The site has significant European heritage, and the reservoir itself and some of the surrounds are heritage listed. Constructed between 1882 and 1888, to provide safe protected water for Sydney, it includes functioning colonial-era infrastructure, and heritage-listed pumping stations (Figure 5). Colonial archaeological remains are also present. Any alterations to Prospect Reservoir, certain

landscape elements and structures, including pumping stations, would require approval from the NSW Heritage Council under section 60 of the *Heritage Act 1977*.

Figure 5. Prospect Reservoir: Outlet Tower – this brick control tower has all the old machinery from 1888 used to supply water to the whole of Sydney.



Conservation area of Cumberland Plain Woodland

The Nature Reserve contains one of the largest remaining remnants of Cumberland Plain Woodland and has a significant role in the conservation of regional biodiversity for Western Sydney.

The area's Cumberland Plain Woodland is listed as a Critically Endangered Ecological Community under the *NSW Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016* and the *Commonwealth Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

The Nature Reserve is part of the National Parks estate and comprises the Prospect Special Area under the *Water NSW Act 2014*.

Current recreational access to Prospect Reservoir

The Prospect Reservoir waterbody is closed to public access due to safety and water quality concerns. Sydney Water manages picnic areas (Figure 6), walking tracks, cycleways and lookouts adjacent to Prospect Reservoir for the community to use and enjoy during set hours, subject to conditions of entry. The areas alongside William Lawson Drive, are usually open to the public:

- 6.00 am–6:30 pm during daylight savings
- 7.00 am–4:30 pm at all other times.

There are 3 picnic areas:

- Andrew Campbell Reserve

- George Maunder Reserve (upper and lower picnic areas)
- Walder Park.

All picnic areas have amenities and playground equipment, but there are no barbecue facilities, and no fires can be lit to reduce risks to the Reservoir’s water quality.

Figure 6. Existing picnic area and facilities – with Prospect Reservoir wall in the background.



Figure 7. Existing playground at Prospect Reservoir (Source: Sydney Water)



Overview of options

There are several recreational opportunities being considered for the reservoir, as well as activities that are not being considered, due to safety concerns and environmental and heritage impacts. Options are outlined below to provide an indication of the types of recreational opportunities that could be considered.

Options being considered

Expanding and upgrading the current recreation facilities: Improved parking, more seating and picnic areas near the waterbody, play equipment and toilet facilities and new infrastructure. Expanded opening hours could be possible by providing overhead lighting and CCTV. Ease of implementation is expected to be high, risk to water quality minimal, and costs low.

Extending walking and bike-riding tracks: There are currently some limited walking or cycling tracks. Improved access to bush areas may be possible but must be balanced with the need to protect sensitive environments, particularly the Critically Endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland Community. There is currently no public access to Prospect Nature Reserve. For this to change it would require an amendment to the Plan of Management. A nature reserve is also limited to what recreation could be made available – so only passive activities like walking on existing tracks.

Cultural and heritage experiences: The site has Aboriginal and European significance. There are currently some displays identifying European heritage, but there may be an opportunity to increase cultural experiences at the site.

Reuse of buildings on site: Existing facilities could be adapted for conferences, or tourist uses and commercial opportunities.

Viewing platforms and removal of some fencing: This could improve public access to the site.

Building offline pools or other aquatic facilities: A pool built close to, but physically separated from the reservoir that operates as a closed system (Figure 8). This will require infrastructure investment but will protect the drinking water supply by maintaining a barrier between the drinking water supply and the water recreation.

In-reservoir swimming: Allowing swimmers to bathe in a set area of the reservoir, in a potentially more manageable, contained space, for instance, marked out by a netted enclosure, a 'Moses bridge' or other infrastructure or physical barrier. To protect safety of drinking water, it is likely that significant investment in additional water treatment would be required to support this option.

Kayaking and non-motorised boating access to the reservoir: Providing users with access to the reservoir for recreation using non-motorised watercraft. To protect safety of drinking water, it is likely that significant investment in additional water treatment would be required to support this option.

Recreational fishing: Providing access to some or all the reservoir for recreational fishing, which may require fish stocking with native species.

Figure 8. Concept sketch of an offline swimming hole separate from the reservoir (source: Sydney Water)



What's not being considered

Access to the whole reservoir, including free swimming: As outlined in the paper, the area contains multiple constraints that limit where recreation can take place, to ensure critical infrastructure, public safety, drinking water and sensitive environments remain protected. Free swimming poses a safety risk for swimmers as the dam is very large and cannot be adequately patrolled.

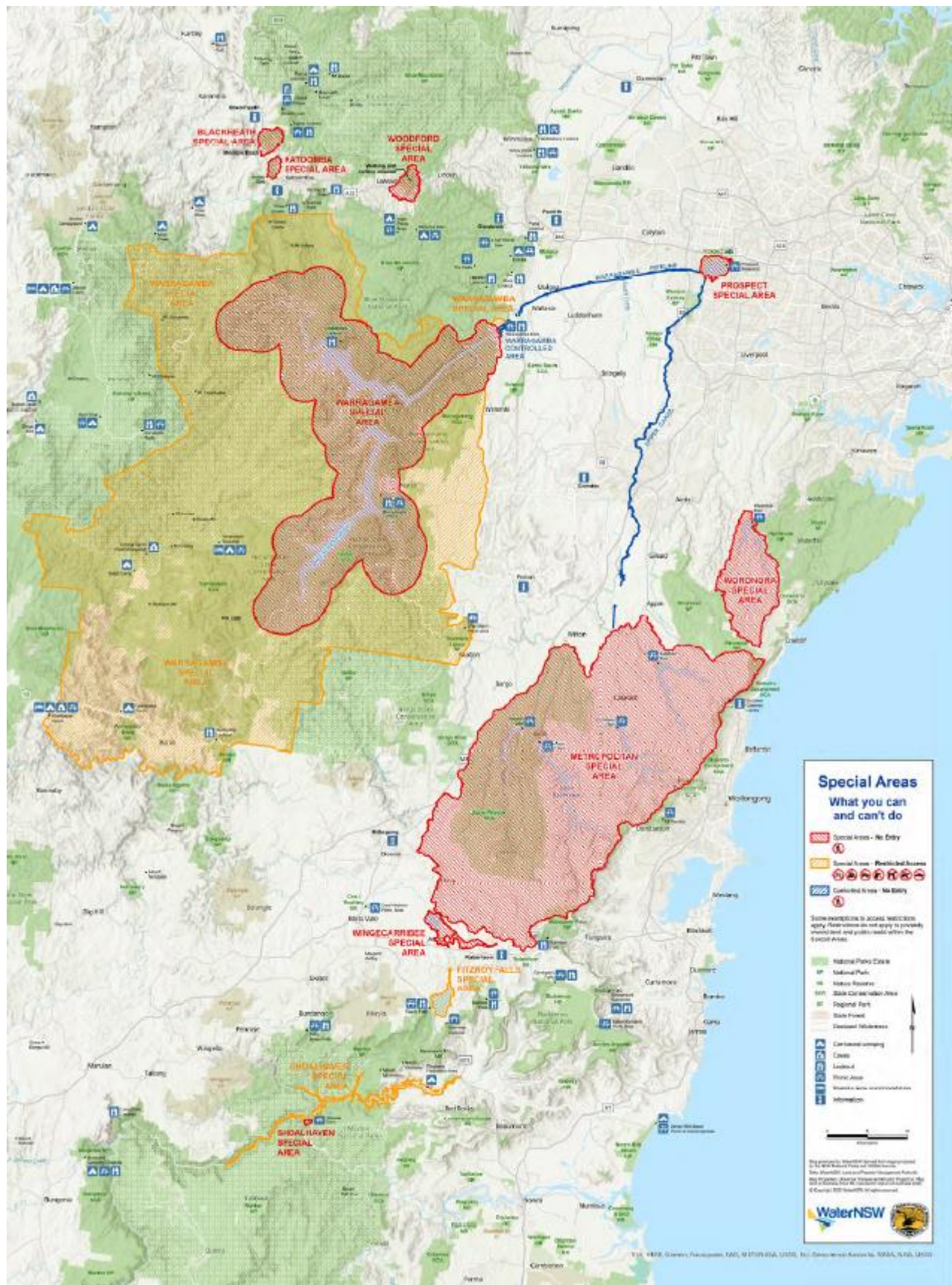
Motorboat access: Fuel-powered craft will not be allowed on the waterbody, due to water quality, and environmental concerns, this includes managing water safety for other types of access.

Fires: Fires present unacceptable danger due to the conservation value of the area, risk to the water supply, essential infrastructure assets and to neighbouring residential areas

How these options compare to other water bodies used for recreation

The best practice for protecting drinking water sources is to prevent human contact with the water using Special Areas (Figure 9).

Figure 9. Special Areas in Greater Sydney: Prospect is an area where no water access is allowed. Lake Yarrunga is one of the Special Areas allowing restricted access (source: WaterNSW)



The types of recreation permitted at other water supply reservoirs varies depending on local regulations, treatment plant capability and management plans. Other considerations may include the starting condition and size of the catchment or reservoir. Many major population centres in Australia rely on catchment protection and restricted access to deliver the most cost effective, sustainable and safe drinking water.

Where recreation is allowed, common activities include fishing (subject to licensing and catch limits), non-motorised boating (e.g., kayaking, canoeing, Figure 10), walking, bike riding and picnicking. Some reservoirs have designated areas for swimming. Where water based recreational activity is allowed, additional water treatment processes, including more sophisticated filtration and ultraviolet light disinfection, is required to ensure the water is safe to drink after human contact. In some cases, the reservoirs were removed from the drinking water supply to support recreation instead.

Figure 10. Example of water recreation activities (Source: Salty Dingo / DPE)



While it is unusual for recreation to be permitted on reservoirs in the Greater Sydney drinking water catchment, exceptions do occur when a site is designated a ‘restricted access’ Special Area; meaning limited access will be granted under certain conditions.

Lake Yarrunga is one example. Located on the Shoalhaven River, the site allows fishing, swimming and the use of unpowered watercraft in the reservoir, as well as land-based recreation.

Lake Yarrunga is part of the Shoalhaven system and provides drinking water to Shoalhaven Water. Water is released from Lake Yarrunga on request and travels along the Shoalhaven River through conservation and farming areas and is then pumped out into Bamarang Reservoir and treated with Ozone and UV at Bamarang Water Treatment Plant, which has a capacity of 75 ML/day. Water is

also supplied to the Southern Highlands region with water from Lake Yarrunga being pumped to Wingecarribee Reservoir and disinfected at Wingecarribee treatment plant.

During drought, the Shoalhaven System can be used to top up Sydney's drinking water supply. When Sydney's dam levels drop below 75%, water from Wingecarribee Reservoir can be released into the Wingecarribee River which later flows into the Wollondilly River and Warragamba Dam. Water can also be transferred to Sydney via pipelines that connect Wingecarribee Reservoir to the Nepean River which flows into the Nepean Dam. Although recreation is permitted in Lake Yarrunga it differs to Prospect Reservoir as there is a much greater distance between the water body and the water treatment plant. Dilution is also a factor, as it makes a very small proportion of Prospect system supply and is mixed with the water from the highly protected catchments.

Googong Dam, a water supply for Canberra, permits fishing, kayaking and allows land-based recreation only, while other main dams in the area are protected with no recreation access. Googong Water Treatment Plant has a capacity of 270 ML/day, much lower than the 3,000 ML/day capacity at Prospect Water Treatment Plant and has additional water treatment barriers.

Sugarloaf Reservoir in Melbourne allows sailing for a small number of sailing club members only and shoreline fishing. Sugarloaf Reservoir, surrounded by bushland, provides water to Winneke Water Treatment Plant which treats 330 ML/day. Other water supplies in Melbourne have highly protected catchments and therefore require minimal treatment.

Happy Valley Reservoir in South Australia has been recently opened for fishing and kayaking and other land-based recreation but not swimming. Happy Valley treatment plant has a capacity of 600 ML/day. To ensure drinking water quality was protected, even with increased human contact, the treatment plant was upgraded with ultra-violet disinfection treatment.

Hope Valley Reservoir in South Australia allows only land-based recreation and therefore has avoided the need to add secondary disinfection such as ultra-violet treatment. Both reservoirs have mixed land use catchments and therefore require higher treatment levels prior to allowing recreation to manage pesticide contamination and algal blooms.

South East Queensland Water offer a variety of recreation at some of their reservoirs however, they have complex treatment plants to maintain their drinking water quality.

Lake Samsonvale (North Pine Dam) in Queensland allows electric boating, sailing, kayaking, fishing and land-based recreation. The dam is surrounded by bushland and provides water to North Pine Water Treatment Plant, which is much smaller than Prospect Water Treatment Plant with a capacity of 250 ML/day.

Wivenhoe Dam in Queensland has similar recreation activities available but with swimming limited to designated areas. Water stored in Wivenhoe Dam is released to the Brisbane River where it is extracted downstream to be treated at Mt Crosby West Bank and Mt Crosby East Bank Water Treatment Plants. Together these treatment plants treat up to 1,000 ML/day, 50% of Brisbane's water supply, with water being disinfected with both chlorine and chloramine to protect water quality.

Table 1 shows an example of some of the recreation permitted at water supply reservoirs around Australia.

Table 1. Types of recreation permitted at various reservoirs around Australia.

Reservoir	State	Size (GL)	Picnics & BBQs	Bush walking	Cycling	Fishing	Kayaking	Sailing	Boating (electric only)	Swimming (designated areas only)
Googong Dam	NSW/ACT	121	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes			
Sugarloaf Reservoir	Vic	96	Yes	Yes		Yes (no live bait)		Yes		
Hope Valley Reservoir	SA	3G	Yes	Yes	Yes					
Happy Valley Reservoir	SA	12	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Lake Samsonvale	QLD	214	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Wivenhoe Dam	QLD	1165	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Key considerations for providing recreational access to Prospect Reservoir

In addition to understanding how you would most like to use the reservoir, there are several factors that need to be considered when deciding how the reservoir can be used including:

1. Maintaining the integrity, security, safety and quality of Sydney’s drinking water
2. Providing safe access for recreation while managing the operational needs of a complex working industrial site
3. Minimising environmental and cultural and heritage impacts
4. Cost of establishing and maintaining the infrastructure and facilities.

These are outlined in more detail below.

Figure 11. Views across Prospect Reservoir (Source: WaterNSW)



Maintaining the integrity, security, safety and quality of Sydney's drinking water

Protecting catchment areas by keeping them in a natural state and limiting public access reduces contamination of water. This means only simple, lower-cost treatment is required to ensure drinking water is safe. Unprotected water sources, or water sources with a higher level of human interaction, need a higher level of treatment to ensure drinking water safety.

Prospect Reservoir is a critical part of Sydney's water supply system and preventing human interaction with water is currently crucial to managing raw water quality to Prospect Water Filtration Plant.

Recreational access into the reservoir will introduce an additional risk to water quality that will require significant investment in additional water treatment to continue to meet the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and protect public health.

According to the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines (ADWG), the greatest risks to consumers of drinking water are disease causing microorganisms. Human contact at Prospect Reservoir from recreational use may result in harmful microorganisms being introduced.

To ensure the drinking water continues to be safe to drink, additional water treatment processes such as clarification and increased disinfection will be required.

WaterNSW, Sydney Water and NSW Health have a joint policy to evaluate requests for new or increased recreation access, which includes a detailed risk assessment. The need to protect

drinking water quality and reservoir infrastructure, such as the dam wall, treatment plant and inlet works, will likely mean that at least some areas of the reservoir will be off limits to the public.

The ADWG, which recommends the level of treatment required to ensure safety of drinking water, says that waters that allow recreational contact have the highest risk level classification (Category 4). Prospect system is currently assessed as Category 2 source (low-moderate risk).

As Prospect Reservoir is an operational storage area, restricted access to areas of the reservoir will need to be maintained until the feasibility assessment is undertaken and any additional infrastructure is in place.

There are precedents for upgrading reservoirs to safely allow public access. But due to the size of Prospect Water Filtration Plant, additional treatment barriers would require a significant investment and ongoing costs to run.

Providing safe access for recreation

A decision on how the reservoir can be used for recreation is subject to assessments being completed. These assessments are undertaken using tools such as swim site activation frameworks (see example below).

Assessments inform if and how a site is activated, including the design of necessary infrastructure elements to ensure safety of the users and the water supply. Regular testing and increased sampling of the water to monitor bacterial levels, pH, turbidity and chemical composition will be required to confirm the ongoing safety of recreational users. Ongoing water quality monitoring will be required if the reservoir is opened for swimming. Sydney Water can provide water quality monitoring and public reports through its Riverwatch program.

Example Swim Site Activation Framework

The Parramatta River Catchment Group (PRCG) has established a [Swim Site Activation Framework](#)¹ for the Parramatta River which outlines a process that can be followed in making decisions about the potential for activation and the type of activation that is possible for the reservoir. This is focused on assessing three key elements:

- **Feasibility:** An initial assessment to determine what type of activation is possible at different locations. Includes consideration of ecological restrictions, bathymetry (topography and water depth), water quality, access and scale of activation
- **Vulnerability:** More detailed analysis of water quality, potential contaminants in reservoir sediments, water clarity, physical hazards, foreshore characteristics, heritage considerations
- **Desirability:** considering elements such as access to the site, adjacent open space for land-based activities (including safety considerations), natural elements (trees and shading), supporting built form elements (e.g. amenities buildings), governance and funding arrangements and community demand.

¹ Parramatta River Swim Site Activation Framework (McGregor Coxall, 2018)

Minimising environmental and cultural heritage impacts

Respecting areas of cultural significance

Increased recreational activity in the area may provide an opportunity to share the significance of the site and support Aboriginal cultural practices.

The NSW Government is committed to open and transparent engagement with Aboriginal people in the area regarding this initiative ensuring free prior and informed consent.

There is some signage to identify historical features at the site, but there may be an opportunity to provide additional historic experiences at the site.

Minimising environmental impact

The Cumberland Plain Woodland, within the Nature Reserve is a Critically Endangered Habitat, so any recreational opportunities must be designed to continue its protection.

For this reason, motor sports have been discounted as recreational possibilities within the reserve area, and there needs to be an emphasis on avoiding sensitive areas and minimising land clearance or disturbance when considering walking and bike trails, or water access points.

Any proposed development plans will minimise infrastructure and the human footprint, integrate with the natural environment, and comply with energy and waste management plans and objectives.

Impact studies will consider how many people the site can safely and sustainably accommodate considering parking, waste management, and reducing energy expenditure.

Cost of establishing and maintaining the infrastructure and facilities

The existing picnic areas are currently free to use, however increasing recreation opportunities at Prospect Reservoir will come at a considerable cost, including building the facilities, ongoing maintenance and operation, staffing and potential water quality treatment upgrades.

Once you have told us the type of facilities that you would like to use and the activities you would like to do at Prospect Reservoir we will need to consider how much they will cost and how they can be funded.

Next steps

The NSW Government is committed to identifying options to provide recreation activity and facilities at Prospect Reservoir in, on and around the catchment.

We want to hear from you. We are now seeking further feedback from the public on increasing opportunities for recreation at Prospect Reservoir, including the Indigenous community, local residents and community and recreational groups.

You can share your feedback by [completing our online survey](https://water.nsw.gov.au/prospect-reservoir) at water.nsw.gov.au/prospect-reservoir. Feedback will be used to inform and support a feasibility study.

The Prospect Reservoir Recreation feasibility study will explore recreation activity within the Prospect Reservoir, identifying a range of options to recommend to government, including those that can be more readily implemented.

Thought starters

1. How often do you visit Prospect Reservoir, and what do you enjoy doing there?
2. If you don't presently visit the reservoir, what are the reasons for not doing so?
3. What do you think could be improved or added? What are your concerns?
4. What recreational activities would you like to be able to do around the edge of the Prospect Reservoir water body?
5. What activities would you like to do on the reservoir waterbody?
6. What kind of recreational activities or events would you like to see organised in the area?
7. Are there any additional suggestions or comments you would like to provide regarding better use of the public recreation area?
8. Would you have concerns with drinking water if it was sourced from Prospect Reservoir?