

Wyangala Dam Wall Raising Project

May 2021



Keeping van owners up to date

We understand Wyangala Dam is a retreat where people come to enjoy good company, great views beautiful surrounds. Whether you're a holidaymaker on your first visit or a van owner at Reflections Holiday Parks, we want to keep you informed about the Wyangala Dam Wall Raising project.

Background

In October 2019, the Prime Minister and NSW Premier announced the planning and delivery of three new or augmented dams in NSW. Included in this package was the raising of Wyangala Dam wall to improve water security, drought resilience and flood attenuation in the Lachlan Valley. The Wyangala Dam Wall Raising project is expected to create capacity for an additional 650 gigalitres – 53% more storage. The project will involve raising the dam wall to increase the Full Supply Level by 10 metres. The proposed Wyangala Dam Wall Raising is in the early planning stages. The final business case is scheduled to be submitted to government later this year.

Impact on van owners

Raising the Wyangala Dam wall to increase storage will impact some van owners at Reflections Holiday Parks, Wyangala Waters and Grabine Lakeside. Either their current sites will be inundated when the dam is full or their site may need to be relocated to allow for work such as road realignments.

Throughout 2021, the project team is finalising investigation and studies to inform the final design and plans for raising the dam wall, including work required at the two holiday parks. WaterNSW is continuing to work with Reflections Holiday Parks management team on the redesign of the parks and on impacts to van owners at both parks.

Frequently asked questions.

Will my van site be inundated from the increased storage level? Is my site going to be flooded?

We are continuing to do hydrology and flood modelling which will inform the inundation levels at the parks. The hydrology and flood modelling and inundation mapping is complex work, and it is critical that we get it right. This includes land surveying at the holiday parks and on other private properties to provide more detail on topography which will help inform our modelling. With this extra information, we will have confirmed inundation levels and can provide this to van owners in mid-2021.

What will happen if my site is in the flood zone? Can I move to a new location?

We're working with the Reflections Holiday Parks management team to progress design and planning approval documents for the new precincts within both Wyangala Waters and Grabine Lakeside. This work includes designing areas for van sites, amenity buildings and other support infrastructure. Once modelling and mapping confirms the inundation zones, we will notify van owners at Wyangala Waters and Grabine Lakeside if they are impacted. After we have completed the designs, we will work with Reflections Holiday Parks on allocations of sites for van owners who will need to move. At this time, we'll also be starting discussions with individual impacted van owners about (structural engineering condition reports and) relocation arrangements.

Can I move with friends?

We understand this is a key concern for some van owners. It is expected to be one of many factors considered as part of relocation planning. Moving with friends will depend on several factors including how many sites are in each precinct and the layout of these sites. This precinct work is underway and will continue throughout 2021.

Can I have the same set up in the new location?

Each van owner has a very individual set up at their current site so there is no one answer to this. It will depend on the size and make up of your current dwelling and the size of the new site you are allocated. Additionally, all new sites will need to be fully compliant with current regulations. This could mean, in some instances, that part of your current set up may not be able to be relocated. We will work directly with individual van owners on this matter.

Will everything be like for like in the new location?

Park amenities will be like for like, or better. All new sites will be able to connect to clean drinking water, electricity, and sewage. Additionally, all new sites will need to be fully compliant with current regulations. We will work directly with individual van owners to understand which parts of your dwelling can be relocated.

What arrangements will be made for relocation?

Some van owners have asked if their dwellings will be moved for them, or will they need to do it themselves. We don't want to presume that one option suits everyone, so this will be part of our discussion with each van owner. Some people may wish to move their van and set up while others may not.

How can early construction begin in 2021? Shouldn't our inundation levels be known before any construction starts?

The first stage of the project will be the building of a new water treatment plant to provide clean drinking water to the Wyangala Village and to the Wyangala Waters Holiday Park. The water treatment plant work is taking a different planning pathway to the main construction of the Wyangala Dam wall raising. It is considered a 'no regrets' project because it delivers a local benefit of clean drinking water for residents, van owners and holidaymakers.

WaterNSW recently appointed Enviropacific Services to build and commission the new plant. The new water treatment plant will be able to deliver an additional 800,000 litres of clean drinking water each day. Design work is underway, and construction is expected to start in 2021. This work is going through a different planning approval pathway (a development application and a Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Section 60) than the main construction of the dam wall.

We will have confirmed inundation levels and can provide this to van owners in mid-2021.

WaterNSW is preparing a Final Business Case and an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) which will be submitted for approval. Main construction for the raising of the Wyangala Dam wall will not start until all government approvals are received. If approved, the dam wall is expected to take about four years to build.

Will Wyangala Waters and Grabine Holiday Parks close during construction?

Both holidays parks will remain open throughout the project's construction work. Van owners and recreational users will have access to the dam and holiday park. There may at times, be some changes to amenities and access, but the project team will work closely with Reflections Holiday Parks management team to minimise impacts for holidaymakers and keep van owners and casual recreational users updated as the project progresses.

For more information visit:

www.waternsw.com.au/projects/new-dams-for-nsw/wyangala-dam

Keep in touch:

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