

Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project update

Public exhibition of the EIS

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) document for the proposed new Wilcannia weir is anticipated to go on Public Exhibition for community and stakeholders to provide their feedback in May 2022. The exhibition has been delayed from January 2022 to allow time to undertake additional engineering assessments and update the EIS based on community feedback.

In addition to outlining the proposed plan for the construction of the new weir, the EIS also outlines the findings from the environmental and cultural heritage assessments and the steps to be taken to avoid or reduce impacts during construction.

The EIS will be on display through the month of May 2022 at key locations in town. During the exhibition period, feedback can be submitted in writing, by sending an email submission, or by talking to one of our independent transcribers from the Department of Planning and Environment who will record what you want to say.

Your comments and suggestions on the EIS will be provided to the NSW and Australian Government agencies as part of their final review and assessment of the EIS.

A community session is scheduled for **Tuesday 5 April 2022** to address questions on the public exhibition and feedback process.

For more information and how to be involved in the public consultation visit dpi.e.nsw.gov.au/wilcannia-weir

Animation explains how the proposed new weir would work

To help support community understanding of the proposed project, an animation outlining ‘how the new weir will work’ is now available on the project webpage. We encourage community members to watch this video to see how it has been designed to maintain town water security, improve fish passage as well as manage downstream flows.



Image: ‘How the new weir would work’ video

Project timeline

	Early roadworks (Stage 1)	Dec 2021 to May 2022		Main work start	End 2022
	Project approvals	May 2022 to Nov 2022		Construction complete	End 2023
	Contract finalisation and award	Jul 2022 to Oct 2022			



Wilcannia Weir Replacement Project update

Stormwater mitigation work

The proposed new weir will be built 5 km downstream of the existing weir which means the existing raw water intake and the stormwater drain outlets will be located upstream and may discharge directly into the new weir pool.

To deliver the best possible outcome for the community, we are currently investigating solutions to reduce the impacts of the stormwater entering the weir pool. Engineering assessments are currently underway with the stormwater mitigation works planned for the end of 2022.

More details on this work will be provided in our next project update.

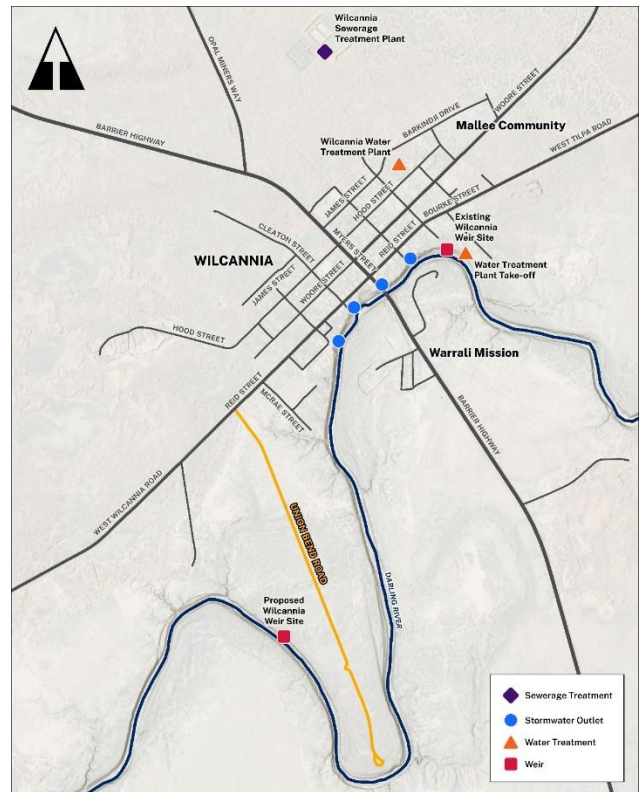


Image: Map of proposed stormwater works

Union Bend roadwork underway in December 2021

Early roadworks undertaken by Central Darling Shire Council to support construction access to the new weir site began in December 2021. Unfortunately, this work has been interrupted by the wet start to 2022. This work is set to resume in March or April depending on river heights.

Recent graduates from the TAFE NSW Certificate 1 and 2 in Construction course have been gaining on-the-job experience as part of these early works, including valuable experience in grading and road formation, toolbox meetings, water truck operation, machinery operation and Work, Health and Safety procedures. [A video of the roadwork](#) and how it is supporting employment in the region is now available on the project webpage.

Water Infrastructure NSW acknowledges and thanks Central Darling Shire Council, the subcontractors and community members involved in creating and supporting this employment opportunity. An extended thanks also to Brendon Adams and the team at REDIE, Owen Whyman, Michael Kennedy, Colleen Wilson and her daughters Grace and Bonni for their ongoing support during these works.

Images: Community members involved in the Union Bend roadwork



This project is delivered under the Murray–Darling Basin Plan by the NSW Government, and jointly funded through the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment and the NSW Government.