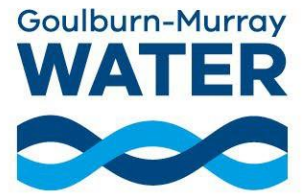


OFFICIAL



Loch Garry Flood Protection District

Revised Operating Rules

June 2023



OFFICIAL



Excellence



Honesty



Accountability



Courage



Caring

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Background

Situated at Bunbartha, the Loch Garry flood regulator is a 48 bay structure made up of 8" and 8.5" drop bars. It is operated to achieve the intent of the agreement (1925) between landholders and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission (now GMW), to allow the same proportion out of the lake as flowed into the lake prior to the inception of the levees once the Goulburn River rose to 10.36 on the gauge at Shepparton.

Event (above 10.36m but below 11.0m) Bar removal/replacement

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) forecasts the river level at the Shepparton Gauging Station 405204 will exceed 10.36m but will not exceed 11.0m the following operating rule will apply:

1. GMW will send out a notification to the Loch Garry Flood Protection District customers by SMS as soon practicable after the forecast is available to notify customers that bars will start to be removed 24 hours after the Shepparton gauge reaches 10.36m.
2. GMW will send out a notification to the Loch Garry Flood Protection District customers by SMS when the Shepparton gauge reaches 10.36m.
3. Bars will start to be removed 24 hours after this level has been reached in daylight hours (daylight hours post 24hrs)
4. The formula for bar removal is that 24 hours after the Shepparton gauge exceeds 10.36 m, 25 bars (based on 140mm bars) are removed for every 31mm rise. If the river continues to rise to 10.96 meters then all bars would be removed from the Loch 24 hours after this height was reached.
5. The replacement of bars is a reversal of this procedure.

Important:

- ❖ Bars are to be removed progressively across the structure so that the "crest" remains level across the structure.
- ❖ Bar removal and replacement can only occur during daylight hours. Any bars that are scheduled to be removed after sunset and before sunrise the following day will be removed prior to sunset. Sunrise and sunset are defined daily by the BoM

Shepparton Gauging Station 405204 can be view at www.bom.gov.au

1. VIC – Rainfall and River conditions
2. Zoom in to – Victoria
3. Zoom to – Goulburn Broken
4. River conditions
5. Goulburn River Shepparton

Large event (exceeds 11.0m)

Bar removal/replacement

When the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) forecasts the river level at the Shepparton Gauging Station 405204 will exceed 11.0m the following operating rule will apply:

1. GMW will send out a notification to the Loch Garry Flood Protection District customers by SMS as soon practicable after the forecast is available to notify customers that all bars will be removed on the day that the Shepparton gauge reaches 10.36m.
2. GMW will send out a notification to the Loch Garry Flood Protection District customers by SMS when the Shepparton gauge reaches 10.36m.
3. On the day that the Shepparton gauge reaches 10.36m, all bars will be removed during daylight hours.
4. The replacement of bars is the same procedure as for below 11.0m.

Important

- ❖ If levee banks are breached during an event then GMW will work with the Incident Control Centre (ICC) and GMW Emergency Management Team (EMT) to decide the most appropriate bar replacement strategy.

Shepparton Gauging Station 405204 can be viewed at:

www.bom.gov.au
VIC – Rainfall and River conditions
Zoom in to – Victoria
Zoom to – Goulburn Broken
River conditions
Goulburn River Shepparton

River heights are also available on the BoM website.

Notification to Customers

When operation of the Loch is required, there is a detailed notification process to be followed:

Media release and information updated on GMW website with the following message:

When the river height is to exceed 10.36 metres at Shepparton (the height at which bar removal begins) all landholders in the Loch Garry Flood Protection Area will be notified of the intention to remove bars.

If possible, they should be given some indication of how many bars are likely to be removed so customers can make their own plans for action.

A text message initially will be used and then un-contactable customers will be followed up by individual phone contact.

Contact list

It should be noted that the list of contact names and number for the Loch Garry Flood Protection Area should be kept up to date following change of ownership and is also checked annually.

Landholder notification – sample text alert message

An important part of the procedure is for GMW to notify all customers in advance of the intention to operate the structure. Past experience has shown that the details below are relevant to the customers to allow them to take action on their own properties.

This is an alert message from Goulburn-Murray Water (“GMW”) for the Loch Garry flood protection district customers.

*GMW will operate Loch Garry at **time/day/month**. (eg 9am Sat 8/10). Goulburn River has reached 10.36m at Shepparton when operating rules require its use. Go to www.gmwater.com.au for updates*

For further information regarding the flood, please refer to www.bom.gov.au.

In the interest of public safety do not visit the structure whilst in operation for your own safety and the safety of GMW staff.

If you have any questions or would like further information, please call 1800 013 357.

Landholder notification – sample GMW Website alert message

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL LOCH GARRY FLOOD PROTECTION DISTRICT CUSTOMERS

*GMW would like to alert all Loch Garry flood protection district customers that the Goulburn River height has exceeded 10.36 meters at Shepparton and GMW staff will commence operating the Loch Garry structure at **Time/Day/Date/Month** in accordance with the agreed operating procedure.*

Loch Garry offers protection to landholders in the lower Goulburn from minor to moderate flooding. GMW is obliged by law to pull bars on the Loch Garry structure when the Goulburn River reaches 10.36m at Shepparton. (approx 40,000ML/d)

Event (above 10.36m but below 11.0m)

GMW begins to remove bars using the following formula for bar removal. 24 hours after the Goulburn River Shepparton gauge exceeds 10.36 meters 25 bars are removed for every 31mm rise. If the river continues to rise to 10.96 meters then all bars would be removed from the Loch 24 hours after this height was reached. The replacement of bars is a reversal of this procedure.

Large event (exceeds 11.0m)

On the day that the Shepparton gauge reaches 10.36m, all bars will be removed during daylight hours. The replacement of bars is the same procedure as for below 11.0m.

River Heights are available on the Bureau of Meteorology web site www.bom.gov.au

If you have any questions or would like further information regarding this alert please contact Brendan Brooks or Luke Dunham of the GMW East Distribution Services (WDS Operations Area office in

Shepparton on telephone 1800 013 357.