



February 2021



Happy New Year....and a bit!

Our Commitment Stable Water Prices

Theodore Water is keenly watching the resolve of the National Farmers Federation (NFF) and the Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) to ensure Labor's state election promise of reduced water prices for agriculture is fulfilled. Further details of the commitment of the QFF is outlined in their statement from October 2020 <https://www.qff.org.au/media-releases/qff-welcomes-labor-water-price-announcement>. Whilst we hope this will eventually yield benefits for our channel irrigators, we are also pleased to note that, compared to the increasing water prices projected under SunWater ownership, Theodore Water has been able to keep the price of water provided by the scheme stable. In the most recent year the full cost of water charged irrigators was \$69.95/M (Fixed + usage – rebate). The price of water has been kept constant since transition. The SunWater cost was expected to increase by \$2/M plus 2.5%. The savings without the rebate amount to \$7.59/M.



Towards 2022....

Theodore Water has commenced a major modernisation of pumps and distribution systems with the appointment of Project Engineers and Managers – Dileigh. Dileigh undertook an initial consultation with allocation holders at a meeting in late January, offering irrigators opportunity to provide feedback and seek clarification. This feedback will be invaluable in assisting Dileigh and Theodore Water to ensure the modernised scheme will meet the current and future needs of Theodore's channel irrigation system. The next step in the process will be to seek suitable providers of pumps and equipment, service suppliers and contractors. The Theodore Water Board will be provided with these options at their next Board meeting at the end of March, after which it will provide a further update to the channel irrigation community. Whilst this project is currently in the planning stages, we are working towards having the new system fully operational in 2022. Coincidentally, this timing will tie in perfectly with the launch of Theodore's Centenary Celebrations and Theodore Water is looking forward to being a part of our community's commemorative activities. If you would like to know more about the planned modernisation activities or have any questions, please feel free to contact any of the local Theodore Water Irrigator Directors:

Peter French – 0428166634

Greg Austin – 0409931614

Kirk Anderson – 0429181079

Investing for Theodore Water's Future

Theodore Water's equity currently stands at \$16.5m. Managed investments have enabled Theodore Water to minimise the impact of reductions in investment interest rates, although it is anticipated that there will be increased future volatility in investment earnings based on market perceptions. The Theodore Water Directors will continue to closely monitor the strategic direction and performance of Theodore Water's investment portfolio to ensure returns are maximised.



Water Supply Arrangements

With an increasing focus on regular system maintenance, allocation holders are reminded that as part of Theodore Water's Scheme Distribution Rules, customers who require year-round supply should ensure they have access to on-property water storage for a minimum of one month to cater for their ongoing water requirements during interruptions. Customers will be provided with a minimum of one month's notice of planned interruptions (excluding unexpected interruptions or emergencies).

Water Access Calculations

Access conditions determine the time and rate of taking water in the channel system during periods where demand for water exceeds the system's capacity to deliver. (This can be due to Pump Station capacity or channel restrictions) Water demand will be supplied in accordance with customer's orders based on the amount of hectares each customer has to irrigate.

When demand for water is greater than the system capacity, water will be rationed according to the rations spreadsheet which is completed by Theodore Water and then communicated to the relevant customers. Failure to adhere to the rationed flow rate, impacts on other customers and is in breach of the allocation holder's contract.



Carry Over Explained

What is CarryOver?

Carryover enables customers to carry over unused available water at the end of a water year to become available in the next water year within the limits and subject to conditions and rules.

What is the Net available water (NAW)

The NAW is the water balance at the end of the water year after adjustment for the Scheme Cap rule (10%) and the subsequent reduction of the volume for the loss factor (20%).

Maximum volume of carryover

Maximum volume of carryover & storage losses

The maximum volume that can be carried over and the relevant losses to be applied for the scheme is 10% of total nominal allocation with a 5% loss allocation.

If the sum of the carryover volumes applied for exceed the cap, individual carryover volumes above 10% will be reduced proportionately.

Carryover cessation

The carryover arrangements for the water year cease:

1. On the 1 November or;
2. Upper Dawson WSS: When the overflow of Gylanda Weir commences. Overflow is defined as when the Gylanda Weir headwater gauge is 1cm above full supply level as a result of inflow to the weir.

Taken from https://www.sunwater.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Home/Customers/Forms/Application_Carryover_of_Announced_Allocation_-_Dawson_Valley_WSS_Customer_Form.pdf



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