

# Seqwater gated dams



## Dam release notification service

Seqwater operates three gated dams – Wivenhoe Dam, Somerset Dam and North Pine Dam. A gated dam is a dam that has been built to enable the operator of the dam to have some control over the release of water.

If you subscribe to notifications for a gated dam, you will receive notifications through your preferred channel (email, SMS or recorded message to landline) about potential and actual water releases from a gated dam. This may include information about the inundation of bridges and crossings downstream, where these impacts are known.

## Gated dam notifications

Water releases from gated dams are managed by skilled and experienced flood engineers. IN the event that such releases may be required, Seqwater will mobilise its Flood Operations Centre, which is staffed around the clock, until any releases cease.

Seqwater notifications are:

- **Notification #1** - Seqwater's Flood Operations Centre is on alert due to heavy rainfall in the catchments. Gate releases are possible from <insert gated dam name/s>. Updates will follow.
- **Notification #2** – Seqwater's Flood Operations Centre is <monitoring or expecting> dam inflows. Gate releases are possible from <insert gated dam name/s>. Updates will follow.

*Note: Depending on the weather event, Seqwater may move from alert (Notification 1) to mobilisation (Notification 3) of the Flood Operations Centre and therefore this notification (Notification 2) may not be issued.*

- **Notification #3** – Seqwater advises its Flood Operations Centre has been mobilised due to heavy rainfall in the catchments. Gate releases from < insert gated dam name/s > may start in a short time depending on inflows. Updates will follow.
- **Notification #4** – Controlled gate releases from <insert dam name> will begin at <time>. Take extra care downstream of the dam due to potential hazards to the safety of people and property. Hazards could include fast flowing or deep water near waterways and floodplains.

*Note: Expected impacts on bridges or crossings downstream will be included if known at this time.*

- **Notification #5** – Controlled gate releases from <insert gated dam name> began at <time>. Releases, combined with downstream catchment flows, could reach and exceed levels sufficient to inundate <insert bridge name>.

*Note: Impacts on specific bridges will be included if known at this time.*

Take extra care downstream of the dam due to potential hazards to the safety of people and property. Hazards could include fast flowing or deep water near waterways and floodplains.

- **Further notifications** – Updates on the gate releases in terms of impact on specific bridges / crossings may be issued depending on the severity and duration of the flood event.
- **Final notification** – Seqwater advises gate releases from <insert dam name> have ceased, and Seqwater’s Flood Operations Centre has demobilised.

## Use of the notification information

Floodwater releases from a gated dam are only one source of water contributing to flows in rivers or watercourses downstream of the dam.

In considering the information provided by the notification service, subscribers should be aware of other sources of potential flooding, including flows from catchments downstream of the dam, overland flows from adjoining or nearby land, localised flash flooding downstream of the dam, and stormwater system releases.

Our dam release notification service only provides information about the dams you select and does not provide information about any other potential sources of flooding.

The notification service does not provide information on river levels at gauges, or predictions about areas that may be inundated by flood waters in a flood event. Other sources of information include:

- details of road closures, inundation flood mapping and information about any evacuation arrangements - your local council and Local Disaster Management Group
- weather forecasts and information on changes in river levels at particular gauge locations - the Bureau of Meteorology
- emergency services warnings - Police and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services.