

CORURGAN

COMMENT

Circ. No 04 - 2025
April 2025



Don't you just love Autumn.

Welcome to the April 2025 Corurgan Comment.

Good rainfall across our entire irrigation district around the 21st March was very welcome. I recorded 52mm at the Corowa Pump site and another 10mm at the end of March. This rain certainly slowed down demand for irrigation water. Demand has increased back to 150ML per day this week as some Members water pastures. As always the river height will determine our ability to pump water after the end of April. I expect the MDBA will shut off Lake Hume as soon possible to save water for next season.

Water Tanker deliveries will be busy this month, please give the office a call to order a Water Tanker delivery.

Minimum 3 days notice is required, and deliveries are between Monday and Friday.

Please remember that Easter and Anzac Day are public holidays.

Year to date Water Pumped

July	- 0ML
August	- 3445ML
September	- 9049ML
October	- 5552ML
November	- 4548ML
December	- 7350ML
January	- 9510ML
February	- 8058ML
March	- 8408ML
YTD Total	- 55920ML

Current Dam Levels

Dartmouth Dam – 80%

Hume Dam – 25%

We have some Members looking to purchase temporary water, if you would like to make water available for other members to purchase, please give the office a call.

Please make sure you pay your Half Yearly fees and Monthly Usage accounts; interest will be charged on overdue accounts.

Peter Hamilton
General Manager

Office Administration

Invoices Due

The January half-yearly fees were due for payment on 28th February.

We still had a number not paid by 31st March. Interest has been charged on these outstanding invoices. So, I remind you to check your invoicing and to pay the January half-yearly fee invoices ASAP.

The current interest rate, as per Supreme Court Pre-Judgment Interest Rates is 8.35% and this will remain until 30.06.2025.



General Policy Booklet

Following the updating of our **Rules**, which came into effect on 1 March, Peter and I have been reviewing our DE & WE Policy Booklet, which we will present to Members for endorsement at the August 2025 AGM.

The Rules are largely taken from the Water Management Act with some clauses specific to WCPID, however, the DE & WE Policy Booklet is updated at Board level.

As part of the review, the DE & WE Policy Booklet is being renamed to the General Policy Booklet, as it covers more than just DE & WE's. It is a mini summary of a few key Rules and more localised operational requirements.

Both the **Rules** and the **General Policy Booklet** will make up **The RULES governing WCPID**.

Again, we will also be asking Gerard McCarthy, Solicitor, to review the General Policy Booklet, as he did for the Rules. The General Policy Booklet does not require a full-member vote as it is updating existing Policy, not adopting a complete set of new Rules.

Debbie

Reminder: WaterNSW Floodplain Management Plan – Information Meeting

As mentioned in our email to all Members, dated 27.03.2025, (copied again at the end of this Newsletter), WaterNSW will be holding an information session to help landholders understand what is required in order to comply with the Floodplain Management Plan and **the process to apply for a Flood Works Approval or Water Supply Works Approval** for their property, if required.

There will be an online information session and a face-to-face session.

The online meeting is to be held:

Date: **Wednesday 30th April**

Time: **10.00am**

Water NSW said it is going to send out a Flyer next week with the LINK to the online meeting and more details regarding the face-to-face meetings.

We will advise and provide the Link as soon as we have the information, but did want to at least provide the date to everyone ASAP.

The face-to-face meeting is now likely to be held in May (in Jerilderie) but is still to be confirmed.

Reporting to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

The BOM is developing a set of Water Markets Data Standards to which we will need to adhere to and report upon. The standards being develop provide the criteria required for all water trades (permanent and allocation) and the information to provide and the timelines to be met for which West Corurgan must adhere to.

The standards are scheduled to commence 1 July 2026.

Much of this information is already provided to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission on an annual basis, but greater transparency is now being sought for all trades. The concern is that the water market is open to manipulation, so greater scrutiny and accountability is the focus.

Following a zoom meeting held on Monday 7 April with many Irrigation Operators and the BOM, West Corugan will now have a one-on-one meeting with the BOM mid-May.

Water Transfers:

Things have been very busy concerning Allocation Water Trades. This year we have had to create two files for our Temporary Internal Trades and two files for our Temporary External Trades. Even the Permanent trade file is fat!

If you are thinking of buying, or selling, water feel free to contact the office first. Also, if you do buy or sell, **please sign and return the paperwork promptly.** Confirmation of the payment is also requested.

Condolences

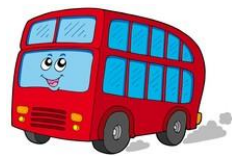
Robert F. Smith (154) – ‘Rilverside’

On behalf of the Directors and Staff of West Corugan Private Irrigation District we extend our sincere condolences to the family of Robert Smith on his passing.



The Wheels on the Bus go Round & Round, Round & Round, The Wheels on the Bus.....

The Directors driving trip around the district on 14 March was a success. It was a very hot day, but air conditioning and water kept them going. They had an opportunity to speak to Lawrence Simpson, Ian Playford and David & Bill Bott who are just three Members who are looking to expand and innovate, which is fantastic. They inspected a trial Slip Meter, located on Lateral 2. This Slip Meter is on James Nixon's property and has proven to be very easy to operate. The ability to maintain a constant flow rate and instantly see usage information is very helpful for James and the Channel Attendants. More great opportunities. The Daysdale pumps and an older walkway were also checked out. The 'excursion' finished at the pump site looking at how & where the planned new meters and telemetrics would be installed and where Essential Energy will be fitting a new transformer. A trial of an Aquamonix meter has been approved, with installation planned for July this year and if successful the other four pumps will be fitted by July 2026. The 2 new transformers are likely 15-months away.



The Board finished off with a late lunch at the pump site and were very grateful that Peter Hamilton was driving them back to the Berrigan office. I suspect there were a few who had a little nap behind their sunglasses!



Peter Bolt is a Grandfather!

One of your channel Attendants, Peter Bolt, is a grandfather for the first time, and he is rather chuffed about the whole thing. Or rather, he is chuffed about the baby, loves the hugs, but being called Pop or Grandpa is not going down so well. 😊
His little granddaughter is named, Zelena Nova.

LET'S BE HAPPY.....



*My good deed for the day,
Gave up my seat for an old lady
How was I supposed to know she'd never driven a bus before?*



COPIED FROM EMAIL SENT TO ALL MEMBERS - 27 MARCH 2025

WaterNSW information sessions on Floodplain Management approvals - for all WCPID landholders in the Murrumbidgee, Wangamong Creek and Billabong Creek area

Hello West Corurgan Members,

*The NSW Dept Climate Change Energy, Environment & Water have updated their Billabong Creek Floodplain Management Plan, which has not been widely advertised, but which will impact on West Corurgan members who are within the proposed Floodplain Management Plan.
Please note, it does include the Wangamong Creek.*

Both YACTAC and West Corurgan are concerned that DCCEEW modelling has largely been based on desktop design without on-site ground truthing and with only limited consultation with those who have lived in the area for generations.

After lobbying by YACTAC, Water NSW are now offering on-line and group meetings in Jerilderie. The exact dates are not known at this stage, but the on-line meeting is expected to be before Easter and the group face-to-face meeting after Easter.

It is anticipated the meetings will explain the process landholders will be required to undertake in order to receive a Works Approval for any on-farm works they have undertaken within the Floodplain Management Plan.

Please read the below email from YACTAC (Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council) inviting their members, and others, to register interest, so that a preferred date can be determined. West Corurgan strongly recommends individual landholders register their interest to attend a meeting.

If you have any further queries, please don't hesitate to contact Peter Hamilton – 0448 852 392.

Regards

Debbie Bell
Office Administrator
West Corugan Private Irrigation District
Ph: 03 58852392
E: info@corugan.com.au



From: Tanya Thompson - YACTAC <EO@yactac.org.au>
Sent: Monday, 24 March 2025 6:05 PM
To: Tanya Thompson - YACTAC <EO@yactac.org.au>
Subject: WaterNSW information sessions on Floodplain Management approvals - for all landholders in the Murrumbidgee and Billabong Creek area
Importance: High

Hi members

WaterNSW has offered two sessions (online and face to face) to assist WaterNSW customers to understand what is required to comply with Floodplain Management Plans.

Some members have registered their interest already.

If you would like to register your interest, then please complete the survey on the link below so we can suggest a preferred day and time to WaterNSW for both:

- An online information session, and
- A face-to-face session

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FH93C6Z>

The results will be provided to WaterNSW with the most popular day/time. Non-members are also invited to attend, so spread the word if you know of someone who is struggling to understand the new rules.

Kind regards

Tanya Thompson
Executive Officer
Mobile: **0408 833 801**
Email: eo@yactac.org.au
Website: YACTAC



Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council Inc.

Whilst the West Corugan Newsletter is primarily provided to keep Members informed of all water matters relating to the WCPID Scheme, you will note it also has a lighter side. It is this lighter side that should be read in the spirit for which it is intended and with 'tongue firmly planted in one's cheek'! 😊 Debbie