

CORURGAN COMMENT

Circ. No 10 – 2023
October 2023



Welcome to the October 2023 Corurgan Comment.

Irrigation water has been in high demand due to a dry September, however the winter crops throughout our district are generally looking and hanging on well considering the drier conditions. Peak daily pumping demand reached 354ML/day, with demand between 200 and 320ML/day for approximately 16 days during the second half of September.

As part of the Feasibility Study, we have installed a trial Rubicon 600mm Slip Meter at Andrew Hawkins', Clifton property. The meter will allow up to 30ML/day to go through the outlet. Andrew's new Irrigator will take about 15ML.

This new technology maintains a continuous set flow and allows West Corurgan to access and monitor the information from this outlet remotely. In fact, on the Saturday morning at 6am after the initial install, I logged in and could see that the upstream level had dropped 75mm, so I rang the on-duty Channel Attendant, Ben Kerr, to let him know what was happening out at this location. I then reduced the flow through Andrew's new Slip Meter from 12ML/day to 6ML/day by using my smart phone at home, with the gate on the Slip Meter responding within a minute.

Ben drove directly to Lateral 3D and pulled boards upstream to bring extra water down and quickly found that the 3D offtake, located on Auburn/Momalong Rd, was blocked. This blockage was causing the drop in upstream level at Andrew's outlet.

The water level was back to operational height by 12pm and I could restore the flow rate back to 12ML/day.

The ability to access this outlet's information remotely, from anywhere, demonstrates how we can identify problems and respond accordingly within a relatively short timeframe, resulting in better irrigation supply and ultimately better customer service.



Our current Dethridge wheels are becoming harder and harder to source and the meters that attach to them are no longer available.

West Corurgan will need to decide what future metering system we will use to replace these Dethridge wheels.

I will be away on annual leave for the month of October, please call the Berrigan Office for assistance with water related enquires.

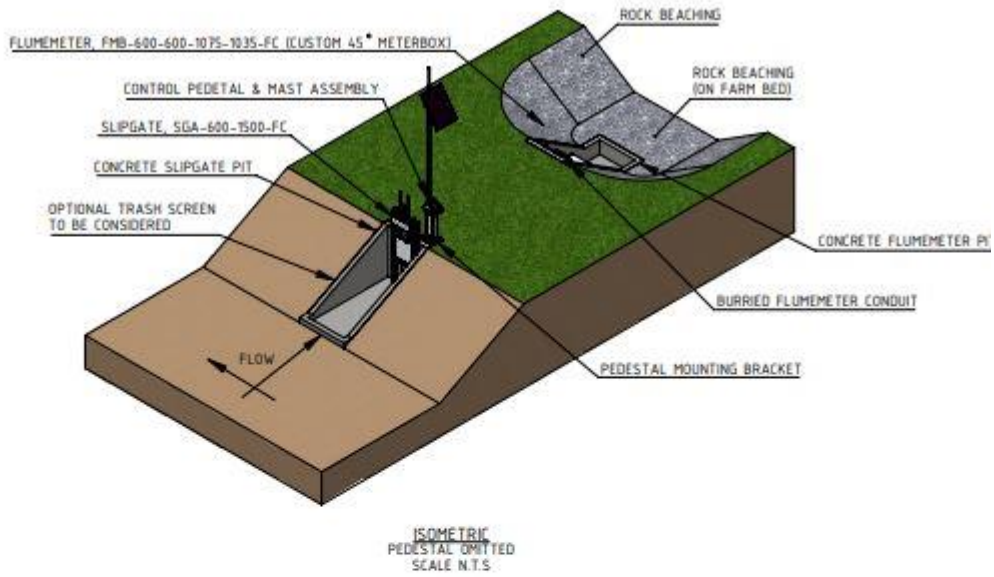
Water

September pumping – 6225ML

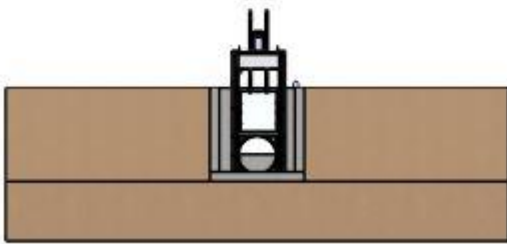
Year to Date – 8672ML (Including 2447ML of Supplementary Water)

Peter Hamilton
General Manager

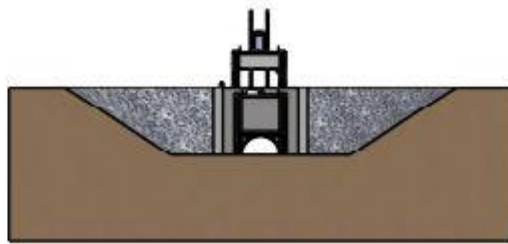
A Proposed Future Slip Meter Design (slightly different to Andrew Hawkins')



IMPORTANT NOTE:
 DETAILS SHOWN ARE FOR INFORMATION ONLY. NO STRUCTURAL OR STABILITY
 ANALYSIS HAS BEEN PERFORMED.



ELEVATION - UPSTREAM OF SLIPGATE
 PEDESTAL OMITTED
 SCALE 1 : 100



ELEVATION - DOWNSTREAM OF FLUMEMETER
 PEDESTAL OMITTED
 SCALE 1 : 100

Installation of Andrew Hawkins' trial Slip Meter



Everyone is very happy with the results so far.



Office Administration

Office

The office has been busy over the last 4-weeks, and no doubt will continue to be so as summer approaches and the Feasibility Study reaches its crescendo.

Apart from the normal invoicing, receipting, payroll, BAS, super etc. the office has had more water enquiries, and water trades; plus, meetings with the Feasibility Project Team, and providing additional information to them; reviewing our insurance premium and submitting an insurance claim and watering the lawn! 😊

Why an insurance claim you ask.

A: Because one of our utes met a kangaroo!

Do the right Thing!

Chemicals and our channels do not go well together.

If you need to mix your chemicals for spraying, do it away from the channel water, away from the channel bank, away from the toe of the channel. Just Away. Full stop!



Update: Accounts - Feasibility Study

During September we paid invoices totalling \$66,399.71 related to the Feasibility Study. As at 30.09.2023, the Feasibility money had paid invoices to the value of **\$1,290,268.69**.

Adrian has not provided a monthly update for the Corurgan Comment this month as two **Member Consultative Meetings** are scheduled for this week:

- **Tuesday 10th October – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – OAKLANDS BOWLING CLUB**
And
- **Thursday 12th October – 1.30pm to 3.30pm – SAVERNAKE HALL**

We invite everyone to attend.

Finally, as always, if individual members have any questions, comments, or concerns over the Feasibility Study, please feel free to contact Adrian in the first instance on 0447 778 515.

Information from the above meetings will be provided, but please make every effort to attend and offer your input. Debbie

BEN IS NOT HAPPY!



He and a kangaroo had a 'meeting of minds'.

No-one won!

Good news.

Ben is fine, the ute not so much, kangaroo definitely not so much!



Is that meant to be bent?!



YUK!
That is fur.



KIDS IN A LOLLIE SHOP.....

Peter and Tony went to Henty Field Day.

Talk about kids in a lollie shop.

They particularly wanted to check-out the drones and their application for channel chemical spraying.

They both came away quite impressed.

Pilot training and licencing would be required based on the size of drone they were looking at, but potentially a very viable option.

Still to be investigated.

It may be easier, and ultimately more cost efficient, to hire a contractor.

But full marks for thinking outside the square and wanting to use the latest technology.

Watch this space.....



A very pensive looking Peter.
You can almost see the cogs ticking over in his brain thinking how he could use that drone.



Peter may have been pensive, but Tony was looking to put that drone in the back of his ute!

Phew! Good thing they didn't take the credit card!



Whilst the West Corurgan 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