

## **Lower Burdekin Water Board Notice**

Staff and Directors at Lower Burdekin Water would like to thank outgoing Director Murray Cannavan for his valued leadership and direction during his 11 years of service. As a Director during the amalgamation of the North and South Burdekin Water Boards, Murray's lasting legacy will allow LBW to continue to move forward into the future.

### **LBW's calls for Director nominations**

As a result of Murray's resignation as a Director, Lower Burdekin Water called for nominations from ratepayers to fill the vacant position on the Board. Nominations opened on 14 May 2021 and closed on 28 May 2021. At the close, one nomination had been received. The Selection Committee is currently processing the nomination and further information regarding progress of the appointment process will be provided in due course.

### **Annual Shutdown**

Sunwater have advised they will be conducting their annual maintenance shutdown between **05/06/2021 until 19/06/2021**. This may affect the water supply to LBW's pumpstations, due to Sunwater ceasing to release water from the Burdekin Falls Dam and Clare Weir. Please be aware that open water may not be available to you during this time, and your irrigation schedules should be amended accordingly.

### **Open water irrigators on Plantation Creek and Sheepstation Creek**

There will be planned shutdowns occurring in August 2021 to complete fishway works. We anticipate Sheepstation Creek will be offline for 2 to 3 weeks and Plantation Creek will be offline for 1 to 2 weeks. Start dates have not been finalised as yet but Customers will be informed as soon as this information is available.

### **Crop Declarations & Cane Pay Deductions**

LBW ratepayers will soon receive Crop Declaration forms and Cane Pay Deduction forms.

#### **What are Crop Declarations?**

Completing and returning a Crop Declaration form will enable LBW to invoice you for the correct number of hectares you are irrigating for commercial gain. If there are changes to your crop area, please complete and return a Crop Declaration Form by the due date, or you will be invoiced in accordance to the production area information provided to LBW by Wilmar Sugar Australia Limited.

#### **What is a Cane Pay Deduction**

A Cane Pay Deduction form authorises Wilmar Sugar Australia Ltd to pay your LBW annual area rates invoice in three equal instalments to LBW, usually in October, November and December each year. If you do not have a Cane Pay Deduction in place you will receive your annual area rates invoice in September with interest accruing 30 days after the invoice issue date.

### **Itch Grass**

Burdekin Productivity Services have recently located new outbreaks of the pest known commonly as Itch Grass. Please click on the link to find a Sugar Research Australia Information Sheet on Itch Grass.

[https://sugarresearch.com.au/sugar\\_files//2017/02/IS13078-Itch-grass.pdf](https://sugarresearch.com.au/sugar_files//2017/02/IS13078-Itch-grass.pdf)

### **Shed Meetings**

All ratepayers are invited to attend a shed meeting on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at either of the locations below:

Northern Division – Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> July – 9am to 11am – Nevil Formilan's Shed, Burstalls Road, Ayr

Southern Division – Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July – 9am to 11am – Richard Wall's Shed, Bapty Road, Home Hill

### **Warrens Gully System Capacity Upgrade Project**

LBW will be submitting an expression of interest in the new round of the National Water Grid Authority Funding, for the Warrens Gully System Capacity Upgrade Project. This project involves the construction of a new river pumping station immediately upstream of the existing Warrens Gully pump station. The project also involves replacing a number of culverts and an existing inverted siphon within the Warrens Gully system. The project will increase the peak flow capacity within the entire Southern Division.

### **Irrigators Workplace Health and Safety obligations**

Just a quick reminder that as farm owners, you will be aware that you have obligations under the Workplace Health and Safety Act for your workplaces. This includes the land in and around your open water pump sites. Please ensure hazards at these areas have been properly identified and controlled. The ramifications should an accident/incident occur are very serious.

### **Rocks Pumpstation**

ABB in Australia has published a case study on LBW's Rocks Pumpstation energy efficiency project. The case study details how LBW and ABB achieved cost savings, lower energy consumption in operations, and realised long-term operational efficiency with ABB's ACS880 ultra-low harmonic variable speed drives (VSDs). You can access the case study here:

<https://new.abb.com/news/detail/78938/how-achieving-best-efficiency-point-in-pumping-delivered-cost-savings-for-lower-burdekin-water>

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