

# MANIOTOTO IRRIGATION SCHEME UPDATE



Welcome to the first edition of a collaborative update from the companies of the Maniototo Irrigation Scheme. With many of the same themes echoed throughout the whole scheme it made sense to pull together and keep all water users updated together.

These updates will be used to keep you informed of what is happening across the scheme, the work that MIC have underway, the changes at foot with central and local government and how this will affect water users, as well as provide reminders from time to time.



## Harvest Install

The Harvest install for the telemetry units are all but complete. A further meter is currently being installed at the Loganburn bridge which will enable more visibility for the racemen below the Loganburn users takes.

If you are still waiting on a Harvest login, please let us know so that I can contact them on your behalf.

*Photo: Loganburn Creek and Drew & Carolyn Dundass ' Loganburn Creek take.*



## Health & Safety

For the last two seasons the companies have combined H&S practices with great success. This move has enabled a seamless, efficient, and meaningful approach to H&S. Contractors and employees who work across the whole scheme are informed and well equipped to make sound and sensible decisions when working. If you come across any H&S or other concerns affecting the race corridor or company assets, please contact your raceman immediately. *Photo: Alastair cleaning the fish screens, following all H&S procedures correctly.*



## Upcoming R&M

Inspections are scheduled (start of May) at the Linnburn Gates and Linnburn Syphon. Brendan Sheehan (Civil & Dam Engineer) is overseeing this work.

The fish screen at the Loganburn Dam will be lifted, sandblasted, and painted at the end of the season. The need for this was identified during the last inspection. The PH level of the water in the catchment is high causing higher corrosion rates to steel structures.

- MIC directors are working towards replacement of the GM; with the aim of this position being filled by the start of the new financial year. Directors are acutely aware of the ongoing and increasing workload that is ahead for MIC to be prepared for the consent renewal process, as well as other central and local government policy changes in front of irrigators.
- The draft supply agreement has had further amendments made and will be circulated to the distribution boards for review within the month.
- MIC have engaged Susie McKeague and Matt Hickey to produce a plan for the company, enabling MIC to be prepared with strong technical information of the critical science facts that will drive decisions around the Land and Water Plan that ORC will notify in December 2023.
- The first piece of work MIC is carrying out in preparation for the Land and Water Plan is fish surveys upstream of the Paerau Weir with a particular focus on long fin eel populations. This work will help to inform MIC and Trust Power of the effectiveness or ineffectiveness of the eel passage at the Weir. This work is being carried out by Matt Hickey in collaboration with Tiaki Maniototo's Project Manager Morgan Trotter.
- MIC are in the process of transferring all maps to Resolution Farming, a user-friendly way for contractors and employees to keep and find records using GPS locations of all aspects of the scheme. Standard operational procedures will be easily available when on site by using the GPS search function.

### Reminder 1

#### Grazing Race Edges

Please remember to graze the race edges to ensure a safe working environment for the racemen and contractors. We also ask that you ensure that no cattle or deer have access to or are used for grazing races as this can cause damage to the race banks.

### Reminder 2

#### Rostered Water

If you are not wanting to be part of a roster due to wet weather or other reasons, please let your raceman know early to ensure they can give others sufficient notice for any roster changes.

#### Current Dam Level

923.92m (90.52% full)

#### Current Dam Release

4 cumecs being released currently

*Consented to release up to 8 cumecs, however full demand and residual flow generally requires no more than 5 cumecs.*