

IRRIGATION NEWS



Season Update

Contact with the Team over Winter

Now that the irrigation season has ended the team are back working Monday – Friday. Please contact the duty phone during working hours if you have any operational queries.



Our Team

If you have an urgent stock water concerns during the weekend you can call the duty phone. There will be a **\$300 (+ GST) call out fee** for all weekend callouts outside of the irrigation season.

Stored water

For the 19/20 season ALIL contracted a portion of stored water from BCI. We committed to 500l/s for up to 6 days and utilised the water over 3 days to offset the likelihood of restrictions.

Season Update

Farm Environment Plan Audits

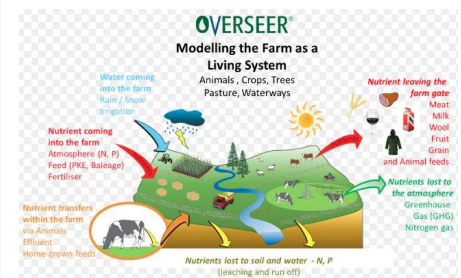
FEP Audits for this season are underway again; most of the larger blocks have been contacted and calls to the smaller blocks have started. We are looking to prioritise those that rear calves. If this is you, and you don't have a booking for your FEP update yet, please contact Sarah Hayman in the Enviro Team on 027 296 6444 or sarahh@irrigo.co.nz.

The audits delayed due to the Covid-19 response have now been rebooked. It is essential that we complete these to comply with our consent conditions.

Season Update

Nutrient Budgets

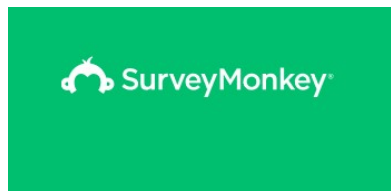
All shareholders who require a Nutrient Budget for this year have been contacted, and providers are working on the preparation of the budgets.



Those who need a nutrient budget for the year will also require an OverseerFM Account. The annual cost of these accounts will rise from \$200 - \$360 on 1 July. If you don't have an account, we can set this up for you, just give Sarah Hayman a call. Account fees not paid will be paid by the company and on-charged with an additional admin fee.

Shareholder Survey

Survey Feedback



Thank you for participating in the Survey Monkey survey. It has given us some valuable insight into what we do well and where we could make improvements.

The Good

As a scheme we met the expectations of 95% of the survey respondents, and on the whole feedback was positive.

Where we could do better?

Improvements are wanted in the following areas:

- Water ordering
- Communication
- Pressure delivery

Response to SurveyWater ordering

Concerns were raised about the water ordering on cell phones timing out. Rubicon, who manage our telemetry, have completed a fix and we have this issue next season. If you do have difficulty, please contact the duty phone and we will ensure we get this addressed.

There were also comments that the order page wasn't user friendly. A User Group for Rubicon in NZ has been set up to see how this can be improved.

Shareholder Survey

Response to Survey

Communication

We are creating more opportunities for face to face meetings with new to scheme trainings and shed meetings both scheduled for the start of the irrigation season.

Pressure Delivery

These concerns related to two discrete offtakes and we have addressed these matters with the shareholders in question. If you have any pressure issues, please contact us.

Stock water Supplies

We received applications to install stock water infrastructure at 38 offtakes.

Works have commenced on the installation. The picture above is of a stock water PRV prior to the lagging being applied.

Easements

A number of you will have received your easement documentation. Please look over it and arrange to have it signed and returned as soon as possible. If you wish to seek independent legal advice, we will contribute toward those costs, providing prior approval is sought from the scheme.

Training/ Meetings

N Reduction Tradeshow



New Manager Training

- Meet the ALIL Team
- Listen to a quick scheme overview
- Understand the water use and environmental requirements

Early September 2020

Shed Meeting - What are the Environmental Rules?

A series of smaller meetings to get an update on the Governments Freshwater Package and the schemes discharge consent.

October 2020

Save the Date

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 15 October 2020

Reforms for the Management of Freshwater

The Government recently announced changes to the RMA, a new National Policy Statement (NPS), and a new National Environmental Standard (NES) as part of a Freshwater package. These reforms look to put measures in place to improve water quality across the country. It will be the responsibility of the ECan to carry out the delivery of the package. While we know the intent of the changes, drafts of the documents are yet to be released.

Timeframe:

We expect to see the draft documents sometime in July, with the documents formally being put in place prior to the election.

The rules in the National Environmental Standard are proposed to 'hold the line' on environmental degradation and start to take effect this year, with some aspects coming in a little later.

The National Policy Statement will direct ECan to make changes in their Regional Plans. The required changes will need to be publicly notified by 2024, with an expectation that they will be in place by 2026.

The key reforms:

- All Farmers and growers will require an FEP, to be phased in over the next 5 years, this is in line with the actions we are already taking under our consent, so we don't expect this to significantly impact how we operate.
- Exclusion of cattle, pigs and deer from waterways (more than 1m wide) and wetlands identified in the regional plan. Those not already fenced will need to be fenced with a 3m setback within two years. Riparian planting requirements have been reduced from an average of 5m to a minimum of 3m. We do not have enough detail to understand if waterways include all waterbodies or just naturally occurring waterbodies.
- Consent will be required for winter forage crops of 50ha or 10% of the farm from the 2021 winter, whichever is larger. ALIL will seek to cover off winter forage crops in its consent application.
- No new national bottom line for Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen (DIN) in streams for now, this will be reviewed again in 12 months.
- The National Bottom Line for Nitrogen Toxicity will be reduced from 6.9mg/l to 2.4mg/l. Practically, the proposed DIN -nitrate standard has moved from 1 to 2.4mg/l. The government has indicated that this target can be achieved over a generation, but it will be down to the ECan to interpret and administer.
- Synthetic fertiliser use on pasture will have a cap of 190kgN/ha/yr, recorded from July 2021. Dairy farmers will be required to report their nitrogen fertiliser uses to the Regional Council from year end 2022, but reporting does not apply to other pastoral land use. The cap does not apply to arable or horticultural crops.

Message from the Enviro Team

ECan have recently provided guidance to our auditors on winter grazing. Your winter grazing methods will be covered off under the N loss, soils, and freshwater management sections of your FEP audit. Call us if you want to discuss this prior to your audit.

Maintenance

Leaky Pilots



There are a few property offtakes (POTs) in the scheme with a leak, resulting in the area around the POT becoming saturated. In most cases this is due to a leaky pilot valve.

We have identified those pilots that are leaking as part of our seasonal winterisation of the POTs. Once the POTs are recharged with water in the spring, we will have those which have been identified as leaking adjusted.

Adjustments on their own will not always fix the problem. One of the key causes of leaky pilots is on farm leaks. Ongoing changes in pressure from leaks can cause the pilot valve to continuously discharge. When you're completing your winter maintenance, please check for any on farm leaks that you may have.

General Business

Governance Training

Are you interested in the Governance of ALIL? The scheme has put a number of shareholders through their Governance training and continues to offer training to those shareholders who are interested in a future Governance role with the company.

Please contact Carmen Foster with your expression of interest by 30 September 2020 if you wish to be considered for training this year.

Air Valve Leaking

Let the team know if you have a leaky air valve on your property.

Snagging items of the main contract.

We have had an Engineer confirm that the pressures for Line 2 properties are achieving their target. If you're a shareholder on Line 2 and still have concerns about the pressure you receive please contact us with your feedback.

Share purchaser

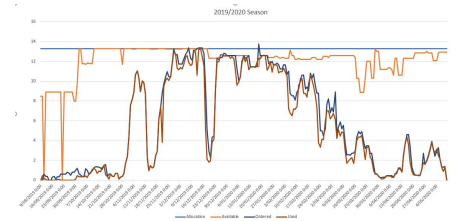
If you have spare shares you would like to sell, please contact John Doak on 0274 301113. He is interested in purchasing shares.

2019/2020 Season

Busy Season for water

The 2019/2020 Season was a high-water use season.

From RDR records, our water use in the 19/20 season was 114.42Mm³, in comparison we used 57.4Mm³ in the 18/19 season and 77.96Mm³ in the 17/18 season.



19/20 season

The 19/20 season bucked the normal trend of peaks and troughs with demand from late October through till the end of the season on 9 May.

Headwall Removal



The program for removing the headwalls on the redundant road culverts will continue in the coming year. Council approval is required for these works which involve the scheme covering off the necessary H&S and traffic management plans prior to works commencing.