



16 October 2020

## Media Release

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### **TasWater calls on Tasmanians to save water – even during La Nina conditions**

Spring may have brought incidents of heavy rainfall, but as summer approaches TasWater is encouraging Tasmanians to keep water conservation at the forefront.

Climate models are predicting changes in rainfall patterns across the state and increased evaporation, which makes managing water supplies more challenging.

TasWater Asset Strategy Manager Duncan Sinclair says conserving water is important all-year-round, even when the state is experiencing wet weather.

“Just because it is raining does not always mean that water supplies are increasing overall,” he said.

“Rainfall does help fill storages including dams and reservoirs but a significant proportion of it ends up either evaporating or turning into runoff, especially once they are full.”

This year, according to the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM), there has been a much drier than average winter for the North and West, while Hobart had its wettest winter on record.

“The BOM have recently announced the formation of La Nina conditions which typically result in higher than average rainfall of south eastern Australia during spring and early summer,” Mr Sinclair said.

“However, warmer than average temperatures are also forecasted which tend to increase demand on TasWater systems.”

“Coming into summer we will still need more ongoing rain in our run-of-river systems like Scamander,” Mr Sinclair said.

Despite increased rainfall in some parts of Tasmania and the favourable rainfall outlook, water conservation is still vitally important as water is a finite resource and drier than normal conditions will eventually return.

“We can save on water outside which can also help us better prepare for being water wise for drier times.”

“As individuals, industry, agriculture and communities, we can make a big difference in protecting our shared water by using it wisely all the time.”

TasWater also encourages Tasmanians who can to donate to Rural Business Tasmania’s Rural Relief Fund, which supports families devastated by bushfires and drought.

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