

MEDIA RELEASE

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Fancy a day at the lake? With new recreation areas, there's never been a better time to visit the iconic natural beauty of Lake Awoonga

With new picnic shelters, barbecues, more car parks and expanded waterfront access, there's never been a better time to visit Lake Awoonga.

Gladstone Area Water Board, the owner and operator of Lake Awoonga, has completed a six-month construction and maintenance program to refresh the recreational areas at Lake Awoonga.

Gladstone Area Water Board CEO Darren Barlow said the works were part of the 2020-2025 Lake Awoonga Recreation Strategy and deliver enhanced facilities for locals and visitors to enjoy.

"As we developed the strategy, it became clear the community wanted more waterfront access at Riverston Bay, so we have delivered," Mr Barlow said.

"The expansion has included the addition of new sandstone retaining walls which strengthen erosion control, while also creating more available space for the public to use."

The reopening of Riverston Bay coincides with an extensive maintenance program across all Lake Awoonga recreation areas.

"Painting and maintenance activities across all Lake Awoonga recreation areas are now complete," Mr Barlow said.

"We also upgraded the picnic shelters and barbecues, and there is new rubber matting at the Ironbark Gully playground which makes it safer for kids to play freely while the adults get the BBQ on.

"Lake Awoonga is already a terrific destination for locals and visitors to fish, swim, camp, or hike – now it's even better with enhanced facilities, free for everyone to use.

"The Lake Awoonga recreation areas are beloved by the Gladstone region, and we are proud to not only maintain but continuously improve the facilities for the community.

"Some of the areas were closed temporarily to ensure safe construction so we thank the community for their patience as we completed the work."

New car parks have also been added, which makes it even easier to access the facilities at Lake Awoonga.

Gladstone Area Water Board provides recreational facilities at Lake Awoonga for the community to enjoy for free, including boat ramps, picnic areas, barbecues, playgrounds and the Boynedale Bush Camp.

The Lake Awoonga Recreational Strategy and Master Plan is a \$7 million investment into the long-term upgrade and enhancement of Lake Awoonga and Boynedale Bush Camp recreational facilities.

The objective of this strategy is to encourage economic growth and increased visits to the Gladstone region through the upgrade, expansion and creation of facilities and visitor experiences at Lake Awoonga.

Gladstone Area Water Board, as a Queensland Government Bulk Water Supply Authority, delivers safe and reliable water services which promote economic development and enhances the lifestyle of regional Queensland. Gladstone Area Water Board owns and operates Awoonga Dam on the Boyne River, along with a network of delivery pipelines, water treatment plants and other bulk water distribution infrastructure.

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