



Welcome

Important Notices

Irrigation Season 2020-21

If you require assistance with water supply, environmental plans or account matters please don't hesitate to call us on 03 433-1201.

General News

Since our last newsletter, Covid MkI has passed and Covid MkII is upon us. As I write, we can only hope it is contained to the upper North Island and quickly dealt with. If it isn't, and the lockdown status level rises, we will, again, be confirmed as an essential industry and we will continue to run the business as normal. Be assured **we will keep the water flowing to your farm.**

Under Covid Mk1 we had to defer some non-essential work until this current financial year. That meant we underspent on our capital works programme. The Board resolved to rebate that underspend to you, our shareholders. That deferred work will now be done in this current year, but we are able to do this without increasing this year's charges. Keeping charges as consistent as possible is one of our goals.

An early alert that we will hold our Annual General Meeting at 7pm on Wed 21 October. A formal Notice of Meeting will be sent in due course, but I'd ask you to put this date in your calendar now – it's an important occasion for the company and its owners, you, to get together and share our thoughts on how we best continue to add value to your farming businesses.

The government has released the details on new regulations in the National Policy Statement for Freshwater, the National Environmental Standards and standards specific to Stock Exclusion. No doubt your sector organisations have summarised what these mean for you. You'll understand that we now need to incorporate these new regulations into the Farm Environment Plans. NOIC will always act in the best interests of its shareholders and a part of that is to ensure your environmental management plans are at least compliant with and, ideally, ahead of the current regulations. Keeping our reputation for leadership on environmental management will stand the company in good stead with our stakeholders and the regional councils who, in time, will be considering the renewal of our consents to take and to discharge water. To that end, please keep the environment front of mind with farm decisions and give us a shout if you ever need some advice or to bounce an idea off.

Shareholder Charges Unchanged for 2020/21

The 2020/21 Budget has been approved and through careful management of costs, we have been able to ensure there is no increase in Fixed Charges, which remain at \$660 per share.

Total Charges (Fixed + Supply) depend on the volume of water used but we predict these to average out the same as last year, at \$149 per share, meaning your Total Charges per share for the 20/21 season will remain at/about \$809.

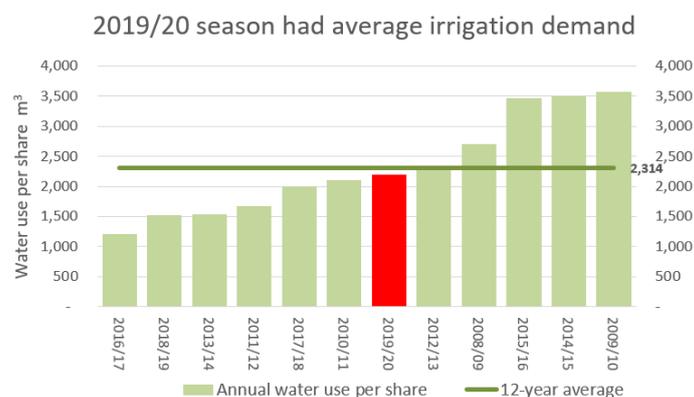
Break down and comparison of average NOIC charges

Charges per share (\$ gst excl.)	2019-20	2020-21	Change
Fixed Charges			
AOC - per month	24.00	24.00	-
AFC - per month	31.00	31.00	-
Total Fixed Charges	660.00	660.00	-
Supply Charges:			
Power cost (average use)	149.00	149.00	-
Total Supply per share	149.00	149.00	-
Total Charges	809.00	809.00	-

The AOC rebate for 2020/21 for unpressurised water shares on the Waiareka Creek remains at \$1.15 while the AFC rebate remains at \$5.95. Stock water charges, at \$0.15 per m³ during the winter season and \$0.30 per m³ during the irrigation season, are unchanged.

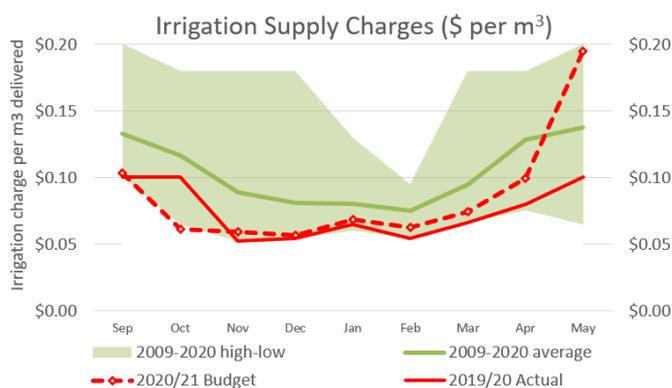
Water Use and Supply Charges

May 31st marked the end of the 2019/20 irrigation season. This season's overall demand was close to the long-run average while peak daily demand in the summer months **exceeded all earlier records.**



Supply Charges, at \$0.06 per m³ for the season, were well below average and among the lowest in NOIC's history. While monthly supply charges vary according the volume

demand, the budgeted average supply charge for the 2020-21 season remains the same at \$0.06 per m³.



Your Admin

Meter Readings – it looks like it will be an early start to the Irrigation season. For those who do irrigate in August **please remember the new cut-off date to have your readings in on time is the last day of the month.** Putting this simple task in your phone calendar for the 28th of every month will ensure you get a reminder and it will avoid having a NOIC operator coming out to read it for you....and avoiding that \$125+GST charge that comes with this! 😊

Please send in the reading, **along with your offtake number**, by any of the following methods:

- Logging in to the Shareholders' area of the website www.noic.co.nz/shareholders; or
- Texting - 027 815 2845; or
- Emailing - office@noic.co.nz; or
- Phoning - 03 433 1201

Early readings are welcome any time before the end of the month.

If you have not used any water, we still need to know this. Send your reading in as "Nil Used" and **remember to write in the offtake number.**

If you have any problems reading the meter or accessing the website, let the office know and the team will be glad to help.

Operations Update

Winter maintenance has progressed well over the last couple of months, but we still have a few things to complete before the irrigation season starts in earnest. It has been a dry winter and we know that some farms need a bit of water now. We are working towards getting irrigation water flowing earlier than the usual 1st September start but we are taking staggered approach to this, giving ourselves windows to complete those outstanding winter tasks. We will let you know as soon as water is available on your respective pipelines, but for your farm, please contact NOIC to coordinate a time for an operator to de-winterise your offtake.

Environmental Update

NOIC is focused on helping farmers improve irrigation efficiency across our scheme. Please BE SMART and

schedule your irrigation using INFORMATION. Think about your soil moisture deficit (mm), the soil temperature, how much grass (DM) production do you need now? Remember, not all soils are the same – some hold water better than others. The depth of soil on ridges will be less than in gullies so it can't hold as much and if you irrigate the tops with the same volume for the same time as the gullies you will get run off. Wasted water costs you MONEY. If you use good information, you will know how much to apply, when and where.

A couple of tips! Recognise the difference between 'field capacity' and 'saturated soils'. Watering to soil saturation is not ideal as it doesn't allow for any un-forecast rain events or irregularities with your irrigator, nor will it give you optimum grass growth. To enable good decisions, please consider using electronic soil moisture monitoring via a permanent probe in the most dominant soil type. You can also use a handheld probe and we encourage soil moisture budgets (see link below, once open click on **download template** under the heading 'Soil Moisture Monitoring') <https://www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/water-use/irrigation/irrigation-scheduling/>

When starting your irrigation up for the season it is a good idea to give it a 'once over', using the preseason maintenance checklists below. We recommend you file the checklists for your audit (click on the following links):

Centre pivots/ lateral:

https://www.irrigationnz.co.nz/PracticalResources/RiskAdvice/Attachment?Action=Download&Attachment_id=384

K-Line:

https://www.irrigationnz.co.nz/irrigation-consultant/Attachment?Action=Download&Attachment_id=385

Travelling Irrigators:

https://www.irrigationnz.co.nz/irrigators/irrigation-contract/Attachment?Action=Download&Attachment_id=386

NOIC Scholarship - 2020

The NOIC scholarship is offered to students who are continuing to tertiary studies in 2021 with a focus on Environmental studies. It is available to any student attending any school whose home is in North Otago. If you know of any students meeting this criteria, please contact the NOIC office for an application form or download it from the website www.noic.co.nz

Best wishes from the NOIC team

Shares Available

Shares to Lease

Brenda McLeod - 100-130 shares. Please call 027 513 1100

Kieran McNamara – 5 shares. Please call +61 4385 00117 or email kandkmac@yahoo.com.au

Shares for Sale

Vicki Hewson - 2 Shares. Please call 027 261 7242