Warragamba Dam

WaterNSW

Warragamba Dam and Lake Burragorang

- Warragamba Dam is Sydney's largest water supply dam.
- The dam is made of concrete and took 12 years to build from 1948 to 1960.
- Lake Burragorang, which is formed behind the dam, holds about four times more water than Sydney Harbour.
- It provides up to 80 percent of the available water supply for the Sydney region.
- Water that fills the lake drains from a catchment area of over 9000 square kilometres that stretches from south of Goulburn to north of Lithgow.
- Water from Warragamba Dam flows by gravity through twin pipelines to the Prospect Water Filtration Plant 27kms away.
- When the lake reaches 100 percent capacity after heavy rain, water is released automatically down the central drum gate and radial gates. This water flows down the Warragamba River into the Hawkesbury-Nepean River and eventually enters the sea at Broken Bay.
- An auxiliary spillway was completed in 2002 to protect the dam from extreme floods.

Warragamba Dam facts

Height:	142 metres
Length:	351 metres
Thickness at top:	8.5 metres
Thickness at base:	104 metres
Width of central spillway:	90 metres
Width of auxiliary spillway (at mouth):	190 metres
Length of auxiliary spillway:	700 metres

There is public access to Warragamba Dam wall on weekends and public holidays

Lake Burragorang facts

Total operating capacity (when full):	2,027,000 megalitres
Area:	75 square kilometres
Length of lake:	52 kilometres
Length of foreshores:	354 kilometres
Maximum depth of lake:	105 metres
Catchment area:	9,051 square kilometres
Average annual rainfall:	840 millimetres

The upper reaches of Lake Burragorang

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