

What is happening?

FLOODING POSSIBLE IN THE NORTHERN RIVERS AND MID NORTH COAST CATCHMENTS

MODERATE TO MAJOR FLOODING POSSIBLE IN THE WILSONS, RICHMOND AND CLARENCE RIVERS FROM SUNDAY

Flood warnings are current for the Wilsons, Richmond, and Clarence Rivers. Heavy rainfall is forecast from late Saturday into Sunday and Monday may cause renewed river rises with Moderate to Major flooding possible. This will impact communities including Lismore and Grafton.

A surface trough over southeast Queensland is forecast to deepen into a low-pressure system in response to a strong upper low Saturday night. This low is expected to track southward into north eastern New South Wales on Sunday producing heavy rainfall with embedded thunderstorms.

A Severe Weather Warning has been issued for the Northern Rivers and parts of Mid North Coast and Northern Tablelands Forecast District.

The weather system is expected to cause flooding for the catchments listed from late Saturday into Sunday. Flood classes (minor, moderate, major) are only defined for catchments where the Bureau provides a flood warning service.

What we are expecting:

Based on this prediction there is a 75% chance flooding developing in the following catchments:

Tweed and Rouse Rivers	minor to moderate flooding
Brunswick River and Marshalls Creek	minor flooding
Wilsons River	moderate to major flooding
Richmond River	moderate to major flooding
Clarence River	moderate to major flooding
Orara River	moderate to major flooding
Bellinger and Kalang Rivers	minor to moderate flooding
Nambucca River	minor to moderate flooding
Macleay River	minor flooding
Hastings River	minor flooding

Minor flood levels

Low-lying areas next to water courses are inundated. Minor roads may be closed and low-level bridges submerged. In urban areas inundation may affect some backyards and buildings below the floor level as well as bicycle and pedestrian paths. In rural areas removal of stock and equipment may be required.

Moderate flood levels

In addition to the above, the area of inundation is more substantial. Main traffic routes may be affected. Some buildings may be affected above the floor level. Evacuation of flood affected areas may be required. In rural areas removal of stock is required.

What you need to do:

People in areas likely to be impacted by flooding should consider:

- Refraining from driving or walking through flood water
- Road closures and flood isolation may impact on work, family and educational commitments
- Monitoring emergency warnings and severe weather updates on local ABC radio, NSW SES Facebook Page and Bureau of Meteorology website
- If your property is at risk of inundation, please raise moveable items, such as furniture, as high as possible onto benches or tables, placing electrical items on top
- If you are advised by an emergency services officer to evacuate, please do so
- Securing outside belongings and before leaving; turn off the power, water and take essential medicines and clothes with you
- Farmers should move machinery, livestock, pumps, and fodder to flood free ground

For emergency help in floods and storms, call the NSW State Emergency Service on 132 500. In life threatening situations call triple zero (000) immediately.

For more information:

- Listen to your local ABC radio station, follow the NSWSES on Facebook or www.ses.nsw.gov.au
- Latest Weather, Warnings, Rainfall and River heights: www.bom.gov.au/nsw/
- Road Closures: www.livetraffic.com.au or www.myroadinfo.com.au
- Rural animal and livestock assistance, contact Local Land Services

The next bulletin will be issued by SUNDAY 27 February 2022 at 2.30pm