

Menindee, Pooncarrie and Burtundy flooding Do not enter floodwater Watch and Act



Issued: Monday 14 Nov 2022 5:45 pm

Next update: Wednesday 16 Nov 5:00 pm or as the situation changes

The NSW SES advises people in the following area(s) **NOT TO ENTER FLOODWATER** due to predicted widespread minor to major flooding:

- Menindee and surrounds
- Pooncarie and surrounds
- Burtundy and surrounds

You should monitor the situation as it is constantly changing. Avoid floodwater for your safety.

## What are we expecting?

The Bureau of Meteorology advises tha rainfall over recent weeks and months has caused prolonged flooding along the Barwon and Darling Rivers with flood peaks flowing into the Barwon-Darling River System from multiple tributaries.

Moderate flooding is likely to continue at Menindee over the coming weeks, with river levels likely to reach near 9.60 metres late this week.

River levels are likely to remain steady around this level through to the end of November and during December.

The situation is being closely monitored and predictions will continue to be revised as required and as upstream peaks are observed.

#### MENINDEE

Moderate flooding is occurring along the Darling River at Menindee.

The Darling River at Menindee Town is likely to reach 9.60 metres by around 18 November, with moderate flooding. Further rises are possible.

The river level is currently 9.48 metres and steady.

The following areas may be impacted by flooding:

• A separate "Prepare to Evacuate" warning has been issued for low lying properties along the Darling River at Menindee. Residents are being asked to prepare to evacuate as driveway and road access to some properties are expected to become flooded with further increases to 9.6 metres are expected.

• Flood operations are being conducted by WaterNSW at Menindee Weir. Subject to inflow conditions the release levels may be extended further or increased which may lead to further rises at Menindee Town. The release plan follows consultation with the SES and local communities.

#### POONCARIE

Minor flooding is occurring at Pooncarie.

The Darling River at Pooncarie is likely to reach the moderate flood level (7.60 m) around the end of November.

Further rises are possible with the arrival of upstream floodwaters and the river level may reach around 8.00 metres late December.

The following areas may be impacted by flooding:

- Pooncarie Multi Purpose Park (Lower Campgrounds)
- Cowal Golf Club
- Minda Road

### BURTUNDY

Minor flooding is occurring at Burtundy.

The Darling River at Burtundy may reach the major flood level (7.70 m) during early December.

Further rises are possible with the arrival of upstream floodwaters and the river level may reach around 8.60 metres during late December into January.

Based on predictions from the Bureau of Meteorology, the following areas may be impacted by dangerous floodwaters:

- Low-lying areas along the Darling River
- Local access roads

# What you need to do:

- If you have a Home and/or Business Emergency Plan, review it now. Otherwise, have a conversation and plan for what you will do and take with you if you need to evacuate.
- Consider the consequences of road and bridge closures and water over roads and make alternate arrangements for work, children, and travel.
- Plan your route carefully to avoid flooded roads and allow extra travel time.
- Obey all signs about road closures and instructions from emergency services.
- Avoid storm drains and pipes, ditches, ravines and rivers.
- Never drive, walk, ride through, play or swim in floodwater it is dangerous, toxic, and may void your car insurance. If it's flooded, forget it. Fines apply.
- Share this information with family, friends, and neighbours and help others prepare where possible.
- Farmers should consider moving pumps and farm equipment to higher ground.
- Companion animals and livestock should be relocated to higher ground that will not become an island.
- The safest option is to evacuate as early as possible to avoid additional hazards. Do not wait until the last minute.
- People in areas likely to be impacted by flooding should raise their assets, including waste and chemical containers above expected flood heights.
- If you are isolated and require resupply, contact NSW SES on 132 500.
- If you are likely to be isolated due to flooding, stock up on essential items now.
- Visit Central Darling Shire Council for the latest road closures www.centraldarling.nsw.gov.au/Services/Road-conditions
- Visit Wentworth Shire Council for the latest road closure www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure/engineering-services/roads-andtraffic/road-condition-report/

## For more information:

• Listen to your local ABC radio station which can be found at <u>reception.abc.net.au</u>.

- Follow us on social media <u>@NSWSES</u> or visit our website at <u>www.ses.nsw.gov.au</u>
- Learn about your risk at <u>www.ses.nsw.gov.au/knowyourrisk/</u>
- Check latest weather, warnings, rainfall and river heights at <u>bom.gov.au/nsw/</u>
- Check road closures at livetraffic.com.au or 132 701 or your local Council.
- Contact your Local Land Services Office for rural animal and livestock assistance at <u>lls.nsw.gov.au</u> or call <u>1300 795 299</u>

# For emergency help in floods and storms, call the NSW State Emergency Service on $\underline{132500}$ . In life threatening situations, call Triple Zero ( $\underline{000}$ ) immediately.

Media enquiries: media@ses.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 067 234

This is a Watch and Act level warning. The NSW SES utilises the Australian Warning System to warn communities about severe weather and flooding. Learn more about the warning levels at <u>www.ses.nsw.gov.au/warnings</u>

