



Wentworth flooding Do not enter floodwater Watch and Act



Issued: Friday 25 Nov 2022 5:18 pm

Next update: Monday 28 Nov 4:30 pm or as the situation changes

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

- Wentworth and surrounding areas

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

What are we expecting?

The Bureau of Meteorology advises significant breakout flows from Torrumbarry have spilled into the Wakool River, where river levels have peaked at Stoney Crossing.

These flows, combined with floodwaters from the Murray and Edward rivers, have caused major flooding higher than the 1975 flood at Wakool Junction, where the river level peaked on Sunday 13 November.

This flood peak, combined with inflows from the Murrumbidgee River is currently arriving at Boundary Bend where major flooding slightly higher than the 1975 flood is occurring.

A moderate flood peak is likely at Euston over the weekend where the river level is already higher than the 1975 flood.

Moderate flooding is occurring at Mildura and Wentworth. Major flooding is possible at Wentworth around the end of November or early December.

Forecasts will be progressively refined once upstream flood peaks along the Murray River and its tributaries are observed.

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

The Murray River at Wentworth may reach the major flood level (33.88 metres AHD) towards the end of November.

Further rises to 34.00 metres AHD are possible around 01-04 December, with major flooding.

A prolonged peak is possible at Wentworth, with the river level remaining near the major flood level (33.88 metres AHD) through to 19-21 December.

NAVIGATION WARNING - Marine Notice No. S02287

The operator of a vessel must not cause wash that damages or impacts unreasonably on:
any dredge or floating plant, or

- (b) any construction or other works in progress, or
- (c) any bank, shore or waterside structure, or
- (d) any other vessel, including a vessel that is moored.

For more information call 131 236 or visit www.transport.nsw.gov.au

Vessel operators are strongly discouraged from using affected waters until conditions return to normal. However, persons legitimately requiring to use affected waters are instructed to significantly minimise vessel wash to protect saturated riverbanks and adjacent properties,

many which may be relying on sandbags and levy banks for protection.

VITAL COMMUNITY INFORMATION

- Current mapping products for the Murray River from Victorian authorities are not portraying an accurate picture on Murray River flooding on the NSW side of the river.
- These maps have been designed to highlight Victorian communities only and the impact of newly created levies in Wentworth are not accurate.
- Please do not use these online products to inform you of your flood-risk during this current event.
- The Bureau of Meteorology provide daily updates on predicted flooding and the NSW SES will continue to publish daily warnings about Murray River flooding and the consequences downstream of Mildura.
- Please visit www.ses.nsw.gov.au to view these warnings each day.

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

- Log Bridge Road
- Low lying areas in Junction Park
- Low lying areas of Willow Bend Caravan Park
- Ski Reserve boat ramp
- Ski Reserve Road near the Broken Hill / Wentworth Pumping Station
- Low lying areas along the Darling and Murray Rivers may be inundated
- Local access roads may be closed due to floodwater
- Low lying sporting fields, parklands and public recreation areas are impacted by floodwater
- Properties along Lagoon Road and West Street in the Theoga Lagoon area may become isolated. Residents should prepare now for possible isolation for an extended period or relocate.
- Make sure you have adequate essential supplies including food, drinking water, medications, pet food, and animal feed to last for at least ten days.

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.
- 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 Wentworth Shire Council website for information on local road closures <https://www.wentworth.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure/engineering-services/roads-and-traffic/road-condition-report/>

For more information:

- Listen to your local ABC radio station which can be found at reception.abc.net.au.
- Follow us on social media [@NSWSES](https://twitter.com/NSWSES) or visit our website at www.ses.nsw.gov.au
- Learn about your risk at www.ses.nsw.gov.au/knowyourrisk/
- Check latest weather, warnings, rainfall and river heights at bom.gov.au/nsw/
- Check road closures at livetraffic.com.au or [132 701](tel:132701) or your local Council.
- Contact your Local Land Services Office for rural animal and livestock assistance at lls.nsw.gov.au or call [1300 795 299](tel:1300795299)

For emergency help in floods, storms and tsunamis, call the NSW State Emergency Service on [132 500](tel:132500). In life threatening situations, call Triple Zero ([000](tel:000)) immediately.

Media enquiries: media@ses.nsw.gov.au or call [1800 067 234](tel:1800067234)

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 www.ses.nsw.gov.au/warnings



Access the latest warnings and information at hazardwatch.gov.au

