

# Producer Alert NSW Flood Alert

2 March 2012



## Incident Update – the latest information

While rain overnight has eased, patchy rain will continue today, and further heavy rain is forecast for the weekend.

- There are Severe Weather Warnings for Hunter, Upper Western, Australian Capital Territory, Riverina, Lower Western, Central West Slopes & Plains, South West Slopes, Snowy Mountains, Southern Tablelands and Central Tablelands forecast districts.
- A Flood Watch (not yet a warning) remains in place for several areas. The Bureau of Meteorology states that there is a greater than 70 per cent chance of flooding or flooding redeveloping in the following valleys:
  - Nepean Hawkesbury - moderate flooding resulting in closure of the Richmond and Windsor bridges between Saturday afternoon and early Sunday. Warragamba Dam is expected to spill tonight (Friday).
  - Queanbeyan Molonglo - moderate to major flooding redeveloping over Saturday.
  - Murrumbidgee - major flooding developing over the weekend. Cootamundra Shire may also experience moderate to major flooding.
  - Lachlan - including Mandagery Creek and the Belubula River - further major flooding over the weekend.
  - Macquarie - Bathurst, Molong, Orange and the Bell River catchment - moderate to major flooding developing over the weekend.
  - Bogan - moderate flooding.
  - Local flooding is also expected in the Upper Western district of the state today. Severe Weather Warnings will be issued for these areas as the event unfolds.
- With heavy Rainfall forecast in these districts over the next few days, producers living and working in these areas need to be prepared. Keep a close eye on weather forecasts and be ready to move to higher ground if flooding develops. The Bureau of Meteorology website provides regular weather forecasts and updates on rainfall and river conditions: <http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/>
- Plan and act earlier rather than later. Review your flood plan if you have one and make plans to move livestock to higher ground if necessary. Ensure you have enough feed stored for at least a month in case roads into your farm get closed due to flooding.
- New South Wales Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) is responsible for animal welfare matters in the event of a flood. Contact the NSW DPI if you need advice or assistance to maintain the welfare of livestock.
- If flooding in your area is declared a Natural Disaster, assistance and support schemes may be available to you. For information on assistance schemes visit the Minister for Police and Emergency Services website: <http://www.em.nsw.gov.au/nddassistance>

## Contact details for producers

- For Emergency help in floods call the NSW State Emergency Service (SES) on **132 500**.
- For life threatening emergencies, call **000** immediately.
- For the latest weather forecast see: [www.bom.gov.au/nsw/forecasts/](http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/forecasts/)
- For flood preparedness and safety advice visit the NSW SES FloodSafe website: <http://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/community-safety/floodsafe/>
- NSW DPI Drought, Flood and Bushfire Hotline: **1800 814 647**. Rural landholders can phone this hotline to report damage to their property and request information and assistance including on matters related to animal welfare and environmental concerns.
- For a list of shires with a current Natural Disaster Declaration and for information on assistance schemes available visit [www.emergency.nsw.gov.au](http://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au)
- People enquiring about grants should check the Natural Disaster Relief Scheme ([www.raa.nsw.gov.au](http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au)) or call the NSW Rural Assistance Authority on **1800 678 593**.
- Lifeline 24 hour counselling service on **131114**.

## Key APL Contacts

<b>General Inquiries and information</b>	Kathleen Plowman	0402 794 901
<b>Media Inquiries</b>	Emily Mackintosh	0418 697 595