

February 10, 2021

Road Closures in Roper Gulf Region

Roper Gulf Regional Council would like to advise that the following roads are now closed as a result of flooding and wet road conditions:

Roper Highway is closed between Moroak Station Intersection and Hodgson Downs intersection heading towards Ngukurr and Numbulwar from Katherine, due to Strangways crossing being flooded.

The Wilton River is currently 0.82m below the bridge on Roper Highway.

Council also advise that water levels at some creek crossings on Hodgson River road are above 0.4m and are impassable for traffic.

Numbulwar Road is closed between Roper Highway and Numbulwar Community.

Nathan River Road is closed between Ryans Bend road intersection and Roper Highway.

John Hauser Drive at Elsey Park is closed from Mataranka Homestead road to the end of bitumen.

Martin Road in Mataranka is closed from 2km after Stuart Highway Intersection.

Central Arnhem Road is now open at Waterhouse Bridge, however water is over 0.3m at various river crossings on Central Arnhem road and caution must be taken.

The closures will remain in effect until road conditions are deemed safe for reopening.

It is expected that the Roper-McArthur region will receive up to 90 mm of rain in the next couple days and more heavy rain is expected in the Gulf of Carpentaria, Groote Eylandt Coast and Numbulwar region.

Council would like to remind residents and visitors of the Roper Gulf region to avoid driving on any roadways that are underwater, as road conditions may be unstable and dangerous.

Roper Gulf Regional Council Mayor Judy MacFarlane says, "The safety of residents and visitors in the region is Council's utmost priority.

"Too often we see people who have got themselves into serious trouble by thinking the flooded road is safe to cross when it is not.

“We cannot stress enough the importance of being prepared before you travel in the region at this time of the year and if you are unsure about the road conditions, you can always give Council a call to check first”.

The Northern Territory Government Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics encourages residents to be prepared for the journey ahead by following these three steps:

Check – your vehicle is well maintained and ready for the journey

Plan – your trip and know the road and conditions through Road Report NT

Go – and make sure your journey is a safe one!

For information on Council roads, Roads Authority can be contacted at 08 8972 0404 or by emailing Vikrant.Jagarlamudi@ropergulf.nt.gov.au.

For emergency help in floods, storms and cyclones call 132 500.

Latest road conditions are available at www.roadreport.nt.gov.au

Emergency information is available at www.secure.nt.gov.au

To check the Bureau of Meteorology for regular weather updates, visit <http://www.bom.gov.au/index.php>

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For further information, please contact Roper Gulf Regional Council on Telephone: (08) 8972 9000 or Email: info@ropergulf.nt.gov.au

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Attachment 1: Phelp River Crossing

Phelp River Crossing on Numbulwar Road is currently rising and is over 0.4m. Photo taken on Friday 5 February 2021.

Attachment 2: Wilton River Bridge

Water level of the Wilton River on Roper Highway on Tuesday 9 February 2021.