

MEDIA STATEMENT

27 February 2022

Bruce Highway closed between Caloundra and Caboolture

The Bruce Highway will remain closed between Caloundra and Caboolture until further notice as South East Queensland continues to be impacted by significant flooding.

Transport and Main Roads (TMR) North Coast Regional Director Scott Whitaker said crews were working around the clock, both on and off the roads, using facts, metrics and data to keep Queenslanders safe.

"TMR is carrying out testing, inspecting roads and bridges where possible, monitoring river heights and water flows, and analysing traffic data to ensure roads can be re-opened as soon as it is safe to do so," Mr Whitaker said.

"Visual inspections to determine structural integrity and assess damage are combined with careful data analysis before roads are re-opened.

"Substantial repairs, clearing and maintenance will be needed across the state network and this will be prioritised.

"We are working as quickly as possible to re-open priority corridors, but this can only be done when it is safe to do so."

He said floodwaters had carried debris on to many roads and some transport infrastructure had sustained serious damage.

"Driving on saturated roads could risk further damage and prolonged closures and roadworks to carry out repairs.

"There are more than 60 state-controlled roads, and many local roads, currently closed across the North Coast region.

"Floodwaters can be deceptive, with hidden dangers below the surface, so it's not worth risking your life just to get home or to work faster.

"Many Queenslanders still tempt fate when driving through floodwaters but the bravest thing you can do is back it up.

"We want every Queenslander to make it home today, tomorrow and every day, so if it's flooded, forget it."

Mr Whitaker said Queensland Police Service, traffic controllers and advisory signs were on the ground for motorist safety.

"Please follow all signs and directions, pay attention and always drive to the conditions," he said.

"Non-essential travel should be avoided altogether until further advised.

"When the highway re-opens, it will be with reduced capacity and speed limits to keep people safe.

"We urge motorists to check on the QldTraffic website before travel and make alternative arrangements where needed."

For storm-related assistance, call the SES on 132 500 or download the SES Assistance QLD app.

In a life-threatening situation, always call triple zero (000).

For up-to-date traffic and road condition information, call 13 19 40, visit www.qldtraffic.gov.au.au or download the QldTraffic app.

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