



Farm Flood Readiness Kit

A guide to making your property flood ready

GOONDIWINDI REGION
**LOCAL DISASTER
MANAGEMENT**

Why do you need a flood plan?

- Financial or farm assistance is not guaranteed
- Know ahead of time what to do and when, to reduce damage and losses
- Plan for all risks and possible impacts – remember, every flood is different
- If prepared, you will recover quicker
- Damage and losses caused by floods can be high and cost a lot of money
- It is cheaper to plan ahead and prepare, than pay the costs of repairs or lose income and production time



Minimise damage and losses on your farm:

- Dead livestock
- Destroyed equipment
- Debris and waste
- Loss of access to your property
- Erosion
- Blocked and damaged drains
- Isolation

Be prepared

Ensure your property has:

- Clear laneways
- High ground with access to fodder and water or alternative locations
- Tools for clearing damage
- Appropriate storage
- Stored fodder
- Appropriate land management systems

Planning makes sense

Having a flood plan just makes sense when you live on a floodplain.

Planning not only protects your home, property and business, but also protects your livestock and pets from drowning.

Your flood plan should be easy and straightforward as possible so that someone else can implement it on your behalf if you are away.

Use the checklist to help identify the risks and hazards on your property and develop an action list.

Here are some examples of risks and actions that might be included in a flood plan:

1

Know what your risks are

Complete the flood readiness checklist and identify the risks and hazards on your property

Do you have livestock or other animals?

Can your property be isolated?

Do you store chemicals on your property?

2

Know what to do to reduce risks

Develop an action list to reduce your risks and make your property flood ready

Have safe high ground with access to food, clean water and shelter

Store food, clean water, battery radio, medical supplies, generator, fuel, first aid kit and emergency contacts

Store in shed off the ground so they can't be washed away

3

Know what to do when a flood is coming

Develop a flood plan and ensure you know where to get information about floods and warnings

Keep up to date with warnings and start moving livestock early

Move necessities above expected flood levels – make sure they remain dry.

Ensure all chemicals are stored and shed securely locked.

Are your staff prepared?

If your farm is at risk of flooding, there are various things your staff need to know.

Make sure your staff know the procedures to take place on farm if it is at risk of flooding (i.e., moving stock, lifting chemical drums).

Make sure they know where to find information about road closures (i.e. QLD Traffic) and access to enough supplies should they become isolated for days up to several weeks.

Have you checked your insurance?

It is important that you check with your insurer what is and is not covered by your policy for flood damage (i.e. crops, infrastructure, machinery plants etc).

Don't forget to take photos and videos of the flood impact and damage for grants and insurance evidence.



Impact Surveys

When a disaster occurs, you should complete the Queensland DAF Agriculture Disaster Impact Survey. Data collected will be used to inform the process for activation of disaster recovery assistance from the State and Federal governments.



Do you know what the warnings mean?



Severe weather warning

A general warning to expect unusual conditions which may include:

- Gale force winds and gusts
- Heavy rainfall with potential for flash flooding



Severe thunderstorm warning

A general warning to expect unusual thunderstorms which may include:

- Large hail
- Lightning
- Damaging wind gusts
- Heavy rainfall with potential for flash flooding



Flood watch

There is a potential for a flood to occur

- You need to enact your flood plan



Flood warning

A flood is expected or already occurring

- You need to have everything secured and safe

20% of the Goondiwindi Region's value of agricultural production was damaged in the 2021/22 floods

What to do when there is a flood

Flood watch

- Move livestock and horses to higher ground and ensure they have access to clean water and food
- Ensure all animals are in safe areas where they cannot be trapped by rising floodwaters
- Remove pumps from waterways
- Where possible, move equipment – tractors, farming equipment and vehicles
- Secure moveable objects such as bale feeders and shipping containers
- Remove debris such as irrigation pipes, timber, scrap, metal and tools from paddocks
- Securely store chemicals up and out of the potential floodwater level
- Ensure your emergency kit is ready – make sure you have essential documents at hand such as emergency contact lists, legal documents and accounting records
- Check on neighbours where possible

Flood warning

- Stay up to date with emergency warnings and public messages
- Stay in touch with nominated contacts
- Seal areas around buildings to keep out water and vermin and lock storage sheds
- Sandbag where necessary
- Send staff and visitors home
- If you plan to leave, leave early

Evacuation warning

- Act early
- Be prepared to evacuate with your pets and emergency kit
- Stay up to date with emergency warnings and public messages
- Let key people know that you have left and where you are planning to go



What to do after a flood

Livestock and horses

If you have livestock or horses, make sure they are safe and still have access to clean water and fodder.

- Notify DAF of any missing stock
- Contact your veterinarian if any livestock or horses are injured
- Contact Council if any pets are missing

Carcasses

- Keep record of any animal losses
- Dispose of the carcasses quickly – either by composting on site or burial
- Information about disposing of carcasses can be provided by DAF

Cleaning up

Flood waters can be contaminated by sewage, chemicals and other waste; this can cause illness and infection. When cleaning up:

- Wear protective clothing, including gloves, boots and eye goggles
- Follow safety instructions on any disinfectants used
- Watch out for snakes, spiders and sharp objects
- Wash your hands thoroughly
- Do not move anything, unless safe to do so
- Contact your local council about disposal of large items
- Photograph any damage for insurance purposes
- QLD Health also has information on cleaning up after a flood online



Flood and warnings information and contacts

QLD SES

132 500
www.qfes.qld.gov.au

QLD Traffic

131 940
www.qldtraffic.qld.gov.au

Bureau of Meteorology

1300 754 389
www.bom.gov.au

ABC Local Radio

92.7 FM
104.9 FM
747 AM

ABC Radio



Download the
app here

Emergency +



Download the
app here

DAF eHUB

132 523
www.daf.engagementhub.com.au

QLD Health

13 43 25 84
www.health.qld.gov.au

Emergency Alert.

Be Warned. Be Informed.

Do not block the number +61 444 444 444.

Emergency Alert is the national telephone warning system used to send voice messages and text messages to create awareness of an imminent threat.

The message will tell you what is happening and what you need to do.

<https://www.emergencyalert.gov.au/#>

ALWAYS CALL 000 IN LIFE THREATENING SITUATIONS



Australian Government



Queensland Government



Goondiwindi
REGIONAL
COUNCIL

This project is jointly funded by the Australian and Queensland governments under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.