

Flood management

Last modified: July 3, 2009 - 12:59 AM

Forbes has experienced on average a major flood every seven years since 1887. The highest recorded flood occurred in June, 1952 when the river peaked at 10.80m at the Forbes Iron Bridge (on the Forbes-Cowra Road). During the flood of August 1990, which peaked at 10.65m, approximately 132 properties in Forbes were affected by flood water.

Effects of flooding in Forbes

Some of the effects that may occur at various heights at the Forbes Iron Bridge are:

Height	Effects
09.30m	A number of roads may close to light traffic. they include the Forbes-Gooloogong Road at Dukes Crossing and the Forbes-Grenfell Road at Muddy Lagoon.
10.20m	Water breaks out of the river near the Bathurst Street railway bridge and flows north and west.
10.35m	Peak height August 1998.
10.38m	Houses within Forbes begin to be affected by rising flood waters. Lower rankin Street inundated.
10.40m	Water may start to flow out of Lake Forbes and into the town.
10.50m	The Newell Highway may close 6km from Forbes at the South Condobolin turn-off.
10.62m	Peak height October 1955. At about this height, flood waters split Forbes into three islands making movement around the town difficult.
10.64m	Peak height August 1990. Approximately 132 houses were flood affected by either water in their yards or over the floors.

Flood levels

A flood study was completed by Sinclair Knight Merz in 2003 showing estimated flood and flood risk levels for the Forbes township and shire regions. The resulting flood maps are available for viewing at the Council offices, or can be downloaded from the bottom of this page.

Community awareness & education campaigns

A number of brochures are available from the Council offices containing information on:

- Hazard reduction and flood preparedness/safety procedures
- Severe Storms - Facts, warnings and Protection
- NSW Emergency Management Arrangements.

Contact details

Forbes Shire Council

02 6850 2333 (ph)

02 6850 2398 (fax)

forbes@forbes.nsw.gov.au

Online Services

Download files

[DCP 6 - Town Flooding Map](#) (pdf 268 kb)

[DCP 6 - Shire Flooding Map](#) (pdf 479 kb)