

### What is happening?

Floodwaters continue to make their way downstream along the Darling River, with the main peak expected to reach Menindee around the 25 February, 2022.

Following a review of inflow forecast and release planning, WaterNSW have advised that the Menindee Lake storage volume is currently at 93% capacity providing just over 400 GL of airspace to manage forecast inflows in the coming weeks. As a result, releases from the Menindee Lake storage will not increase further for the time being.

At present the total release from storage is 23,200 ML/day – this is made up of 2,000 ML/day release from Cawndilla outlet and a combined 21,200 ML/day from Main Weir, Wetherell outlet, Pamamaroo outlet and Menindee outlet, providing a flow at Weir 32 of 18,000 ML/day.

The Menindee Town gauge is currently just below the minor flood level at 8.41m and steady at the current release rate. NSW SES would like to remind recreational boat operators to keep to a low speed whilst traveling along the Darling River at Menindee to avoid excess bow waves from entering resident's properties and damaging levees.

WaterNSW will continue to review forecast inflows and plan releases accordingly. As such, increased releases are possible in coming weeks.

### Current System Status

	Storage Level (mAHD)	Storage Volume (GL)	Capacity
Lake Wetherell + Tandure	60.34	96	50 %
Lake Pamamaroo + Copi Hollow	60.34	270	97 %
Lake Menindee	59.8	623	99 %
Lake Cawndilla	59.8	626	99 %
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>1,615</b>	<b>93 %</b>

Table 1: Menindee Lakes Storage Volumes as of 4 January 2022

NSW SES volunteers will remain based at Menindee for the time being and will continue to assist residents at risk of flooding with relocating pumps, lifting furniture and providing updates and advice.

If you need emergency assistance, call the NSW SES on **132 500**.

## How can I stay safe?

**Never drive, walk or play in floodwaters. Floodwater may be deep, fast flowing and may contain hidden snags and debris.**

### Simple things you can do now:

- Stay up to date with information. Listen to your local radio station for information, updates and advice.
- Listen to flood warnings and follow advice on how to protect yourself, family, and property.
- Have a plan to minimise damage to your property and possessions.

### If you are at risk of flooding:

- Decide if you will stay or leave should the situation worsen.
- Ensure you have adequate supplies of drinking water and food for the expected duration.
- Stack personal possessions and documents on top of benches and tables, place electrical items on top.
- Relocate waste containers, chemicals and poisons at least 1m above floor level.
- Relocate livestock, pumps, chemicals, equipment, vehicles and machinery to higher ground.
- Share this information with your family, friends and neighbours and help others to prepare where possible.

### If you decide to leave:

- Take pets, clothing, medicines, essential items, insurance documents and valuables with you.
- Turn off the electricity and gas at the mains before you leave.
- Take drinking water and food with you for the expected travel time.
- Leave as early as possible to avoid road closures.

### Mosquito-Borne Diseases

Flood conditions and long periods of high rainfall may promote an increase in mosquito numbers, and they can transmit a variety of diseases. The best protection against mosquitoes (and the diseases that they transmit) is to:

- Avoid being outside unprotected before dawn and dusk.
- When outside, wear loose-fitting, light-coloured clothes that cover arms and legs.
- Use an insect repellent that contains the chemical DEET or picaridin on exposed skin.
- If mosquitoes are inside, use a knockdown insecticide.

For more information visit: [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

## Contact Information and Support

For emergency help in floods and storms, call the NSW State Emergency Service on 132 500.  
In life threatening situations call triple zero (000) immediately.

<b>NSW SES</b> For assistance in floods and storms (resupply to isolated properties, sandbag requests, flood assistance)	132 500 <a href="http://www.ses.nsw.gov.au">www.ses.nsw.gov.au</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/NSW.SES/">www.facebook.com/NSW.SES/</a>
<b>Bureau of Meteorology</b> For the latest Weather, Warnings, Rainfall and River heights	1300 945 108 <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au">www.bom.gov.au</a>
<b>Central Darling Shire Council</b> For local road closures and information	(08) 8083 8800 <a href="https://www.centraldarling.nsw.gov.au/">https://www.centraldarling.nsw.gov.au/</a>
<b>Transport for NSW</b> For State Road and Highway closures	132 701 <a href="https://www.livetraffic.com/">https://www.livetraffic.com/</a>
<b>Local Land Services</b> For rural animal and livestock assistance	1300 795 299 <a href="http://www.lls.nsw.gov.au">www.lls.nsw.gov.au</a>
<b>NSW Health</b> If you become ill or require assistance from a health care professional, contact your local GP or NSW health medical centre.	In an emergency call triple zero (000)  Menindee Hospital (08) 8083 2700
<b>NSW Welfare Services</b> If you are required to evacuate and have no other means of support and require emergency accommodation	1300 306 548
<b>Service NSW</b> If you have been impacted by the floods and suffering hardship	13 77 88