

MEDIA RELEASE

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Caution urged on Shire Roads

Central Darling Shire Council is appealing to travelers to take care on Shire roads. Flooding is causing significant issues for the road network in the Menindee and Ivanhoe areas. The situation is even more challenging because most of the Council roads are unsealed.

The Darling River at Menindee Town may remain around 10.25 metres for the next few days, with major flooding. Subject to variable inflows at Menindee Lakes, further rises to 10.50 metres are possible, with major flooding.

The only road access to Menindee is via Broken Hill. The Cobb Highway is closed between Ivanhoe and Hay. Also, the road between Ivanhoe and Balranald – commonly known as the Wool Track Road – is closed.

With numerous roads around Menindee also being closed because of flooding from the Darling River police are having issues with drivers not obeying road closure signs. Not only is this dangerous and against the law, but it also takes up the valuable time of emergency services personnel helping with flood recovery efforts.

It is important that people stay off flood effected roads unless they have an important reason to travel on these roads such as being a local resident, or emergency services personnel.

The latest road closure information is available on Council's website. Road condition update | Central Darling Shire Council (nsw.gov.au)

The damage bill for Shire roads will be significant. The full extent of the cost of repairs will be assessed in due course once the flood emergency has been dealt with.

Council has also praised the NSW Government's move to fast-track the opening of applications for the \$500 million Regional and Local Roads Repair Program. Council will not be able to repair its' flood damaged road network without State and Federal government assistance and this announcement is very welcome.

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