



Burns Point Gauge (Richmond River)

Height at gauge	Expected consequence
6.51m	Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)*
3.06m	Peak Height - February / March 2022 Extensive flooding across Ballina Island, North Ballina, West Ballina and parts of South Ballina. Homes, businesses and rural properties damaged by floodwaters. Main access routes closed including access to Pacific Hwy via Tamarind Dr and River St.
2.80m	MAJOR FLOOD HEIGHT Road closures will impact evacuations as streets begin to flood. Residents may become isolated.
2.66m	Angel Beach Rd and Kerr St inundated.
2.40m	MODERATE FLOOD HEIGHT
2.38m	Peak Height - March / April 2022 Floodwater over roads including Tamarind Dr, Southern Cross Dr, North Creek Rd, River St. Some properties will flood.
2.06m	Burns Point Ferry likely to close.
2.00m	MINOR FLOOD HEIGHT Water spreading onto roads at low points in West Ballina, Ballina Island and North Ballina.

*Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) is the largest flood that could conceivably be expected to occur at a particular location, usually estimated from probable maximum rainfall. The PMF defines the maximum extent of flood prone land, that is, the floodplain.

History of Flooding

Ballina sits where the Richmond River meets the Pacific Ocean. Communities can experience riverine, tidal and flash flooding. Riverine flooding can occur from the Richmond River, and is impacted by Maguires, Emigrant and North Creeks.

High tides and ocean storm surges can cause flooding in West Ballina and Ballina Island. In 2022 areas of Ballina Island, West Ballina and North Ballina were significantly impacted with floodwater up to 75cm deep in urban areas with all main access roads cut.

Every flood is different. While NSW SES can provide guidance on what may occur in future floods, it's important to remember that predictions are not guarantees.



Ballina Island, 2022 | Image credit: Ballina Shire Council

Key Contact Information

NSW SES - 132 500
for assistance in a
flood, storm or
tsunami.

Triple Zero (000)
for life-threatening
emergencies.

Ballina SES Unit
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