

Flood Information: Woodburn Gauge

Height at gauge	Expected consequence
10.03m	Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)*
7.18m	February/March 2022 – Extensive flooding across the CBD and River Street. Bridge approaches and the Pacific Highway are cut. Many people are cut off for several days. Homes and businesses are badly damaged by the floodwaters.
5.00m	The Highway and bridge approaches are flooded so evacuation must be completed before this height. Communities will be isolated.
4.20m	Major Flood Height Road closures impact evacuations as streets begin to flood. Residents may become isolated.
4.02m	March 2017 – Significant flooding of low-lying streets and basements. Significant flooding behind highway embankment.
3.70m	Moderate Flood Height Water covers parks and boat ramps, drains start backing up. Prepare to move valuables.
3.20m	Minor Flood Height Low riverbank areas and floodplains begin to flood. Monitor warnings closely.

*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

Woodburn sits on the Richmond River and has a long history of minor to major flooding.

In 2022, Woodburn experienced its most devastating flood in history. The floodwaters isolated the town for several days with many homes and surrounding rural areas impacted by floodwater.

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.



Woodburn Flooding 2022 | Image credit: IndyNR



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