

# Fact Sheet for Houseboat Users



The River Murray Flood event has impacted the security, use, and movement of houseboats on the River Murray and surrounding streams of water.

Owners and operators have a responsibility to ensure the safety and security of their houseboat.

As the agency responsible for boating safety, the Department for Infrastructure and Transport (DIT) provide useful information for houseboat owners on their website and also on the SA.GOV.AU website. You should refer to this regularly for the most up to date information.

**Your safety is very important. Please only access your houseboat if it is safe to do so. Do not drive through floodwater or enter floodwater on foot to check on your houseboat.**

**Due to the nature of flooding, the availability of suitable alternative moorings may be significantly reduced in the immediate area, if available at all.**

Where safe to do so, owners of houseboats should ensure the safety of their property with regular checks.

The SA State Emergency Service reminds owners and operators of houseboats to:

- use extreme caution when moving on or around your houseboat and in the vicinity of fast flowing water
- regularly check the condition of the mooring location and condition of mooring lines, ensuring that they haven't become frayed, and adjusting them as waters levels rise and fall
- consider the strength of river currents, the immediate surrounds, and the capability of the houseboat before attempting to move it
- identify an appropriate, secure alternative mooring and safe transit route before moving from an existing mooring
- make sure your houseboat does not interfere with any other mooring or property.

For people residing on houseboats, rising waters result in the loss of access to power and water and the ability to pump sewerage. If this happens, you should seek alternative accommodation until it is safe to return to your houseboat.

If you do shift your houseboat to a flood plain area, be prepared to move it back into deeper water as the water subsides when it is safe to do so.

**For life-threatening emergencies call 000 (triple-zero)**

For emergency help in flood & storms call 132 500

**For flood & storm general information call 1800 362 361**