

State Emergency Service **Media Release**



Friday, 17th April 2015

Motorists in the north need to monitor road conditions

Motorists in the north of the State need to carefully monitor road and track conditions after heavy rains fell earlier today.

That's the advice of the SA State Emergency Service (SES) following significant rainfall in the mid-north and northern parts of the State, including the Flinders Ranges, with more rain possible.

SES State Duty Officer Robert Charlton said that a number of roads and outback tracks are already closed and may remain hazardous even when they reopen.

He strongly urged motorists travelling in these areas to ensure that they drive to the conditions, take note of warning signs and, if planning a trip, check road conditions on the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure website www.dpti.sa.gov.au/OutbackRoads.

"Given that it is school holidays, we are mindful of people who are travelling or camping in the Outback or Flinders Ranges, who may find themselves unable to get out because of flooded roads and tracks. This could cause people to become stranded with insufficient fuel, water or food." Mr Charlton added.

It is important that people plan their trip well and ensure that they have adequate supplies.

"Up-to-date maps are also important along with a satellite phone in remote areas because there is very limited mobile phone coverage," he said.

Regularly keeping in touch with friends and family is also important. Motorists should let them know where they are, what their travel plans are, and when they expect to arrive at their destination.

The State Emergency Service advises that people should:

- not drive, ride or walk through floodwater
- never allow children to play in floodwater
- camp on higher ground but not under trees or in creek beds
- drive to the conditions. Stormwater and localised flooding may have left mud and other debris on the road.
- if you have no local knowledge of the area, do not travel along unsealed roads if it is raining and consider overnight stays in populated centres

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