



SUSTAINABLY DEVELOPING THE OUTBACK

PUBLIC NOTICE

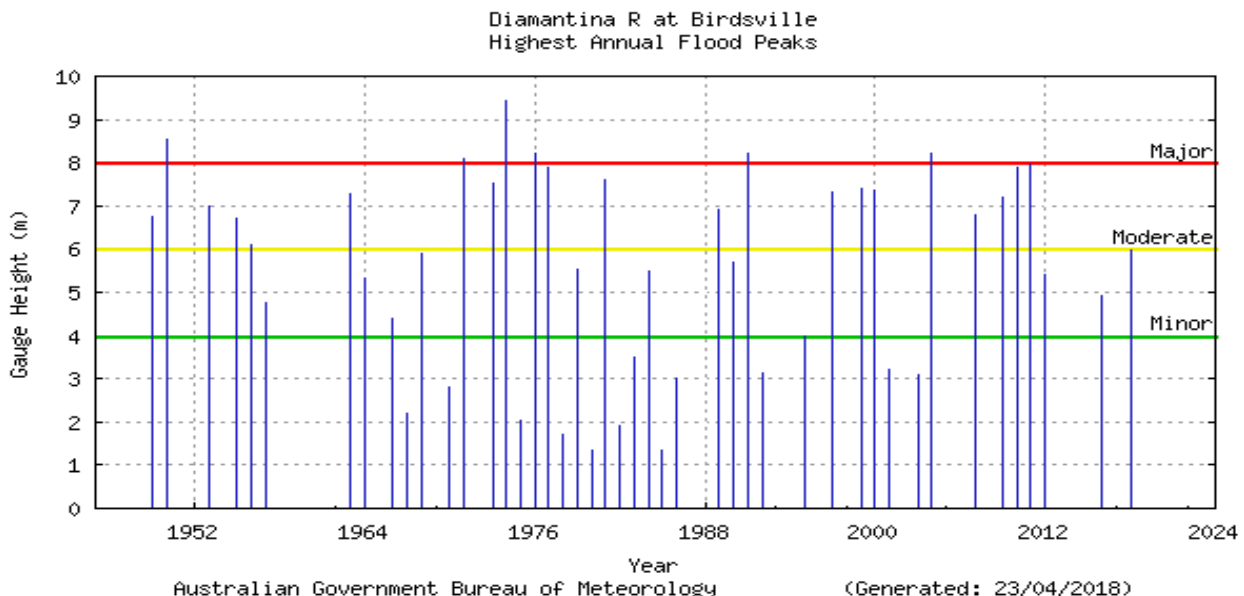
2019 BIRDSVILLE FLOOD EVENT

A meeting of the Diamantina Shire Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) was held yesterday, 19 February 2019. The LDMG is a group established under the Disaster Management Act to manage community preparedness for emergency events and comprises local and regional representatives from Diamantina Shire Council, Police, Health, Ambulance, SES, Rural Fire, Telstra, Ergon.

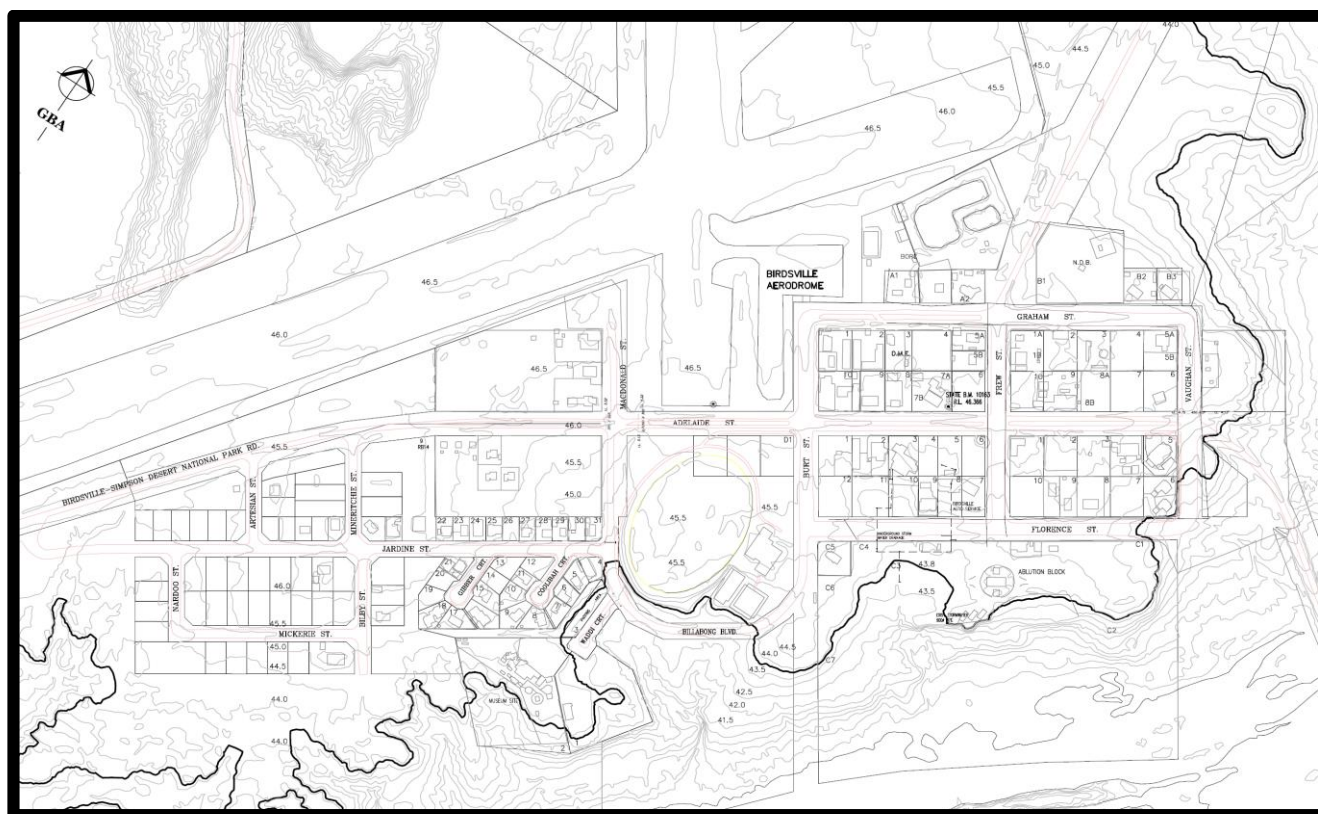
At this meeting it was agreed to increase the status of the group to 'Alert'. This is in response to the floodwaters in the Diamantina River approaching Birdsville and the increase level of vigilance that is being undertaken.

Flood waters are arriving at Birdsville and river levels are rising quickly. All indicators are showing that flood waters will reach major flood levels (8+ meters). More accurate flood levels will be known as flood water peaks reach 'Roseberth'.

A history of floods in the Diamantina River is shown below, with flood levels in 1974 reaching 9.45m.



Flood mapping from the 1974 event shows that even at major flood levels, most of Birdsville will not be directly impacted by flood water. Larger maps are available for viewing at the Wurrari Information Centre in Birdsville. Note that some contours will have changed where fill has been added to raise land levels.



Road access to the east and south of Birdsville is now closed. Flooding at Kings Creek has closed the Eyre Development Road to Bedourie. That water is now moving through Eyre Creek and rising at Cuttaburra Crossing. The Lake Machattie by-pass will be used once King Creek levels drop to gain access to the north. Big Red access road remains open with caution. Walkers Crossing, Warburton Crossing, Cordillo Downs Road, Birdsville Track, Birdsville Inside Track are all closed. If its flooded – forget it.

All roads will be assessed and re-opened as soon as safe to do so. Preserving the condition of the roads after an event like this is important. Residents are advised to observe road closures and for up to date road conditions visit <http://www.thediamantina.com.au/road-conditions>.

Flood waters are unpredictable and unsafe, with many hidden hazards. Floodwater may contain infectious bacteria, agricultural or industrial chemicals, electrical hazards, fast flowing currents, washouts and various other unseen dangers. Please stay out of the flood waters.

The Bedourie Administration Centre and Birdsville Wurrari Information Centre will be staffed throughout the week. Council staff will be on call over the weekend to deal with any emergencies which may arise. In the event of an emergency call 000.

This is an exciting time but please stay safe and look out for one another. The Birdsville community has put in considerable effort to prepare the town for this flood event which is appreciated by the LDMG.

The LDMG will meet again on Friday to assess the flood situation in Birdsville.

Leon Love
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER/ LOCAL DISASTER COORDINATOR LDMG
20 February 2019