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IDQ20755
BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY
Queensland Region
Flood Warning Centre

Media: The Standard Emergency Warning Signal should NOT be used with this warning.

FLOOD WARNING FOR THE PIONEER RIVER AND ADJACENT COASTAL STREAMS
Issued at 9:07pm on Friday the 15th of February 2008
by the Bureau of Meteorology, Brisbane.

Flood levels are continuing to fall in the Pioneer River at Mackay. The widespread severe local flooding should continue easing slowly tonight as the waters slowly drain from the area.

At 9pm, the Pioneer River at Hospital Bridge was 7.0 metres and falling slowly. This is the level of the Hospital Bridge. River levels are also falling slowly downstream at Mackay [Forgan Smith Bridge] where at 9pm the level was 5.15 metres and falling towards normal tide levels.

Rainfalls over the past 3 hours have generally been less than 10 millimetres over the Pioneer River catchment. Further heavy rainfall is possible in the Pioneer catchment tonight and the situation will be monitored closely.

At 9pm, there is a band of heavy rain along the coast north of Mackay to the Proserpine area and this will be producing rises in the small coastal streams in this area.

The roads are dangerous around the Mackay area and northwards and travellers should avoid the area.

The next warning will be issued at about 7am Saturday or earlier if there is an onset of very heavy rains.

Weather Forecast : [issued 1615 Friday]

A severe weather warning remains current for the area. Scattered showers and thunderstorms, tending to some rain areas overnight and early Saturday. Possible moderate to heavy falls likely. Fresh SE winds, strong about the coast.

Latest River Heights in metres include : [* denotes automatic station]

Pioneer R at Mirani Weir TW *	6.17m falling	at 847pm Fri 15/02/08
Pioneer R at Hospital Br *	7.00m falling	at 900pm Fri 15/02/08

Pioneer R at Mackay *	5.15m falling	at	900pm Fri 15/02/08
Goosepond Ck at Gooseponds *	5.50m steady	at	824pm Fri 15/02/08
Bakers Ck at Bakers Creek *	6.40m falling	at	847pm Fri 15/02/08
Sandy Ck at Homebush*	12.25m falling	at	540pm Fri 15/02/08

Warnings and River Height Bulletins are available at <http://www.bom.gov.au/hydro/flood/qld> . Flood Warnings are also available on telephone 1300 659 219 at a low call cost of 27.5 cents, more from mobile, public and satellite phones.

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