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1800 246 199

Update on Barkly Highway

7 January 2009

Dispatched at 4.35pm CST

The Barkly Highway remains closed to all traffic from the Tablelands Highway intersection across to the Queensland border.

There is extensive damage along the Highway and contractors have been mobilised to commence remedial works.

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure advises that commencement of any repairs may not start for up to a week due to the saturated ground conditions and the time to establish the contractor's camp, plant and equipment on site.

The best estimate at this time is that the road will be closed to traffic for at least the next two weeks. Daily updates will be provided to the media on the remedial works progress.

Works will include reconstruction of road shoulders and batters and repairing the major breach across the highway which is approximately 100 metres long, and located 400 metres west of Soudan Station (326.80km from the Stuart Highway).

Once filled it is expected the highway will initially re-open to light traffic, with a single lane and daylight travel only until more significant repairs can be completed.

As a result of flood waters overtopping the roadway, the current estimate is over 2 kilometres of damage to the shoulders, batters and road embankment at a number of locations with the main ones being at the breach, Rankine River, Six Mile Creek and the James River.

Motorists are being urged to refer to the Road Report website before travelling on the Barkly, and across all roads in the Territory, to receive up to date road condition information on all Government controlled roads including graphical representations of restrictions on regional maps.

Visit www.roadreport.nt.gov.au for the latest information or call 1800 246 199

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