

www.roadreport.nt.gov.au

1800 246 199

Update on Barkly Highway

Thursday, 8 January 2009

Dispatched at 4.20pm CST

General

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

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure advises that the field situation is as per yesterday with water flowing through the breach at approximately 1.5 m depth.

Earthworks crews are being mobilised today and will be travelling out this afternoon to begin setting up camp, preparing pads for stockpiles, turn around areas etc. Should the water level remain high, this crew will begin filling in the batters on the western side of the breach.

Large rock has been carted (500mm – 1 m), to use as a foundation base in the breach. This rock will be stockpiled on site in readiness for placing.

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

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 on Territory roads or call 1800 246 199

Additional Information

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.

www.roadreport.nt.gov.au or 1800 246 199 (Northern Territory)

www.racq.com.au/travel/trip_planner/road_conditions (Queensland)