

WRC Regional Flood Situation Report

Event name: Low- January 2018

Advisory: 01

Issued by: Waikato Regional Council- Rick Liefing/Danielle O'Shaughnessy

Date/time: 04 January 2018 –1600 Hours

Next Advisory: 05 January 2018 – 1500 Hours

Status: Tier 1 –Regional

RFLO 027 229 2958 RFC 027 499 2120

Overview of event

Emergency contact details: 0800 800 401.....ask for..... Regional Flood Liaison or Regional Flood Coordinator

WRC Regional Hazards Response Status:

Normal	Monitoring	Activated
		✓ (Business hours only)

Local Coromandel and Hauraki Flood Response Room Status:

Flood Room Not Activated	Flood Room Activated
	✓ (Business hours only)

Regional Flood Response Room Status:

Flood Room Not Activated	Flood Room Activated
	✓ (Business hours only, after hours Regional Flood Response Team)

River Catchment Zone “Status Table”

River system	Advisory status
Lake Taupo	NORMAL
Upper Waikato River	NORMAL
Central Waikato River	NORMAL
Waipa River	NORMAL
Lower Waikato River	NORMAL
Piako River (incl Waitoa River)	NORMAL
Waihou River (incl Ohinemuri River)	NORMAL
Coromandel Peninsula	NORMAL

West Coast rivers	NORMAL
Coastal waters	MONITORING KING TIDES

Latest Situation

A rapidly deepening low is forecast to approach New Zealand from the northwest today, then to lie the west of the North Island on Thursday while continuing to move south-eastwards. During Thursday, the low spreads a moist and strong northeast flow over central and southern New Zealand, delivering heavy rain and strong north-easterly winds to these areas.

For the latest MetService alerts refer to the WRC Advisories found in the 'Event Information' section on the Flood Room Live page.

<https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/services/regional-services/regional-hazards-and-emergency-management/flood-room/events/>

Tides

We are currently in a 'King Tide' phase with larger than normal tide ranges. The combination and coincidence of high tides and peak wind/waves occurring about the same time as predicted heavy rainfall may exacerbate river flood levels, particularly Thursday evening along the southern Firth of Thames.

High Tide times (NZDT) sourced from NIWA tide forecaster:

- Whitianga
 - Thursday 4th at 09:16 and 21:33
 - Friday 5th at 10:10 and 22:28
- Thames
 - Thursday 4th at 09:44 and 22:03
 - Friday 5th at 10:37 and 22:57

Hydrology

Coromandel Zone

Rivers- updated 1200 Hours

Site	River level (m)	Flow (cumecs)	Trend
Waiwawa	0.163	1.854	Falling
Opitonui	0.352	0.278	No Change
Tapu	0.078	0.283	No Change
Tairua	1.333	3.720	Falling

Rainfall (mm)- updated 1200 Hours

Site	Last hour	Last 12 hours	Last 24 hours	Predicted 12 hours
Castle Rock	1.5	4.5	14.0	67.9
Pinnacles	1.0	6.5	21.5	97.4

Waihou/Piako Zone

Rivers- updated 1200 Hours

Site	River level (m)	Flow (cumecs)	Trend
Shaftesbury (Waihou)	13.953	28.193	No Change
Te Aroha (Waihou)	7.385	30.835	Falling
Queens Head (Ohinemuri)	0.293	1.245	No Change
Karangahake (Ohinemuri)	11.902	4.817	No Change
Puke Bridge (Waihou)	2.131		Falling
Waharoa (Waitoa)	45.656	0.600	No Change
Piako P-T Road (Piako)	1.757	1.285	Rising
Kauaeranga	6.109	1.862	No Change
Mellon Road	5.948	2.497	No Change
Maukoro Landing	1.585		Rising

Rainfall (mm)- updated 1200 Hours

Site	Last hour	Last 12 hours	Last 24 hours	Predicted 12 hours
Te Aroha Racecourse	0.00	0.0	10.5	43.9
Kaimai	2.0	3.5	29.0	69.9
Golden Cross	2.5	3.5	31.5	63.9
Queens Head	0.5	1.0	4.0	
Maukoro Landing	0.5	0.5	0.5	49.0
Maungakawa	0.0	0.0	0.0	59.4

Summary issues

Due to dry weather conditions the heavy rain event is likely to progress into streams and rivers faster than normal. This on its own is unlikely to cause any issues but combined with predicted King high tides for both Whitianga and Thames, is likely to cause coastal inundation.

Coromandel:

- Whangamata
 - King tide at 09.16 04/01/18 has already impacted low lying areas/ flood plains particularly Te Weiti and Waikiekie streams. These areas and other low lying areas within the Coromandel are likely to be impacted by the high tides to follow.

Hauraki:

- Thames Area/ Kauaeranga River
 - If the King high tide coincides with high water levels within the Kauaeranga catchment then the Kauaeranga spillway may operate and close SH25 at Thames.
 - High tide affecting river levels and already affecting Rhodes Park and river berms
- Other
 - Hauraki DC, Rock Armouring section of East Coast Road in Kaiaua District

Roads

Coromandel closures/ hazards/ other

- SH2 Pokena to Paeroa- temporary roundabout

Hauraki closures/ hazards/ other

- Nil

Rivers and Schemes

Coromandel:

- Some Coromandel stream mouths are running slow, with some streams backed up further up in the lower catchment areas

Hauraki:

- Thames Area/ Kauaeranga River
 - Karaka Stream debris trap has minor debris and will be monitored
 - Staff on standby to monitor coastal water levels
- All other River Systems (Waihou/ Ohinemuri/ Piako)
 - Staff on standby to monitor levels and Stop Logs
 - Paeroa Main Drain Pumpstation (all 4 pumps) are operating on manual due to an electrical fault. Water level is still below pump start probes.

Next Situational meeting 1200 Hours 5th January 2018

Next Sit- Rep report by 1500 Hours 5th January 2018

Waikato Regional Council response

Flood response management

The regional response flood room is active during business hours. After hours the Regional Flood Response Team will be active.

The Regional Hazards Team have activated the 'Virtual Flood Room' to inform regional zones, external agencies and the public.

Flood Room Live: <https://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/services/regional-services/regional-hazards-and-emergency-management/flood-room/events/>

www.waikatoregion.govt.nz

Any remaining flood management enquires should be directed to the Regional Flood Coordinator on (027) 499 2120.

Operations

The Waikato Regional Council manages several flood protection scheme around the Waikato Region. These consist of networks of stopbanks, pump stations and flood gates.

The Waikato Regional Council is monitoring these networks during the current period. Any problems with this infrastructure should be reported immediately to the Waikato Regional Council on (027) 499 2120.

Media

All media inquiries should be directed to the Waikato Regional Council senior communications advisor (media) on 07 859 0782 or 021 756 310 – Stephen Ward.

Further information

National

Metservice: www.metservice.co.nz
Roading: www.aaroadwatch.co.nz

Local

Waikato Regional Council: www.waikatoregion.govt.nz
Genesis Energy: www.genesisenergy.co.nz
Mercury: www.mercury.co.nz
Waikato CDEM Group: www.waikatoregioncdemg.govt.nz