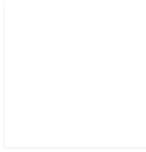


From: [NSW Government](#)
To: [Flood Inquiry](#)
Subject: Floods Inquiry
Date: Thursday, 12 May 2022 5:23:04 PM
Attachments: [28DBCC40-77C5-468E-9D01-B2237686AF7D.png](#)



Your details

Title	Mrs
First name	Sally
Last name	Andrewartha
Email	<input type="text"/>
Postcode	2488

Submission details

I am making this submission as	A resident in a flood-affected area
Submission type	I am making a personal submission
Consent to make submission public	I give my consent for this submission to be made public

Share your experience or tell your story

Your story	No warning for Bogangar residents. It is upsetting to me that the residents in Tamarind, Mimosa, Rosewood and Poplar Avenues, Grevillea St and Hastings Road, Bogangar were not alerted and were denied early warning that flooding of their homes was imminent. Since the flooding I have become aware that Cudgen Lake
-------------------	--

at the end of Willow Avenue, Bogangar has water level monitoring.

<https://www.mhl.nsw.gov.au/Station-202416>

Surely when the water reaches a critical level in Cudgen Lake combined with local rainfall statistics a warning could and should have been issued to residents that their homes are under threat. On Monday morning many residents awoke to flooding and were not even able to get their cars out. The flood waters were already too deep. Evacuation of people (some frail and elderly) and pets became necessary by the SES, the surf club and other community members.

Had a warning been given during Sunday night or in the early hours of Monday morning people may have had the opportunity to save their cars, and to lift or save precious belongings. You can't stop the flooding but the impacts, physical, financial, emotional could have been less had a warning for Cudgen Lake been given. Warnings for the Tweed River are meaningless in Bogangar. We have lived in Bogangar for 13 years. 4 years in Rosewood Ave and the last 9 we have lived on the canal on Friday Island on what is deemed a flood control lot. On this occasion the water in the canal behind our house rose a staggering 3m, peaking between 7 and 8pm on Monday 28th February. Had the water risen a further 20cm we would have had water in our home. We consider ourselves lucky.

Timeline On Friday 25th due to flooding in Brisbane and the forecast weather we decided to move our son's sailing boat out from underneath our deck and we raised garden tools and other items onto a retaining wall under our deck as we feared water would enter our backyard over the weekend. This has happened before. On Sunday evening the water had risen approximately 1m over our rock retaining wall and was entering our garden. On Monday morning before it was light I awoke to find our backyard underwater almost to the top of our garden fencing. We took water measurements and made preparations as the waters continued to rise throughout the day.

Access to Friday Island was cut off and the bridge beside our home went underwater. We moved belongings and furniture to our upper level knowing that many homes of people we knew were likely to already be flooded. The park across the street from us became a lake and we knew the basement car park of Woolworths was underwater. At about 8pm Monday evening we noticed a small reduction in the level of the water which gave us some hope that the worst had passed. Whilst my family has not been directly impacted, this event has been distressing and I feel heartbroken for the families that 12 days later still have their personal possessions filling the footpath outside their damaged homes. Until the rubbish is removed these members of the community are constantly reminded of what they have lost. Homes that have never flooded before in Bogangar flooded. Despite the water levels being recorded no warning was given to our local residents.

Terms of Reference (optional)

The Inquiry welcomes submissions that address the particular matters identified in its [Terms of Reference](#)

1.1 Causes and contributing factors

Cudgen Lake drains slowly. When we have a lot of heavy rain it cannot escape quickly enough and causes flooding in low lying areas of Bogangar.

1.2 Preparation and planning

No warning given despite Cudgen Lake having a Water Level Monitoring Station. Tweed River warnings are meaningless in our area.

Supporting documents or images

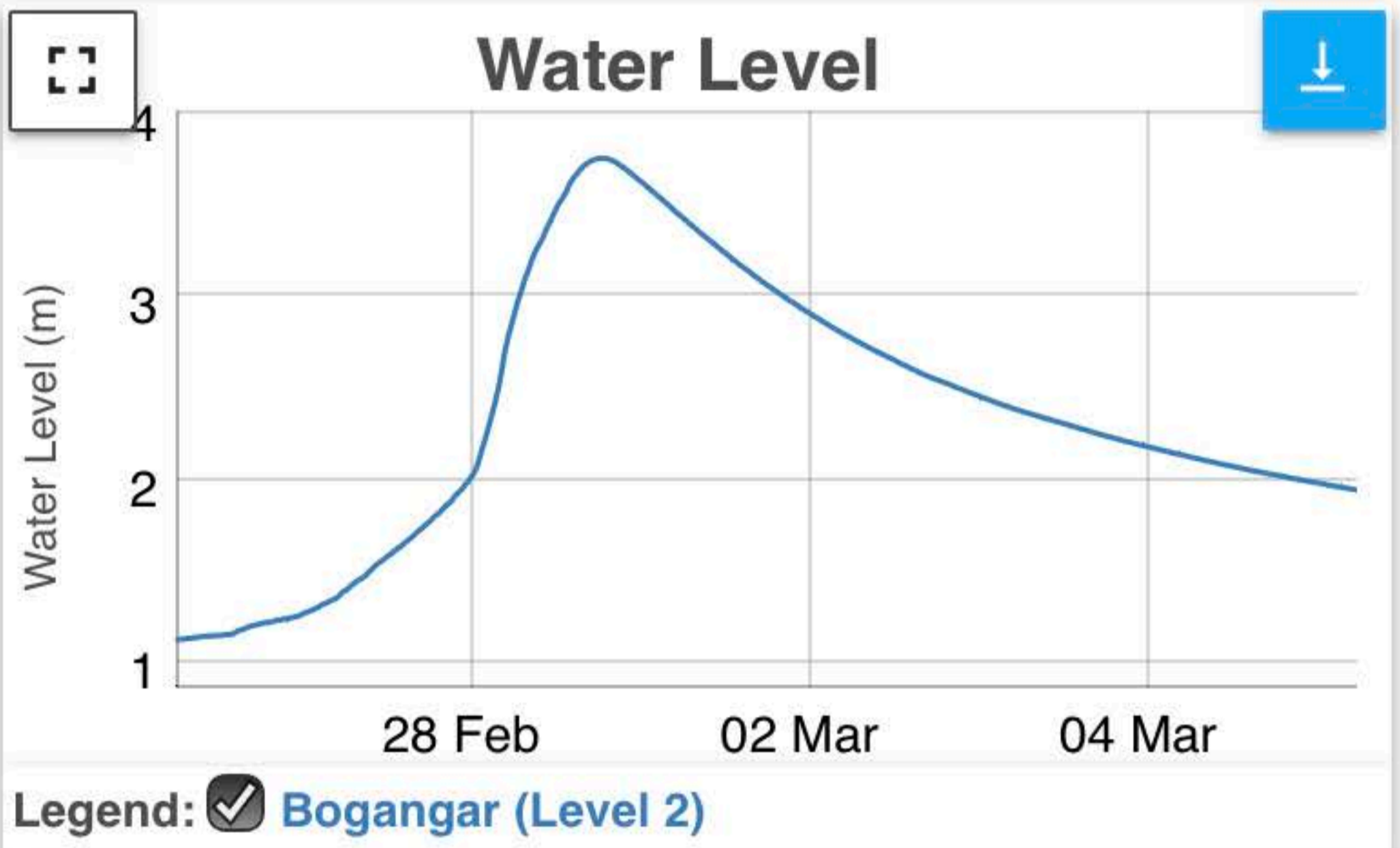
Attach files

- [28DBCC40-77C5-468E-9D01-B22376B6AF7D.png](#)



Water Level (m)(Latest)

Site	Latest Value	Timestamp
Bogangar (Level 2)	1.943	6:00AM 05/03/2022



IMPORTANT: This information has been recovered directly from automatic recording equipment and may not be quality controlled by MHL. All times are recorded in Australian Eastern Standard Time (UTC+10:00). Water level datums are site dependent. Please contact MHL for further clarification.