



IDQ20032
Bureau of Meteorology
Queensland Regional Office

TOP PRIORITY FOR IMMEDIATE BROADCAST

SEVERE WEATHER WARNING

for **DESTRUCTIVE WINDS, HEAVY RAINFALL, ABNORMALLY HIGH TIDES and DANGEROUS SURF**

**For people in the
Capricornia,
Wide Bay and Burnett,
Southeast Coast and parts of the
Darling Downs and Granite Belt Forecast Districts.**

Issued at 11:26 am Wednesday, 18 February 2015.

Synoptic Situation:

A tropical low pressure system lies over the Coral Sea approximately 1050km north northeast of Bundaberg. The low is expected to develop into a tropical cyclone as it moves southwestwards towards the Queensland east coast, and forecast to cross the Capricornia or Wide Bay coast early on Friday. A trough will extend southwards from the low, and will move onto the Capricornia, Wide Bay and southeast Queensland coasts during Thursday.

St Lawrence to Double Island Point:

Thunderstorms are expected to develop near the trough early on Thursday morning, and are likely to move onto the coast between St Lawrence and Hervey Bay during Thursday morning. These thunderstorms may produce localised areas of destructive wind gusts in excess of 125 km/hr about coastal and island communities.

A Tropical Cyclone Watch is also current from St Lawrence to Double Island Point, with heavy rainfall and abnormally high tides expected to develop during Thursday, and with a more extensive area of gales expected to develop during Thursday evening. The heavy rain may lead to flash flooding, with some 24 hour totals in excess of 300mm likely. Water levels on the high tide are likely to exceed the highest tide of the year between St Lawrence and Double Island Point from Thursday.

Double Island Point to the NSW border:

Heavy rain and locally damaging wind gusts are possible from the coast to the ranges between Double Island Point and Brisbane from Thursday, extending to the state's southern border and into the eastern Darling Downs during Thursday night into Friday. The heavy rain may lead to flash flooding, with some 24 hour totals in excess of 300mm likely. Damaging wind gusts may reach around 90 km/hr, mostly near the coast and ranges.

Water levels on the high tide are likely to exceed the highest tide of the year between Double Island Point and the Gold Coast from Thursday. Dangerous surf conditions and beach erosion are also expected on exposed beaches south of Double Island Point.

Riverine flooding:

A flood watch is current for the Capricornia, Wide Bay and Burnett, Southeast Coast and Darling Downs forecast districts.

Locations which may be affected include Warwick, Gold Coast, Toowoomba, the Lockyer Valley, the Sunshine Coast, Brisbane, Ipswich, Gympie, Bundaberg, Gladstone, and Rockhampton.

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services advises that people should:

- * Move your car under cover or away from trees.
- * Secure loose outdoor items.

- * Seek shelter, preferably indoors and never under trees.
- * Beware of fallen trees and powerlines.
- * Avoid driving, walking or riding through flood waters.
- * Keep clear of creeks and storm drains.
- * Surf Life Saving Australia recommends that you stay out of the water and stay well away from surf-exposed areas.
- * Check your property regularly for erosion or inundation by sea water, and if necessary raise goods and electrical items.
- * For emergency assistance contact the SES on 132 500.

The next warning is due to be issued by 5:30 pm.

Warnings are also available through TV and Radio broadcasts, the Bureau's website at www.bom.gov.au or call 1300 659 219. The Bureau and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services would appreciate warnings being broadcast regularly.

This page was created at **on**