NEWELL HIGHWAY AND LACHLAN VALLEY WAY REOPENED AS FLOODWATER RECEDES

The Newell Highway at Gillenbah and Lachlan Valley Way between Forbes and Gooloogong have reopened after flood waters receded in recent days.

Minister for Roads Duncan Gay said this follows the reopening of Escort Way from Forbes to Eugowra last week and is great news for local residents, businesses and the community.

The Newell Highway remains closed to all traffic from Marsden to Forbes as floodwaters are still affecting this section of the road.

Roads and Maritime Services is closely monitoring flooding on the Newell Highway – this section of road is expected to reopen within two weeks, weather permitting.

“The Newell Highway is an important freight road corridor and with floodwaters receding, Roads and Maritime has been able to open one lane of the Newell Highway for all vehicles between the Raes Lane diversion and the Sturt Highway at Gillenbah to provide some relief,” Mr Gay said.

“Traffic controllers are in place and an escort vehicle is guiding road users through Gillenbah to and from the Raes Lane detour.

“Floodwaters have also receded on Lachlan Valley Way south-east of Forbes and Roads and Maritime carried out emergency repairs to ensure this section of road could reopen as soon as possible.

“Access from Forbes to Cowra via Gooloogong has also been restored, which will bring relief to the thousands of people affected during the severe flooding event.”

Work crews are undertaking minor repairs along the route and motorists are advised to exercise caution and allow additional travel time.

Following the reopening of Lachlan Valley Way, traffic is now detoured via the Mid-Western Highway and Henry Lawson Way to Forbes (Grenfell to Forbes Road). This has halved the detour route time from more than two hours to about 50 minutes.

For the latest traffic information visit www.livetraffic.com, download the Live Traffic App or call the Transport Management Centre on 132 701.

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