

River heights are issued by the Burdekin Shire Council Flood Reporting Centre for various points of the Burdekin River with the main point for the Lower Burdekin being the gauge at the Burdekin Bridge at Carstairs, Home Hill.

Advance warnings of flood flows are provided by river height readings from Clare, Millaroo, Dalbeg and various stations further upstream.

The following table shows significant heights at the Burdekin Bridge and their probable effects in the Ayr and Home Hill areas.

In all cases, river heights are given as depths of flow above a fixed point of the stream bed (which was some years ago).

Relevant Report Document	Height at Burdekin Bridge in metres	Probable Effect
Floodht1.doc	6.0 to 7.0	Residents of Rita Island and Groper Creek should monitor Heights
Floodht2.doc	8.53	Water commences to come against Todd's Break
Floodht3.doc	8.84	Water commences to come in Warren's Gully. Water commences to come over bank into Plantation Creek
Floodht4.doc	9.75	Water commences to come over banks at Tapiolas Break and McDowell's and Ramsden's on Home Hill side. Also enters farms in Jarvisfield area.
Floodht5.doc	10.67	Water breaks over the top of protective work at Todd's holding up traffic on Rita Island Road at Jarvisfield School and on the Kilrie Road at Lando's
Floodht6.doc	11.28	Water commences to come over banks at Lago's and Strano's farms and move towards Home Hill town.
Floodht7.doc	11.58	Definite threat to the lower business section of Home Hill and Down River, lower Jarvisfield and Rita Island farms. Major traffic disability with communications cut between Ayr-Home Hill and Home Hill-Bowen.
Floodht8.doc	11.89	Water commences to overflow into Sheepstation Creek which eventually cuts Ayr-Clare Road and Townsville-Ayr road. At least half cane growing area flooded. Communications thoroughly disrupted.
Floodht9.doc	12.19	Disastrous flood level. Water in Home Hill business section and outskirts of Ayr town.

For general information, set out below are peak gauge heights of some of the previous floods.

Burdekin Bridge	Clare		Dalbeg		Date
	Old	New	Old	New	
12.64m	18.39m	19.43m	22.81m	24.84m	3 rd April, 1958
12.53m	18.05m	18.25m	19.88m	19.95m	3 rd February, 1991
12.04m	15.85m	16.84m	17.07m	18.08m	17 th February, 1968
12.04m	15.90m	16.90m	17.88m	19.04m	11 th January, 1972
12.30m	16.02m	17.00m	18.90m	20.24m	25 th January, 1974

Note: Readings at the new gauges other than those of February, 1991 are approximate correlated readings only – February 1991.

It is not possible to accurately predict the height which outbreak waters will reach at locations away from the river banks. The information contained in the Council's Flood Reports relating to these effects, including predictions of effects at Rita Island and Groper Creek, are to provide guidance only.