

Temporary restrictions on state-controlled roads

The Queensland state-controlled road (SCR) network is made up of around 33,500km of roads and about 6,500 bridges and major culverts. These are essential for connecting communities, industry and business.

Please note: This Information Sheet refers only to state-controlled roads and not Local Government roads.

Road restrictions/closures

Flooding can cause extensive damage to roads, bridges and property. For the safety of all road users, and to protect the road for the future, temporary road closures are necessary while there is water on the road and in some instances for some time after the water has receded.

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) policy states that SCRs are closed when the depth of *still* water is 300 mm or more, or 200mm when the water is *flowing*. In certain instances, exceptions to the rule can be made after taking into consideration a number of factors. These are approved on a case-by-case basis by the local TMR region. More information is available in the *Road Closure Policy for wet weather and flooding*, located on the TMR website.

Up-to-date information on road restrictions including traffic incidents and closures is available at 131940.qld.gov.au or by phoning the 13 19 40 Transport and Main Roads State-Wide Traffic and Road Condition Reporting Service*.

The department understands the impact flooding has on communities and industry and seeks everyone's assistance in preserving Queensland's roads during and following wet weather and flooding.

Heavy and over mass vehicles

The type of water damage may impact the weight that a road can take and heavy mass vehicles may not be able to use some roads (including over mass permitted roads) until they are repaired.

The Heavy Vehicle Excess Mass and Dimension hotline 1300 105 647 is available 8.30am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday, and provides information on the conditions of operation.

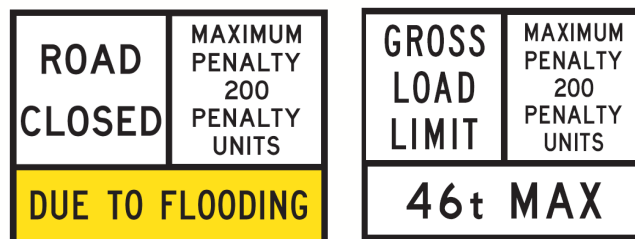
Heavy vehicle permit conditions include that the "Excess Mass and Dimension Permit Management System – Conditions of Operations Database" and 131940 on the TMR website, be checked.

Signage

For your safety, the department installs Restricted Road Use Notices. These notices (or signs) make sure the road closure or restriction is clearly identified.

Apart from notifying the public of the road condition, the restrictions will also help protect roads from sustaining further damage.

The signs below are enforceable under s46 of the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* and a penalty applies if a person drives past this sign (unless access approval has been granted – see section below).



Approval to drive past a Restricted Road Use Notice

- (1) *Single trip access* - If there is an extenuating circumstance (delivery of food, water or medical supplies), an application to drive past the RRUN can be made through a Transport and Main Roads regional office <http://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/About-us/Contact-us/In-person/Roads-offices.aspx> or a Queensland Police Service office.

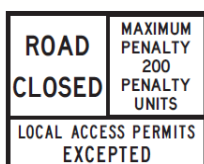
Applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis and if written approval has been issued, it will be subject to a number of conditions, including a single (one way) trip only.

- (2) *Local area access (multiple trip)* approvals are available for areas where SCRs are restricted for an extended period of time. Approval will be subject to conditions and will apply to people who need to access their residence, property, business or essential services on a restricted SCR.

(3) *TMR Transport Inspectors (single/multiple trips)* are available in special circumstances where it is necessary for ensuring the safety of persons.

Applications can be made through a Transport and Main Roads regional office [refer to (1) above]* or a Queensland Police Service office.

The sign below applies where local access approval has been granted for access to a restricted road. Permits are still valid, however, if there is no 'Local Access Permits Excepted' sign present on the multi message panel.



North Queensland Roads

During the wet season, a 5 tonne load limit applies to vehicles travelling on the Peninsula Developmental Road and Burke Developmental Road. This allows access to residences, properties and businesses, when it is safe to do so, without the need for a RRUN Approval.

Application can be made for a Load Limit Permit for Higher mass vehicles under the *Heavy Vehicle National Law Act 2012*, where the movement of essential supplies or other urgent travel is necessary. The onus is placed on the permit holder to ensure the route is suitable for the proposed travel and to meet the costs of any excessive damage caused. Contact phone number for Far North District is 4045 7148.

Fire and smoke on SCRs

The bushfire season in Queensland generally occurs between late July and February.



Temporary closure of roads can occur during 'burning off' operations or the fire season, to protect persons, property or the environment from danger or potential danger caused by fire. Special care is required by motorists when thick smoke is present on roads, to minimise the likelihood of vehicles stopping within the smoke zone and posing a hazard to following vehicles. Motorists should comply with all signage.

The websites www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au, www.fire.qld.gov.au and 131940 will also have information.

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services collaborate with Transport and Main Roads and Queensland Police Service about restriction of roads during the bushfire season and fire/smoke hazardous situations.

No entry signs (all roads)

The signs below may be placed at the site of a road closure. Unlike Restricted Road Use Notices, no approval will be granted for driving past a No Entry sign.

Three (3) demerit points and a fine will apply to any member of the public who drives past a No Entry sign.



Contact Information

After hours contact numbers

If contact cannot be made with the regional office, please contact 13 19 40 Transport and Main Roads State-Wide Traffic and Road Condition Reporting Service, which will redirect your call.

Policy and standards

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Signage

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* Please note that you must comply with the law governing use of mobile phones and other devices in vehicles. You must not access any website or listed phone service from a vehicle unless it is both safe and legal to do.