

LOCAL NAVIGATION WARNING GIPPSLAND PORTS



The following navigation warning is published for general information.

AUSTRALIA – VICTORIA **Local Navigation Warning No.11 of 2022**

GIPPSLAND

FLOODWATER AND DEBRIS NAVIGATION WARNING

DATE: 2nd November, 2022

DETAILS: Mariners are advised that the Australian Bureau of Meteorology is maintaining a flood watch across Central, North East Victoria and Gippsland.

Catchments in the flood watch area are saturated, some of which are experiencing ongoing flooding due to recent rainfall. Storages are mostly at or near capacity and spilling or actively releasing water.

Further river level rises are possible and minor flooding may develop in the flood watch area into Wednesday. Catchments with recent or existing warnings where river levels are elevated may see fast response to rainfall and moderate flooding is possible at some locations.

Flood warnings are current for the Latrobe, Thompson and Snowy Rivers. Although other rivers and catchments do not have flood warnings, there is likely to be a significant increase in the amount of water flowing downstream throughout Gippsland. Areas likely to be affected include:

Bemm, Cann and Genoa Rivers

Snowy River

Tambo River

Mitchell River

Avon River

Macalister River

Thomson River

Latrobe River

South Gippsland Rivers

Gippsland Ports will monitor river heights for further Warnings and Notices.

In the meantime, Mariners are reminded that debris caused by flood water including large trees and timbers may find its way downstream and affect

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the safe navigation of vessels within the Gippsland Rivers and Lake systems.

For information on weather and rising flood water levels go to;
<http://www.bom.gov.au/>

Gippsland Ports recommends downloading the [VicEmergency App](#).

Gippsland Ports strongly advises against the operation of vessels in flood affected waters or driving vehicles through flood water.

Mariners should take extra precaution if it is necessary to operate vessels in rivers and creeks following rain events and be aware of the possible presence of new debris hazards.

Please contact Gippsland Ports on (03) 51 500 500 to report navigation hazards.

For the Gippsland Lakes, Mariners are advised that floodwaters from the catchment areas of the entire lakes system can only exit through the ocean entrance to the Gippsland Lakes. Floodwater increases the velocity of the flow of the ebb tide in the navigable channels near Lakes Entrance and the Entrance Channel and causes heightened safety risk when attempting Bar crossings.

Mariners are advised to expect higher than predicted tides throughout the Gippsland Lakes System. The flow of the ebb tide at its peak in the Entrance channel may exceed 6 knots at times.

Vessel owners and operators should ensure that berthed or moored vessels are watertight, properly secured and regularly check mooring lines and swing mooring cables.

PUBLICATIONS
AFFECTED: Gippsland Ports Waterways Online website at
<https://www.gippslandports.vic.gov.au/boating/waterways-online/>

FURTHER
NOTICE: A further notice will be issued.

DAVID ASHWORTH
ACTING HARBOUR MASTER