



**Minister Steve Whan**

Minister for Primary Industries  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Rural Affairs

# MEDIA RELEASE

---

## Farmers urged to move stock to higher ground

24 December, 2009

The NSW Government is urging farmers to move livestock to higher ground, with flooding expected in the State's north west, central north and central west this weekend.

Minister for Primary Industries Steve Whan said farmers should monitor their local weather forecasts and be prepared.

"The main thing farmers should do is to keep on top of their local weather conditions, know where their stock are, and be prepared to take preventative steps," Mr Whan said.

"If the downpour commences this weekend, farmers should move their stock to higher ground, ensure they have enough access to fodder, and move pumps and machinery from low-lying areas.

"Some areas could become isolated and cut off during the flooding, so they need to ensure they have appropriate fodder and other domestic supplies.

"If people are going away for the Christmas break, they should get in touch with their neighbours to make arrangements for the stock and pets."

Flooding is expected to develop over Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> December in the following rivers:

- Castlereagh River - major flooding
- Bogan River - major flooding
- Lower Namoi River downstream of Narrabri - major flooding
- Lower Macquarie River downstream of Dubbo and including the Talbragar River - major flooding
- Barwon/Darling River between Walgett and Bourke - local flooding leading to rapid river rises within 6 to 9 hours of heavy rain.

"Staff from Industry & Investment NSW will be working closely with the State Emergency Service and monitoring the situation over the next few days," Mr Whan said.

Farmers who require emergency assistance should call the SES on **132 500**.

---