



## CALLIDE CREEK & DON RIVER FLOOD FEBRUARY 1997

### 1. Introduction

Heavy rainfall occurred in the Callide Creek and Don River catchments in the 30 hours to 9pm 27 February 1997 and resulted in the major significant flooding at the township of Goovigen. *This resulted in major flooding in the township of Goovigen on 28 February 1997, with approximately 10 houses flooded over floor level. About 30 to 40 houses were protected by sandbags.*

The current flood warning network of rainfall and river height stations operated by the Bureau of Meteorology in Callide Creek and Don River is shown on the attached map, Figure 1. Callide Creek at Goovigen has a catchment area of 4495 square kilometres while at the Don River at Rannes the catchment area is 6865 square kilometres. The telemetred stations, owned by the Department of Natural Resources, are interrogated by the Bureau regularly during floods.

### 2. Rainfall

The heavy rain commenced on the afternoon of Wednesday 26 February 1997 and had largely finished by 9pm Thursday 27 February 1997. As shown in the table below, rainfall totals during this period varied from only 38 mm in the upper Don River to over 400 mm in the lower Don River catchment around its junction with the Dawson River.

Station	Rainfall in 24 hours to 9am		Rainfall in 48 hours to 9am 28 February 1997
	27 February 1997	28 February 1997	
Mt Morgan	17	25	42
Kembula TM	17	23	40
Wura TM	20	18	38
Wowan	28	19	47
Kingsborough TM	44	30	74
Stagg Ck TM	62	2	64
Thangool	68	6	74
Jambin	118	46	164
Goovigen	152	27	179
Rannes	201	104	305
Beckers TM	268	156	424
Newlands	29	83	112
Baralaba	158	92	250

### 3. River Heights

Figure 1 shows the relationship between the average catchment rainfall and the river heights at Goovigen and Rannes during the February flood. The March 1997 flood peak is one of the highest on record which commenced in 1971.

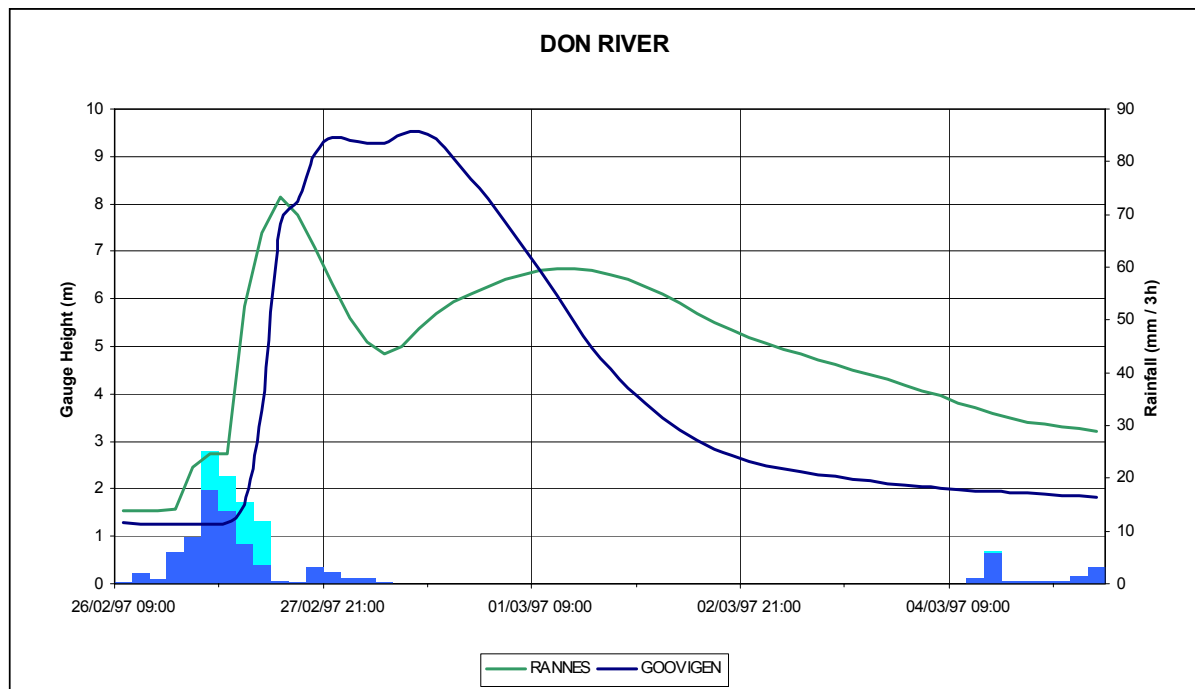


Figure 1 Don River Hydrographs