



HAUGHTON RIVER FLOOD

February 2000

This report includes some observations on the flood in the Haughton River which occurred from 17 to 23 February 2000 and is subject to confirmation.

Rainfall

- The table below shows the three periods of heavy rainfall (mm/hr) which were responsible for the flooding.

10am Thursday 17 February to 3am Friday 18 February

9pm Friday 18 February to 2am Saturday 19 February

1pm Sunday 20 February to 8pm Sunday 20 February

Date/Time	Brabons	Nettlefield	McDonalds	Mingela	Cameron Hill	Mt Piccaninny	Woodstock	Powerline	Giru
17/02/00 11:00	21	1	3	0	1	0	0	2	7
17/02/00 12:00	12	42	31	0	4	3	8	8	2
17/02/00 13:00	1	29	5	0	8	33	33	4	4
17/02/00 14:00	1	0	5	0	36	9	9	2	24
17/02/00 15:00	10	1	13	0	20	27	4	22	8
17/02/00 16:00	3	4	15	0	9	7	5	4	5
17/02/00 17:00	2	27	39	0	2	2	13	13	6
17/02/00 18:00	1	15	1	11	7	23	13	6	4
17/02/00 19:00	9	10	1	3	4	12	10	4	4
17/02/00 20:00	0	4	1	3	2	3	6	3	6
17/02/00 21:00	0	0	1	1	3	1	3	0	3
17/02/00 22:00	1	0	1	0	3	3	2	0	1
17/02/00 23:00	12	0	2	0	4	13	0	0	1
18/02/00 00:00	3	3	17	1	3	31	0	10	8
18/02/00 01:00	8	3	3	0	5	29	2	9	7
18/02/00 02:00	29	9	2	0	1	3	2	5	4
18/02/00 03:00	20	23	17	4	4	3	2	2	1
18/02/00 22:00	1	18	4	0	1	0	0	0	0
18/02/00 23:00	0	6	5	8	1	2	0	0	0
19/02/00 00:00	0	5	1	1	17	29	1	8	29
19/02/00 01:00	0	1	0	3	3	36	1	16	15
19/02/00 02:00	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	3	25
20/02/00 14:00	7	1	4	22	2	0	4	16	2
20/02/00 15:00	2	16	3	0	25	16	3	15	4

20/02/00 16:00	1	1	2	0	1	3	7	10	7
20/02/00 17:00	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	1	7
20/02/00 18:00	1	2	0	3	0	1	4	0	8
20/02/00 19:00	12	12	2	4	20	3	4	0	8
20/02/00 20:00	5	3	6	3	9	17	5	0	0

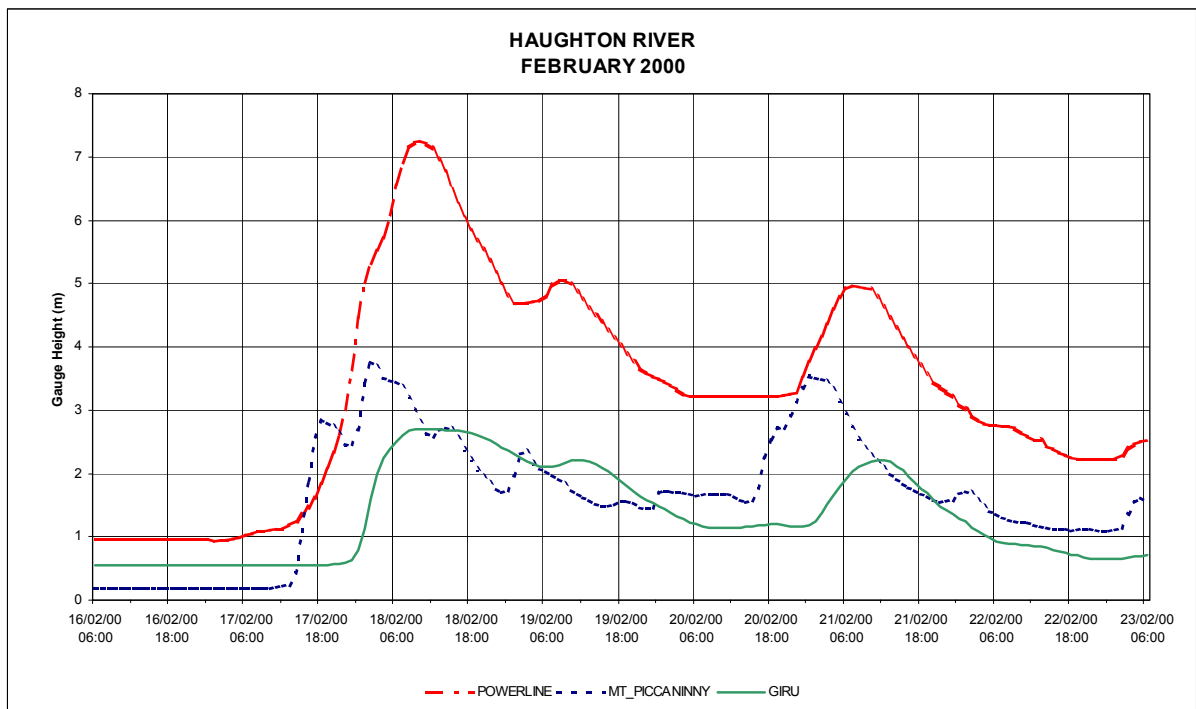
- Brabons, Nettlefield and McDonalds are located within the Ross River catchment. However, they help to indicate extent of the heavy rainfall in the upper reaches of the Haughton River catchment.
- The period of heaviest rainfall occurred between 12pm and 6pm Thursday 17 February.
- Over the 7 days ending 9am Tuesday 23 February, highest totals were recorded in the lower reaches of the Haughton River catchment where Giru recorded just over 400mm in the period.
- In the 7 days, rainfalls ranged from less than 100 at Mingela to over 400 at Mt Piccaninny and Giru.
- Most intense recorded one hourly rainfalls in the Haughton River catchment were:

36mm at Cameron Hill	ending 02:00pm Thursday 17 Feb
33mm at Woodstcok	ending 01:00pm Thursday 17 Feb
51mm at Mt Piccaninny	ending 00:30am Saturday 19 Mar
- Intensity- frequency- duration analysis of rainfall at these stations shows that for 12 to 24 hours durations Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) was 1-2 years at Cameron Hill and Woodstock. At Mt Piccaninny, the ARI was 10-20 years for a 12 hour storm.

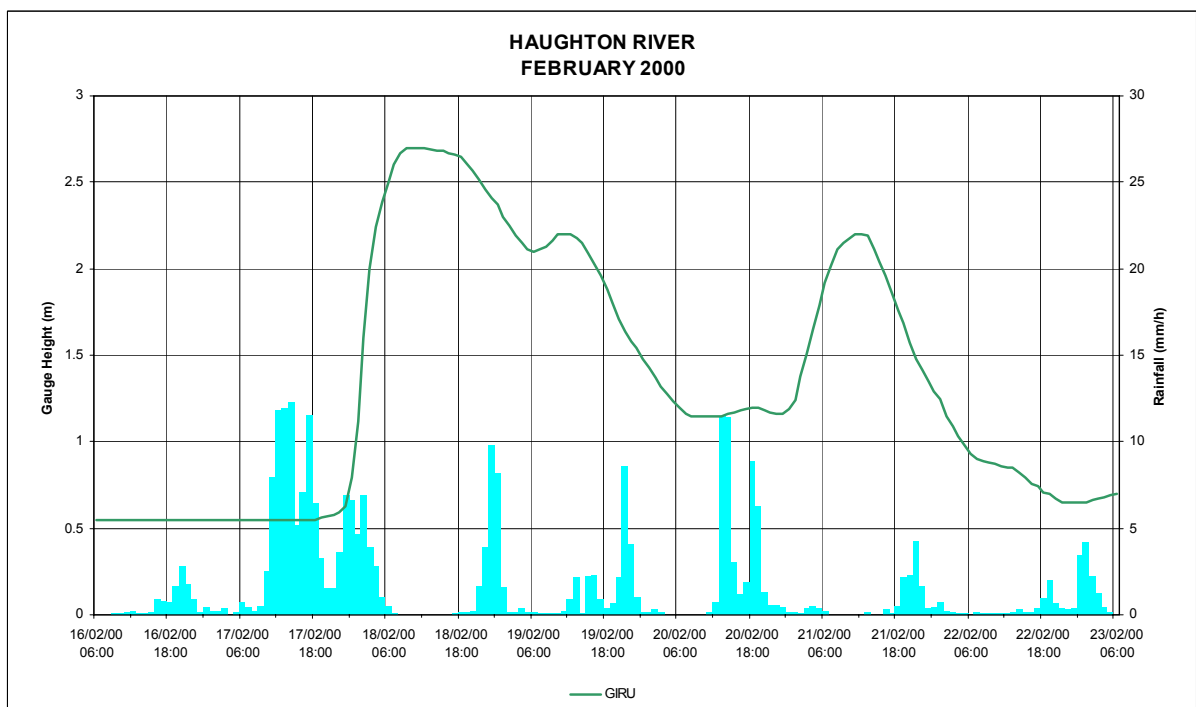
River Heights

- By 16 February, the Haughton River was considered to be reasonably saturated. The initial loss (ie the amount of rainfall required to fully saturate the catchment) was in the medium range about 60mm.
- River levels throughout the Haughton commenced to rise during the afternoon and evening of Thursday 17 February.
- Peak levels recorded at each of the river height stations in the catchment is in the table below.

Mt Piccaninny		Powerline		Giru	
Date/Time	Height (m)	Date/Time	Height (m)	Date/Time	Height (m)
18/02/00 0150	3.78	18/02/00 1045	7.27	18/02/00 0845	2.70
19/02/00 0225	2.38	19/02/00 0840	5.07	19/02/00 1000	2.20
20/02/00 2340	3.53	21/02/00 0840	4.98	21/02/00 1105	2.20



- The river at Giru commenced to rise sharply late Thursday 17 February and peaked at 2.70 metres at about 8.45am Friday morning. It maintained this level for about 10 hours until commencing to fall Friday evening.
- Subsequent rises at Giru on 19 and 21 February did not reach as high as the initial peak.



Further Information

- Contact Peter Baddiley (07 3239 8768) or Terry Malone (07 3239 8765).