

FLOODING IN UPPER BURNETT RIVER

February 2003

Introduction

In the 72 hours to 9am 7th February, heavy rainfall occurred in the upper reaches of the Burnett River.

The resulting flooding caused major flooding along the Burnett River down to Mundubbera and were the largest in the area for the last 50 years.

Rainfall Totals

Over the three days total rainfall ranged from nearly 400 mm in the eastern part of the catchment around Upper Monal to 200 mm in the western parts of the catchment. The highest 24 hours rainfall was recorded at Upper Monal.

Table 1 Rainfall Totals (mm)

Station Name	24 hours to 9am			Total
	5	6	7	
Upper Monal TM *	141	137	100	378
Monto Airport SYN	92	80	129	301
Abercorn	82	62	107	251
Abercorn TM *	79	70	106	255
Dakiel TM *	99	101	106	306
Yarrol TM *	88	68	107	263
Lands End TM *	67	38	104	209
Colodan	68	52	77	197
Eidsvold	46	28	90	164
Eidsvold TM *	40	24	90	154
Mundubbera	24	18	57	99
Gayndah Airport AWS *	30	13	6.2	49
Dingle Dell TM *	88	59	58	205
Mt Perry	100	58	58	216

* Signifies automatic station

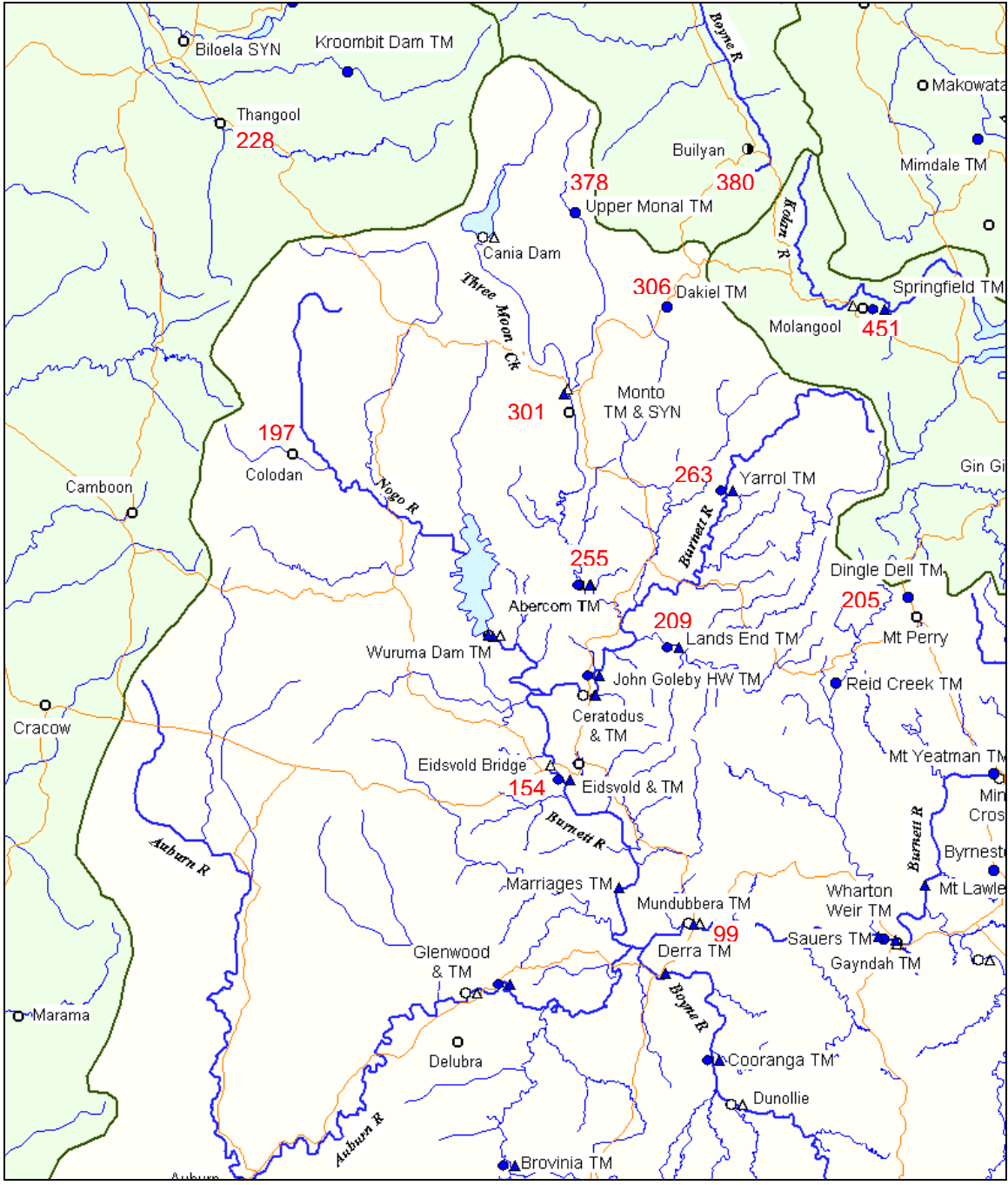


Figure 1 Rainfall (mm) 72 hours to 9am 7th February 2003

River Levels

The flood peaks reached in the upper Burnett River above Mundubbera are the highest in the last 45 years and appear to be similar in magnitude to the flood of March 1956.

The record height at Abercorn indicates that is substantially less than February 1942 but since this time, Cania and Wuruma Dams have been constructed.

Table 2 Upper Burnett Flood Peaks

Station	Commenced	Feb 2003 Peak	Record Peak
MontoTM	1989	?	5.96 Jan 1996
Abercorn	1942	8.20	9.55 Feb 1942
Abercorn TM	1964	8.29	8.50 Jan 1996
Ceratodus TM	1948	14.12	14.50 Mar 1956
Eidsvold Br	1955	14.35	12.60 Mar 1956
Eidsvold TM	1960	12.36	10.25 Jan 1996
Marriages TM	1971	?	9.88 Jan 1996
Mundubbera	1942	10.60	23.62 Feb 1942

