

Level 5 Highway House
14 Palmerston Circuit
PALMERSTON NT 0830

Postal Address
PO Box 61
PALMERSTON NT 0831

Rapid Creek Flood Mitigation Project Update – March 2018

A tender has been released to construct a stormwater detention basin and associated drainage to alleviate flooding in the Rapid Creek catchment.

The Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics will be constructing the stormwater detention basin on the corner of McMillans Road and Henry Wrigley Drive in Marrara.

Flooding can occur in the Rapid Creek catchment when heavy rain combined with high tides causes flood water to back up into the creek and flood low-lying properties.

The detention basin is designed to temporarily detain stormwater flows from Anula, Moil and parts of Marrara outside of the flood extent during flood events.

Construction of the detention basin, combined with other flood mitigation measures to be implemented at the Darwin International Airport, will significantly reduce the impact of flooding on downstream properties.

The measures were recommended by the Darwin Flood Mitigation Advisory Committee to reduce the risk and impact of flood events in areas of Darwin.

The construction tender has been re-released after low levels of (PFAS) within soils at the detention basin site were identified. The department has undertaken further testing in accordance with the National Environment Protection Measure (NEPM) guidelines, which has shown soils within this site are significantly below the Health Based Guidance Values for PFAS.

An earthworks management plan has been finalised which outlines control measures for the disposal of excess clean fill. The plan has been developed in accordance with recommendations of an environmental assessor and endorsed by an independent auditor, in line with the NT Environment Protection Authority requirements.

The design of the basin seeks to retain as much native vegetation as possible, with land to be cleared for the perimeter embankment only, while the excavation for the basin floor is in the previously cleared part of the site. When complete, the basin floor and embankment will be grassed to stabilise it against erosion and it will remain free draining, holding water generally no longer than 24 hours after a large rainfall event.

The contract is expected to be awarded and construction to begin in June-July 2018. The project is expected to be completed in late 2018.

Residents and the general public will be kept updated on any impacts of the construction works and required traffic management on Henry Wrigley Drive and Abala Road as part of the project.

Any queries about the flood mitigation measures and construction of the detention basin can contact the flood mitigation hotline during business hours on 1800 560 308 or email flood.mitigation@nt.gov.au.