



information bulletin

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Road Closures Arnhem and Kakadu Highways

General

Currently, both the **Arnhem and Kakadu Highways** have road closures in place as follows:

- Arnhem Highway between Window on the Wetlands Visitor Centre and the eastern end of the Adelaide River floodplain and between Corroboree Park Tavern and Kakadu Highway;
- Kakadu Highway between Gimbat Road and Kakadu National Park Headquarters.

Apart from these closures there are other restrictions in place due to flooding and water across the road. You are referred to the Department's road reporting **website** above for more detail of these restrictions.

Arnhem Highway – Culvert Subsidence at West Alligator West Branch River Crossing

This culvert is located on the Arnhem Highway at 150.6 km from the Stuart Highway and is a reinforced concrete box culvert spanning 8.6 metres.

The culvert initially subsided about 200 mm with visual damage to the road pavement and the structure following overtopping on 28 February 2007.

The culvert was again overtopped by one metre of water on 2 March 2007 resulting in further damage with subsidence now up to 400mm which has eliminated the option of initially reopening the road to light traffic.

Officers of the Department, in conjunction with contractors, will be inspecting the site again today to finalise an option to construct a bridge to span the damaged culverts.

This option will involve the driving of steel piles to support concrete abutments at either end and the placement of precast concrete deck units at an estimated cost of around one million dollars.

Work will commence immediately on the manufacture of the precast units which will take five to six days. Piling works will commence soon after access to the Arnhem Highway is reopened. Present indications are that this may be several days.

The program to complete the works to a stage to allow use is 2 – 3 weeks which is dependent on the length of closure due to flooding.

(1/2 continued)

(2/2)

The Department will reopen the **Kakadu Highway** as soon as is safe to do so to provide alternative access to Jabiru and Kakadu National Park.

Access to **Point Stuart Road** will not be affected by the repair works.

Regular updates will be provided on the progress of the Department with its investigations and works to construct a bridge over the damaged culvert.

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