

# FLOOD NEWS FLASH

24th August 2023

Artwork by Natalie Davey

## Plans for access through Fitzroy Crossing ahead of wet season

The temporary two-lane low level crossing, currently open to all vehicles adjacent to the new Fitzroy River Bridge, will be removed in mid-September with all traffic diverted onto the single lane causeway, four kilometres upstream of the new Fitzroy River Bridge.

The single-lane causeway is being upgraded to cater for all vehicles including road trains and oversized vehicles and will remain open until the river levels rise.

Once water levels rise and the river is navigable, the barge ferry service will be reinstated to transport passengers and light vehicles. Main Roads is also investigating options to accommodate the movement of freight vehicles across the river.

The removal of the two-lane crossing is required to facilitate crucial embankment and scour protection works for the new Fitzroy River bridge and Fitzroy Lodge and prevent further erosion prior to the river flowing again.

The steel pipes, installed underneath the temporary crossing to carry smaller river flows, need to be removed before the larger wet season river flows occur. The larger river flows will damage the crossing and risk washing the steel casings down stream potentially damaging the steel piles installed for the new Fitzroy River Bridge.

Permanent repairs to the 10-kilometre section of Great Northern Highway at Willare are underway and due for completion by late 2023, prior to the wet season.

Stay up-to-date with road closures via the Main Roads Travel Map  
<https://travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au/Home/Map>



*Above: Aerial view of the two-lane low level crossing.*



# RECENT EVENTS

Check back each week to see what has been happening in the community and any upcoming events!

## KALACC/YIRIMAN MINDI RARDI DANCE FESTIVAL

The KALACC/Yiriman Mindi Rardi Dance Festival is a significant event on the calendar, gathering everyone together to listen, learn, and commemorate the stories, songs, and dances held over two nights. The Festival serves as a pivotal platform for instilling empowerment, strength, and a profound cultural pride through the transformative mediums of song and dance. This event was supported by KALACC, Marra Worra Worra, Fitzroy Valley Ranger Group, Nindilingarri Cultural Health Services and the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley. Against the backdrop of a starlit night, the festival's opening night delivered an enchanting experience for all attendees.



## SPORT IN FITZROY CROSSING

**NETBALL:** The inaugural mixed social netball game took place at the Fitzroy Crossing Basketball Courts, organized by the Shire of Derby/West Kimberley. The event attracted a participation of over 20 individuals who gathered to engage in a friendly and active game of netball. This marked a significant step towards fostering community engagement and promoting physical activity within the town.

**FOOTBALL:** The third instalment of the mixed touch footy game occurred on a Wednesday night, drawing a robust attendance of over 30 enthusiastic participants. The ongoing series of games has proven to be immensely popular, with each passing week witnessing a growing turnout of individuals eager to engage in the action.



## UPCOMING EVENTS - AUGUST

Event	Date
WA Police Laser Tag - Bayulu	Fri 25th August 4:30-8pm
Flood Hub Markets - Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre	Sat 26th August 9am-11am
Community Footy Game - Fitzroy Crossing Oval	Tues 29th Aug 5pm-9pm
Aboriginal Justice Open Day - Fitzroy Crossing Rec Centre	Thurs 31st Aug 9am-3pm
Open Mic Night Event - Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre	Thurs 31st Aug 2:30-5pm

### YURABI ROAD TEMPORARY CLOSURE

As of Monday, 21st August, Yurabi Road in Fitzroy Crossing was closed for roadworks until further notice.

Stay up to date with the latest updates on the Main Roads Travel Map:

<https://travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au/Home/Map>

### BANDILNGAN (WINDJANA GORGE) REOPEN FOR DAY-USE VISITORS

The stunning Bandilngan (Windjana Gorge) National Park officially reopened to day-use visitors on Monday 21 August.

A big effort by contractors and the Parks and Wildlife Service, Western Australia including DBCA Bunuba Rangers means this iconic attraction and highly spiritual place for the Bunuba Traditional Owners is once again ready to welcome visitors.

Funding to clean up flood debris and make minor repairs to the National Park was made possible through the Commonwealth-State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements.





# Contact Information

## Department of Communities Disaster Response Hotline

**1800 032 965**

### Mental Health Help - Fitzroy Crossing

**9166 1700**

### Mental Health Help - Derby

**9193 3605**

### After Hours - Mental Health Support

**1800 552 002**

## Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Crisis Support (24/7)

**13YARN (13 92 76)**

## Road Updates

- For information on road updates you can view the latest road report on the Shire of Derby West Kimberley website here: <https://www.sdwk.wa.gov.au/>
- For the latest travel advice on state roads, visit the Main Roads Travel Map at <https://travelmap.mainroads.wa.gov.au/Home/Map> or call 138 138
- For more information on Main Roads' Kimberley Flood Response, visit <https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/travel-information/driving-in-wa/kimberley-flood-response/>

## Kimberley Floods Recovery Information

For Kimberley Floods Recovery Information please visit [www.emergency.wa.gov.au/recovery](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/recovery)

## Flood Hubs

### Fitzroy Crossing Visitor Centre

4 Flynn Drive  
8am-12 noon  
Monday - Thursday  
(08) 9191 0904

### Broome Flood Help

Call 0476 897 424  
If you're in Broome and  
need help

### Derby Housing Office

16-22 Loch Street  
10am-2pm  
Monday - Friday

**Do you have a story to share or updates from your area? We want to hear from you! Contact us by phone (08) 9191 0999 or email [media@sdwk.wa.gov.au](mailto:media@sdwk.wa.gov.au)**

