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Hundreds of roads cut as Queensland cops a drenching

RACQ has warned Queensland drivers to take extra care on the roads after more than 180 millimetres of rain fell in some parts of the State in the last 24 hours causing communities to be evacuated and more than 400 roads to be closed due to flooding.

RACQ spokesperson Lauren Ritchie said with rain still falling across much of Queensland, more road closures were expected and reminded motorists their safety was paramount.

“Motorists need to check their route before leaving home, and if you do head out, drive to conditions – slow down, put your lights on and leave extra stopping distance between you and the car in front,” Ms Ritchie said.

“In some areas like the Darling Downs and Central Queensland where some of the heaviest rain has fallen, we would recommend people limit their travel to only essential journeys.

“Unfortunately, we have already seen people needing to be rescued from their vehicles in raging flood waters. Remember it’s never safe to drive through flood waters so don’t put yourself or others at risk. If it’s flooded, forget it.”

Ms Ritchie said the Club had received 60 insurance claims related to the wet weather in the past 24 hours.

“We do expect claims to increase as floodwaters subside and people assess the damage to their homes,” she said.

“If you need to make a claim, please do so as soon as you can, so we can get the process started. For those who have RACQ Home and Contents Insurance, your policy automatically includes flood cover, so give us a call on 13 7202 or go online to lodge your claim.

“While you don’t need to wait for insurance assessors to start cleaning up your home, please always put your health and safety first and don’t attempt any clean-up if it could put you at risk.

“With more wet weather predicted we urge locals to remain vigilant and pay attention to official warnings and take the advice of emergency services.”

Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Lauren Ritchie 0427 137022; Corporate Affairs Advisor Emma Green 0447 718 864.

RACQ is Queensland’s largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State’s first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of more than 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.