



## Extreme Flooding in Australia

### What is a flood?

- A flood is an overflow of water on to land that is usually dry.
- A flood can start for many reasons, including heavy rainfall, melting snow or as a result of tropical storms in coastal areas.

After days of heavy rainfall, there has been extreme flooding in parts of Australia. Lots of different groups are working hard to help those in need of help.

The main areas affected have been in New South Wales (NSW) and in South East Queensland (QLD).

So far, around 40,000 people have been **evacuated** from their homes.

The flooding has caused damage to people's homes. It has also meant that roads have been cut off, rivers have overflowed and some power supplies have been affected.

Rainfall has started to slow. However, it is **predicted** that there will continue to be flooding for some days.

There have been a lot of people helping those in need. Around 1700 State Emergency Services (SES) **volunteers** are helping people in NSW.

According to Fire and Rescue NSW, crews have been working around the clock to help. They say that on the weekend floodwater rescue services had already performed over 200 rescues.

Marine Rescue NSW has been making sure people are safe too. Across the state, they have been able to evacuate people



Photo: Floodwater.

from their homes to safety. Rescue missions included helping a 93-year-old and a pregnant woman.

It is not just humans who are being helped either. At the weekend, the NSW Police Force were able to rescue eight greyhounds and a fox terrier.

Australia's Prime Minister Scott Morrison said he wanted to say thank you for the "extraordinary efforts of our volunteers and the emergency services in responding to these terrible events."

### Glossary

<b>evacuated</b>	The action of moving something or someone to a place of safety.
<b>volunteers</b>	Someone who does a job but receives no money.
<b>predicted</b>	A sensible guess made with evidence.

# Questions

1. Which areas have been particularly affected by flooding?

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2. Tick each statement to show whether it is true or false.

	True	False
Scott Morrison is the prime minister of Australia.		
Animals have also been rescued.		
There have been around 200 SES volunteers.		
There has been days of heavy rainfall.		

3. Name two types of people who are helping in the article.

4. Summarise the key information story in 20 words or fewer.