

Farms wiped out as floods move through Victoria

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Farms are being wiped out as a sea of water makes its way further into the north-west corner of Victoria.

Residents between **Kerang** and **Swan Hill** face a tense wait as floodwaters threaten properties there, and many are being warned they could be isolated for days.

Evacuation warnings are in place for **Pental Island**, just south of Swan Hill, and several other communities, including **Milnes Bridge**, **Kerang East**, **Meade** and **Pyramid Creek**.

Landholders are trying to save what they can on their farms by moving livestock and machinery to higher ground.

Graeme Lawrence grows barley and tomatoes at Canary Island, south of Kerang.

He says flood waters have destroyed his crops.

"Well the tomato season was going to be tough anyway because we had such a wet spring, so we're running up hill with that to start with, but we were just hoping to get through the season and claw back some debt," he said.

At Swan Hill, the Murray River is not expected to peak for a couple of days and local authorities believe the flood levee will protect most of the town.

Local Brian Wood says it is stressful waiting for the waters to rise.

"There's a lot of anxiety, obviously we're in unknown territory, you're hearing the reports coming through saying how high it's going to be and you just can't imagine how high that could be," he said.

"So we're preparing for the worst and hoping for the best."

The State Emergency Service's Kevin Monk is urging residents to attend their local community meetings as they get ready.

"These floodwaters are moving in different areas and different ways so people in Kerang and Swan Hill in the next couple of days need to stay alert," he said.

"Some people will be isolated for two or three days as these floodwaters move through."

Meanwhile authorities fear fatigue could soon set in as northern towns battle the flooding.



Landholders are trying to save what they can on their farms by moving livestock and machinery to higher ground. (ABC)

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Mr Monk is urging residents in flood affected areas to take care of themselves.

"We're hoping that they sleep at night and eat well. It's pretty hot up this way so making sure that they have plenty of fluids, wear sunscreen, all those basic sort of things, and look out for one another," he said.

"This has been a long battle and people are starting to get tired. This flood incident still has a number of weeks to go."

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