



NEWS RELEASE

Priority Status:

REGULAR
URGENT
RED ALERT

To: The News Editor

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Heavy Rains Reduce Sections of St. Mary Roads to Single Lane

The National Works Agency (NWA) is advising motorists that persistent rainfall in St. Mary during the past 72 hours has reduced several roadways to single lane usage, while others have been rendered impassable.

In Port Maria, the Outram River has overflowed its banks, causing flooding along roadways in the town. The Rosend main road which was rendered impassable by silt and debris earlier today has now been cleared to single lane access.

Blockages that occurred along the Junction main road at Georgia, and between Broadgate and Toms River have been partially cleared and the roadway is now open to single lane usage. There is flooding in Span Lane, Dumpland and along Fort George Road in Annotto Bay.

In western St. Mary there is severe flooding along the Mason Hall main road, while the Derry main road has been reduced to single lane usage. A landslide occurring at Huddersfield has blocked a section of the main road from Little Bay to Oracabessa and the main road in the town of Oracabessa is impassable as a result of inundation. Use of this roadway is restricted to trucks only. Operators of small vehicles, travelling towards Ocho Rios or Port Maria should use the alternative route from Trinity to Fontabelle and onto Jacks River.

Meanwhile, in western Portland, landslips have occurred in Cascade (*Buff Bay Valley*) reducing several road sections to single lane access. Minor slippages and flooding have occurred between Buff Bay and Hope Bay, however the roadway is passable.

The Alligator Church pedestrian bridge in eastern Portland has been washed out. Pedestrians are now using the new Alligator Church Bridge, which is nearing completion.

The National Works Agency is also advising motorists who use these roadways to proceed with extreme caution as the roads are slippery and to obey warning signs and the instructions of flag persons.

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"Developing Safe, Reliable & Quality Roads"

