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(Eder, J. & Brew, A., 2022)

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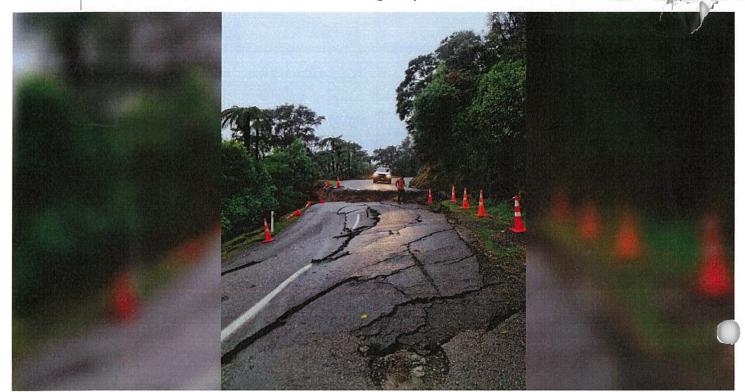
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# State of emergency declared in Marlborough

Jennifer Eder and Andy Brew • 19:33, Aug 19 2022



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The road from Rai Valley to the outer Sounds is destroyed in places.

A state of local emergency has been declared in Marlborough.

The Rai River on Thursday night had its biggest flood on record, estimated as a 60-year event.

Meanwhile, new damage to roads in the Marlborough Sounds could be worse than last July's storm.

"Communities in Canvastown and Rai Valley are currently cut off from Marlborough and Nelson due to flooding, slips and road damage," Marlborough Mayor John Leggett said on Friday. "Access in and out of the Marlborough Sounds is also very fragile."



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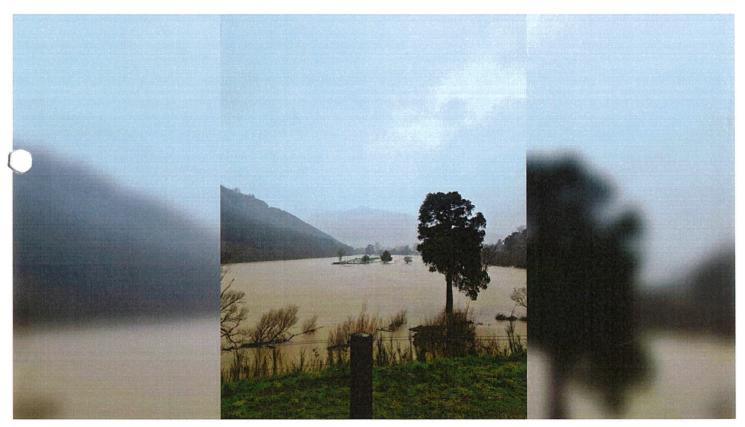
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The emergency declaration would ensure the emergency response team had all the resources it needed to effectively support communities affected by this week's rain event, Leggett said.

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"These communities will need assistance and support for weeks and months to come."



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Heavy rain this week has flooded rivers dumping brown water into the Marlborough Sounds.

Marlborough midwife Suzie Edmonds was stuck at home due to flooding between her house in Moenui, on Queen Charlotte Drive, and Wairau Hospital in Blenheim.