

18/8/07.

Water wheel / watercourse

The catchment is saturated due to recurring showers.

3:50 pm to 4:30 pm Rainfall of 25 mm.

" " " 4:50 " " " 35 mm.

Rainfall of about 20 mm/hr & above creates very turbulent conditions in the watercourse, threats in the Waterwheel valley & inevitably, blockage of the outfall screen at the Gilbert St. culvert.

At about 5:00 pm I visited the Waterwheel area where the flow over the cascade was very impressive & spectacular but ^{it was a relief to note that} the efforts to prevent the flow to the out-of-commission wheel were ~~thankfully~~ successful. It was at standstill and the rising water level resulting from the rapidly increasing blockage ^{of the screen} with waterborne debris was submerging the lower section of the wheel to about 50 cm.

Within 15 minutes the blockage of the screen had risen to within about 30 ~~cm~~ ^{cm} of ~~the~~ ^{its} top ~~of the screen~~ ^{edge}, aided by inclusion of the ^{loose} plank used to cross the stream. This was despite rainfall having ceased for about ^{an} ~~2~~ ¹/₂ hour.

At about 6:00 pm and in growing darkness, Bruce Campbell returned home & engaged in the very hazardous task of clearing the screen with the aid of a drag. With a dwindling flow running, this was successful.