

Date: 2009 January 26

NWA re-opens blocked roads in Northeastern Jamaica

The National Works Agency (NWA) is advising that the roadways in the parishes of Portland and St. Mary that had been blocked due to heavy rains have now been re-opened. Heavy rains over the past 72 hours had left 16 roadways in the two parishes, either blocked or severely damaged.

Manager of Communication and Customer Services at the NWA, Stephen Shaw says the roadway from Breastworks to Windsor in Portland which up to late yesterday was impassable had been reopened. The corridor from Evondale to Iteboreale in St. Mary has also been reopened.

Mr. Shaw says efforts are now being made to have the affected roadways completely reopened and to carry out temporary reinstatement works. These works are however being affected by the unavailability of the appropriate materials. The NWA uses river shingle to carry-out temporary works in Portland and St. Mary. The rivers are however in spate.

Among the roadways in Portland that are being given attention are the corridors from Buff Bay to Balcaress, Buff Bay to White Hall, Tranquility to Bangor Ridge, Hope Bay to Chips Hall, Hectors River to Muirton and Muirton to Haining.

In St. Mary, temporary restorative works are expected to be undertaken on the roadways from Claremont to White Hall, Rio Nuevo to Lambkin Hill, Retreat to Content, Toms River to Broadgate and Port Maria to Islington.