

Waterlogged vehicles set to flood market

CAR buyers are in for a flood of sales, but should be wary of waterlogged duds, the RACQ warns.

Russell Manning, a researcher with the state's peak motoring group, said stock from flooded car yards and insurance write-offs would probably enter the market in the next few weeks.

But bargain hunters beware. Cars more than 15 years old written off by insurance companies would not be registered on VCheck, meaning buyers would not be able to search the vehicle's history.

Buyers would not be aware if the car was flooded, or other changes to the car.

Cars under 15 years old would be listed on the VCheck

website, accessible through the Department of Transport, with flood damage recorded.

Mr Manning said that several years ago after a big flood in Brisbane, thousands of cars were sold off for rock-bottom prices.

"They were bought effectively as new cars, but with no warranty," he said.

"The best advice in this current situation is to have the car inspected.

"There's obvious stuff like putting your hand under the dash and if it comes away dirty and muddy then it has been flood damaged.

"Inspectors can check all the instruments and electronics for damage. Check before you buy is the number one message."