# **BONALBO FLOOD STUDY** Frequently Asked Questions



# What is Flooding?

*Mainstream Flooding* – this is flooding from rivers and creeks. It occurs when water in creeks rises and spreads to areas that are usually dry.

*Overland Flow Flooding* – this is flooding that occurs as runoff generated from rainfall falling on the ground moves downhill, usually towards creeks, rivers and drains.



#### What is a 1% AEP flood?

A 1% Average Exceedance Probability (AEP) flood is a flood that has a 1% (a 1 in 100) chance of occurring in any given year. This is sometimes also called a 100 year Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) flood. Just because an area may have had a 100 year ARI flood it does not mean it will not happen again for another 100 years. The 1974 and 2011 Brisbane River floods are an example of this. In a similar way a 20 year ARI flood has a 5% AEP (a 5% or 1 in 20 chance of occurring in any one year).

#### What is a Flood Study?

A Flood Study is an investigation of flood behaviour. A Flood Study will use observed data such as recorded rainfall and stream levels and flows, as well as statistical analysis and computer models to predict flood behaviour. It will provide detailed information about flood risk including flood extents, depths, levels, velocities and hazards.

## Why is Council Preparing a Flood Study?

The Flood Study is used by Council to help plan future development, and to identify measures to manage flooding to reduce risk. The information in the Flood Study will also assist the SES to manage flood emergency response such as identification of evacuation issues when roads become cut and an understanding of the potential warning times for flooding in the study area.

## Why is my Input and Feedback Important?

The community is the best source of information about past flood events. Your recollections and information can help us make the flood predictions more accurate by allowing us to compare the results of the flood models with real flood events. You can help by answering the Flood Study Questionnaire here <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BonalboFloodStudy">www.surveymonkey.com/r/BonalboFloodStudy</a> or sending photos and information to <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BonalboFloodStudy">BonalboFloodStudy@bgeeng.com</a>.

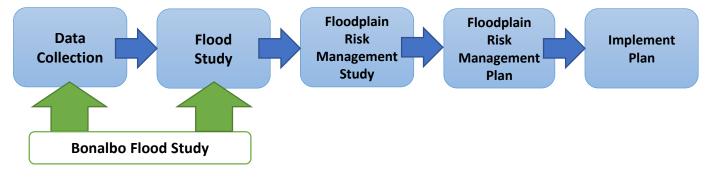
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# What is the Floodplain Risk Management Program?

The Floodplain Risk Management Program is managed by the NSW Government. The Program provides financial support to councils to help them make informed decisions about managing flood risk, support the preparation management plans and associated background studies under the floodplain risk management process, implement flood management plans to reduce flood risk to the community and to existing and future development, and to reduce losses through a range of property, flood and response modification measures as well as provide essential information to the State Emergency Service so it can prepare and implement local flood plans effectively, to deal with flood emergency response.

# What is the Floodplain Risk Management Process?

The Floodplain Risk Management Process provides guidance to local councils for the development of flood studies to lead to the development and implementation of floodplain risk management plans. This is typically overseen by a Floodplain Risk Management Committee (FRMC) or Steering Committee comprising representatives from Council and other interested parties including NSW State Emergency Services (NSW SES), Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE).



## What is a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan?

A Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan is the next step after the Flood Study. Using the detailed predictions of flood behaviour from the Flood Study, the Floodplain Risk Management Study looks at a number of flood mitigation options such as levees and drainage improvements as well as planning controls and emergency response measures. Once the Flood Study is complete, Council will look to appoint consultants to develop the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.

## Who are BG&E?

BG&E are specialist engineering consultants. BG&E's hydrologists, flooding and drainage engineers are working with Council, the Department of Planning, Industry and the Environment and the NSW SES to develop the Bonalbo Flood Study.

# CONTACTS

