



April 2024

A Flood Study is currently being prepared for the villages around Gundagai examining flooding caused by the Murrumbidgee River and other waterways. The Flood Study aims to understand and determine the nature and extent of potential flooding at the villages of Coolac, Nangus, Tumblong and Darbalara as well as from the Murrumbidgee River floodplain within the Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council Local Government Area.

Flood Risk Management Process

Cootamundra-Gundagai Regional Council is carrying out a Flood Study under the NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy. The primary objective of the Policy is to reduce the impact of flooding and flood liability on owners and occupants of flood prone land and to reduce losses from flooding.

The Policy provides for technical and financial support by the State Government through four sequential stages: Data Collection, Flood Study, Flood Risk Management Study, Floodplain Risk Management Plan and Implementation of the Plan.

The Flood Study comprises the first two phases of the five step process listed above. The Study will define flood behaviour over a range of floods of varying magnitudes.



Flood Risk Management Process

Current Work

The first stage of the Flood Study will be to collect, compile and review all available information, including valuable community knowledge and experiences.

A computer model will be established to determine the extent and nature of flooding in the Study Area and collected historical data such as observations, gauge readings and photos of flooding behaviour will be used to ensure model accuracy. In particular, information on observed peak flood levels is most important. This is where we need your help.

Flooding History

Flooding at the villages of Coolac, Nangus, Tumblong and Darbalara is due to flooding from the Muttama Creek, Nangus Creek, Tumut River and Adelong Creek respectively. Flooding along the Murrumbidgee River is from high flows from the Murrumbidgee River catchment which has a catchment area of 21,000 km² upstream of Gundagai.

Significant flooding has occurred in December 2010, March 2012 and more recently during three events in late 2022.





April 2024

The largest of the 2022 flood events exceeded 9 metres on Murrumbidgee gauge at Gundagai and resulted in significant damage across the region.

Community Participation

Community's participation in this Flood Study is important for achieving the objectives of the study. The Gundagai Floodplain Management Committee will oversee this study and requests your input to the study. The Committee has members from Council, Department of Climate Change Energy and Environment, the State Emergency Services and local residents. The Committee would hold meetings at regular intervals to monitor the progress of the study.



A questionnaire is included with this newsletter to seek your input. At the later stages of the study, the residents would be invited to attend community workshops where results of the flood study would be presented in detail and any queries from the community would be answered.

The newsletter and the questionnaire form part of the community consultation with the primary aim to collect information about previous floods. The local knowledge and personal experiences of residents and businesses are an important source of information. We are specifically looking for historical records of flooding such as photograph, flood marks or other observations that residents may have knowledge of.

The information received from the community will be analysed and used to make the flood models more accurate for the study area. After data collection and completion of flood modelling, the preliminary results in the form of flood maps will be produced and placed on public exhibition. The residents would be invited to view and comment on the study.

Have Your Say

Please complete the enclosed questionnaire and return to Council in the reply paid envelope. If you prefer, there is an option to complete this questionnaire online at <https://www.cgrc.nsw.gov.au/gundagai-villages-flood-study>

Please ensure that the questionnaire is returned before Mon 29th April 2024 or they may not be considered in the preparation of the flood study.

If you have additional information that you consider would help the study, or any further comments, please attach these to your returned questionnaire. Alternatively, you can email your comments to the contacts provided below.

Contacts

If you need any additional information, please contact any of the following persons:



Habib Rehman, Senior Consultant
HydroStorm Consulting
02 7232 0400
hrehman@hydrostorm.com.au



Craig Perrin
Cootamundra Gundagai Regional Council
1300 459 689
craig.perrin@cgrc.nsw.gov.au