

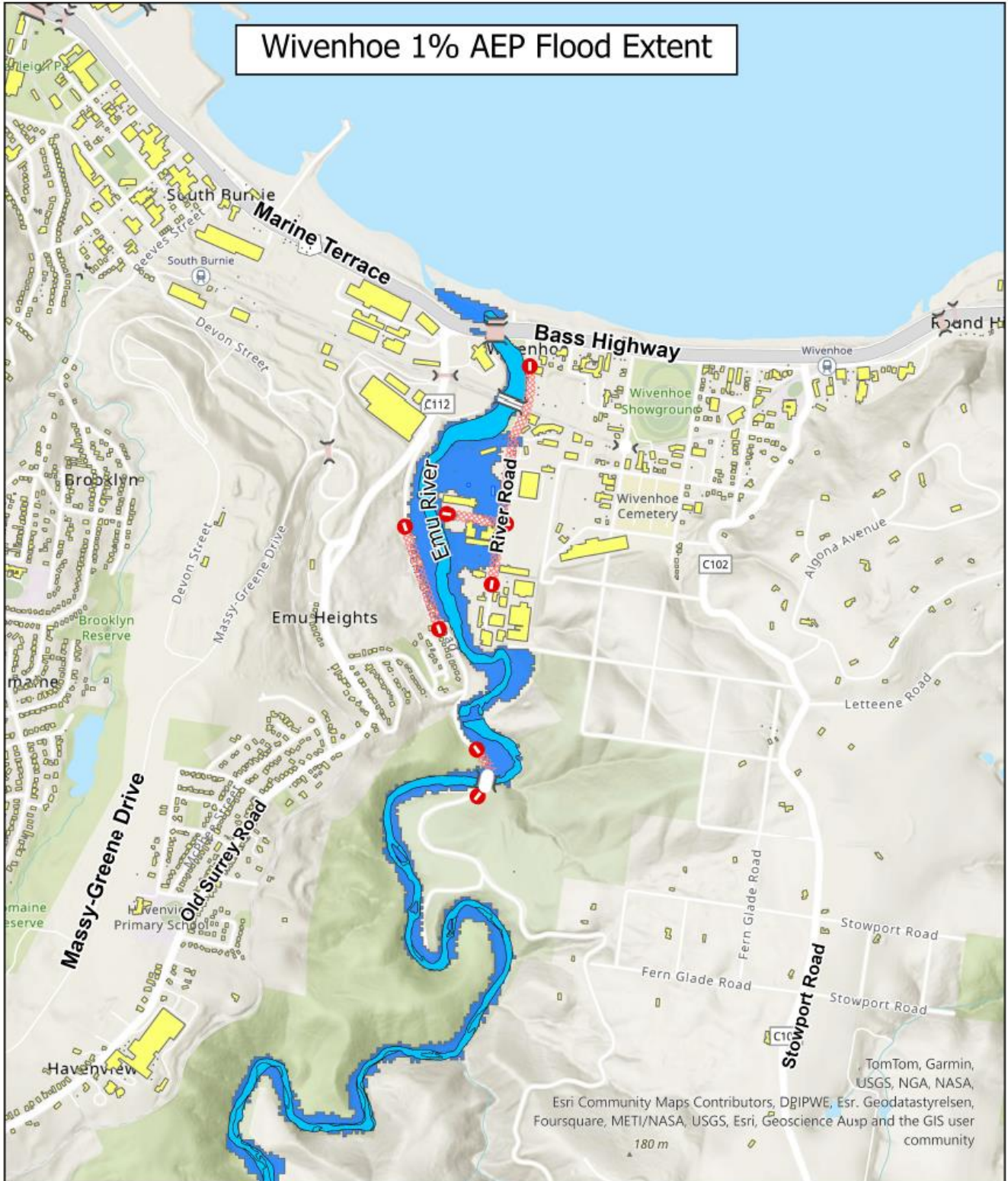


Wivenhoe & surrounds

Riverine flooding information for areas surrounding Emu River
DRAFT version 0.5 APRIL 2025



Wivenhoe 1% AEP Flood Extent



Esri Community Maps Contributors, DBIPWE, Esri, Geodastystyrelsen, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri, Geoscience Ausp and the GIS user community

Legend

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Disclaimer: While all efforts have been taken to ensure the accuracy of this product, there may be errors or omissions in the data presented. Users are advised to independently verify for accuracy and completeness prior to use.

Data Sources: Tasmanian State Flood Map Project

Publisher: Tasmania SES
Date Exported: 02/10/2024



See the Tasmanian strategic flood maps online

ses.tas.gov.au/floodmaps/

Emu River

If there is heavy sustained rain, Emu River may flood its surrounds in Wivenhoe, particularly when tides are high.

- Businesses located south of the TasRail line are most likely to be inundated.
- Fern Glade parklands may flood.
- River Road may become impassable and isolate some businesses until river levels drop.
- Debris may build up around water crossings, including the rail bridge and fuel/gas pipeline. If this happens, these water crossings may be closed for safety reasons.

Flash flooding can affect across Wivenhoe and along the Emu River. Flash flooding means there can be little specific warning beyond forecasts for heavy rain or severe weather.

The maps in this guide show the level of flooding that has a 1% chance of happening any year (1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)). You are likely to experience flooding such as that shown in the maps in your lifetime. Tasmanians need to prepare for flood events that may not happen often as well as the minor flooding they may have experienced.

Even if your business or home is not inundated, you should be prepared for isolation plus potential power and telecommunications outages.

Travel in the area is likely to be difficult or impossible until roads are clear. If you are safe at home, your work or elsewhere, it is usually best you stay where you are until the flooding subsides, unless there is an emergency. If you need to evacuate, you should leave early, before flood waters rise.

If the Wivenhoe area is at risk of flooding, there is likely to also be flooding in surrounding areas. This may impact your employees, and their ability to work for you during the flooding event.

If you own or manage a business, you should have an emergency plan that covers floods. This can help you to reduce your losses from flooding and other emergencies. It can also help you to continue operating during and after a major flood. Business Tasmania has resources and support to help – see:

www.business.tas.gov.au/managing/natural_disasters.

Go to TasALERT.com or listen to ABC local radio 102.5 FM for warnings and advice.

Are you at risk of flood?

Past flooding events around Wivenhoe include:

- 1929 – Bass Highway & Fern Glade Road bridges were washed away. There was significant debris at Railway Bridge.
- 2011 – Fern Glade Road bridge was severely damaged. Low-lying properties in River Road were flooded. There was again a lot of debris at Railway Bridge
- 2016 – Widespread inundation of River Road industrial area, caused significant economic loss. Debris such as trees and branches at railway bridge impacted nearby assets.

- 2022 – Significant inundation of low-lying properties in River Road. There was again woody debris pushed against Railway Bridge.

As an example, the 2016 widespread flooding of the River Road industrial area caused

- significant economic loss to local businesses, and
- the wider effects of disruption to business activity.

What should I do?

- Check the map to see whether your business could flood.
- Assess your business premises and prepare it to minimise possible flood damage.
- Determine if your employees can safely access the workplace during a flood event.
- Prepare a **Business Emergency Plan** and **Business Continuity Plan** to ensure operational resilience.
- If your business relies on supply chains or customer access, consider early closure and evacuation, with alternative solutions to minimise disruptions.

Floods like the one shown in the maps, or worse, will occur again. No two floods are the same. If your business is in a low-lying area or near a watercourse, it may be at risk of flooding. Even if your premises are not directly impacted, road closures and infrastructure damage may impact your operations. Never drive into or enter flood waters. Roads and bridges may be washed out or unsafe. Avoid travel during floods.

Understanding your flood risk and preparing in advance can help protect your business assets and employees. Having a Business Emergency Plan is one of the best ways to prepare. Decide on weather and rainfall triggers for when to act.

Bureau of Meteorology Forecasts, Warnings, and Observations

The Emu River catchment has no formal flood warnings or flood classification levels. The river catchment is too short to give timely warnings based on river rises.

Whenever **heavy rain** is expected in an area that may lead to flooding, the Bureau issues

- Severe Weather Warning, and/or
- Thunderstorm Warning for heavy rainfall that may lead to flash flooding.

The time between the warning and heavy rain falling can vary from an hour to 24 hours or more.

Rainfall Observations at Burnie (Park Grove) and Yolla and other nearby rain gauges can indicate possible flood risks. Given the very short warning times, it is best to act on the BoM warnings rather than wait for specific flood alerts during rainfall.

The [N.W. Tasmania \(West Takone\)](#) radar is useful to be aware in real-time where heavy rainfall is falling. Radar Rainfall estimates can also fill in gaps in areas where there are no rainfall stations.

Burnie City Council has install local river and rainfall gauging for the Emu River. This can be accessed via the [Orion Portal](#). Use the following login credentials to access the portal:

- Username: EmuRiver
- Password: EmuRiver7320!

Understand the warnings and key information

Keep aware of what is happening around you. Check forecasts, observations and warnings regularly.

- [TasALERT.com](#)
- [your local ABC radio station](#) or
- the [Bureau of Meteorology's](#) website.



Advice (Yellow): an incident has started. There is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.



Watch and Act (Orange): There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing and you need to start taking action now to protect your employees and business.



Emergency Warning (Red): An Emergency Warning is the highest level warning. You may be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts lives at risk.



Community update (Blue): Specific information and updates for affected communities regarding a particular event or incident.



Incident (White): an incident is the initial occurrence of an event before it becomes an emergency warning. As soon as an incident is reported, TasALERT published basic information including the type and location of incident.

For more information see www.ses.tas.gov.au/warnings/ .

Flood levels

While no two floods are the same, the following describes what is likely to happen if there is flooding around the area. Even if your property is not flooded, you need to think about access.

The rainfall amounts that might cause such an event are examples. Other levels of rainfall can cause flooding depending on

- where the rain falls
- how heavy the rain is
- how long the rain lasts, and
- how wet the ground is beforehand.

Melting snow can also contribute to flooding.

Minor flooding (5%-10% chance annually)

- Some low-lying businesses and parkland along **River Road** may experience flooding.
- Parts of River Road may have minor water accumulation but remain passable.
- Heavy rain may lead to localised stormwater runoff affecting business premises.

Moderate Flooding (2%-5% chance annually)

- River Road may become impassable.
- More low-lying businesses along River Road may experience significant flooding.

Major Flooding (1% chance annually – comparable to 2022 floods):

- River Road will be inundated, isolating surrounding commercial properties.
- Businesses in reclaimed or low-lying areas may experience above-floor flooding.
- Flooding may extend to Fern Glade Reserve and Fern Glade Road.

Emu River flooding

Depending on where the rain falls and the tide level, major flooding is likely to inundate

- River Road roadway, isolating surrounding properties
- Commercial properties above floor level, particularly those in the low-lying and reclaimed areas along River Road
- Fern Glade Reserve and Fern Glade Road

Flooding from other waterways

If there is heavy local rainfall, there can be flash flooding around.

- Old Park River and Pet River (Emu River tributaries)
- Other low lying areas Wivenhoe



Debris accumulation at Railway Bridge in the October 2022 flood event (SES)

Business Preparedness Actions

BEFORE

1. Know your risk

- Assess flood risk specific to your business location.
- Identify critical infrastructure, supply chain vulnerabilities, and access routes.

2. Prepare your business

- Develop and test a **Business Emergency Plan** and **Business Continuity Plan**.
- Establish clear communication plans for employees, suppliers, and customers.
- Back up important business data and documents off-site or in the cloud.
- Secure stock, machinery, and electrical equipment above potential flood levels.

3. Reduce your risk from flooding where you can do so safely

- Think about flooding and other hazards when buying, maintaining or developing property.
- Elevate key business assets and install flood barriers where applicable.
- Ensure all hazardous materials are stored safely above flood levels.
- Keep gutters and drains clear to minimize water accumulation.

4. Connect with others

- Coordinate with neighbouring businesses, landlords, and local authorities.
- Establish mutual support agreements with nearby businesses for shared resources in an emergency.

DURING

5. Stay alert

Keep aware of what is happening around you. Check forecasts, observations and warnings regularly.

- www.TasALERT.gov.au
- [your local ABC radio station](#) or
- the [Bureau of Meteorology's](#) website.

6. Act safe

- Direct staff and customers away from flood-prone areas.
- Be prepared for possible power, water, and internet outages.
- Evacuate if directed by SES or Tasmania Police.

If your business is flooded

- Move stock and critical business assets to higher ground.
- Turn off electricity and gas supply if safe to do so.
- If evacuation is required, ensure all employees and customers are accounted for and relocate to a safe location.
- Leave while you can get out safely.

If you need to evacuate

- Follow SES and Police directions.
- Take essential business documents and emergency kits.
- Notify employees, suppliers, and customers of your evacuation and temporary relocation (if applicable).
- Let others know where you have gone.

Avoid travelling during and after storms

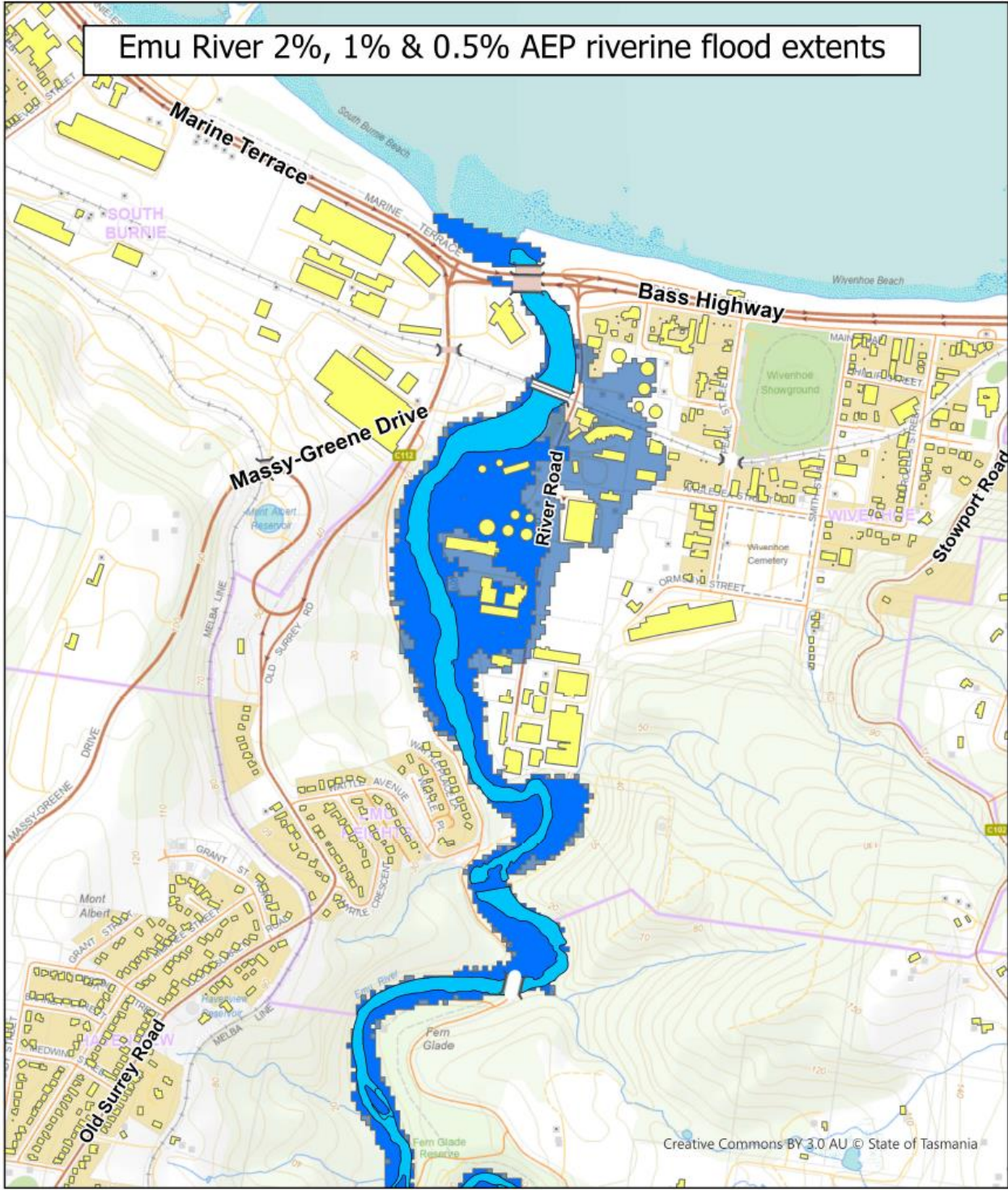
- Never drive through floodwaters—most flood-related fatalities occur in vehicles.
- Be aware of hazards such as damaged roads, fallen trees, and landslides.
- Discourage sightseers, as they can hinder emergency response efforts.

AFTER

- Keep checking tasalert.com and/or listen for ABC Local Radio updates on road re-openings, community meetings, etc.
- Wait for clearance from authorities before returning to your business premises.
- Inspect for damage carefully, avoiding potential hazards such as contaminated water, weakened structures, or exposed electrical wiring.
- Use a torch, never use matches or candles inside flood affected buildings.
- Do not turn on electricity or gas until it is tested by a licensed electrician or gas fitter for safety.
- Wear protective gear when assessing damage.
- Document damage for insurance claims and contact your provider.
- Restore business operations only when it is safe to do so.

For further information go to www.ses.tas.gov.au

Emu River 2%, 1% & 0.5% AEP riverine flood extents



Legend

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| | Building footprint |
| | 1pc_AEP Peak_Flood_Extent |
| | Emu_0pt5pc_AEP_Peak_Flood_Extent |
| | Waterway |

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0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Kilometers

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Staying informed and further information

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|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Current warnings (TasAlerts) | alerts.tas.gov.au | |
| Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) | bom.gov.au/tas/warnings | |
| Emergency Broadcasters | ABC 91.7FM 102.5FM | |
| TASSES Social Media | facebook.com/sestasmania | |
| Preparing for Flood Emergencies | ses.tas.gov.au/plan-prepare/flood | |
| Burnie City Council | burnie.tas.gov.au | 6430 5700 |
| National Relay Service (NRS) | relayservice.gov.au | |
| Business Tasmania | business.tas.gov.au/managing/natural_disasters | |

The information in this guide is current at the date of publication. While every effort has been taken to ensure the validity and accuracy of the data presented, the State Emergency Service does not take responsibility for data error or omission. Please see the standard Tasmanian Government's Copyright and Disclaimer Statement for more details <https://www.tas.gov.au/codj>.

The maps show potential flooding risks from consistent levels of rainfall across catchments, such as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP). In flooding events, rainfall is likely to be more inconsistent across a catchment, so these flood maps should be considered indicative only. The mapped areas of flood risk show higher probability of inundation. Other areas have lower probability of flooding, but in severe and rare events (rarer than 1%AEP), other lower areas may be also at risk of inundation.



For flood assistance call

132 500

ses.tas.gov.au/plan-prepare/flood



See the
Tasmanian
strategic flood
maps online

ses.tas.gov.au/floodmaps/