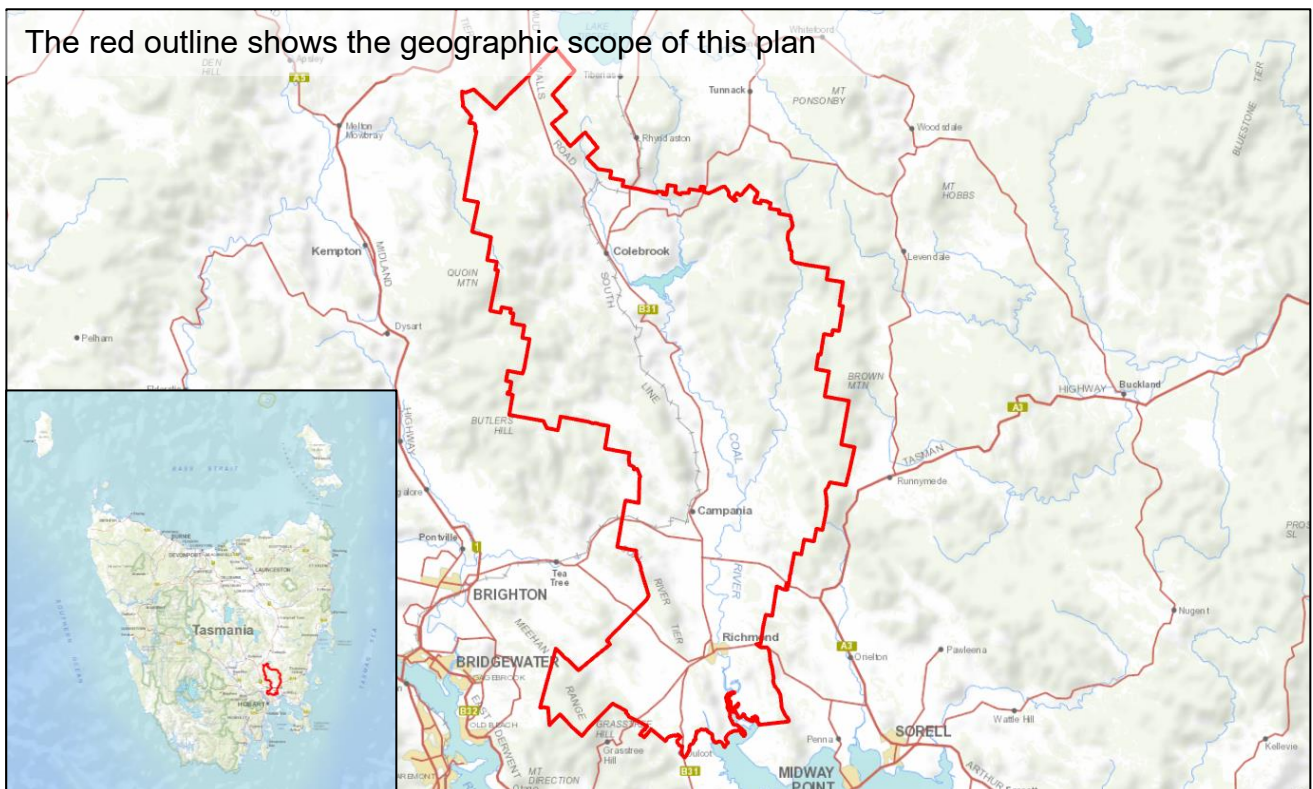


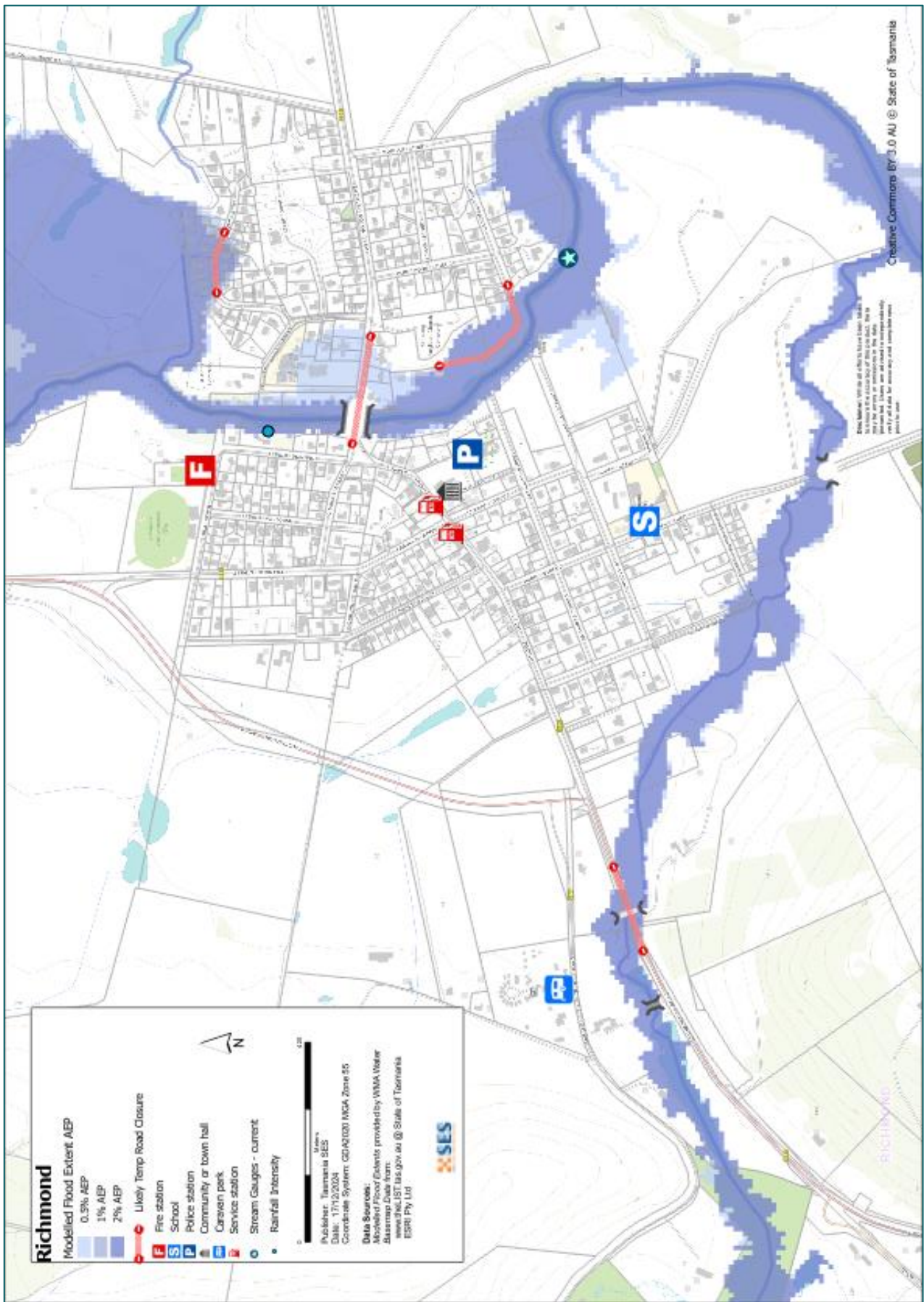


Richmond to Colebrook and surrounds

Riverine flooding information for communities and properties on the Coal River and its tributaries

DRAFT version 0.1 September 2025 - Please email comments to ses@ses.tas.gov.au





Understand your flood risk and get ready

If the Coal River has a major flood, parts of Richmond may flood, including homes. Native Hut Rivulet may also flood parts of Campania, mostly in the north of the town. Agricultural land will flood and bridges and there may be water over bridges and roads.

Flash flooding can also cause local flooding in this area, including in the towns of

- Richmond
- Campania, and
- Colebrook.

Flash flooding is caused directly by heavy rain and is difficult to predict. There may be little or no warning other than 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, this is known as 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 minor flooding they may have experienced.

Even if your home is not inundated, you should prepare for isolation plus potential power and telecommunications outages. Roads in the area may be cut, including

- Colebrook Rd
- Richmond Rd
- Mud Walls Rd
- Fingerpost Rd
- Estate Rd
- Eldon Rd.

Depending on where the rain falls and how heavy it is, other local roads may also be cut. Travel in the area is likely to be difficult or impossible until roads are clear. If you are safe at home or elsewhere, it is usually best you stay where you are until the flooding subsides. If you need to evacuate, you should leave early, before flood waters rise.

Listen to ABC local radio 936AM for warnings and advice or check TasALERT.com.

Are you at risk of flood?

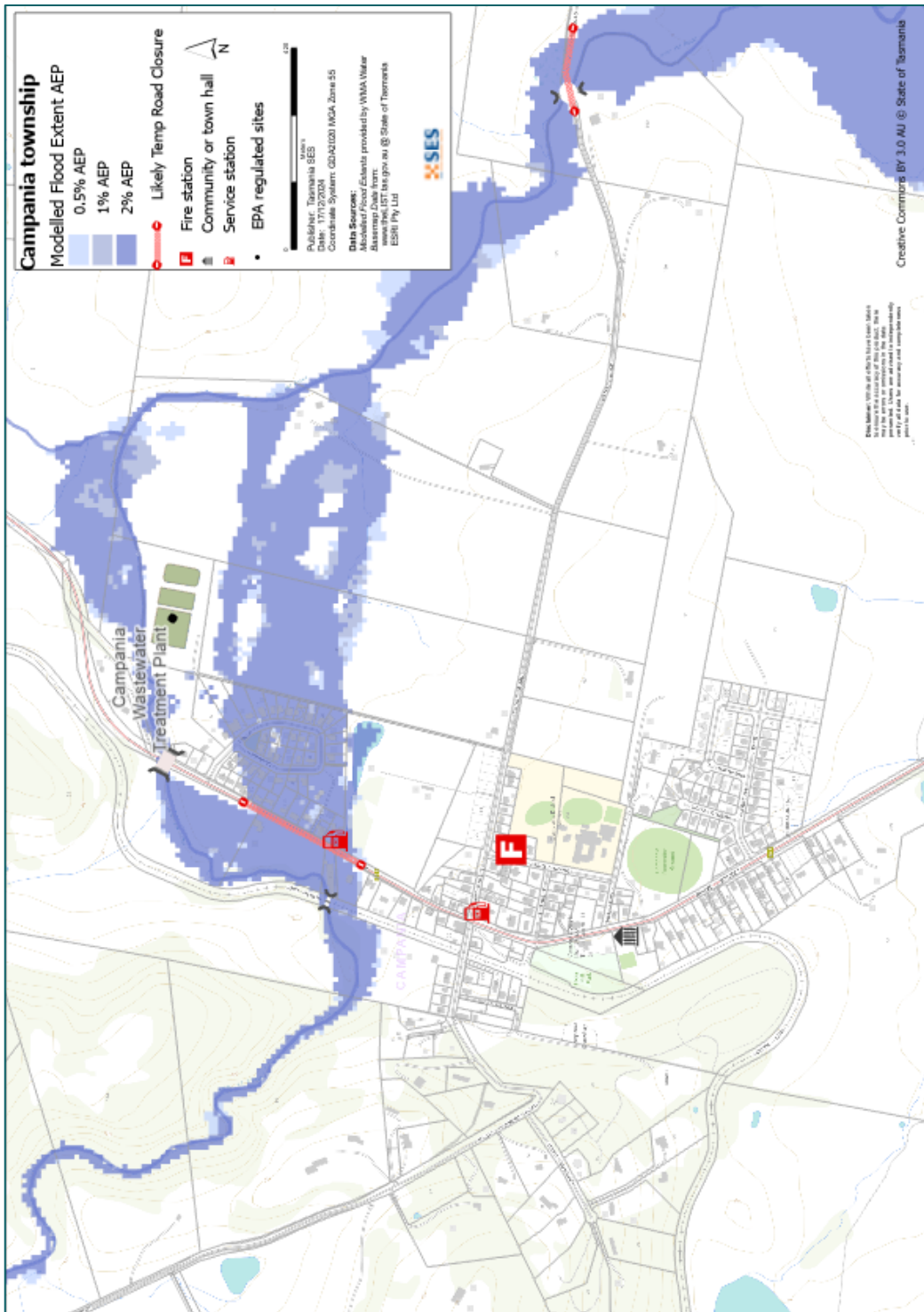
There have been significant floods in the Coal River in 2011, 2009, 1993 and 1986. Parts of this area were flooded in the well known 1929 flood event, and in 1960 it's said that the river reached the top of the arches on the Richmond Bridge.

What should I do?

- Check the map to see whether your home or business could flood.
- Assess your home or business and prepare it to minimise possible flood damage.
- Check if you can safely get to your home, work, or school during a flood.
- Prepare a Home Emergency Plan. See [Get Ready for Emergencies](#) – A guide for individuals and households to prepare for emergencies.
- If you may be isolated and you must have access to services, you may need to evacuate early.

Floods like the one shown in the map, or worse, will occur again. No two floods are the same.

If you live in a low-lying area or near a watercourse, your house may flood. Even if your home is safe, you may need to detour around flooded areas or your road access may be cut. Never drive into or enter flood waters. Roads and bridges may be washed out or unsafe. Avoid travel during floods. Knowing what to do can save your life and help protect your property. Having a Home 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 Bureau issues a **Flood Warning, Severe Weather Warning and/or Thunderstorm Warning for heavy rainfall that may lead to flash flooding** whenever **heavy rain** is expected in an area. The time between the warning and heavy rain occurring can vary from an hour to 24 hours or more.

Whenever rain that may lead to flooding along the Coal River is expected, the Bureau will issue:

- A **Flood Watch** – a "heads up" early advice of forecast weather that may lead to flooding
- A generalised Flood Warning – giving a prediction of when flooding is likely to develop.

There are no formal flood warning levels for the Coal River or other waterways in this area. Track water levels online using the [NRE Water Portal](#). There are four gauges in this area:

- Coal River downstream Brown Mountain Road
- Coal River upstream White Kangaroo Rivulet
- White Kangaroo Rivulet upstream Coal River
- Coal River at Richmond

Rainfall Observations at

- Colebrook
- Tunnack Fire Station
- Campania
- Richmond and
- other nearby rain gauges

can indicate possible flood risks. Given the very short warning times, it is best to act on the predictive BoM warnings rather than wait for any flood alerts during rainfall.

The [Mt Koonya 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.

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 you and your family



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 your life at risk.

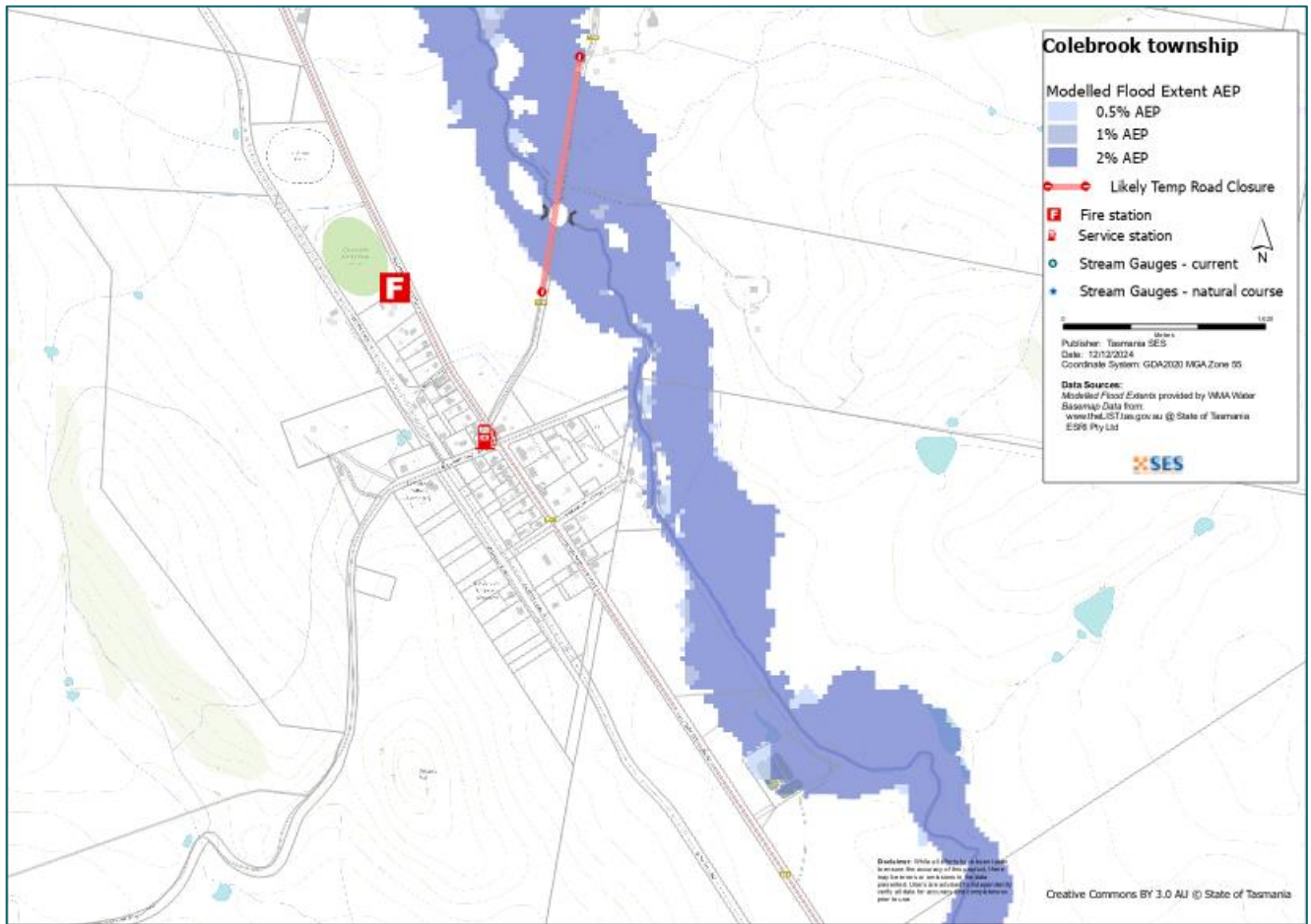


Community update (Blue): Specific information and updates for affected communities regarding a particular event or incident.



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 publishes 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 you can expect at different flood levels around the area. Even if your property is not flooded, you need to think about access and services. Different levels of rainfall can cause flooding depending on its intensity, duration, how wet the ground is beforehand and where the rain falls.

Minor flooding

A minor flood can inundate low lying paddocks, orchards and other farmland. Stock should be moved for their safety. There may also be some flooding across some minor roads and parkland areas. In Richmond, minor flooding may begin to inundate low lying streets and properties but would be below floor level.

Moderate flooding

There is more extensive flooding of agricultural land and some buildings may flood above floor height. Certain streets in Richmond are likely to flood such as

- Cosgrove Drive, and
- Woodburn Close.

Some properties may be isolated for a few hours as minor roads become flooded.

Major flooding

There is at least a 2% chance in any year of major flooding that can flood homes and other buildings in parts of

- Richmond,
- Colebrook,
- Campania and
- the surrounding areas.

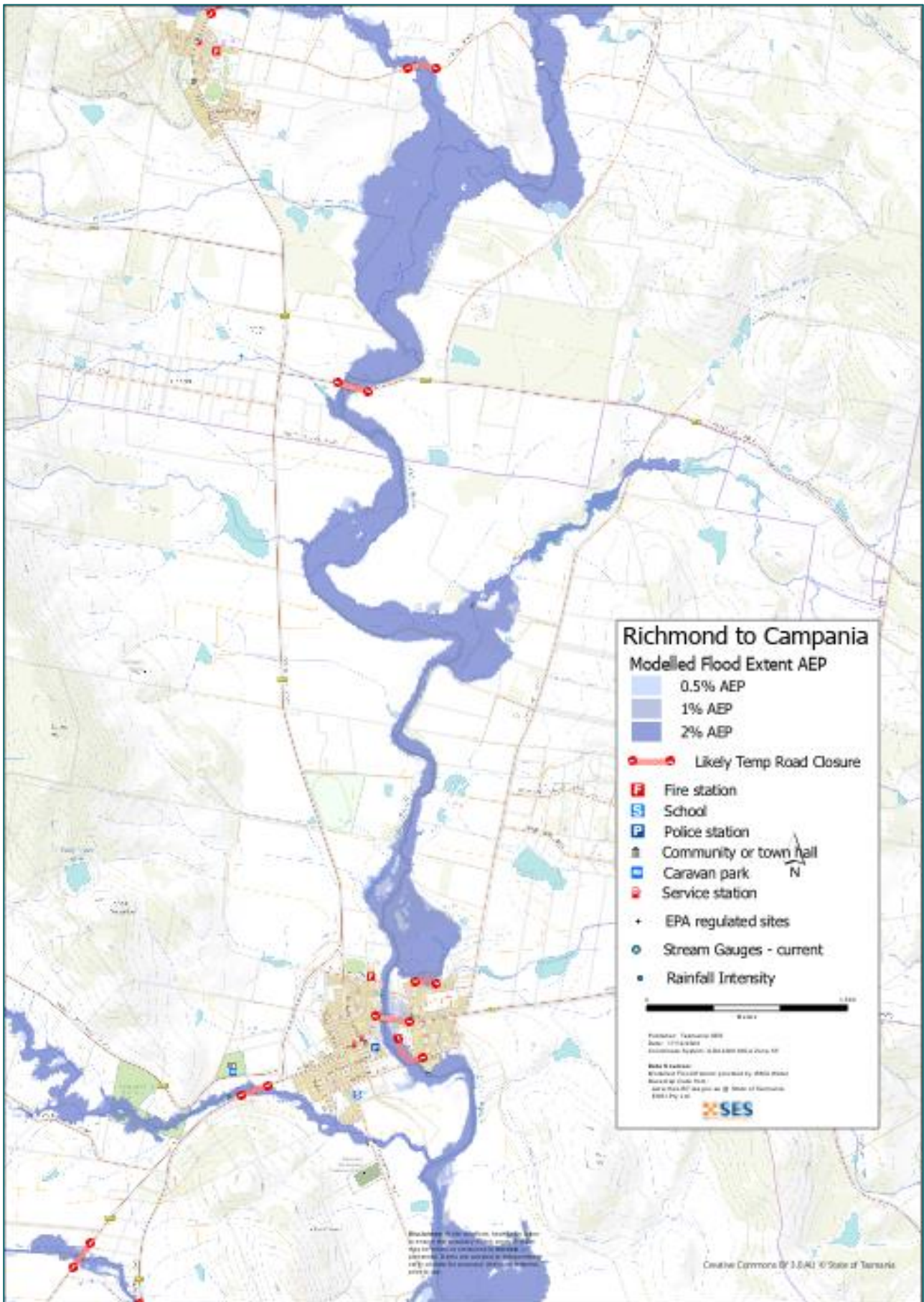
This is known as the Annual Exceedance Probability, or AEP.

Native Hut Rivulet may flood the northern part of Campania. In Colebrook the main risk is flooded roads from Wallaby Rivulet. In Richmond there are streets that will flood including

- Wellington Street
- Cosgrove Drive
- Woodburn Close, and
- St Johns Circle.

This level of flooding could result from about 55-60mm of rain over 6 hours in Richmond, for example. Roads in the flooded areas will be closed, houses may be flooded and surrounding agricultural land will be flooded. This could include infrastructure for electricity, water, phone and internet.

Many major and minor roads will be closed, isolating businesses, houses, farms and towns. There may also be flooding from heavy rainfall that is difficult to predict.



Know your risk, prepare, reduce risk where you can, connect with others, keep up to date and act safe.

BEFORE

1. Know your risk

Flooding can cause widespread and significant damage. In the past 200 years there have been 78 flood related deaths in Tasmania. This guide is to help you understand flood risk in your area.

2. Prepare your household

Have an emergency plan that covers storms and floods

Create a plan, which covers what you would do in a storm or flood. Make sure everyone in your household understands the plan. There are checklists to help you create your plan – see [Get Ready for Emergencies](#) – A guide for individuals and households to prepare for emergencies. on the SES website.

Check your plan regularly and test that everyone in the household understand what would need to happen in a flood.

Prepare an Emergency Kit

Ready to go	Pack when needed
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Your emergency plan• Battery powered radio and torch, spare batteries – regularly tested• Other Important information• Rubber or strong leather gloves• A list of emergency numbers• First aid kit• Food and water	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warm clothes, sturdy shoes or boots• Medicines, glasses and other essential items• Mobile phone and phone charger• Pet food and anything else your pets need• Photos and special keepsakes• Important documents, for example<ul style="list-style-type: none">• insurance papers• passports• birth certificates• Money

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

- Think about flooding and other hazards when buying, maintaining or developing property.
- Trim or remove trees and branches overhanging your home, business or near powerlines on your property.
- Keep your gutters and drains clear.

4. Connect with others

Get to know your neighbours and your community. A connected community can be safer and more resilient in an emergency and can help everyone recover better afterwards. Check that family and neighbours are safe and aware of what's happening.

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

- Supervise children.
- Prepare for possible power, water or internet outages.
- Check your emergency kit is ready to go.
- Keep clear of flooded areas such as drains. **NEVER** walk, play, ride or drive in floodwater. You can't always see what is under the water or how deep or fast-moving the water is. It is easy to be swept away and drown in as little as 20cm of fast-moving water. Flood water can be dangerous. There may be pollution from sewerage or chemicals.

When your home may be flooded

- Put household items up high to minimise possible damage.
- Turn off the electricity and gas if it is safe to do so.
- A great way to stop sewerage flowing back into your home is to place sandbags inside plastic bags and use them to block toilets and cover drains and sinks.
- Leave while you can get out safely.

If you need to evacuate

- Follow the advice from SES / Tasmania Police.
- Take your emergency kit.
- Go to friends or family in a safer place or an evacuation centre, if open.
- Let others know where you have gone.

Look after your animals

You are responsible for your animals in an emergency. If you have pets and other animals it will take you longer to evacuate in a flood or other emergency. Move animals from flood prone areas well before flood waters may rise. For more information see [RSPCA's](#)

[guidance on preparing for animals in an emergency](#) and [City of Hobart's advice on Pet Management and Emergencies](#).

Avoid travelling during and after storms

- Never drive through flood waters. Most deaths and rescues in floods are from people driving through flood waters.
- Drive slowly and turn your headlights on roads not affected by flood waters.
- Watch out for hazards such as
 - water over roads
 - damaged powerlines
 - landslides
 - damaged roads
 - falling trees or roofing iron.
- Do not go sightseeing. Sightseers delay emergency services and cause accidents.

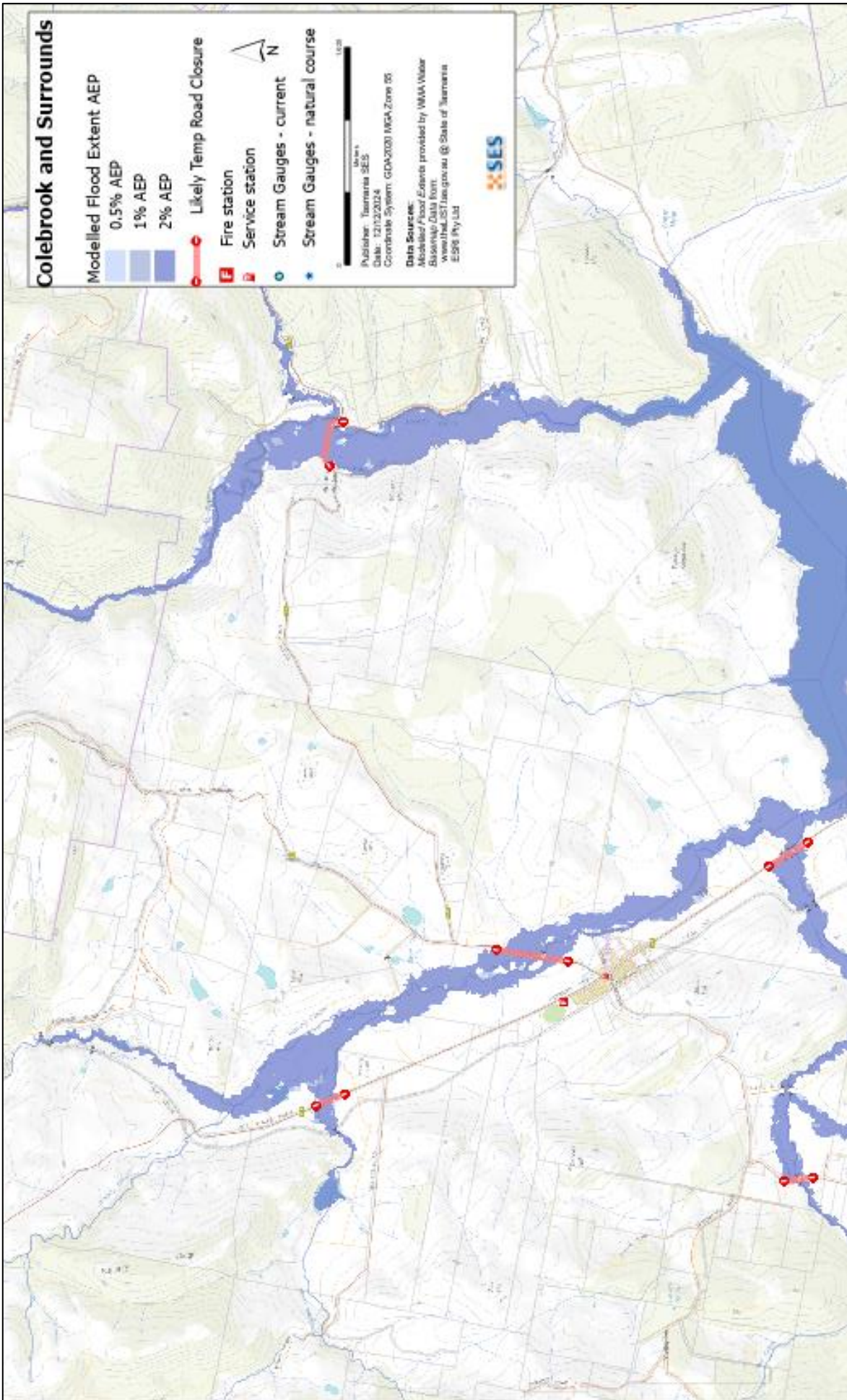
AFTER

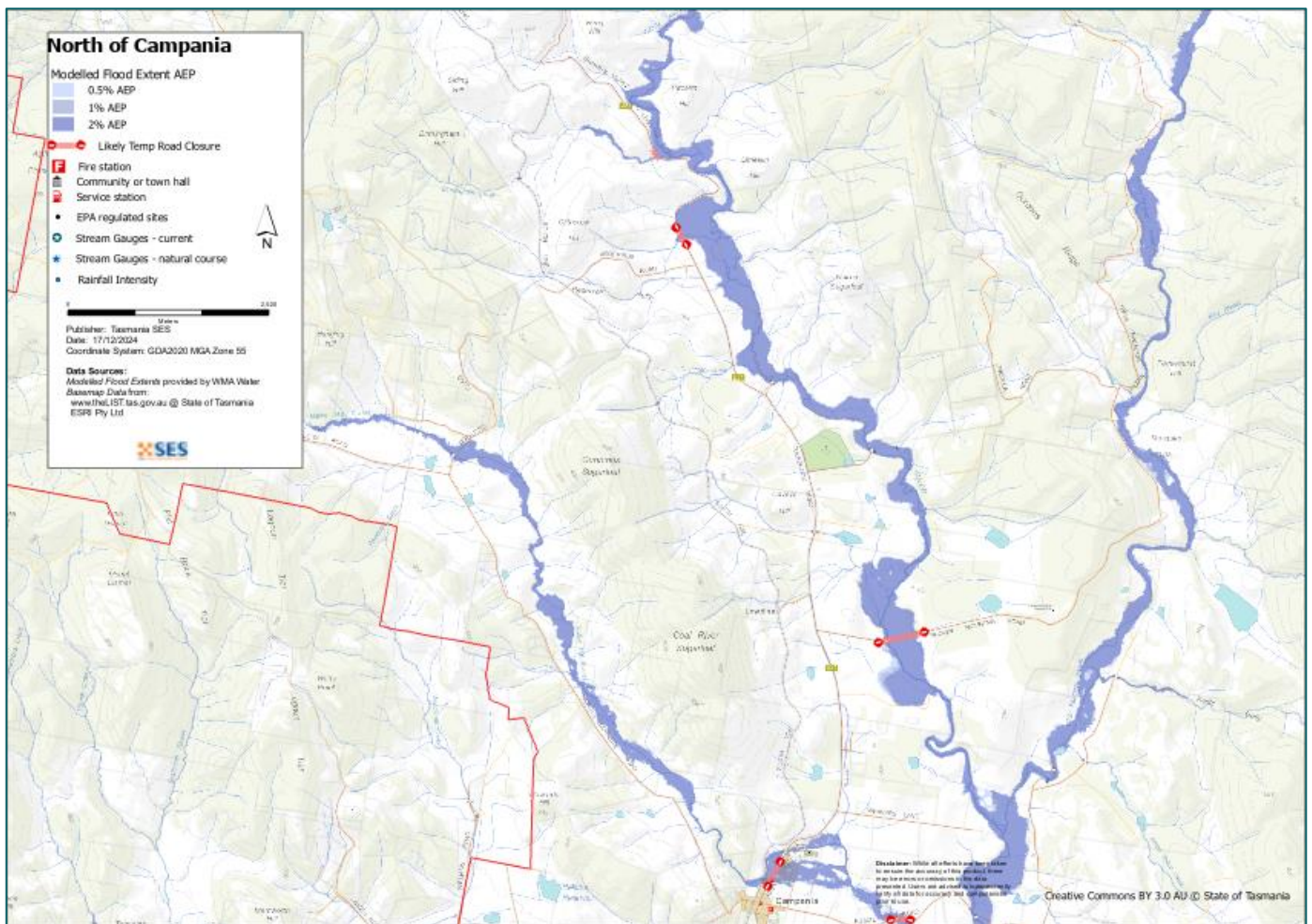
- Keep checking tasalert.com and/or listen for ABC Local Radio updates on road re-openings, community meetings, etc.
- If you left your home, do not return home until SES or Tasmania Police tell you it is safe.
- Be aware of road hazards, such as mud or debris on the road, damaged roads/bridges and crews working on clean-up and repairs.

If your home has been damaged

- Stay at ground level while checking for damage. Be careful of fallen trees, broken glass, loose roofing or other hazards.
- Wear strong boots, gloves and protective clothes.
- Supervise children.
- 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.
- Boil all drinking water until you are told the tap water is safe again.
- If your home is damaged and you need to stay somewhere else, take your emergency kit and pets with you
- Take photos of any damage if safe for you to do so and contact your insurance company.
- Check neighbours are okay.

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





Disclaimer

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.

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/codi> .

Mapping Note

The maps in this plan show data from the Tasmanian Strategic Flood Mapping (TSFM) project. You can explore this data with the Flood Hazard Data layers on www.thelist.tas.gov.au.

Clarence City Council has detailed flood studies for these areas, see https://www.ccc.tas.gov.au/living/your_neighbourhood/flooding/. CCC data includes climate change projections, shows flooding at more shallow depths and therefore the flood extents are considerably different and generally larger, than the TSFM extents shown in the maps below. This data is based on rainfall averages from the past.



Staying informed and further information

Current warnings (TasAlerts)	TasALERT.com	
Bureau of Meteorology (BoM)	bom.gov.au/tas/warnings	
Emergency Broadcasters	ABC 936AM	
TASSES Social Media	facebook.com/sestasmania	
Preparing for Flood Emergencies	www.ses.tas.gov.au/flood-plan/	
Southern Midlands Council	southernmidlands.tas.gov.au	03 6254 5000
Clarence City Council	cc.tas.gov.au	03 6217 9500
National Relay Service (NRS)	relayservice.gov.au	



For flood assistance call

132 500

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



SOUTHERN
MIDLANDS
COUNCIL

