

8. GLOSSARY

Note that terms shown in bold are described elsewhere in this Glossary.

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| 100 year flood | A flood that occurs on average once every 100 years. Also known as a 1% flood. See annual exceedence probability (AEP) and average recurrence interval (ARI) . |
| 50 year flood | A flood that occurs on average once every 50 years. Also known as a 2% flood. See annual exceedence probability (AEP) and average recurrence interval (ARI) . |
| 20 year flood | A flood that occurs on average once every 20 years. Also known as a 5% flood. See annual exceedence probability (AEP) and average recurrence interval (ARI) . |
| afflux | The increase in flood level upstream of a constriction of flood flows. A road culvert, a pipe or a narrowing of the stream channel could cause the constriction. |
| annual exceedence probability (AEP) | AEP (measured as a percentage) is a term used to describe flood size. It is a means of describing how likely a flood is to occur in a given year. For example, a 1% AEP flood is a flood that has a 1% chance of occurring, or being exceeded, in any one year. It is also referred to as the '100 year flood' or 1 in 100 year flood'. The terms 100 year flood , 50 year flood , 20 year flood etc, have been used in this study. See also average recurrence interval (ARI) . |
| Australian Height Datum (AHD) | A common national plane of level approximately equivalent to the height above sea level. All flood levels , floor levels and ground levels in this study have been provided in metres AHD. |
| average recurrence interval (ARI) | ARI (measured in years) is a term used to describe flood size. It is the long-term average number of years between floods of a certain magnitude. For example, a 100 year ARI flood is a flood that occurs or is exceeded on average once every 100 years. The terms 100 year flood , 50 year flood , 20 year flood etc, have been used in this study. See also annual exceedence probability (AEP) . |
| catchment | The land draining through the main stream, as well as tributary streams. |
| Development Control Plan (DCP) | A DCP is a plan prepared in accordance with Section 72 of the <i>Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979</i> that provides detailed guidelines for the assessment of development applications. |
| DECCW | Department of Environment, Climate Change & Water, formerly the Department of Natural Resources. |
| discharge | The rate of flow of water measured in terms of volume per unit time, for example, cubic metres per second (m³/s) . Discharge is different from the speed or velocity of flow, which is a measure of how fast the water is moving. |
| extreme flood | An estimate of the probable maximum flood (PMF) , which is the largest flood likely to occur. |

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| flood | A relatively high stream flow that overtops the natural or artificial banks in any part of a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam, and/or local overland flooding associated with major drainage before entering a watercourse, and/or coastal inundation resulting from super-elevated sea levels and/or waves overtopping coastline defences excluding tsunamis. |
| flood level | The height of the flood measured with reference to a specified datum such as Australian Height Datum (eg the flood level was 7.8m AHD). Terms also used include stage and water level . |
| flood liable land | Land susceptible to flooding up to the probable maximum flood (PMF) . Also called flood prone land . Note that the term 'flood liable land' now covers the whole of the floodplain , not just that part below the flood planning level (FPL) . |
| flood study | A study that investigates flood behaviour, including identification of flood extents, flood levels and flood velocities for a range of flood sizes. |
| floodplain | The area of land that is subject to inundation by floods up to and including the probable maximum flood event, that is, flood prone land or flood liable land . |
| Floodplain Risk Management Plan | A management plan developed in accordance with the principles and guidelines in the <i>Floodplain Development Manual</i> (NSW Government, 2005). (Note that the term 'risk' is often dropped in common usage and 'Floodplain Risk Management Plans' are referred to as 'Floodplain Management Plans'). |
| Floodplain Risk Management Study | A study carried out in accordance with the principles and guidelines in the <i>Floodplain Development Manual</i> (NSW Government, 2005) that assess options for minimising the danger to life and property during floods . These measures, referred to as 'floodplain management measures/options' aim to achieve an equitable balance between environmental, social, economic, financial and engineering considerations. (Note that the term 'risk' is often dropped in common usage and 'Floodplain Risk Management Studies' are referred to as 'Floodplain Management Studies'). |
| floodway | Those areas of the floodplain where a significant discharge of water occurs during floods . Floodways are often aligned with naturally defined channels. Floodways are areas that, even if only partially blocked, would cause a significant redistribution of flood flow, or a significant increase in flood levels . |
| flow | See discharge |
| hazard | A source of potential harm or a situation with a potential to cause loss. In relation to this study the hazard is flooding which has the potential to cause damage to the community. See high hazard and low hazard . |
| high hazard | Possible danger to personal safety; evacuation by trucks difficult; able-bodied adults would have difficulty in wading to safety; potential for significant structural damage to buildings. |
| hydraulics | Term given to the study of water flow in waterways; in particular, the evaluation of flow parameters such as water level and velocity . |
| hydrograph | A graph which shows how the discharge or stage/flood level at any particular location varies with time during a flood. |

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| hydrology | Term given to the study of the rainfall and runoff process; in particular, the evaluation of peak discharges , flow volumes and the derivation of hydrographs for a range of floods. |
| low hazard | Should it be necessary, truck could evacuate people and their possessions; able-bodied adults would have little difficulty in wading to safety. |
| m AHD | Metres Australian Height Datum (AHD) . |
| m/s | Metres per second. Unit used to describe the velocity of floodwaters. |
| m³/s | Cubic metres per second or 'cumecs'. A unit of measurement for creek or river flows or discharges . It the rate of flow of water measured in terms of volume per unit time. |
| overland flowpath | The path that floodwaters can follow as they are conveyed towards the main flow channel or if they leave the confines of the main flow channel. Overland flow paths can occur through private property or along roads. Floodwaters leaving the confines of the main flow channel may or may not re-enter the main channel from which they left – they may be diverted to another watercourse. |
| peak discharge | The maximum flow or discharge during a flood. |
| probable maximum flood (PMF) | The largest flood that could conceivably occur at a particular location, usually estimated from probable maximum precipitation coupled with the worst flood producing catchment conditions. Generally, it is not physically or economically possible to provide complete protection against this event. The PMF defines the extent of flood prone land , that is, the floodplain . |
| Risk | Chance of something happening that will have an impact. It is measured in terms of consequences and likelihood. In the context of this study, it is the likelihood of consequences arising from the interaction of floods, communities and the environment. |
| Runoff | The amount of rainfall that ends up as flow in a stream, also known as rainfall excess. |
| SES | State Emergency Service of New South Wales. |
| Stage | Equivalent to water level (both measured with reference to a specified datum). See flood level . |
| Velocity | The term used to describe the speed of floodwaters, usually in m/s . |
| water level | Equivalent to stage (both measured with reference to a specified datum). See flood level . |
| water surface profile | A graph showing the height of the flood (stage, water level or flood level) at any given location along a watercourse at a particular time. |