

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

This Certificate is provided in good faith and in accordance with the provisions of section 733 of the Local Government Act 1993. This certificate provides an estimate of real flood characteristics. Any particular flood may be different to the conditions that were assumed to determine the information shown in this certificate.

The provided flood information has been compiled from information provided by external consultants and flood studies completed by Council in accordance with the NSW Floodplain Development Manual. The information has not been independently verified or checked beyond the agreed scope of work and Council does not accept liability in connection with unverified information.

Council acknowledges that its flood information may be incomplete and varying in accuracy, however it is the best information available to Council at the time of issue.

The information is provided to give the applicant an understanding as to the extent of flooding affecting the property as well as assist in the preparation of a Floodplain Risk Management Report. The information is subject to change if more accurate data becomes available to Council. Accordingly the information in this certificate is not warranted after the day of issue.

Council is not responsible for updating flood data when site conditions have change from the time of the original flood study and does not accept responsibility arising from any change in site conditions.

Where the relevant information is available, Council's Flood Planning Levels include the estimated impact of climate change.

Council recommends that the information contained in this Certificate be interpreted by a suitably qualified professional. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain survey level data (in metres AHD) for the site.

Council disclaims responsibilities to any other person other than the person nominated on the Flood Certificate arising from or in connection with the information provided.

The floor level survey for the property (if available) is based on the conditions on the date of the survey. Any changes to buildings since the survey may alter the appropriate floor level. Refer to the Port Stephens LEP 2013 Section 7.3 and Port Stephens Development Control Plan Section B5 for details on development controls on flood prone land.

For information, the insurance industry uses its own estimates of flood risk and its own definitions for flooding, which may differ when compared with Council's information and the NSW Floodplain Development Manual. You should contact your insurance company to find out if a flood certificate may influence your insurance premium.

The information provided may contain personal information as defined under the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. The purpose of collecting this information is to enable Council to consider matters under related legislation, issue related documentation where required and other associated matters as provided by law and will be utilised by Council officers in assessing the proposal and other associated activities. The information may also be made available to other persons in accordance with the relevant Acts and regulations, such as the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 and will be stored in Council's record system.

DEFINITIONS

"Flood Planning Level" defines the area of land below the 1% AEP flood event in the year 2100 plus 0.5 metre freeboard and is the area of land subject to flood-related development controls (refer to Port Stephens LEP Section 7.3, Port Stephens Development Control Plan Section B5). The Flood Planning Level defines the minimum floor level for habitable rooms.

"Freeboard" is a safety margin applied to the estimation of flood levels to compensate for uncertainties due to factors such as wave action, localised hydraulic behaviour (eg flow path blockages caused by natural and urban debris such as trees, 'wheelie' bins, cars, containers) and changes in rainfall patterns and ocean water levels as a result of the changing climate (refer Flood Manual Section 4).

"Habitable room" in a residential situation is a living or working area, such as a lounge room, dining room, rumpus room, kitchen, bedroom or workroom; in an industrial or commercial situation is an area used for offices or to store valuable possessions susceptible to flood damage (refer Flood Manual Section 4).

"Adaptable minimum floor level" is the reduced flood planning level allowed in Council's Development Control Plan where the proposed development facilitates ongoing flood adaptation (for example, where the design facilitates building raising in the future, such as a pier and beam housing design).

"Probable maximum flood level" is the flood level that arises from the largest flood that could conceivably occur at a particular location (the "PMF" or extreme design event). This level does not include any freeboard and provides an upper limit of flooding and associated consequences for the problem being investigated. It is used for emergency response planning purposes to address the safety of people and defines the floodplain and identifies "Flood Prone" land.

"AEP" (Annual Exceedance Probability) is the chance of a flood of a given or larger size occurring in any one year (for example, the 1% AEP event has a 1% chance of occurring every year; the 5% AEP event has a 5% chance of occurring every year).

"Surveyed floor level" is the surveyed level at the entrance to the residence, usually measured as part of the floodplain risk management plan undertaken for the area.

"AHD" (Australian Height Datum) a common national survey level datum, approximately corresponding to mean sea level set in the mid to late 1960s.

Hazard Categories

"High hazard" flood area is the area of flood which poses a possible danger to personal safety, where the evacuation of trucks would be difficult, where able-bodied adults would have difficulty wading to safety or where there is a potential for significant damage to buildings (refer Flood Manual Appendix L).

"Low hazard" flood area is the area of flood where, should it be necessary, a truck could evacuate people and their possessions or an able-bodied adult would have little difficulty in wading to safety (refer Flood Manual Appendix L).

Hydraulic Categories

"Floodways" are those areas where a significant volume of water flows during floods and are often aligned with obvious natural channels. They are areas that, even if only partially blocked, would cause a significant increase in flood levels and/or a significant redistribution of flood flow, which may in turn adversely affect other areas (refer Flood Manual Section 4).

"Overland flow path" is land inundated by local runoff on its way to a waterway, rather than overbank flow from a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam (refer Flood Manual Section 4).

"Flood Storage" areas are those parts of the floodplain that are important for the temporary storage of floodwaters during the passage of a flood. The loss of storage areas may increase the severity of flood impacts by reducing natural flood attenuation (refer Flood Manual Section 4).

"Flood Fringe" is the remaining land in the Flood Planning Area after the Floodway area and Flood Storage area have been defined (refer Flood Manual Section 4).

"Flood Prone Land subject to further investigation" refers to the area of land susceptible to flooding where a comprehensive technical investigation of flood behaviour (to define the variation over time of flood levels, extent, velocity, flood hazard and the Flood Planning Level up to and including the probable maximum flood) has not yet been carried out (refer Flood Manual Appendix F).

"Minimal Risk Flood Prone Land" is land on the floodplain that is above the Flood Planning Level. This means that there are no flood-related development controls that apply to residential development, but critical emergency response and recovery facilities, such as evacuation centres and vulnerable development types, such as aged care and child care facilities, may not be appropriate in this location.