

Brisbane River Catchment Flood Studies

Floodplain management

Floods can and do occur in the Brisbane River catchment. The Queensland Government and local councils are working on a long-term plan to manage the impact of future floods and improve community safety and resilience.

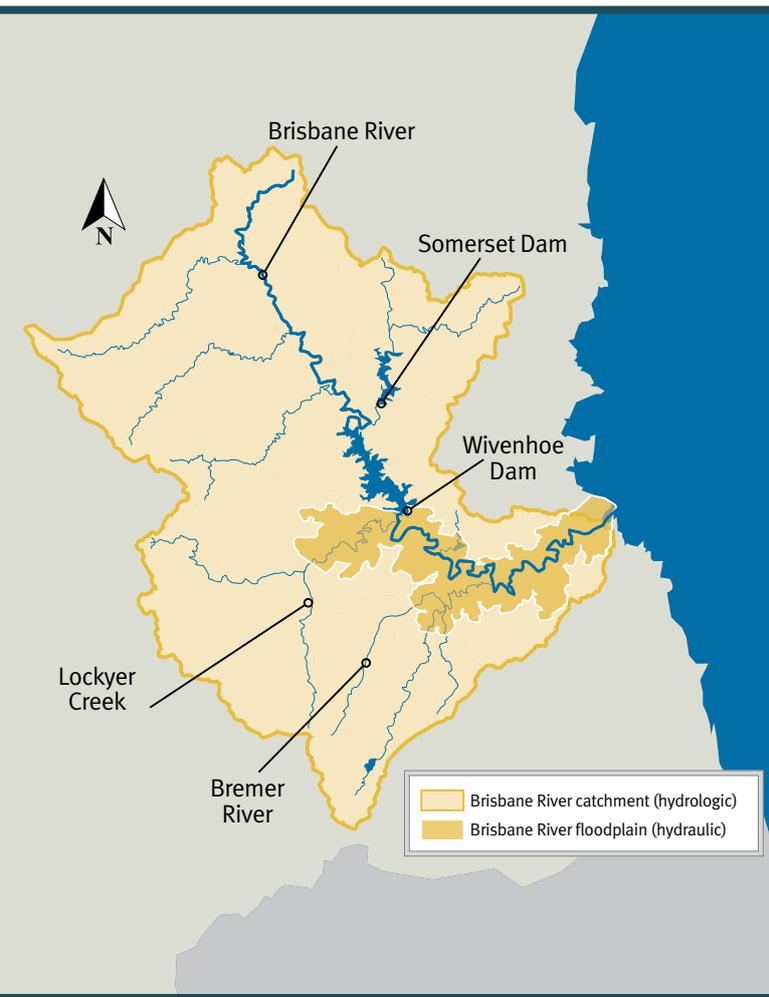
In January 2011, Queensland experienced widespread flooding that caused extensive damage to both public and private property, the evacuation of towns and loss of more than 30 lives. The Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry final report was released in March 2012 and recommended a comprehensive flood study of the Brisbane River catchment be completed to identify the probability and extent of various floods occurring.

About the Flood Study

The Brisbane River Catchment Flood Study (Flood Study) was completed in early 2017 and is the most comprehensive study of its kind ever undertaken in Australia.

The Flood Study investigated regional-scale flooding on the Brisbane River floodplain caused by substantial rainfall across the Brisbane River catchment. It has never before been possible to produce flood modelling of this size and complexity with such a high level of confidence and the information will further our understanding about flood behaviour on a regional scale. While the Flood Study will not prevent future flooding, it provides the most comprehensive flood information ever developed for the Brisbane River floodplain and will inform future planning and response activities in times of flood.

The Flood Study was commissioned by the Queensland Government in partnership with Seqwater, Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council, Somerset Regional Council and the Lockyer Valley Regional Council. The study utilised leading industry modelling techniques and was overseen by an independent panel of eminent water industry experts.



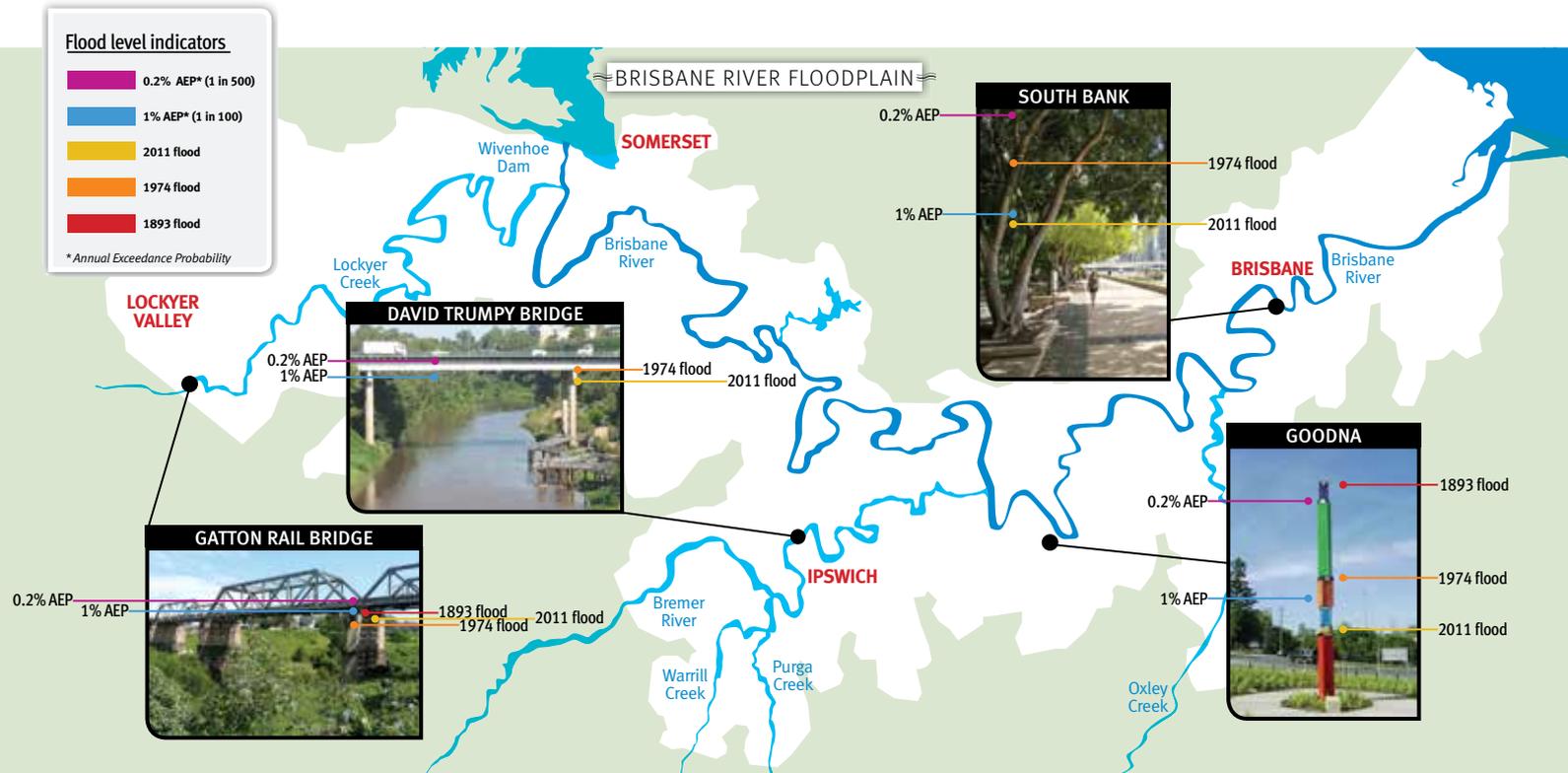
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Flood Study information

For planning purposes floods are usually described in terms of their statistical frequency using the term Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP). The AEP is normally expressed as a percentage and refers to the probability of a flood of the nominated size or larger occurring in any given year. For example, a 1% AEP flood describes an event that has a 1 in 100 chance of being equalled or exceeded in any given year.

The following map of the Brisbane River floodplain highlights some of the flood extents recorded in the Flood Study alongside historical events.



Strategic Floodplain Management Plan

The Flood Study is a critical first step toward developing a Strategic Floodplain Management Plan.

The Strategic Floodplain Management Plan will focus on how we can prepare for and manage a range of possible flood events with greater efficiency and coordination across the Brisbane River floodplain. Consultation will be undertaken in 2017 with key stakeholders and the community about a range of measures including flood mitigation infrastructure, land use management, improved early warning systems, community preparedness and emergency response plans. Following the development of the Strategic Floodplain Management Plan, Local Floodplain Management Plans will be developed.

More information

- Visit www.qldra.org.au/BRCFS for more information about the Flood Study
- Visit www.getready.qld.gov.au for information on preparing for a flood
- Contact your local council for flood risk information specific to your property