



REVIEW OF THE BUNGENDORE FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT STUDY AND PLAN

APRIL 2021

Overview

Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council has appointed engineering consultants, Advisian, to undertake a review of the Bungendore Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. The review is targeted at updating the floodplain risk management study and plan that was completed in 2014. The 2014 plan initiated the recently completed works at the junction of Turallo and Halfway Creeks for the purpose of reducing flood levels. It also triggered further investigations and the design of an upgraded flood protection levee and an overflow channel across Tarago Road. These projects are subject to future grant funding.

Since the 2014 study and plan was completed, a new edition of the national guideline for the estimation of floods has been published. The guideline titled, *Australian Rainfall & Runoff – A Guide to Flood Estimation (2019)*, outlines new procedures for flood estimation. At the same time, work has been undertaken to update the database of recorded rainfall and flood data, and from that the Bureau of Meteorology has determined revised estimates of design rainfall data for use in flood estimation.

In parallel with this, there has been increasing pressure for development and expansion of Bungendore. The recently adopted Bungendore Structure Plan 2048 has identified the future direction for land releases and rezonings in Bungendore for the next 30 years. In recognition of the flood risk, the new procedures for flood estimation and the new flood data, it is appropriate to revisit the 2014 study.

The study area for the project encompasses the entire village of Bungendore and the surrounding floodplains of Turallo, Halfway and Mill Post Creeks.

Why do we need this project?

The NSW Government's Flood Prone Land Policy places the responsibility for management of floodplain lands with Local Government. The primary objective of the Policy is to reduce the impact of flooding and flood liability on individual owners and occupiers of flood prone property, while at the same time, recognising that flood prone land is a valuable resource that should not be unnecessarily sterilised by precluding development where it is appropriate and sustainable.

The Review of Bungendore Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan will be completed in accordance with the provisions of the policy. The policy specifies a staged process involving data collection, preparation of a flood study, preparation of a floodplain risk management study and plan, and implementation of the plan. The staged process is outlined below.

The Floodplain Management Process

Data Collection



Flood Study



Floodplain Risk Management Study



Floodplain Risk Management Plan



Implementation Plan

Previous studies

Advisian, previously Patterson Britton and Partners, completed the Bungendore Flood Study in 2002. Advisian, then as WorleyParsons, prepared and published the Bungendore Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan in 2014. The previous studies defined the nature and extent of the existing flooding problem and identified and assessed a range of measures that could be implemented to reduce the flood risk. The Project seeks to undertake a comprehensive review and update of the 2002 and 2014 studies for the following reasons.

- Since the original Flood Study and Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan were prepared, a new national guideline has been released which provides for new procedures for flood estimation. Accordingly, there may be some changes to the existing flood behaviour at Bungendore, particularly when considering development that has occurred in the study area since the previous studies were completed.
- Council has recently adopted the Bungendore Structure Plan 2048, which identifies land to be investigated for future urban uses in greenfield areas beyond the current town boundary. This includes provision for about 1400 new dwelling sites as well as investigation for additional employment lands to support the growing population. The future urban land identified in the Bungendore Structure Plan was not assessed in the 2002 and 2014 studies. Accordingly, the Project will define flood characteristics (peak level, flow, velocity and hazard) over an extended area, thereby providing Council with the necessary tools to make informed future planning and rezoning decisions. Note that this Project does not remove the need for site specific flood modelling and studies to determine the suitability of land to be rezoned for urban purposes.
- In light of the previous two points, the floodplain mitigation measures recommended in the 2014 Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan will be reviewed to check that they are still suitable and relevant. Where required, new mitigation measures will be investigated to treat the existing, future and residual flood risk.

How can you help?

Your knowledge and experiences of flooding and drainage problems are an invaluable source of data and will help to define the nature and the extent of flooding.

In order to verify predictions of peak flood extents and levels, we would like to know if you can identify any flood marks that you or others may have recorded during previous flood events, especially in the more recent events since 2012. For example, you may remember floodwaters reaching a certain height on a tree or building, or specific roads that were "cut off" by floodwaters.

Similarly, we would like to obtain any private rainfall recordings that you or others may have compiled during the flood events.

If you think you can help, please complete the Bungendore Floodplain Risk Management Study Review

questionnaire on-line at
<http://bit.ly/FRMSsurvey>.

Photographs are especially useful in validating the behaviour of a past flood event.

The image shown below is an example of flooding that was provided by the community as part of the previous consultation.

Photos such as this help us verify the results of the flood modelling and identify where flooding and drainage problems have been experienced.

We are seeking first-hand information of any flooding or drainage problems that you have experienced to help us better understand the issues that are important to you. We would appreciate you completing the questionnaire that accompanies this newsletter and returning it to us. As we work through the Project, there will be opportunity to provide further feedback.



Community consultation


The initial consultation for this study encompasses this newsletter and the attached questionnaire. As the study progresses, preliminary results will be placed on exhibition in the form of a draft report. The community will be invited to view and provide comment on this document.

In addition, public forums will be held to present and discuss the results of the study. This is expected to occur towards the end of the year.

Further Information



If you have any questions about the project contact QPRC on:

 1300 735 025

 floodplain@qprc.nsw.gov.au

 www.qprc.nsw.gov.au/Major-Works-Projects/Bungendore-Floodplain-Risk-Management



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1300 735 025