



Local Flood Guide Katamatite



FloodSafe

Flood information for the Boosey Creek at Katamatite



KATAMATITE



FLOOD STORM
EMERGENCY **132 500**

For more information visit
ses.vic.gov.au

The Katamatite local area

Katamatite is located in the Moira Shire along the Boosey Creek and is situated in the Broken and Boosey Creek catchments. Boosey Creek is the main waterway on the south and east side of the township of Katamatite, and flows into the Broken Creek downstream of Katamatite, near Gilmours Bridge.

Katamatite is affected by flooding both from the Boosey Creek system (riverine flooding as occurred in October, 1993) and flash flooding after heavy local rain over a short period of time (March, 2012).

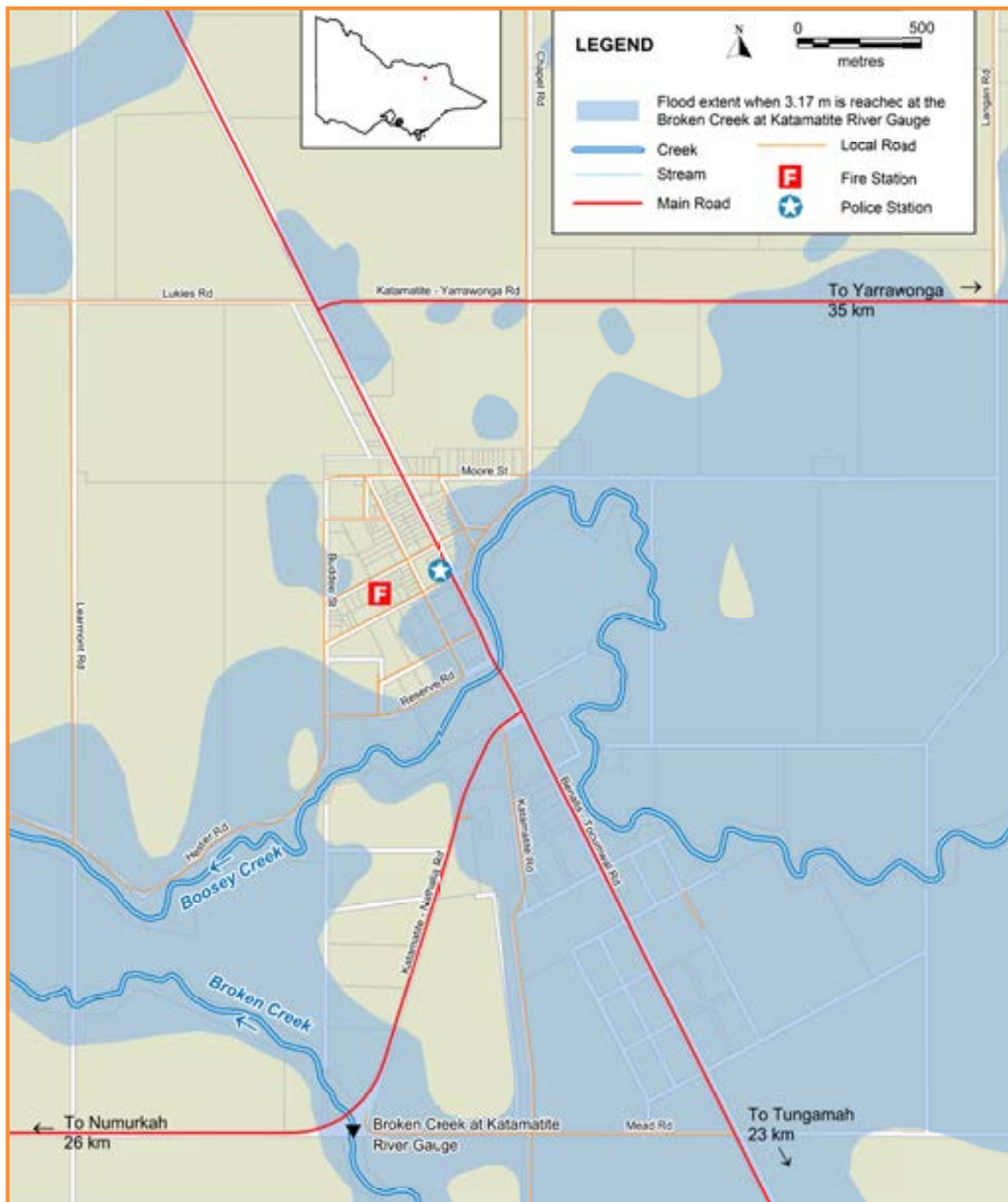
The map below shows the likely spread of flooding in a 1% flood. A 1% flood means that there is a 1% chance of a flood this size occurring in any year. This map is provided for planning purposes only.

Your local emergency broadcasters are:

- ABC 97.7 FM
- STAR FM 96.9 FM
- 3SR 95.3 FM
- SKY NEWS Television (pay TV)

Moira Shire contact details:

Phone : (03) 5871 9222
 Web: www.moira.vic.gov.au
 Email: webmaster@moira.vic.gov.au



Disclaimer: This map publication is presented by Victoria State Emergency Service for the purpose of disseminating emergency management information. The contents of the information has not been independently verified by Victoria State Emergency Service. No liability is accepted for any damage, loss or injury caused by errors or omissions in this information or for any action taken by any person in reliance upon it. Flood information is provided by Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.

Are you at risk of flooding?

The Katamatite area is located on a floodplain which can result in widespread flooding. Katamatite is at risk of riverine flooding (overflowing of rivers and creeks) from the Boosey and Broken Creek catchments after prolonged rain (possibly in far-distant areas). The area is also at risk of flash flooding after heavy local rain falling over a short period of time. The type and effect of flooding depends on the conditions of the catchment, including how much water is already in the ground and creeks.

Depending on the size of the flood, areas to the east and south of town are most vulnerable, including low-lying parts of Beek Street (Benalla-Tocumwal Road), Hotchin Street and Cemetery Road. The Katamatite Recreation Reserve likely to be inundated.

During a flood, the following main roads are likely to be closed in and around Katamatite:

- Benalla – Tocumwal Road (Beek Street closed both north and south of town)
- Katamatite - Nathalia Road, also known as Shepparton - Katamatite Road
- Katamatite - Yarrawonga Road.

Flood observations

The following table provides observations from the 2012 flood event. These observations provide information on the possible impacts for when certain triggers occur.

Flood behaviour (2012)	Possible impacts
Boosey Creek overflowed its banks flooding To the south of town, Mead Road/Telford Road was significantly impacted.	Possible road closures to the south and east of Katamatite.
Floodwater crossed Chapel Road behind the Recreation Reserve and the corner of Chapel Road and Moore Street.	If floodwater reaches this point, this will have a major impact on the township and surrounding farms. Low-lying parts of Beek Street, Hotchin Street and Cemetery Road and the recreation reserve are likely to be affected by floodwater including being flooded, isolated and or cut off. Most roads entering the town will be cut off by floodwater

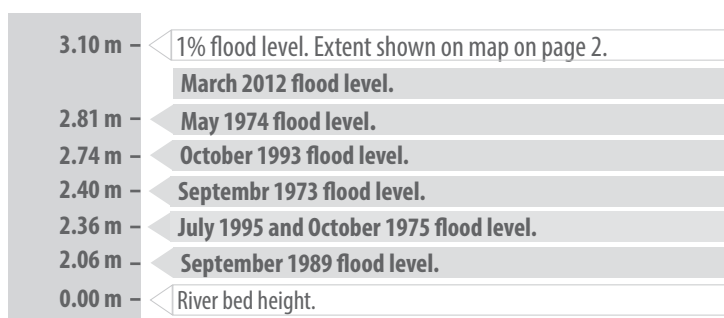
Broken Creek at Katamatite Gauge (Gilmours Bridge) and Boosey Creek at Tungamah Gauge

BoM does not use the Katamatite gauge to issue minor, moderate or major warnings or predictions of flood peak/arrival time. It can only provide creek height levels.

The BoM gauge at Tungamah could provide early warning of Boosey Creek flooding. You can monitor this gauge online at bom.gov.au/vic/observations/river_and_rainfall_conditions/Goulburn_broken/Boosey_Creek_at_Tungamah.

The table below provides a history of creek heights in metres (m), reached during floods that may help you prepare.

Katamatite Gauge



Did you know?

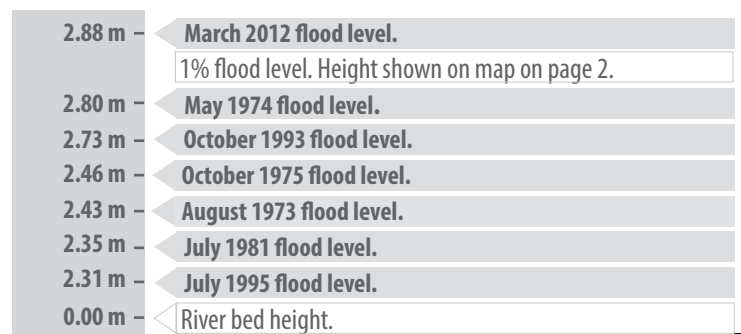
Katamatite has a history of flooding, including recent large floods in May 1974, October 1993 and March 2012. The May 1974, October 1993 and March 2012 floods are the three largest floods in the Broken Creek system in recent times. In the 2012 flood, approximately 19 properties were flooded above floor level.

Floods can occur in a number of ways in Katamatite, including:

- The 1974 and 1993 events resulted from local runoff and substantial overflows from the Broken River into the Broken Creek System.
- The March 2012 event was caused solely by heavy rain in the nearby catchment and local runoff. Parts of Katamatite were flooded and access was cut to the township.

Katamatite can have between three and five days warning for riverine flooding in the Boosey Creek after prolonged heavy rain in the Tungamah Catchment area. You can monitor river and rainfall conditions for the Boosey Creek at Tungamah on the BoM website at bom.gov.au

Tungamah Gauge



About Flood Warnings

What warnings mean

Warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) to inform people about the possibility of flooding.

A **Flood Watch** means there is a developing weather pattern that might cause floods in one or two days.

Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) will give information about how the floodwater might affect people and properties. This includes safety messages to remind you what to do.

You may receive a General Flood Warning from BoM. This will tell you to expect flooding but there will be no information about specifics including expected times and heights of the flood.

In addition to riverine flooding, Katamatite may also be prone to flash flooding. Severe Weather Warnings and Severe Thunderstorm Warnings are your earliest triggers to activate your Home Emergency Plan.

Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

Thunderstorms are classified as severe due to their potential to cause significant localised damage through: wind gusts, large hail, tornadoes or flash flooding. Severe Thunderstorm Warnings are issued to the community by BoM.

Severe Weather Warnings

These warnings are issued to the community by BoM when severe weather is expected that is not directly related to severe thunderstorms or bushfires. Examples of severe weather include damaging winds and flash flooding.

Flash flooding results in water rising rapidly and flowing powerfully and quickly. Katamatite residents should be alert for warnings with flash flooding and remember that flash flooding:

- Occurs so fast that it is difficult to provide a detailed warning. Often it arrives without any warning.
- Usually results from heavy rainfall falling during short, severe storms.

Check for Severe Thunderstorm Warnings and Severe Weather Warnings for your area. If you receive a warning, check the BoM and SES websites for information and advice. You can monitor creek heights and rainfall conditions on the BoM website at **bom.gov.au**

Know your local environment

If you live in the Katamatite area, keep an eye on the weather, especially heavy rainfall or sustained rainfall over a number of days.

Knowing your local area and making your own observations are a great way to help you prepare for and stay safe during future floods.

Remember, you may not receive any official warning.

Emergency assistance may not be immediately available. Be aware of what is happening around you to stay safe.

Never wait for a warning to act.

Emergency Alert

SES may provide alerts to the Katamatite community through the Emergency Alert telephone warning system. All emergency service providers can use an Emergency Alert to warn communities about dangerous situations by voice message to landline telephones or text message to mobile phones.

If you receive a warning, make sure that all family members, people at work and your neighbours are aware of the situation.

If you receive an Emergency Alert you should pay attention and act. It could mean life or death.

If you need help to understand a warning, ask a friend, neighbour or family member.

Warnings for Katamatite

BoM does not issue flood height predictions for the Boosey and Broken Creeks at Katamatite.

Warnings issued by BoM may provide information about when flooding is possible in the town, but not specifics such as the expected height of the creek's peak. Heavy or prolonged rainfall may be your only indication of future flooding. If flooding is likely, tune into your emergency broadcasters and listen for information or warnings relating to Boosey and Broken Creeks, Broken Catchment or the Northern Country weather district.

The Broken River gauge at Benalla is the nearest gauge to Katamatite that the BoM will use to issue minor, moderate and major flood warnings. Checking this gauge could give you an idea of flooding in nearby areas. You can monitor rainfall and river levels on the BoM website. The Broken River gauge at Gowangardie Weir will only provide a river level height reading.

Safety in flash flooding

Driving through floodwater is the number one cause of adult deaths during floods. Never walk, ride, swim or drive through floodwater.

Playing in floodwater is the number one cause of death during floods for children and teenagers. Floodwater is filled with unseen dangers, harbouring hidden debris such as broken glass, shattered timbers and twisted metals as well as sewage, putrid food waste and toxic chemicals.

Floodwater is toxic. Never allow your children to play or swim in floodwater.

NOW – before a flood

- Check if your home or business is subject to flooding. For more information, contact Moira Shire Council.
- Develop an emergency plan.
- Check if you could be cut off by floodwater.
- Know the safest way to go if you decide to leave your property and plan an alternative route.
- Check your insurance policies to ensure your equipment, property and business are covered for flood damage.
- Keep a list of emergency numbers near the telephone.
- Put together an emergency kit.
- Stay alert for weather warnings and heavy rainfall.

When a flood is likely

- Take action. Follow your emergency plan.
- Listen to your radio for information and advice.
- Check your neighbours are safe and know about the flood.
- Stack possessions on benches and tables with electrical goods in the highest places.
- Anchor objects that are likely to float and cause damage.
- Move rubbish bins, chemicals and poisons to the highest place.
- Put important papers, valuables, photos and other special personal items into your emergency kit.
- Business owners should raise stock, business records and equipment onto benches and tables.
- Rural property owners should move livestock, pumps and machinery to higher ground.
- If you are likely to be isolated, have enough food, drinking water, medicine, fuel and other needs to last at least three days.
- Do not forget pet food and stock feed.

Your emergency plan

Emergencies can happen at any time, with little warning. People who have planned and prepared for emergencies will reduce the impact and recover faster.

Taking the time to think about emergencies and make your own plan helps you think clearly, have more control and make better decisions when an emergency occurs.

Your emergency plan should identify:

- The types of emergencies that might affect you.
- How those emergencies might affect you.
- What you will do before, during and after an emergency.
- Where to get more information.
- Where you will go if you evacuate and the best way to go in different circumstances.
- A list of phone numbers you will need, including emergency service providers, your insurance company, friends and family.



Visit ses.vic.gov.au to obtain a copy of your Home Emergency Plan workbook

Evacuation

During a flood, police, SES, and other emergency service providers may advise you to evacuate to keep you safe. It is important that you follow this advice.

There are two types of evacuation notices that may be issued via your emergency broadcaster during a flood:

- **Prepare to evacuate** – means you should act quickly and take immediate action to protect your life and property. Be ready to leave your property.
- **Evacuate immediately** – you must leave immediately as there is a risk to lives. You may only have minutes to evacuate in a flash flooding situation.

Do not return to your home until you are sure it is safe to do so. You do not need to wait to be told to evacuate.

Emergency Kit

Every home and business should have a basic emergency kit:



Check your kit often. Make sure things work. Replace out of date items.

When a warning is issued, have ready for use or pack into your kit:



I need to add:

Write your list here. Tick items as you pack them into your kit.

- Special needs _____
- Photos _____
- Family keepsakes _____
- Valuables _____
- Documents _____
- Other _____

During and After a Flood

Never
Drive, Ride or Walk
Through Floodwater

During a flood

When flooding has begun:

- **Never drive, ride, swim or walk through floodwater.**
- Remember that floodwater can be deeper than you think and can hide damaged roads and bridges.
- Never let your children play or swim in floodwater. It is dirty, dangerous and deadly.
- Tune in to your emergency broadcasters: ABC Local Radio, Commercial Radio, designated Community Radio Stations and SKY NEWS Television.
- In life-threatening emergencies, call Triple Zero (000).
- For SES emergency assistance during floods and storms call 132 500.
- Stay away from all waterways including drains and culverts.
- Stay away from fallen powerlines as electricity travels easily through water.
- Be aware that animals such as snakes, rats, spiders and other pests may be on the move during a flood. These animals can come into houses and other buildings or hide around sandbags.
- Keep in contact with neighbours.
- Be prepared to act quickly.

After a flood

Flood dangers do not end when the water begins to fall. To make sure you stay safe:

- Keep listening to local emergency broadcasters.
- Do not return home until you are sure that it is safe.

Once you return to your home:

- Investigate the structural safety of your building.
- Keep the electricity and gas off until checked and tested by a professional.
- When entering a building, use a torch to light your way. Never use matches or cigarette lighters as there may be gas inside.
- Take photographs of all damage for insurance.
- Drink bottled water or boil all drinking water until advised that the water supply is safe.
- Throw away any food or medicines that may have been in contact with floodwater or affected by power outages.
- Clean your home straight away to prevent disease.

How SES helps the community

The Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) is a volunteer based emergency service. Although SES volunteers attempt to reach everyone prior to or during an emergency, at times this is not possible, especially during flash flooding which occurs so quickly. Therefore it is advisable for you to be prepared for emergencies so that you can share responsibility for your own wellbeing during those times. In a flood, SES assistance may include:

- Giving flood advice
- Protecting essential services
- Helping to protect infrastructure
- Rescuing people from floodwater
- Advising of an evacuation

To assist your preparation, it is recommended that you obtain a copy of the SES Home Emergency Plan by visiting ses.vic.gov.au.



Emergency Checklist

NOW: Flood preparation

- Check if your insurance policies cover flooding.
- Keep this list of emergency numbers near the telephone.
- Put together an emergency kit and prepare a home or business emergency plan, see ses.vic.gov.au.

When you hear a Flood Watch or weather warning

- Listen to Severe Weather Warnings for flash flood.
- Listen to radio and check the SES website for more information and advice.
- Go over your emergency plan. Pack clothing and other extra items into your emergency kit and take this with you if you evacuate.
- Leave early if you intend to evacuate.

When flooding may happen soon (heavy rainfall)

- Make sure your family members and neighbours are aware of what is happening.
- Conditions change rapidly, roads and escape routes can be covered or blocked. Don't forget to take pets and your medicine with you.
- Put household valuables and electrical items as high as possible.
- Turn off water, gas and electricity at the mains.
- Secure objects likely to float and cause damage.
- If you are staying in a caravan or temporary dwelling, move to higher ground BEFORE flooding begins.

During the flood

- For SES emergency assistance, call 132 500.
- DO NOT drive, ride, swim or walk through floodwater. This is the main cause of death during floods.
- NEVER allow children to play in floodwater. This is the main cause of death during floods for children and young people.
- Stay away from drains, culverts and waterways as water can flow quickly and have strong currents.
- Stay well clear of fallen trees, powerlines and damaged buildings.
- If you are trapped inside a building, stay inside and shelter in the highest place. Call Triple Zero (000) in a life-threatening emergency.

After the flood: recovery

- Have all electrical and gas equipment professionally tested before use.
- If your property has been flooded, check with Moira Shire Council for information and advice.

For more information visit:

- ses.vic.gov.au
- [facebook.com/vicses](https://www.facebook.com/vicses)
- twitter.com/vicseswarnings

Emergency Contacts

Life-threatening emergency Triple Zero
Police Fire Ambulance **000** TTY106

Victoria State Emergency Service (SES) **132 500**
For SES emergency assistance

SES information line **1300 842 737**
Operates during major floods or storms **1300 VIC SES**

VicEmergency emergency.vic.gov.au
Victorian emergency warnings

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) **1300 659 217**
Weather information, forecasts, warnings bom.gov.au

National Relay Service (NRS) relayservice.gov.au
The deaf, hearing or speech impaired can call SES or Triple Zero (000) using NRS:

	DIAL	THEN ASK FOR
■ Speak and Listen (SSR) users phone	1300 555 727	132 500
■ TTY / Voice users phone	13 36 77	132 500

VicRoads **13 11 70**
Road closures and hazard reporting service vicroads.vic.gov.au

Moira Shire Contact Details

Phone: (03) 5871 9222
Email: webmaster@moira.vic.gov.au
Web: moira.vic.gov.au

Weather District: Northern Country

Catchment Management Authority: Goulburn Broken
www.gbcma.vic.gov.au

Emergency Broadcasters

Emergency broadcasters include ABC Local Radio, designated commercial radio stations across Victoria and SKY NEWS Television.

- ABC 97.7 FM
- STAR FM 96.9 FM
- 3SR 95.3 FM
- SKY NEWS Television (pay TV)

Complete the following and keep this information handy close to the phone:

Your electricity supplier: _____

Your gas supplier: _____

Doctor: _____

Vet: _____

Insurance

Policy Number: _____

Phone Number: _____