



# Tungamah Local Flood Guide

Flood information for the Boosey Creek at Tungamah



For flood emergency assistance call  
VICSES on **132 500**

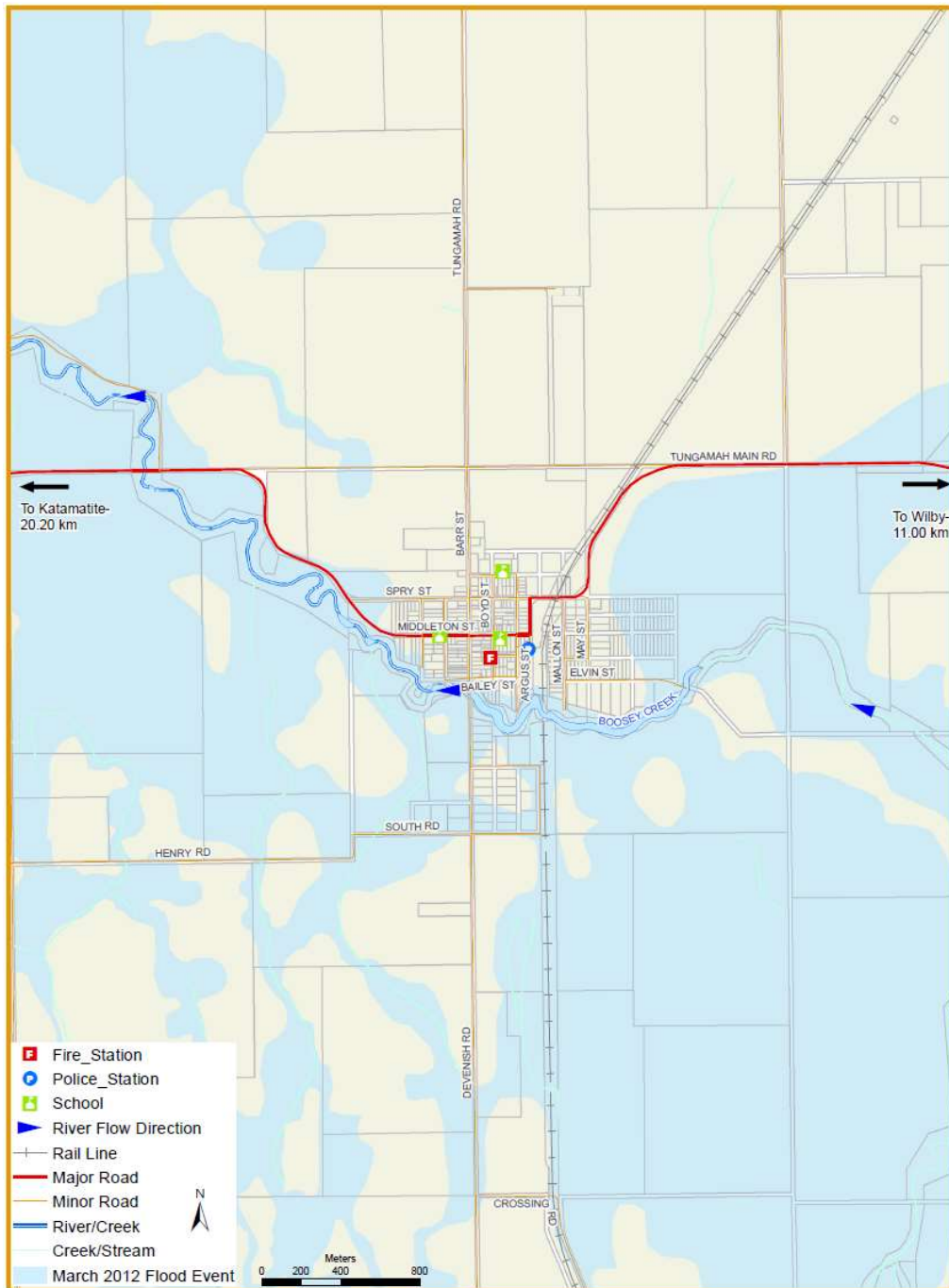




## Tungamah

Tungamah is located in the Moira Shire and has a population of approximately 250 people. Tungamah township is situated on the banks of Boosey Creek and is surrounded by farmland on all sides. The Boosey Creek flows through Tungamah towards Katamatite and then joins the Broken Creek about two and a half kilometres west of Katamatite.

The following map shows the flooding that occurred in the March 2012 flood event in Tungamah. The 2012 flood event measured 2.88 metres on the Tungamah Station Gauge.



### 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 risk information is provided by Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority.



## Are you at risk of flood?



Tungamah has a history of flooding, usually from the Boosey Creek after heavy rainfall in the upper Boosey Creek catchment. This catchment is bound to the south by Winton Wetlands, to the north by the Muckatah Creek, to the west by the Broken Creek and to the east by the Warby Ranges.

The type and effect of flooding that will impact Tungamah depends on the conditions of the Boosey Creek catchment, including how wet the ground already is and how full the creeks are when rainfall occurs.

Riverine flooding (flooding from a river or creek) impacts occur from the Boosey Creek system (October 1993). The Sandy Creek can flood into the Boosey Creek up stream of Tungamah, causing water to flow over the creek banks. Tungamah can also be impacted by flash flooding when local heavy rainfall occurs over a short period of time (March 2012).

The February/March 2012 flash flood occurred when 300 millimetres (many local gauges measured much more) of rain fell in the area over three days. There is no warning system in Tungamah, and so residents did not have any time to prepare before parts of the township were heavily inundated.

When the Boosey Creek floods it spills over in many places including over roads. During floods, major roads closed in the area include:

- Devenish Road
- Tungamah Road
- Tungamah Main Road

Based on previous flood history, there will be limited access to the community centre in Barr Street, the football and netball recreation reserve, Jubilee Park and access to the local pub during a flood.

## Did you know?

The May 1974, October 1993 and March 2012 floods are the three largest floods in the Broken Creek system in recent history.

The impact of rainfall on the severity of a flood can vary due to a number of factors, including how wet the ground is prior to the rainfall, how quickly it falls and how full the creeks are. In 2012 the ground was very wet before the rain, meaning it couldn't absorb the extra water and this led to flooding.

In a large flood, approximately 10 to 20 properties are at risk of over-floor flooding in Tungamah. In a large flood the new sewer system in Tungamah may flood. The impact of this is unknown as the sewer has not yet been flooded.

A number of properties are at risk of major isolation for four to seven days during a large flood event and deliveries to the town may be cut off due to road closures.

In May 1974, floodwater entered the pub cellar via the footpath, flooding the building.



**No two floods are the same, floods like this or worse could occur again.**

**If you live in a low-lying area you may be at risk of flooding or need to detour around flooded areas.**

**Knowing what to do can save your life and help protect your property.**



## Boosey Creek flood levels at Tungamah Station

There is currently no flood gauge automatically monitored by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) in Tungamah. While no two floods are the same, the following heights at the monitored [Tungamah Station gauge](#) (downstream of Tungamah) can provide a guide as to what might happen in your area.

Height (metres)	Impact/level
2.88 m	<b>March 2012 flood level.</b> 10-20 houses and the Recreation Reserve were inundated. Height shown on map on page 2.
2.81 m	<b>1% flood level.</b> A 1% flood means that there is a 1% chance of a flood measuring 2.81 metres on the Tungamah Station Gauge occurring in any year.
2.80 m	<b>May 1974 flood level</b>
2.73 m	<b>October 1993 flood level</b>
2.46 m	<b>October 1975 flood level</b>
2.43 m	<b>August 1973 flood level</b>
2.35 m	<b>July 1981 flood level</b>
2.31 m	<b>July 1995 flood level</b>

## 2012 flood observations

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

Boosey and Sandy Creek behaviour (2012)	Expected impacts
Sandy Creek flows over Tungamah/Peechelba Road.	Access to the Tungamah–Peechelba Road is reduced and the flow increases into Boosey Creek, in particular increasing the level of the weir pool located in Tungamah.
Continual rise of weir pool height in the Boosey Creek at Tungamah.	Rise of weir pool will cause localised flooding of houses in low lying areas in Elvin and Berndt Streets.
Weir pool height in Tungamah approaches bottom of the bridge on Devenish Road.	Rise of weir pool will cause flooding in Bailey, Burn, Elvin, Berndt, Barr and Middleton Streets.
Water height hits bottom of the bridge on Devenish Road.	Floodwater continues to invade properties in Barr Street and will flood the remainder of properties in Burn, Berndt, Middleton and Spry Street.

## Staying Informed and Further Information

- Current warnings (VicEmergency) [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au) 1800 226 226
- Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) [bom.gov.au/vic/warnings](http://bom.gov.au/vic/warnings) 1300 659 217
- VicRoads Traffic [traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au](http://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au)
- Emergency Broadcasters
  - ABC 97.7 FM
  - HIT 96.9 FM
  - TRIPLE M 95.3 FM
  - SKY NEWS Television
- VICSES Social Media
  - [facebook.com/viceses](https://facebook.com/viceses)
  - [twitter.com/vicesesnews](https://twitter.com/vicesesnews)
- Preparing for Flood Emergencies [ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready](http://ses.vic.gov.au/get-ready)
- Creating an Emergency Plan [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://redcross.org.au/prepare)
- Catchment Management Authority [gbcma.vic.gov.au](http://gbcma.vic.gov.au) (03) 5822 7700
- Moira Shire Council [moira.vic.gov.au](http://moira.vic.gov.au) (03) 5871 9222
- National Relay Service (NRS) [relayservice.gov.au](http://relayservice.gov.au)

**Life-threatening  
Emergency  
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# Flood warnings and emergency checklist

## Bureau of Meteorology Warnings

**Warnings** are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) to tell people about possible flooding.

A **Flood Watch** means there is a developing weather pattern that might cause floods in one or two days. This service covers the whole state.

A **Flood Warning** means flooding is about to happen or is already happening. There are minor, moderate and major flood warnings. This service is only available where flood warning systems are in place.

 <b>A Minor Flood Warning means floodwater can:</b>	 <b>A Moderate Flood Warning means floodwater can:</b>	 <b>A Major Flood Warning means floodwater can:</b>
Spill over river banks and cover nearby low lying areas.	Spill over river banks and cover larger areas of land.	Cause widespread flooding.
Come up through drains in nearby streets.	Reach above floor levels in some houses and buildings.	Many houses and businesses are inundated above floor level.
Require the removal of stock in some cases.	Require evacuation in some areas.	Cause properties and whole areas to be isolated by water.
Cover riverside camping areas and affect some low-lying caravan parks.	Affect traffic routes.	Closes major roads and rail routes.
Cover minor roads paths, tracks and low level bridges.	Require the removal of stock in rural areas.	Require many evacuations.
Affect backyards and buildings below floor level.		Affect utility services (power, water, sewage etc).

## Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

Thunderstorms are classified as severe when there is 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

- Flash Flooding can occur quickly due to heavy rainfall. You may not receive an official warning.
- Stay informed- monitor weather warnings, forecasts and river levels at the [BoM website](#) and warnings through [VicEmergency](#).



## VICSES Warnings

VICSES utilises the VicEmergency app, website and hotline to distribute flood warnings and emergency information in Victoria. You can also access this information through our social media channels and emergency broadcasters.

VICSES warnings aim to provide you with information to help you make good decisions to protect yourself and your family.

The warning level is based on severity, conditions and the likelihood of community impact.

### WARNING LEVELS

	<p><b>EMERGENCY WARNING</b> You are in imminent danger and need to take action immediately. You will be impacted. A Major flood warning usually fits into this category.</p>
	<p><b>WARNING (WATCH AND ACT)</b> An emergency is developing nearby. You need to take action now to protect yourself and others. A Moderate flood warning usually fits into this category.</p>
	<p><b>ADVICE</b> An incident is occurring or has occurred in the area. Access information and monitor conditions. Can also be used as a notification that activity in the area has subsided and is no longer a danger to you. A Minor flood warning or Flood Watch usually fits into this category.</p>

### ADDITIONAL MESSAGES

	<p><b>PREPARE TO EVACUATE/ EVACUATE NOW</b> An evacuation is recommended or procedures are in place to evacuate.</p>
	<p><b>COMMUNITY INFORMATION</b> Updates for communities affected by an emergency. Can also be used as a notification that an incident has occurred but there is no threat to community.</p>
	<p><b>EMERGENCY ALERT</b> During some emergencies, communities may be alerted by the sounding of a local siren, or by sending an SMS to mobile phones or a voice message to landlines.</p>

## Your emergency plan

Emergencies can happen at any time, with little warning. People who plan and prepare for emergencies reduce the impact and recover faster.

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

Visit [redcross.org.au/prepare](http://redcross.org.au/prepare) start creating your plan.



- 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 Kit

Visit [Emergency Toolkit](#) for more information



Every home and business should have a basic emergency kit with a supply of 3 days:



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 (eg, babies,
- | Elderly)
- | Photos
- | Family keepsakes
- | Valuables
- | Other

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## Emergency Checklist

- Check if your insurance policy covers flooding.
- Keep this list of emergency numbers in your mobile phone
- Download the Vic Emergency app on your mobile phone.
- Put together an emergency kit and prepare a home or business emergency plan, see [redcross.org.au/prepare](https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare)

### Before Flooding

- Leaving early before flooding occurs is always the safest option. Evacuating through floodwater is very dangerous and you may be swept away.**
- Stay informed- monitor weather warnings, forecasts and river levels at [bom.vic.gov.au](https://www.bom.vic.gov.au) and warnings through [emergency.vic.gov.au](https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au).
- Secure objects likely to float and cause damage.
- Listen to the radio and check the VICSES website for 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.
- If you are staying in a caravan, move to higher ground before flooding begins.

### During Flooding

- 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.
- Put household valuables and electrical items as high as possible.
- Turn off water, gas and electricity at the mains.
- Seek shelter indoors, away from floodwater.
- If floodwater comes inside, move to a higher point such as a kitchen bench or second storey.
- Stay away from trees, drains, low-lying areas, creeks, canals, culverts and floodwater.

### Evacuating in Flooding

- Flood water is dangerous. Stay safe by never entering flood water. It can take just 15cm of water to float a car.**
- Find alternative travel routes if roads or underpasses are flooded.
- Be aware of driving hazards, such as mud, debris, damaged roads and fallen trees. If driving conditions are dangerous, safely pull over away from trees, drains and floodwater.

### After Flooding

- For recovery information, contact your local council, go to the VicEmergency Relief and Recovery- [emergency.vic.gov.au/Relief](https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au/Relief) page or call the VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226).
- Have all electrical and gas equipment professionally tested before use.
- Stay away from damaged and flooded buildings, fallen trees and powerlines, and damaged roads. Drive slowly, obey all road signs and never drive through floodwater.
- When cleaning, protect your health and safety. Wear strong boots, gloves and protective clothing.

**For VICSES emergency assistance, call 132 500, or Triple Zero (000) in life threatening emergencies.**