

# November 2014 DRAFT

Ballina Shire Development Control Plan

Chapter 2b – Floodplain Management



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## 1 Preliminary

## 1.1 Introduction

### 1.1.1 Name

Ballina Shire Development Control Plan 2014, Chapter 2b - Floodplain Management.

## 1.1.2 Purpose

To identify Council's requirements relating to development in the floodplain, and on other flood prone land, in Ballina Shire.

## 1.1.3 Relationship to other Chapters of this DCP:

The provisions in this chapter prevail over those in Chapter 1 where there is an inconsistency.

Where there is an inconsistency between provisions in chapters 2, 2a and 2b, Council will determine which provision(s) will apply based on consideration of the strategic planning framework for the land the subject of the application, statutory considerations, relevant planning objectives and the nature of the proposed development.

The provisions of chapters 3, 4, 5, 6, 6a, 6b, 6c, 6d, 7 and 8 prevail over the provisions of this chapter unless otherwise specified.

## 1.1.4 Application:

The planning provisions of this chapter apply to land within the floodplain as identified within this chapter and other land identified as being flood prone.

## 1.1.5 Planning Objectives and Development Controls

The provisions of this chapter are based on the application of site filling and building floor levels in relation to particular locations within the shire. Development proposals must be consistent with the planning objectives for the chapter. Such consistency is typically demonstrated by compliance with the identified development controls, although there may be circumstances where an alternative to the application of a development control is consistent with the planning objectives. Such alternatives will be considered with regard for risk management.

## 1.1.6 Notes

Notes are included to guide DCP interpretation. The notes do not form part of the formal requirements of the DCP. To distinguish Notes from the DCP provisions they are contained within a shaded box as illustrated below.

Note: This is an example of the formatting of interpretative notes within this Chapter of the DCP:

## 1.2 Background Information

The following material provides a brief summary of Council's approach to developing planning controls in areas subject to flooding.

- Prior to 1995 Council has over the years adopted various policies concerning the erection of buildings on land which is known to have been, or which may be, susceptible to flooding. Prior to 1995, these policies were previously primarily based on studies undertaken and observations made or recorded by the Department of Public Works, Richmond River County Council (Flood Mitigation Authority) and Sinclair Knight & Partners Pty Ltd, together with information available within Council's own records.
- 1997 Ballina Floodplain Management Study This study involved computer modelling of the flooding of the lower reaches of the Richmond River floodplain between Wardell and Ballina. The study examined a range of development scenarios adjacent to Ballina and assessed their potential impacts on flood flows and flood heights. The modelling took into account the three primary sources of flooding in the lower floodplain which include:
  - Rainfall over the Richmond River catchment causing swelling and overtopping of the Richmond River;
  - Localised rainfall in the catchments of Maguires, Emigrant, North and other minor creeks, and over the floodplains themselves; and
  - Elevated ocean levels and storm wave conditions from an atmospheric low pressure system or cyclonic depression.
- 2008 Ballina Flood Study Update Advances in computing and flood modelling led to the development of new flood models and an updated flood study. Some important considerations were assessed during the update study, including:
  - Climate change a 200mm increase in ocean level, covering a 50 year planning period;
  - Development Scenarios were re-assessed with current information about infrastructure projects and approved/zoned development is included; and
  - Freeboard Adoption of the NSW State Government Floodplain Development Manual promotion of a 500mm freeboard allowance.
- 2007 Wardell and Cabbage Tree Island Floodplain Risk Management Study The study assessed the requirement for site filling of entire allotments for flood protection purposes within the residential village area of Wardell. The recommendations of the study resulted in the adoption of an alternate approach to managing development in the Wardell Village including changes to minimum fill requirements of allotments in some areas, and allowing structural alternatives to filling in some instances.
- 2009 NSW Sea Level Rise Policy Statement In October 2009 the NSW Government prepared a Sea Level Rise Policy Statement. This sets out the Government's approach to sea level rise, the risks to property owners from coastal processes and assistance that Government provides to councils to reduce the risks of coastal hazards. The Policy Statement includes sea level planning benchmarks which have been developed to support consistent consideration of sea level rise in land-use planning and coastal investment decision-making. The adopted benchmarks are for a sea level rise relative to 1990 mean sea levels of 40 cm by 2050 and 90 cm by 2100. These benchmarks have now been adopted as Council Policy.

- 2010 Ballina Flood Study Update. Following the announcement of this NSW Policy Statement, Council remodelled the 1 in 100 year flood to incorporate the 2100 planning benchmarks (refer to Floodplain Management Maps FPL2-2100 and commenced the preparation of a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan through specialist consultants BMT WBM and Bewsher Consulting.
- 2012 The Ballina Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan will draw together the results of the flood studies and data collection to provide a strategic assessment of management options including emergency management, structural solutions and planning measures.

The Floodplain Risk Management Study was completed in 2012 and the Ballina Floodplain Risk Management Plan is currently in DRAFT format under exhibition. In the interim, however, it was considered prudent that Council apply the results of the remodelled 1 in 100 year flood to "greenfield" development in the floodplain.

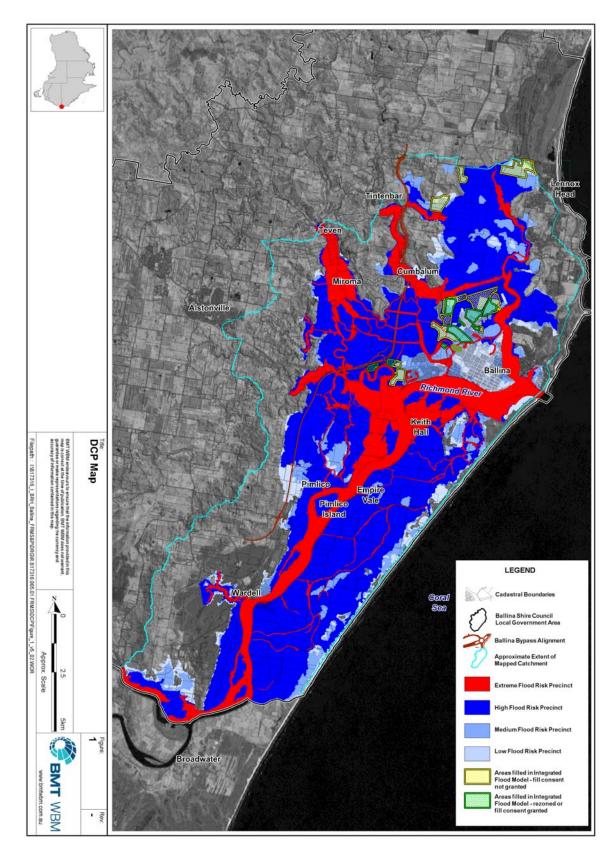


Figure 1: DCP Map

# 2 Planning Objectives

## 2.1 Planning Objectives

- a. Provide a holistic approach to managing development on the floodplain;
- b. Minimise the impact of flooding on individual owners and occupiers of land and public assets;
- c. Encourage the development and use of land in a manner compatible with the likely flood hazard;
- d. Maintain the function of flood mitigation measures;
- e. Minimise the extent to which emergency vehicles and public infrastructure need to be relied upon in terms of evacuation or other flood responses; and
- f. To consider the future projected impacts of sea level rise on the floodplain.

## 3 Development Controls

## 3.1 Introduction

This section of the DCP has been developed as an outcome of the Ballina Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan prepared in accordance with the process outlined by the NSW Government Flood Prone Lands Policy and the NSW Floodplain Development Manual 2005. In areas where the Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan has not yet been adopted the planning controls reflect Council Policy and are considered to be consistent with the principles of the State Government Flood Prone Lands Policy and Manual.

The controls provided in this section of the DCP have accordingly been formulated based on a merit approach that takes into consideration social, economic and environmental factors to determine the level of restrictions imposed on future development in the floodplain. This enables a balanced approach that allows some development in the floodplain with acceptable levels of risk because of the relative severity of the flood hazard, the probability of flooding or the nature of the land use. This means that some developments that comply with the DCP might remain subject to some flood risk albeit relatively minor.

Council has a duty to ensure that future development is not subject to risks that exceed those determined acceptable through the process outlined by the NSW Flood Prone Lands Policy and Manual, and consequently reflected by the following development controls.

## 3.2 Applying Development Controls

- i. The planning provisions within this Policy have been formulated to ensure that development achieves the planning objectives outlined in Clause 2.1. The provisions comprise prescriptive measures and performance criteria, with the following purpose:
  - a. The **prescriptive measures** are those which, when complied with, would be expected to satisfy the objectives of the Policy.
  - b. The **performance criteria** represent a means of assessing whether a proposal which does not comply with the prescriptive measures can nonetheless achieve the desired outcomes. Where an applicant is reliant on the performance criteria, adequate documentation must be submitted to enable Council to determine that non-compliance with the prescriptive measures is justified in the circumstances of the case and that the performance criteria can be satisfied. The determination of whether the performance criteria are satisfied is the subject of Council assessment.
- ii. All development should seek to comply with the prescriptive standards. The performance criteria should only be relied upon where the circumstances of the case are such that:
  - a. the situation is distinguishable from the typical situation for which the measures are likely to apply; and
  - b. an equal or better planning outcome would occur; and
  - c. the planning objectives are satisfied.

## 3.3 Land Use Categories

Specific development types, as defined by the applicable Environmental Planning Instruments, are grouped into 6 land use categories and are listed in **Schedule B**.

## 3.4 Flood Risk Precincts

Each of the flood prone areas within the local government area can be classified based on different levels of potential flood risk. The Flood Risk Precincts (FRPs) for these areas are outlined below.

Flood Risk Precinct	Description
Extreme	This is a very dangerous part of the floodplain due to the potential velocity and depth of flood waters. It is not an appropriate place for all forms of development. Filling or any development within this area that partially blocks the flow of flood waters will adversely affect flood behaviour and is unlikely to be acceptable.
High	Areas outside of Extreme Flood Risk areas which, if completely filled or developed, would cause an unacceptable change in flood behaviour. Filling or development would not normally be acceptable. Dangerous flood conditions occur here.
Medium	These are remaining areas that are not subject to Extreme or High Flood Risk.
Low	This precinct is where the likelihood of damages is low for most land uses. In these areas the cumulative impacts associated with filling of land have been assessed and found to not result in unacceptable impacts across the broader floodplain.

## Note:

- 1. Some future development scenarios have been considered when preparing the Flood Risk Precinct mapping shown in **Figure 1**. The filling of the lands subject to these scenarios has previously been investigated by Council and may not result in unacceptable flood impacts provided further investigations are carried out and additional flood mitigation measures are included. Within **Figure 1**, the Flood Risk classifications of these lands reflect the ultimate state of the land after filling. As a general rule, these lands will currently have higher flood risks.
- Year 2050 flood conditions have been used to determine the Low, Medium and High Flood Risk Precincts. The Extreme Flood Risk Precinct has been based on Year 2100 flood conditions, as the risks in these areas are greater and accordingly a precautionary approach that considers an extended planning horizon is warranted.

## 3.5 Factoring Climate Change into Flood Planning Levels (FPLs)

- i. Climate change is expected to have effects upon sea levels and rainfall intensities, both of which may have a significant influence on flood behaviour at specific locations.
- ii. Council has adopted sea level rise planning benchmarks (measured as an increase above 1990 mean sea levels) of 40 cm by 2050 and 90 cm by 2100.
- iii. Scientific data regarding the effect of climate change on rainfall intensities is not sufficiently advanced to provide specific guidance for the assessment of flood risk. No relevant planning benchmarks have been adopted by Government related to rainfall intensity changes. However the guidelines recommend the undertaking of a sensitivity analysis which assumes nominal increases in rainfall intensities.
- iv. The sea level rise planning benchmarks adopted by the Council and a sensitivity analysis assuming increases in rainfall intensities by 10% have been employed by Council to evaluate flood risks in the preparation of the Ballina Floodplain Risk Management Plan (FRMP).
- v. Climate change effects, such as sea level rise, relate to points in the future. Accordingly flood planning levels (FPLs) which factor in climate change, are expected to have the same probability of being reached during a flood in the future as is the situation today. The points in the future for which FPLs have been reassessed factoring in climate change are the years 2050 and 2100. A 90 year time frame is considered to be a reasonable time horizon for making planning decisions.
- vi. Predicted climate change effects are expected to influence flood levels gradually over time. Flood levels based on predicted climate conditions in 2100 will be reached gradually. The application of FPLs expected to be reached in 2100 is considered excessive for development for existing urban areas due to the practicality of raising land, site by site, if and as development occurs. The application of FPLs based on current climate conditions is also considered inappropriate having regard to the broadly accepted science of climate change and government policies and guidelines.
- vii. Consequently, FPLs in this Policy are based on either 2050 or 2100 predicted climate change conditions, depending on the nature of development, as set out in the following **Table 3.1**:

viii.

Table 3.1 – Applicable Climate Change Conditions

Year at which climate change conditions are used to determine FPLs	Type or Location of Development				
	Development on rural zoned land where the site is vacant at the date of commencement of this Policy				
2100	Development on land rezoned to permit urban development after January 2010.				
	<ul> <li>New development in undeveloped areas within:</li> <li>Southern Cross Industrial Estate, Ballina;</li> <li>Ferngrove Estate, Ballina;</li> <li>Pacific Pines Estate, Lennox Head; and</li> <li>Ballina Heights Estate, Cumbalum.</li> </ul>				
2050	All other development				

Note: Under a changing climate, FPLs adopted based on 2050 conditions maintain a similar flood immunity over a typical life span as would occur by adopting current flood conditions in the absence of climate change. Sensitivity analysis examining the differences in FPLs indicates that the 2050 levels should be reasonably manageable when developing in established urban areas. Applying a precautionary approach, 2100 climate changed conditions are adopted for new larger urban areas because further risk reduction could be practically achieved with minimal cost and inconvenience.

ix. Flood planning levels may include a separate factor of safety, referred to as freeboard, depending on the type of development.

**Note**: Freeboard is defined in the dictionary to this Plan (see Schedule A) in a manner consistent with the Floodplain Development Manual (FDM).

 Council will continue to monitor and review this Plan having regard to Government policy and current information related to climate change flood risk.

## 3.6 Mapping and Application of Flood Risk Precincts (FRPs)

- i. The mapping of FRPs should be based on the best available information. It is noted that the mapping is dependent on information such as site topography, sea level rise benchmarks and applicable rainfall intensities, and therefore, as this information is revised and improved, FRP maps may need to be revised.
- ii. Filling of a site, if acceptable to Council, will alter the inundation depth on the site and may change its FRP classification.
- iii. Where FRPs and other flood information are not available and in Council's opinion the site may be subject to flooding, a site specific flood study may be required with a development application. The requirements for site specific flood studies are set out below in clause 3.

## 3.7 Which Controls Apply to Proposed Developments

- i. The controls apply to all development on flood liable land for which consent is required. The FRPs allow the type and stringency of controls to be graded relative to the severity, frequency and consequences of potential floods. As different land uses have different susceptibilities to flooding, the controls within each FRP also vary with the proposed land use.
- ii. A range of FPLs apply to different land uses and building elements. The FPLs referred to in the prescriptive measures contained in **Schedule D** are specified in the following **Table 3.2**.

Table 3.2 - Flood Planning Levels

FPL	Where Year 2050 Climate Change Conditions Apply	Where Year 2100 Climate Change Conditions Apply
FPL1		FPL1 <sub>2100</sub> = 50 Year ARI <sub>2100</sub>
FPL2	FPL2 = 100 Year ARI 2050	FPL2 <sub>2100</sub> = 100 Year ARI <sub>2100</sub>

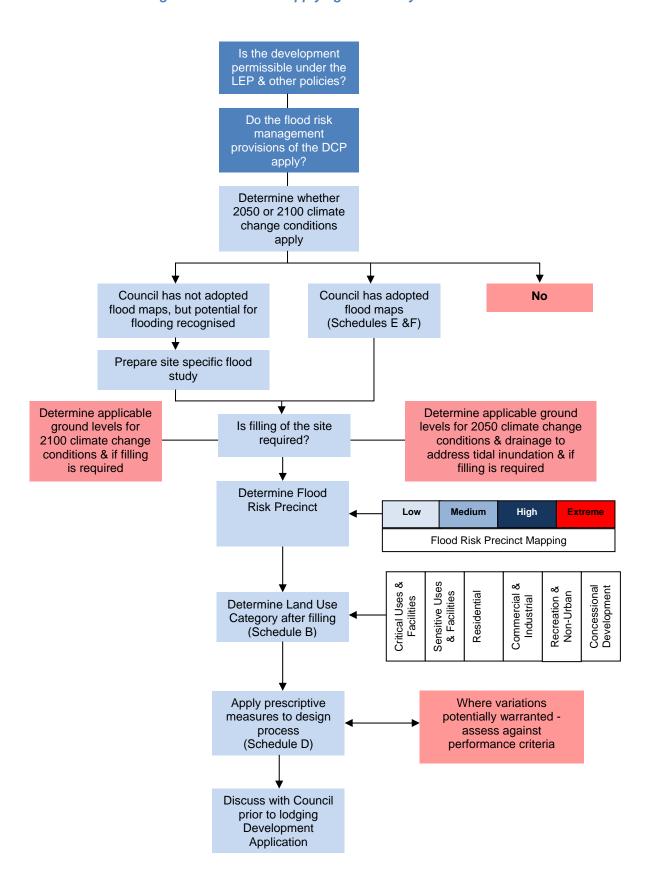
### Notes:

- Notation such as 100 Year ARI<sub>2050</sub> refers to the 100 year ARI flood level based on 2050 climate conditions.
- 2. The design flood levels and FPLs in **Table 3** may be obtained from Council if available, or otherwise will be required to be determined by the proponent in accordance with Clause 3. These levels will normally be 'rounded up' to the nearest 0.1m and referred to AHD.

**FPL**= Flood Planning Level. **ARI** = Average Recurrence Interval.

iii. The manner in which the preceding provisions of this Plan operate together with the following provisions in guiding the preparation, assessment and determination of a development application is set out in the following flow chart.

Figure 2: Process for Applying This Policy



## 3.7.1 Prescriptive Measures

All development on flood liable land shall comply with the requirements of **Schedule** D.

## 3.7.2 Performance Criteria

- The risk associated with the inundation of development comprising danger to life and damage to property is minimised or not increased beyond the level acceptable to the community.
- ii. The additional economic and social cost which may arise from damage to property from inundation is not greater than that which can reasonably be managed by the property owner and general community. The cost of damages that may be incurred over the expected life of a development should be no greater than that which could be reasonably expected to be met by the occupants and/or the developer without Government assistance.
- iii. Effective warning time and reliable access is available for the evacuation of an area potentially affected by floods. Evacuation should be consistent with any relevant or flood evacuation strategy where in existence.
- iv. Appropriate procedures (such as warning systems, signage or evacuation drills) for land use categories of "critical uses and facilities" and "sensitive uses and facilities" be in place, if necessary, so that people are aware of the need to evacuate personnel and relocate goods and motor vehicles during inundation, and are capable of identifying an appropriate evacuation route.
- v. Development does not detrimentally increase the potential flood affectation on other development or properties either individually or in combination with the cumulative impact of development that is likely to occur in the same floodplain. Development should not change the height or behaviour of flood waters elsewhere in the floodplain in a manner which is likely to materially and adversely impact other property or the environment. The assessment of these effects must include the potential for similar impacts that would arise as a consequence of other development in the floodplain that has the potential to occur in the future under current zoning and planning controls. (Note: Critical areas of the floodplain have been identified where zero change on height of floodplains is required.)
- vi. Motor vehicles associated with the development are able to be practically relocated, undamaged, to an area with substantially less likelihood from inundation, within the effective warning time.
- vii. Development does not result in significant impacts upon the amenity of an area by way of unacceptable overshadowing of adjoining properties, privacy impacts (e.g. by unsympathetic house-raising) or by being incompatible with the streetscape or character of the locality.
- viii. The design of car parking (enclosed or uncovered) and associated driveways should not result in unacceptable environmental or amenity impacts, such as visual intrusion from elevated driveways and parking structures and over shadowing of adjoining residential properties.
- ix. The proposal must not have an unacceptable adverse impact upon the ecological value of the waterway corridors, and where possible, should provide for their enhancement. Proposed development must be consistent with ESD principles.
- x. Any geomorphic instability of a waterway corridor does not impose an unacceptable risk to human life or property.
- xi. Development does not prejudice the economic viability of any Voluntary Acquisition Scheme, by significantly increasing the value of property above that which otherwise apply.

## 3.8 Filling of Flood Liable Allotments Prior to Constructing Buildings

i. Allotments within flood liable land on which buildings are proposed to be erected are to be filled wholly or partially (i.e. to provide a building pad) to a minimum level not less than FPL1 or FPL2.

**Note**: Filling of part or all an allotment will be required where the lot is vacant or the existing building is to be demolished. The need to fill an allotment where alterations and additions are proposed will depend on the scale of the development and the practicality of undertaking the partial filling of the allotment.

- ii. Design floor levels, and consequently fill levels, will be dependent on either climate change conditions at 2050 or 2100, as specified by clause 3.5 and Table 3.1.
- iii. Where filling is undertaken, retaining walls and/or dish drains will be required to be provided along common boundaries to contain fill material and drain the site in a manner that minimises impact on adjoining properties. The typical requirements of Council are diagrammatically illustrated in **Schedule G**. The masonary retaining wall may be structural concrete and fit for purpose. The capping and sealing of cavities between walls for adjacent commercial and industrial buildings shall be specified.
- iv. Where filling is required, rural buildings shall be located on fill pads. The fill (at the required level) shall cover a minimum area comprising the building site plus a curtilage extending a minimum distance of 3 metres beyond the structure. FPL1 is applied to any additional areas required for waste water storage and disposal.

**Note**: Rural buildings relate to buildings for all development types permitted in non-urban zones, such as dwelling houses and ancillary buildings, farm sheds, rural industries and the like. Council may not require fill pads for very minor ancillary structures where these are not critical to satisfying the objectives of this Policy.

- v. Site filling for detached secondary dwellings which comply with the criteria below will not be required:
  - a) Site located within R2 Low Density Residential zone
  - b) Maximum floor area of 60m<sup>2</sup>

Detached secondary dwellings which do not comply with a) and b) will be considered on their individual merits. Council may not require fill to meet the adopted standards for the locality depending on circumstances and practicality.

vi. In circumstances where part or all of an allotment is not required to be filled under this clause, Council may still require the land to be filled to facilitate drainage (see Section 3.11).

## 3.9 Wardell Village

The following provisions apply to infill development in the residential village area of Wardell:

- i Minimum habitable floor heights shall be FPL2-2100 + 0.5m.
- In areas other than those identified in clause iv, the floor heights may be achieved by either filling the site to the nominated level or constructing a dwelling which is elevated to the required level.
- iii Where the filling of an allotment does not occur, and the habitable floor is supported on structure, the following shall apply:
  - Certification of flood proofing of the structure including enclosures shall be provided which shall include, but not be limited to, structural assessment, electrical safety assessment etc.
  - Sub-floor areas (areas located beneath the habitable floor level and subject to 1:100 year inundation) may be enclosed up to a maximum area of 50m2.

- Sub-floor enclosures beyond the 50m2 is not permitted. It is intended that the movement of floodwaters be allowed to pass beneath the building.
- Any alterations and additions to existing buildings will be considered on their individual merits. Council may require the adoption of minimum habitable floor heights depending on circumstances and practicability.
- iv Filling of allotments along River Street, upstream of the Pacific Highway bridge must be filled to achieve flood protection (due to flood hazard). Minimum fill height shall be as specified on the applicable Flood Planning Map.

## 3.10 Australian Building Codes Board

For the purposes of the Australian Building Codes Board standard "Construction of Buildings in Flood Hazard Areas" Schedule H shall apply.

## 3.11 Filling of Flood Liable Allotments to Facilitate Drainage

i. Development may also require the filling of low lying land in existing urban areas to address drainage problems resulting from the regular inundation of land due to predicted rising sea levels.

Note: Sea levels are expected to rise 40cm by 2050 and 90cm by 2100 which could result in king tide levels at Ballina of around 1.8m AHD by 2100. Ground levels at or higher than 1.8m AHD may be required to allow for sites to drain. The relationship of a site with adjoining land will be taken into consideration.

- ii. The purpose of this filling is to provide sufficient grades for land to be effectively drained by gravity after rainfall. The ability to allow for satisfactory drainage will be assessed on the basis of predicted 2100 climate change conditions.
- iii. This filling may be complemented by filling and/or raising public infrastructure including roadways. Council may require these associated works to be undertaken in full or part in conjunction with the development if practical and critical to the acceptability of the development. Some utilities and services within the road corridor (power, telecommunications, water sewerage and drainage), could remain at existing levels but would gradually be at increasing depths below ground level.

Note: The raising of public infrastructure is integral to Council's strategy to address sea level rise issues associated with ensuring the acceptable amenity and functioning of both existing and future development. Council will normally be responsible for the raising of public infrastructure as this would typically be required across an area larger than that which would relate to a single development site. Council may seek Development Contributions for the costs of such works apportioned to new development. Where larger scale developments are proposed that would allow for such works to be undertaken in an efficient and practical manner, Council may impose a condition of consent requiring the raising of public infrastructure.

## 3.12 Third Party Impacts of Development on Flood Liable Land

- i. Development of any flood prone land has the potential to create adverse flooding impacts on other properties.
- ii. Filling of land in Low and Medium Flood Risk Precincts in areas already mapped by Council has been examined generally. Applicants for development within these Precincts may not be required to assess flood impacts on third parties.

- iii. Filling in the High and Extreme Flood Risk Precinct will normally not be acceptable because of the adverse impacts on other properties.
- iv. In special circumstances where filling in High and Extreme Flood Risk Precincts is necessary, it will only be permitted (subject to consideration of other relevant planning and infrastructure matters) where a report from a suitably qualified flood engineer is submitted to Council that certifies that the development will not increase flood affectation elsewhere. The report must include consideration of cumulative effects of similar filling of developable sites in the floodplain.
- v. In addition the report must include calculations of the volume of flood water and conveyance effects which demonstrate that as a result of development:
  - a. the volume of flood storage will not be decreased;
  - b. the conveyance of flood waters will not be decreased; and
  - c. where conveyance characteristics change, this results in no unacceptable scouring, environmental or geomorphological impacts.

## 3.13 Special Considerations

- i. When assessing proposals for development or other activity within the area to which this Plan applies, Council will take into consideration the following specific matters:
  - a. Irrespective of whether development is proposed to mitigate the potential impact of flooding (e.g. house raising) it must be undertaken in a manner which minimises the impact upon the amenity and character of the locality.
  - b. The proposal must not adversely impact upon the recreational, ecological, aesthetic or utilitarian use of the waterway corridors, and where possible, should provide for their enhancement, in accordance with ESD principles.
  - c. Proposals for house raising must provide appropriate documentation including a report from a suitably qualified engineer to demonstrate the raised structure will not be at risk of failure from the forces of floodwaters. Details such as landscaping and architectural enhancements must be provided to ensure that the resultant structure will not result in significant adverse impacts upon the amenity and character of an area.
- ii. Filling and alterations to site land forms must have regard to drainage and inundation from local catchment runoff, both within the site and external to the site.

# 4 Information Required With an Application

- i. Applications must include information which addresses all relevant controls listed above, and the following matters, as applicable.
- ii. Development Applications affected by this Plan shall be accompanied by a survey plan showing:
  - a. The position of the existing building(s) and proposed building(s);
  - b. The existing ground levels to AHD around the perimeter of the building and contours of the site and adjacent land; and
  - c. The existing or proposed floor levels to AHD.
  - d. Engineering details for methods of retention and drainage.
  - e. Foundation details for proposed building and retaining structures.
  - iii. Applications for earthworks, filling of land and subdivision shall be accompanied by a survey plan showing relative levels to AHD.
  - v. For large scale developments, or developments in critical situations, including where an existing catchment based flood study is not available, a flood study using a fully dynamic two dimensional computer model may be required. For smaller developments consideration may be given to the use of an existing flood study if available and suitable (e.g. it contains sufficient local detail). Otherwise a flood study prepared in a manner consistent with the "Australian Rainfall and Runoff" publication, Council's Stormwater Design guides and the Floodplain Development

Manual, will be required. From this study, the following information shall be submitted in plan form for the pre-developed and post-developed scenarios:

- a. Water surface contours (impact mapping);
- b. Velocity and depth information;
- c. Delineation of Flood Risk Precincts relevant to individual floodplains for both prior to and after filling (if filling is acceptable); and
- d. Flood profiles for the full range of events for full development including all structures and works (including revegetation).
- v. Where the controls for a particular development proposal require an assessment of structural soundness during potential floods, the following impacts must be addressed having regard to the likely depths and velocities of flood waters:
  - a. Hydrostatic pressure;
  - b. Hydrodynamic pressure;
  - c. Impact of debris; and
  - d. Buoyancy forces.

Foundations need to be included in the structural analysis.

## **Schedule A - Dictionary**

Australian Height Datum (AHD) means the common national plane of level corresponding approximately to mean sea level.

Average Exceedance Probability (AEP) means the chance of a flood of a given or larger size occurring in any one year, usually expressed as a percentage. E.g., if a peak flood discharge has an AEP of 5%, it means that there is a 5% chance (that is one-in-20 chance) of this peak flood discharge or larger events occurring in any one year (see ARI).

Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) is the long-term average number of years between the occurrence of a flood as big as (or larger than) the selected event.

**Design floor level or ground level** means the minimum floor level or ground level that applies to the development. If the development is concessional development, this level is determined based on what land use category would apply if it was not categorised as Concessional Development.

**Ecologically sustainable development (ESD)** is using, conserving and enhancing natural resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be maintained or increased. A more detailed definition is included in the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and Protection of the Environment Administration Act 1991.

**Effective warning time** is the time available after receiving advice of an impending flood and before the floodwaters prevent appropriate flood response actions being undertaken. The effective warning time is typically used to raise furniture, evacuate people and transport their possessions.

**Enclosed car parking** means car parking which is potentially subject to rapid inundation, which consequently increases danger to human life and property damage (such as basement of bunded car parking areas). The following criteria apply for the purposes of determining what is enclosed car parking:

- a. Flooding of surrounding areas may raise water levels above the perimeter which encloses the car park (normally the entrance), resulting in rapid inundation of the car park to depths greater than 0.8m, and
- b. Drainage of accumulated water in the car park has an outflow discharge capacity significantly less than the potential inflow capacity.

**Flood** is a relatively high stream flow which overtops the natural or artificial banks in any part of a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam, and/or local overland flooding associated with major drainage as defined by the FDM before entering a watercourse, and/or coastal inundation resulting from super-elevated sea levels and/or waves overtopping coastline defences excluding tsunami.

**Note**: Consistent with the Floodplain Development Manual, this section of the DCP does not apply in the circumstances of local drainage inundation as defined in the Floodplain Development Manual and determined by Council. Local drainage problems can generally be minimised by the adoption of urban building controls requiring a minimum difference between finished floor and ground levels.

**Flood awareness** is an appreciation of the likely effects of flooding and knowledge of the relevant flood warning and evacuation procedures.

**Flood compatible building components and methods** means a combination of measures incorporated in the design and/or construction and alteration of individual buildings or structures subject to flooding, and the use of flood compatible materials for the reduction or elimination of flood damage.

**Flood compatible materials** include those materials used in building which are resistant to damage when inundated. A list of flood compatible materials is attached in **Schedule C**.

**Flood evacuation strategy** means the proposed strategy for the evacuation of areas within effective warning time during periods of flood as specified within any policy of Council, the FRMP, the relevant State government disaster plan, by advices received from the State Emergency Services (SES) or as determined in the assessment of individual proposals.

**Floodplain** (being synonymous with **flood liable** and **flood prone land**) is the area of land which is subject to inundation by the probable maximum flood (PMF).

**Floodplain Development Manual** (FDM) refers to the document published by the New South Wales Government and entitled "Floodplain Management Manual: the management of flood liable land" dated April 2005.

**Floodplain Risk Management Plan (FRMP)** means a plan prepared for one or more floodplains in accordance with the requirements of the FDM or its predecessor.

**Floodplain Risk Management Study (FRMS)** means a study prepared for one or more floodplains in accordance with the requirements of the FDM or its predecessor.

**Flood Risk Precincts (FRPs)** are a categorisation of a site's flood risk for land-use planning purposes. Three classifications of flood risk into 'low', 'medium' and 'high' flood risk precincts are provided for in this Plan.

**Flood Planning Levels (FPLs)** are the combinations of flood levels (derived from significant historical flood events or floods of specific ARIs or AEPs) and freeboards selected for floodplain risk management purposes, as determined in FRMSs and incorporated in FRMPs. Under the influences of climate change, flood levels and FPLs may change with time (see Epoch).

**Floodway areas** mean those areas, often aligned with obvious, naturally defined channels, where a significant passage of water flows during floods. They are often the deepest area where the highest velocities occur. Also, they are areas which, even if only partially blocked, would cause a significant redistribution of flood flow, which may in turn adversely affect other areas.

**Freeboard** provides reasonable certainty that the risk exposure selected in deciding on a particular flood chosen as the basis for a FPL, is actually provided. It is a factor of safety typically used in relation to the setting of flood levels, levee crest levels, etc. (as specified at Section K5 of the FDM). Freeboard is included in flood planning levels (although in some circumstances, zero freeboard may be appropriate).

## Habitable floor area means:

a. In a **residential situation**: a living or working area, such as a lounge room, dining room, rumpus room, kitchen, bedroom or workroom;

**Note:** Separate considerations are specified for the car parking area of a development irrespective of the land use with which it is associated.

*Hazard* is a source of potential harm or a situation with a potential to cause loss. In relation to this plan, the hazard is flooding which has the potential to cause harm or loss to the community.

**Local drainage** refers to small scale overland flow including areas generally where depths are less than approximately 0.3m and are beyond the floodplains of original watercourses (which may now be piped, channelised or diverted). There is little risk to personal safety or property damage in these areas. This type of inundation is not referred to as 'flooding' and normal building controls are used to manage the inundation risks in these areas rather than the flood-related controls in this Plan.

**Local overland flooding** means inundation by local runoff rather than overbank discharge from a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam.

Non-habitable floor area a) in a residential situation b) in a laundry or garage area.

**Outbuilding** means a building which is ancillary to a principal residential building or commercial/industrial building and includes sheds, garages, car ports and similar buildings.

**Overland flow** flooding means inundation by local runoff rather than overbank discharge from a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam.

**Probable maximum flood (PMF)** is the largest flood that could conceivably occur at a particular location, usually estimated from probable maximum precipitation.

**Probable maximum precipitation (PMP)** is the greatest depth of precipitation for a given duration meteorologically possible over a given size storm area at a particular location at a particular time of the year. Under climate change, PMP may change with time (see 'Epoch'). PMP is the primary input to the estimation of the probable maximum flood.

**Probability** is a statistical measure of the expected chance of flooding now or at a particular year in the future (see 'Epoch'). Probability is usually expressed as ARI or AEP.

**Rebuilt dwelling** refers to the construction of a new dwelling on an allotment where an existing dwelling is demolished.

**Refuge area** means an onsite refuge or reliable access to ground that is located above the PMF that provides reasonable shelter for the likely occupants of the development commensurate with the period of time that refuge is likely to be required in floods up to the PMF.

**Reliable access** during a flood means the ability for people to safely evacuate an area subject to imminent flooding to a refuge area within effective warning time, having regard to the depth and velocity of flood waters, the suitability of the evacuation route, and without a need to travel through areas where water depths increase.

**Risk** means the chance of something happening and its impact. It is measured in terms of consequences and probability (likelihood). In the context of this plan, it is the likelihood of consequences arising from the interaction of floods, communities and the environment.

**Site Flood Emergency Response Plan** (not being an SES Flood Plan) is a management plan that demonstrates the ability to safely evacuate persons and includes a strategy to move goods above the flood level within the available warning time. This Plan must be consistent with any relevant flood evacuation strategy, flood plan or similar plan.

**Survey plan** is a plan prepared by a registered surveyor which shows the information required for the assessment of an application in accordance with the provisions of this Policy.

**Suitably Qualified Civil Engineer** is a civil engineer who is included in the National Professional Engineers Register, administered by the Institution of Engineers Australia.

# **Schedule B - Land Use Categories**

Critical Uses and Facilities	Sensitive Uses and Facilities	Residential
Emergency services facilities; public administration building that may provide an important contribution to the notification or evacuation of the community during flood events (e.g. SES Headquarters and Police Stations); Hospitals.	Community facility; telecommunications facility; institutions; educational establishments; liquid fuel depot; public utility undertaking (including electricity generating works; sewerage treatment plant; sewerage system; telecommunications facility; utility installations and water treatment facility) which are essential to evacuation during periods of flood or if affected would unreasonably affect the ability of the community to return to normal activities after flood events; residential care facility; school and seniors housing.	Affordable housing; attached dwelling; backpackers accommodation; bed and breakfast accommodation; boarding house; canal estate development; caravan park (with permanent occupants i.e. other than short term sites) (see Note 1); child care centre; dual occupancy; dwelling; dwelling house; exhibition home; farm stay accommodation, group home; home based child care centre; home business; home industry; home occupancy; home occupation (sex services); hostel; hotel or motel accommodation; moveable dwelling; multi dwelling housing; neighbourhood shop; permanent group home; residential accommodation; residential flat building; rural worker's dwelling; secondary dwelling; semi-detached dwelling; seniors housing; serviced apartment; tourist and visitor accommodation and transitional group home.; Additions or alterations to existing dwellings greater than 50m² of the habitable floor area which existed at the date of commencement of this Plan; and Garages or outbuildings with a floor area exceeding 50m²

## Note:

- (1) As defined by the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005
- (2) Where the Environmental Planning Instrument (EPI) land use definition is not used, the bracketed text refers to the EPI land use definition.
- (3) Should an application prescribe a land use category not listed then Council will determine.

## Schedule B: Land Use Categories (cont.)

#### Recreation or Commercial or Industrial **Concessional Development Non-urban Uses** Agricultural produce industry; Agriculture; airstrip; animal air transport facility; airport; amusement boarding or training Redevelopment for the centre; brothel; bulky goods premises; establishment; aquaculture; purposes of substantially application; business premises; car park; cellar biosolid waste reducing the flood risk to the door premises; community facility biosolids treatment facility: existing building and its (other than critical and sensitive uses boat launching ramp; boat occupants, or and facilities); correctional centre; repair facility; boat shed; Camp crematorium: depot: entertainment site and caravan site - short in relation to an existing term sites (see Note 1); caravan facility; exhibition village; feed lot, food dwelling: and drink premises; freight transport park (with non permanent (i) additions or alterations to facility; function centre; funeral chapel; occupants); cemetery; charter the dwelling; and/or funeral home; hazardous industry; and tourism boating facility; (ii) garages or outbuildings; hazardous storage establishment; based), dairy (pasture and/or health care professional; health environmental facility; (iii) decks: consulting rooms; health services environmental protection facility; heavy industry; heliport; works; extensive agriculture; provided that the total of: highway service centre; industrial retail extractive industry; farm the gross floor area from building: horticulture; helipad: outlet; industry; light industry; liquid fuel depot; livestock processing information and education (i); and facility: industry; market; medical centre; intensive livestock the area of garages and outbuildings from (ii); and mixed use development; mortuary; agriculture; intensive plant offensive industry; offensive storage agriculture; the area of decks from kiosk; jetty; office establishment; premises; landscape and garden (iii). passenger transport facility; place of supplies; marina; mine; mining; worship; pub; public natural water-based approved since the date of administration building (other than aquaculture; port facilities; commencement of this plan, critical uses and facilities); recreation pond-based aquaculture: does not exceed: reaistered public utility undertaking (other facility (maior): club: restaurant; restricted dairy; restricted than critical uses or facilities): 50m<sup>2</sup> in the Low, Medium premises; retail recreation area: recreation premises: rural and High Flood Risk industry; rural supplies; sawmill or log facility (indoor); recreational Precinct; or processing works; self-storage units; facility (outdoor); research 25m<sup>2</sup> in the Extreme service station; sex services premises; station; resource recovery Flood Risk Precinct. shop; shop top housing; storage facility; restriction facilities; roadside stall; stock and sale premises; take away food or drink (Note that for the purposes of premises; timber and building yard; tank-based aquaculture; this clause, the areas of supplies; transport depot; truck depot; turf farming; utility installations garages, outbuildings and vehicle body repair workshop; vehicle (other than critical uses and decks referred to above repair station; vehicle sales or hire facilities); viticulture; water mean the plan areas premises: veterinary hospital; recreation structure; water measured to the external warehouse or distribution centre; recycling facility; and water edge of the structures). waste disposal facility; waste storage facility. management facility; waste or resource management facility; waste or resource transfer stations; and wholesale supplies.

### Note:

- (1) As defined by the Local Government (Manufactured Home Estates, Caravan Parks, Camping Grounds and Moveable Dwellings) Regulation 2005
- (2) Where the Environmental Planning Instrument (EPI) land use definition is not used, the bracketed text refers to the EPI land use definition.

# **Schedule C – Flood Compatible Materials and Methods**

BUILDING COMPONENT	FLOOD COMPATIBLE  MATERIAL
Flooring and Sub-floor	Concrete slab-on-ground monolith construction.
Structure	Suspended reinforced concrete slab.
Floor Covering	Clay tiles.
	Concrete, precast or in situ.
	Concrete tiles.
	Epoxy, formed-in-place.
	Mastic flooring, formed-in-place.
	<ul> <li>Rubber sheets or tiles with chemical-set adhesives.</li> </ul>
	Silicone floors formed-in-place.
	<ul> <li>Vinyl sheets or tiles with chemical-set adhesive.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Ceramic tiles, fixed with mortar or chemical-set adhesive.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Asphalt tiles, fixed with water resistant adhesive.</li> </ul>
Wall Structure	Solid brickwork, blockwork, reinforced, concrete or mass concrete.
Roofing Structure (for	Reinforced concrete construction.
Situations Where the Relevant Flood Level is Above the Ceiling)	Galvanised metal construction.
Doors	Solid panel with water proof adhesives.
	Flush door with marine ply filled with closed cell foam.
	Painted metal construction.
	Aluminium or galvanised steel frame.
Wall and Ceiling Linings	Fibro-cement board.
	Brick, face or glazed.
	Clay tile glazed in waterproof mortar.
	• Concrete.
	Concrete block.
	Steel with waterproof applications.
	Stone, natural solid or veneer, waterproof grout.
	Glass blocks.
	• Glass.
	<ul> <li>Plastic sheeting or wall with waterproof adhesive.</li> </ul>
Insulation	Foam (closed cell types).
Windows	<ul> <li>Aluminium frame with stainless steel rollers or similar corrosion and water resistant material.</li> </ul>
Nails, Bolts, Hinges and	Brass, nylon or stainless steel.
Fittings	Removable pin hinges.
	Hot dipped galvanised steel wire nails or similar.
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## Schedule C – Flood Compatible Materials (cont.)

## **Electrical and Mechanical Equipment**

For dwellings constructed on land to which this chapter applies, the electrical and mechanical materials, equipment and installation should conform to the following requirements.

## Main power supply

Subject to the approval of the relevant authority the incoming main commercial power service equipment, including all metering equipment, shall be located above the relevant flood level. Means shall be available to easily disconnect the dwelling from the main power supply.

## Wiring

All wiring, power outlets, switches, etc., should, to the maximum extent possible, be located above the relevant flood level. All electrical wiring installed below the relevant flood level should be suitable for continuous submergence in water and should contain no fibrous components. Earth core leakage systems (or safety switches) are to be installed. Only submersible-type splices should be used below the relevant flood level. All conduits located below the relevant designated flood level should be so installed that they will be self-draining if subjected to flooding.

## Equipment

All equipment installed below or partially below the relevant flood level should be capable of disconnection by a single plug and socket assembly.

### Reconnection

Should any electrical device and/or part of the wiring be flooded it should be thoroughly cleaned or replaced and checked by an approved electrical contractor before reconnection.

## **Heating and Air Conditioning Systems**

Heating and air conditioning systems should, to the maximum extent possible, be installed in areas and spaces of the house above the relevant FPL. When this is not feasible every precaution should be taken to minimise the damage caused by submersion according to the following guidelines.

### Fuel

Heating systems using gas or oil as a fuel should have a manually operated valve located in the fuel supply line to enable fuel cut-off.

## Installation

The heating equipment and fuel storage tanks should be mounted on and securely anchored to a foundation pad of sufficient mass to overcome buoyancy and prevent movement that could damage the fuel supply line. All storage tanks should be vented to an elevation of 600 millimetres above the relevant FPL.

## Ducting

All ductwork located below the relevant FPL should be provided with openings for drainage and cleaning. Self draining may be achieved by constructing the ductwork on a suitable grade. Where ductwork must pass through a water-tight wall or floor below the relevant FPL, the ductwork should be protected by a closure assembly operated from above relevant FPL.

## Flood Compatible Building Methods

In addition to conforming to the BCA and other relevant standards, Council may requires builders to utilise best practice building methods to minimise the susceptibility of structures to damage when inundated by floodwaters. Details of these methods are documented in the following document:

Reducing Vulnerability of Buildings to Flood Damage – Guidance on Building in Flood Prone Areas. Hawkesbury-Nepean Floodplain Management Steering Committee (HNFMSC), June 2006. (Copies available from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage);

and within other supplementary information available from Council.

## **Schedule D - Prescriptive Measures**

		Lo	w Flo	od R	isk			Med	ium F	lood	Risk			Hig	jh Flo	od R	Risk Extreme Flood Risk							
Planning Consideration	Critical Uses & Facilities	Sensitive Uses & Facilities	Residential	Commercial & Industrial	Recreation & Non-Urban	Concessional Development	Critical Uses & Facilities	Sensitive Uses & Facilities	Residential	Commercial & Industrial	Recreation & Non-Urban	Concessional Development	Critical Uses & Facilities	Sensitive Uses & Facilities	Residential	Commercial & Industrial	Recreation & Non-Urban	Concessional Development	Critical Uses & Facilities	Sensitive Uses & Facilities	Residential	Commercial & Industrial	Recreation & Non-Urban	Concessional Development
Floor Level		3	2,6	5,7	1	4			2,6, 7	5,7	1	4,7			2,6, 7	5,7	1	4,7					1	4,7
Building Components & Methods		2	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1					1	1
Structural Soundness		3				2			2	2	2	2			2	2	1	1					1	1
Flood Affectation															1	1	2	2					2	2
Car Parking		1,3 4,5	1,3 4,5	1,3 4,5	2,3 4,5	4,5 ,6			1,3, 4,5	1,3, 4,5	2,3, 4,5	4,5, 6			1,3, 4,5	1,3, 4,5	2,3, 4,5	4,5, 6					2,3, 4,5	4,5, 6
= Unsuitable Land Use (refer to General Note b).																								

## **General Notes:**

- The relevant environmental planning instruments (generally the Local Environmental Plan) identify development permissible with consent in various zones in the LGA. a. Notwithstanding, constraints specific to individual sites may preclude Council granting consent for certain forms of development on all or part of a site.
- Filling of the site, where required by Council or proposed and acceptable to Council, may change the Flood Risk Precinct (FRP) considered to determine the controls applied b. in the circumstances of individual applications.
- Terms in italics are defined in Schedule A of this Policy. C.
- Design floor level or ground level means the minimum floor level or ground level that applies to the development. If the development is concessional development, this level d. is determined based on what land use category would apply if it was not categorised as Concessional Development.
- Habitable and non-habitable floor levels are typically subject to different controls in this Schedule. Unless otherwise stated, consideration of 'floor levels' implies separate consideration of habitable and non-habitable floor levels.

### Floor Level

- All floor levels to be no lower than FPL1 unless justified by a site specific assessment.
- Habitable floor levels to be no lower than FPL2 + 0.5m. 2
- 3 Not used.
- Floor levels to be no lower than the design floor level. Where this is not practical due to compatibility with the height of adjacent buildings, or compatibility with the floor level of existing buildings, or the need for access for persons with disabilities, a lower floor level may be considered. In these circumstances, the floor level is to be as high as practical, and, when undertaking alterations or additions no lower than the existing floor level.
- The level of habitable and non-habitable floor areas to be equal to or greater than FPL2 + 0.2m. Lower floor levels may be justified for lift wells, foyers and access ways subject to a site specific assessment.
- Non-habitable floor levels to be equal to or greater than FPL1. 6
- A restriction is to be placed on the title of the land, pursuant to S.88B of the Conveyancing Act, where the lowest habitable floor area is elevated above finished ground level, confirming that the sub-floor area is not to be enclosed, where Council considers this may potentially occur.

## **Building Components & Methods**

All structures to have flood compatible building components and methods below FPL2 + 0.5m.

## **Structural Soundness**

- Engineer's report to certify that the structure can withstand the forces of floodwater, debris and buoyancy up to and including FPL2 + 0.5m if required to satisfy evacuation criteria (i.e. use as a refuge area). In the case of alterations or additions to an existing development, the structure to be certified is that which is proposed to be newly constructed or otherwise required to be of a specified standard to satisfy other controls.
- Applicant to demonstrate that the structure can withstand the forces of floodwater, debris and buoyancy up to and including FPL2 + 0.5m if required to satisfy evacuation criteria (i.e. use as a refuge area). An engineer's report may be required.

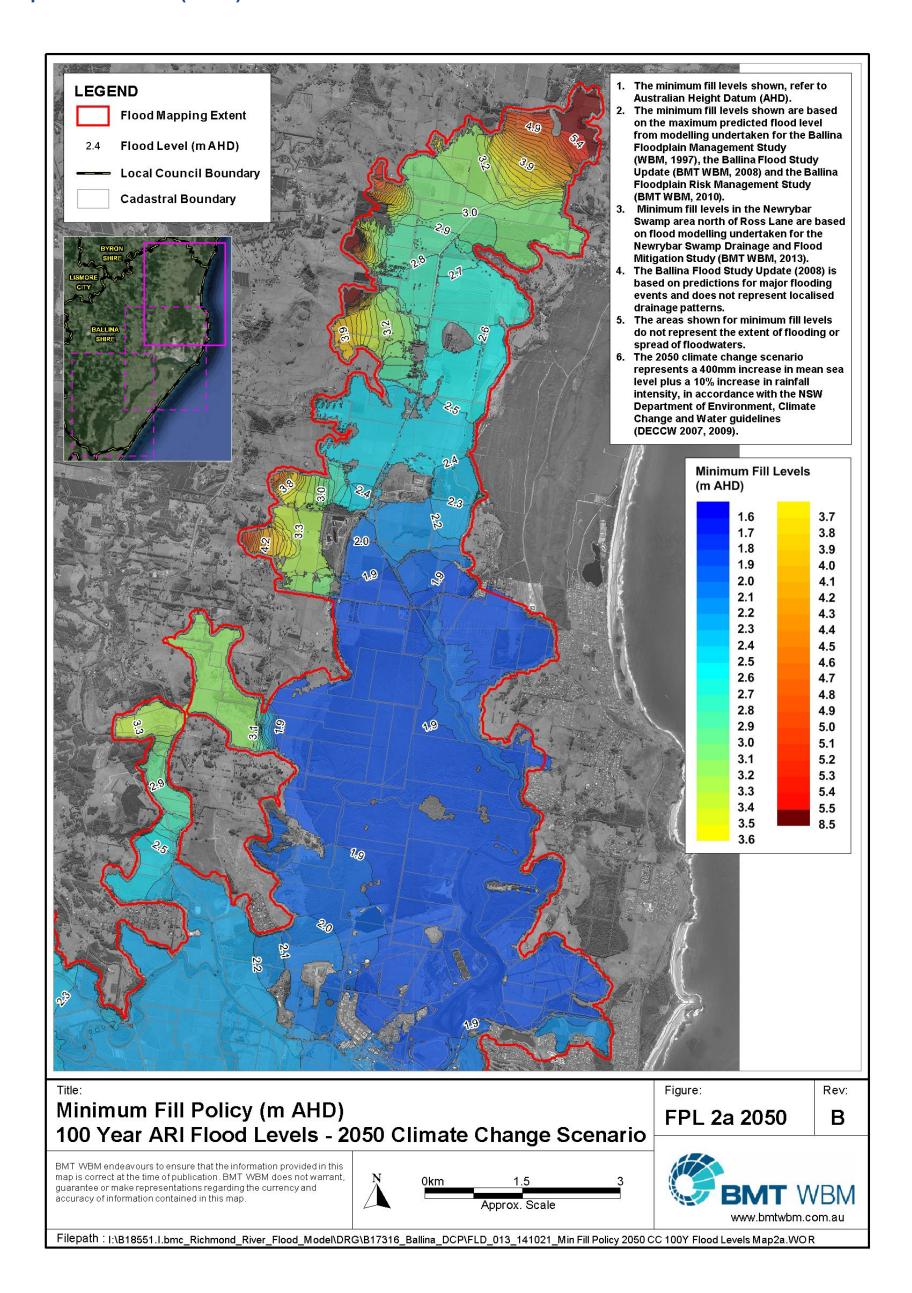
# **Flood Affectation**

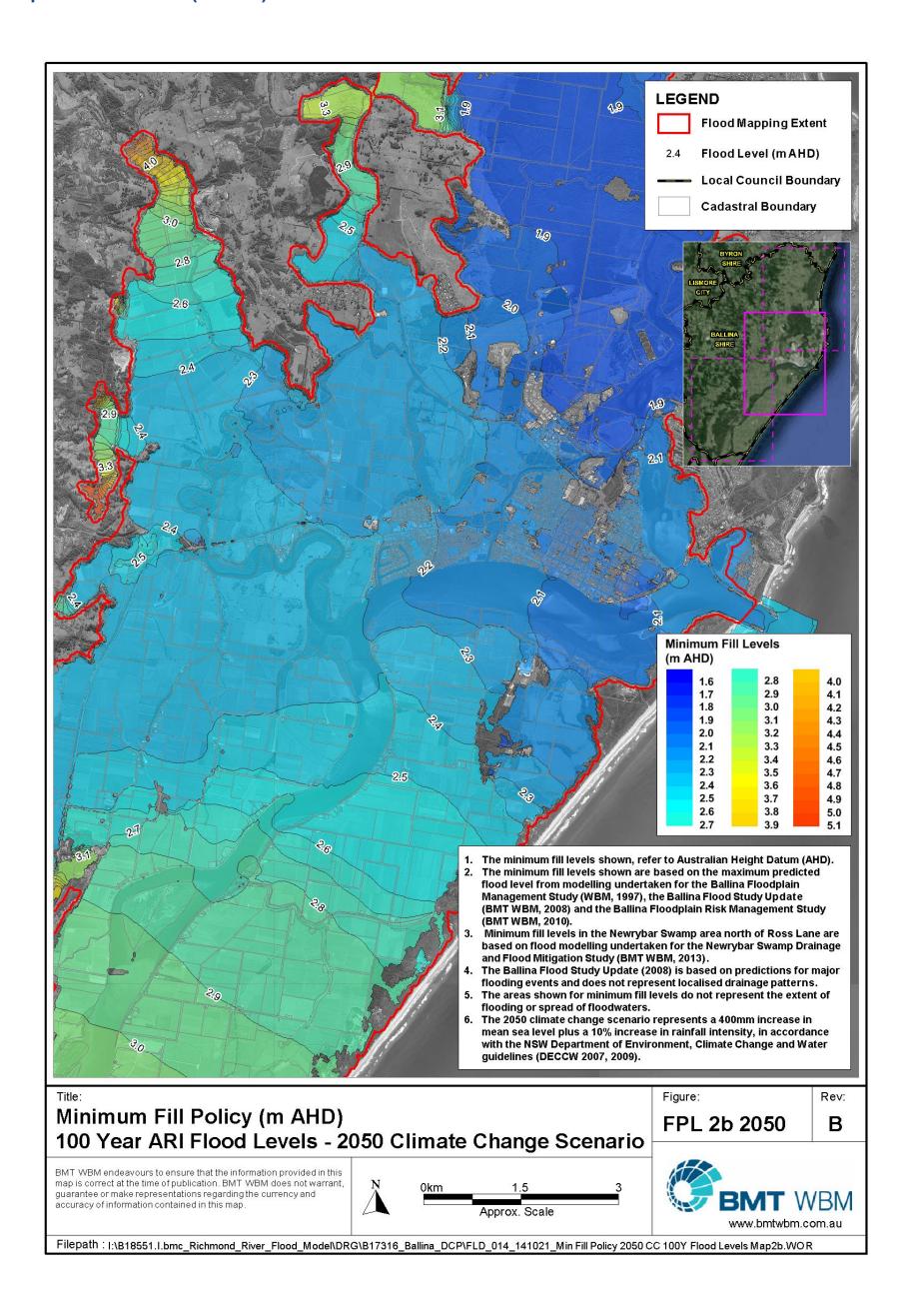
- Engineers report required to certify that the development will not increase flood affectation elsewhere, will not decrease conveyance and will not decrease the volume of flood storage. Compensatory flood mitigation works will likely be required.
- The impact of development on flooding elsewhere to be considered. No decrease in either flood conveyance or flood storage will be permitted. An engineer's report may be required. Compensatory flood mitigation works will likely be required.

## **Car Parking**

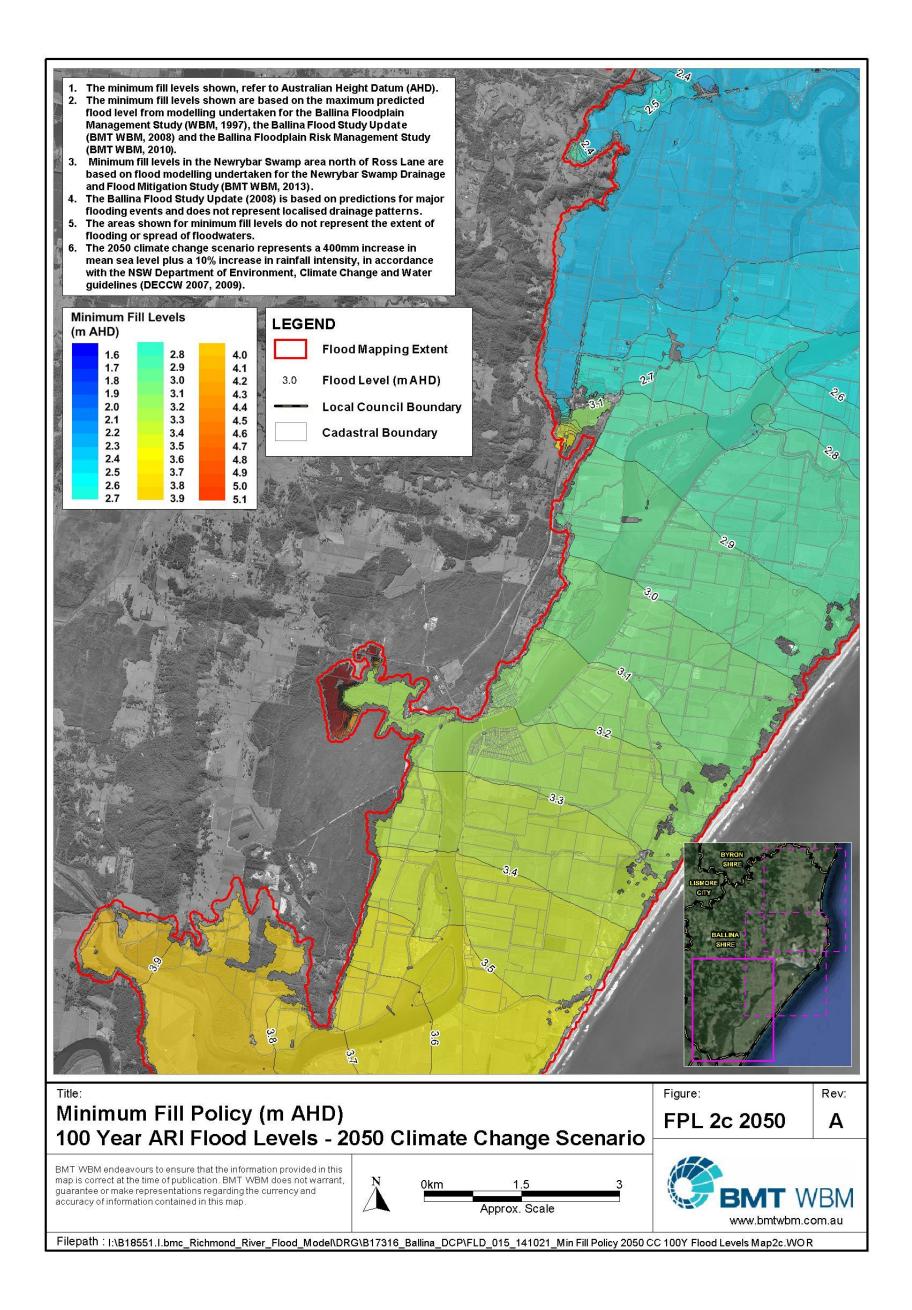
- The minimum surface level of open car parking spaces or carports shall be as high as practical, and not below: FPL1. In the case of garages, the minimum surface level shall be as high as practical, but no lower than FPL1.
- The minimum surface level of open car parking spaces, carports or garages, shall be as high as practical.
- Garages capable of accommodating more than 3 motor vehicles on land zoned for urban purposes, or enclosed car parking, must be protected from inundation by flood 3. waters up to FPL1.
- 4. Basement carparking will only be permitted in the Ballina Town Centre precinct in accordance with Combined DCP Chapter 2 Ballins Town Centre.
- 5. Restraints or vehicle barriers to be provided to prevent floating vehicles leaving a site during a 100 year flood event as defined by FPL2.

# Schedule E: FPLs Based on 2050 Climate Change Conditions Map 2: Ballina LGA (North)

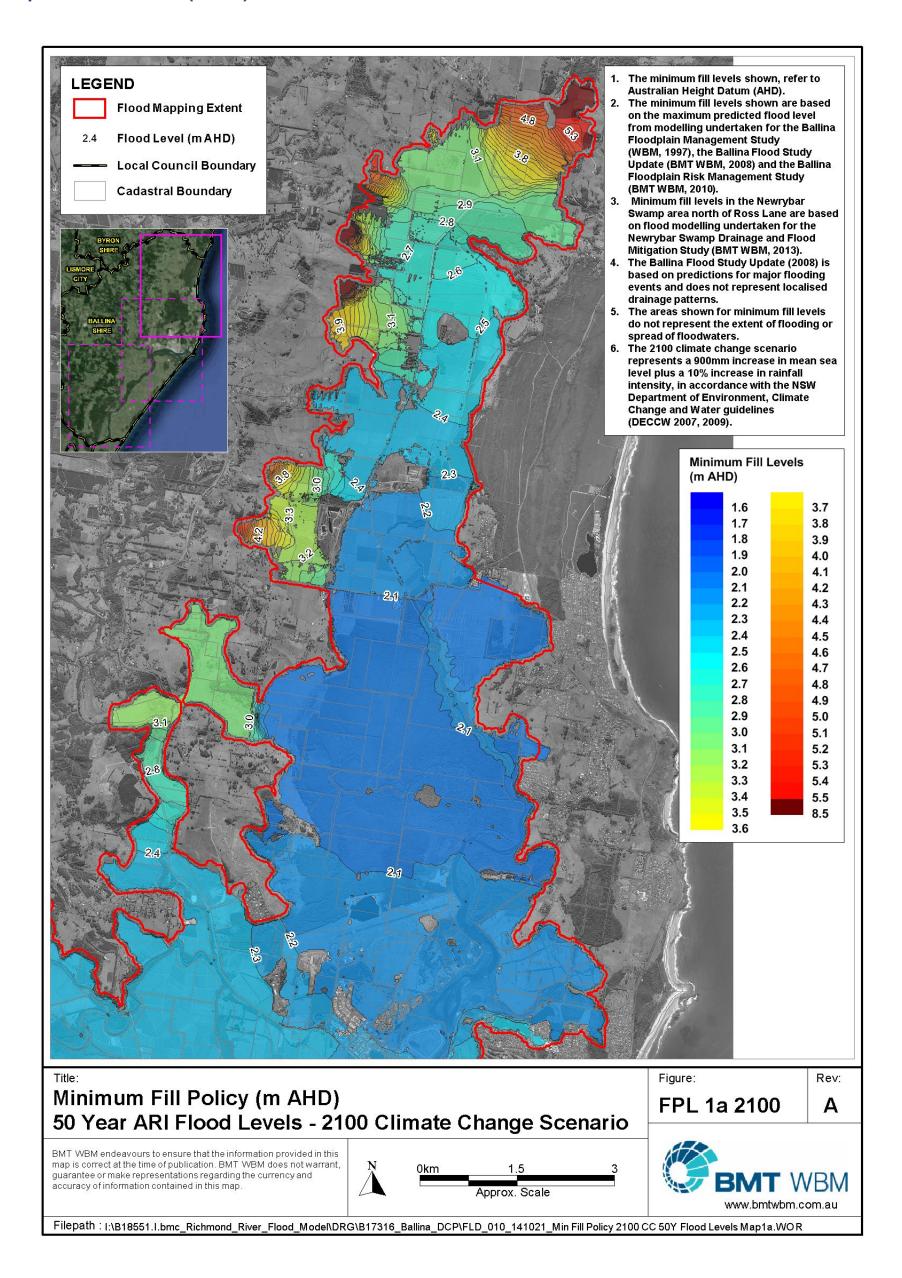




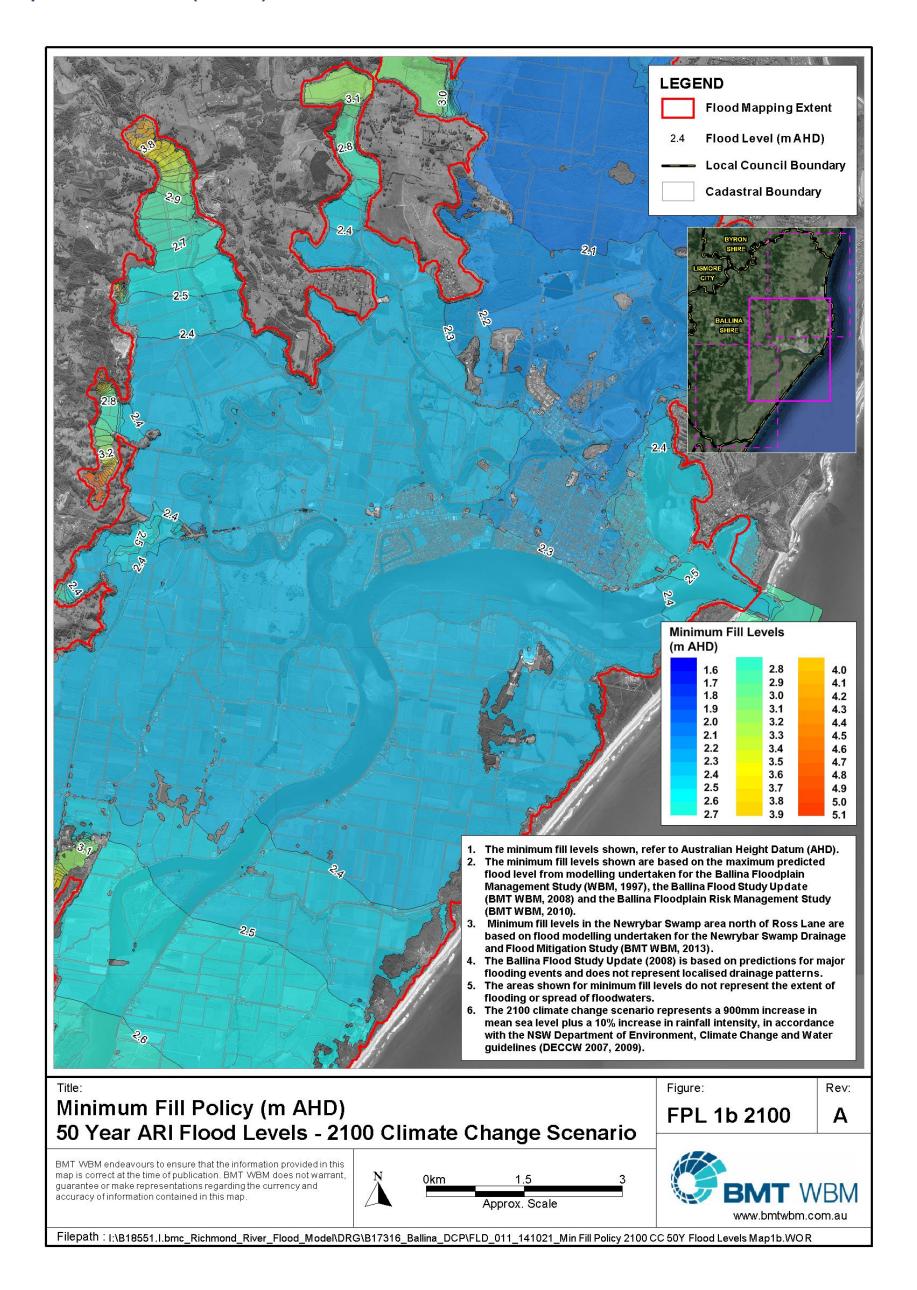
# Schedule E: FPLs Based on 2050 Climate Change Conditions Map 2c: Ballina LGA (South)



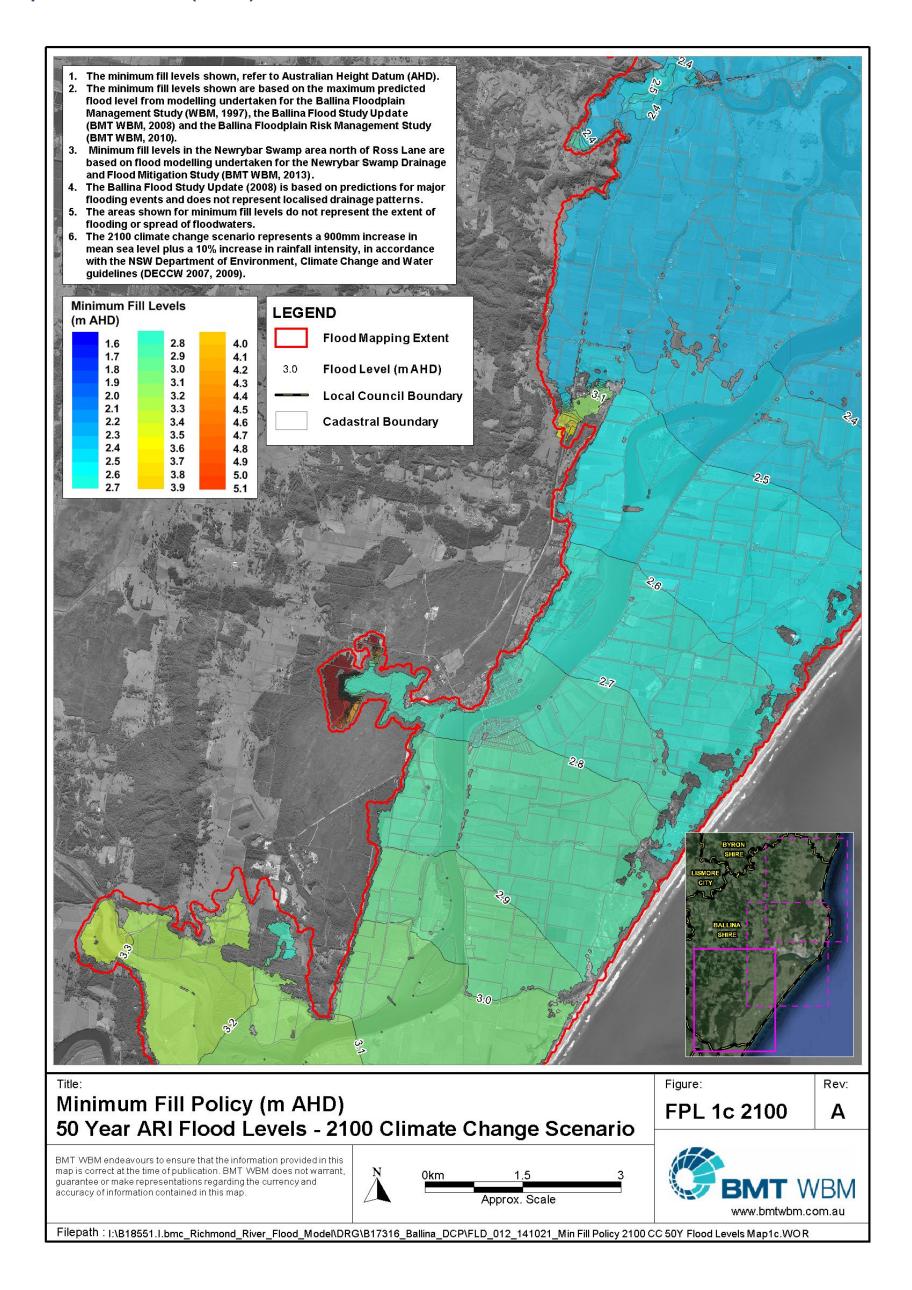
# Schedule F: FPLs Based on 2100 Climate Change Conditions Map 1a: Ballina LGA (North)



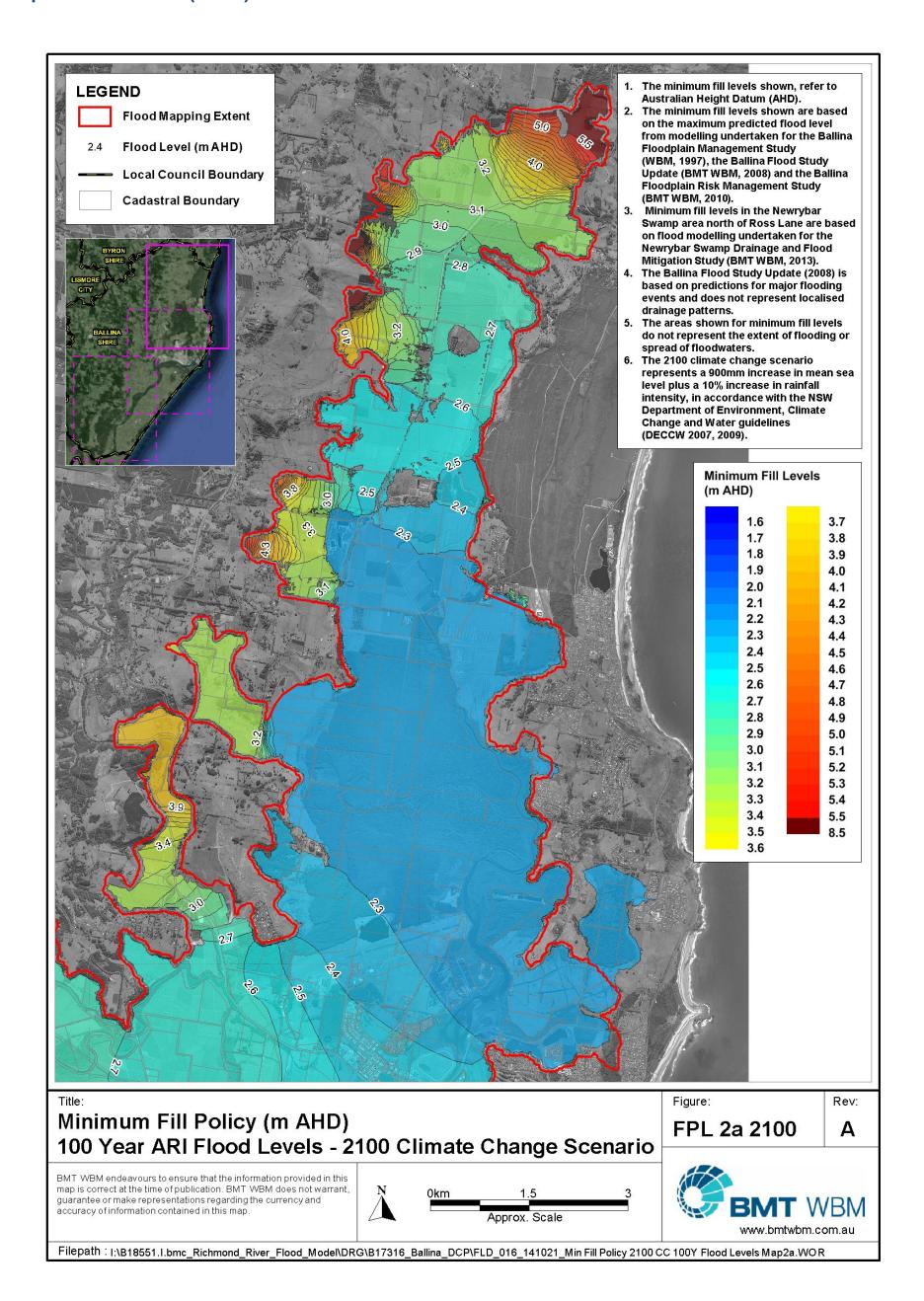
# Schedule F: FPLs Based on 2100 Climate Change Conditions Map 1b: Ballina LGA (Central)



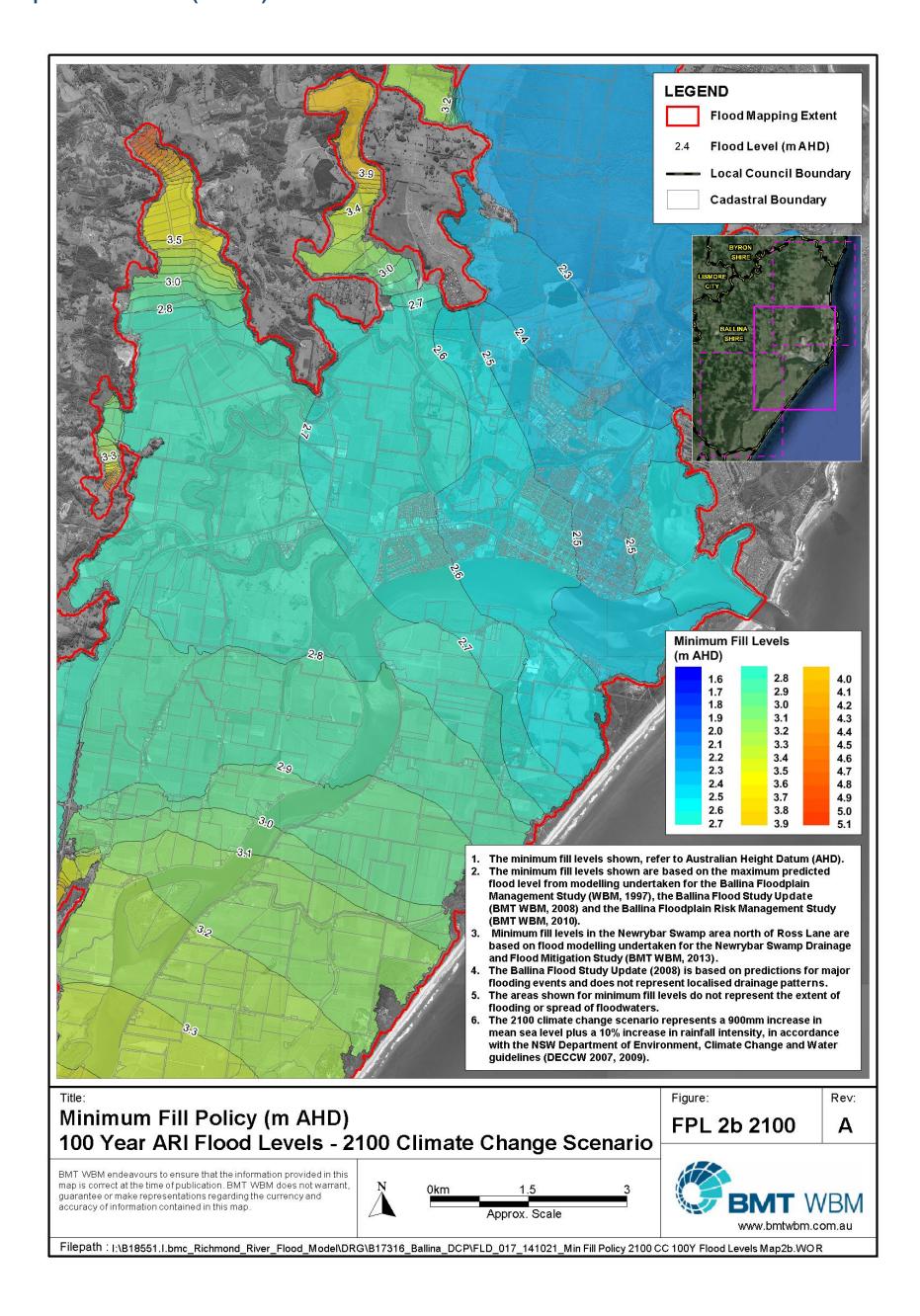
# Schedule F: FPLs Based on 2100 Climate Change Conditions Map 1c: Ballina LGC (South)



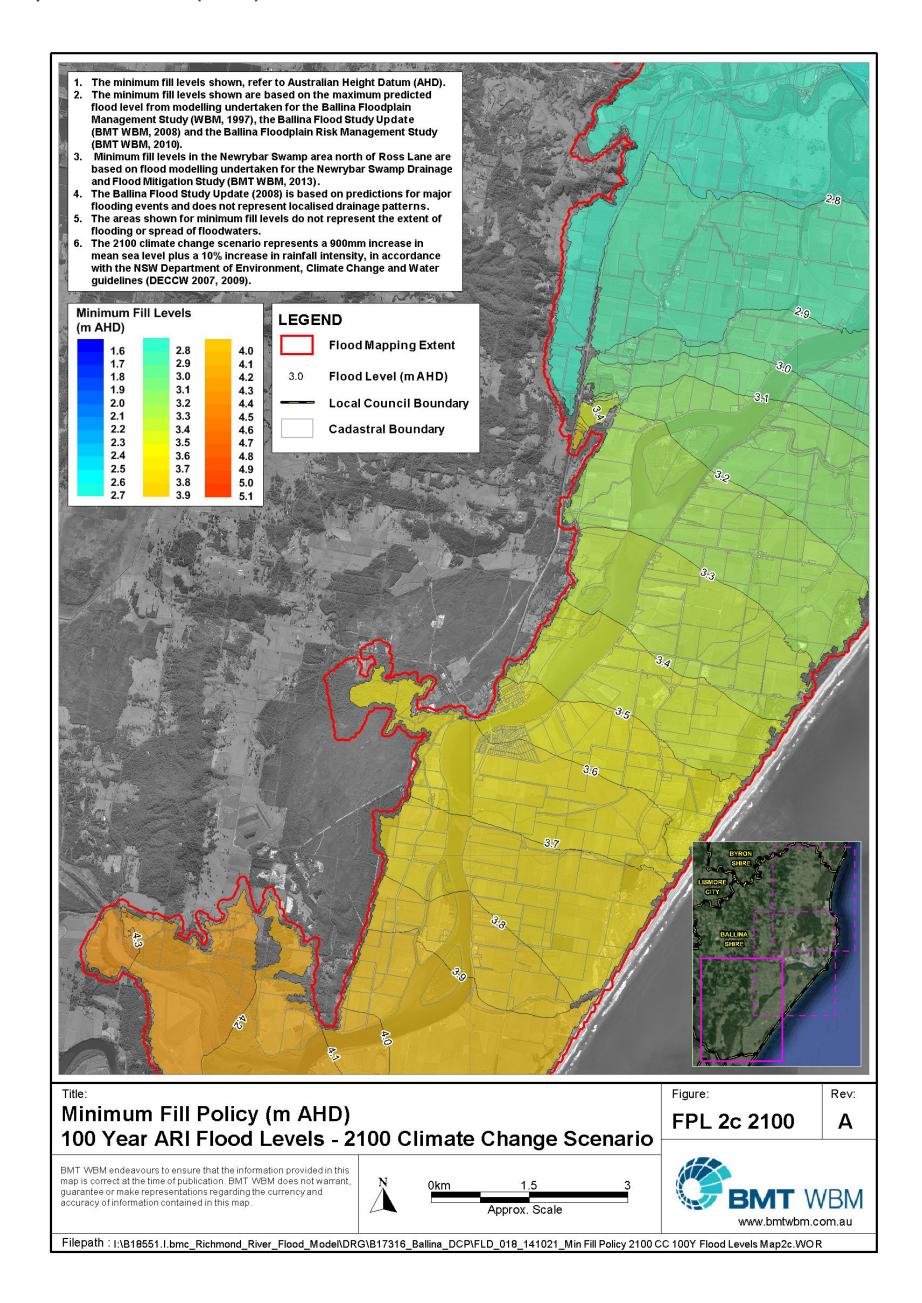
# Schedule F: FPLs Based on 2100 Climate Change Conditions Map 2a: Ballina LGA (North)



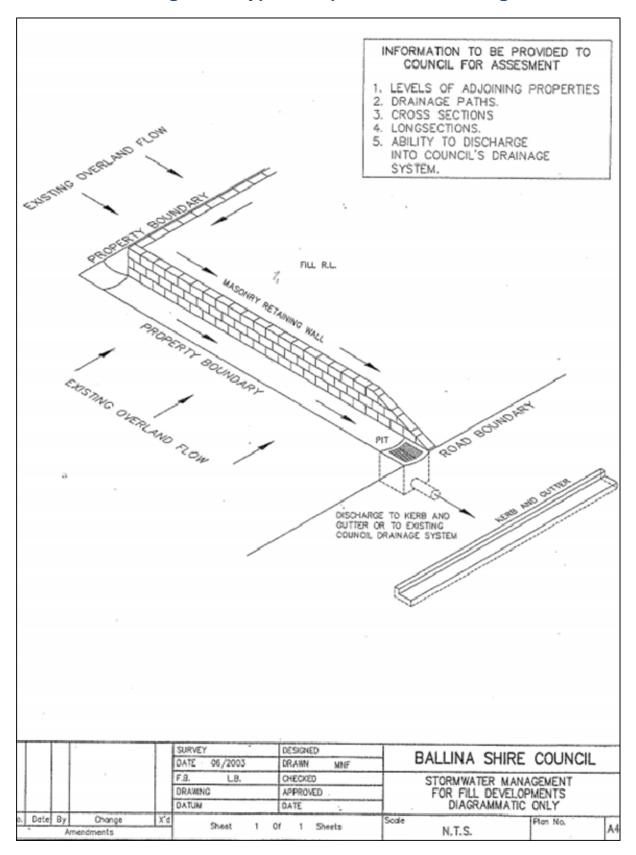
# Schedule F: FPLs Based on 2100 Climate Change Conditions Map 2b: Ballina LGA (Central)



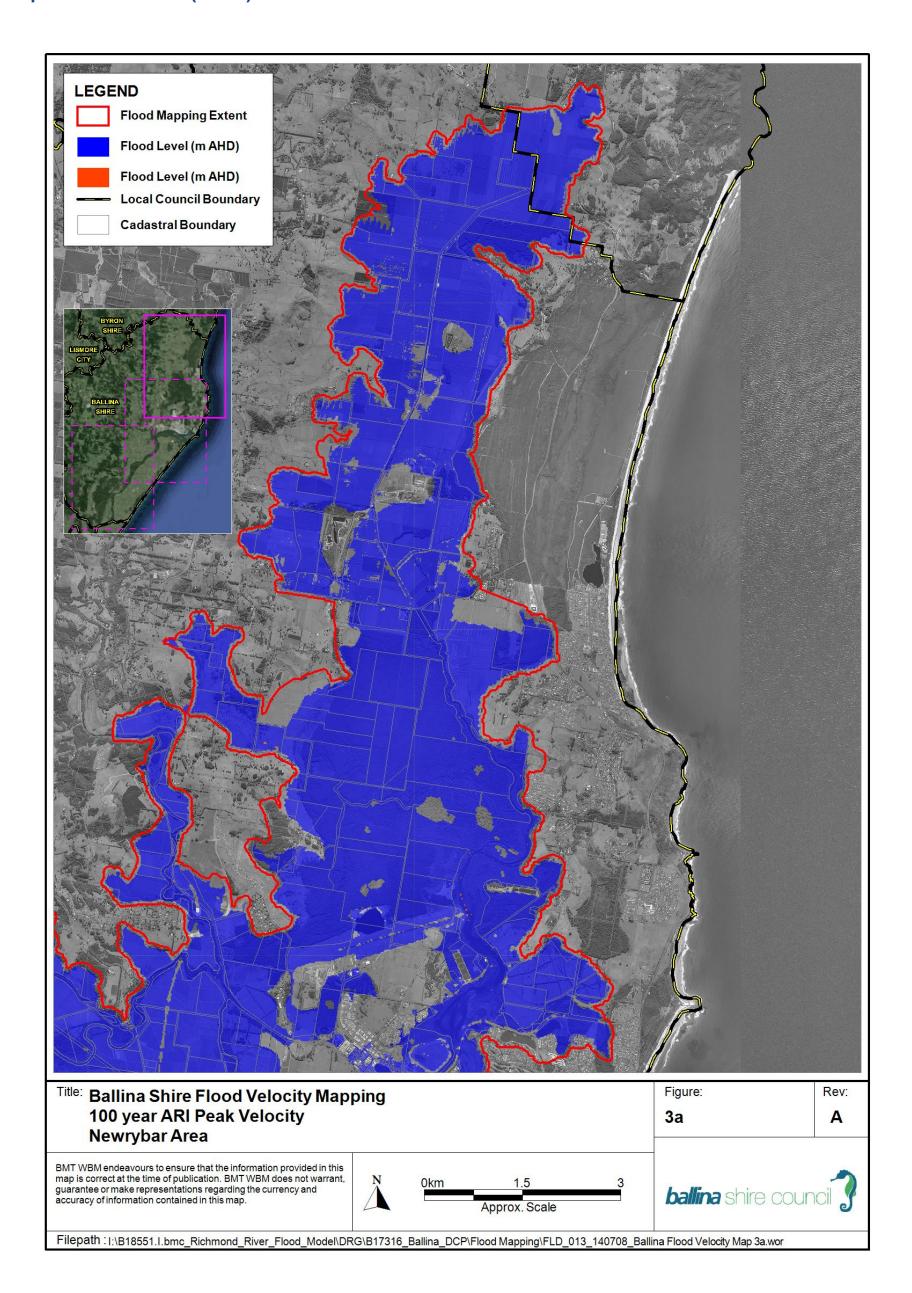
# Schedule F: FPLs Based on 2100 Climate Change Conditions Map 2c: Ballina LGC (South)



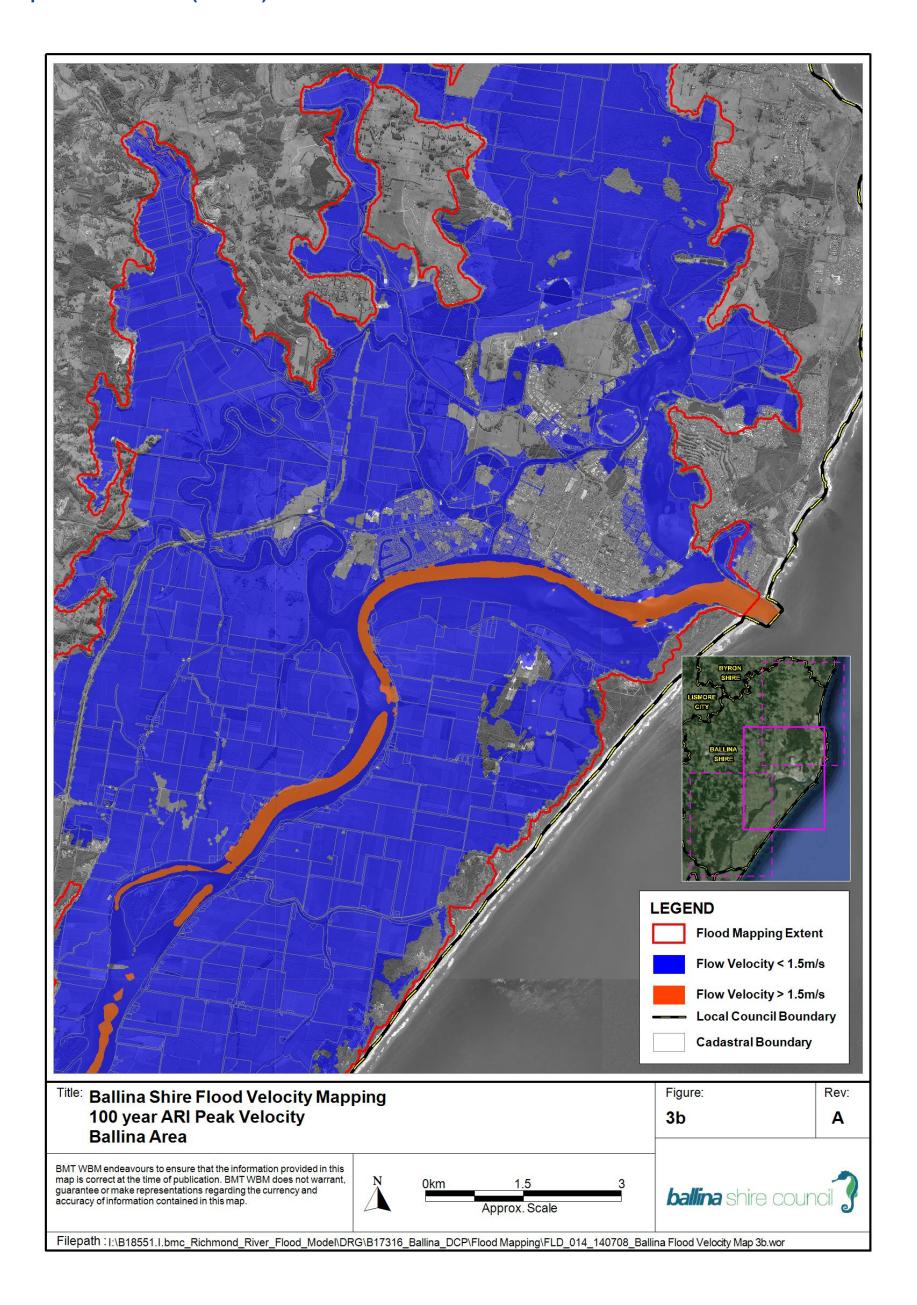
# Schedule G – Diagram of typical requirements for filling urban lots



# Schedule H – Velocity Maps Map 2a: Ballina LGA (North)



# Schedule H – Velocity Maps Map 2b: Ballina LGA (Central)



# Schedule H – Velocity Maps Map 2c: Ballina LGA (South)

