



Conference Program

(subject to change)

Tuesday 21 April 2026

8.30am – 5.00pm	Full Day Workshop: Simulating evacuations and life loss with LifeSim software <i>(additional cost)</i>
8.30am – 12.30pm	Morning Workshop: Multi-hazard planning in the built environment: pathways to preparedness <i>(additional cost)</i>
8.30am – 12.30pm	Morning Workshop: Modelling bridges and culverts in HEC-RAS <i>(additional cost)</i>
12.30pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Workshop: Afternoon Room for the River Workshop <i>(additional cost)</i>
1.00pm – 5.00pm	Afternoon Workshop: Modelling dam breach in HEC-RAS <i>(additional cost)</i>
3.00pm – 5.00pm	YFM Mentoring Session <i>(additional cost)</i>
5.00pm – 6.00pm	Conference Registration & Welcome Reception <i>Trade Exhibition Area</i>
6.00pm – 8.00pm	YFM Function (open to all delegates registered for the Conference)

Sponsored by:



Wednesday 22 April 2026

7.30am **Conference Registration**

8.30am – 10.05am **Session 1 – Opening Plenary**

Welcome to Country
 Conference Opening Address
 Welcome from Floodplain Management Australia
Sue Ribbons, President, *Floodplain Management Australia*
 Welcome from Minister (TBC)
 Keynote Speaker
Emeritus Professor Barbara Norman, *University of Canberra and Australian National University*
 Sponsor Address

10.05am – 10.35am **Morning Tea + Poster Presentations**

Session 2 10.35am – 12.30pm	2A: Managing growth and land use planning	2B: Social sciences, human behaviour and communication	2C: Flood forecast and warning	2D: Flood case studies and stories
10.35am – 11.00am	Cumulative Impacts on Flood Behaviour: Policy Solutions for Resilient Development Melanie Schwecke <i>NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure</i>	The Australian Flood, Weather and Society Survey 2025: policy and service implications of community responses Karen Hudson <i>Bureau of Meteorology</i>	Combining Operational Flood Intelligence, Response Planning and Community Awareness Systems in Ipswich Adam Berry, Synergy Solutions & Matthew Pinder, Ipswich City Council	From Historic Floods to Future Resilience: Maitland's Case Study Prahlad Lamichhane <i>Maitland City Council</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
11.05am – 11.30am	Planning for flood hazard – Effective risk-informed decision making Nicole Prentice <i>Prentice Advisory Group</i>	Relationships towards Resilience: Industry and Community Education through the Resilient Homes Fund Sam Bowstead, QLD Department of Housing and Public Works	Critical Information Risk – Enabling Organisation-Wide Flood Intelligence Cameron Druey <i>Worley</i>	Beyond the ribbon cutting: lessons from a century of flood mitigation on the Richmond River Chrisy Clay <i>Rous County Council</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
11.35am – 12.00pm	Queensland: An Accommodating Climate Richard Sharp <i>Water Technology</i>	Community engagement at scale: Delivering flood information across Melbourne Andrew Mellor <i>Melbourne Water</i>	Super-fast and simplified – Implementing a reduced-physics hydraulic model in an operational forecasting system Angus Cannon <i>Sunwater</i>	River Scheme Sustainability in the Bay of Plenty Region, New Zealand Mark Townsend <i>Bay of Plenty Regional Council</i> <i>International presenter</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
12.05pm – 12.30pm	Integrating Flood Resilience and Urban Development: Te Wai Takamori o Te Awa Kairangi Planning Lessons Sharyn Westlake <i>Greater Wellington Regional Council</i> <i>International presenter</i>	Wollondilly Flood Study; What happened to cause an unexpected community engagement explosion? Peter Nunn <i>Wollondilly Shire Council</i>	Floods Near Me: 10 years of developing a state-wide flood warning application Galen Lewis <i>MHL</i>	Flood Resilience for Three Far North Queensland Communities Eoghain O'Hanlon <i>JB Pacific</i>
12.30pm – 1.30pm	Lunch + Poster Presentations			

Session 3 1.30pm – 2.55pm	3A: Flood policy, guidance and best practice	3B: Emergency preparedness, response and recovery	3C: Modelling and flood data	3D: 10 Minute Presentations
1.30pm – 1.55pm	Risk Informed Floodplain Management: A Transition Strategy for Increasing Flood Resilience Doug Bellomo AECOM <i>International presenter</i>	Shared Risks, Stronger Collaboration: Designing Australia's Flood-Intelligence Capability for the Next Decade Liza Gelt AFAC	Improving PMP and PMF Hydrology using Monte Carlo Methods Christopher Ryan <i>Catchment Simulation Solutions</i>	1.30pm – 1.40pm Dealing with engineering challenges arising from rapid development of residential precincts - Hill Road, Parramatta Monica Laut Haskoning
				1.45pm – 1.55pm Building Coastal Resilience Together: Aligning Community Values and Investment Logic Steve Charlton-Henderson <i>Natural Capital and Climate</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
2.00pm – 2.25pm	What's next for risk-based planning in Queensland? Carrie Dearnley WRM Water and Environment	Property-level Flood Awareness Maps for Queenslanders Anna Zammit <i>Queensland Reconstruction Authority</i>	Are you aware of hidden instabilities in your RORB model? Yanni Wang SMEC	2.00pm – 2.10pm Minor Movements, Major Hydrological Moments: CSG-Induced Subsidence And Its Hydrologic Implications For Overland Flow Isaac Boehme <i>Water Technology</i>
				2.15pm – 2.25pm The hidden connection – surface water meets groundwater Van Cuong Nguyen <i>Department of Water and Environmental Regulation WA</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
2.30pm – 2.55pm	Unlocking Innovation Through Risk-Based Planning: Why Collaboration Matters More Than Ever Alice Lisitsa BG&E	Developing staged emergency responses for sequential flood events using on-site water level monitoring Alireza Pouya BMT	A ready reckoner for initial calculations of flooding under climate change Michelle Ho HARC	2.30pm – 2.40pm Foundation Disaster Adaptation Plan: New approach to flood mitigation, resilience, and preparedness in Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Marcus Morgan, <i>NSW Reconstruction Authority</i>

Thursday 23 April 2026

8.00am

Conference Registration

8.45am –
10.25am

Session 5 – Plenary

Chair: Steve Allan

Welcome to Day Two

Sponsor Address

Australia and New Zealand Updates 2026

10.25am – 11.00am	Morning Tea + Poster Presentations				
Session 6 11.00am – 12.55pm	6A: Flood policy, guidance and best practice	6B: New technology	6C: Modelling - AR&R	6D: Infrastructure projects and asset management	6E: 10 Minute Presentations
11.00am – 11.25am	Building a national framework for smarter Flood Risk Management investment in New Zealand Graeme Campbell <i>Te Uru Kahika International presenter</i>	Flood AI for flood resilience - making every second and decision count Richard Crowder <i>Jacobs International presenter</i>	From Pre-burst to Resilience: NSW's New Design Flood Paradigm Mark Babister <i>WMAwater</i>	Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Program (FWIN): Building a Resilient Future for Australia's Flood Impacted Communities Ella Harrison <i>Bureau of Meteorology</i>	11.00am – 11.10am Lost floods: regulation and climate pressures on the Lowbidgee wetland system Jan Kreibich <i>UNSW Sydney & Alluvium Consulting</i>
					11.15am – 11.25am Marine Estate Management Strategy: Coastal floodplain drainage project Charity Nichols <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
11.30am – 11.55am	NSW Flood Risk Valley Studies: next-generation flood information for a more resilient NSW Ainslie Frazer <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>	Streamlining collaboration: connecting frontline agencies with Innovators to deliver flood impact data Scott Colefax <i>Office of the NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer</i>	Beyond Deterministic Uplifts: Navigating the Transition Toward Risk-Based Climate Guidance in ARR v4.2 Sina Akram <i>Melbourne Water</i>	Balancing Risk and Resilience: A Holistic Multi-Criteria Framework for Essential Floodplain Infrastructure Martin Boshoff <i>AECOM</i>	11.30am – 11.40am Great Northern Highway Upgrade-Fitzroy River Bridge to GoGo Station Section Sima Safarkhani <i>BG&E</i>
					11.45am – 11.55am From Risk to Resilience: Strategic Levee Management for Victoria's Flood Future Andrea Collins, <i>Mallee CMA & Shaun Morgan,</i> <i>North Central CMA</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>

12.00pm – 12.25pm	Regulatory clarity & public visibility: refining 2025 NSW Shelter-in-Place guidance with lessons from Auckland 2023 Amir Montakhab <i>Stantec</i>	Flood Risk Indexing Made Simple: Toolkits for Current and Future Risks at Multiple Scales Markus Eder <i>WMAwater</i>	ARR 4.2: Does it Pass the Sniff Test? Dan Williams <i>Torrent Consulting</i>	Te Awa Takamori o Te Awa Kairangi / Hutt River – River Works Design Challenges William Veale <i>Damwatch Engineering Ltd</i> <i>International presenter</i>	12.00pm – 12.10pm Understanding the Uncertainties Embedded in Flood Vulnerability Functions for Residential Buildings Dilum Rajapaksha <i>RMIT University</i> 12.15pm – 12.25pm Application of climate change rainfall to an urban area - a case study for Canberra Patrick Paynter <i>ACT Government</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
12.30pm – 12.55pm	Managing uncertainty across multiple levels of decision making Richard Brook <i>BMT</i>	12.30pm – 12.40pm AI-driven development of automated direct-rainfall models Tom Ward <i>KBR</i> 12.45pm – 12.55pm Harnessing Digital Technology and Artificial Intelligence in Floodplain Management Matthew Piggott <i>Autodesk</i>	Which SSP Climate Change Scenarios to Model for Flood Mapping: Evidence Based Recommendation Sai Htin Aung & Pratheebh Sritharan, Engeny & Sina Akram, <i>Melbourne Water</i>	Floodways – closing the design gaps: safety, signage and structural stability Danielle Danielsson <i>Toowoomba Regional Council</i>	12.30pm – 12.40pm It’s not you – it’s your damage curve Katrina Smith <i>Water Technology YFM presenter</i> 12.45pm – 12.55pm Going beyond conventional damages assessment for flood management decisions Angus Chapman <i>SGS Economics and Planning</i>

12.55pm 1.50pm	Lunch + Poster Presentations				
Session 7 1.50pm - 3.15pm	7A: Flood policy, guidance and best practice	7B: Managing growth and land use planning	7C: Flood forecast and warning	7D: Modelling and flood data	7E: 10 Minute Presentations
1.50pm – 2.15pm	Complexities of entrance management in ICOLLS with highly modified entrances and highly engaged communities Emma Maratea <i>Rhelm</i>	Grid to ground: turning hydraulic model outputs into legislative planning for rural Floodplain Management Plans Matthew Russell <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>	The art of delivering flood warning systems in remote communities Andy Sheehan <i>Stantec</i>	Adding to Geoscience Australia's Suite of Flood Vulnerability Models Ellen Zhao <i>Geoscience Australia</i>	1.50pm – 2.00pm Queensland's \$49 million Flood Risk Management Program Greg Scroope <i>Queensland Reconstruction Authority</i>
					2.05pm – 2.15pm Gympie – from one of Queensland's most flood risk regions to future flood resilience William Prentice <i>Prentice Advisory Group</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
2.20pm – 2.45pm	Beyond flood levels: data, design, and decision support for the Tuggerah Lakes Bronson Mcperson <i>MHL</i>	Is the sky the limit? Metrics for quantifying a suitable defined flood event David Tetley <i>Catchment Simulation Solutions</i>	Implementing New From Calibration to Forecasting: Advancing Automated Flood Forecasting in Aotearoa New Zealand Blair Filer <i>JB Pacific</i>	Implementing New Climate Change Guidance – A Local Government's Perspective, Decision Dilemma and a way forward Bishwa Mishra <i>City of Parramatta Council</i>	2.20pm – 2.30pm Convergent best practice in IFD data and Flood Modelling Giancarlo Bonotto <i>Queensland Reconstruction Authority</i>
					2.35pm – 2.45pm Filling the Gaps in Rating Curves: Leveraging Space- Time Image Velocimetry to Improve Flood Forecasting Cam Turner <i>Melbourne Water</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
2.50pm – 3.15pm	When the Entrance Ground Moves: Insights from Lake Illawarra Muhammad Zain Bin Riaz <i>Shellharbour City Council</i>	What is an acceptable flood impact? Are we caught up with measuring the millimetres Chris Thomas <i>Worley Consulting</i>	Operational impact- based forecasting during a nocturnal flash flood in Texas: lessons for Australia Juliette Murphy <i>Floodmapp</i>	This Isn't Our First Climate Change: Insights on climate change from past studies Isabelle Testoni <i>Catchment Simulation Solutions</i>	2.50pm – 3.00pm Assessment of TUFLOW Layered- Loss Methods Against HEC-RAS for 2D Bridge Modelling Amir Abbasnia <i>Stantec</i>

					3.05pm – 3.15pm Cyclone Ditwa: Lessons for Sri Lanka from Australia’s Floodplain Management Systems Muhammadn Khalid HARC
3.15pm – 3.40pm	Afternoon Tea				
Session 8 3.40pm – 5.30pm	FMA Annual General Meeting <i>All FMA Members please attend</i>				
5.30pm	Close of Day Two				
7.00pm – 11.30pm	Conference Dinner & Floodplain Management Australia IAG Excellence Awards Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre				Sponsored by:  Haskoning <small>Enhancing Society Together</small>

Friday 24 April 2026

8.00am

Conference Registration

8.30am –
9.50am

Session 9 – Plenary
Chair: Steve Allan

Welcome to Day Three

Presentation by Winner of FMA - IAG Flood Risk Management Project of the Year Award

Sponsor Address

Conference Keynote Address

2027 FMA National Conference Announcement

9.50am –
10.20am

Morning Tea + Poster Presentations

Session 10 10.20am – 12.15pm	10A: Flood policy, guidance and best practice	10B: Nature Based Solutions	10C: Emergency preparedness, response and recovery	10D: Flood Impacts
10.20am – 10.45am	A Guideline is a Guideline is a Guideline: Reclaiming Engineering Judgement in Flood Modelling Madeline Mead <i>SWM Consulting</i>	Nature-based Solutions for Flood Mitigation: Australian Guidelines Roslyn Prinsley <i>Australian National University</i>	Big Trouble in Little China Camp Gauge Andrew Thompson <i>Water Technology</i>	Flood Defence Fund – Investing in Australia’s Highest-Risk Areas Rhys Thomson <i>Rhelm</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
10.50am – 11.15am	Reconciling Bridge/Culvert Blockage Methodologies: Implications for Flood Modelling and Design Jonathon Schacht <i>Haskoning</i>	From Pilot to Policy: Governing Integrated Catchment Management in Murihiku Ella Lawton <i>Environment Southland International presenter</i>	Relocatable homes – turning a disaster into an opportunity for sustainable development and increasing resilience Karen McPaul <i>NSW Reconstruction Authority</i>	Understanding intangible impacts of floods Tariq Maqsood <i>RMIT University</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
11.20am – 11.45am	The Peak No One Calculates: How Pre- Burst Missteps Skew Flood Design Mehrdad Ahmadi <i>Rain Consulting</i>	Nature’s resilience dividend: How nature can strengthen flood and coastal hazard resilience in urban environments Alice Simpson-Young <i>AECOM</i>	Quantifying Potential Risks Posed to Occupants of Vehicles in Transit During Flood Events Barry Evans <i>University of Canterbury International presenter</i>	Estimating flood risk in NSW Craig Arthur <i>NSW Reconstruction Authority</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
11.50am – 12.15pm	Complete Storm Modelling Approaches: Preburst and Postburst Rainfall Callan Schonrock <i>Water Technology</i>	Power Play: Using Stream Power to Restore Resilient Stream Processes Nora Boylan <i>Wolf Water Resources</i>	Implementation of a locally-led, place-based decentralised community flood communication and monitoring network Jeremy Smith <i>ANU</i>	How Major Floods Drive Long-Term Socio- Economic Decline: Re- evaluating SEIFA’s Dynamic Utility Paul Fuller <i>NSW Reconstruction Authority</i>

12.15pm –
1.05pm

Lunch + Poster Presentations

Session 11 1.05pm – 3.00pm	11A: Flood policy, guidance and best practice	11B: Managing growth and land use planning	11C: Infrastructure projects and asset management	11D: 10 Minute Presentations
1.05pm – 1.30pm	Greater Melbourne Flood Mapping Program – How peer review and community validation strengthen flood resilience Raghav Rana <i>Melbourne Water</i>	Assessing Risk to Create Resilient Open Spaces in a Changing Climate Nadia Guterres <i>Sunshine Coast Council</i>	Advancing Levee Risk Management: Integrated Flood Mapping and Automation Isaac Fowler <i>Jacobs</i>	1.05pm – 1.15pm Protecting Molong using the Boxwall® Mobile Flood Barrier. Cabonne Councils journey to reduced flood risk Paul Hart, Bluemont
				1.20pm – 1.30pm Quantifying hydraulic losses of bridges during flood events Fabian Bodenlenz <i>KBR</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
1.35pm – 2.00pm	Risk-based flood policy – From flood study to developing bespoke community risk tolerance Kim Kirstein <i>Meridian Urban</i>	The Southbank Paradox: An agent-based modelling approach to understand changing risk with development intensification Carolyn Tsioulos <i>HARC</i>	Guidance on building weirs in Queensland Chris Nielsen <i>Department of Local Government Water and Volunteers</i>	1.35pm – 1.45pm Chasing your tail – Building Resilience while Recovering – A case study Daniel Wood <i>BG&E</i>
				1.50pm – 2.00pm Establishing a community of practice to deliver flood information across Metropolitan Melbourne and Westernport Region Adelina Lawrence <i>Alluvium Consulting</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>
2.05pm – 2.30pm	Top down rather than bottom up: Governance-led floodplain management and Blacktown City Council's flood strategy Thanh Nguyen <i>Blacktown City Council</i>	Calming the Storm... A case study in successful community engagement for an urban flood map Glenn Ottrey <i>Engeny Water Management</i>	Building Flood Resilience in Remote Queensland: Quilpie Shire's Strategic Floodway Upgrade Program Eng Hwa Lim <i>Quilpie Shire Council</i>	2.05pm – 2.15pm The new levee guidelines - a definitive step forward for Queensland Levee Management Monishaa Prasad <i>Department of Local Government, Water, and Volunteers</i>
				2.20pm – 2.30pm From Concept to Completion: Lessons from Delivering a Levee in South Australia Hassan Ranjbar <i>Department for Environment and Water</i>
5 minute	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>	<i>Changeover</i>

2.35pm – 3.00pm	Floods don't read policy: Why flexible and adaptive flood policy matters Philip Haines , <i>Rhelm & Kerry Doss</i> , <i>Kerry Doss Consulting</i> .	Evaluation of Blue-Green-Grey Measures for Enhanced Urban Flood Resilience Lea Dasallas <i>University of Canterbury International presenter</i>	Parramatta Big Ideas Alan Rotsey <i>Haskoning</i>	<p>2.35pm – 2.45pm Scenarios (huh) what are they good for? Actually, something Rob Swan <i>HARC</i></p> <p>2.50pm – 3.00pm Novel Approach to Classifying Flood-Related Health Risk Mitchell Kirby <i>JB Pacific</i></p>
3.00pm – 3.30pm Conference Wrap Up with Afternoon Tea – Foyer				