



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, Hall 2</i>	Sponsored by: 

6.00pm – 8.00pm	YFM Function (open to all delegates registered for the Conference) <i>Trade Exhibition Area, Hall 2</i>	Sponsored by: 
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Wednesday 22 April 2026

7.30am	Conference Registration, Trade Exhibition Area, Hall 2
8.30am – 10.05am	Session 1 – Opening Plenary Location: Room 5 & 6 Chair: Steve Allen
8.35am	Welcome to Country
8.45am	Conference Opening Address
8.55am	Welcome from Floodplain Management Australia Sue Ribbons , President, <i>Floodplain Management Australia</i>
9.10am	Welcome from Minister (TBC)
9.15am	From Silos to Solutions: Why Flood Resilience Requires a Team Effort Emeritus Professor Barbara Norman , <i>University of Canberra and Australian National University</i>
9.55am	Gold Sponsor Address , Queensland Reconstruction Authority
10.00am	Silver Sponsor Address , NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
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
Location	Room 5 & 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9
Chair:	Mike Edwards			
10.35am – 11.00am	Cumulative Impacts on Flood Behaviour: Policy Solutions for Resilient Development Melanie Schewecke <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, Karen Fitzherbert & Pathum Gunasekara <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 & Nicki Evans <i>QLD Department of Housing and Public Works</i>	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 & Ian Berthon <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
Location	Room 5 & 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9
Chair:	Sharyn Westlake	Tim Anderson		
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 <i>Collaborative Consulting</i>	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	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>

				2.45pm – 2.55pm Early results from the Hawkesbury-Nepean Valley Palaeoflood Pilot Project Stephen Yeo NSW Reconstruction Authority
3.05pm – 5.30pm Session 4 - Field Trips				
Field trips will depart from 3.05pm (sharp) and will return approximately 5.30pm, afternoon tea is included on all tours.				
FT1: Gold Coast Disaster and Emergency Management Centre & Live Wet Demonstration of Boxwall Mobile Flood Barrier <i>Sponsored by: Bluemont Boxwall</i> FT2: Gold Coast Flood Mitigation Tour FT3: Gold Coast Coastal Management Works FT4: Gold Coast Broadwater Boat Tour <i>If you are not attending a Field Trip, there is an opportunity to visit the live wet demonstration of the Boxwall Mobile Flood Barrier at 3.15pm, TE Peters Boat Ramp (5 minutes' walk from the conference centre).</i>				
5.30pm	Close of Day One			
7.00pm – 10.00pm	Casual Dinner - Sea World Gold Coast Return coaches will transfer from GCCEC Time TBC			Sponsored by 

Thursday 23 April 2026

8.15am	Conference Registration				
9.00am 10.15am	Session 5 – Plenary Location: Room 5 & 6 Chair: Steve Allen				
9.00am	Welcome to Day Two				
9.05am	Silver Sponsor Address, Water Technology				
9.10am	Australia and New Zealand Updates 2026				
10.05am	Silver Sponsor Address, NSW State Emergency Service				
10.15am – 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
Location	Room 5	Room 7	Room 8	Room 8	Room 6
Chair:					
11.00am – 11.25am	Building a national framework for smarter Flood Risk Management investment in New Zealand Graeme Campbell <i>Te Uru Kahika</i> <i>International presenter</i>	Flood AI for flood resilience - making every second and decision count Richard Crowder <i>Jacobs</i> <i>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 Kristen Mulligan <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, Hartley Bulcock, Inland Rail & Trinity Graham, Aurecon</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	Governance factors for advancing flood management from risk to resilience: A diagnostic approach Euan Hind <i>Monash University</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 , <i>Engeny & Sina Akram</i> , <i>Melbourne Water</i>	Floodway risk evaluation framework - closing the gaps: Safety, signage, structural stability and asset management 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</i> <i>YFM presenter</i> 12.45pm – 12.55pm Where Rain Meets the Sea: A New Framework for Mapping Joint Coastal and Catchment Flooding Rob Swan <i>HARC</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
Location	Room 5	Room 7	Room 8	Room 8	Room 6
Chair:	Graeme Campbell	Patrick Paynter		Simon Hoff	
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 Martin Griffin <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 Muhammadhn 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 Arena 2, Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre				Sponsored by: 

Friday 24 April 2026

8.00am **Conference Registration**

8.30am – 9.50am **Session 9 – Plenary**
Location: Room 5 & 6 Chair: Steve Allen

8.30am Welcome to Day Three
 8.35am Presentation by Winner of FMA - IAG Flood Risk Management Project of the Year Award
 8.50am **Silver Sponsor Address, AUTODESK**
 8.55am From Risk Analysis to Resilience: Using Flood Consequence Modelling to Improve Emergency Preparedness
Jason Needham, HDR, USA
 9.35am **Silver Sponsor Address, HARC**
 9.40am 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
Location	Room 5 & 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9
Chair:			Jess Carey	William Prentice
10.20am – 10.45am	A Guideline is a Guideline: Reclaiming Engineering Judgement in Flood Modelling Madeline Mead SWM Consulting <i>YFM presenter</i>	Nature-based Solutions for Flood Mitigation: Australian Guidelines Roslyn Prinsley Australian National University	Big Trouble in Little China Camp Gauge Andrew Thompson Water Technology	Flood Defence Fund – Investing in Australia’s Highest-Risk Areas Rhys Thomson Rhelm
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 Haskoning	Watering wetlands is always good, right? Why monitoring matters for environmental water Pearl Elgindy Streamology	Relocatable homes – turning a disaster into an opportunity for sustainable development and increasing resilience Jane Holden & Stephen Timms NSW Reconstruction Authority	Understanding intangible impacts of floods Tariq Maqsood RMIT University
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 Rain Consulting	Nature’s resilience dividend: How nature can strengthen flood and coastal hazard resilience in urban environments Alice Simpson-Young AECOM	Elevating Flood Risk Analysis with LifeSim paper Erin Hughes HARC	Estimating flood risk in NSW Craig Arthur NSW Reconstruction Authority
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 Water Technology	Resilience over reaction: adaptive flood management when traditional solutions fail Caitlin Meister Stantec	Implementation of a locally-led, place-based decentralised community flood communication and monitoring network Jeremy Smith, ANU	How Major Floods Drive Long-Term Socio-Economic Decline: Re-evaluating SEIFA's Dynamic Utility Zahra Shahhoseini, NSW Reconstruction Authority
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
Location	Room 5 & 6	Room 7	Room 8	Room 9
Chair:	Paul Grech			
1.05pm – 1.30pm	Greater Melbourne Flood Mapping Program – How peer review and community validation strengthen flood resilience Raghav Rana & Mikaylah Fogarty Melbourne Water	Assessing Risk to Create Resilient Open Spaces in a Changing Climate Nadia Guterres Sunshine Coast Council	Advancing Levee Risk Management: Integrated Flood Mapping and Automation Isaac Fowler Jacobs	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, KBR
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 Meridian Urban	The Southbank Paradox: An agent-based modelling approach to understand changing risk with development intensification Carolyn Tsioulos HARC	Guidance on building weirs in Queensland Chris Nielsen Department of Local Government Water and Volunteers	1.35pm – 1.45pm Chasing your tail – Building Resilience while Recovering – A case study Daniel Wood, BG&E
				1.50pm – 2.00pm Establishing a community of practice to deliver flood information across Metropolitan Melbourne and Westernport Region Adelina Lawrence Alluvium Consulting
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 Blacktown City Council	Calming the Storm... A case study in successful community engagement for an urban flood map Glenn Ottrey, Engeny Water Management & David Cox, Merri-bek City Council	Building Flood Resilience in Remote Queensland: Quilpie Shire's Strategic Floodway Upgrade Program Eng Hwa Lim Quilpie Shire Council	2.05pm – 2.15pm The new levee guidelines - a definitive step forward for Queensland Levee Management Monishaa Prasad Department of Local Government, Water, and Volunteers

				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, Rhelm & Kerry Doss, Kerry Doss Consulting.	<i>Presentation TBC</i>	Parramatta big ideas - major new flood infrastructure for the Parramatta CBD Alan Rotsey <i>Haskoning</i>	2.35pm – 2.45pm Scenarios (huh) what are they good for? Actually, something Rob Swan <i>HARC</i>
				2.50pm – 3.00pm Mapping Floodway Networks and Management Zones for NSW Rural Floodplain Management Plans Banu Hazrati <i>NSW DCCEEW</i>
3.00pm – 3.30pm Conference Wrap Up with Afternoon Tea – Foyer				