

# Dataset Documentation

Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) Flood Zone 3

February 2024

This document will help you understand and use the Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) Flood Zone 3.

## Dataset description

The Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) includes several layers of information. This layer and documentation covers **Flood Zone 3**. It is our best estimate of the areas of land at risk of flooding, when the presence of flood defences are ignored and covers land with a **1 in 100 (1%) or greater** chance of flooding each year from **Rivers**; or with a **1 in 200 (0.5%) or greater** chance of flooding each year from the **Sea**.

This dataset is designed to support flood risk assessments in line with [Planning Practice Guidance](#) ; and raise awareness of the likelihood of flooding to encourage people living and working in areas prone to flooding to find out more and take appropriate action.

## Update frequency

We update the data every three months. We release the whole dataset quarterly but only update it in locations where new information is available.

This year we are pausing the updates to this dataset after November 2023. This is in advance of publishing the first outputs from our new National Flood Risk Assessment. These outputs will be published by the end of 2024 and will include a new version of the Flood Zones. Please visit the [“Pause to Updates of Flood Risk Maps” announcement](#) on the Defra Data Services Platform support pages for further information. You can also contact us for the latest information about these changes at [fcrm\\_risk\\_assessment@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:fcrm_risk_assessment@environment-agency.gov.uk).

## Related datasets

Other datasets you may want to use to get a more complete picture of national flood risk include:

1. Recorded Flood Outlines
2. Historic Flood Map
3. Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) Flood Zone 2
4. Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) Flood Storage Areas
5. Reduction in Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea due to Defences
6. Risk of Flooding from Rivers and Sea datasets
7. Risk of Flooding from Surface Water datasets

## Common questions & known issues

- The information provided is largely based on modelled data and is therefore indicative rather than specific. Locations may also be at risk from other sources of flooding, such as high groundwater levels, overland run off from heavy rain, or failure of infrastructure such as sewers and storm drains.
- The information on the Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) is designed to only give an indication of flood risk to an area of land and is not sufficiently detailed to show whether an individual property is at risk of flooding. This is because we cannot know all the details about each property.
- The Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) does not provide information on flood depth, speed or volume of flow. It doesn't show flooding from other sources, such as groundwater, direct runoff from fields, or overflowing sewers.
- The Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) only shows the predicted likelihood of flooding from rivers or the sea for defined areas, and is not detailed enough to account for precise addresses. Individual properties therefore may not always face the same chance of flooding as the areas that surround them.
- To find out if you are in an area at risk of flooding, please go to [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) to complete a search.

Note: We do our best to avoid quality problems but this dataset reflects the data we hold. Our datasets may contain errors.

## Dataset content

Field name	Data Type	Description	Datatype	Length	Guidance
<b>FID</b>	OID	Internal Feature Number	OID	4	Automatically generated
<b>Shape</b>	Geometry	Feature Geometry	Geometry	0	Automatically generated
<b>LAYER</b>	Text	Layer's Feature Description	Text	30	
<b>TYPE</b>	Text	Type of Source Data	Text	60	Fluvial/ Tidal Models