



Flood information for the Alpine Shire Council, encompassing local flood guides for Myrtleford (in English and Italian) and the Alpine Shire Council Municipal Flood and Emergency Plan.

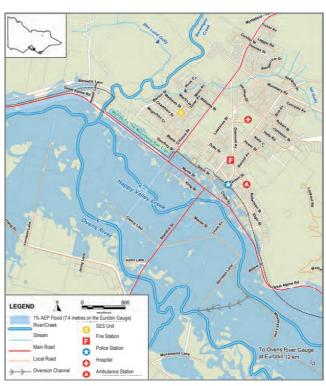
# **Alpine Shire Flood History**

Alpine Shire Council has a history of flooding including a significant flood event in October 1993 which impacted the townships of Bright, Harrietville, Kiewa Valley, Myrtleford and vast rural areas, resulting in extensive damage to homes, infrastructure and the community. Significant flood events also occurred in 1998, 2010 and to a lesser extent, 2016

Flooding usually occurs as a result of moderate to heavy rainfall across the municipality causing breaching of the Ovens and Kiewa Rivers. The onset of flooding is usually rapid due to the steep slopes of the surrounding ranges and often causes isolation due to closure of the Great Alpine Road.

The lead time to respond to a flood event in the Alpine Shire may be limited. All households and businesses at risk of flooding should beware of their specific flood risk and develop an emergency plan.

 $Households \ and \ business \ should \ refer \ to \ the \ Myrtleford \ Local \ Flood \ Guide \ (available \ in English \ and \ Italian) \ or \ Municipal \ Flood \ Emergency \ Plan \ for \ more \ information.$ 



Alpine Shire Council flood guide map.

Alpine Shire Council



## Alpine Shire Local Flood Guide

## Are you at risk of flood?

In Myrtleford, flooding is usually riverine flooding, caused when the Ovens River overflows, and excess water is carried through town by a floodwater 'breakout' into Happy Valley Creek.

Flooding usually affects the town for 2-4 days but this can vary depending on how widespread and long-lasting the rainfall is and which direction the floodwater is coming from. The 1993 flood which measured 7.1 metres at the Ovens River (Eurobin) Gauge is the largest flood on record.

Since 1993, flood mitigation works have been undertaken including the construction of a diversion channel. This channel is designed to divert floodwater and reduce impact during an Ovens River breakaway.

Floodwater is diverted from Happy Valley Creek (at the Whalleys Lane culverts) back into the Ovens River near the end of Gerraty's Lane. This channel helped reduce the impact of the 2010 flood on the town, but did not completely save it from flooding.

With the changeable nature of flooding in Myrtleford, it is important to watch conditions around you. Check rainfall, snow melt and river conditions and stay updated by tuning into local radio.

Myrtleford Local Flood Guide (English)

Myrtleford Local Flood Guide (Italian)

7.40 m -	1% flood. Height shown on map page 2.
7.10 m -	October 1993 flood peak. In 1993, 90 homes and 32 businesses in Myrtleford flooded above floor level and 202 properties were cut off by floodwater on their property. (Estimated gauge level – event preceded Eurobin gauge operation).
6.90 m –	September 1998 flood peak. During this flood, 112 buildings flooded above floor level. Extensive flooding to houses and properties between stappy Valley Creek and the Oren River along Whalleys Lane, Maude and Standish Streets and Lewis Kreune. Extensive road closures. Prince Street (Myrtfedor for Schandinadh Road) was the only not dopen into and out of torm, Estimated gauge level—event preceded circumbin gauge operation.
6.83 m -	September 2010 flood peak. During this flood, 18 low-lying houses were evacuated, water flooded the car park behind Target and affected shop backing onto Happy Valley Creek.
6.19 m 🗕	October 2016 flood peak.
6.00 m -	MAJOR FLOOD LEVEL (previously 5.50 metres)
5.73 m -	December 2010 flood peak. 19 people were evacuated from the Myrtleford and Arderns Caravan Parks.
5.50 m -<	MODERATE FLOOD LEVEL (previously 5.00 metres)
5.00 m -	Arderns Caravan Park and low-lying parts of town start to flood. In 1998, Nimmo Bridge (Ovens River at Standish Street) was under water. Myrtleford's flood diversion channel only reduces flooding up to a flood of this height. It has no benefit once floods are higher than five metres.
4.90 m -<	Happy Valley Creek overflows near Whalleys Lane.
4.79 m _	March 2012 flood peak.
4.50 m -	MINOR FLOOD LEVEL (remains the same)
	At Minor Flood Level, the Ovens River overflows at Selzers Lane (Ovens) and many other places between the Hop Gardens and Myrtleford. Flooding Myrtleford is inevitable once the Ovens River overflows unstream of town. Standish Street floodway active.

Significant flood history in the Alpine Shire region.

### **About Flood Guides**

Communities can use local flood guides to identify and better understand their local flood risk. They include information about: flood history, how to prepare & respond to floods and who to contact.

#### Contact Information



For more information, contact the North East Regional Headquarters.



For information on flood warnings, see the VicEmergency website.



Visit the Alpine Shire Council website.

Alpine Shire Council 2



(03) 57550555

info@alpineshire.vic.gov.au



 $Your \, local \, Catchment \, Mangement \, Authority: \, North \, East.$ 

### **Local VICSES Units**

#### **Bright VICSES Unit:**

Churchill Avenue, Bright, Victoria

#### **Myrtleford VICSES Unit:**

Jubilee Street Myrtleford, Victoria

# Municipal Flood Emergency Plan (MFEP)

Municipalities can use Municipal Flood Emergency Plans to prepare, respond and recover from flood and storm events. Alpine Shire Flood Emergency Plan - Updated November, 2021

### **Quick Links**

Plan and stay safe

Know your hazards - Flood



When to call VICSES

Alpine Shire Council 3