

Workshop activity results

Community Coastal Flood Emergency Plan Goolwa and Mundoo Channels

This document provides the verbatim comments provided by workshop participants on workshop activity posters for the following workshop.

Workshop	Workshop 1 - Introduction to community flood planning and coastal flood risk at Goolwa and Mundoo Channels
Date and time	Thursday 7 February 2024 6-8pm
Location	Century Hall 14 Cadell Street Goolwa

Activity 1: What are the key features of the Goolwa and Mundoo Channel settlements?

People

- Holiday houses not free hold
- Very few permanent people
- Older demographic
- Unique
- Seasonal vs residential
- Bird watching
- Enjoy peace and quiet
- Enjoy fishing
- Don't like people
- Enjoy solitude
- Isolated by choice
- Coorong Café
- It's a happy place of which we are well aware of risks and consequences of having a home along Mundoo Channell
- Predominately holiday or part time accommodation
- Young families
- Renters
- Over 70's
- Mundoo has local resident committee that meets on an as need basis
- Approx 20% permanent Goolwa Channel (Sugars Beach)
- In all zones, there is a large proportion of semi-permanent holiday home owners and renters
- Fluctuating community

Place

- Magic place
- Vulnerable
- Exposed
- Water frontage
- Low lying
- Estaurine
- Diverse
- Isolated – Access, electricity, water supply?
- Tidal
- Pretty
- Low lying houses
- Mix of locals and holiday
- Historical landmarks
- Amazing scenery
- Ageing/decreiat dwellings
- Spectacular wildlife
- Once access road onto the island
- Relax
- Back to nature
- Water sports
- Beach
- Holiday
- Can flooding of properties along Goolwa Drive be protected by a Levee?
- Dead end. One road in only
- Low-lying block where water transfer occurs – (no maintenance)

People

- Holiday peaks
- Communication
- Many houses have holidaying people
- Many not on stilts or raised
- Varying degrees of concern depending on investment and infrastructure
- Knowledge of flood insurance
- Holiday homes
- Some permanent residents
- Ageing population therefore limited capability to prepare property in case of a flood
- Cooinda

Place

- Poor drainage on GCD
- Some properties have erosion prevention in place, others don't
- Stormwater control – eg overflowing tanks an issue
- Internet – weekends/peak times
- Goolwa Channel Drive only 1 way in
- Approx 20% permanent population – already experience flood events - Mundoo
- High level of permanent dwellers – maybe 40% retirees largely, Cooinda Rd (low lying flat areas)
- In all zones, there is a large proportion of semi-permanent holiday home owners and renters
- Threat from both front and rear of property
- Septic flooding from holding tanks – effect all residents who have to leave
- Road access may go before property damage
- Poor infrastructure
- No council support eg doesn't fix roads. Chappel Road – Pat rates = get nothing
- Mobile phone coverage poor
- Quiet retreat

Facilitator whiteboard notes:

People

- Isolated people
- Permanent
- Holiday
- Renters
- Elderly
- Transient

Place

- Nature
- Mundoo – front and back water
- Poor mobile
- Power vulnerability
- Only 1 road in or out
- Varying levels of erosion property prevention
- Low level road
- Dead ends

Activity 2: What has your experience with flood been?

How did you find out?

- Self aware of rising river levels
- Water.data.sa.gov.au
- Group chat on whatsapp
- Water
- Word of mouth
- Media – tv news
- Word of mouth
- Private research via Google (murray river flows)
- Neighbours
- Videos online
- Photos

What happened?

- NO FLOOD!
- Happens every few years
- Variations of block heights with adjacent neighbours can be the difference between being flooded or not
- NOTHING
- Blaze Aid will come and help
- Mundoo (1980's) encircled house
- No property damaged – few loose floated away
- Wetlands on property flooded
- Fish died and stunk – small carp
- Dead fish kill – odour, birds got a good feed
- High tide
- Flooding
- Strong winds
- Wave damage impacts/damages jetty
- Storm surge ^ tides over block or barrage road
- 2 weeks to CLEAR road had to be rebuilt
- Fast rises in water level
- Short lived flooding – levels dropped quite quickly
- Were flooded in 2023
- Minor shed flooding
- Lack of access when road was flooded
- Goolwa Channel Road totally submerged in 70's
- Jetty covered with water in storm surge
- Mundoo Channel sheds inundated
- Quick exiting of surge waters
- River land at Mypolonga – lot of damage

Were you prepared?

- Got insurance
- Official warning of river flood made people prepared
- I'm always prepared due to knowledge of current weather patterns
- Yes. All materials above shed level
- No, could not access house
- Yes!
- Bags, documents packed ready to go
- Mattresses etc moved to higher ground sheds
- Wine stores increased and non perishable foods
- No!
- Sand bagging
- Furniture up off floor (Flood threat 2023)
- We sandbagged around the water front of the property last year

How did you feel?

- Felt excited, it fertilised wetlands. We embraced it
- Violated
- Wet
- 'No big deal' drove down road – turn around and go back
- Let down by authorities with no communication
- Anxious
- We were not here! Felt helpless
- Intrigued
- Interested