

# Flood Information Map



## BISHOP'S FALLS

### BISHOP'S FALLS FLOOD INFORMATION MAP

This map is a Public Information Document and is to be used for general reference only.

The information is based on Flood Risk Maps for the Bishop's Falls area.

Copies of this map and other information on the Flood Damage Reduction Program may be obtained from:

Flood Damage Reduction Program  
c/o Water Resources Division  
Department of Environment and Lands  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, Newfoundland  
A1B 4J6

Flood Damage Reduction Program  
c/o Inland Waters Directorate  
Environment Canada  
4th Floor, Queen Square  
45 Alderney Drive  
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia  
B2Y 2N6

The designated flood risk maps are suitable for use by elected officials, land use planners, builders and newcomers seeking home or business locations. They may be viewed at the Town Council Office in Bishop's Falls or at the Department of Environment and Lands Offices in Grand Falls and St. John's.

#### Flood Information Maps Available

- Badger
- Bishop's Falls
- Codroy Valley
- Cox's Cove
- Deer Lake
- Glenwood/Appleton
- Glovertown
- Parson's Pond
- Placentia
- Rushoon
- Rushy Pond
- Steady Brook
- Stephenville
- Stephenville Crossing
- Trout River
- Waterford River

Copies of the designated Flood Risk Maps may be ordered for a nominal fee from:

Department of Environment and Lands  
Mapping Division  
Howley Building, Higgins Line  
P.O. Box 8700  
St. John's, Newfoundland  
A1B 4J6

### FLOODING IN THE BISHOP'S FALLS AREA

Flooding causes damage to personal property, disrupts the lives of individuals and communities, and can be a threat to life itself. Continuing development of flood plain land increases these risks. The governments of Canada and Newfoundland and Labrador are sometimes asked to compensate property owners for damage caused by floods or are expected to find solutions to these problems.

Included on this map are flood risk zones along the Exploits River near Bishop's Falls.

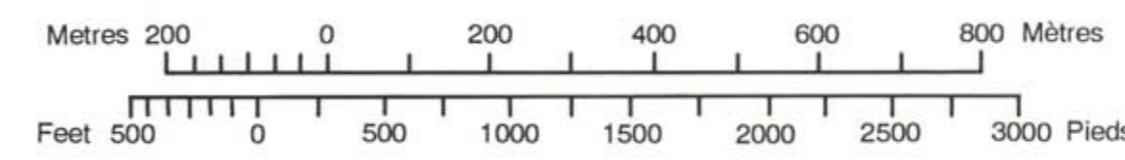
Without a doubt the worst flood damage in the recorded history of Newfoundland occurred in Bishop's Falls in January of 1983. This is surprising considering that Bishop's Falls had no history of major flooding.

The flood was caused by a combination of several hydrological factors, which acted together to produce disaster. An intense low pressure system passed over the Exploits Basin from the Southwest, dumping 100mm to 250mm of rain over an area with a 10% to 30% above normal snow cover. This, combined with temperatures which were well above freezing day and night for several days, resulted in rapid snowmelt. Intense rainfall combined with rapid snowmelt produced record flows, which resulted in considerable erosion of the river bank.

Near peak flow, an estimated 150 to 170 homes were evacuated. Three homes were swept away and many more were left unsafe to return to due to the unstable river bank. Flood damages amounted to \$30 million. Damage to residential property amounted to about \$500,000 while damage to residential property amounted to about \$500,000 while damage to roads and other public utilities amounted to \$1.5 million.

# FLOOD INFORMATION MAP BISHOP'S FALLS - NEWFOUNDLAND

SCALE 1:4325



### FLOOD ZONES

A "designated floodway" (1:20 flood zone) is the area subject to the most frequent flooding.

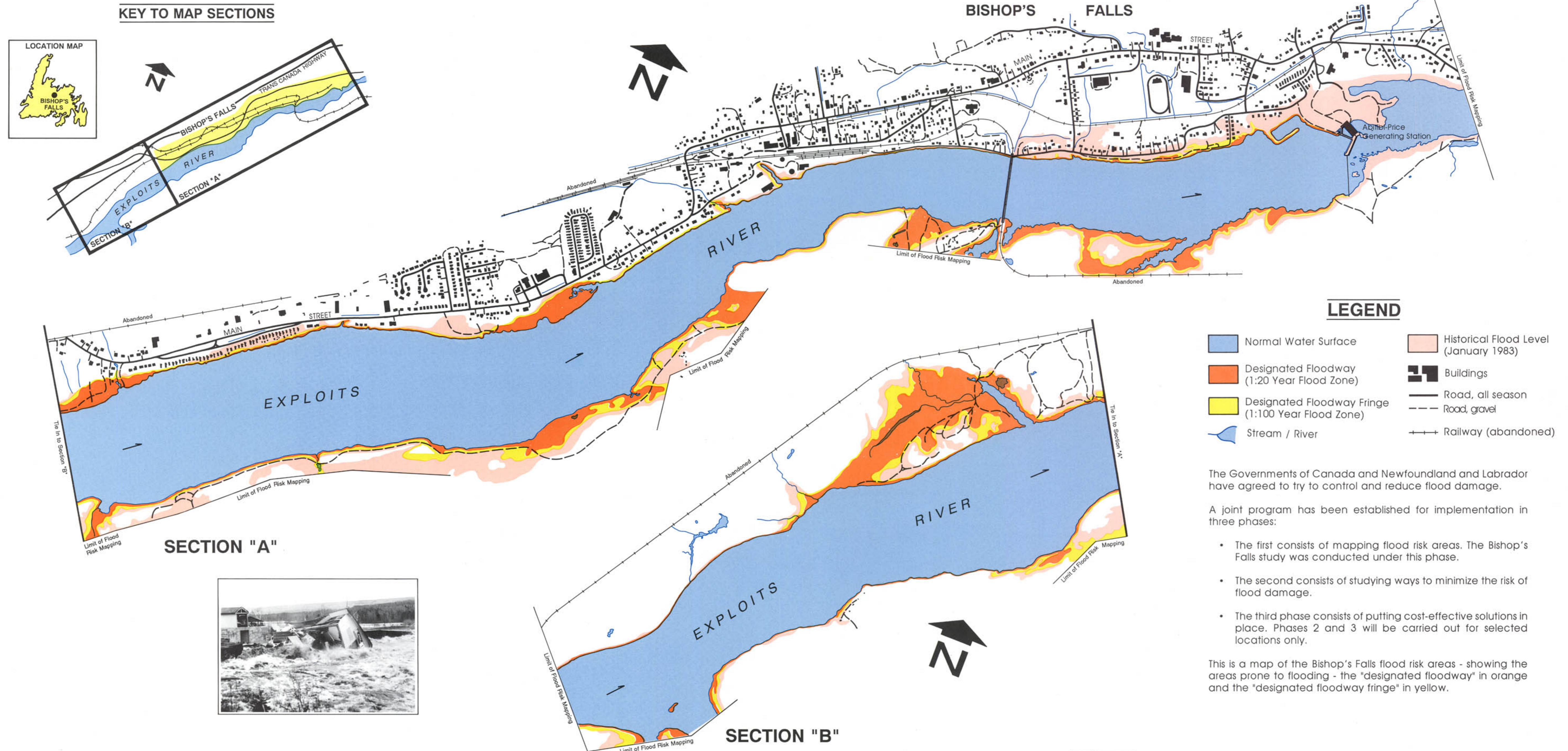
A "designated floodway fringe" (1:100 year flood zone) constitutes the remainder of the flood risk area. This area generally receives less damage from flooding.

The 1:20 and 1:100 flood zones depicted on this map were calculated based on the new Abitibi-Price generating station which was constructed in 1984.

No building or structure should be erected in the "designated floodway" since extensive damage may result from deeper and more swiftly flowing waters. However, it is often desirable, and may be acceptable, to use land in this area for agricultural or recreational purposes.

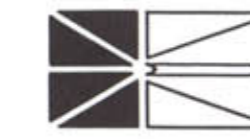
Within the "floodway fringe" a building, or an alteration to an existing building, should receive flood proofing measures. A variety of these may be used, eg. the placing of a dyke around the building, the construction of a building on raised land, or by the special design of a building.

Buildings erected prior to the designation of these two areas may still be eligible for flood damage compensation.



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Newfoundland Department  
of Environment and Lands  
Water Resources Division

Ministère de l'Environnement et  
des Terres de Terre-Neuve  
Division des ressources en eau