



# Making Ireland Weather and Climate Prepared

## FLOOD FORECAST DIVISION

**Name: Eoin Sherlock**

Flood Forecast Division



An Roinn Tithíochta,  
Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil  
Department of Housing,  
Planning and Local Government



# FLOOD FORECAST PRODUCTS

As part of Stage 1 of the NFFWS a Communication Strategy was developed. It recommended the following:

1. Products that the FFC would issue at the end of Stage 1.
2. Development of a system to allow key stakeholders to visualise flood and weather observations and forecasts as well as a means to disseminate these products to the stakeholders.
3. Development of the Severe Weather Flood Liaison Manager (SWFLM) network. SWFLM members control the flow of products from the FFC into the LA.



# FFC PRODUCTS

## Daily Flood Guidance Statement


Communicate forecast flood conditions for a 3-day period.

Gives an indication of the risk level for each flood type for the next three days.

Also provides the context behind the classifications etc.



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Department of Housing,  
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**Daily Flood Guidance Statement**

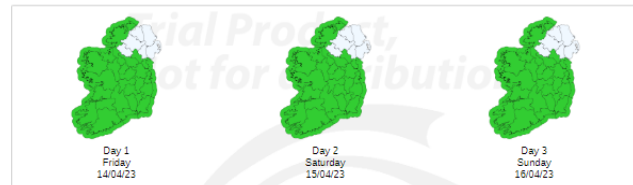
Issued 10:30 Friday 14th April 2023

Valid From: 10:30 Friday 14th April 2023

Valid at the time of issue.

**Predominant Flood Risk**

- River
- Coastal
- Surface Water



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="color: green;">■</span> Normal</li> <li><span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Elevated</li> <li><span style="color: orange;">■</span> High</li> <li><span style="color: red;">■</span> Extremely High</li> </ul>	<p><b>Alerts / Warnings / Notifications</b></p> <p>Flood Advisories and Alerts <b>No</b></p> <p>EFAS Notification(s) <b>No</b></p> <p>Weather Warnings / Advisories <b>No</b></p>
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### General Overview & National Forecast

Becoming drier, milder and more settled through the weekend and for much of next week as high pressure set to be the main feature of the weather. We are in neap tides, with light to moderate breezes forecast over the outlook.

#### River Conditions

The majority of river levels are falling this morning, with no gauges currently exceeding bank full. Maximum catchment average accumulations of generally less than 5mm/24hr today, overnight and into tomorrow, with higher accumulations in the range of 5-10mm/24hr expected in parts of the west and northwest later tomorrow, overnight and into Sunday with less than 5mm/24hr expected elsewhere. Levels are receding at river gauges and with limited rainfall accumulations forecast, river levels will remain **NORMAL** over the outlook.

#### Surface Water Conditions

Critical surface water thresholds are not expected to be exceeded, therefore surface water conditions will remain **NORMAL** for the outlook.

#### Coastal Conditions

We are in a period of neap tides, with the tidal range starting to increase at the weekend. Maximum surge levels over the outlook of up to 0.15m with light to moderate breezes forecast over the outlook. HAT levels are generally not exceeded or approached. Hence coastal levels will remain **NORMAL** for the outlook.

**Weather Warnings or Advisories, EFAS Notification, OPW High Tide Advisory**

River Flow / Coastal Water Level	Expected conditions
Normal	River – generally below bank level. Coastal – Neap Tides or Spring Tides with little or no surge or waves. Highest Astronomical Tides (HAT) not exceeded. River – approaching bank full conditions.
Elevated	Coastal – Tides with surge and wave components approaching HAT.
High	River – out of bank flooding, exceeding known flood levels. Coastal – Above HAT – with storm conditions.
Extremely High	River – Extreme levels compared to known levels or flows. Coastal – extreme sea levels forecast, with storm conditions exceeding known flood levels.

Next statement due: **Monday 17th April 2023 10:30 (all times are local)**

Contact details: Flood Forecast Centre Duty Hydrometeorologist – [flood@met.ie](mailto:flood@met.ie)  
More information: [www.met.ie](http://www.met.ie)

# FFC PRODUCTS

## 5-day flood guidance statement

Communicate forecast flood conditions for a 5-day period

Issued on Tuesdays and Fridays

This is more of a heads-up to key stakeholders

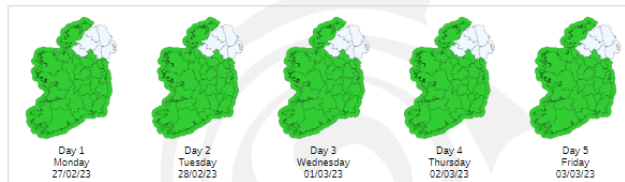


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Trial product, not for distribution

**Daily Flood Guidance Statement**  
Issued 17:32 Monday 27th February 2023  
Valid From: 17:32 Monday 27th February 2023  
Valid at the time of issue.

**Predominant Flood Risk**  
■ River  
■ Coastal  
■ Surface Water



■ Normal	<b>Alerts / Warnings / Notifications</b>
■ Elevated	Flood Advisories and Alerts <b>No</b>
■ High	EFAS Notification(s) <b>No</b>
■ Extremely High	Weather Warnings / Advisories <b>No</b>

**General Overview & National Forecast**

**River Conditions**

**Surface Water Conditions**

**Coastal Conditions**

**Weather Warnings or Advisories, EFAS Notification, High Tide Advisory**

River Flow / Coastal Water Level	Expected conditions
Normal	River – generally below bank level. Coastal – Neap Tides or Spring Tides with little or no surge or waves. Highest Astronomical Tides (HAT) not exceeded.
Elevated	River – approaching bank full conditions. Coastal – Tides with surge and wave components approaching HAT.
High	River – out of bank flooding, exceeding known flood levels. Coastal – Above HAT – with storm conditions.
Extremely High	River – Extreme levels compared to known levels or flows. Coastal – extreme sea levels forecast, with storm conditions exceeding known flood levels.

Next statement due: **Tuesday 28th February 2023 17:32 (all times are local)**  
Contact details: Flood Forecast Centre Duty Hydro-meteorologist – 086 6061722  
More information: [www.met.ie](http://www.met.ie)  
This statement is based on currently available observed meteorological and hydrometric data, meteorological forecasts, EFAS hydrological forecasts, OPW hydrological flood forecast models for the Suir, Blackwater, Lower Lee and the OPW tide and storm surge forecast model for the coast of Ireland. It provides an overview of flood risk across Ireland at county scale. This is an internal document and should not be shared outside Met Éireann.



# FFC PRODUCTS

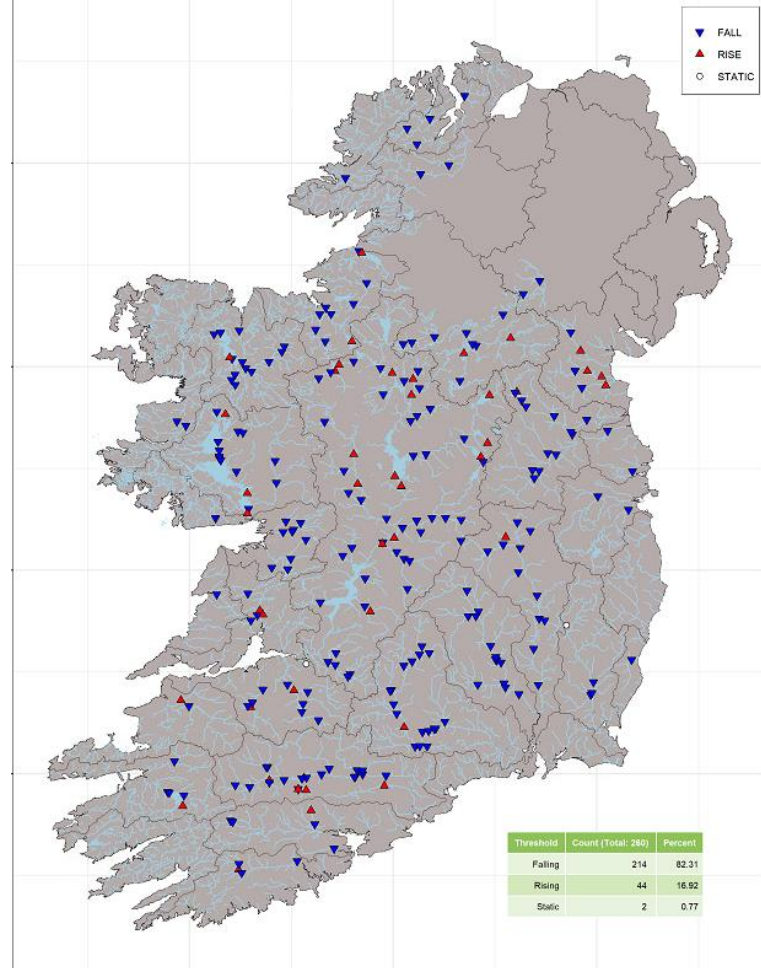
## Operational Updates:

A series of products to provide details and further explain forecasted and observed conditions

Other examples show the classification of flow at river gauges i.e. below 95 percentile or above LMED



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# FFC PRODUCTS

## Advisory or High Tide Advisory

The Advisory is a signal to key stakeholders that we are entering a period of heightened flood risk.

The High Tide Advisory will be a similar product to the current OPW HTA with some additional content.



### Flood Advisory - Be Prepared

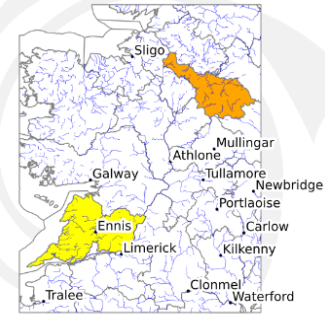
Issued 9:00 Wednesday 11th January 2023

Valid From: 9:00 Wednesday 11th January 2023

Valid To: 9:00 Saturday 14th January 2023

County	Catchment	Coastal
Cavan, Clare		

Description



■ Normal ■ Elevated ■ High ■ Extremely High

River Flow / Coastal Water Level	Expected conditions
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More information: [www.met.ie](http://www.met.ie)

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## IFICS

The Irish Flood Integrated Communication System (IFICS) is a visualisation and dissemination system. It has the following roles:

1. Allow FFC hydro-meteorologists to prepare and issue the various products to key stakeholders
2. Allow key stakeholders to view flood forecasts and the various products as well
3. Allow users to access all flood forecast information in one portal which will be used during NECG briefings



County

HA

Map Table

Search Stations

MET eireann Weather & Marine Warnings



Select an area to view full warnings on met.ie



Observed Water Level

Trend over last 3 hours  
[Additional Information]

- No Trend (14)
- Rise (>15%)
- Increase (5-15%) (1)
- Neutral (+5- -5%) (343)
- Decrease (-5- -15%) (1)
- Fall (<-15%)

- < Q95
- > Q95 (10)
- > Q50 (247)
- > Q10 (13)
- > 50% AEP (2-year Median)
- > Highest Event
- No Thresholds (76)
- Outdated (13)

Last update: 14/04/2023 15:56 Irish Standard Time



## WHAT WILL THE FFC DO

As the end of Stage 1 the FFC **will**:

1. Maintain a flood watch for sources of flooding from rivers and coast on a National and Catchment level
2. Maintain and operate fluvial and coastal flood forecast models
3. Issue the Products to key stakeholders – LA, NDFEM, OPW and other Government bodies
4. Maintain the SWFLM forum



## WHAT WILL THE FFC NOT DO

As the end of Stage 1 the FFC **will not**:

1. Maintain a flood watch for other sources of flooding such as ground water i.e. only fluvial and coastal
2. Produce forecasts at a sub-catchment level
3. Issue the Products to the Public



**Note that these products have not been agreed and are on hold as the Communications Strategy for the Stage 1 of the NFFWS has not been signed off.**

