

Western River Basin District Catchment Flood Risk Assessment & Management



Contract Brief

The Office of Public Works (OPW) commissioned JBA Consulting to examine flood risk to communities across the Western River Basin District. As shown in the map below, this includes most of Counties Galway, Mayo and Sligo and some of Counties Leitrim, Clare and Roscommon. This work is known as the Western Catchment-Based Flood Risk Assessment and Management (CFRAM) Study.



Overview

The National CFRAM Programme is an element of National Flood Policy and is the means by which Ireland is delivering the EU 'Floods' Directive. A National Programme of Studies is being led by the OPW, with valuable assistance from Local Authorities and other organisations. CFRAM key work stages between 2011 and 2015 include:

- A Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (PFRA) which was undertaken to identify higher risk locations called Areas for Further Assessment (AFAs).
- Complete river surveys and computer simulations of approximately 300km of watercourses, enabling the production of detailed flood maps for the AFAs by the end of December 2013.
- Preparing Flood Risk Management Plans by 22 December 2015, setting out plans for managing the flood risk within the AFAs.

The CFRAM Programme is part of a new long-term and proactive approach to examining and managing flood risk. The process is cyclical and will be re-examined every 6 years.

The Benefits

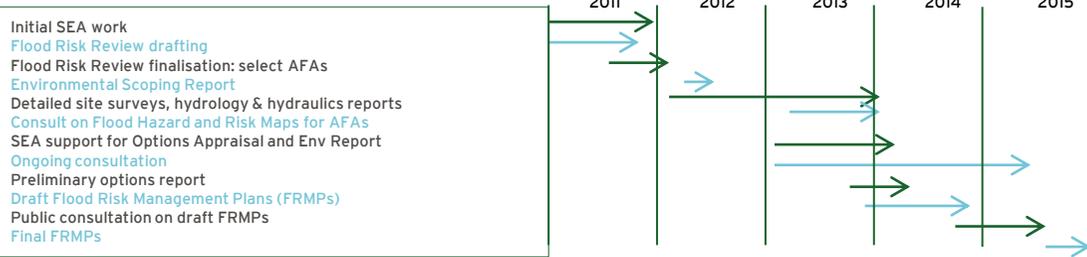
The CFRAM process will have several important benefits for those living and working in the Western CFRAM Study area:

1. It will greatly improve understanding of where flooding is more likely to happen, the potential frequency and the consequences of flooding.
2. Findings will be shared with planners and local communities. The team will listen to their views on future management approaches.
3. It will help long-term planning for the reduction and improved management of flood risk across the study area.

Progress

JBA has completed the initial SEA work, helped OPW select AFAs, prepared Inception Reports planning the rest of the project, and established topographic survey contracts needed to deliver river survey information (approximately 4,000 cross sections).

More information is available on the Western CFRAM Study website: www.westcfрамstudy.ie



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Summary
Programme
(left)

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