

Cochrane – Bow River, Bighill and Jumpingpound Creeks – Flood Hazard Study – Summary

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| Community | Town of Cochrane City of Calgary Rocky View County Stoney Indian Reserve No. 142-143-144 |
| Stream | Bow River Bighill Creek Jumpingpound Creek |
| Basin | Bow River – 5B |

This study delineates flood hazard areas and determines design flood levels along the Bow River and Bighill and Jumpingpound Creeks through Cochrane. The study area includes about 27 km of the Bow River, almost 5 km of Bighill Creek and about 5 km of Jumpingpound Creek.

Ice jam flooding is the design condition along the Bow River. The study uses analysis of historic ice jam data at River Avenue Bridge to determine 100-year ice jam water levels along the Bow River mainstem. Open water flooding is the design condition for Bighill and Jumpingpound Creeks. The design discharges for Bighill and Jumpingpound Creeks are 20.8 m³/s and 323 m³/s respectively. The headwaters of the Bow River are in the Rocky Mountains upstream of Lake Louise. Although there are a number of storage reservoirs in the basin upstream of Cochrane, their primary purpose is to provide hydroelectric power and thus they offer little opportunity to moderate flood flows.

Flooding within the study area typically occurs in the open water season, either as a result of heavy spring rainfall combined with mountain snowmelt runoff or from intense summer rainstorm events. However, along the mainstem of the Bow River at Cochrane the greater flood hazard occurs from ice jams during the ice-affected season.

A digital representation of the flood hazard maps prepared as part of this study can be viewed online.

- [Cochrane Flood Hazard Mapping](#)

For more information regarding specific flood hazards in your community, please contact Alberta Environment and Parks by email at ESRD.Flood@gov.ab.ca.

Flood Hazard Study Details

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| Study Status | Final |
| Report Name | Cochrane Flood Plain Study |
| Report Author | Alberta Environment, Water Resource Management Service, Technical Services Division, River Engineering Branch, Edmonton, Alberta |
| Report Date | June 1986 |
| Revision Date | November 1990 |

The original study was prepared in June 1986. An addendum with updated flood hazard mapping was published in November 1990. The original report, addendum and updated mapping constitute the revised study.

Flood information available after study completion may not be reflected in the current flood hazard study report or flood hazard mapping.

To obtain a PDF copy of the current report or mapping in PDF format, please contact Alberta Environment and Parks by email at ESRD.Flood@gov.ab.ca.

Instructions on how to obtain official GIS flood hazard mapping data, or more information on the Flood Hazard Identification Program and flood hazard studies in Alberta, are available online.

- floodhazard.alberta.ca

Provincial Designation Details

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| Designation Status | Designated |
| Designation Date | 17 January 1991 |

Related Information

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| Adjacent Studies | • Calgary – Bow and Elbow Rivers |
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