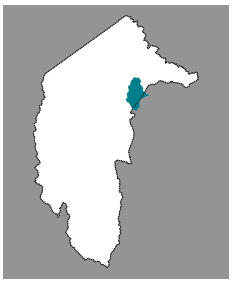
ACT Government



FLOOD INFORMATION FOR **JERRABOMBERRA CREEK**

OVERVIEW

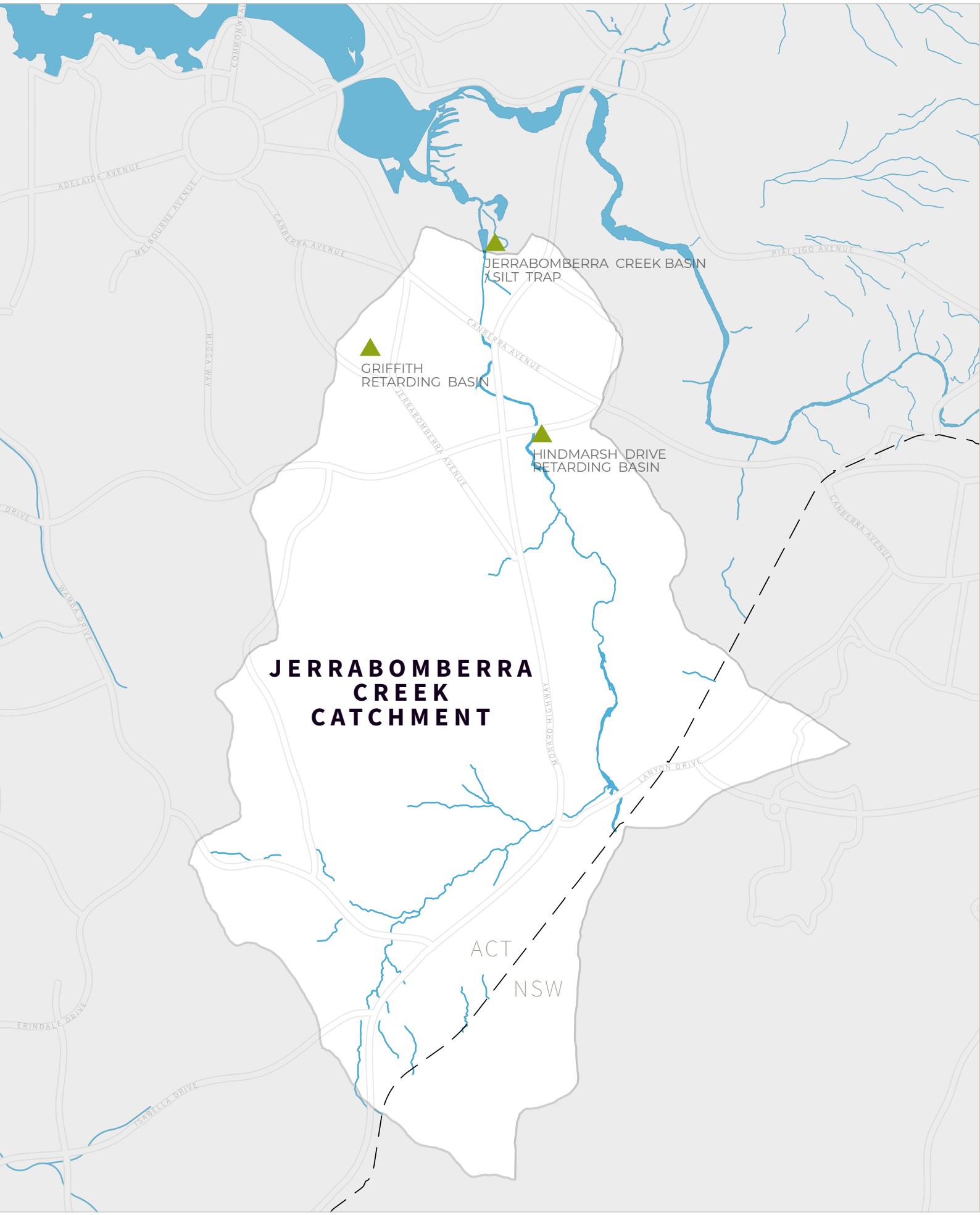
Jerrabomberra Creek is one of eight main water catchments in the ACT. Catchments are areas, usually bounded by hills, where the rain drains into the soil and streams and feeds into a river, creek or drainage line. In Canberra's past, many natural waterways were converted into the familiar concrete storm drain channels as new areas of the city were developed.

From its origins in NSW, between Williamsdale and Royalla, Jerrabomberra Creek flows northwards into the ACT and continues through the southern suburbs of Canberra before flowing into Lake Burley Griffin north of Narrabunda. The catchment covers approximately 127 square kilometres and spans approximately 35 kilometres north–south and 9 kilometres east–west.

The catchment has a mixture of rural and urban residential developments and agricultural grazing land both in NSW and the ACT. However, land use within the Jerrabomberra Creek catchment is changing, with residential development recently proposed in NSW and industrial development in the ACT.

This information sheet outlines information about past and potential flooding for the Ginninderra Creek Catchment and what is being done to mitigate the risk of flooding. The risk of flooding in Canberra is low.

DECEMBER 2018



JERRABOMBERRA CREEK CATCHMENT

HINDMARSH DRIVE RETARDING BASIN

FLOOD INFORMATION

Every catchment has its own character, which determines how water flows. This is critical during storms that may lead to flooding. The ACT Government has re-assessed predicted flood paths and flood levels for catchments in the ACT using flood studies based on current industry standards.

Flood maps have been developed for each catchment and reviewed by independent experts for accuracy. The maps highlight flow paths, flood depth and the potential hazard posed by floodwaters arising from Canberra's channels, creeks and rivers. This mapping is complemented by this information sheet and a list of questions and answers web link. The updated maps show the areas which could be affected by flooding from waterways in Canberra during a major flood event, known as a 1% Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) flood. This means that in any given year there is a 1% chance of this type of flood occurring.

See the maps and accompanying information at the ACT Government's ACTmapi website: www.actmapi.act.gov.au.

FLOOD HISTORY

The Jerrabomberra Creek catchment has not experienced significant flooding during the last ten years. The most recent flood occurred in 2007.

The large rainfall containment basin formed by Hindmarsh Drive helps to manage peak flood flows; these are now approximately half what would have been experienced prior to the basin's construction. This has contributed to the low frequency of significant flooding in this catchment. The catchment also contains a number of constructed wetlands, which alleviate the effect of heavy rainfall to some extent.

LOOKING SOUTH FROM LANYON DRIVE

FLOOD MAPS AND AFFECTED AREAS

The new flood maps specifically focus on a potential 1% AEP flood on existing waterways. As explained, there is a 1% chance that such a flood will occur in any given year. The maps show the predicted extent, depth and hazard potential of a 1% AEP flood event. Any 1% AEP flood event is likely to be contained by the creek, culverts and bridges in this catchment, with only limited flooding of surrounding areas. If flooding does occur outside of the channels, flood depths are expected to be shallow and mainly in unoccupied, open areas. However, the maps show that in some places the speed of water flow during a flood would be high, creating potentially hazardous conditions.

Jerrabomberra is a relatively small catchment with minimal development along most of its length. For the 1% AEP flood event, there is the potential of flooding along some sections of the Monaro Highway near Hume and the floodplain adjacent to Jerrabomberra Creek.

Please refer to the flood extent map for Jerrabomberra Creek on ACTmapi for the specific details of potential riverine flooding in this catchment.

MITIGATION WORKS

Within the ACT, the Hindmarsh Drive embankment provides an effective holding basin for flood waters.

Under the Territory Plan, the Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) code outlines planning rules for reducing the impact of stormwater through the management of water quality and quantity.

The rules are designed so that run-off created by new development does not have an adverse impact on stormwater systems or downstream environments.

FIND OUT MORE

- For flood maps for this catchment please visit www.actmapi.act.gov.au
- For more information about riverine flooding in Canberra, please visit http://www.environment.act.gov.au/water/riverine-flood-maps
- For information including flood forecasts, road closures and advice on evacuation and property protection, please visit the ACT Emergency Services website at www.esa.act.gov.au.
- For specific information relating to what to do during a flood event or preparing your house for a flood event please call the local ACT SES on 13 22 81.

LANYON DRIVE CULVERT