

RACQ  
get  
**ready**  
QUEENSLAND

[qld.gov.au/getready](http://qld.gov.au/getready)

# PREPARING FOR STORM SEASON

# ARE YOU PREPARED FOR STORM SURGE

*"The best preparation for tomorrow is to 'Get Ready' today"*

Mal Churchill, Disaster Planning Coordinator, Fraser Coast Regional Council

By nature of our coastal location, the Fraser Coast region may occasionally experience threats from cyclone and storm tide inundation.

All threats outlined in the Fraser Coast Local Disaster Management Plan could, at some time, warrant evacuation of certain areas within our region to be ordered if a storm tide surge is expected to inundate developed areas. If a storm tide flooding is not a threat, advice will be given to residents to make themselves secure in their own home. You should remain in your home and listen to the radio/TV for updates. Your home is often the safest place for you and your family.

Members of the community who feel they do not have secure surroundings should make alternative arrangements.

Fraser Coast Regional Council's disaster evacuation is based on self-evacuation. On activation, advice will be given to seek temporary accommodation with family and friends in safer 'higher' locations. If you are told to evacuate you should make your way to family or friends in 'higher places'.

## WHAT SHOULD I TAKE WITH ME IF I HAVE TO EVACUATE?

Take your emergency evacuation kit, including food, water, change of clothing, medications, toiletries, radio, spare batteries, bed linen and towels etc.

If you have children, take some games or toys for them.

Making prior arrangements for the care and safety of your pets is another action you need to not only consider but enact.

Take important personal and household documents, credit cards and cash. Self-evacuation to friends and family in safer locations will provide you an opportunity to take your pets and any other items of personal value to you and your family.

It should be noted there are no cyclone shelters in the Fraser Coast Region.

## CONTENTS

Storm surge and storm tide	3	Map legend	9
Preparing for the storm and cyclone season	4	Map index	10
Do you have to go	5	Household emergency plan	34
Cyclone tracking map	6	Plan and prepare	35
Standard emergency warning signal (sews)	6	Important telephone numbers & contacts	36
Evacuation	7		

# STORM SURGE & STORM TIDE

## What is a Storm Surge?

A storm surge is a rise above normal water level along a shore resulting from strong onshore winds and/or reduced atmospheric pressure. Storm surges accompany a tropical cyclone as it comes ashore. They may also be formed by intense low-pressure systems in non-tropical areas.

Storm surges are often confused with tsunamis, even though they are quite different phenomena. A storm surge (a raised dome of water) results in a rapid rise in coastal sea-level that can be up to 100km across and can be between 2 to 5m above the normal sea level. This is caused by winds associated with tropical cyclones or severe storms.

A storm surge is caused by high winds pushing on the ocean's surface and lower than normal air pressure from the storm. As a cyclone reaches the coast huge winds whip up the seas and push the dome of water over low-lying coastal areas, causing flooding, damaging buildings and cutting off evacuation routes.

### THE HEIGHT OF THE STORM SURGE WILL DEPEND ON THE FOLLOWING:

- The intensity of the cyclone – the stronger the winds the higher the surge
- The speed of the cyclone – the faster the cyclone crosses the coast the higher the surge
- The angle at which the cyclone crosses the coast – a right angle crossing will increase the surge
- The shape of the sea floor – the more gentle the slope the greater the surge
- Local features such as bays, head lands or islands can funnel the surge and amplify its height

## What is a Storm Tide?

The combination of a storm surge and normal (astronomical) tide is known as a 'storm tide'. The worst impacts occur when the storm surge arrives on top of a high tide. When this happens, the storm tide can reach areas that might otherwise have been safe. On top of this are pounding waves generated by the powerful winds.

### IF A STORM TIDE IS PREDICTED IN YOUR AREA:

- Listen to your local radio/TV for updates. **DO NOT IGNORE OFFICIAL WARNINGS OR ADVICE**
- Visit [www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/disaster-management](http://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/disaster-management) or [www.facebook.com/FCRCdisaster](https://www.facebook.com/FCRCdisaster)
- Remove as many household items as possible to as high a point as possible, including your car
- Raise your furniture, clothing and valuable onto beds, tables and the roof space
- Place electrical items as high as possible
- Tie down loose items in your yard to prevent them floating away
- Ensure chemicals that may react with water are in a water proof container or moved above flood height
- Gas cylinders and gas bottles should be disconnected and tied down or moved above the flood height
- Continue to listen to your local radio for updates on the evacuation zone colours
- If you are directed to evacuate – **YOU MUST DO SO**

# PREPARING FOR THE STORM AND CYCLONE SEASON

*'Being prepared' is the way to survive in times of emergency. Preparation of emergency kits and evacuation kits for all family members and your pets needs to be done prior to the storm and cyclone season. These types of coping strategies may save your life.*

## PRIOR TO THE STORM & CYCLONE SEASON

- Prepare your emergency and evacuation kits for all family members and pets
- Check on previous storm surge/flood water levels for your local area and your house in particular
- If possible ask friends in 'higher' places can you stay with them if the need arises
- Check with neighbours to ensure that they are getting prepared (especially new arrivals or elderly)
- Be aware of low lying roads if the need to evacuate arises
- Prepare your house by checking for any repairs that need to be done
- Trim trees and shrubs that are close to your house
- Be aware of outside furniture or yard items that could become missiles during an event

## WHEN A SEVERE WEATHER WARNING OR CYCLONE WATCH IS ISSUED

Recheck you emergency and evacuation kits

- Check batteries in your kits
- Check batteries in your radio
- Check your supply of prescribed medications
- Check that your mobile phone is fully charged
- Check that your neighbours are aware of the warnings
- If possible have a land line phone as cordless phone bases do not work without electricity
- Freeze water bottles for alternative refrigeration in the event of power failure
- Fuel your motor vehicles
- Check your yard for any potential loose items and tie them down
- Tie down caravans, boats and trampolines
- Be aware of your evacuation route should the need to evacuate arise
- Sink plastic outdoor furniture in your pool
- Fill bath and other containers with water, including dingy or empty wheelie bins in the yard
- Ensure non domestic pets are secured under cover
- Tape windows to stop glass shattering

## DURING A SEVERE STORM OR CYCLONE

- Stay inside and keep away from windows, glass doors and skylights
- Turn off and unplug electrical appliance. Unplug TV, DVD or VCR aerial cables
- Listen to your radio for official warnings and official updates
- Don't use a land line telephone during a storm – it can deliver an electric shock
- Ensure domestic pets are inside or secured under cover
- Close curtains and blinds to curtail the spread of possible glass fragments
- If you are outside – shelter in a solid enclosed area – DO NOT shelter under trees
- If you are driving move to the side of the roadway. If possible away from trees, power lines and water courses



## AFTER A SEVERE STORM OR CYCLONE HAS PASSED

- Check your home for damage
- Contact SES on 132 500 if you require assistance
- If power lines are down call '000' or for life threatening situations call 13 16 70
- Stay away from swollen water courses, damaged buildings and trees
- Continue to listen to your radio and do not ignore official warnings or advice
- Constantly monitor the Council website or the Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/FCRCdisaster](http://www.facebook.com/FCRCdisaster)
- Check on your neighbours to see if they need any assistance, especially the elderly or disabled
- **DO NOT GO SIGHTSEEING** – and try to discourage others from doing so. You may hinder the response of emergency services

## DO YOU HAVE TO GO?

- **YES!**  
Once an evacuation order has been issued by the Police for the Evacuation Zone colour you live in, Police and Emergency Services have the authority to remove you from the Evacuation Zone.
- The Local Disaster Management Group recommends that you find alternative shelter from storm tide inundation by making arrangements with relative or friends on higher ground prior to the event occurring.

# CYCLONE TRACKING MAP

*Track the cyclone by listening to radio broadcasts and watching TV, or go to [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)*



## STANDARD EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNAL ( SEWS )



The use of this specific "Alert" signal to draw your attention to affected areas or for an emergency event. It is important you should take notice of the messages associated with this warning signal. You need to be alert, stop and listen, it could be your area that is affected by a disaster event.

# EVACUATION

Evacuation is defined as the *'planned movement of persons from an unsafe or potentially unsafe location to a safer location and their eventual return'*. Evacuations may be voluntary or directed.

## DIRECTED EVACUATION

The District Disaster Coordinator (Superintendent of Police) may order a directed evacuation of any area supported by a declaration of a disaster situation, in accordance with the Disaster Management Act 2003. The issue of an evacuation advisory notice for people in designated exposed areas to evacuate will be required. If you are told to evacuate under an evacuation advisory notice you **MUST** evacuate.

## WHEN DIRECTED TO EVACUATE

- Act quickly and remain calm
- Switch off electricity, gas and water at your house mains
- Take your evacuation kit with you. Don't forget your animals kit as well
- Dress appropriately for the conditions
- Lock your house and don't forget to take your keys
- Continue to listen to your radio and **DO NOT IGNORE OFFICIAL WARNINGS, ADVICE OR INSTRUCTIONS**
- Be aware of your immediate surroundings in regard to fallen power lines and other dangerous obstacles

## VOLUNTARY EVACUATION

During a disaster event people may wish to voluntarily evacuate to friends in higher places or to a more safe location. This voluntary evacuation is specifically aimed at visitors to the area and people in caravans. If a directed evacuation is enforced the possibility of taking caravans, boats, trailers etc may be strictly limited or not allowed at all. In consultation with the District Disaster Coordinator the Local Disaster Coordinator may advise people in exposed areas to evacuate voluntarily. This early evacuation gives evacuees a head start in the evacuation process.

### IF YOU DECIDE TO VOLUNTARILY EVACUATE

- Remain calm
- Take your evacuation kit with you, not forgetting your animals kit
- Dress appropriately for the conditions
- Lock your house and don't forget to take your keys
- Continue to listen to your radio and **DO NOT IGNORE OFFICIAL WARNINGS AND ADVICE**
- Advise friends or family that you are self-evacuating and where you are going
- If possible leave a note on your door that you have evacuated and your contact numbers
- Be aware of your surroundings when travelling as conditions may have changed from normal

## SHELTER IN PLACE

Shelter in place provides the most viable survival strategy to be used on the Fraser Coast during most types of emergencies. Evacuations should only occur when the risk of sheltering in place is greater than the risks associated with leaving.

## EVACUATION CENTRES

Should there be a need to open an evacuation centre the Local Disaster Management Group will ensure that there is ample notice provided of where such a centre will be and the best route to take. Remember there are no cyclone rated evacuation centres on the Fraser Coast.

## DOMESTIC PETS

Ensure that you cater for the needs of your pets including food, water bowls, medicines, blankets, poo bags, leads and restraints. If domestic animals (dog & cats) are taken to an evacuation centre they need to be housed in a travel cage appropriate to their size. All other domestic pets (birds, guinea pigs etc) need to be caged. Domestic pets remain the sole responsibility of their owner.

No animals (except service animals in cages) are permitted to travel in emergency helicopters during an evacuation.

Exotic animals will not be allowed into evacuation centres so you need to make prior arrangements.





*"After the storm.  
Everyone should have a  
storm surge plan."*

*Mal Churchill, Disaster Planning Coordinator,  
Fraser Coast Regional Council*

# MAP LEGEND

## Storm Tide Evacuation Zones

	Properties in <b>RED ZONE</b> face the highest risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Red Zone includes low-lying coastal areas and areas that may experience storm tide flooding up to 1 metre above HAT.
	Properties in <b>ORANGE ZONE</b> face a high risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Orange Zone may experience storm tide flooding up to 2 metres above HAT.
	Properties in <b>YELLOW ZONE</b> face a moderate risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Yellow Zone may experience storm tide flooding at levels up to 2 – 4 meters above HAT.
	Properties in <b>BLUE ZONE</b> face a low risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Blue Zone may experience storm tide flooding higher than 4 meters above HAT.

**AUSTRALIAN HEIGHT DATUM (AHD):** Is used to describe the reference level for defining ground levels in Australia. The level 0.0m AHD is approximately sea level.

**HIGHEST ASTRONOMICAL TIDE (HAT):** Is similar to a king tide.

### How to use the Storm Tide Evacuation Maps

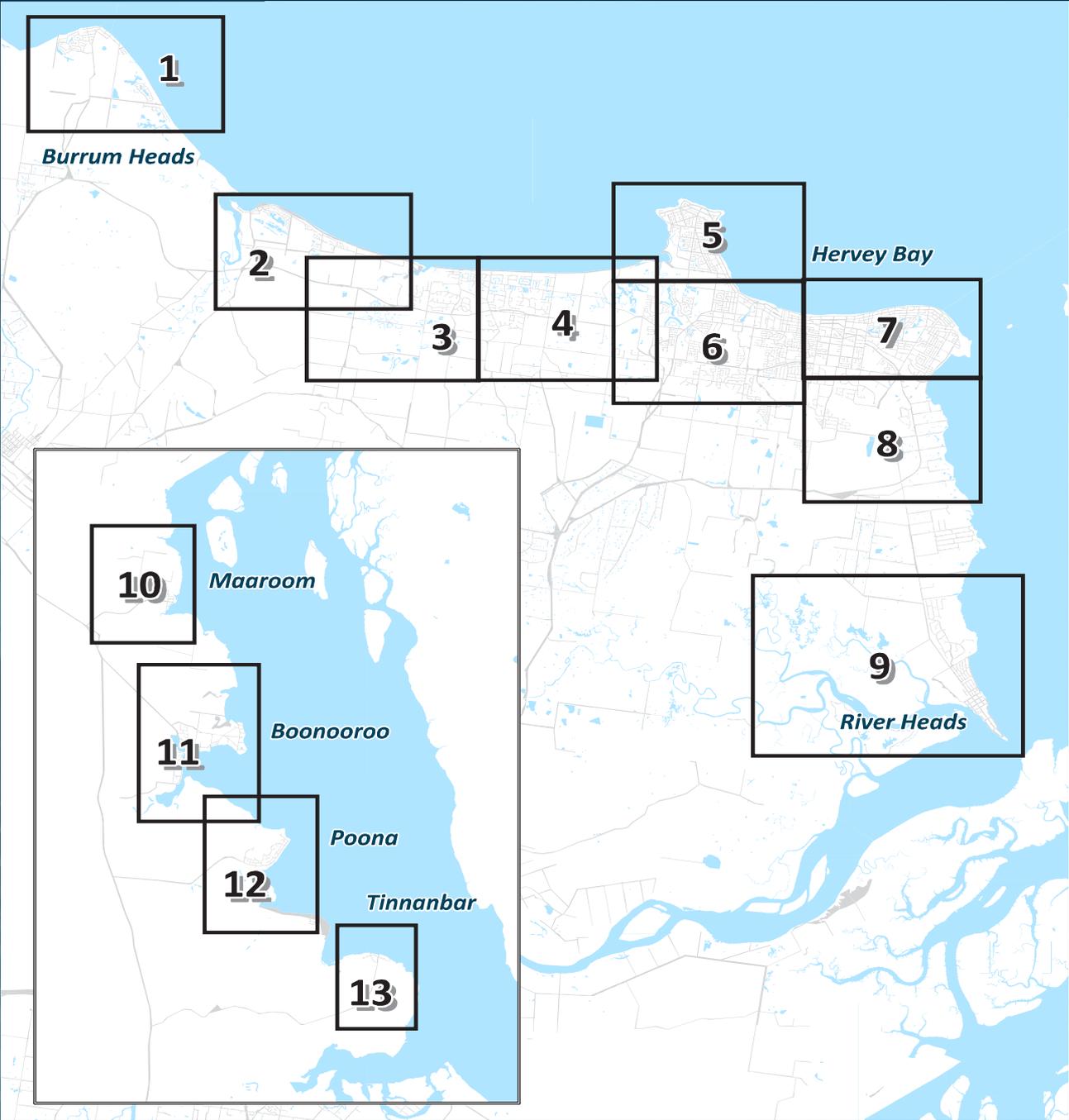
- Identify where your property is located on the map
- If your property is coloured in a red, orange, yellow or blue evacuation zone, you may be at risk from storm tide flooding
- If your property is not coloured you are NOT in an evacuation zone and should read Fraser Coast Regional Council's advice on planning for disasters
- If your property is coloured, identify the primary and/or alternative evacuation routes to your pre-determined safer location on higher ground
- During an event, stay tuned to local radio, Council's disaster website and/or Facebook page for updates and advice on evacuations

### DISCLAIMER

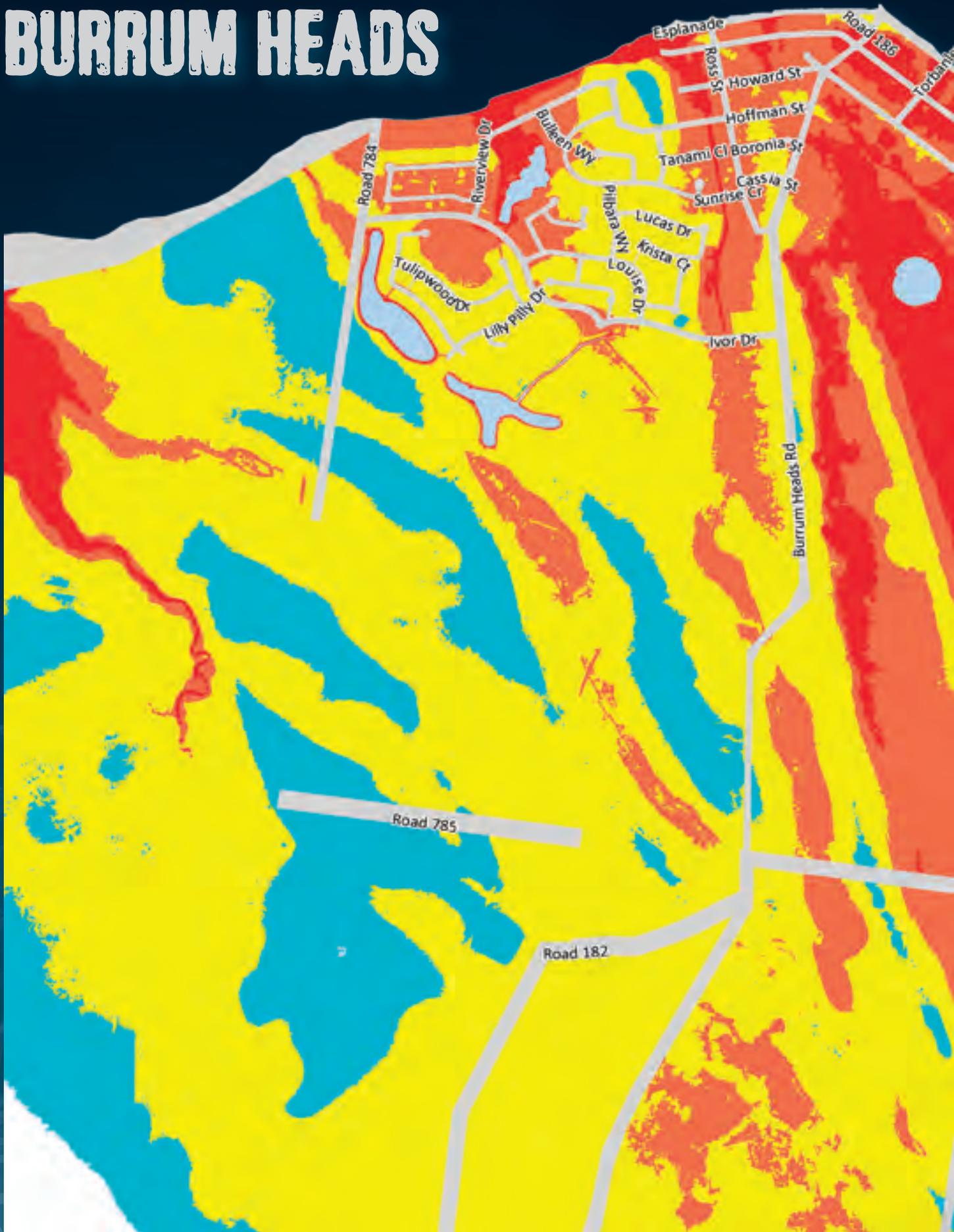
Storm Tide Evacuation Zones are modelled using geographical data and may not be an exact representation of what an event may result in. Evacuation Zones are designed to provide an easy to understand method for the public to identify coastal areas that may be affected by storm tides caused by tropical cyclones or severe coastal storms. While every care is taken to ensure the accuracy of this data, Fraser Coast Regional Council makes no representations or warranties about its accuracy, reliability, completeness or suitability for any particular purpose and disclaims all responsibility and all liability (including without limitations, liability in negligence) for all expenses, losses, damage (including direct or consequential damages) and costs which you might incur as a result of the data.

# MAP INDEX

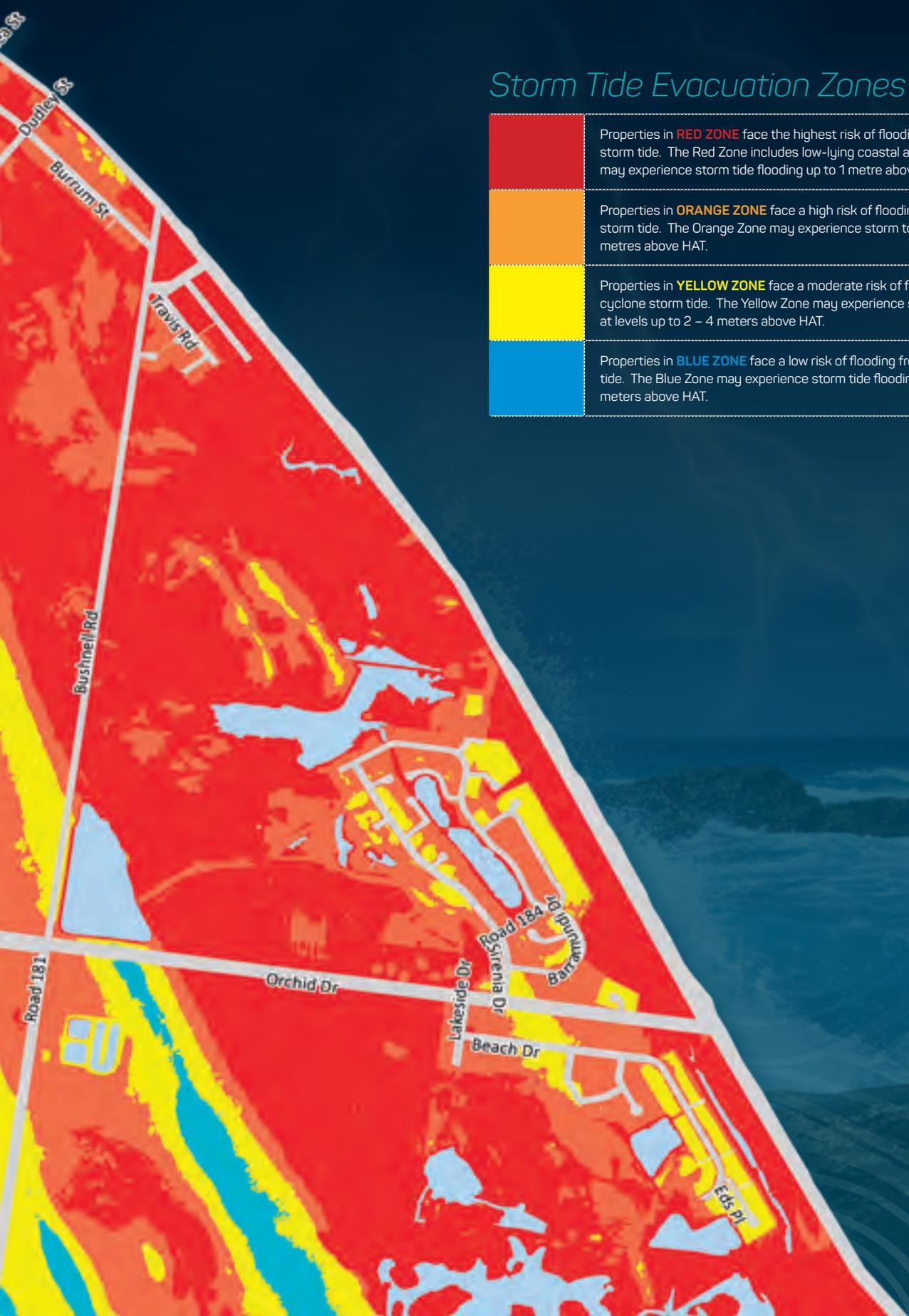
1. Burrum Heads	12	6. Scarness	22	11. Boonooroo	31
2. Toogoom	14	7. Urangan	24	12. Poona	32
3. Craignish	16	8. Booral	26	13. Tinnanbar	33
4. Dundowran	18	9. River Heads	28		
5. Point Vernon	20	10. Maaroom	30		



# BURRUM HEADS



## Storm Tide Evacuation Zones



Properties in **RED ZONE** face the highest risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Red Zone includes low-lying coastal areas and areas that may experience storm tide flooding up to 1 metre above HAT.



Properties in **ORANGE ZONE** face a high risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Orange Zone may experience storm tide flooding up to 2 metres above HAT.

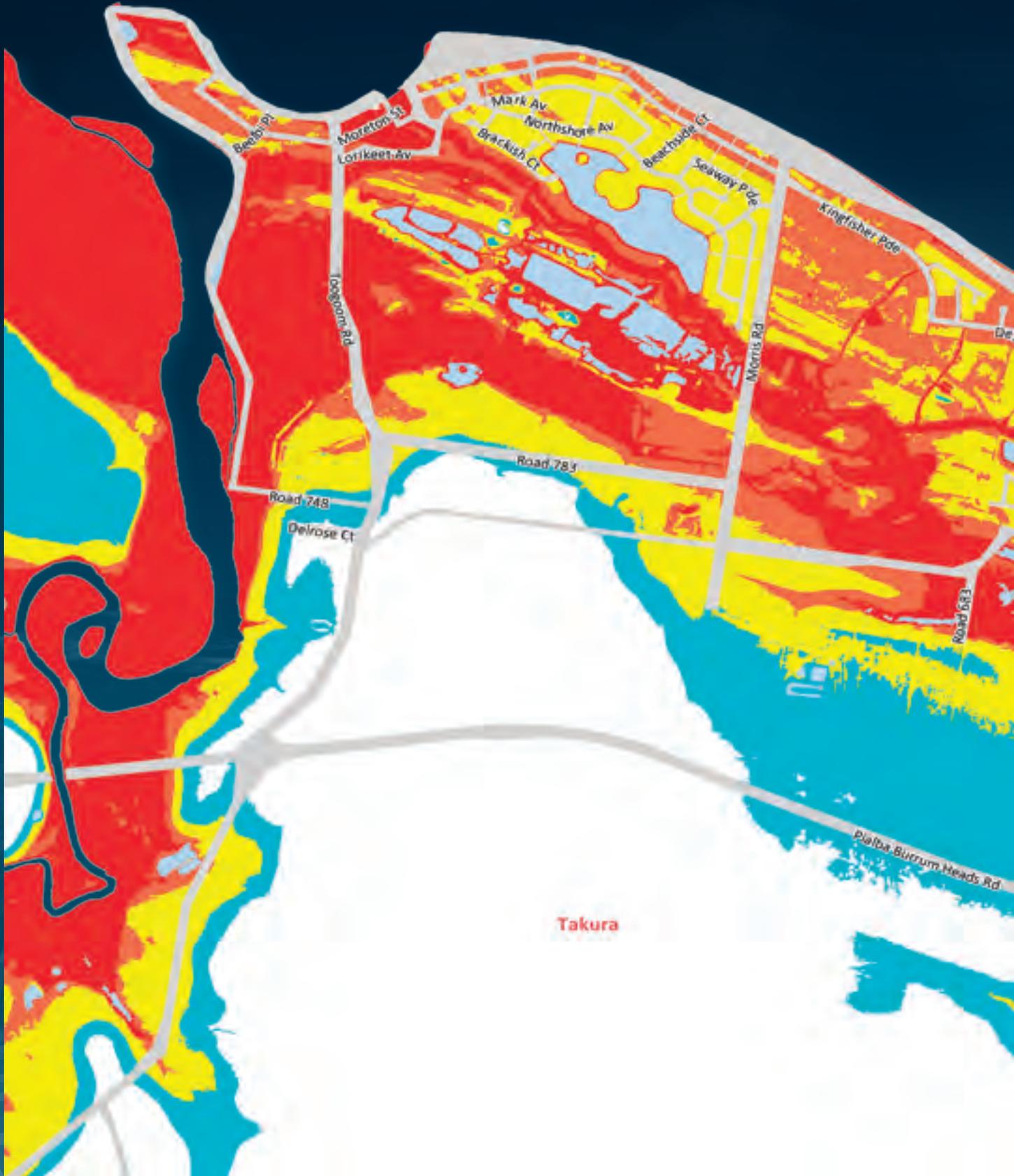


Properties in **YELLOW ZONE** face a moderate risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Yellow Zone may experience storm tide flooding at levels up to 2 – 4 meters above HAT.



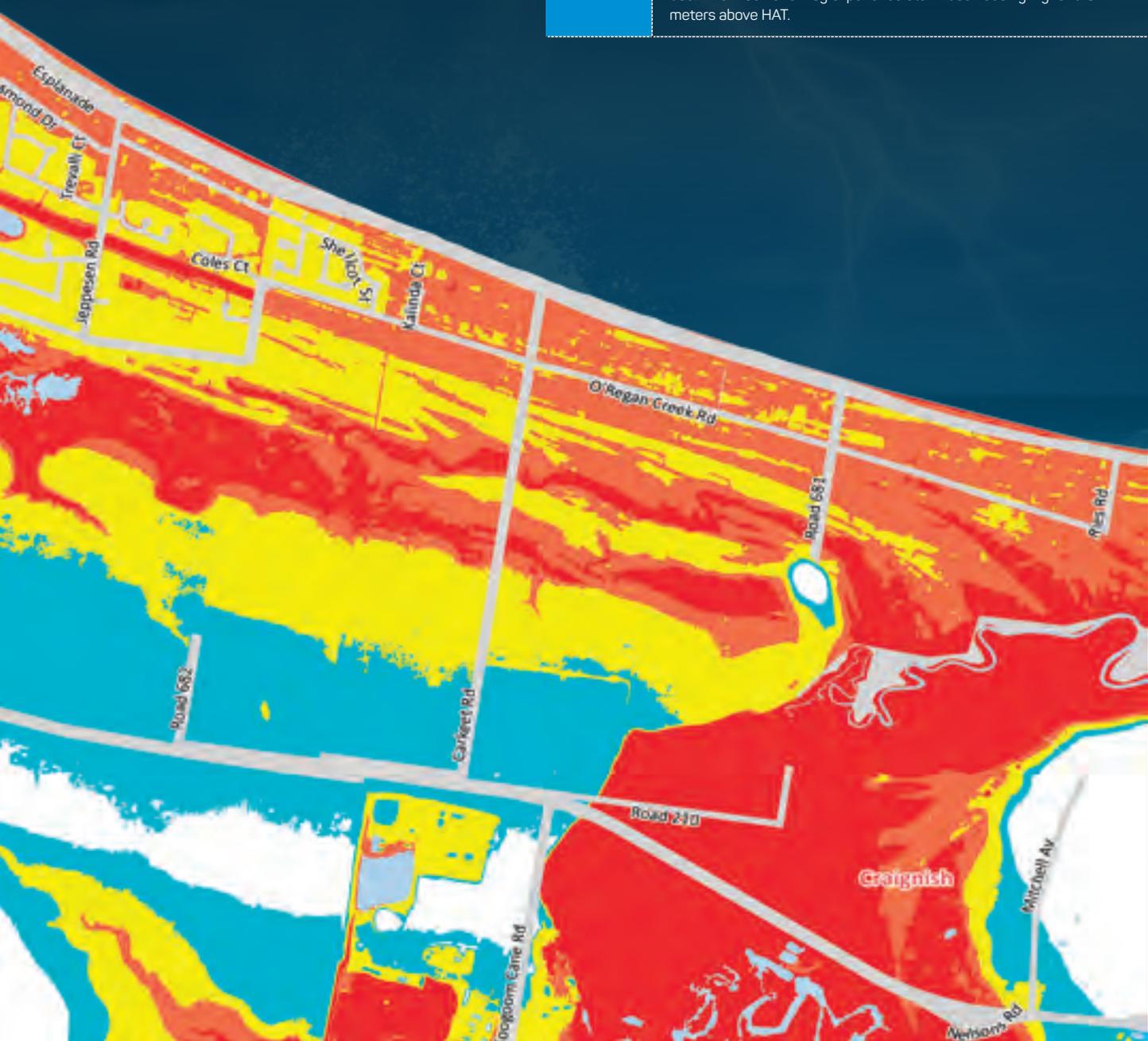
Properties in **BLUE ZONE** face a low risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Blue Zone may experience storm tide flooding higher than 4 meters above HAT.

# TOOGOOM

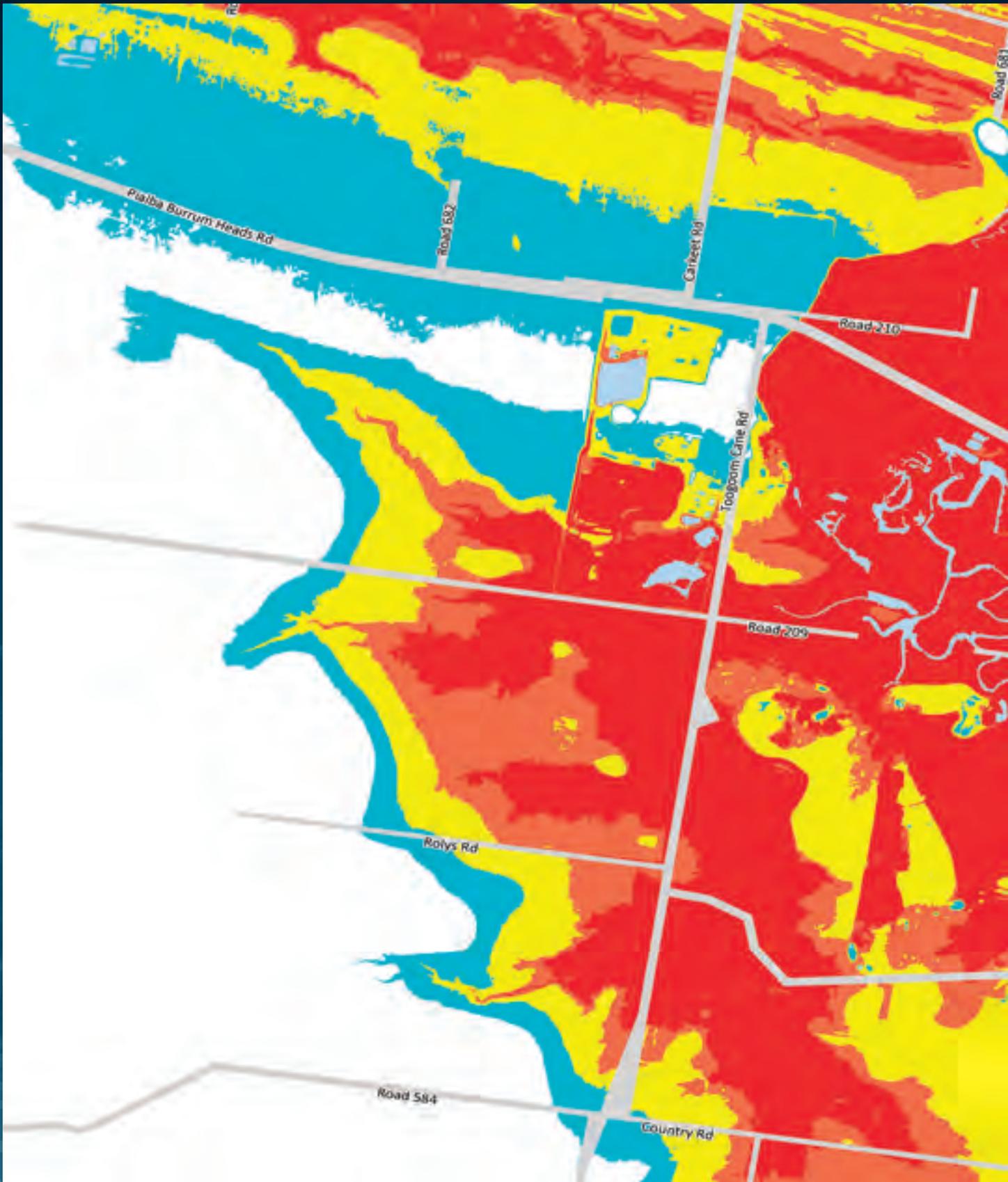


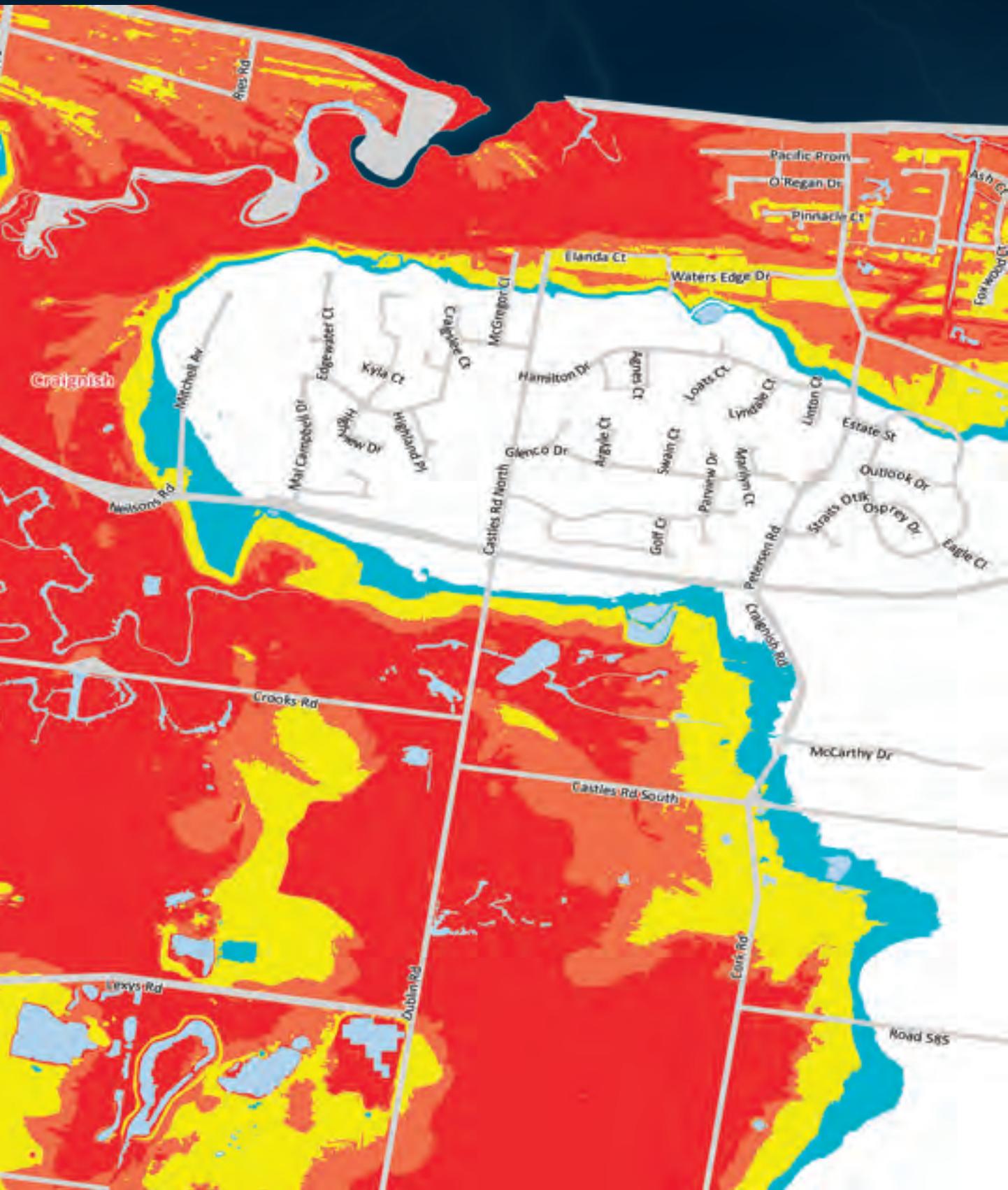
## Storm Tide Evacuation Zones

	<p>Properties in <b>RED ZONE</b> face the highest risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Red Zone includes low-lying coastal areas and areas that may experience storm tide flooding up to 1 metre above HAT.</p>
	<p>Properties in <b>ORANGE ZONE</b> face a high risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Orange Zone may experience storm tide flooding up to 2 metres above HAT.</p>
	<p>Properties in <b>YELLOW ZONE</b> face a moderate risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Yellow Zone may experience storm tide flooding at levels up to 2 – 4 meters above HAT.</p>
	<p>Properties in <b>BLUE ZONE</b> face a low risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Blue Zone may experience storm tide flooding higher than 4 meters above HAT.</p>

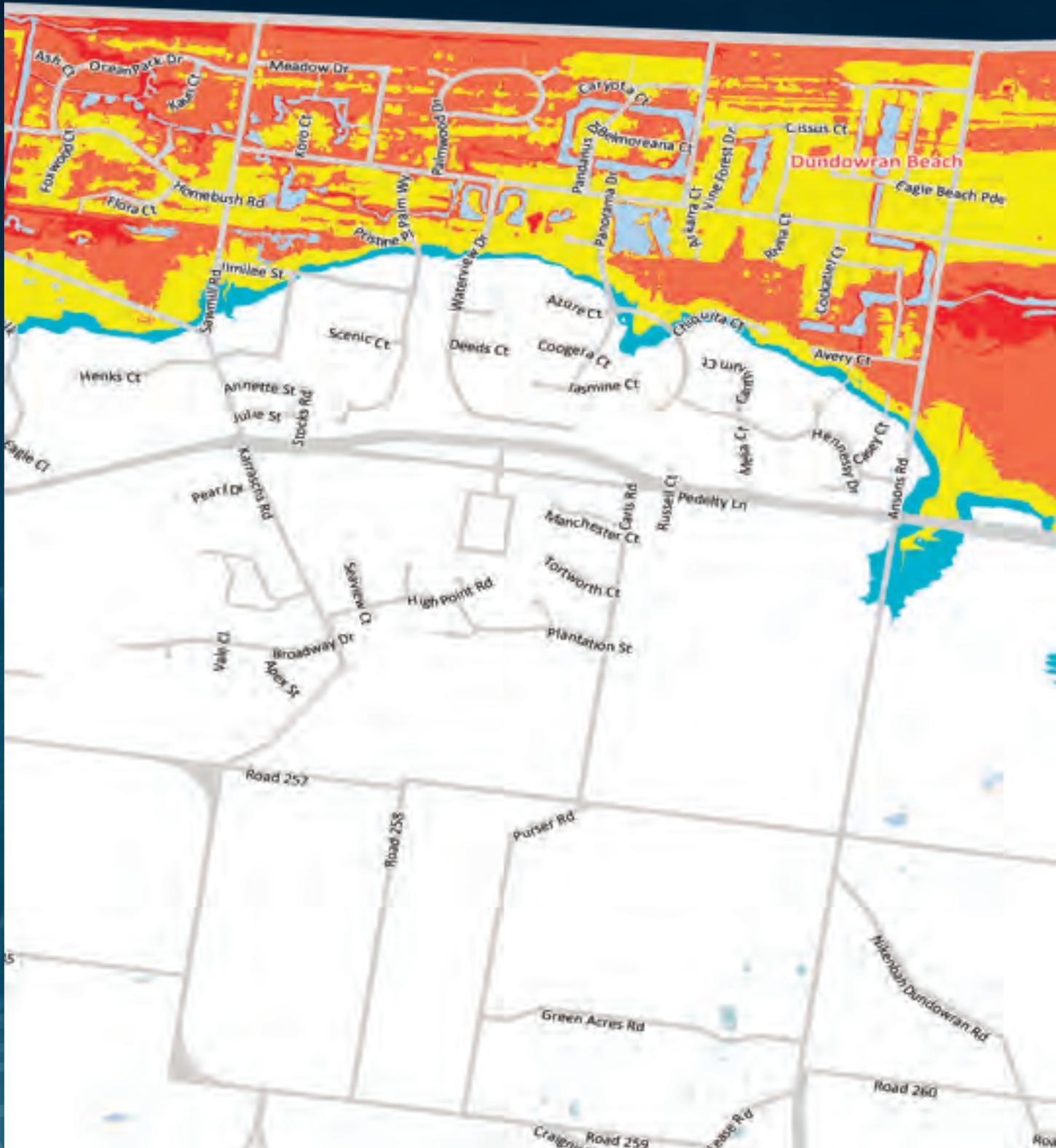


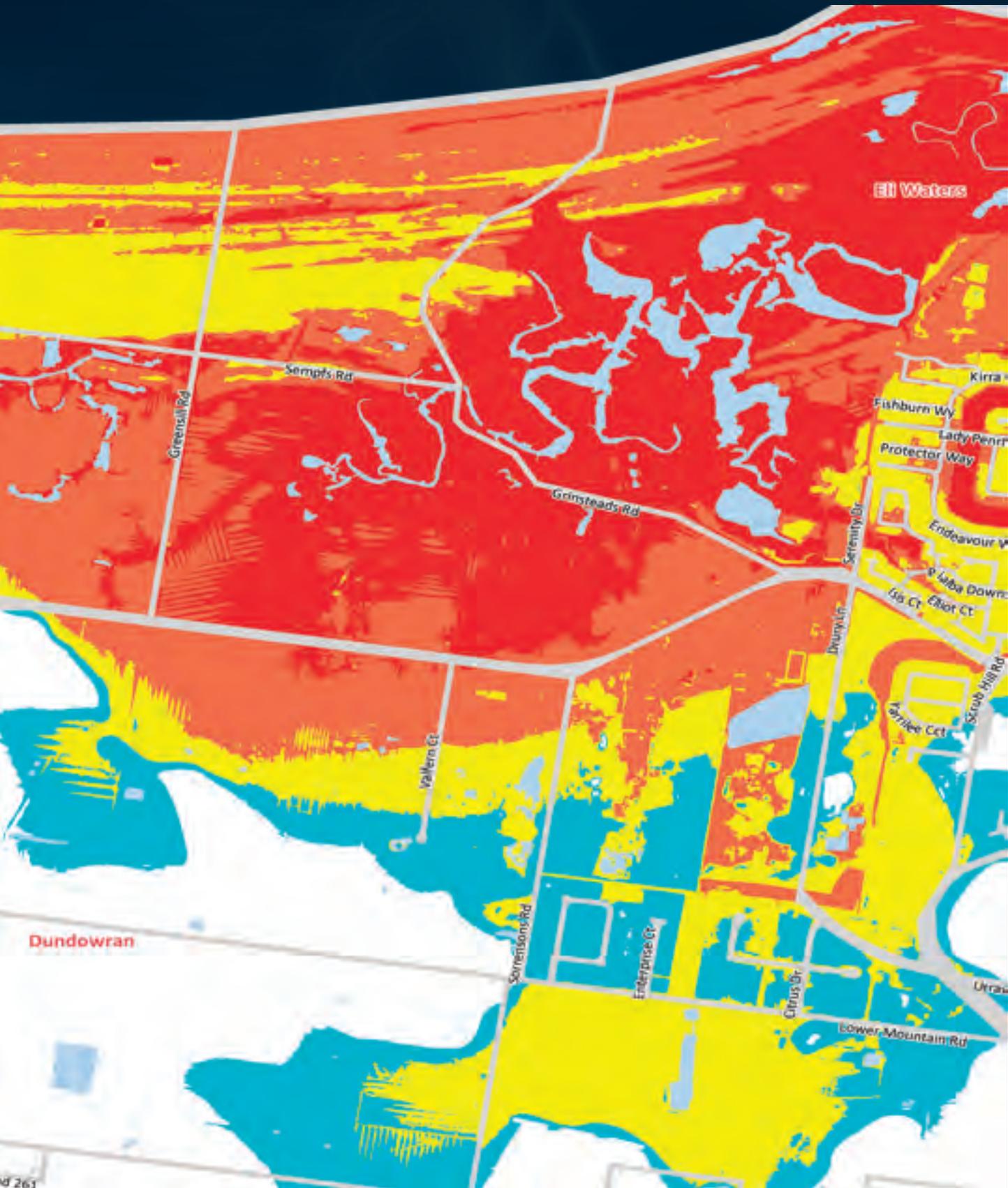
# CRAIGNISH





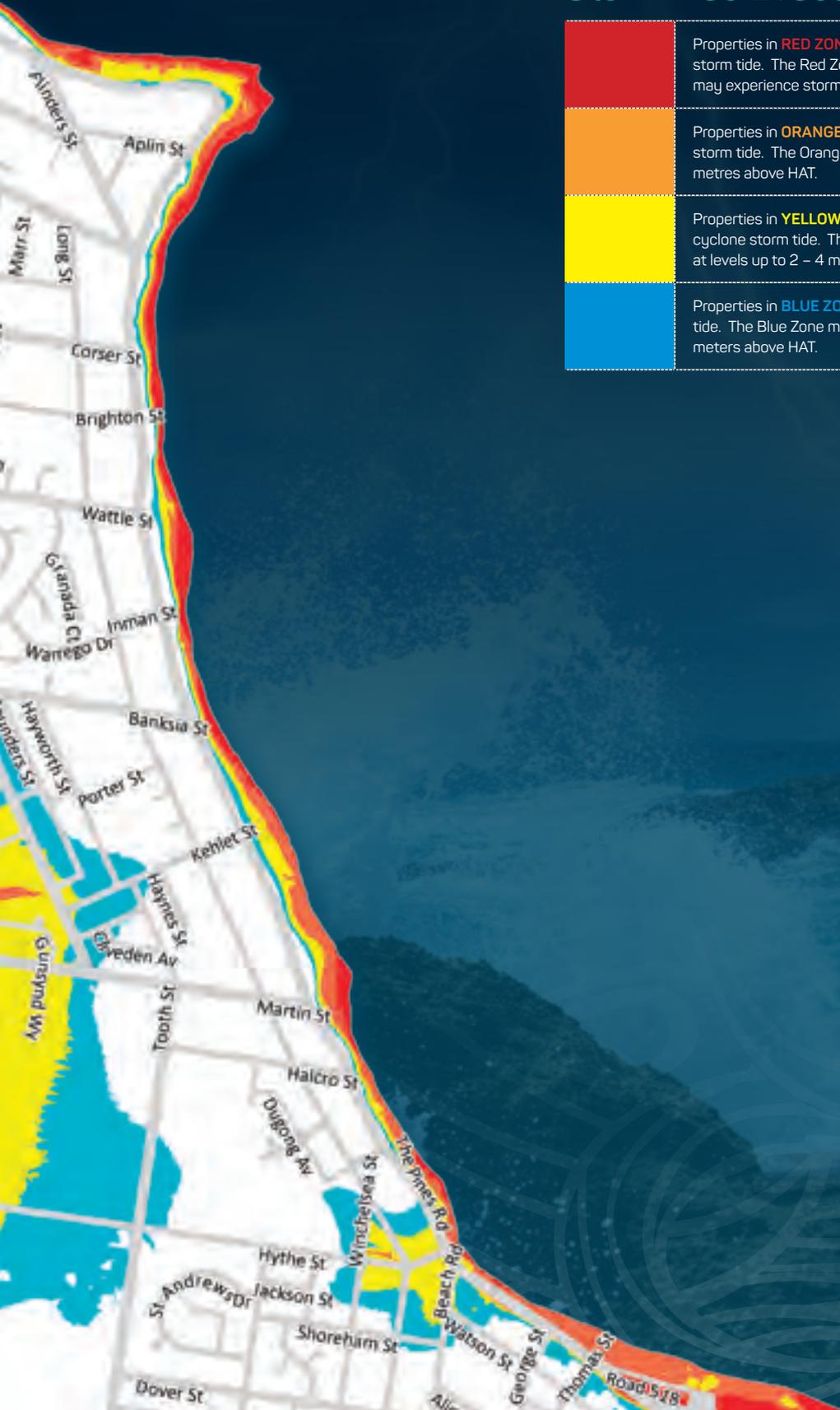
# DUNDOWRAN







## Storm Tide Evacuation Zones



Properties in **RED ZONE** face the highest risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Red Zone includes low-lying coastal areas and areas that may experience storm tide flooding up to 1 metre above HAT.



Properties in **ORANGE ZONE** face a high risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Orange Zone may experience storm tide flooding up to 2 metres above HAT.

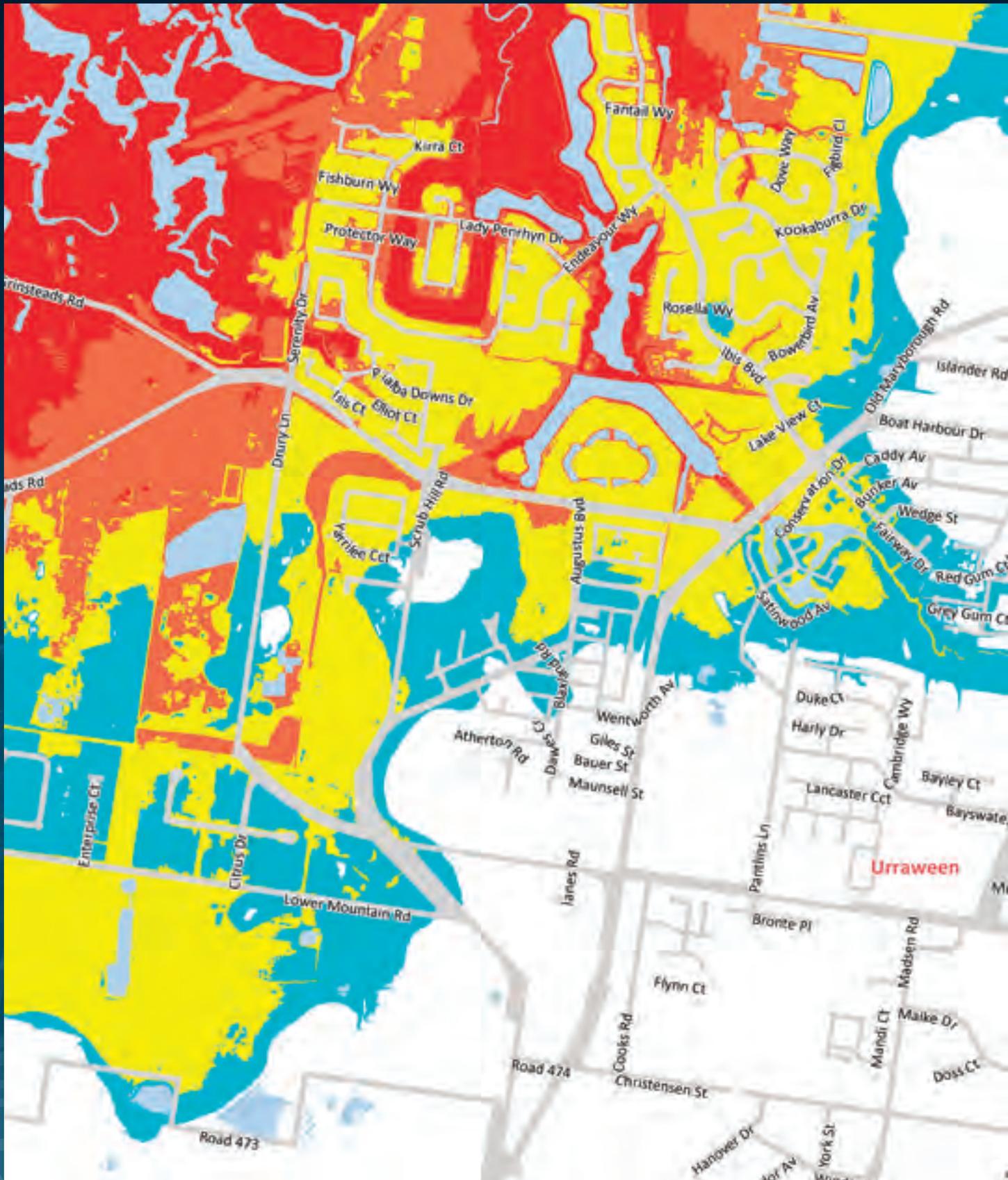


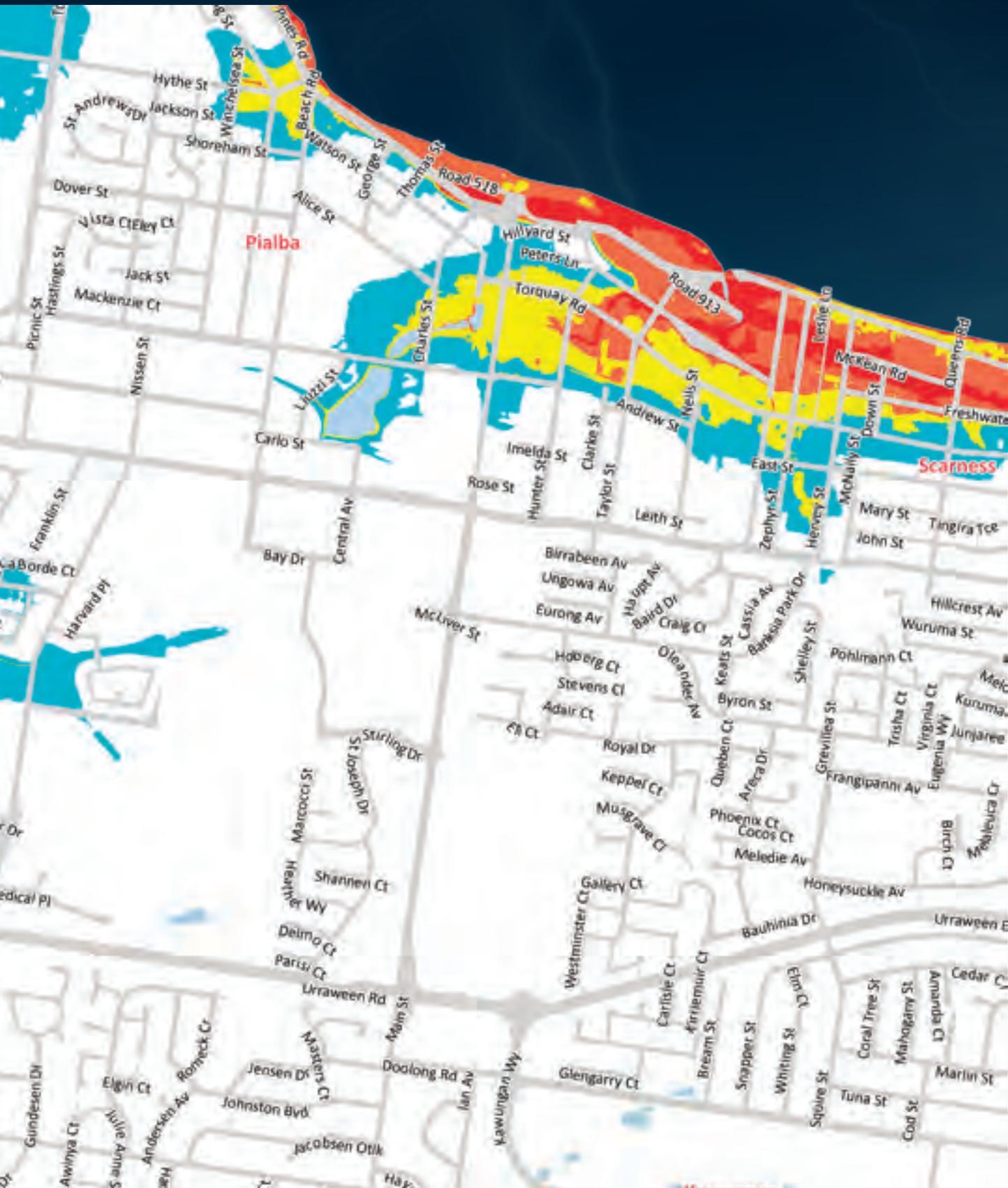
Properties in **YELLOW ZONE** face a moderate risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Yellow Zone may experience storm tide flooding at levels up to 2 – 4 meters above HAT.



Properties in **BLUE ZONE** face a low risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Blue Zone may experience storm tide flooding higher than 4 meters above HAT.

# SCARNESS





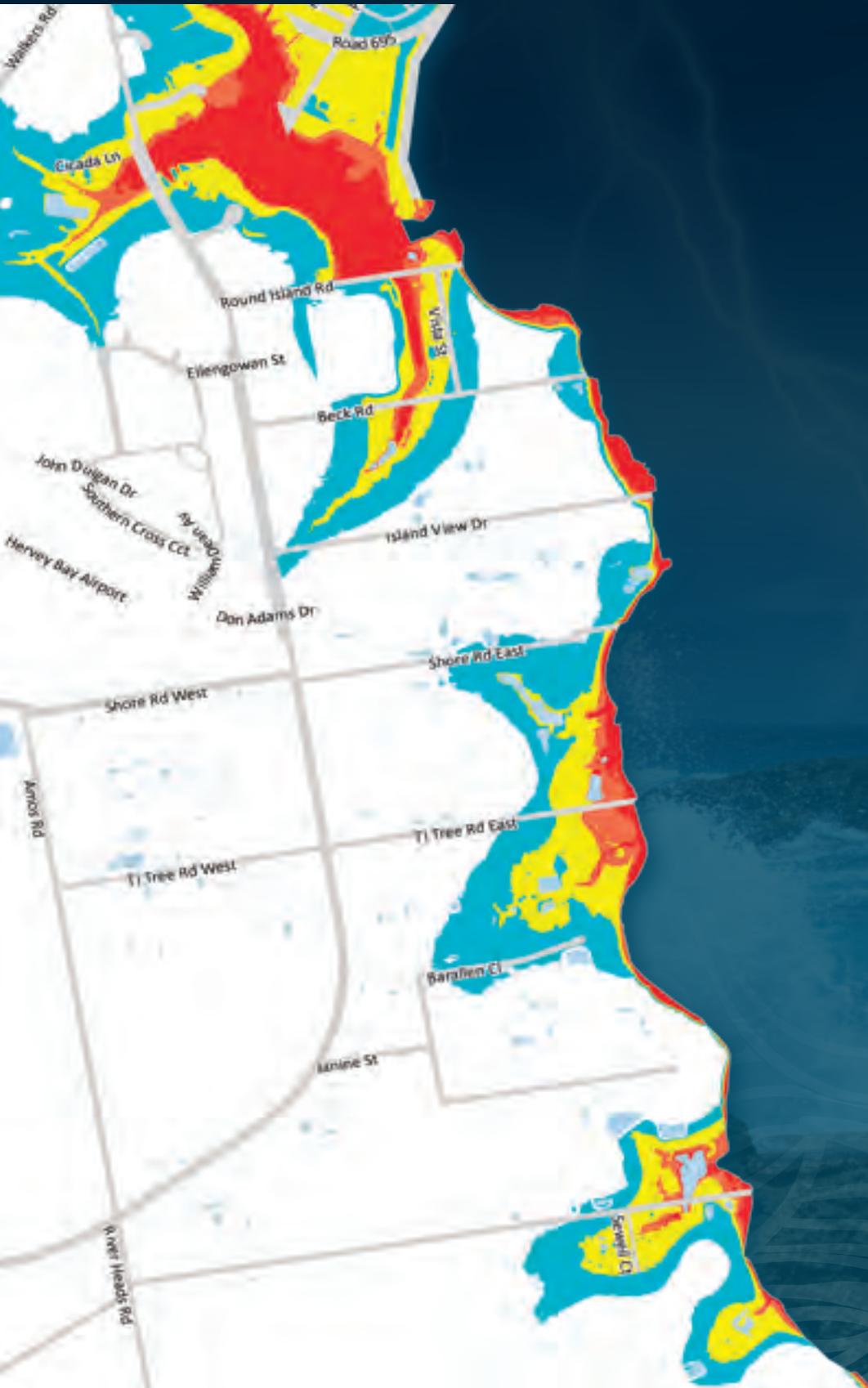
# TORQUAY & URANGAN



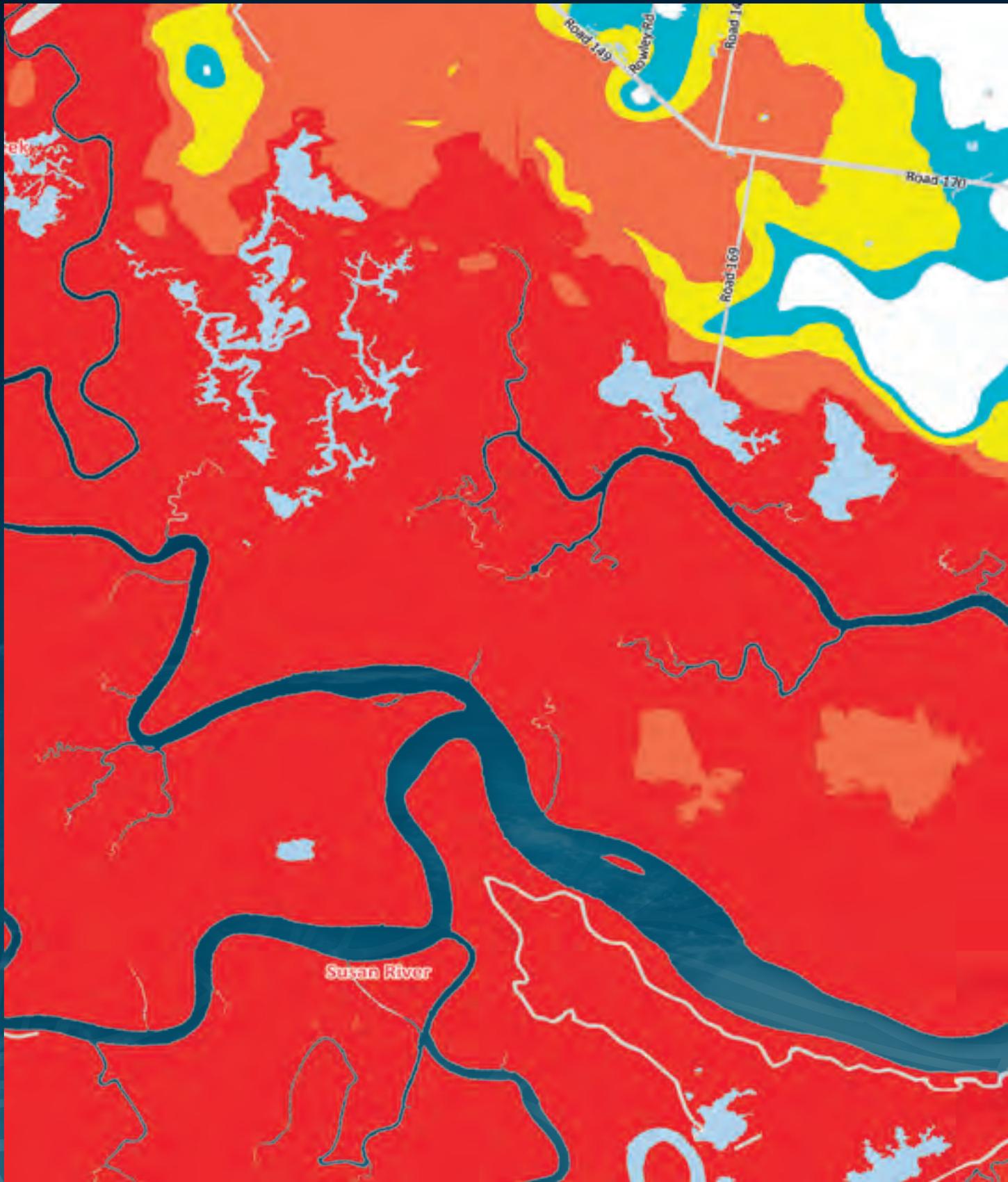


# BOORAL

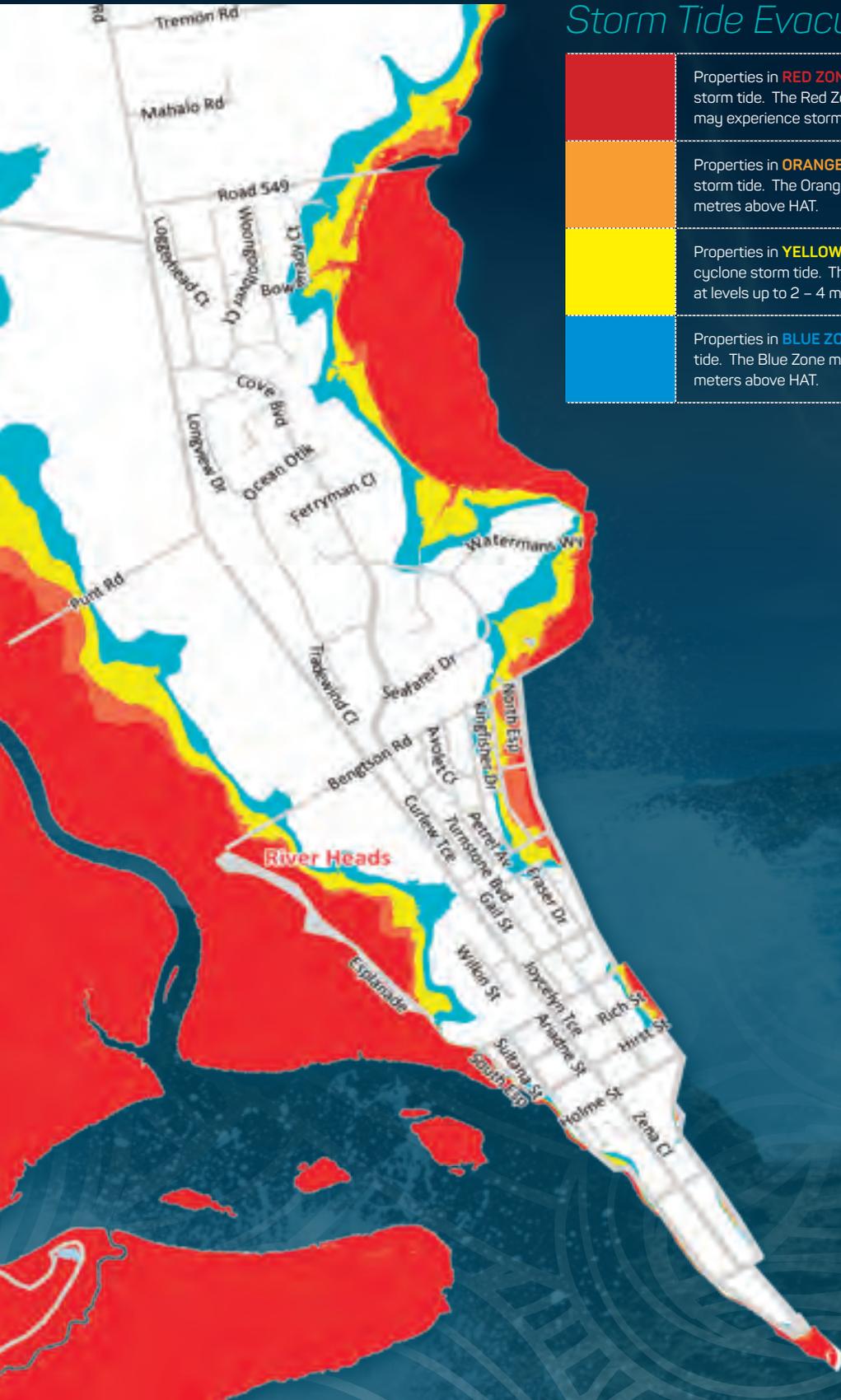




# RIVER HEADS



## Storm Tide Evacuation Zones



Properties in **RED ZONE** face the highest risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Red Zone includes low-lying coastal areas and areas that may experience storm tide flooding up to 1 metre above HAT.



Properties in **ORANGE ZONE** face a high risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Orange Zone may experience storm tide flooding up to 2 metres above HAT.

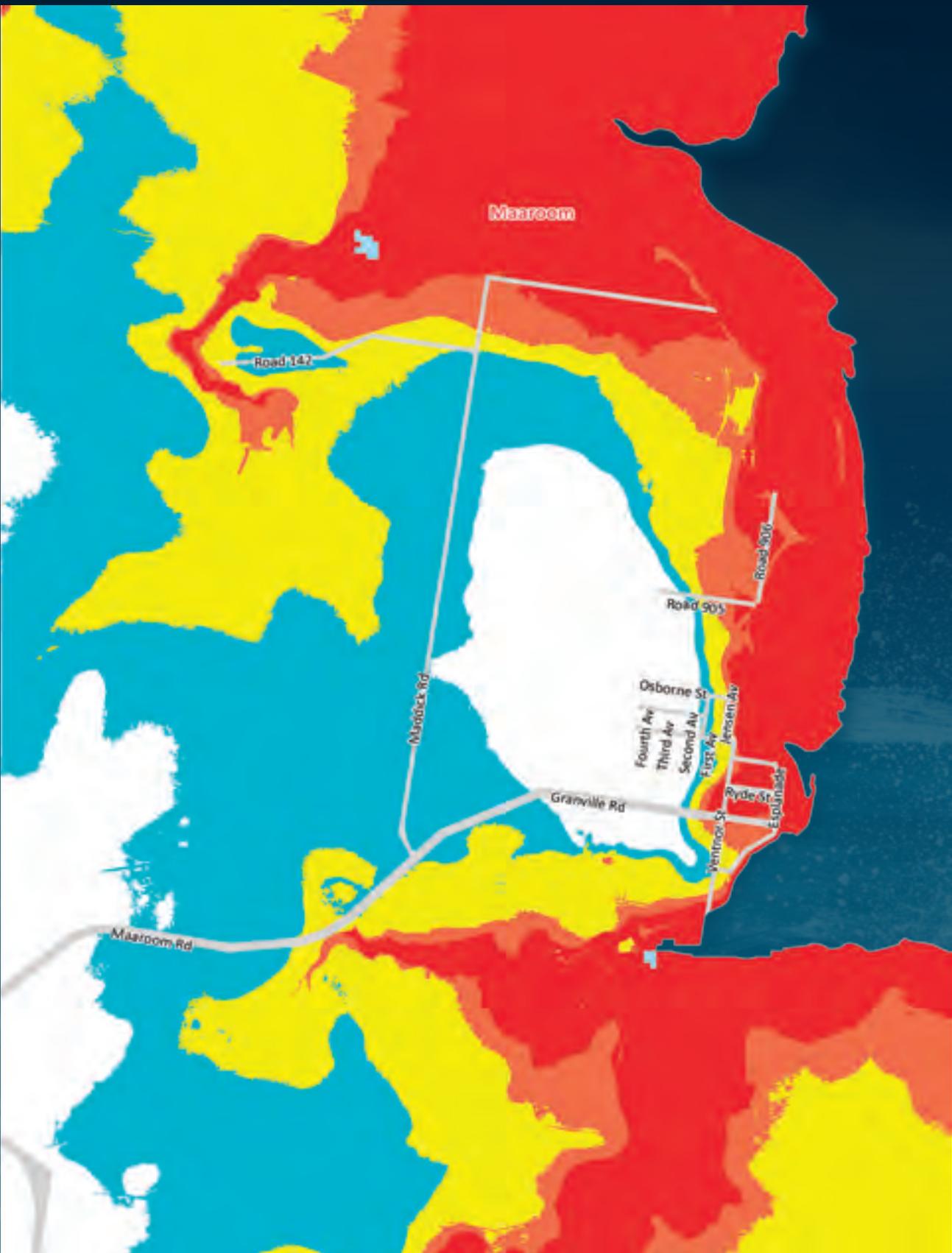


Properties in **YELLOW ZONE** face a moderate risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Yellow Zone may experience storm tide flooding at levels up to 2 – 4 metres above HAT.

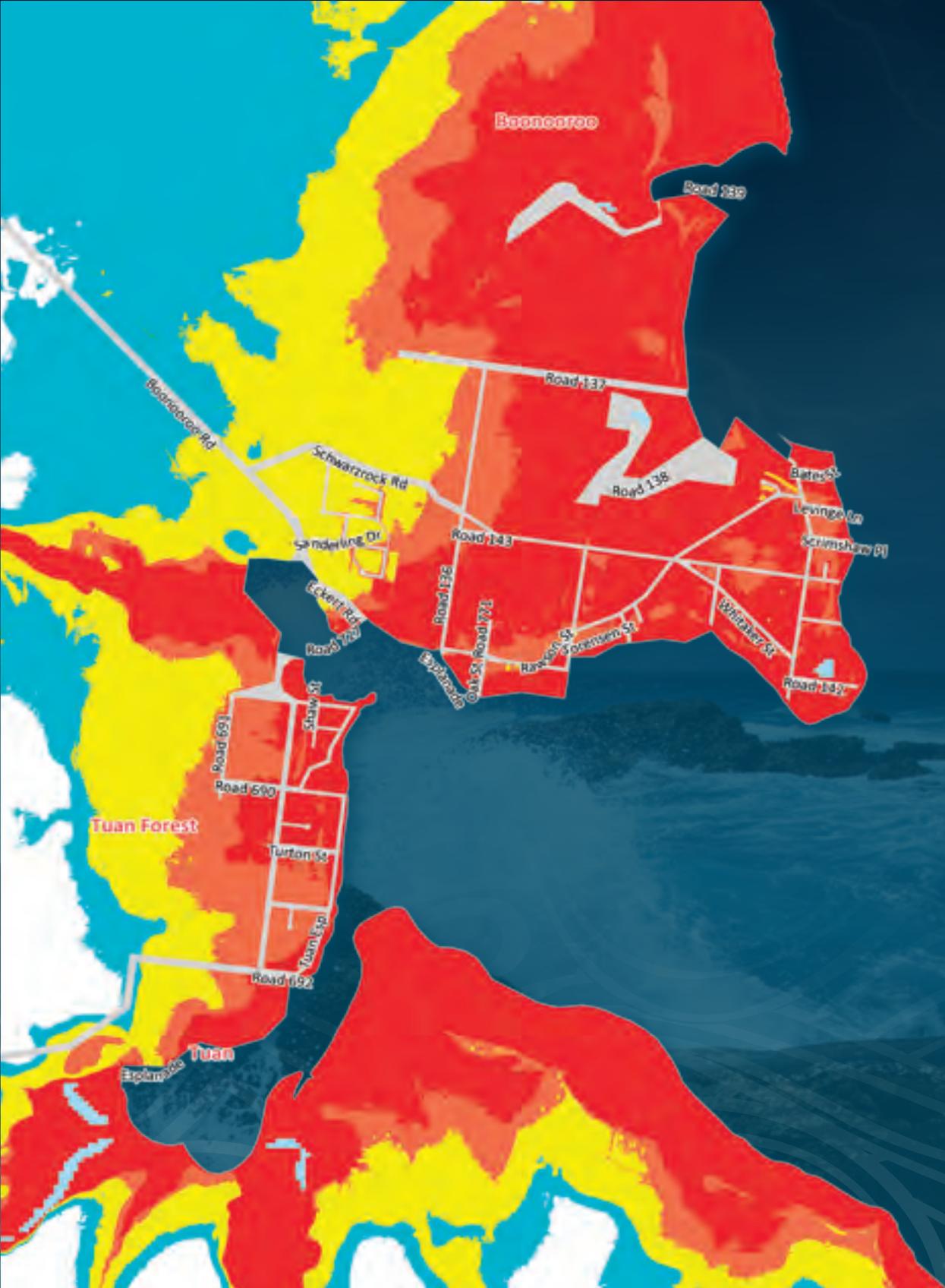


Properties in **BLUE ZONE** face a low risk of flooding from a cyclone storm tide. The Blue Zone may experience storm tide flooding higher than 4 metres above HAT.

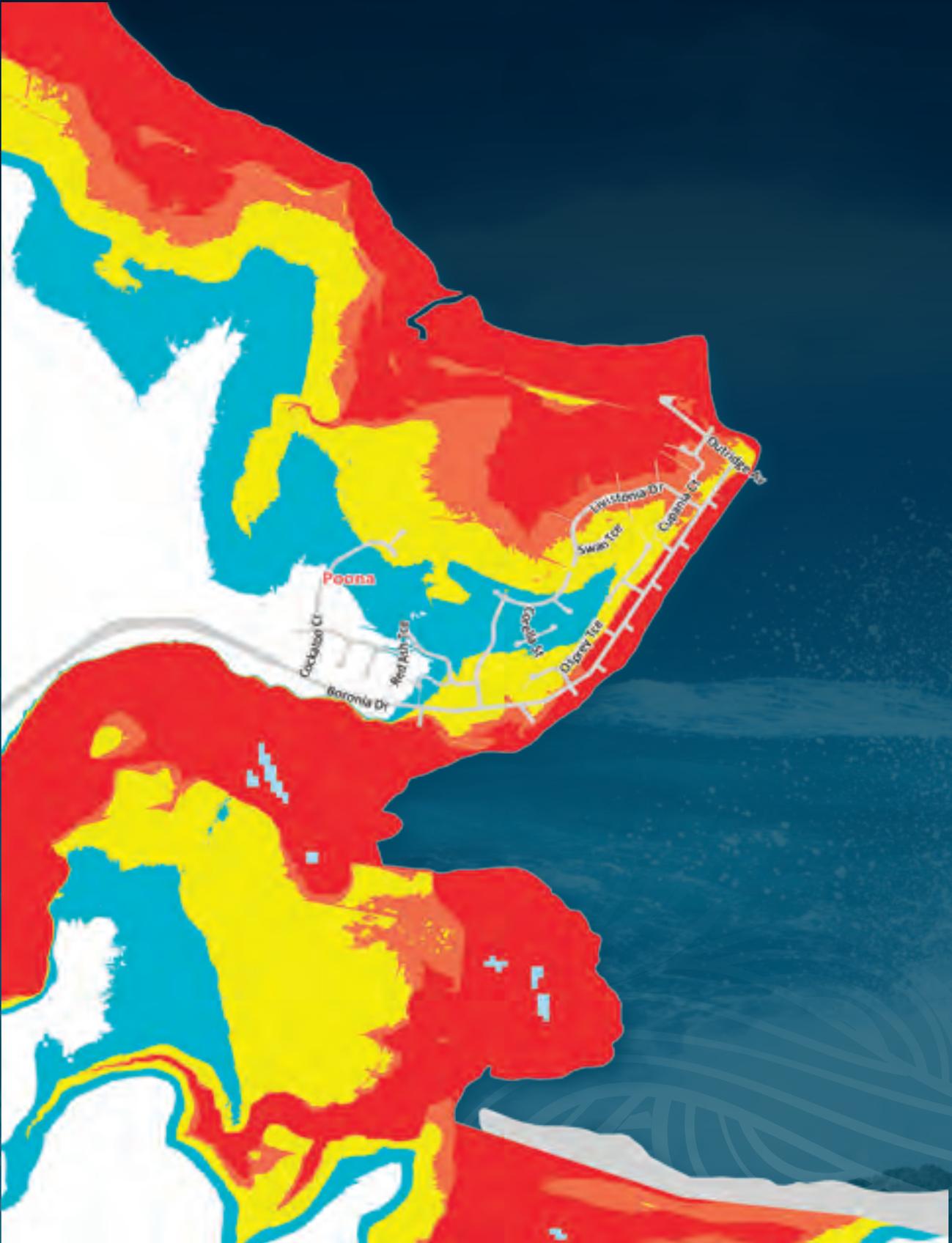
# MAAROOM



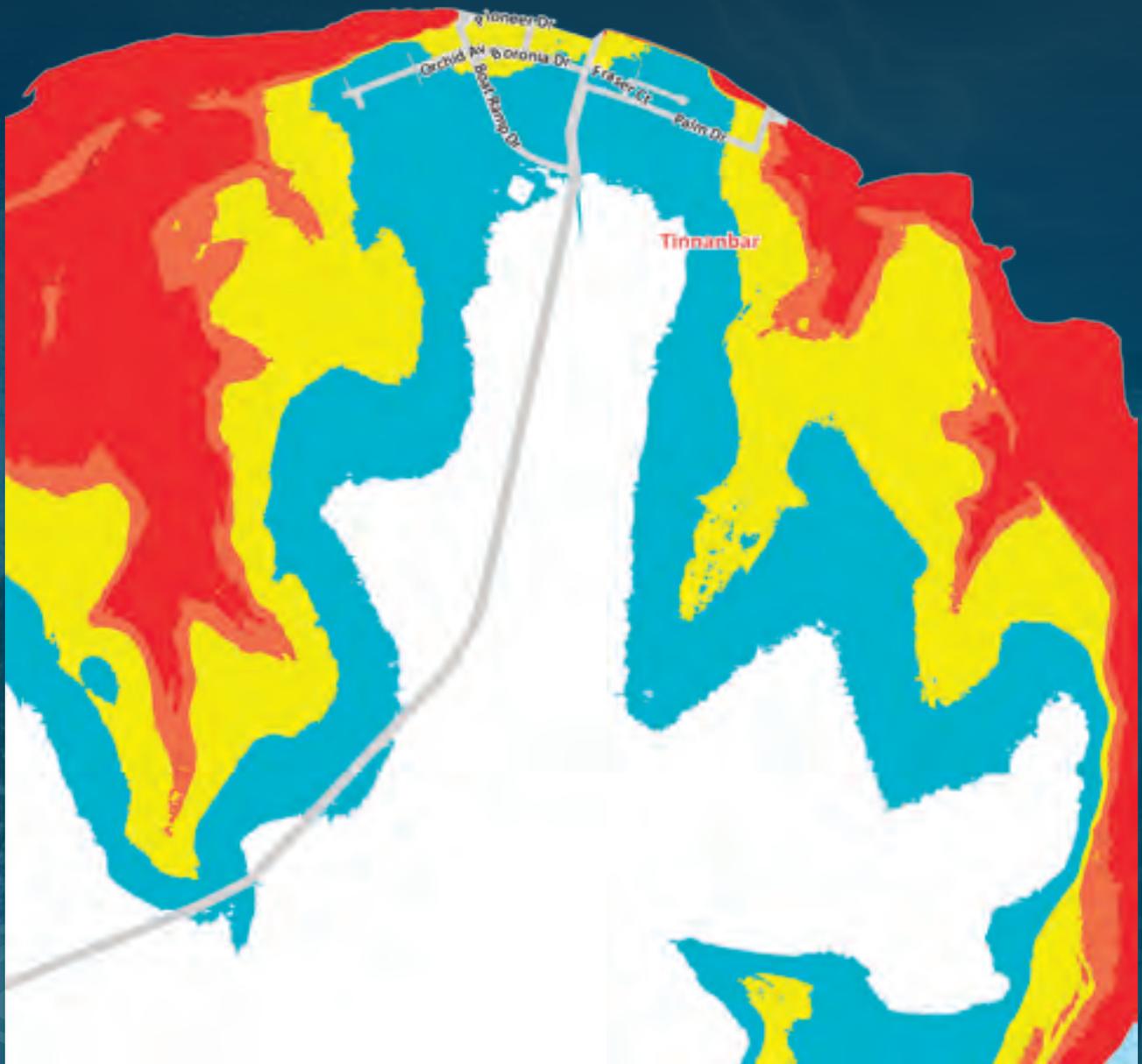
# BOONOOROO



# POONA



# TINNANBAR



# HOUSEHOLD EMERGENCY PLAN

INUNDATION LEVEL	
My house is in the RED / ORANGE / YELLOW / BLUE Zone *refer to maps (circle the relevant)	
HOUSEHOLD CONTACTS	
Name	Mobile number
EMERGENCY CONTACTS	
<b>Nearby contact name</b>	
Address	
Phone number	
Email address	
<b>Out-of-town contact name</b>	
Address	
Phone number	
Email address	
MEETING PLACE	
Address	
Phone number	
PHONE NUMBERS	
Council	
Electricity	
Doctor	
Hospital	
Veterinary practice	
Insurance provider	
Childcare provider	
Primary school	
High school	
Workplace	
Workplace	
Friend	
Friend	
Neighbour	
Neighbour	
MEDICAL INFORMATION	
Medication	Who needs it and at what dosage?

# PLAN AND PREPARE

## BEFORE THE CYCLONE

- Listen to your radio and other mediums (ensure you have spare batteries)
- Check your Emergency Kit is ready and nearby
- Tie down or pack away all outdoor items and furniture
- Cover windows/doors with timber sheeting, or tape across the glass with masking tape and close all doors
- Make sure your vehicle is full of fuel and park undercover if possible
- Ensure your boat and caravan is garaged, or if not, make every effort to secure it with strong ropes to a dependable anchor point
- Evacuate from caravans and tents
- If visiting the area, talk to your accommodation provider about what you should do and where you can go
- Fill drinking containers, your bathtub and wheelie bin with water – this water can be used to flush toilets if water supplies are affected
- Freeze water in case of power failure
- Place important documents and valuables in plastic bags or other waterproof containers and put in a safe place
- Turn off and unplug non-essential electrical equipment

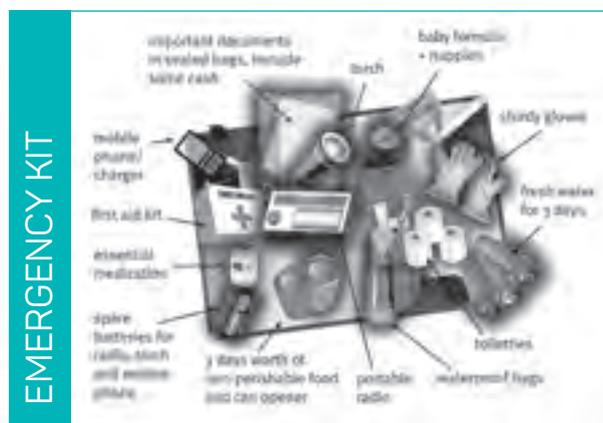
## DURING THE CYCLONE

- Continue to listen to your battery-powered radio for all warnings and advice
- Stay inside and keep yourself and your family calm
- Shelter in the strongest part of the building, often the bathroom, toilet or hallway
- Mattresses and blankets may protect you
- Beware of the calm eye/centre of the cyclone. Stay inside

## AFTER THE CYCLONE

- Stay inside until officially advised on the radio that the cyclone has passed
- Stay well clear of fallen powerlines. Always assume fallen powerlines are 'live'
- Stay out of floodwaters

# KITS



# IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS & CONTACTS

EMERGENCY - POLICE/FIRE/AMBULANCE		000
Disaster Coordination Centre (when activated)		4190 4999
State Emergency Service		132 500
Ergon Energy	Customer Service	131 046
	Faults 24 hours	132 296
	Life Threatening Emergency	131 670
Police (non-life threatening)		4123 8111
Fire (non-life threatening)	Hervey Bay	4325 6666
	Maryborough	4190 4801
	Rural Fires (Area Office)	4190 4839
Ambulance (non-life threatening)		131 233
Hospitals	Hervey Bay Public Hospital	4325 6666
	Maryborough Base Hospital	4122 8222
	St Stephens Private Hervey Bay	4120 1200
Marine Rescue	Hervey Bay	4128 9666
	Sandy Straits	4129 8141
RACQ (road closures)		13 19 40
Fraser Coast Regional Council	General Enquiries	1300 79 49 29
	Water & Sewerage Emergency	1300 79 49 29
Bureau of Meteorology		<a href="http://www.bom.gov.au">www.bom.gov.au</a>
Queensland Disaster Management		<a href="http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au">www.disaster.qld.gov.au</a>
Council Website		<a href="http://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au">www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au</a>
<b>BE ALERT AND LISTEN OUT FOR:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) siren sound at the beginning of serious warning on radio &amp; TV.</li> <li>• Emergency Alert voice messages to your landline &amp; your mobile telephone.</li> <li>• Sirens &amp; loud-hailer announcements or door knocking may also be used by Emergency Services &amp; Council.</li> </ul>		
Local Radio Stations: ABC AM - 855 AM, Sea FM - 101.9 FM, ABC FM - 100.1 FM, Mix FM - 103.5 FM		