Flooding

November 2026

The Wave – Stages 1 and 2 (Rail) project crosses waterways, floodplains and drainage paths. The design includes bridges, elevated structures, culverts and drainage structures to allow floodwater to continue flowing through these areas.

What did the Draft Public Environment Report find?

The Draft Public Environment Report (PER) assessed potential changes to flood levels, flows and drainage during construction and operation.

Flood modelling found that the design can be refined to maintain flood flows and connections across floodplains where practicable.

Temporary construction works and drainage measures will also be planned to minimise disruption to local drainage and flood flows.

How impacts will be managed

Designing for floods

Flood modelling will continue to guide the design and location of project infrastructure. Measures include:

- refining bridges, elevated structures, culverts, retaining structures and stormwater systems to maintain flood paths and drainage connections where practicable
- considering local flood levels, the speed of floodwater and areas that temporarily store floodwater during detailed design
- undertaking further modelling where the design changes or more detailed information is needed.

Construction considerations

Temporary works will be planned and maintained to minimise unnecessary obstruction of drainage and flood flows. Measures include:

- planning where temporary works are located and when they are carried out in flood-prone areas
- installing and maintaining temporary drainage and erosion-protection measures
- including approved flood-management and monitoring requirements in contractors' management plans
- inspecting measures during construction and adjusting them where required.

What happens next

During detailed design, bridges, culverts and other structures that affect flood flows will be refined. Any further modelling, management and monitoring requirements will be confirmed before construction.

Find out more

Read The Wave – Stages 1 and 2 (Rail) Draft PER for the detailed findings and proposed environmental management measures.