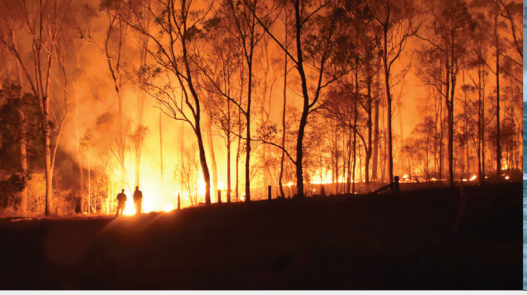
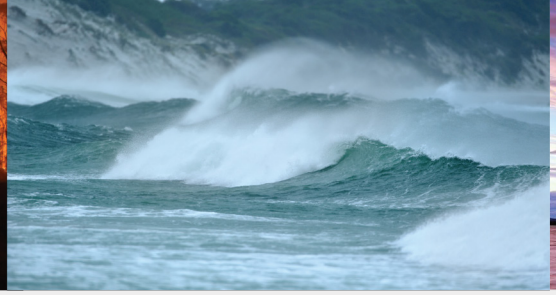
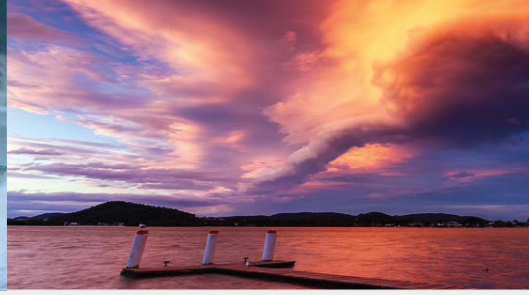




A Natural Hazards Atlas For Tasmania

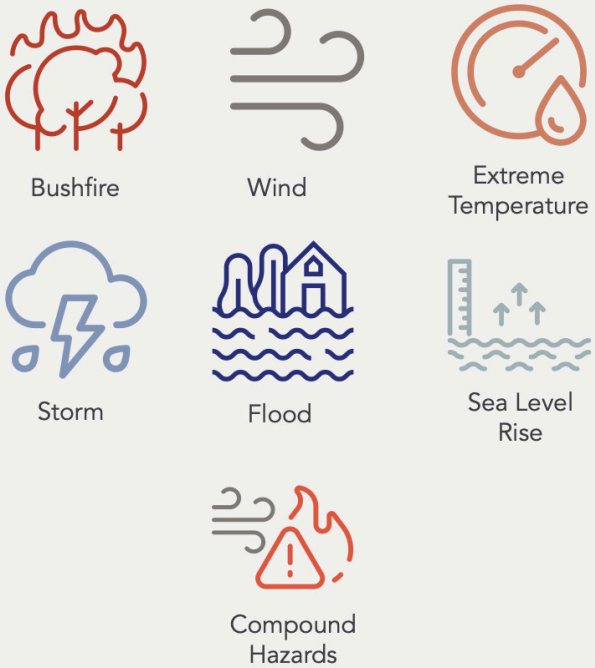
Mapping natural hazards to build disaster resilience and preparedness

Newsletter
July 2025

About the Natural Hazards Atlas Project

The University of Tasmania's Climate Futures Research Group is developing the Natural Hazards Atlas for Tasmania (NHAT) — a publicly accessible, web-based platform designed to provide detailed, locally relevant information on natural hazards and climate change. The project is funded by the National Emergency Management Agency's Disaster Ready Fund, and aims to support risk assessment and planning, emergency preparedness, and resilience-building across Tasmania.

Hazards included in the Atlas



Project Update

The Natural Hazards Atlas for Tasmania project has reached a key milestone with the completion of our stakeholder consultation and needs analysis. Insights from this process are now guiding the design of the Atlas, ensuring it reflects the real needs of users across Tasmania. You can read more about this on the next page.

Technical working groups are being formed to shape and review data content and presentation, while the design of communication and capability-building resources is commencing. We will be seeking stakeholder input into this latter process to ensure resources are practical and accessible.

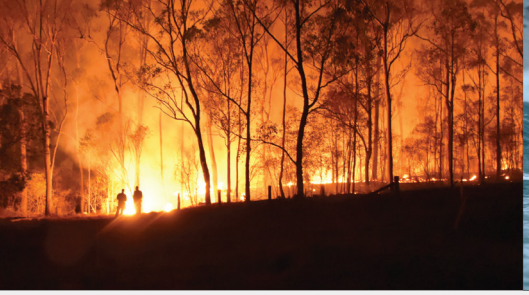
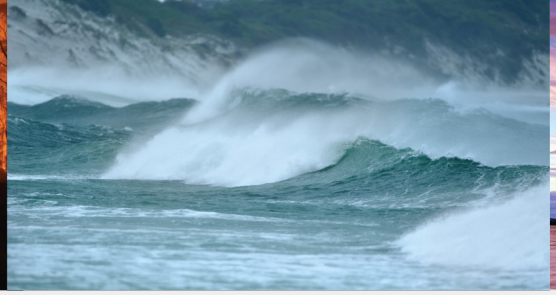
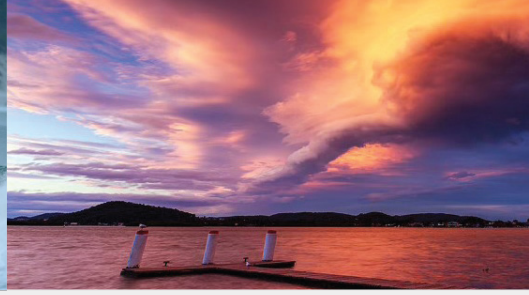
A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has contributed through workshops, interviews, and surveys — your input is helping build a responsive and fit-for-purpose Natural Hazards Atlas for Tasmania.

Natural Hazards Atlas Steering Committee

A steering committee has been established to advise on the Natural Hazards Atlas for Tasmania project. The Committee has agreed to meet 2 to 3 times a year and held its second meeting on 11 March 2025. During this meeting, the steering committee received a project update and preliminary findings from the stakeholder needs consultation process for the Natural Hazards Atlas. They discussed additional opportunities for stakeholder consultation to ensure that the Atlas meets user needs, as well as options for prioritising appropriate translational outputs for users. The committee also shared updates on other complementary projects. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 July 2025.

The Steering Committee includes members from:

Renewables, Climate & Future Industries Tasmania (ReCFIT); Department of Premier & Cabinet (DPAC); Department of Natural Resources & Environment Tasmania (NRE Tas); Hydro Tasmania; Tasmania State Emergency Service (Tas SES); Tasmanian Department of Health (Tas Health).

Stakeholder Consultation and Needs Analysis Highlights

The stakeholder needs analysis is a foundational step in the NHAT project, guiding the development of natural hazards data and information. Conducted through surveys, workshops, and interviews involving nearly 200 Tasmanian stakeholders across sectors, the analysis aimed to:

- Understand stakeholder exposure to natural hazards and climate-related risks.
- Understand current uses of information, preparedness and planning activities.
- Identify information needs, preferred data and information formats, and web platform features.

Overarching messages

While we have extensive stakeholder feedback, overarching messages are:

- **Priority hazards:** Bushfires, floods, and extreme rainfall are top concerns. Compound hazards are of considerable interest, while interest in coastal change and extreme rainfall is likely to increase in the future.
- **Information challenges:** Many organisations face fragmented data systems, inconsistent formats, and limited technical capacity, hindering analysis and decision-making.
- **Data needs:** Stakeholders require geographically relevant, fine-scale, scenario-based data across short, medium, and long-term timeframes, where possible.
- **Preferred formats:** Easy-to-access formats are preferred. Maps are popular, while infographics and visual summaries are considered essential for communicating with non-experts. Time series data tables, and spatial data layers, on the other hand, support technical users.
- **Capability gaps:** There is a strong demand for training on the Atlas' capabilities. Regional, hazard or sector-based case studies would aid data interpretation. Ongoing support is vital for practical use.
- **Trust and integration:** Integration with existing trusted platforms is seen as crucial. Government backing and compatibility with tools like LISTmap are essential for uptake and credibility

Recommendations we are seeking to incorporate in the delivery of the Atlas

1. **Continue stakeholders engagement**
   Continue to engage stakeholders throughout the design and delivery process to help shape Atlas content, functionality, and presentation.
2. **Provide relevant high quality data**
   Where possible, deliver high-quality, fine-scale, scenario-based data to support diverse user needs.
3. **Make information accessible**
   Present information in easy-to-understand and act-upon formats catering to technical and non-technical users.
4. **Enhance stakeholder capability**
   Offer tailored training, case studies, and opportunities for peer learning to build stakeholder skills.
5. **Build trust and foster adoption**
   Secure government endorsement for the Atlas and integrate it with other information platforms.

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