

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

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Ministère des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts

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Good Morning,

Today, the government posted a decision notice to the [Environmental Registry of Ontario](#) finalizing the “[Technical bulletin - Flooding hazards: data survey and mapping specifications](#)”.

This new technical bulletin is to be applied when delineating the flooding hazard through mapping new, or updating existing, maps. It is intended to assist technical personnel experienced in mapping and geomatics in undertaking flood hazard surveying and mapping in Ontario and to serve as the definitive source of flood hazard data, survey and mapping guidance for use in Ontario.

Feedback on the draft technical bulletin was accepted from July 4th until September 5th, 2023. Feedback was for the most part supportive of the criteria and guidance provided in the Technical Bulletin. Comments received supported the additional clarity with regards to the necessary data considerations and mapping specifications to support flood hazard identification in Ontario. There was broad support for the Technical Bulletin providing flood hazard mapping recommendations, but not being a set of mandatory instructions to be applied in all circumstances.

Expanded guidance and clarification was provided for using surveyed and remotely sensed channel bathymetry and floodplain surface topography, to support the use of different types of models. Clarification and guidance related to vertical and horizontal datum transformations to the CGVD2013 datum (see Section 3.0 of Technical Bulletin), and associated limitations on the conversion process were sought however, MNRF endeavours to update this Technical Bulletin in the future to align with and reference pending Government of Ontario Information and Technology Standards.

Other additional comments received will be revisited in future revisions of this Technical Bulletin as future associated Technical Bulletins (e.g., hydrology and hydraulics methods) are released and new content can be added. The Ministry intends to keep this and other future natural hazard technical bulletins in an ‘evergreen’ state and update as new science and methods emerge.

As committed to in Ontario's Flooding Strategy, MNRF is in the process of updating other natural hazard technical guidance and anticipates additional documents to be released for public comment over the coming months and years.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Keyes
Director, Resources Planning and Development Policy Branch
Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry