

Stormwater Management Glossary

AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability, which is the probability of exceeding a given storm discharge or flood level within a period of one year. Equivalent return period (ARI) terms are: 1% AEP = 1 in 50 year 2% AEP = 1 in 50 year 10% AEP = 1 in 10 year 20% AEP = 1 in 5 year 50% AEP = 1 in 2 year
ARI	Average Recurrence : Interval. - the average interval between storm events of a given magnitude (see above for relationship to AEP).
Catchment	An area of land above a point or outlet, the topography of which carries by force of gravity the Stormwater originating therein into a drainage channel or watercourse.
CMP	Catchment Management Plan
Design Flows	The critical flows derived from a range of design storm durations, selected as a basis for the design of works in watercourses and catchments.
Design Storm	The rainfall event calculated from historical records that can be expected for a specific AEP.
Drainage system	The network of pipes, streams, open watercourse and secondary flowpaths which carry flows within a Catchment.
Floodplain	The plan extent of flooding in a given AEP storm.
Main Watercourse	The system of open channels, culverts and associated floodplains forming the backbone of the drainage system within the Catchment.
MSL	Mean Sea Level
Overland flow	Surface water runoff and open watercourses that carry the main, frequent or primary flowpath of Stormwater within a Catchment.

Primary flowpath	The principal pipe of channel drainage system.
Runoff	The fraction of rainfall which runs off the land to the drainage system.
Secondary system (flow)	The route taken by excess stormwater when the capacity of the primary flowpath system is exceeded (also called secondary flow path)
Subcatchment	A smaller sub-area of the catchment draining to a watercourse.
Watercourse	Watercourse includes every stream, passage and channel on or under the ground, whether natural or not, through which stormwater flows, whether continuously or intermittently, and includes all land within the 1%