

IBI Group and Natural Resources Canada

CanFlood 1.0

User Manual

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Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Notes and Acknowledgements	5
Glossary	7
1. Introduction	8
1.1. Background	9
1.1.1. Motivation	10
1.1.2. Guidelines	10
1.1.3. Risk- vs. Event-Based Models	11
1.2. Intended Users	12
1.3. Risk Model Levels	12
1.4. Control Files	14
2. Installation	15
3. Applications and Workflows	16
3.1. Risk (L1) Exposure-Based Assessment	18
3.2. Risk (L2) Vulnerability-Based Assessment	19
3.3. Defense Failure	20
3.3.1. Workflow	20
3.3.2. Event Relations	23
4. Inputs and Data Requirements	24
4.1. Asset Inventory	24
4.2. Hazard Events	24
4.3. Vulnerability Function Set	25
4.4. Digital Terrain Model (DTM)	26
4.5. Dike Information	27



5.	Toolsets	28
5.1.	Build	28
5.1.1.	Setup.....	29
5.1.2.	Inventory	29
5.1.3.	Hazard Sampler.....	29
5.1.4.	Event Variables	32
5.1.5.	Conditional P.....	33
5.1.6.	DTM Sampler	35
5.1.7.	Validation.....	35
5.2.	Model.....	36
5.2.1.	Risk (L1)	38
5.2.2.	Impacts (L2).....	39
5.2.3.	Risk (L2)	43
5.2.4.	Risk (L3)	49
5.3.	Results	50
5.3.1.	Join Geo	50
5.3.2.	Risk Plot.....	50
5.3.3.	Compare/Combine	51
5.3.4.	Benefit-Cost Analysis	52
5.4.	Additional Tools.....	55
5.4.1.	Dike Fragility Mapper.....	55
5.4.2.	Add Connections.....	58
5.4.3.	RFDA Converter	59
5.4.4.	Add Styles	61
6.	Tutorials	63



6.1.	Tutorial 1a: Risk (L1).....	63
6.1.1.	Load data to the project.....	63
6.1.2.	Build the Model	66
6.1.3.	Run the Model.....	71
6.1.4.	View Results	73
6.2.	Tutorial 2a: Risk (L2) with Simple Events	77
6.2.1.	Load data to project.....	77
6.2.2.	Build the Model	79
6.2.3.	Run the Model.....	84
6.2.4.	View Results	87
6.3.	Tutorial 2b: Risk (L2) with Dike Failure	90
6.3.1.	Build the Model	92
6.3.2.	Run the Model.....	95
6.3.3.	View Results	95
6.4.	Tutorial 2c: Risk (L2) with Complex Failure.....	96
6.4.1.	Build the Model	97
6.4.2.	Run the Model.....	97
6.4.3.	View Results	98
6.5.	Tutorial 2d: Risk (L2) with Mitigation.....	102
6.5.1.	Build the Model	102
6.5.2.	Run the Model.....	104
6.5.3.	View the Results	107
6.6.	Tutorial 2e: Benefit-Cost Analysis.....	107
6.7.	Tutorial 3: Risk (L3) SOFDA research model	112
6.8.	Tutorial 4a: Risk (L1) with Percent Inundation (Polygons).....	112



6.8.1.	Build the Model	113
6.8.2.	Run the Model.....	116
6.8.3.	View the Results	116
6.9.	Tutorial 4b: Risk (L1) with Percent Inundation (Lines).....	118
6.10.	Tutorial 5a: Risk (L1) from NPRI and GAR15	119
6.10.1.	Load Data to Project	120
6.10.2.	Build the Model	125
6.11.	Tutorial 6a: Dike Failure Polygons.....	129
6.11.1.	Calculate Dike Exposure.....	131
6.11.2.	Calculate Dike Vulnerability	135
6.11.3.	Join to Areas.....	135
References		138
Appendix A: Web Connections		140
GAR15		141
Appendix B: SOFDA User Manual		143



Notes and Acknowledgements

CanFlood is an open-source experimental flood risk modelling platform. Natural Resources Canada and IBI Group assume no liability for any errors or inaccuracies. The tools provided in CanFlood are for convenience only, and the user is responsible for developing their own tests and confidence in any model results.

For the latest manual and software version, please visit the project page:

<https://github.com/IBIGroupCanWest/CanFlood>

Development Acknowledgements

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Glossary

Annual Exceedance Probabilities (AEP)	The inverse of ARI.
Annual Recurrence Intervals (ARI)	The statistical expectation of time between events derived from some observed time-series (e.g., a 100 ARI magnitude flood or larger has occurred 10 times in the past 1000 years). The inverse of an event's ARI is the annual exceedance probability of that event (e.g., a 100 ARI flood has a 1% chance of occurring each year). Often, the suffix 'ARI' is replaced with '-year' (e.g., a 100 ARI flood is equivalent to a 100-year flood).
Area of Interest (AOI)	The spatial extents of the study or model
Coordinate Reference System (CRS)	System used to locate and project spatial information.
Estimated Annualized Damages (EAD)	Expected value of impacts. See Section 5.2.3.
Flood Risk Assessments (FRA)	A formal process of evaluating and quantifying flood risk
Graphical User Interface (GUI)	
object (or property) level mitigation measures (PLPM)	Interventions acting at the micro- or property-scale like backflow valves or sandbagging. See Section 5.2.2.
Rapid Flood Damage Assessment Tool (RFDA)	QGIS plugin developed by IBI Group and the Province of Alberta for object-based flood risk calculations (IBI Group and Golder Associates 2015)
Stochastic Object-based Flood damage Dynamic Assessment model framework (SOFDA)	Dynamic flood risk research model included in CanFlood as Risk (L3) (Section 5.2.4)
Water Surface Level (WSL)	The height of some water above some datum. Not to be confused with 'water depth' which is a water height above ground.
Web Coverage Service (WCS)	Protocol for spatial data over the internet



1. Introduction

CanFlood is an object-based, transparent, open-source flood risk calculation toolbox built for Canada. CanFlood facilitates flood risk calculations with three ‘toolsets’:

- 1) Building a model 
- 2) Running a model 
- 3) Visualizing and analyzing results 


Each of these has a suite of tools to assist the flood risk modeller in a wide range of tasks common in developing flood risk assessments in Canada.


CanFlood flood risk models are object-based, where consequences from flood exposure are calculated for each asset (e.g., a house) using a one-dimensional user-supplied vulnerability function (i.e., depth-damage function) before summing the consequences on each asset and integrating a range of events to obtain the total flood risk in an area. To support the diversity of flood risk assessment needs and data availability across Canada, CanFlood supports three modelling frameworks of increasing complexity, data requirements, and effort (Section 1.1). Each of these frameworks was designed to be flexible and agnostic, allowing modellers to implement a single software tool and data structure while maintaining flood risk models that reflect the heterogeneity of Canadian assets and values. Recognizing the significance of flood protection infrastructure on flood risk in many Canadian communities, CanFlood models can incorporate failure potential into risk calculations. To make use of Canada’s growing collection of hazard modelling datasets, CanFlood helps users connect with and manipulate such data into flood risk models.

The CanFlood plugin is NOT a flood risk model, instead it is a modelling platform with a suite of tools to aid users in building, executing, and analyzing their own models. CanFlood requires users to pre-collect and assemble the datasets that describe flood risk in their study area (see Section 3). Once analysis in CanFlood is complete, users must apply their own judgement and experience to attach the necessary context and advice to any reporting before communicating results to decision makers. CanFlood results should not be used to *make* decisions, instead they should be used to *inform* decisions along with all the other dimensions and criteria relevant to the community at risk.



1.1. Background

The devastation of the 2013  Southern Alberta and Toronto Floods triggered a transition in Canada from the traditional standards-based approach, where flood protection is designed for a single level-of-safety, towards a risk-based approach. This new risk-based approach recognizes that robust planning must consider vulnerability and the full range of floods that may harm a community rather than focus on a single, arbitrary, design event. Further, a risk-based view allows decision makers to quantitatively optimize mitigations for their community, helping jurisdictions with shrinking budgets spread protections further. The foundation of decisions made under a risk-based flood management is a risk assessment, which is:

A methodology to determine the risk by analyzing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of vulnerability that together could potentially harm exposed people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend
(UNISDR 2009). 

To quantify risk, modern risk assessments integrate data on the natural and built environment with predictive models. Applied in flood risk management, a risk analysis is highly sensitive to the spatial components of risk: vulnerability (what has been built where and how harmful are flood waters?) and hazard (where and how intense can flooding be?). Evaluating these components is typically accomplished with a chain of activities like data collection, processing, modelling, and post-processing to arrive at the desired risk metrics. The core components of a typical flood risk assessment are the hazard assessment to synthesize spatial exposure-likelihood data sets and a damage assessment to estimate damage to assets from the hazard assessment results, followed by the risk quantification that uses event probabilities to estimate average damages.



1.1.1. Motivation

Considering the limitation of existing tools, and the growing need to minimize flood harm in Canada through a better understanding of flood risk, NRCan sought to develop and maintain a flexible open-source tool tailored to Canada. Such a standardized tool will:

- reduce the cost of individual flood risk assessments (FRA) by consolidating software development and maintenance costs;
- increase the transparency and standardization of FRAs for improved cross study-area comparisons of risk and updating;
- encourage communities to perform additional FRAs by reducing opacity and cost and increasing awareness;
- facilitate and motivate the standardization and collection of flood risk related datasets; and
- facilitate more sophisticated and stream-lined modelling.

1.1.2. Guidelines

Federal Flood Mapping Guidelines Series

“The Federal Flood Mapping Guidelines Series was developed under the leadership of the Flood Mapping Committee, a partnership between Public Safety Canada, Natural Resources Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, National Research Council of Canada, Defence Research and Development Canada, Canadian Armed Forces, Infrastructure Canada, and Crown Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada.” These “are a series of evergreen guidelines that will help advance flood mapping activities across Canada” (Public Safety Canada 2018). Published documents can be found with a web search for "[Federal Flood Mapping Guidelines Series](#).” The following are particularly relevant to CanFlood:

- Federal Flood Damage Estimation Guidelines for Buildings and Infrastructure (in development)
- Federal Flood Risk Assessment Procedures (in development)



International Guidelines

Jurisdiction/ Authority	Guideline (Reference)
United Kingdom	Flood and coastal erosion risk management – Manual (Penning-Rowsell et al. 2013)
United States	Multi-Hazard Loss Estimation Methodology, Flood Model: Hazus-MH MR2 Technical Manual (FEMA 2012) Risk-Based Analysis For Flood Damage Reduction Studies (USACE 1996) Tying flood insurance to flood risk for low-lying structures in the floodplain (National Research Council 2015) Principles of Risk Analysis for Water Resources (IWR and USACE 2017)

1.1.3. Risk- vs. Event-Based Models

Historically, flood management has involved decisions based on a single hypothetical, often arbitrary, ‘design event’ (e.g., 100-year discharge). This approach has left many communities under-defended and likely contributes to the rising flood losses recently seen in Canada (Frechette 2016). In response to this, modern flood management recognizes the necessity of comprehensive risk-based assessments that evaluate a range of events and their probability and consequences in management planning. CanFlood was designed to support modern risk-based management by integrating a range of flood events (e.g., 10-year, 50-year, 100-year, 200-year events) and their probabilities into risk-based models that calculate risk-metrics. However, because CanFlood calculates event-based impacts prior to any risk calculations, users can use CanFlood in event- or impact-based assessments by performing all but the final risk-calculation step.



1.2. Intended Users

The CanFlood plugin is for users with spatial and vulnerability data desiring to perform an object-based flood risk assessment (FRA) in Canada. CanFlood is meant for flood risk practitioners with the following expertise:

- Object-based flood risk analysis
- QGIS (novice)

See Section 1.1.2 for a summary of guidelines and procedures related to FRAs in Canada.

1.3. Risk Model Levels

Flood risk analysis objectives and applications are as diverse as the communities they serve. To accommodate this wide range, CanFlood contains three types of risk models with increasing complexity as summarized in Table 1-1 and discussed in Section 5.2. To support the construction and analysis of these risk models, CanFlood also includes the ‘Build’ and ‘Results’ toolsets respectively (Section 5.1 and Section 5.3). Connecting all these together to perform an analysis is discussed in Section 4.5 and similar tutorials are provided in Section 6.



Table 1-1 - CanFlood model level summaries

Analysis Level	L1: Initial	L2: Intermediate	L3: Detailed
Motivation¹	Rapid FRA. desktop type appraisals: first approximations to identify areas where more detailed work is required	More detailed appraisals where further assessment of loss potential is warranted	Detailed study of potential losses and robust uncertainty quantification
Workflow	Section 3.1	Section 3.2	Appendix B
CanFlood model tool names	Risk (L1)	Impacts (L2) and Risk (L2)	Risk (L3) (aka SOFDA)
Data requirement	low	medium	high
Level of modelling effort (per asset)	low	low	high
Model complexity	low	medium	high
Impact Functions	none (inundation only)	per-object	per-object, un-compiled
Uncertainty quantification	none	none	stochastic modelling
PLPMs	yes	yes	yes
Risk Dynamics	no	no	yes
Asset geometry	point, polygon, line	point, polygon, line	point
Inputs	asset inventory, hazard events, DTM (optional), companion failure events (optional)	same as L1 plus: Impact Function Set	asset inventory, WSL tables, vulnerability functions (un-compiled), dynamic parameters, others
Primary Outputs	total impacts ('r_ttl'), per-asset impacts ('r_passet'), risk curve plot	same as L1	exposure table, annualized impacts (summary and per asset) summary plot, others
1. Adapted from Penning-Rowsell et al. (2019)			



1.4. Control Files

CanFlood models are designed to write and read from small ‘Control Files’. These make it easy to build and share a specific model or scenario, and to keep a record of how the results set were generated. These also facilitate making a small change to a common input file (e.g., the asset inventory), and having this change replicated across all scenario runs. Control Files don’t contain any (large) data, only parameter values and pointers to the datasets required by a CanFlood model. Diligent and consistent file storage and naming conventions are essential for a pleasant modelling experience. Most Control File parameters and Data Files can be configured in the ‘Build’ toolset; however, some advanced parameters must be configured manually (see Section 5.2 for a full description of the Control File Parameters)¹. The collection of model inputs and configured control file is called a ‘model package’ as shown in Figure 1-1. More information on input files is provided in Section 3.

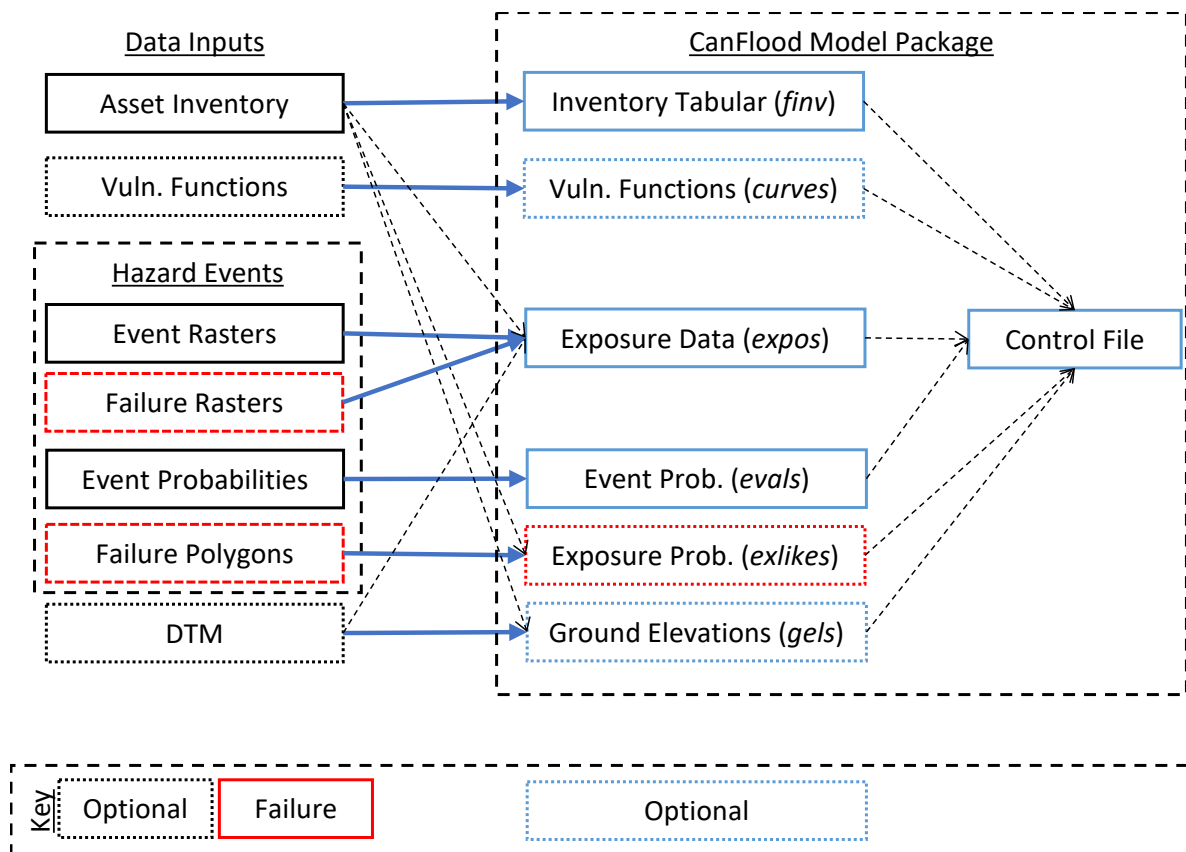


Figure 1-1: CanFlood L2 model package and data-inputs relation diagram.

¹ All SOFDA inputs must be built and configured manually.



2. Installation

All installation instructions can be found on GitHub:

<https://github.com/NRCan/CanFlood>

Once installed, you should see the three CanFlood buttons on your QGIS toolbar:



Additional tools are provided under QGIS's plugins menu.



3. Applications and Workflows

The CanFlood plugin holds a collection of tools designed to support flood risk modellers with range of common tasks. To accomplish this, CanFlood is flexible: allowing users to link together whichever tools and sequences are needed to complete the task at hand. Performing a flood risk assessment using CanFlood requires expertise in flood risk modelling, some procedures like those referenced in Section 1.1.2, and generally employs the following steps:

1. Identifying the objectives, scope, and purpose of the assessment.
2. Selecting the appropriate CanFlood model level (Section 1.3) then identifying the necessary input data.
3. Collecting and preparing the necessary input data (Section 3).
4. Building the CanFlood model package (see below).
5. Running the CanFlood model package using the appropriate model tool (Section 5.2).
6. Using CanFlood's 'Results' tools to prepare diagrams and maps (Section 5.3).
7. Evaluating, documenting, and communicating the results, context, and uncertainty.

As noted in the section references, many of these steps must be performed outside the CanFlood platform.

Building Models

Most workflows in CanFlood require the user to employ a similar sequence of the 'Build' tools described in Section 5.1 to prepare the CanFlood model package (Figure 1-1) from the input data. Figure 3-1 shows a typical workflow from 'Setup' to 'Validation'. Whether or not to include the optional steps shown on the diagram will depend on the following:

- *Risk model level*: L2 models require vulnerability functions ('curves') (see Section 3.2).
- *Defense failure*: L1 or L2 models incorporating some protection failure require companion failure events (failure rasters and failure polygons) (see Section 3.3).
- *Asset heights*: L1 or L2 models incorporating asset inventories with object height data relative to ground require ground elevations data ('gels').
- *Exposure type*: L1 or L2 models with non-point geometry assets evaluating exposure as a percentage of inundation (Section 5.1.3) require a DTM layer.

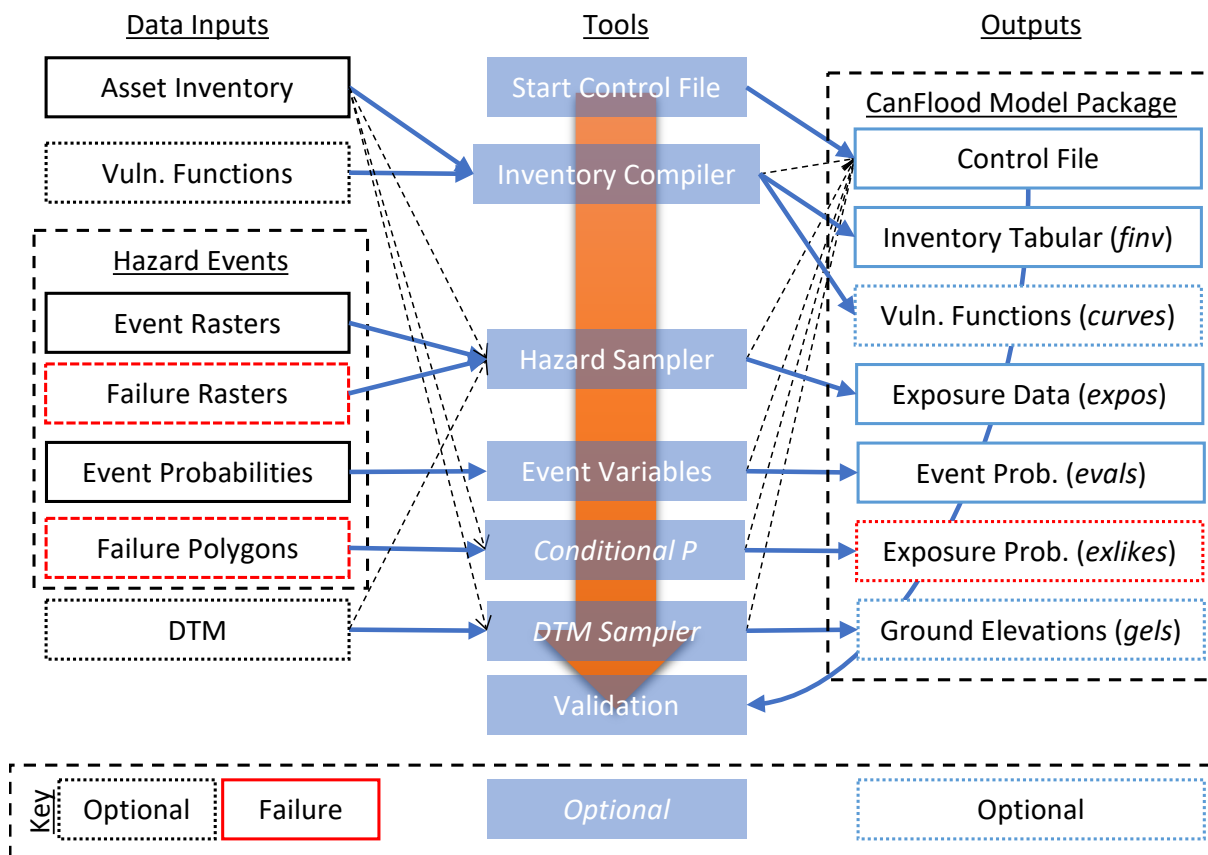


Figure 3-1: Typical model construction workflow using CanFlood's 'Build' tools from 'Setup' to 'Validation'. Data inputs are described in Section 3 while tools and outputs are described in Section 5.1.

More information and additional tools to support model construction are provided in Section 5.1.

The remainder of this section summarizes some typical analysis types or workflows employing the risk models summarized in Section 1.3 and discussed in detail in Section 5.2. All these workflows are risk-based, in that they incorporate a wide-range of event probabilities and calculate risk-metrics. The tutorials in Section 6 provide step-by-step instructions and accompanying input data to demonstrate these workflows.



3.1. Risk (L1) Exposure-Based Assessment

Exposure-based (L1) assessments quantify the probability of binary exposure of assets to flooding (wet vs. dry). This can be useful for initial assessments, where resources and data are limited, to identify areas for further study. In CanFlood, this is accomplished by collecting data, building a Risk (L1) model, running the model, and evaluating the results. Unlike vulnerability-based assessments (L2, Section 3.2), exposure-based (L1) assessments do not capture the influence of flood depth on risk. In other words, a house with some ponding in the yard would be counted the same as a house fully under-water. However, exposure-based (L1) assessments can be used to estimate additional risk-metrics through application of CanFlood's scaling parameters (e.g., estimating crop-loss by multiplying the area inundated by some loss/area constant). Exposure-based (L1) assessments can incorporate an assessment of defense failure if exposure probability data is available (Section 3.3). Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-2 summarize a typical Risk (L1) workflow. For more information on the Risk (L1) model, see Section 5.2.1.

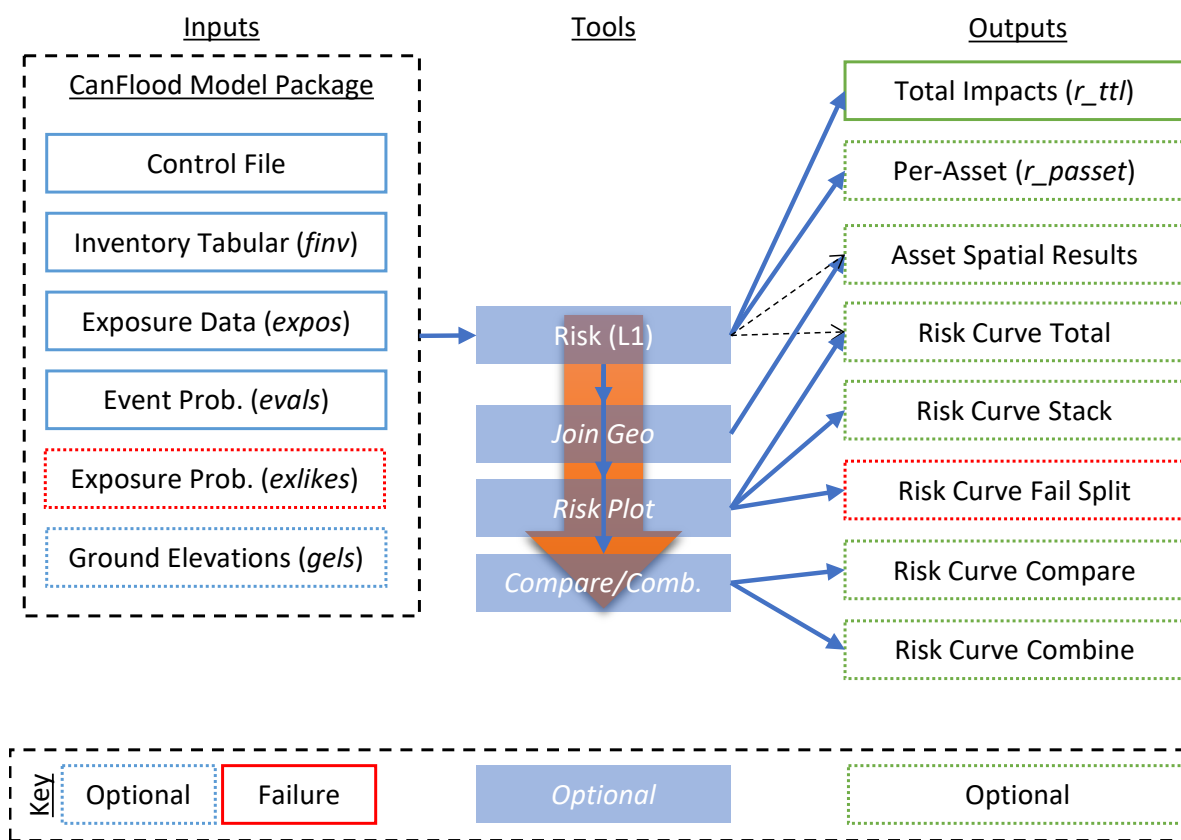


Figure 3-2: Typical Risk (L1) workflow (post- model construction).



3.2. Risk (L2) Vulnerability-Based Assessment

Vulnerability-based (L2) assessments quantify the risk of some flood impacts to assets where the impact can be related to depth. Risk models that consider vulnerability as a function of flood depth are commonly used to evaluate flood risk to buildings, building contents, and infrastructure. In CanFlood, such an assessment is conducted by collecting data, constructing or collecting vulnerability functions, building a Risk (L2) model, running said model, then evaluating the results. Often the most challenging element of this process is the collection or construction of vulnerability functions (Section 4.3) which future versions of CanFlood may provide support for. Vulnerability-based (L2) assessments generally incorporate an assessment of defense failure (Section 3.3). Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-3 summarize a typical Risk (L2) workflow. For more information on the Risk (L2) model, see Section 5.2.3.

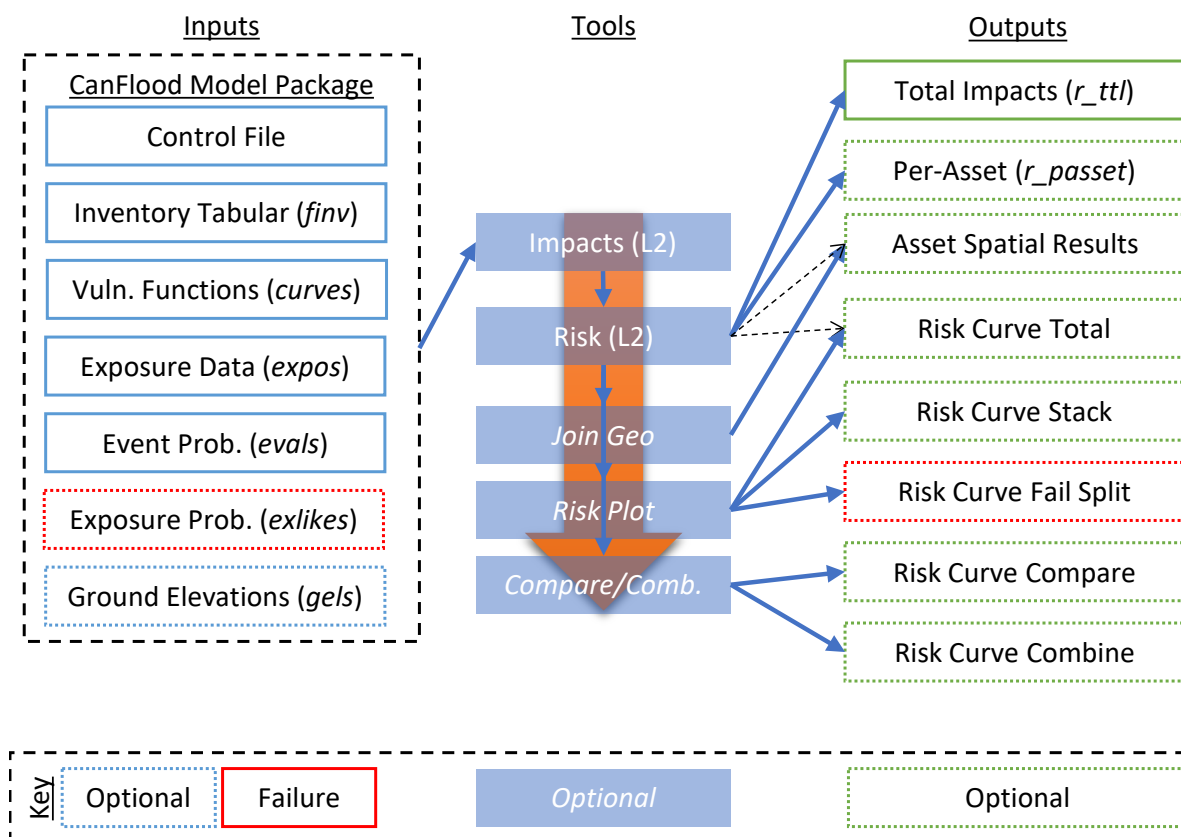


Figure 3-3: Typical Risk (L2) workflow (post-model construction).



3.3. Defense Failure

Many developed areas in Canada rely on some form of flood defense infrastructure (e.g., levees or drainage pumps) to reduce the exposure of assets. Any such infrastructure has the potential to fail during a flood event. Ignoring this failure potential ($P_{\text{fail}}=0$) will underestimate the real flood risk in an area (negative model bias). Assuming such infrastructure will always fail ($P_{\text{fail}}=1$) can drastically overestimate flood risk (positive model bias). Either assumption will reduce confidence in the model and the quality of any flood management decisions made from it. In many areas in Canada, flood protection plays such a significant role in exposure mechanics that a binary treatment of failure probability ($P_{\text{fail}} = 0$ or 1) would render the model's calculated risk metric useless. Recognizing the importance of flood protection infrastructure in Canadian flood risk management, CanFlood Risk (L1) and Risk (L2) workflows facilitate the incorporation of defense failure into risk calculations.

A common application of this capability is the incorporation of levee fragility into a risk model. Often such study areas will have groups of levee-protected assets, where each asset is vulnerable to a breach point anywhere along a levee ring. This situation can be analyzed by discretizing the levee into segments, estimating the influence area of a breach along each segment (for event j), estimating the conditional probability of that breach occurring (during event j), and developing hazard rasters for the breach conditions. Qualified hydrotechnical and geotechnical professionals should be engaged to perform this analysis and generate the inputs required by CanFlood as summarized in Section 4.2.

3.3.1. Workflow

Defense failure is incorporated into risk calculations during CanFlood's Risk (L1) and Risk (L2) workflows with the following general steps:

- 1) Collect the set of hazard event rasters (Section 4.2) and dike profile, fragility, and influence area information (Section 4.5).
- 2) Calculate the dike failure probability of each hazard event and map it onto the dike influence area using the 'Dike Fragility Mapper' tool (Section 5.4.1) to obtain the 'failure polygon' set.



- 3) From the ‘failure polygons’, extract, resolve, and assign conditional failure probabilities for each failure event into the resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’) dataset using the ‘Conditional P’ tool (Section 5.1.5).
- 4) Execute the Risk (L1) or Risk (L2) model to employ CanFlood’s algorithms to calculate expected values with defense failure (Section 5.2.3 *Events with Failure*)

Figure 3-4 summarizes CanFlood’s full expected value algorithm.

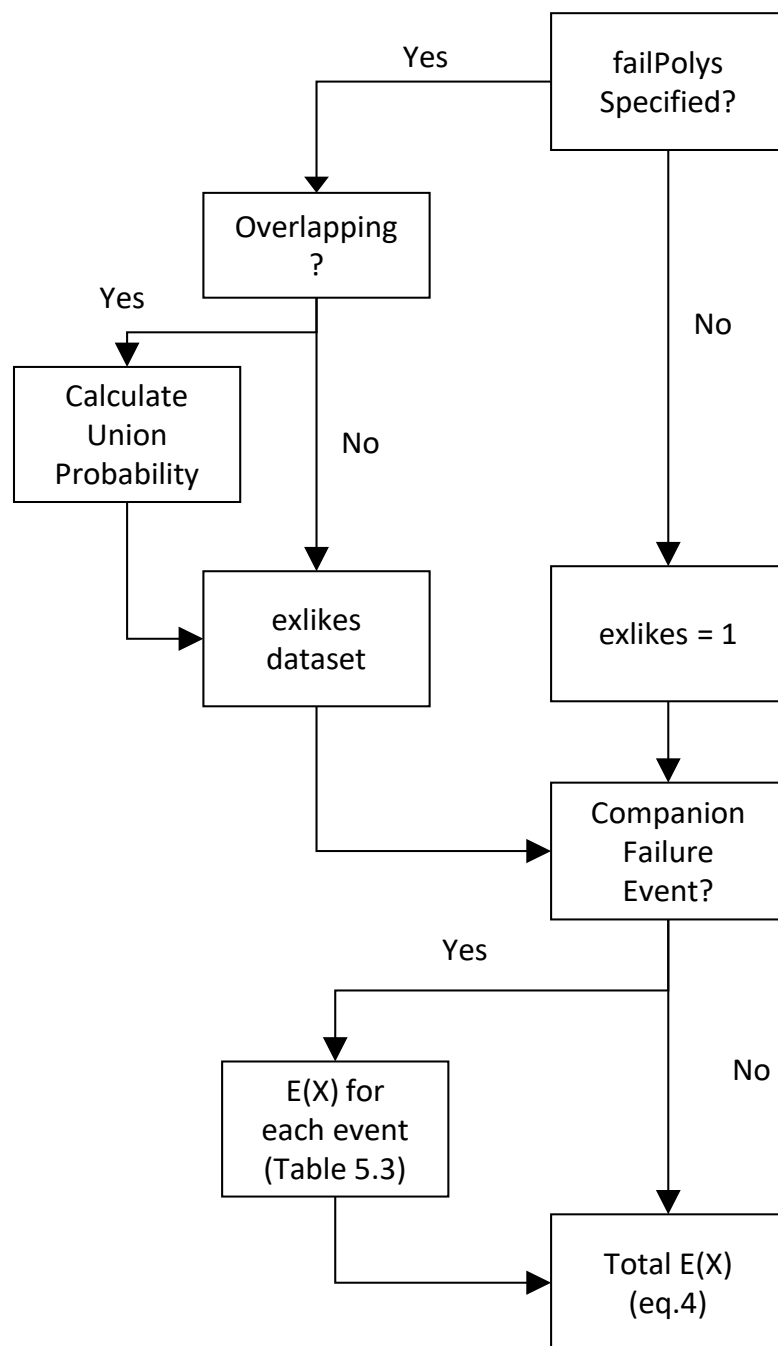


Figure 3-4: CanFlood's Risk (L1 and L2) tool expected value ($E(X)$) calculation algorithm



3.3.2. Event Relations

To calculate expected values (in more complex models), the application of both the ‘Conditional P’ tool and the risk models requires accounting for the relationship between the events supplied by the user. In other words, when multiple failures are specified, one must specify how those failures should/should-not be combined. Calculating and incorporating failure correlations between elements in a defense system requires a sophisticated and mechanistic understanding of the system that is beyond the scope of CanFlood. As an alternative approximation, CanFlood includes two basic assumptions, summarized in Figure 3-5, for the relationship between failure elements. These alternate assumptions are provided to allow the user to test the sensitivity of the model to failure element correlations; if the model is found to have a high sensitivity to this parameter, more sophisticated defense system analysis should be pursued.

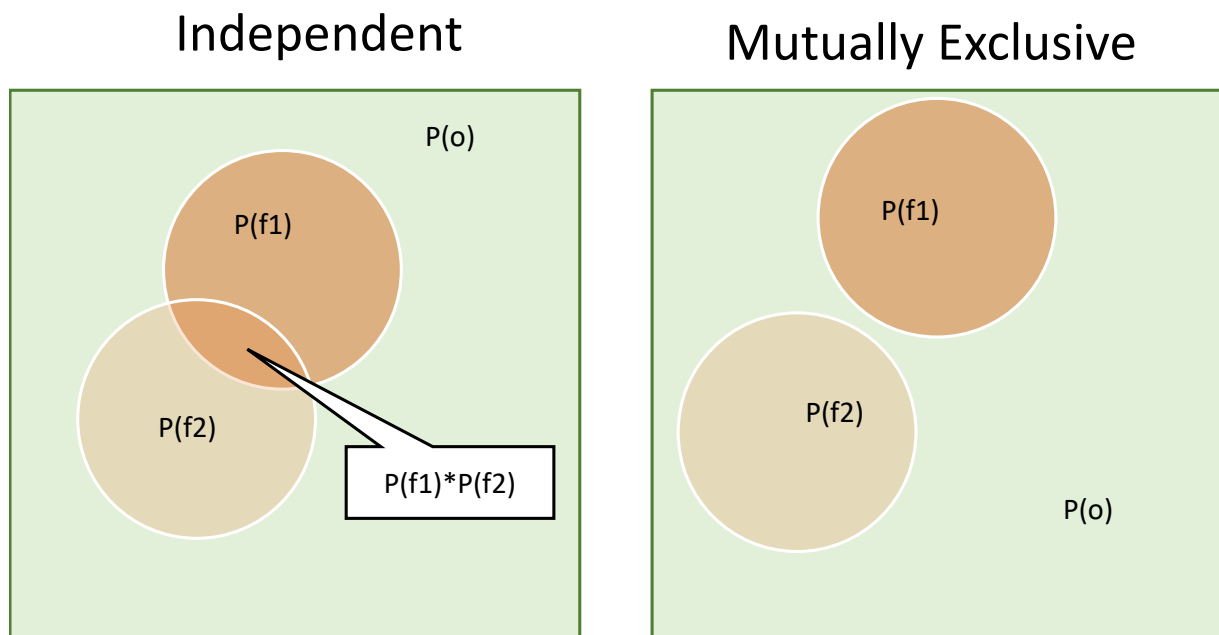


Figure 3-5: Example probability space diagram showing two events either [left] independent or [right] mutually exclusive where ‘ $P(o)$ ’ is the probability of no failures.



4. Inputs and Data Requirements

CanFlood models are only as useful as the datasets they are built with. Below is a summary of the main datasets the user must collect and compile prior to building a CanFlood model.

4.1. Asset Inventory

The asset inventory ('finv') is a comprehensive list of the objects or assets whose exposure will be evaluated by the CanFlood model routines. The asset inventory is a spatial dataset that requires the following fields when employed in Risk (L1) models:

- *fX_scale*: value to scale the vulnerability function by (e.g., floor area);
- *fX_elv*: elevation to anchor the vulnerability function (e.g., first floor height + DTM);
- *geometry*: geospatial data used to locate the asset for sampling;
- *FieldName Index (cid)*: unique asset identifying integer used to link datasets.

For Impacts (L2) and Risk (L2) models, the following additional fields are required:

- *fX_tag*: value telling the model which vulnerability function to assign to this asset;
- *fX_cap*: value to cap vulnerability prediction by (e.g., improvement value).

Additional fields are allowed but ignored by CanFlood. The 'X' placeholder shown above is called the 'nestID' and is used to group the four key attributes that parametrize a 'nested function' required by the Impacts (L2) model (Section 5.2.2). The 'Build' toolset provides a 'Inventory Constructor' tool that can populate an inventory template as a convenience; however, completing this template for a study area generally requires extensive data analysis outside the CanFlood plugin.

4.2. Hazard Events


CanFlood requires a set of 'hazard events' to calculate flood exposure and risk. For a risk calculation, each event should have:

- **Event probability**: probability of the event occurring. This can be input as Annual Exceedance Probabilities (AEP) or Annual Recurrence Intervals (ARI). Often these are developed using statistical analysis of past flood events. As this information is not contained in the raster data file itself, best practice is to include it in the layer name.



- **Event raster:** location and WSL of the flood event. CanFlood's 'Hazard Sampler' tool (Section 5.1.3) expects this as a raster data file, but CanFlood's Model routines only require the tabular exposure data ('expos'). Values must be relative to the project datum (WSL) and are typically developed using hydraulic modelling software.
- **Companion failure events** (optional): contains information about the probability and resulting exposure of a flood protection system failure during the hazard event. Each hazard event can be assigned multiple failure events (see Section 1.4) by specifying the same event probability for each in the 'evals' dataset (see Section 5.1.4).
 - **Failure raster:** location and WSL of the companion failure event.
 - **Failure polygon:** Conditional exposure probability polygon layer with features indicating the extent and probability of element failures during the event. The 'Dike Fragility Mapper' tool (Section 5.1.5) provides a set of algorithms for preparing these polygons from typical dike fragility information and event rasters. These failure polygons are needed by the 'Conditional P' tool to generate the resolved exposure probabilities ('exlikes') dataset required by the Risk (L1) and Risk (L2) modules.

4.3. Vulnerability Function Set

For the Impacts (L2) model, CanFlood requires an impact function library with a function for each asset tag in the inventory. The datafile is a  spreadsheet, where each tab corresponds to a separate impact function. Each tab contains:

- metadata about the function (not used by CanFlood); and
- a 1D function translating exposure to impact.

An example is provided below with a description. During the Impacts (L2) model, each asset interpolates its vulnerability function at the exposure value (from the 'expos' data set) to estimate the impact value. Typically, the exposure variables are depth and the impact variables are damages, but the user can customize the model by populating the 'expos' data set with alternative exposure variables and developing vulnerability functions with alternative outputs (e.g. persons displaced = $f(\text{percent inundated})$).



Table 4-1: CanFlood impact function format requirements and description.

Field	Example Value	Description	Required
tag	02Office.inEq.comp	Linking variable used to assign this function to an asset in the inventory	TRUE
desc	some description	Long form description of the impact function.	FALSE
source	BCStats NRP Survey (2020)	Primary data source for the impact function.	FALSE
location	BCs LowerMainland	Geographic location of applicable assets	FALSE
date	2020	Applicable period	FALSE
impact_units	\$CAD	Units of impact output (after scaling)	FALSE
exposure_units	m	Units of expected impact input	FALSE
scale_units	m2	Units of expected scale input	FALSE
exposure_var	water height from main floor	Variable of expected exposure input	FALSE
impact_var	building repair and restoration cost estimate	Variable of impact output (after scaling)	FALSE
scale_var	main floor area	Description of expected scale variable	FALSE
exposure	impact	Header for exposure-impact function	TRUE
0	0	First exposure-impact entry	TRUE
0.305	394.56	...	TRUE
0.914	543.05	Last exposure-impact entry	TRUE

4.4. Digital Terrain Model (DTM)

A project DTM is only required for those models with relative asset heights (elv).



4.5. Dike Information

To use the ‘Dike Fragility Mapper’ module (Section 5.4.1) to generate the ‘failure polygon’ set, the following information on the study area’s diking system is required:

- **Dike alignment:** This line layer contains the following information on the study dikes:
 - face of the dike: indicated by the direction of the feature, this tells CanFlood which side should of the feature to sample the WSL from
 - the horizontal location of the dike crest (i.e. the position of features)
 - how each dike should be segmented in the analysis (where each feature represents a segment)
 - the dike identifier (for combining multiple segments onto a single plot)
 - any freeboard buffers that should be applied (e.g., to simulate sand-bagging)
 - which fragility curve should be used to calculate the failure probability of that segment.
- **Dike fragility function library:** This special type of impact function (Section 4.3) relates the WSL relative to the segment crest elevation (i.e., freeboard) against the probability of that segment failing (and realizing the provided failure WSL). Developing these relations often requires data on mechanical (e.g., foundation, core) and emergency repair properties (e.g., accessibility to maintenance vehicles) and sophisticated geotechnical analysis and expertise. While dike performance is generally sensitive to more types of loading than freeboard, CanFlood only supports single-variable fragility calculations.
- **Dike segment influence areas:** These polygons provide the geometry of the area where assets would be impacted by a failure of a segment. Generally, this is similar to the extents of the failure raster (e.g., results of a hydraulic model breach run).
- **Digital Terrain Model (DTM) of dike crest:** This is generally the same dataset as what’s described in Section 4.4; however, dike evaluation is particular sensitive to small changes in elevation and DTMs often have errors or artifacts around dike crests if not constructed for flood modelling. Therefore, users should emphasize DTM quality around dike crests when performing a fragility analysis.



5. Toolsets

This section describes the use and function of CanFlood's toolsets in detail.

5.1. Build



The build toolset contains a suite of tools summarized in Table 5-1 intended to aid the flood risk modeller in their construction of CanFlood L1 and L2 models.

Table 5-1: Build tools summary

Tab Name	Tool Name	Description	Inputs	Outputs
Setup	Start Control File	Creates a Control File template	name and precision	Control File Template
Inventory	Inventory Constructor	Builds a finv template	vector layer, attributes	inventory vector layer ('finv')
Inventory	Vuln. Function Library	GUI for selecting a Function set		Vulnerability Function Set
Inventory	Inventory Compiler	Clip and extract finv data to tabular format	'finv', parameters	inventory tabular data ('finv')
Hazard Sampler	Raster Preparation	Manipulate hazard rasters	hazard rasters	hazard rasters
Hazard Sampler	Sample Rasters	Sample hazard raster values	hazard rasters, 'finv', DTM	exposure dataset ('expos')
Event Variables	Store Evals	Write event probabilities to file	hazard event probabilities	event variables ('evals')
Conditional P	Conditional P	Resolve conditional exposure probabilities	'finv', failure polygons	exposure prob.('exlikes')
DTM Sampler	DTM Sampler	Sample DTM raster at asset geometry	'finv', DTM	ground elevations ('gels')
Validation	Validation	Validate against model requirements	complete model package	



5.1.1. Setup

This tab facilitates the creation of a Control File from user specified parameters and inventory, as well as providing general file control variables for the other tools in the toolset.

5.1.2. Inventory

The inventory tab contains a set of tools for constructing and converting flood asset inventories ('finv'; Section 4.1). The remainder of this section describes the available inventory tools.

Inventory Construction Helper

The optional 'Inventory Construction Helper' tool helps construct a Flood Asset Inventory template from some vector geometry within CanFlood's 'nested function' framework (Section 4.1). Additional data analysis outside the CanFlood platform is generally required to populate these fields.

Vulnerability Function Library

To support the construction of preliminary risk models, the CanFlood plugin provides a collection of vulnerability function libraries commonly used in Canada. Users should carefully study legacy vulnerability functions and their construction methods before incorporating them into any risk analysis. At a minimum, functions should be scaled to account for spatial and temporal transfers.

Inventory Compiler

The Inventory Compiler is a simple tool used to prepare an inventory vector layer for inclusion in a CanFlood model using the following process:

1. clip the selected vector layer by the AOI (if one is selected on the Setup tab);
2. extract non-spatial data to the working directory as a csv; and
3. write the file location of this csv and the Index FieldName to the control file.

5.1.3. Hazard Sampler

The Hazard Sampler tool generates the exposure dataset ('expos') from a set of hazard event rasters. Generally, these hazard event rasters represent the WSL results of some hazard model (e.g. HEC-RAS) at specific probabilities. The hazard sampler has two basic modes:



- **WSL:** Sample raster values at each asset (default). For line and polygon assets, this requires the user specify a sampling statistic.
- **Inundation:** Calculate percent-inundation of each asset (for line and polygon geometry only). This requires a DTM layer and a 'Depth Threshold' be specified.

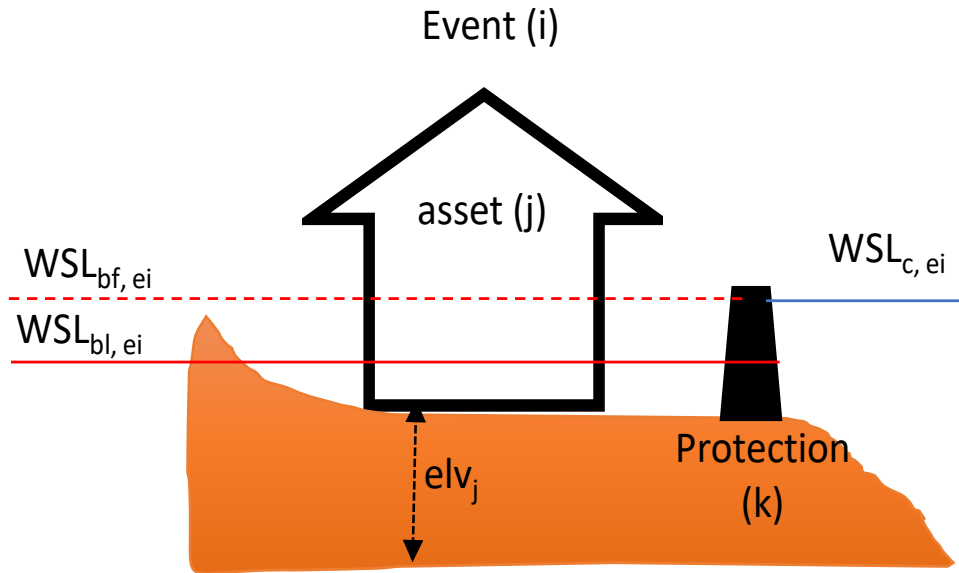


Figure 5-1: Risk calculation definition diagram where the dashed line is the WSL value of event ' e_i '

Using the definitions in Figure 5-1, the WSL exposure from an event i to a single asset j with height elv_j is calculated as:

$$expo_{i,j} = WSL_{bl,ei} - elv_j$$

The hazard sampler performs the following general steps to the set of user-supplied hazard layers and inventory layer:

- 1) Slice the inventory layer by the AOI (if 'Project AOI' is specified)
- 2) For each layer, sample the raster value or calculate the percent inundation of each asset;
- 3) Save the results in the 'expos' csv file to the working directory and write this path to the Control File;
- 4) Load the results layer to canvas (optional)



Raster Preparation

The raster sampler expects all the hazard layers to have the following properties:

- layer CRS matches project CRS;
- layer pixel values match those of the vulnerability functions (e.g., values are typically meters);
- layer dataProvider is 'gdal' (i.e., the tool does not support processing web-layers).

To help rasters conform to these expectations, CanFlood includes a 'Raster Preparation' feature on the 'Hazard Sampler' tab with the tools summarized in Table 5-2.

Table 5-2: Raster Preparation tools

Tool Name	Handle	Description
Downloader	Allow dataProvider conversion	If the layer's dataProvider is not 'gdal' (i.e., web-layers), a local copy of the layer is made to the user's 'TEMP' directory.
Re-projector	Allow re-projection	If the layer's CRS does not match that of the project, the 'gdalwarp' utility is used to re-project the layer.
AOI clipper	Clip to AOI	This uses the 'gdalwarp' utility to clip the raster by the AOI mask layer.
Value Scaler	ScaleFactor	For ScaleFactors not equal to 1.0, this uses the Raster Calculator to scale the raster values by the passed ScaleFactor (useful for simple unit conversions).

After executing these tools, a new set of rasters are loaded to the project.



Sampling Geometry and Exposure Type

To support a wide range of vulnerability analysis, the Hazard Sampler tool is capable of developing WSL and inundation exposure variables from the three basic geometry types as shown in Table 5-3. For *line* and *polygon* type geometries, the tool requires the user specify the sample statistic for WSL calculations, and a depth threshold for percent inundation calculations.

Table 5-3: Hazard Sampler configuration by geometry type and exposure type and *relevant tutorial*.

Geometry	WSL		Inundation	
	Parameters	Exposure	Parameters	Exposure
Point	Default <i>Tutorial 2a</i>	WSL	Default <i>Tutorial 1a</i>	WSL ¹
Line ⁴	Sample Statistic ^{3, 5}	WSL Statistic	% inundation, Depth Thresh ² <i>Tutorial 4b</i>	% inundation
Polygon ⁴	Sample Statistic ³	WSL Statistic	% inundation, Depth Thresh ² <i>Tutorial 4a</i>	% inundation
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To apply a threshold depth, the f_elv values can be manually manipulated. WSL exposure values are converted to binary-exposure (i.e., inundated or not inundated) by the Risk (L1) model. 2. Requires a DTM raster be specified on the 'DTM Sampler' tab. Model tools expect the asset inventory ('finv') to contain a 'f_elv' column with all zero values and parameter.felv='datum'. Respects NULL raster cell values as not inundated. 3. Ignores NoData values when calculating statistics. 4. M and Z values are not supported. 5. Throws a 'feature(s) from input layer could not be matched' error when null values are encountered. This error is safe to ignore. 				

5.1.4. Event Variables

The Event Variables 'Store Evals' tool stores the user specified event probabilities into the event variables ('evals') dataset. The Hazard Sampler tool must be run first to populate the Event Variables table.

Notes and Limitations

The following apply to the Event Variables and connected tools:

- The Risk (L1 and L2) modules require at least 3 events unique event probabilities.



5.1.5. Conditional P

To incorporate defense failure (Section 1.4), CanFlood ‘Risk (L1)’ and ‘Risk (L2)’ models expect a resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’) data set that specifies the conditional exposure probability of each asset to each hazard failure raster. The ‘Conditional P’ tool provides a conversion from a collection of failure influence area polygons and rasters (i.e., the outputs of a flood protection reliability analysis) to the resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’) dataset. For each conditional failure event, the ‘Conditional P’ tool expects the user to provide a pair composed of the following layers:

- Raster of WSL that would be realized in the failure event
- Vector layer with polygon features indicating the extent and probability of element failures during the hazard event (‘failure polygons’). These features can be non-overlapping (simple conditionals) or overlapping (complex conditionals) as discussed below.

The user can specify up to eight event-raster/conditional-exposure-probability-polygon pairings with the GUI.

CanFlood distinguishes ‘complex’ and ‘simple’ conditional exposure probability polygons based on the geometry overlap of their features as summarized in Table 5-4 and shown in Figure 5-2.

Table 5-4: Conditional exposure probability polygon treatment summary.

Type	Features	Treatment	Example (Figure 5-5)
trivial	none	Failure not considered, no resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’) required	n/a



simple	not overlapping	‘Conditional P’ tool joins the specified attribute value from the polygon feature onto each asset to generate resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’).	f2, f3
complex	overlapping	see below	f1

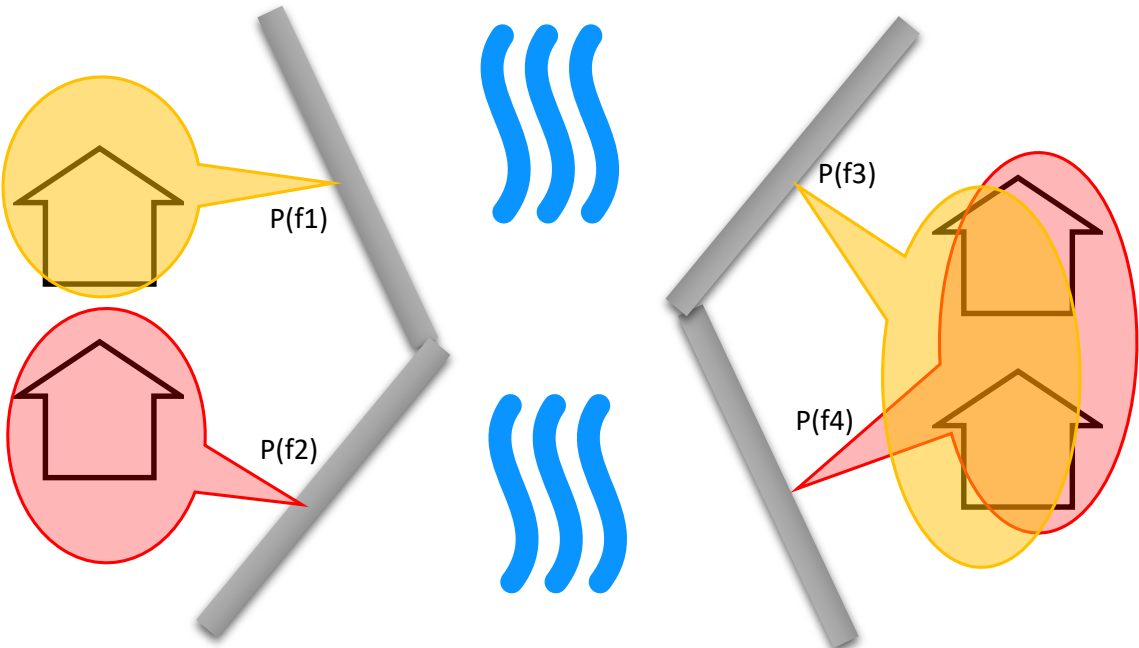


Figure 5-2: Simple [left] vs. Complex [right] conditional exposure probability polygon conceptual diagram showing a single layer with four features.

For complex conditionals, ‘Conditional P’ provides two algorithms to resolve overlapping failure polygons down to a single failure probability (for a given asset on a given failure raster) based on two alternate assumptions for the mechanistic relation between the failure mechanisms summarized in Table 5-5.

Table 5-5: Conditional exposure probability polygon resolution algorithms for complex conditional

Relation	Algorithm Summary
Mutually Exclusive	$P(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n P(i)$



Independent ¹	$P(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(1^{i-1} \sum P(A_i) \right)$
Where P(X) is the resolved failure probability for a single asset on a given event and P(i) is the failure probably value sampled from a failure polygons feature.	
1) Bedford and Cooke (2001)	

5.1.6. DTM Sampler

The DTM Sampler tool uses the same module as the Hazard Sampler to sample DTM raster values at each asset provided in the inventory vector layer. This tool outputs the ground elevation ('gels') dataset and writes the corresponding reference to the control file. This dataset is required by any model where the inventory ('finv') data's height or elevation parameters are specified relative to ground (felv='ground').

5.1.7. Validation

The Validation tool performs a series of checks on the specified control file to ensure the data requirements of the specified model are satisfied. If the checks are satisfied, the corresponding validation flag is set in the control file, allowing the model tool to run.



5.2. Model



The ‘Model’ toolset provides a GUI to facilitate access to CanFlood’s 3 flood risk models. CanFlood’s L2 models are split between exposure and risk to facilitate custom applications (these can be linked using the ‘Run Risk Model (L2)’ checkbox). The following tabs are implemented in CanFlood’s Model toolset:

- *Setup*: Filepaths, run descriptions, and optional parameters used by all Model tools;
- *Risk (L1)*: Inundation likelihood analysis;
- *Impacts (L2)*: Part one of the L2 models, exposure per event calculated with vulnerability functions;
- *Risk (L2)*: Part two of the L2 models, expected value of all event impacts;
- *Risk (L3)*: SOFDA research model

Batch Runs

To facilitate batch simulations for advanced users, all CanFlood modelling modules have reduced dependency requirements (e.g. the QGIS API is not required).

Parameter Summary

The following table summarizes the relevant parameters for CanFlood’s model toolset that can be specified in the Control File:



```

2. [parameters]
3.
4. event_probs -- format of event probabilities (in 'aeps' data file)
5.                (default 'ari')
6.
7.     'aeps'          event probabilities in aeps file expressed as
8.                     annual exceedance probabilities
9.     'aris'          expressed as annual recurrence intervals
10.
11.
12. ltail -- zero probability event extrapolation handle
13.        (default 'extrapolate')
14.     'flat'          set the zero probability event equal to the most
15.                     extreme impacts in the passed series
16.     'extrapolate'   set the zero probability event by extrapolating from
17.                     the most extreme impact
18.     'none'          do not extrapolate (not recommended)
19.     float           use the passed value as the zero probability impact value
20.
21.
22. rtail -- zero impacts event extrapolation handle (default 0.5)
23.     'extrapolate'   set the zero impact event by extrapolating from the
24.                     least extreme impact
25.     'none'          do not extrapolate (not recommended)
26.     float           use the passed value as the zero impacts aep value
27.
28. drop_tails -- flag to drop the extrapolated values from the results
29.                (default True)
30.
31. integrate -- numpy integration method to apply (default 'trapz')
32.
33. res_per_asset -- flag to generate results per asset
34.
35. ground_water -- flag to include negative depths in the analysis
36.
37. [dmg_fps]
38.
39.
40. [risk_fps]
41. dmgs -- damage data results file path (default N/A)
42.
43. exlikes -- secondary exposure likelihood data file path (default N/A)
44.
45. evals -- event probability data file path (default N/A)
46.
47. [validation]
48. risk2 -- Risk2 validation flag (default False)

```

Some of these can be configured with CanFlood's 'Build' toolset UI, while others must be specified manually in the Control File.



5.2.1. Risk (L1)

CanFlood's L1 Risk tool provides a preliminary assessment of flood risk with binary exposure as discussed in Section 3.1. This tool also supports conditional probability inputs to incorporate flood protection failures. Table 5-6 summarizes the input requirements for the Risk (L1) model, which are generally prepared using the 'Build' tools (Figure 3-1).

Table 5-6: Risk (L1) CanFlood model package requirements.

Name	Description	Build Tool	Code	Reqd.
Control File	Data file paths and parameters	Start Control File		yes
Inventory	Tabular asset inventory data	Inventory Compiler	finv	yes
Exposure	WSL or %inundated exposure data	Hazard Sampler	expos	yes
Event Probabilities	Probability of each hazard event	Event Variables	evals	yes
Exposure Probabilities	Conditional probability of each asset realizing the failure raster	Conditional P	exlikes	for failure
Ground Elevations	Elevation of ground at each asset	DTM Sampler	gels	for felv= ground

The Risk (L1) module can be used to estimate a range of simple-metrics through creative use of the asset inventory ('finv') fields discussed in Section 4.1. When the 'scale' factor is set to 1, 'height' to zero, and no conditional probabilities are used (typical for inundation analysis), most of the calculation becomes trivial as the result is simply the impact values provided by the 'expos' table (with the exception of the expected value calculation).

Outputs provided by this tool are summarized in the following table:



Table 5-7: Risk model output file summary.

Output Name	Code	Description
total results	r_ttl	table of sum of impacts (for all assets) per event and expected value of all events (EAD)
per-asset results	r_passet	table of impacts per asset per event and expected value of all events per asset
risk curve		risk curve plot of total impacts

5.2.2. Impacts (L2)

CanFlood's 'Impacts (L2)' tool is designed to perform a 'classic' object-based deterministic flood damage assessment using vulnerability curves, asset heights, and WSL values to estimate flood impacts from multiple events. This tool calculates the impacts on each asset from each hazard event (if the provided raster WSL was realized). 'Impacts (L2)' does not consider or account for event probabilities (conditional or otherwise) as these are handled in the Risk (L2) module (see Section 5.2.3). Model package requirements are summarized in the following table:

Table 5-8: Impacts (L2) model package requirements.

Name	Description	Build Tool	Code	Reqd.
Control File	Data file paths and parameters	Start Control File		yes
Inventory	Tabular asset inventory data	Inventory Compiler	finv	yes
Exposure	WSL or %inundated exposure data	Hazard Sampler	expos	yes
Ground Elevations	Elevation of ground at each asset	DTM Sampler	gels	for felv= ground
Vulnerability Function Set	Collection of functions relating exposure to impact	Vulnerability Function Library	curves	yes



Impacts (L2) outputs are summarized in the following table, where only the ‘dmgs’ output is required by the Risk (L2) model:

Table 5-9: Impacts (L2) outputs.

Output Name	Code	Description
total impacts	dmgs	total impacts calculated for each asset
expanded component impacts	dmgs_expnd	complete impacts calculated on each nested function of each asset (see below)
impacts calculation summary	bdmg_smry	workbook summarizing components of the impact calculation (see below)
depths	depths_df	depth values calculated for each asset
impact histogram		summary plot of total impact values per-asset
impact box plot		summary plot of total impact values per-asset

Nested Functions

To facilitate complex assets (e.g. a house vulnerable to structural and contents damages), Impacts (L2) supports composite vulnerability functions parameterized with the 4 key attributes (‘tag’, ‘scale’, ‘cap’, ‘elv’) with the ‘f’ prefix and ‘nestID’ numerator (e.g. f0, f1, f2, etc.) discussed in Section 4.1. In this way, CanFlood can simulate a complex vulnerability function by combining the set of simple component functions to estimate flood damage. An example entry in the asset inventory (‘finv’) for a single-family dwelling may look like:

xid	f0_tag	f0_scale	f0_cap	f0_elv	f1_cap	f1_elv	f1_scale	f1_tag
14879	BA_S	117.99	91300	11.11	20000	11.11	117.99	BA_C

Where BA_S corresponds to a vulnerability function for estimating structural cleanup/repair, and BA_C estimates household contents damages (both scaled by the floor area). Additional fX columns could be added as component vulnerability functions for basements, garages, and so on. Each of group of four key attributes is referred to as a ‘nested function’, where the collection of nested functions comprises the complete vulnerability function of an asset.



Impacts (L2) calculates the impact of an event e_i to a single asset j from its collection of nested vulnerability functions k as:

$$c_{i,j} = \sum_{k=0}^n F(\text{expo}_{i,j,k}, \text{tag}_{j,k}, \text{cap}_{j,k}, \text{scale}_{j,k}, \text{elv}_{j,k}) \quad (1)$$

Where each nested vulnerability function is parameterized by the following provided in the control file (Section 4.1):

- *tag*: variable linking the asset to the corresponding vulnerability curve in the vulnerability curve set ('curves');
- *cap*: maximum value cap placed on the vulnerability curve result;
- *scale*: scale value applied to the vulnerability curve result;
- *elv*: vertical distance from the exposure value.

And the following provided in the exposure dataset ('expos'):

- *expo*: magnitude of flood exposure sampled at the asset.

The 'Impacts (L2)' routine first calculates the impacts of each nested function, then scales the values, then caps the values, before combining all the nested values to obtain the total impact for a given asset.

Generally, the exposure dataset ('expos') is constructed with the 'Hazard Sampler' (Section 5.1.3) tool and contains a set of sampled WSL for each asset and each event. However, the only requirements on the 'expos' file are that it matches the expectations of the vulnerability functions referenced by the 'curves' parameter (Section 4.3).

Ground Water

To improve performance, Impacts (L2) only evaluates assets with positive depths (when 'ground_water'=False) and real depths. By specifying 'ground_water'=True, negative depths (within the minimum depth found in all loaded damage functions) can be included in the calculation.



Object Level Mitigation Measures

The ‘Impacts (L2)’ model facilitates the modelling of exposure reductions brought about by object (or property) level mitigation measures (PLPM) such as backflow valves or sandbagging. The real effect of such interventions on the hydraulic exposure of buildings or property is complex and may be influenced by: 1) active vs. passive nature of the PLPM; 2) the warning time and time of day or year (for active PLPMs); 3) hydraulic loading on the PLPM; 4) quality of installation of PLPM; 5) operator experience or error (for active PLPMs); 6) maintenance of the PLPM. CanFlood does not consider this complexity; instead, CanFlood facilitates the user’s approximation through simple thresholds, scale factors, and addition values. This parameterization should be provided for each asset in the inventory vector layer (‘finv’) with the following fields:

- **Lower threshold** (*mi_Lthresh*): All depths below this will generate an impact value of zero.
- **Upper threshold** (*mi_Uthresh*): All depths above this will NOT have impact scale factors or impact addition values applied.
- **Impact scale factor** (*mi_iScale*): For depths below the ‘upper threshold’, impact values will be scaled by this factor.
- **Impact addition value** (*mi_iVal*): For depths below the ‘upper threshold’, impact values will have this value added to them.

Additional Outputs

For advanced analysis, users can select the ‘dmgs_expnd’ option to output the complete impacts calculated on each nested function of each asset. This large, intermediate, data file provides the raw, scaled, capped, and resolved² impact values for each asset and each nested function. This can be useful for additional data analysis and troubleshooting but does not need to be output for any model routines (i.e., it is provided for information only).

² The ‘capped’ values with null and rounding treatment



Another optional output is supplied through the ‘bdmg_smry’ function and corresponding parameter that summarizes the results of each step or routine in the ‘Impacts (L2)’ module. The first tab in the spreadsheet, ‘_smry’, shows the total impacts for each event at each routine in the module. The next group of tabs summarize the impacts calculated on each flag for the corresponding routine (e.g., ‘raw’, ‘scaled’, ‘capped’, ‘dmg’, ‘mi_Lthresh’, ‘mi_iScale’, ‘mi_iVal’). Two additional tabs are provided to summarize the calculations of the capping routine (i.e., ‘cap_cnts’ and ‘cap_data’).

5.2.3. Risk (L2)

CanFlood’s ‘Risk (L2)’ tool is designed to perform a ‘classic’ object-based deterministic flood risk assessment using impact estimates and probabilities to calculate an annualized risk metric. Beyond this classical risk model, ‘Risk (L2)’ also facilitates risk estimates that incorporate conditional hazard events, like levee failure during a 100-yr flood. This can be conceptualized with Sayers (2012)’s ‘source-pathway-receptor’ framework as shown in Figure 5-3, where:

- *Source*: WSL prediction (in raster format) for levels behind the defense (e.g. levee) of an event with a quantified likelihood.
- *Pathway*: The infrastructure element separating receptors (i.e. assets) from the raw WSL prediction. Typically, this is a levee, but could be any element where ‘failure’ likelihood and WSL can be quantified (e.g. stormwater outfall gates, stormwater pumps).
- *Receptor*: Assets vulnerable to flooding where location and relevant variables are catalogued in the inventory and vulnerability is quantified with a depth-damage function.

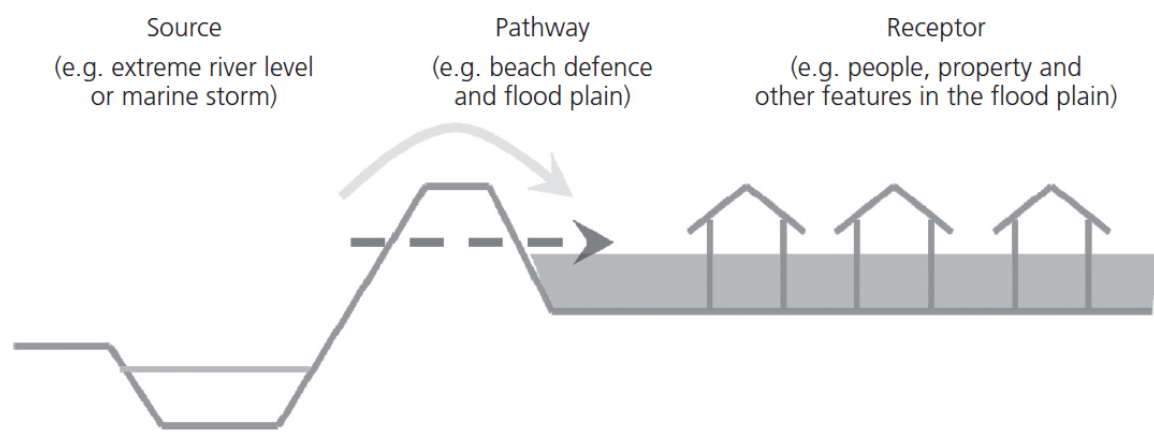


Figure 5-3: Sayers (2012)'s Source-Path-Receptor framework.

Model package requirements for the Risk (L2) tool are summarized in the following table:

Table 5-10: Risk (L2) model package requirements.

Name	Description	Build Tool	Code	Reqd.
Control File	Data file paths and parameters	Start Control File		yes
Event Probabilities	Probability of each hazard event	Event Variables	evals	yes
Exposure Probabilities	Conditional probability of each asset realizing the failure raster	Conditional P	exlikes	for failure
Total impacts	Output of Impacts (L2) model	N/A	dmgs	yes

Outputs provided by this tool are summarized in Table 5-7.



Events without Failure

A simple application of the ‘Risk (L2)’ model is a study area with no significant flood protection infrastructure (e.g., a floodplain with no levees), like in Tutorial 2a (Section 6.2). In this case, each hazard event has a single probability and a single raster and the results from the ‘Impacts (L2)’ tool simply need to be integrated to yield the annualized risk metric. The primary risk metric calculated by CanFlood is the expected value of flood impacts $E[X]$ (also called *Expected Annual Damages* (EAD), or *Average Annual Damages* (AAD), or *Annualized Loss*) and is defined for discrete events as:

$$E[X] = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x_i p_i. \quad (2)$$

Where x_i is the total impact of the event i and p_i is the probability of that event occurring. While flood models discretize events out of necessity (e.g., 100yr, 200yr), real floods generate continuous hazard variables (e.g., 100 – 200yr). Therefore, the continuous form of the previous equation is required:

$$E[X] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x f(x) dx. \quad (3)$$

Where $f(x)$ is a function describing the probability of any event x (i.e., the probability density function) (USACE 1996). To align with typical discharge-likelihood expressions common in flood hazard analysis, the previous equation is manipulated further to:

$$E(X) = \int_0^{\infty} (1 - F_X(x)) dx \quad (4)$$

Where $F_X(x)$ is the cumulative probability of any event x (e.g. cumulative distribution function). Recognizing that the complement of $F_X(x)$ is the annual exceedance probability (AEP) (the probability of realizing an event of magnitude x or larger), this equation yields the classic ‘Risk Curve’ common in flood risk assessments shown in Figure 5-4.

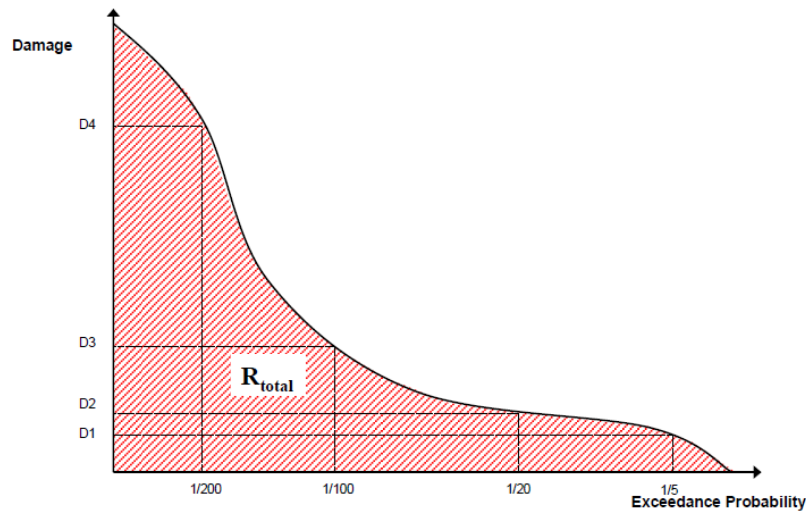


Figure 5-4: Damage-probability Curve from Messner (2007).

The following algorithm is implemented in CanFlood's 'Risk (L1)' and 'Risk (L2)' models to calculate expected value:

1. Assemble a series of AEPs and total impacts for each event;
2. Extrapolate this series with the user provided extrapolation handles ('rtail', and 'ltail');
3. Use the [numpy integration](#) method specified by the user to calculate the area under the series.

The same algorithm is used for calculating the total expected value across all assets and for the expected value of individual assets (if 'res_per_asset'=True).



Events with Failure

When resolving a hazard event with some failure, CanFlood combines the expected value ($E(X)$) of each companion failure event with that of a base ‘no-fail’ event to obtain the event’s total expected value required by the risk metric equation (formula 4). To provide flexibility in the data requirements from a defense reliability analysis, CanFlood distinguishes two failure event analysis dimensions based on the geometry of the provided conditional exposure probability polygons (‘failure polygons’) and the number of failure events as summarized in Figure 5-5. ‘Failure polygons’ complexity is discussed in Section 5.1.5 and is resolved into the resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’) dataset by calculating a single exposure probability for each companion failure event (Figure 5-5 ‘b1’ and ‘b2’ into ‘f1’). Once simplified into this resolved exposure probabilities (‘exlikes’) dataset, a failure event’s failure polygons set relation, count, and complexity is ignored.

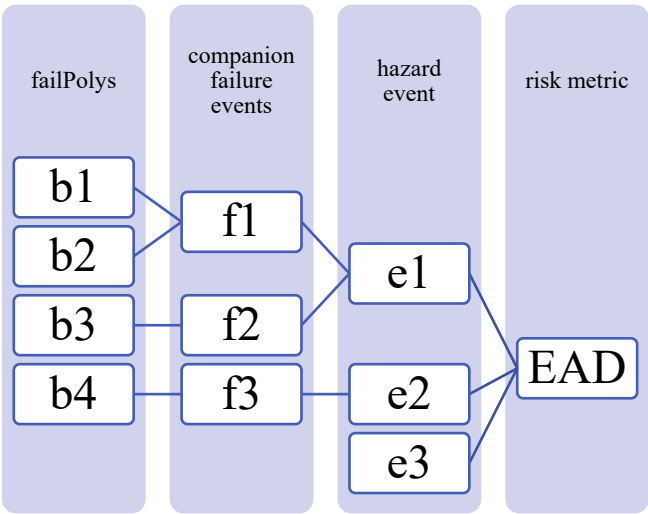


Figure 5-5: Example diagram showing three hazard events, one without failure (e3), one with simple (e2) and one with complex failure events (e1), and two companion failure events with simple (f2, f3) and the other (f1) with complex conditional exposure probability polygons (failure polygons).

Table 5-11 summarizes the treatment of hazard events based on the count of failure events assigned to each.



Table 5-11: Hazard event treatment by failure event count.

Type	Count	Treatment ¹	Example (Figure 5-5)
trivial	0	$E(X)_{\text{fail}}=0$ $E(X)_{\text{nofail}}$ from equation 2	e3
simple	1	'max' or 'mutEx'	e2
complex	>1	'max', 'mutEx' or 'indep'	e1
1) See Table 5-12			

Events with Complex Failure

Table 5-12 summarize the algorithms implemented in CanFlood to calculate expected value for those hazard events with more than one companion failure event i.e., 'complex' failure events.

Table 5-12: Expected value algorithms for failure events.

name	code	summary
Modified Maximum	max	$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \max(1 * Co, \quad P(f) * Cf, \dots)$
Mutually Exclusive	mutEx	$E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum (P(o) * Co, \quad P(f) * Cf, \dots)$
Independent	indep	a) Construct a matrix of all possible failure event combinations (positives=1 and negatives=0) b) Substitute matrix values with P and (1-P) c) Multiply the set to obtain the probability of the combination (P_{comb}) d) Multiply P_{comb} by the maximum impact of events within the set to obtain the combination's impact (C_{comb}) e) $E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n P_{\text{comb}_i} * C_{\text{comb}_i} + \sum_{i=1}^n P(o)_i * Co_i$
$P(o) = 1 - \text{sum}(Ci)$		



5.2.4. Risk (L3)

Bryant (2019) developed the Stochastic Object-based Flood damage Dynamic Assessment model framework (SOFDA) to simulate flood risk over time using the Alberta Curves and a residential re-development forecast. Framework development was motivated by a desire to quantify the benefits of Flood Hazard Regulations (FHRs) and to help incorporate the dynamics of risk into decision-making. SOFDA quantifies flood risk of an asset through the use of direct-damage and depth-likelihood functions. In this way, flood risk can be quantified (e.g. monetized) at fine spatial resolutions for robust decision support.

SOFDA has the following capabilities:

- Estimate the vulnerability reduction of Flood Hazard Regulations;
- Estimate the vulnerability reduction of Property Level Protection Measures;
- Estimate the influence of elevating damage-features (e.g., raising water heaters);
- Simulate changes in relevant building typology brought about by re-development (e.g., larger homes with deeper basements);
- Dynamic and flexible modeling of many model components (e.g., more expensive water heaters)
- Provide some quantification of uncertainty (i.e., stochastic modeling);
- Provide detailed outputs to facilitate the analysis of underlying mechanisms.

For additional information and guidance, see Appendix B.



5.3. Results



The ‘Results’ toolset is a collection of tools to assist the user in performing secondary data analysis and visualization on CanFlood models. The remainder of this section describes the function of the tools within this toolset.

5.3.1. Join Geo

This tab provides a tool to join the non-spatial risk results back onto the inventory geometry for spatial post-processing. A basic version of this tool can be run automatically by the ‘Risk (L1)’ and ‘Risk (L2)’ tools. On the ‘Join Geo’ tab, the user can perform additional customization of these layers, including applying pre-packaged layer styles.

5.3.2. Risk Plot

This tab contains multiple tools for generating non-spatial plots on a single model scenario. The plots generated on this tab all pull style information from the Control File’s ‘[plotting]’ group, and results data from the ‘[results_fp]’ group. Plots are available in the two standard risk curve formats:

- ARI vs. Impacts
- Impacts vs. AEP

See Section 6.3.3 for examples.

Plot Total

This tool generates a simple plot of the total results. A basic version of this tool can be run automatically from the ‘Risk (L1)’ and ‘Risk (L2)’ tools for convenience.

Plot Stack

This tool generates risk curves showing the total contributions from each composite vulnerability functions discussed in Section 4.1 on a single plot.

Plot Fail Split

This tool generates composite risk curve showing the total results with a second curve showing the contribution from the ‘non-failure’ portion of each event (i.e., subtracting any contributions from companion failure events) on a single plot.



5.3.3. Compare/Combine

This tab provides two tools for combining or comparing multiple CanFlood models within a single analysis. For example, a flood risk analysis considering agricultural losses and residential building damages would generally construct two separate models (i.e., separate control files) and combine the results at the end to understand the total risk. Alternatively, an analysis may wish to compare two mitigation alternatives.

Compare

The compare tool collects the total results dataset ('r_ttl') and parameters from the set of specified control files and produces two comparison outputs:

- *Control file comparison:* generates a datafile populated with the parameters from each selected control file, and a final column indicating if the parameter varies across the set. This can be useful to indicate what separates two CanFlood models.
- *Plot comparison:* creates a risk curve plot comparing the total results data set ('r_ttl') of all selected control files. Default plot values are taken from the control file specified on the 'Setup' tab.

Combine

The combine tool collects the total results dataset ('r_ttl') and parameters from the main control file (from the 'Setup' tab) to generate two types of outputs:

- *Composite scenario:* Select this option when running the 'Combine' tool to generate a new composite control file and 'r_ttl' results file for further analysis.
- *Plot combine:* creates a stacked risk curve showing the contribution towards the total risk of each selected control file.



5.3.4. Benefit-Cost Analysis

This tab provides two tools to support basic benefit-cost calculations commonly used in flood mitigation options assessments. Benefit-cost analysis (BCA) is a complex process discussed elsewhere (Merz et al. 2010; Smith et al. 2016; IWR and USACE 2017) that carries many challenges and short-comings when applied to decisions around flood mitigation (O’Connell and O’Donnell 2014; Hosein 2016). In short, BCA compares the net-present value of an intervention’s costs (e.g., construction, maintenance) to the benefit or flood-loss avoidance gained by the intervention. Through the application of a discounting rate in these net-present value calculations, BCA are sensitive to the timing or accrual of benefits and costs. A typical workflow in CanFlood implementing BCA is provided below:



To support simple BCA calculations, CanFlood’s ‘BCA’ tab provides the following tools:

Copy BCA Template

This tool copies the CanFlood BCA template (‘cf_bca_template_01.xlsx’, see below), which has a ‘smry’ and ‘data’ tab, and populates the ‘smry’ tab with metadata from the main control file. This .xlsx file provides a generic template for inputting project cost and benefit time series and calculating summary financial values, like benefit-cost ratio, using EXCEL’s built-in formulas. The workbook contains excel ‘notes’ and implements the following styles to guide users when completing the template:

Legend	
input	
output	
cell with a note	

A portion of the ‘data’ tab is provided below. Users should populate the input cells using the development, operating, and flood loss avoidance values for the option under consideration. Key cells on the ‘input’ tab are ‘named’ to facilitate populating the data tab dynamically.



		2020	2021	2022	2023
		0	1	2	3
Development Costs					
Construction	\$0				
Engin/Envir/Engag	\$0				
Land	\$0				
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Costs					
maintenance	\$0				
operation	\$0				
Total	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Grand Total Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Flood Loss Avoidance					
baseline EAD	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
option EAD	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
other monetized benefits	\$0				
Grand Total Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Figure 5-6: CanFlood BCA template 'data' tab.

Once the 'data' tab is complete, enter an appropriate 'discount rate' should be entered on the 'smry' tab. Positive discounting rates are commonly used in financial analysis to reflect the view that things of value (e.g., capital) are worth more today than in the future. This should not be confused with inflation. The application of positive discounting rates is inappropriate when evaluating assets with increasing scarcity, like ecosystem function and wild spaces. Some authors and guidelines propose variable discounting rates (Smith et al. 2016). Guidance on selecting an appropriate discounting rate is provided elsewhere (Farber 2016).

After populating the 'data' and 'smry' tabs, the workbook should display the results summarized below:

PV benefits \$	Present Value of benefit totals
PV costs \$	Present value of cost totals
NPV \$	Net-present value of costs and benefits
B/C ratio	Ratio of PV benefits over PV costs



Plot Financials

This tool generates a financial time-series plot of the benefit and cost data contained in the BCA worksheet.



5.4. Additional Tools

The following section describes some additional tools provided in the CanFlood platform that support flood risk modelling in Canada. These can be accessed from the CanFlood menu (Plugins > CanFlood).

5.4.1. Dike Fragility Mapper

For risk models that incorporate dike defense failure, a dataset containing the conditional probabilities of each asset realizing the failure, called the resolved exposure probability ('exlikes') dataset, is required by the Risk (L1) and Risk (L2) modules. Generally, this dataset is generated from a set of 'failure polygons' using the 'Conditional P' tool in the build toolset (Section 5.1.5). While some projects may have these 'failure polygons' available, often only event rasters and the dike information discussed in Section 4.5 is available. For cases like this, the workflow summarized in Figure 5-7 can be employed, beginning with the 'Dike Fragility Mapper' tool which provides a collection of algorithms that can be used to generate failure polygons from typical dike information.

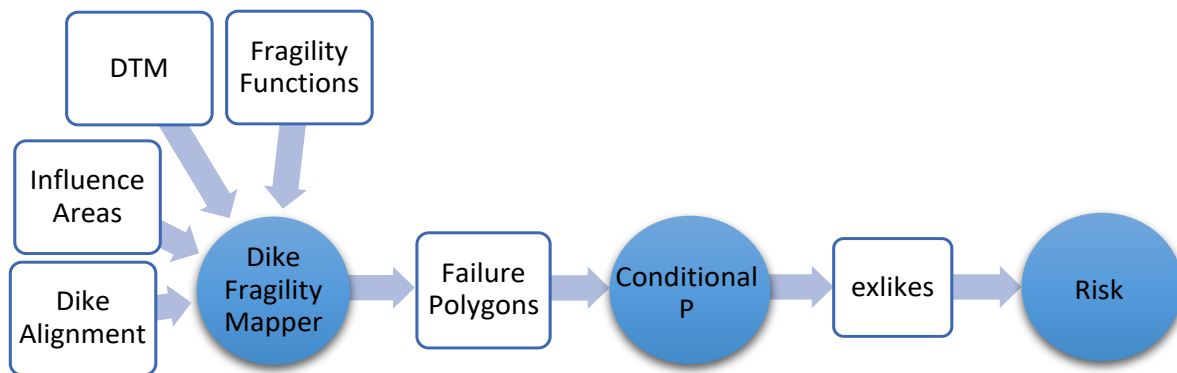


Figure 5-7: Typical CanFlood tools workflow, incorporating dike fragility, where the 'Dike Fragility Mapper' tool is used to develop the failure polygons data layer.

The 'Dike Fragility Mapper' tool is similar in many ways to the Impacts (L2) module applied to assets with linear geometry, but with the addition of special offset raster sampling, intelligent joining of the results to polygons, and segmentation considerations specific to dike analysis. This tool is executed in the three steps summarized below. For more information on applying this tool, see Tutorial 6a (Section 6.11).

Dike Exposure

The dike exposure sub-tool determines the location of highest vulnerability on each dike segment, then returns the corresponding freeboard value of each event raster yielding the dike segment exposure ('dexpo') dataset. This is accomplished with the following sequence:

- 1) Generate transects at specified intervals on specified side of each dike segment (red lines on Figure 5-8).
- 2) Sample the dike crest elevation from the DTM raster at the head of each transect;
- 3) Sample each event WSL raster on each transect;
- 4) Calculate the freeboard values on each transect as the difference between the sampled WSL and crest elevation values;
- 5) Calculate the segment freeboard value by applying the summary statistic to the relevant transect values (default is the minimum value).

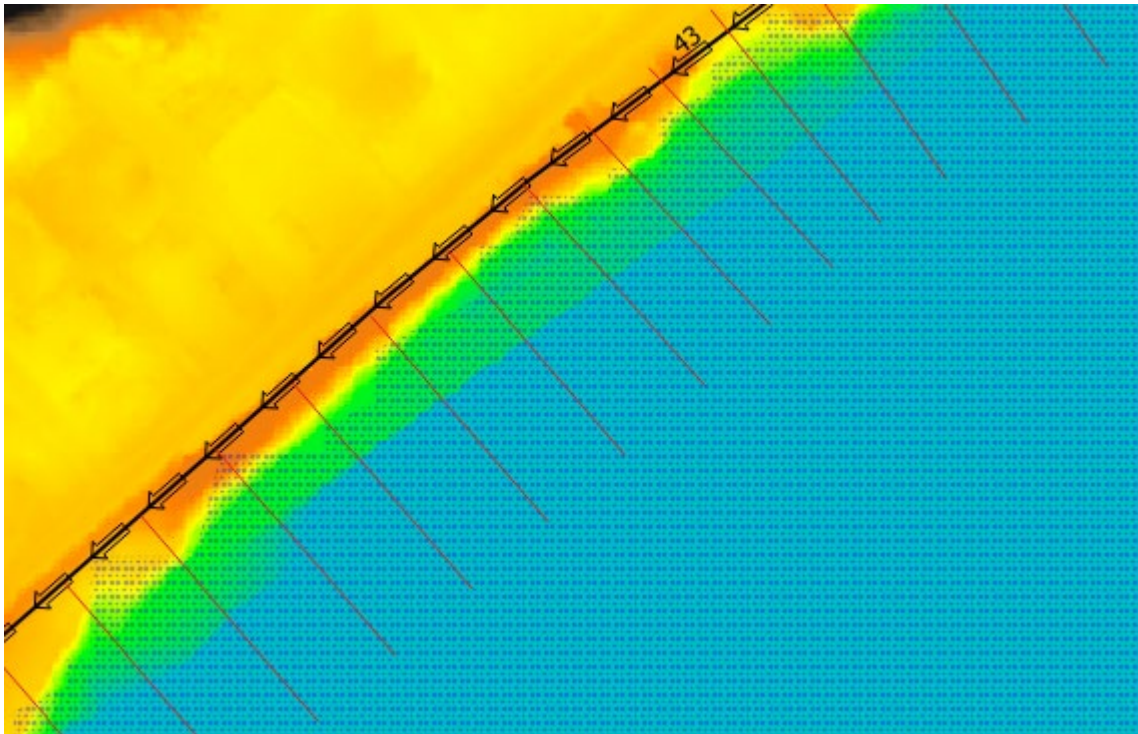


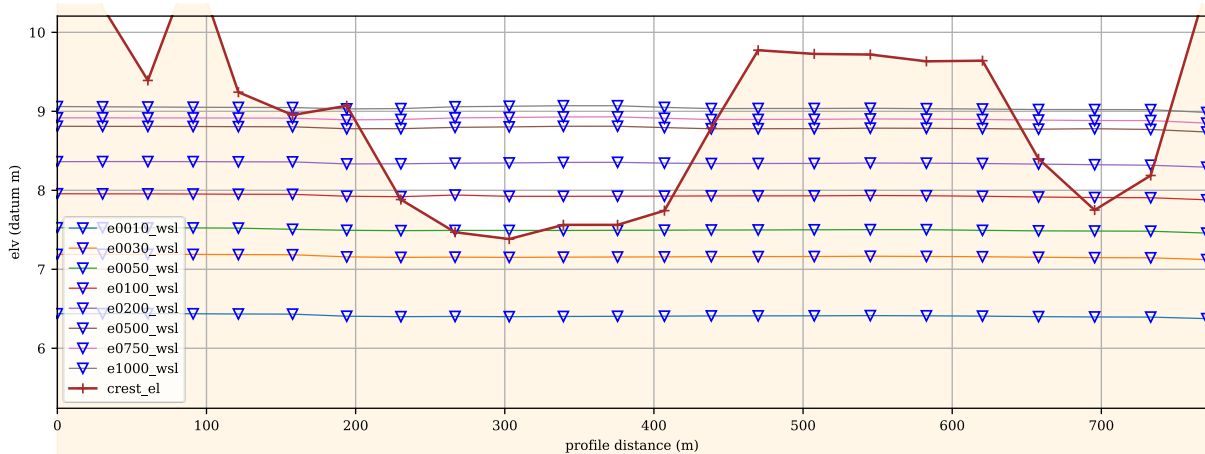
Figure 5-8: Example algorithm components for the Dike Fragility Mapper tool's exposure routine

This sub-tool provides the following outputs:

- *dike segment exposure ('dexpo') dataset*: freeboard .csv output and main input to the Dike Vulnerability sub-tool;



- *processed dikes layer* (optional): this is a modified version of the original input file, showing the ‘dexpo’ data on the original dikes geometry.
- *transects layer* (optional): these are the perpendicular segments of length and spacing specified by the user where the crest elevation and WSL sampling are performed at the head and tail respectively;
- *transect exposure points* (optional): each transect head with all calculated values;
- *breach points layer* (optional): transect heads with negative freeboard values;
- *dike segment profile plots* (optional): profile plot of dike segment showing sampled crest elevations and WSL (see below).



Dike Vulnerability

The ‘Dike Vulnerability’ sub-tool feeds the relevant entry in the dike segment exposure (‘dexpo’) dataset into the fragility curve associated with each dike segment. This sub-tool outputs tabular failure probability data (‘pfail’) csv file.

The following algorithms are available to adjust the resulting failure probabilities for the ‘length effect’:

- URS (2008): normalize all failure probabilities by the set of segment lengths.

A similar secondary output is provided for these length-adjusted values.



Dike Failure Probability Results Join


This tool simply joins the selected tabular failure probability data to provided dike influence polygons to generate the ‘failure polygons’ required by the ‘Conditional P’ tool (Section 5.1.5).

Notes and Considerations

When applying the Dike Fragility Mapper to your project, the following should be considered:

- CanFlood does not perform any hydraulic analysis, the user must supply influence polygons denoting the area over which assets should have their probability of realizing the corresponding failure raster WSL. Considering this, influence polygons can safely extend beyond the raster extents without affecting the calculation of failure impacts.
- Fragility functions should be developed and tagged to each raster segment by a qualified geotechnical expert using field data.

5.4.2. Add Connections

CanFlood’s ‘Add Connections’  tool adds a pre-compiled set of web-resources to a user’s QGIS profile for easy access and configuration (i.e., adding credentials). The set of web-resources added by this tool are configured in the ‘canflood_pars\WebConnections.ini’ file (in the user’s plugin directory). Appendix A summarizes the web-connections added by this tool.

The [QGIS User Guide](#) explains how to manage and access these connections. Once the resources are added to a user’s profile, two basic methods can be used to add the data to the project:

- **Browser Panel:** This is the simplest method but does not support any refinement of the data request. On the Browser Panel, expand the provider type of interest (e.g., ArcGisFeatureServer) > expand the connection of interest > select the layer of interest > right click > Add Layer To Project.



- **Data Source Manager:** This is the recommended method as it provides more versatility when adding from data connections. Open the Data Source Manager (Ctrl + L) > select the provider type of interest > select the server of interest > select the layer of interest > specify any additional request parameters > click 'Add' to load the layer in the project.

Many plugins and tools used by QGIS (and CanFlood) do not support such web-layers (esp. rasters), so conversion and download may be required.

5.4.3. RFDA Converter

The Rapid Flood Damage Assessment (RFDA) tool was developed by the Province of Alberta in 2014 as a QGIS 2 plugin. RFDA did not include any spatial analysis or risk calculations. RFDA inventories are in Excel spreadsheet format (.xls) indexed by column location (not labels). Curves are tagged to assets using a concatenation of columns 11 and 12. Many columns in the inventory are ignored in RFDA. These are the functional columns:

- 0:'id1',
- 10:'class',
- 11:'struct_type',
- 13:'area',
- 18:'bsmt_f',
- 19:'ff_height',
- 20:'lon',*
- 21:'lat', *
- 25:'gel'

*not used by RFDA, but necessary for spatial analysis.



RFDA uses a legacy format for reading damage functions based on alternating column locations. An example is provided below:

[illegible]

RFDA was developed in parallel with a set of 1D damage functions from building surveys of structures in Edmonton and Calgary, AB in 2014. Curves for building replacement/repair and contents damage were developed separately. Residential curves for main floor and basement were developed separately.

During a model run, RFDA applies a contents and structural curve to each asset, and the corresponding basement pair to those with 'bsmt f'=True.

To facilitate converting from RFDA inventories to CanFlood format, two tools are provided:

- 1) Inventory converter; and
- 2) Damage Curve converter.

Inventory Conversion

The RFDA Inventory Conversion requires a point vector layer as an input³. For Residential Inventories (those with `struct_type` not beginning with 'S'), each asset is assigned a `f0_tag` with an '_M' suffix to denote this as a main floor curve (e.g. BD_M) based on the concatenated 'class' and 'struct_type' values in the inventory. Using the 'bsmt_f' value, the `f1_tag` is also assigned with a '_B' suffix. These suffixes correspond to the curve naming of the DamageCurves tool (described below). The `f1_elv` is assigned from: `f0_elv - bsmt_ht`.

³ Can be built from an .xls file by exporting to csv then creating a csv layer in QGIS from the lat/long values



For Commercial Inventories (those with struct_type beginning with ‘S’), the f0_tag and f1_tag fields are populated with the ‘struct_type’ and ‘class’ values separately. Where ‘bsmt_f’ = True, a third f2_tag=’ nrpUgPark’ is added to denote the presence of underground parking⁴. Once converted, the user can start the CanFlood model building process.

DamageCurves Converter

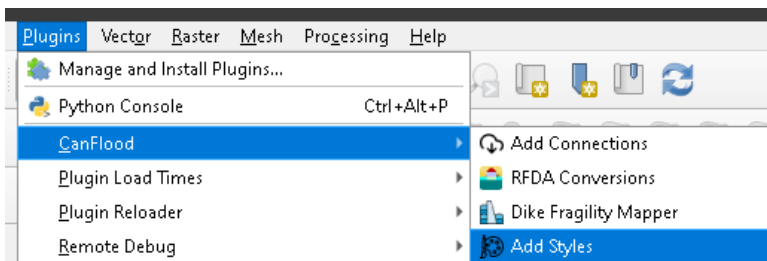
This tool converts the RFDA format curves into a CanFlood curve set (one curve per tab). The following combinations of RFDA curves are constructed:

- Individual (e.g. main floor contents)
- Floor combined (e.g. main floor structural and contents)
- Type combined (e.g. structural basement and mainfloor)
- All combined

This allows the user to customize which curves are applied and how to each asset (with CanFlood’s ‘composite vulnerability function’ feature).

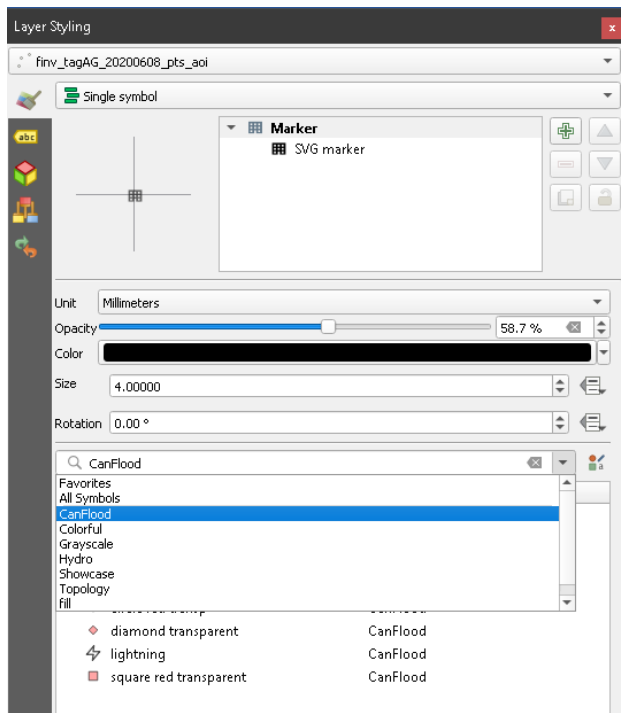
5.4.4. Add Styles


To augment the symbol styles packed in QGIS for modifying the display of vector layer features, CanFlood includes a small library of styles typical for GIS flood projects. This library is an .xml file in the plugin directory, and can be added to your style manager through the CanFlood menu as shown below:



Once executed, these symbols should be available for styling relevant vector layers through one of the QGIS layer styling dialogs. For example, the ‘CanFlood’ group can be accessed via the ‘Layer Styling’ pane (F7) as shown below:

⁴ A corresponding simple \$/m2 curve is created by the DamageCurves Converter



The QGIS ‘Styling Manager’  provides an interface for organizing and other tasks related to styles.



6. Tutorials

This section provides a few tutorials to get a user started in CanFlood. It is suggested to work through the tutorials sequentially, referring to Section 5 when more detailed information is desired. For all tutorials, the project CRS can safely be set from any of the data layers, unless otherwise specified. Tutorials are written assuming users are familiar with QGIS and object-based flood risk modelling. All tutorial data can be found in the latest [‘tutorial_data’ zip](#) on the project page.

6.1. Tutorial 1a: Risk (L1)

This tutorial guides the user through the simplest application of risk modelling in CanFlood, called a level 1 (L1) analysis, where only binary exposure is calculated. This ‘exposed vs. not exposed’ analysis can be useful for preliminary analysis where there is insufficient information to model more complex object vulnerability.

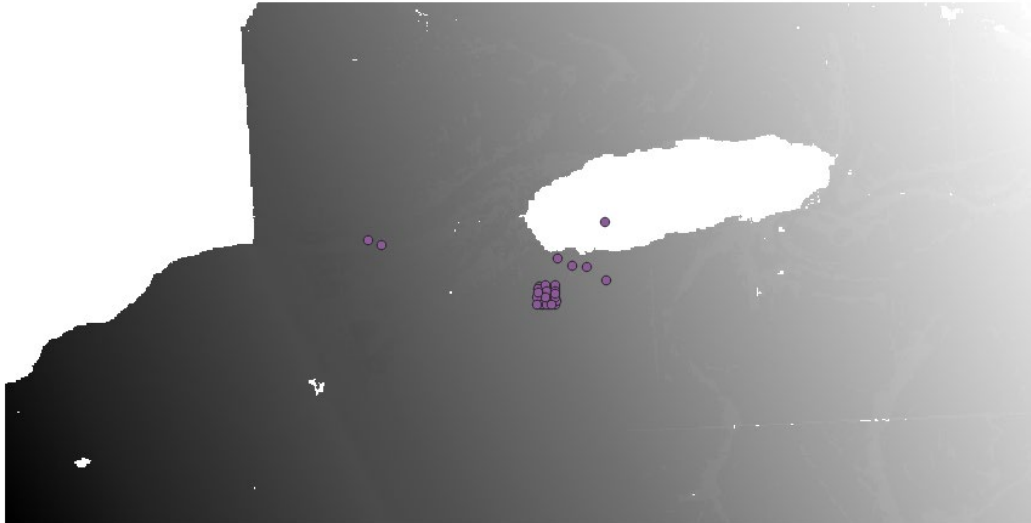
6.1.1. Load data to the project

Download the data layers for Tutorial 1:

- *haz_rast*: hazard event rasters with WSL value predictions for the study area for four probabilities.
 - *haz_0050.tif*
 - *haz_0100.tif*
 - *haz_0200.tif*
 - *haz_1000.tif*
- *finv_tut1a.gpkg* : flood asset inventory (‘finv’) spatial layer.



Ensure your project's CRS is set to 'EPSG:3005'⁵ and load the downloaded layers into a new QGIS project⁶. Your map canvas should look something like this:



⁵ Depending on your settings, this may have been set automatically when you loaded the datafiles. All tutorials use CRS 'EPSG:3005' unless stated otherwise. See the following link for an explanation of projections in QGIS

https://docs.qgis.org/3.10/en/docs/user_manual/working_with_projections/working_with_projections.html

⁶ Depending on your QGIS settings, you may be requested to select a transformation if the CRS was not set correctly beforehand.



Explore the flood asset inventory ('finv') layer's attributes (F6). You should see something like this:

finv_cT2b :: Features Total: 32, Filtered: 32, Selecte...

	fid	xid	f0_scale	f0_elv
1	1	14879	1	12.8
2	2	14880	1	12.8
3	3	14925	1	12.8
4	4	14926	1	13
5	5	14927	1	11.27
6	6	14928	1	11.49
7	7	14933	1	11.32
8	8	14934	1	11.18

Show All Features

The 4 fields are:

- *fid*: built-in feature identifier (not used);
- *xid*: Index FieldName, unique identifier for the asset⁷;
- *f0_scale*: value to scale the results of the 'f0' calculation for this asset;
- *f0_elv*: height (above the project datum) at which the asset is vulnerable to flooding.

For this example, each inventory entry or 'asset' could represent a home with the main floor elevation entered into 'f0_elv'. Any flood waters above this elevation will be tabulated as an impact for that asset. For CanFlood's L1 analysis, based on the user supplied likelihood of each event, the total 'risk of inundation' for each asset and for the full study area will be computed.

⁷ Any field with unique integer values can be used as the FieldName Index (except built-in feature identifiers).



6.1.2. Build the Model

Press the 'Build' button  to begin building a CanFlood model.

Setup

On the 'Setup' tab, configure your 'Build Session' by first creating or selecting an easy to locate working directory using the 'Browse' button. CanFlood will place all the data files assembled with the 'Build' toolset in this directory. Ensure the remaining 'Build Controls' are specified as shown below.

Now use the lower portion of the dialog to specify the parameters CanFlood should use to assemble your new Control File as shown below.

The screenshot shows the 'CanFlood Build Toolset' dialog box with the 'Setup' tab selected. The dialog has several sections for configuring the build session:

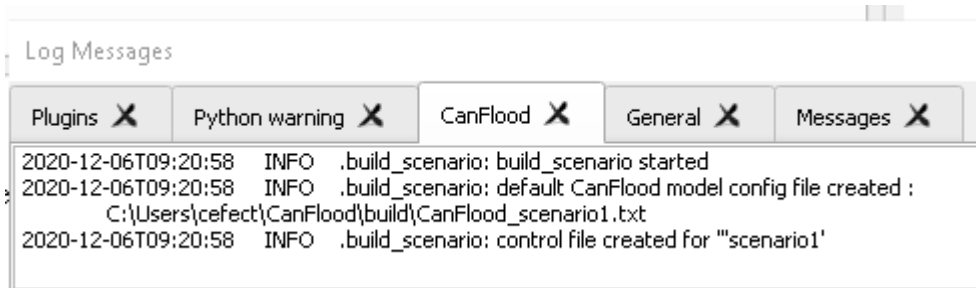
- Session Controls:**
 - Working Directory:** A text box containing 'D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/1/Build' with 'Browse' and 'Open' buttons.
 - Project AOI (optional):** A checkbox for 'Selected features only' and a dropdown menu.
 - File Behavior:**
 - Checkboxes for 'Load session results to canvas' and 'Overwrite files' (both checked).
 - Filepaths: Radio buttons for 'Absolute' (selected) and 'Relative'.
 - Plot Handling:** Radio buttons for 'Launch sepeare window' (selected) and 'Save to file'.
- Control File Path:** A text box with the placeholder 'Specify existing control file path or create a new one below' and 'Browse' and 'Open' buttons.
- Generate New Control File:**
 - Name:** A text box containing 'Tut1'.
 - Precision:** A spinner box set to '4'.
 - A red 'Start Control File' button.

At the bottom, there is a 'Waiting on User...' status bar with a progress indicator at 0% and 'OK' and 'Close' buttons.




Once the parameters are correctly entered, **click ‘Start Control File’** to create your Control File in the working directory. There should be a message on the QGIS Toolbar indicating the process ran successfully.

If you view the ‘CanFlood’ Log Messages Tab (View > Panels > Log Messages), you can see the log messages for the process you just completed. It should look something like this:



Back in CanFlood’s ‘Setup’ tab, next to the working directory file path, click ‘Open’ to open the specified working directory, you should see the Control File ‘CanFlood_Tut1.txt’ created in your working directory. Open the control file. This is a template with some blank, default, and specified parameters. As you work through the remainder of ‘Build’ section of this tutorial, blank parameters will be filled in by the CanFlood tools. Notice the ‘#’ comment letting you know how and when this control file was created. ‘#’ comment lines are ignored by the program when reading from the control file, and are written by some tools to help the user track actions taken by CanFlood on the control file.

Store Inventory

Move to the ‘Inventory’ tab. Under the  Inventory Compiler section, select the inventory layer (*finv_tut1a*) and ensure ‘elevation type’ is set to ‘datum’ to reflect that the inventory’s ‘f0_elv’ values are measured from the project’s datum (rather than ground). Now select the inventory vector layer and the appropriate ‘Index FieldName’ as shown, then **click ‘Store’**.



CanFlood Build Toolset

Welcome! Setup **Inventory** Hazard Sampler Event Variables Conditional P DTM Sampler Validation

Inventory Construction Helper

Vector Layer:

Nested Functions:

nestID: tag: cap: scale: elv:

Mitigation Parameters:

Depth Thresholds: Scale: Value: ☐ Apply Mitigations

Vulnerability Functions

Specify vulnerability function set filepath or select one from the library

Inventory Compiler

Inventory Vector Layer:

Elevation type (felev): Index FieldName (cid):

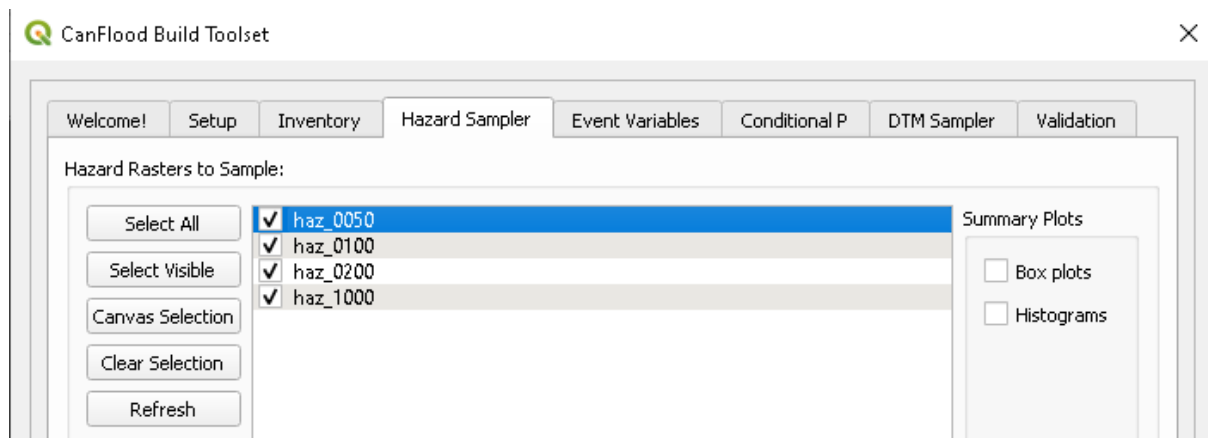
control file created for "'Tut1'

You should see the inventory csv file stored into the working directory. This is a simplified version of the inventory layer with the spatial data removed. Open the Control File again. You should notice that asset inventory ('finv') parameter has been populated with the file name of the newly created csv.



Hazard Sampler

Move to the ‘Hazard Sampler’ tab. Check all the hazard rasters in the display box as shown⁸, leaving the remaining parameters blank or untouched:



Click ‘Sample Rasters’ to generate the exposure (‘expos’) dataset. You should see a new csv file in the working directory, and its filepath added to the control file under ‘expos’. These are the WSLs sampled at each asset from each hazard event raster.

Event Variables

Now that the WSLs have been stored, we need to tell CanFlood what the probability of realizing each of these events is. Move to the ‘Event Variables’ tab. Specify the correct values for each event’s likelihood (from the event names) as shown:

⁸ If the hazard layers are not shown in the dialog, hit ‘Refresh’



CanFlood Build Toolset

Welcome! Setup Inventory Hazard Sampler Event Variables Conditional P DTM Sampler Validation

Specify the likelihood of each event (execute 'Hazard Sampler' to populate table)

Probability Type (event_probs):

☒ ARI ☐ AEP

OPTIONAL Failure Event Relation Treatment (event_rels):

☒ Max ☐ Mutually Exclusive ☐ Independent

	EventName	Probability
1	haz_0050	50
2	haz_0100	100
3	haz_0200	200
4	haz_1000	1000

Store Event Variables ('evals'):

Store

run_rsamp finished in 0:00:00.805735

0%

OK Close

Press 'Store'. The event probabilities ('evals') dataset should have been created and its filepath written to the Control File under 'evals'.

Validation

Move to the 'Validation' tab, **check 'Risk (L1)'**, then **click 'Validate'**. This will check all the inputs in the control file and set the 'risk1' validation flag to 'True' in the control file.

Without this flag, the CanFlood model will fail.



The control file should now be fully built for an L1 analysis and the necessary inputs assembled. The completed control file should look similar to this (but with your directories):

```

CanFlood_scenario1.txt - Notepad
File Edit Format View Help
[[parameters]
name = scenario1
cid = xid
prec = 6                #float precision for calculations
ground_water = True     #whether to allow wsl < gel
felv = datum
event_probs = ari
ltail = extrapolate     #EAD extrapolation: left tail treatment code (low prob high damage)
rtail = 0.5             #EAD extrapolation: right trail treatment (high prob low damage)
drop_tails = True       #whether to remove the extrapolated values from the results
integrate = trapz       #integration method to apply: trapz, simps
as_inun = False


[dmg_fps]
curves = #damage curve library filepath
finv = C:\Users\cefect\CanFlood\build\finv_scenario1_finv_cT2b.csv
expos = C:\Users\cefect\CanFlood\build\expos_scenario1_4_32.csv
gels = #ground elevation data filepath

[risk_fps]
dmg = #damage data results filepath
exlikes = #secondary exposure likelihood data filepath
evals = C:\Users\cefect\CanFlood\build\evals_4_scenario1.csv

[validation]
risk1 = True
dmg2 = False
risk2 = False
risk3 = False

```

6.1.3. Run the Model

Click the 'Model' button  to launch the Model toolset dialog.

Setup

On the 'Setup' tab, select a working directory⁹ where all your results will be stored. Also select your control file created in the previous section if necessary.

⁹ does not have to match the directory from the previous step



Your dialog should look like this¹⁰:

The screenshot shows the 'CanFlood Model Toolset' dialog box with the 'Setup' tab selected. The dialog has a title bar with a close button (X) and a tab bar with 'Welcome!', 'Setup', 'Risk (L1)', 'Impacts (L2)', 'Risk (L2)', and 'Risk (L3)'. The 'Setup' tab contains the following sections:

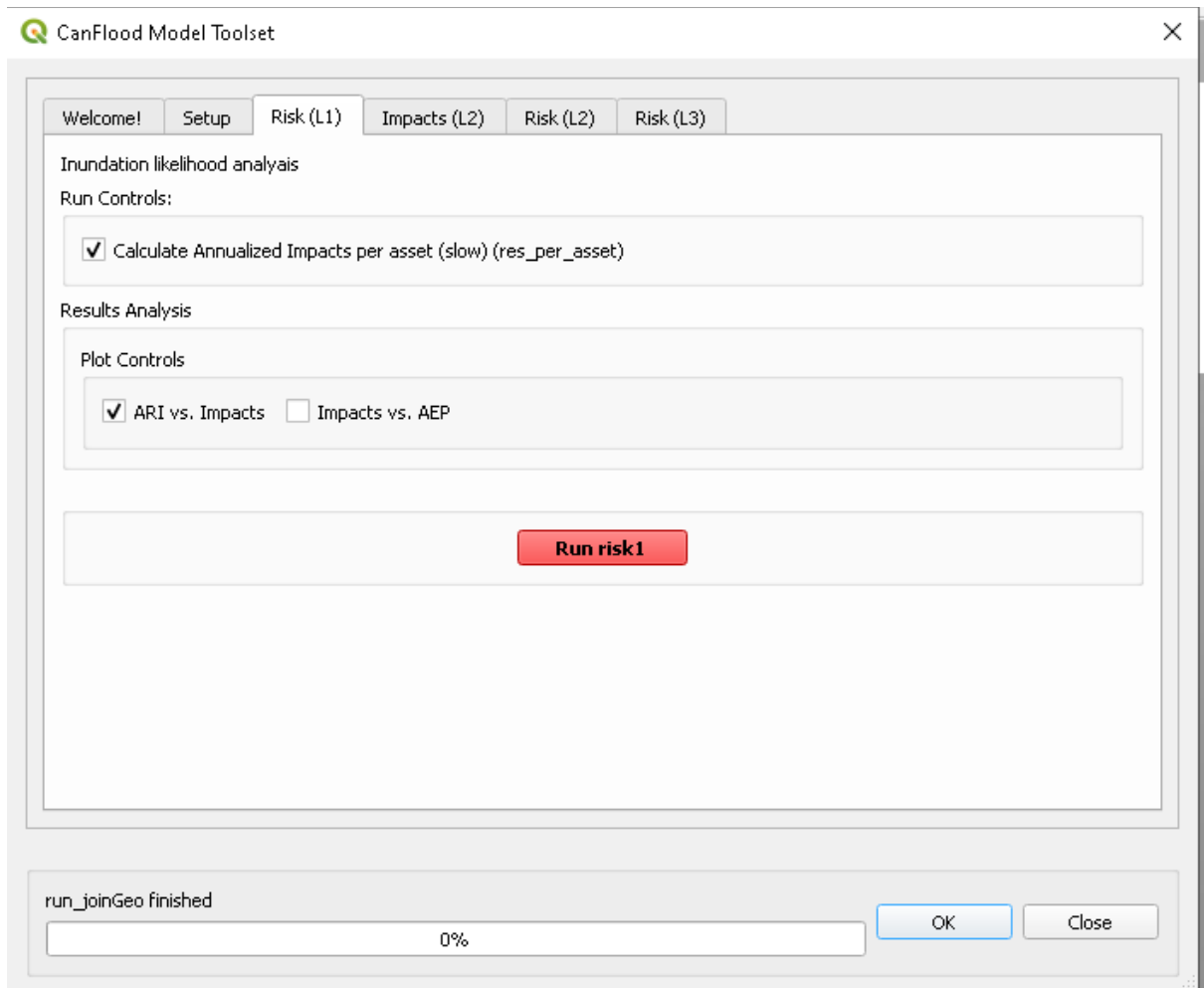
- Welcome!** (selected tab)
- Setup your model run**
 - Outputs Directory:** A text box containing 'D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/1/Results' with 'Browse' and 'Open' buttons.
 - Model Control File:** A text box containing 'D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/1/Build/CanFlood_Tut1.txt' with a 'Browse' button.
 - Filepaths:** Radio buttons for 'Absolute' (selected) and 'Relative'.
 - Inventory Vector Geometry (optional):** A dropdown menu showing 'r_passet_run1_Tut1 [EPSG:3005]'.
 - Run Controls:**
 - Run Tag:** A text box containing 'run1'.
 - Checkboxes: 'Overwrite any existing files' (checked), 'Allow control file updates' (checked), and 'Generate attribution matrix (slow)' (checked).
 - Plot Handling:** Radio buttons for 'Launch separate window' and 'Save to file' (selected).

At the bottom of the dialog, there is a status bar showing 'run_joinGeo finished' and a progress bar at 0%. There are 'OK' and 'Close' buttons on the right.

Execute

Navigate to the 'Risk (L1)' tab. Check the first two boxes as shown below and **press 'Run risk1'**:

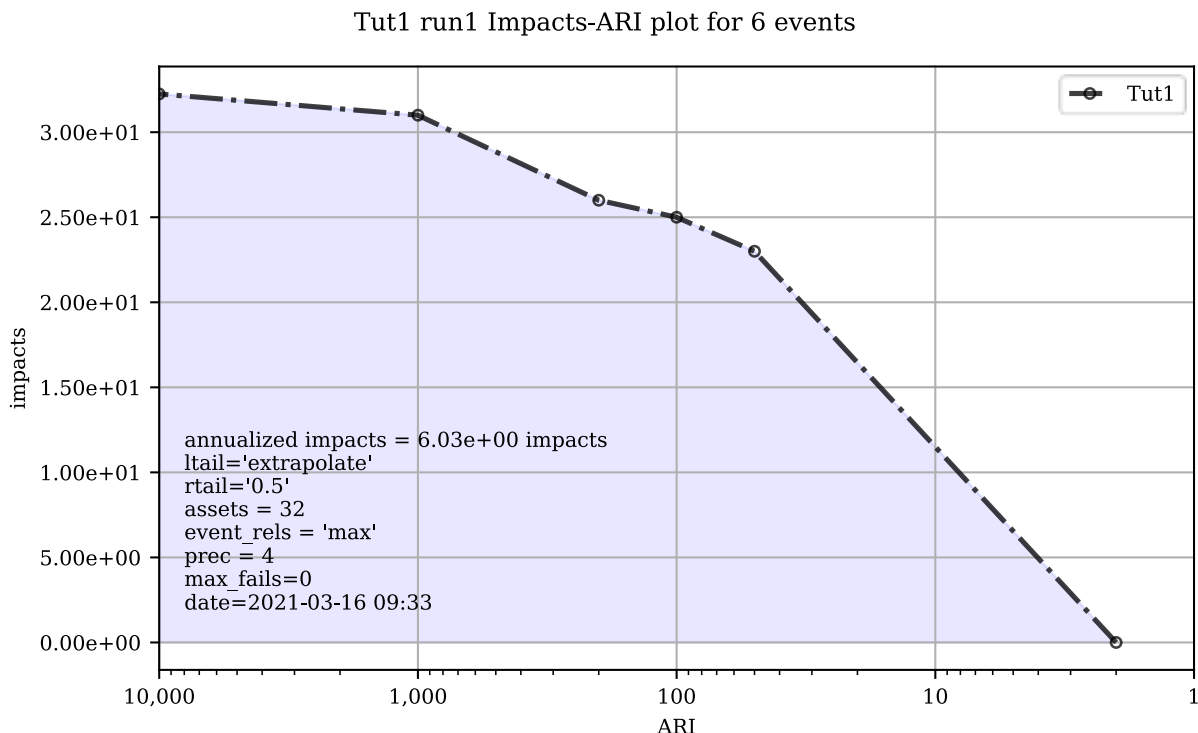
¹⁰ CanFlood will attempt to automatically identify the Inventory Vector Layer; however, this tutorial does not make use of this layer so the selection here can be ignored.



6.1.4. View Results


Navigate to the selected working directory. You should see 3 files created:

- *risk1_run1_tut1a_passet.csv*: expected value of inundation per asset;
- *risk1_run1_tut1a_ttl.csv*: total results, expected value of total inundation per event (and for all events);
- *tut1a.run1 Impact-ARI plot on 6 events.svg*: a plot of the total results (see below).



These are the non-spatial results which are directly generated by CanFlood's model routines. To facilitate more detailed analysis and visualization, CanFlood comes with a third and final 'Results' toolset.

Join Geometry

Open the results toolset by **clicking the 'Results'  button**. The CanFlood models are designed to run independent of the QGIS spatial API. Therefore, if you would like to view the results spatially, additional actions are required to re-attach the tabular model results to the asset inventory ('finv') vector geometry. To do this, move to the 'Join Geo' tab, select the asset inventory ('finv') layer. Then select 'r_passet' under 'results parameter to load' to populate the field below with a filepath to your per-asset results file¹¹. Finally, select the 'Results Layer Style' and 'Field re-label option' as shown:

¹¹ If the filepath fails to populate automatically, try changing re-setting the 'finv' and 'parameter' drop-downs. Alternatively, enter the filepath manually.



CanFlood Results Toolset

Welcome! Setup Join Geo Risk Plot Compare/Combine BCA

Map tabular results back to inventory geometry

finv Vector Geometry:

finv_tut1a [EPSG:3005]

Model Results Data:

Control File Path: C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlood\tut_builds\1\a\CanFlood_tut1a.txt

ControlFile results parameter to load: r_passet

C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlood\tut_builds\1\a\1\risk1_Tut1a_Results_r_passet.csv Browse

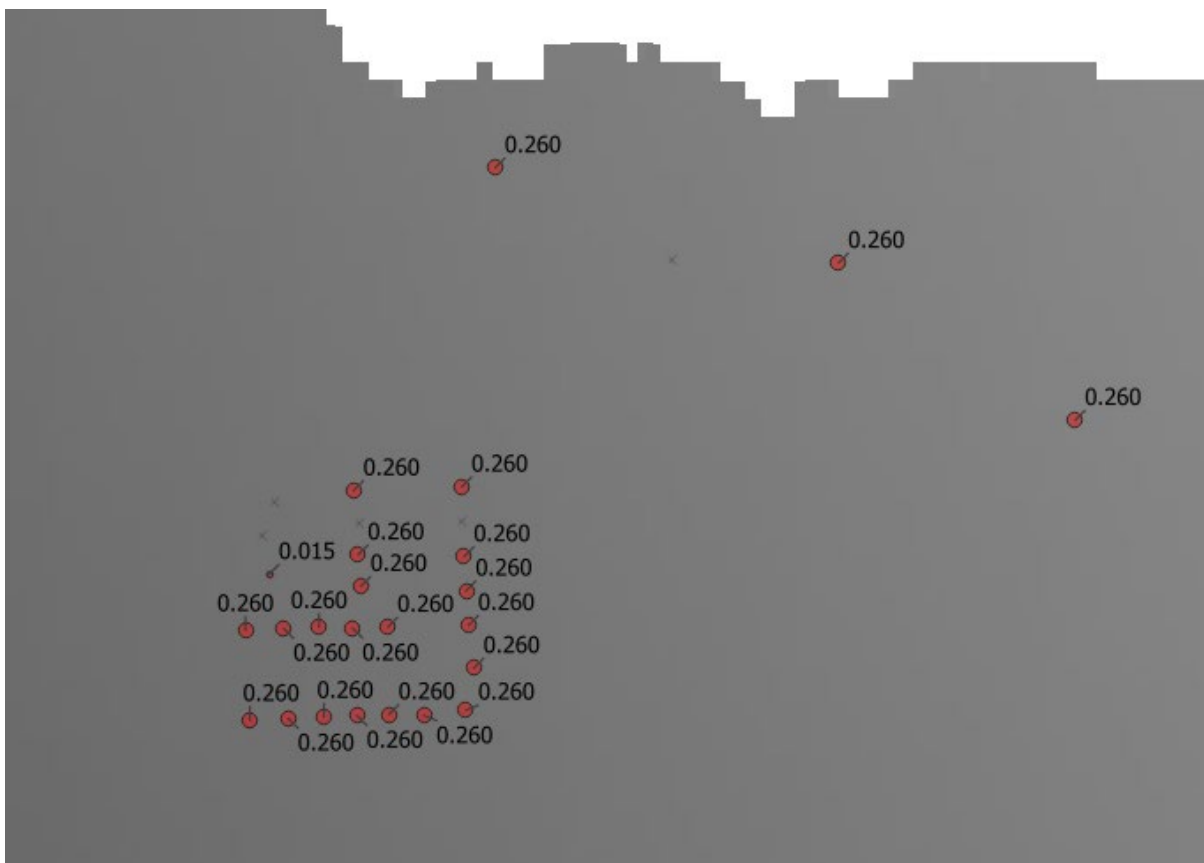
Results Layer Style:

qml style to apply: Point\circle - graduated - size - red - ead 1.0.qml

Field Re-label option: aep



Click ‘Join’. A new temporary ‘djoin’ layer should have been loaded onto the map canvas with the selected style applied. Move this layer to the top of your layers panel and turn off the original ‘finv’ layer to see the new ‘djoin’ layer. The ‘djoin’ layer should be a points layer where the size of each point is relative to the magnitude of the expected value of inundation (i.e. the average number of inundations per year) similar to this:



Open the attributes table for the ‘djoin’ layer (F6). You should see something similar to the below table:

r_passet_res1_tut1a — Features Total: 32, Filtered: 32, Selected: 0								
	xid	ari_00002	ari_00050	ari_00100	ari_00200	ari_01000	ari_10000	ead
1	14948	0	1	1	1	1	1	0.26
2	14947	0	1	1	1	1	1	0.26
3	14946	0	1	1	1	1	1	0.26



Notice the six impact fields (boxed in red above) have had their names converted to ‘ari_probability’ and the field values provide the binary exposure (0=not exposed; 1=exposed) results. You’ll need to save this layer for it to be available in another QGIS session (Layers Pane > Right Click the layer > Save As...). Congratulations on your first CanFlood run!

6.2. Tutorial 2a: Risk (L2) with Simple Events

Tutorial 2 demonstrates the use of CanFlood’s ‘Risk (L2)’ model (Section 5.2.3). This emulates a more detailed risk assessment where the vulnerability of each asset is known and described as a function of flood depth (rather than simple binary flood presence as in tutorial 1). This tutorial also demonstrates an inventory with ‘relative’ heights and CanFlood’s ‘composite vulnerability function’ feature where multiple functions are applied to the same asset.

6.2.1. Load data to project

Download the tutorial 2 data from the ‘tutorials\2\data’ folder:

- *haz_rast*: hazard event rasters with WSL value predictions for the study area for four probabilities.
 - *haz_0050.tif*
 - *haz_0100.tif*
 - *haz_0200.tif*
 - *haz_1000.tif*
- *finv_tut2.gpkg*: flood asset inventory (‘finv’) spatial layer
- *dtm_tut2.tif*: digital terrain model raster with ground elevation predictions
- ~~*haz_frust*: companion failure event rasters (not used in tutorial 2a)~~
- ~~*haz_fpoly*: companion failure event polygons (not used in tutorial 2a)~~



Load these into a QGIS project, it should look something like this:



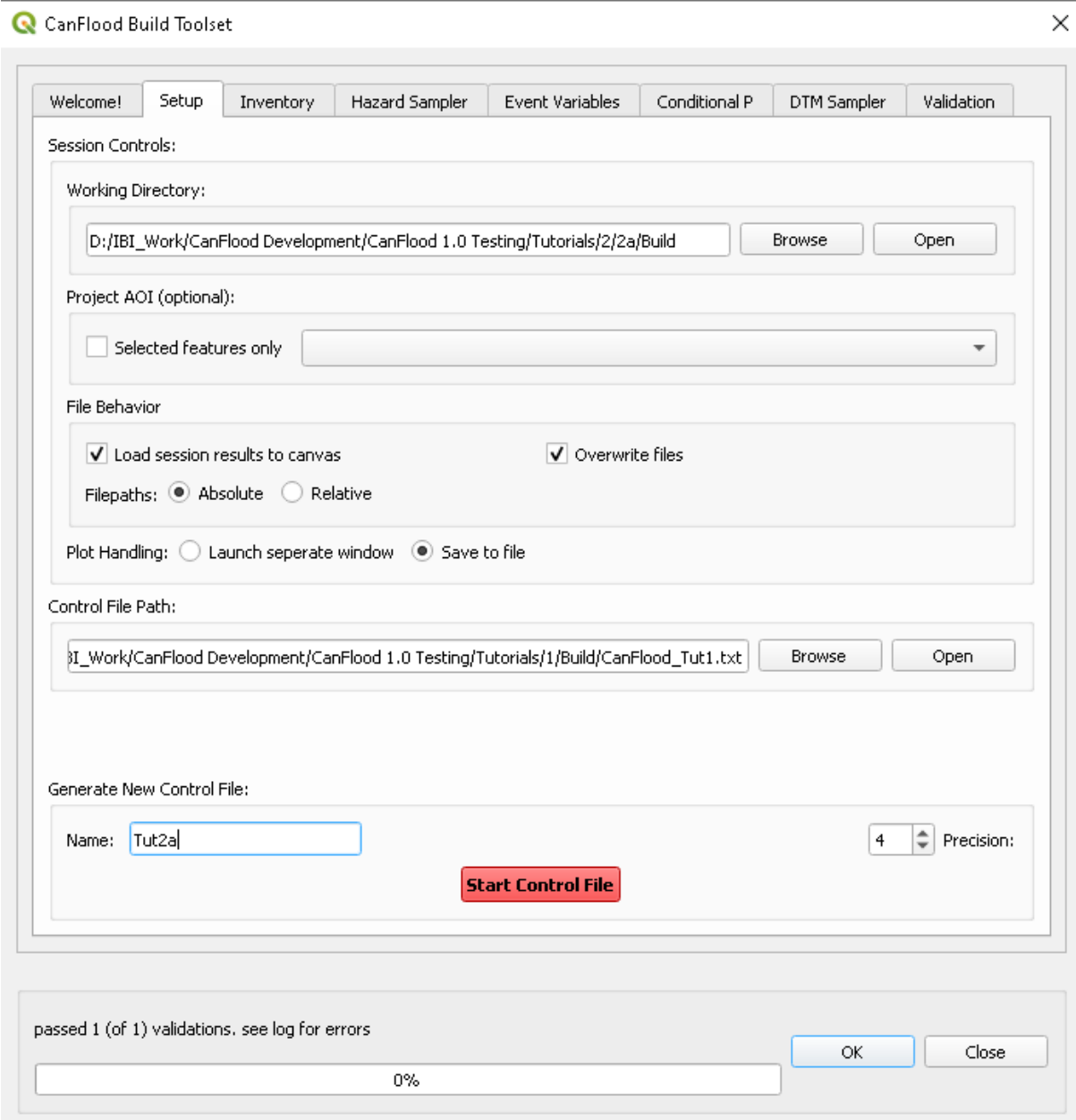


6.2.2. Build the Model

Open the 'Build'  toolset.

Scenario Setup

On the 'Setup' tab, configure the session as shown using your own paths, then **click 'Start Control File'**:



CanFlood Build Toolset

Welcome! Setup Inventory Hazard Sampler Event Variables Conditional P DTM Sampler Validation

Session Controls:

Working Directory:
D:\IBI_Work\CanFlood Development\CanFlood 1.0 Testing\Tutorials\2\2a\Build Browse Open

Project AOI (optional):
☐ Selected features only

File Behavior
☒ Load session results to canvas ☒ Overwrite files
Filepaths: ☒ Absolute ☐ Relative

Plot Handling: ☐ Launch separate window ☒ Save to file

Control File Path:
I_Work\CanFlood Development\CanFlood 1.0 Testing\Tutorials\1\Build\CanFlood_Tut1.txt Browse Open

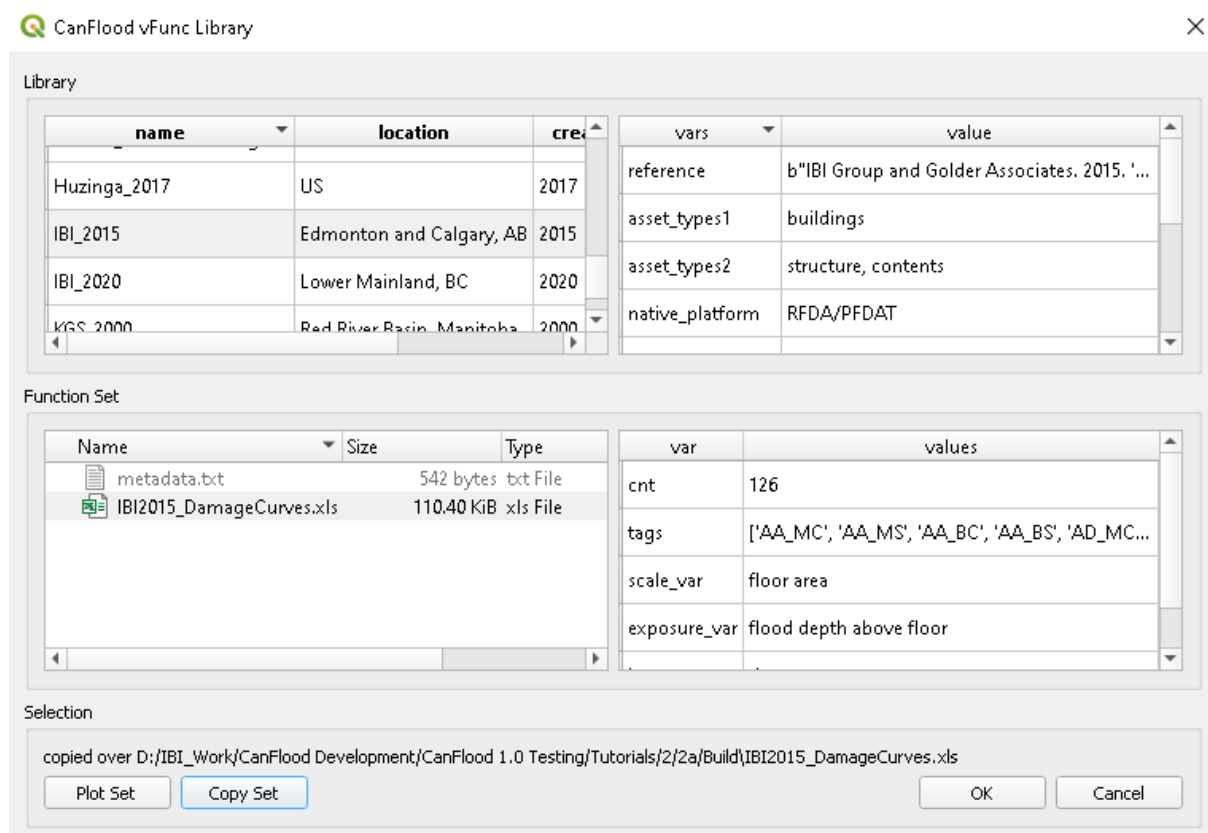
Generate New Control File:
Name: Tut2a Precision: 4
Start Control File

passed 1 (of 1) validations. see log for errors
0% OK Close



Select Vulnerability Function Set

Move to the 'Inventory' tab and **click 'Select From Library'** to launch the library selection GUI shown below. Select the library 'IBI_2015' in the top left window then 'IBI2015_DamageCurves.xls' in the bottom left window, then **click 'Copy Set'** to copy this set of vulnerability functions into your working directory. The inventory provided in this tutorial has been constructed specifically for these 'IBI2015' functions. Generally, flood risk modellers must develop or supply their own vulnerability functions.



Close the 'vFunc Selection' GUI, and you should now see the new .xls file path entered under 'Vulnerability Functions'. Finally, **click 'Update Control File'** to store a reference to this vulnerability function set into the control file.



Inventory

On the same 'Inventory' tab, select the inventory vector layer, the appropriate Index FieldName, and **set the elevation type to 'ground'** as shown, then **click 'Store'**.

CanFlood Build Toolset

Welcome! Setup **Inventory** Hazard Sampler Event Variables Conditional P DTM Sampler Validation

Inventory Construction Helper

Vector Layer:

Nested Functions:

nestID: tag: cap: scale: elv:

Mitigation Parameters:

Depth Thresholds: Scale: Value: ☐ Apply Mitigations

Vulnerability Functions

Inventory Compiler

Inventory Vector Layer:

Elevation type (felv): Index FieldName (cid):

updated control file w/ 1 pars at :
D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/2/2a/Build/CanFlood_Tut2a.t:

You should see the inventory csv now stored in the working directory.



Hazard Sampler

Move to the 'Hazard Sampler' tab, ensure the four hazard rasters are shown in the window and all other fields are default, then **click 'Sample Rasters'**. You should see the 'expos' data file created in the working directory.

Event Variables

Move to the 'Event Variables' tab, you should now see the 4 hazard events from the previous task populating the table. Fill in the 'Probability' values as shown (ignore the 'Failure Event Relation' setting for now), then **click 'Store'** to generate the event variables ('evals') dataset.

	EventName	Probability
1	haz_1000_tut2	1000
2	haz_0200_tut2	200
3	haz_0100_tut2	100
4	haz_0050_tut2	50

DTM Sampler

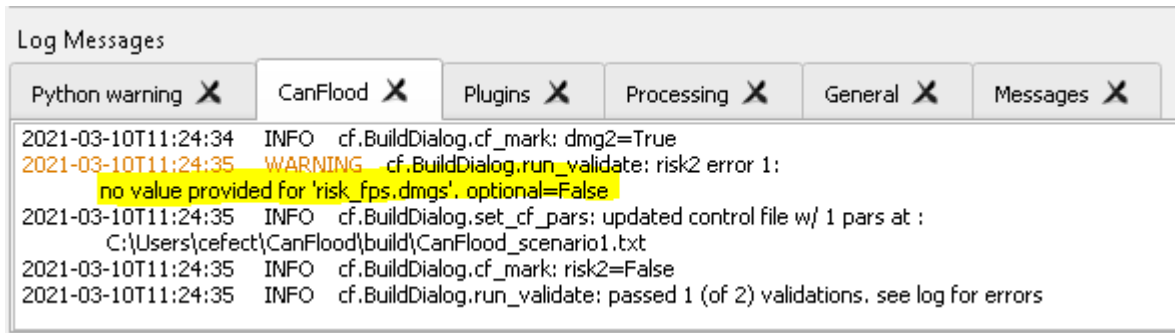
Move to the 'DTM Sampler' tab. Select the 'dtm_tut2' raster then **click 'Sample DTM'** to generate the ground elevation ('gels') dataset in your working directory and create a reference to it in the Control File.



Validation

Move to the 'Validation' tab, **check the boxes for both L2 models**, then **click 'Validate'**.


You should get a log message 'passed 1 (of 2) validations. see log'. To investigate the failed validation attempt, open the Log Messages panel, it should look like this:

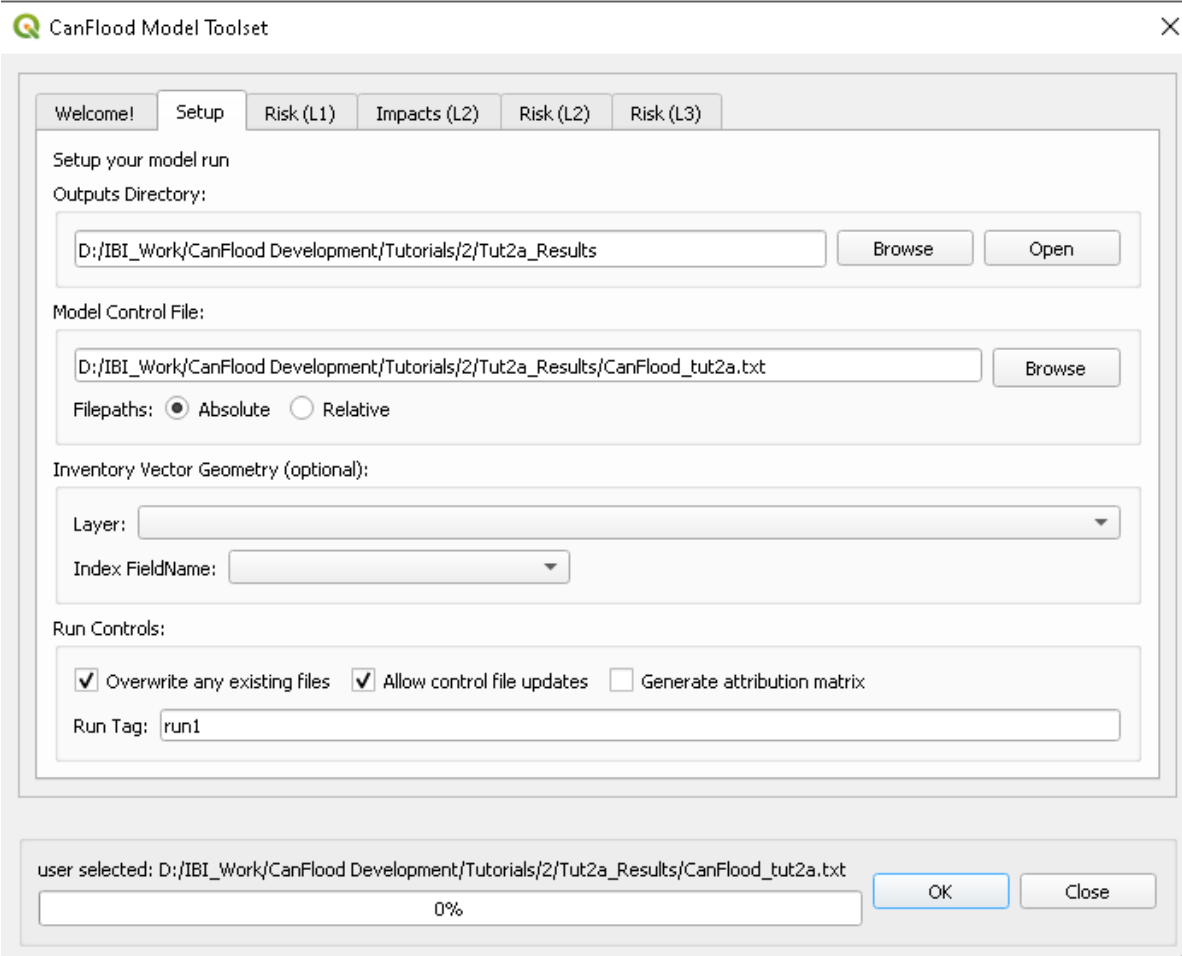


This shows that the Risk (L2) model is missing the 'dmg' data file and will not run. This is expected behavior as CanFlood separates the exposure calculation (Impacts L2) from the risk calculation. We will calculate this 'dmg' data file and validate for Risk (L2) in the next section. You're now ready to run the Impacts (L2) model!



6.2.3. Run the Model

Open the ‘Model’  dialog. Configure the ‘Setup’ tab as shown below, selecting your own paths and control file, and ensuring the ‘Outputs Directory’ is a sub-directory of your previous ‘Working Directory’¹²:



The screenshot shows the 'CanFlood Model Toolset' window with the 'Setup' tab selected. The 'Setup your model run' section contains the following fields and controls:

- Outputs Directory:** A text box containing 'D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/Tutorials/2/Tut2a_Results' with 'Browse' and 'Open' buttons.
- Model Control File:** A text box containing 'D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/Tutorials/2/Tut2a_Results/CanFlood_tut2a.txt' with a 'Browse' button.
- Filepaths:** Radio buttons for 'Absolute' (selected) and 'Relative'.
- Inventory Vector Geometry (optional):** Two dropdown menus for 'Layer:' and 'Index FieldName:'.
- Run Controls:** Checkboxes for 'Overwrite any existing files' (checked), 'Allow control file updates' (checked), and 'Generate attribution matrix' (unchecked). A text box for 'Run Tag:' contains 'run1'.

At the bottom, a status bar shows 'user selected: D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/Tutorials/2/Tut2a_Results/CanFlood_tut2a.txt' and a progress bar at 0%. 'OK' and 'Close' buttons are also present.

Impact (L2)

Move to the ‘Impacts (L2)’ tab. Ensure the ‘Run Risk (L2)’ box is **not** checked (we’ll execute the risk model manually in the next step) but that ‘Output expanded component impacts’ **is** checked. Click ‘Run dmg2’.

¹² Some ‘Results’ tools work better when the model output data files are in the same file tree as the Control File



This should create an impacts ('dmgs') datafile in your working directory and fill in the corresponding entry on the control file. Open this csv. It should look something like this:

xid	haz_1000yr_cT3	haz_100yr_cT2	haz_200yr_cT2	haz_50yr_cT3
14879	111300	56809.08916	57469.29217	20000
14880	153703.7015	64998.63284	66620.48356	20000
14925	110752.9984	55068.30843	55131.40927	20000
14926	91890.40424	47295.3492	48750.95904	20000
14927	141110.2813	66576.80321	66783.90949	20000
14928	149352.6144	68650.66705	71820.98313	20000
14933	119539.7125	58472.22211	58836.88032	20000
14934	131787.5569	62503.88204	111358.404	0
14935	115084.1064	54490.71147	89166.28707	0
14936	133000	62037.45463	65760.99719	0
14937	113581.1764	55057.93763	96346.32067	0

These are the raw impacts per event per asset calculated with each vulnerability function, the sampled WSL and the sampled DTM elevation. The second output is the 'expanded component impacts', a large optional output background file used by CanFlood that contains the tabulation of each nested function and the applied scaling and cap values. See Section 5.2.2 for more information. Now you're ready to calculate flood risk!



Risk (L2)

Move to the 'Risk (L2)' tab. Check all the boxes shown below and **click 'Run risk2'**.

CanFlood Model Toolset

Welcome! Setup Risk (L1) Impacts (L2) Risk (L2) Risk (L3)

Expected value of all event impacts

Run Controls:

☒ Calculate expected values per asset (slow) (res_per_asset)

Results Analysis

Plot Controls

☒ ARI vs. Impacts ☐ Impacts vs. AEP

NOTE: Ensure 'Impacts (L2)' has been executed first

Run risk2

run_joinGeo finished

0%

OK Close

A set of results files should have been generated (discussed below). For a complete description of the Risk (L2) module, see Section 5.2.3.



6.2.4. View Results

After completing the Risk (L2) run, navigate to your working directory. It should now contain these files:

- *eventypes_run1_tut2a.csv*: derived parameters for each raster;
- *risk2_run1_tut2a_r2_passet.csv*: expected value per asset expanded Risk (L2) results;
- *risk2_run1_tut2a_ttl.csv*: total expected value of all events and assets Risk (L2) results;
- *dmgs_tut2a_run1.csv*: per asset Impacts (L2) results;
- *dmgs_expnd_tut2a_run1.csv*: expanded component Impacts (L2) results;
- *run1 Impacts-ARI plot for 6 events.svg*: see below.

Tut2a run1 Impacts-ARI plot for 6 events

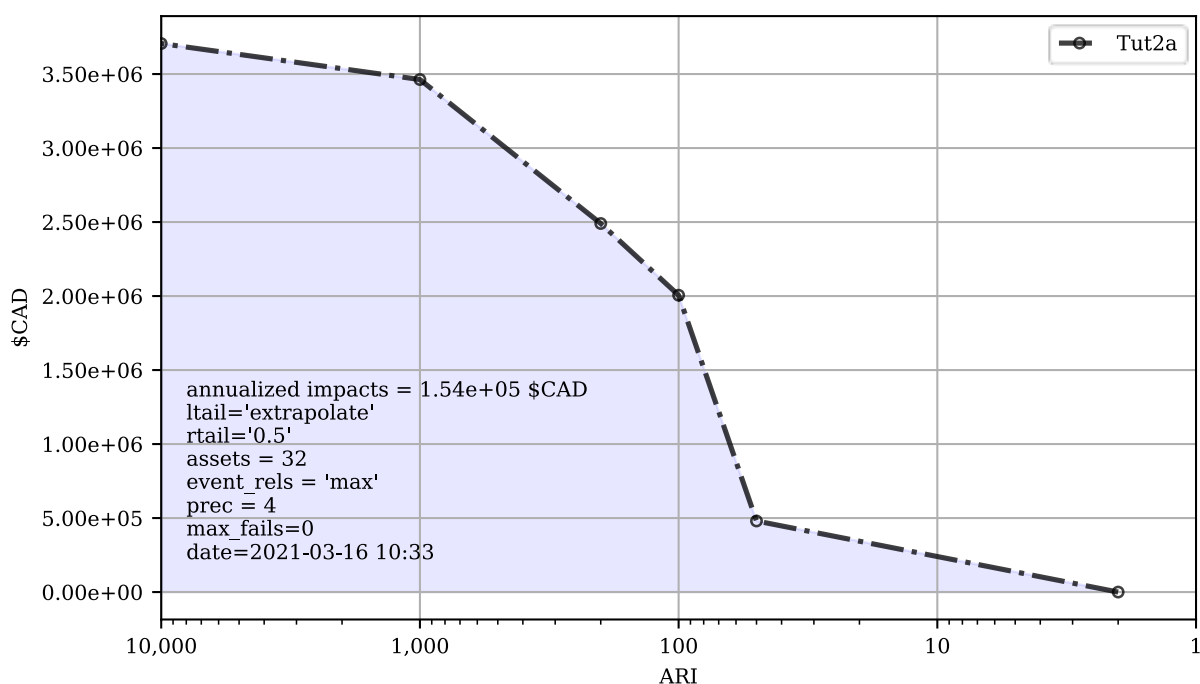



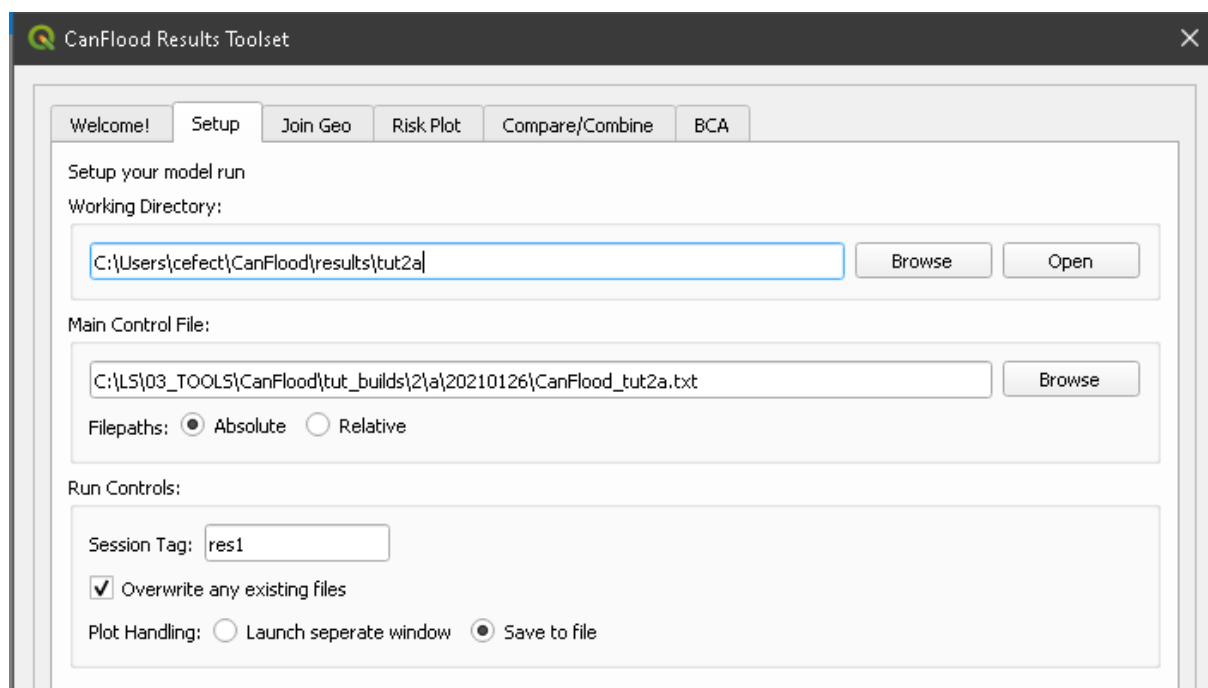
Figure 6-1: Summary risk curve plot of the total Risk (L2) results.



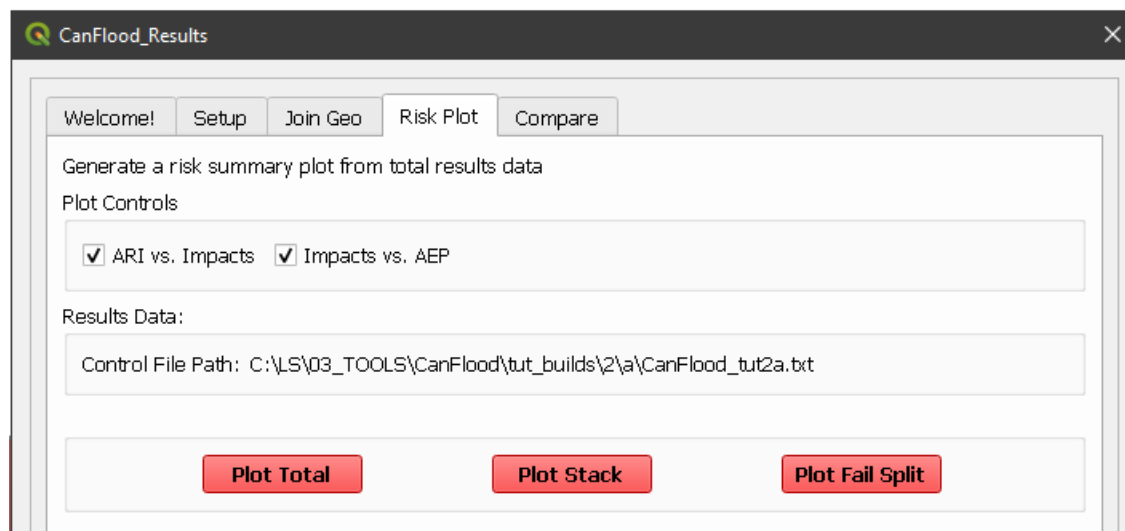
Risk Plots

While the Risk modules include some basic risk curve plots (see above), CanFlood provides additional plot customization under the ‘Risk Plot’ tool in the ‘Results’ toolset. **Open the**

‘Results’  **toolset**, configure the session by selecting a working directory, the Control File, and setting ‘Plot Handling’ to ‘Save to file’ as shown:



To generate the custom plots, navigate to the ‘Risk Plot’ tab, and select both plot types as shown below:



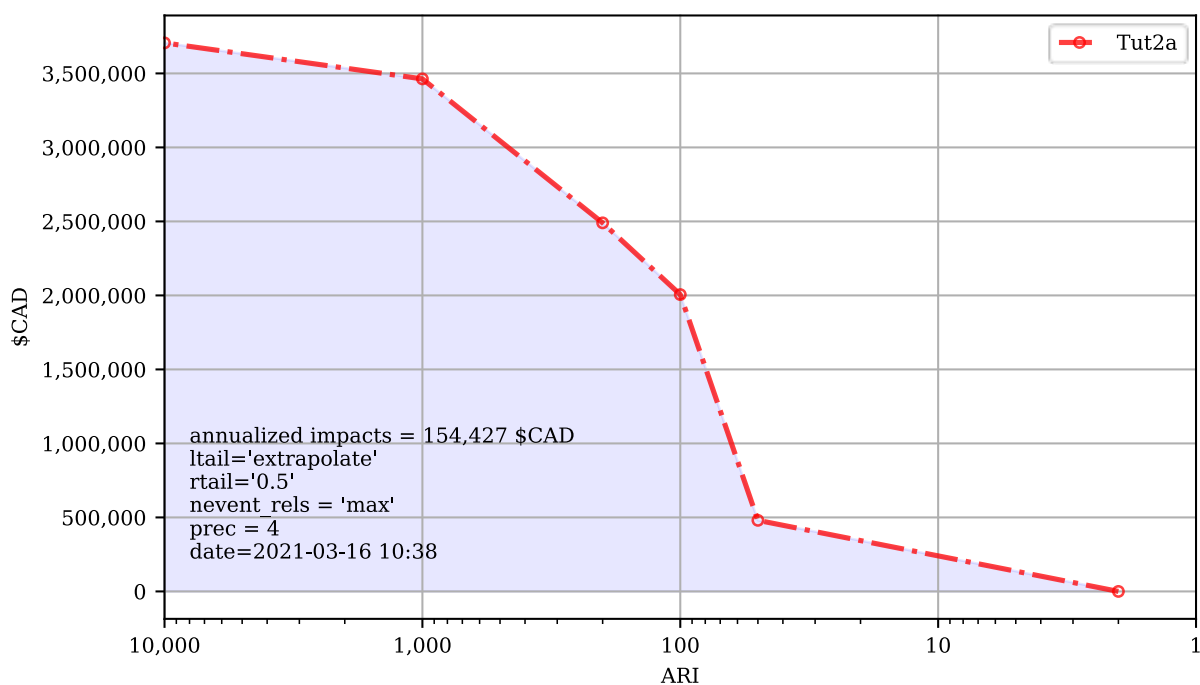


To customize the plot, open the Control File, and under '[plotting]', change the following parameters:

- `color = red`
- `impactfmt_str = ,.0f`

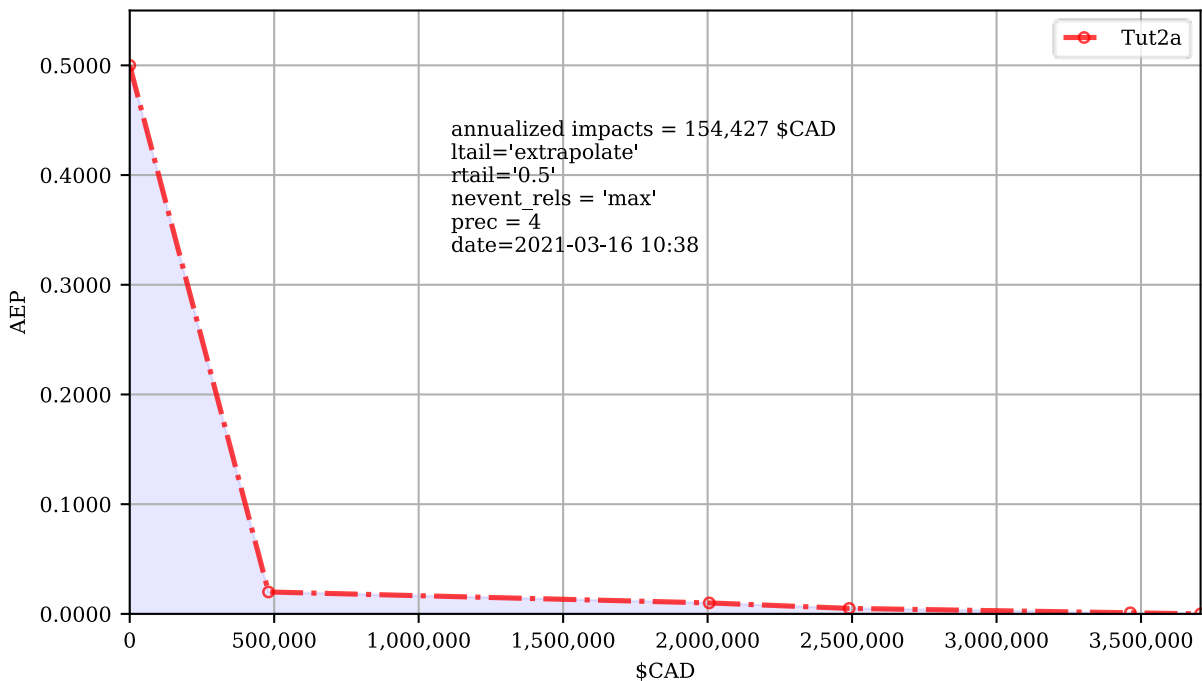
These parameters control the colour of the plot and the formatting applied to the impact values. Save the changes, then return to the CanFlood window and **hit 'Plot Total'**. You should see the two plots below generated in your working directory.

Tut2a res1 Impacts-ARI plot for 6 events





Tut2a res1 AEP-Impacts plot for 6 events



These plots are the two standard risk curve formats for the same total results data.

Alternatively, changing 'Plot Handling' to 'Launch separate window' on the 'Setup' tab will launch a dialog window after plotting that provides some built-in tools for further customizing the plot.

6.3. Tutorial 2b: Risk (L2) with Dike Failure

Users should first complete Tutorials 1 and 2a. Tutorial 2b uses the same input data as 2a but expands the analysis to demonstrate the risk analysis of a simple levee failure through incorporating a single companion failure event into the model. This companion failure event is composed of two layers:

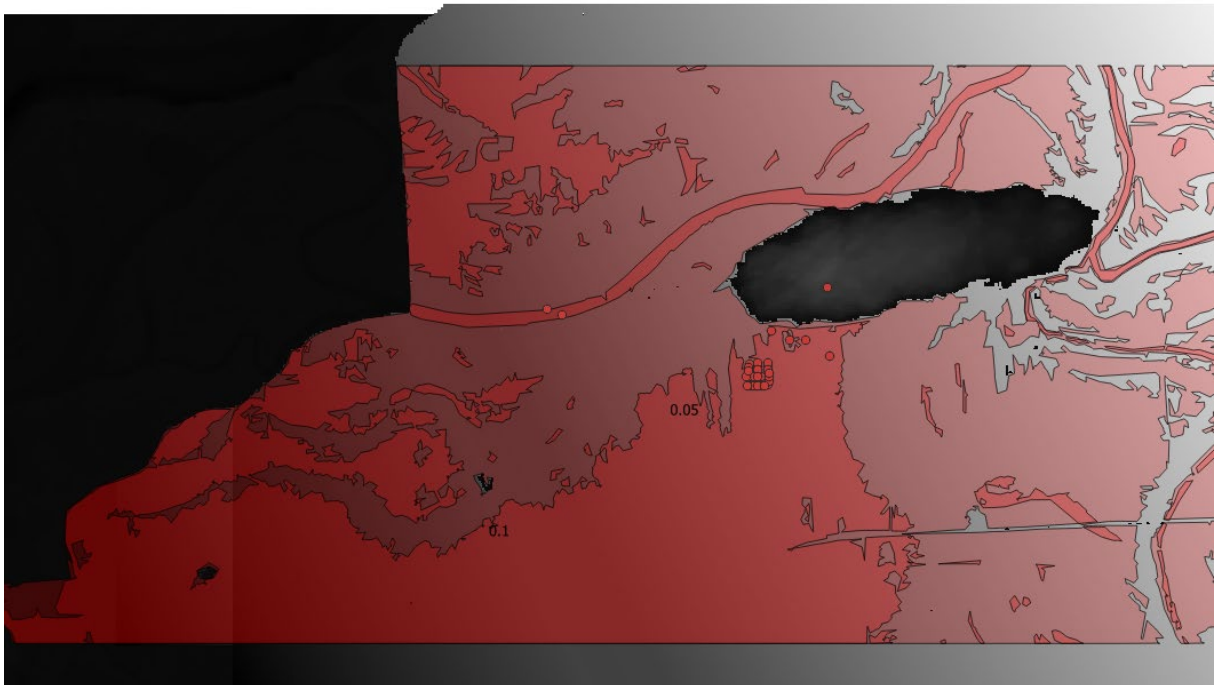
- *haz_1000_fail_A_tut2*: 'failure raster' indicating the WSL that would be realized were any of the levee segments to fail during the event; and



- *haz_1000_fail_A_tut2*: conditional exposure probability polygon layer with features indicating the extent and probability of failure of each levee segment during the flood event ('failure polygons'). Notice this layer contains two features that overlap in places, corresponding potential flooding from two breach sites in the levee system. This layer will be used to tell CanFlood when and how to sample the failure raster.

This simplification by using these two layers facilitates the specification of multiple failure probabilities but where any failure (or combination of failures) would realize the same WSL (Section 5.1.5's 'complex conditionals'). Ensure these layers are loaded into the same QGIS project as was used for Tutorial 2a.

To better understand the 'failure polygons' layer, let's apply CanFlood's 'red fill transparent' style. Begin by loading this style template into your profile with the 'Add Styles' tool (Plugins > CanFlood > Add Styles), then apply it using the Layer Styling Panel (F7). Finally, add a single label for 'p_fail' and move the layer just beneath the asset inventory ('finv') points layer on the layers panel. Your canvas should look similar to the below:





6.3.1. Build the Model

Follow the steps in Tutorials 2a 'Build the Model' but with including the 'failure raster' ('haz_1000_fail_A_tut2', probability=1000ARI) in the 'Hazard Sampler' and 'Event Variables' steps. On the 'Event Variables' step, ensure 'Failure Event Relation Treatment' is set to 'Mutually Exclusive'.



Conditional Probabilities



Navigate to the 'Conditional P' tab to resolve the overlapping failure polygons into the resolved exposure probabilities ('exlikes') dataset to tell CanFlood what probability should be assigned to each asset when realizing the companion failure raster. Start by pairing the failure polygons with the failure raster, select the 'Probability FieldName', 'Event Relation Treatment', and 'Summary Plots' as shown, then **click 'Sample'**:

CanFlood Build Toolset ×

Welcome! Setup Inventory Hazard Sampler Event Variables **Conditional P** DTM Sampler Validation

Generate the 'exlikes' datafile of conditional exposure probabilities (optional) Clear All

Specify hazard layer and corresponding conditional exposure polygon (or leave blank)

Set 1
 haz_1000_fail_A_tut2  haz_1000_fail_A_tut2

Set 2

Set 3

Set 4

Probability FieldName: 1.2 p_fail

Event Relation Treatment:
☒ Mutually Exclusive ☐ Independent

Summary Plots:
☒ Boxplot ☒ Histograms

Execute:

Sample

passed 1 (of 2) validations. see log for errors

0%

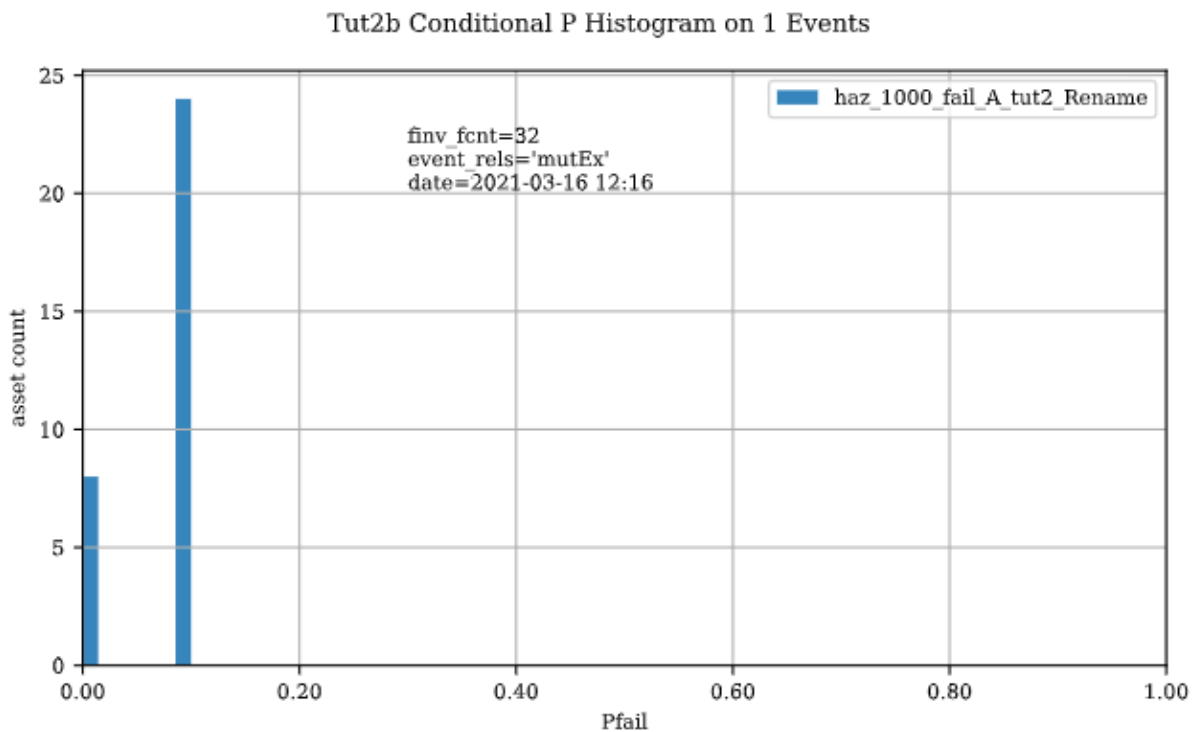
OK Close



A resolved exposure probabilities ('exlikes') data file should have been created in your working directory with entries like this:

xid	haz_1000yr_fail_A_cT4
14879	0.05
14880	0.15
14925	0.15
14926	0.15
14927	0.15
14928	0.05
14933	0.15
14934	0.15
14935	0.15


Two non-spatial summary plots of this data should also have been generated in your working directory, the most useful for this particular model being the histogram:





These values are the conditional probabilities of each asset realizing the 1000-year companion failure event WSL.¹³ See Section 5.2.3 for a complete description of this tool. Complete the model construction by running the ‘DTM Sampler’ and ‘Validation’ tools.

6.3.2. Run the Model

Open the ‘Model’ dialog  and setup your session similar to Tutorial 2a but ensure ‘Generate attribution matrix’ is checked under ‘Run Controls’ (we’ll use this to make plots showing the different components that contribute to the risk totals).

Impacts and Risk

Navigate to the ‘Impacts (L2)’ tab, check the ‘Run Risk (L2) upon completion’ box to execute the exposure and risk models in sequence from your Control File. Navigate to the ‘Risk (L2)’ tab and ensure ‘Calculate expected values per asset’ is checked. Now move back to the ‘Impacts (L2)’ tab and **click ‘Run dmg2’**. You should see the same types of outputs as Tutorial 2a, but with two additional ‘attribution matrix’ datasets.

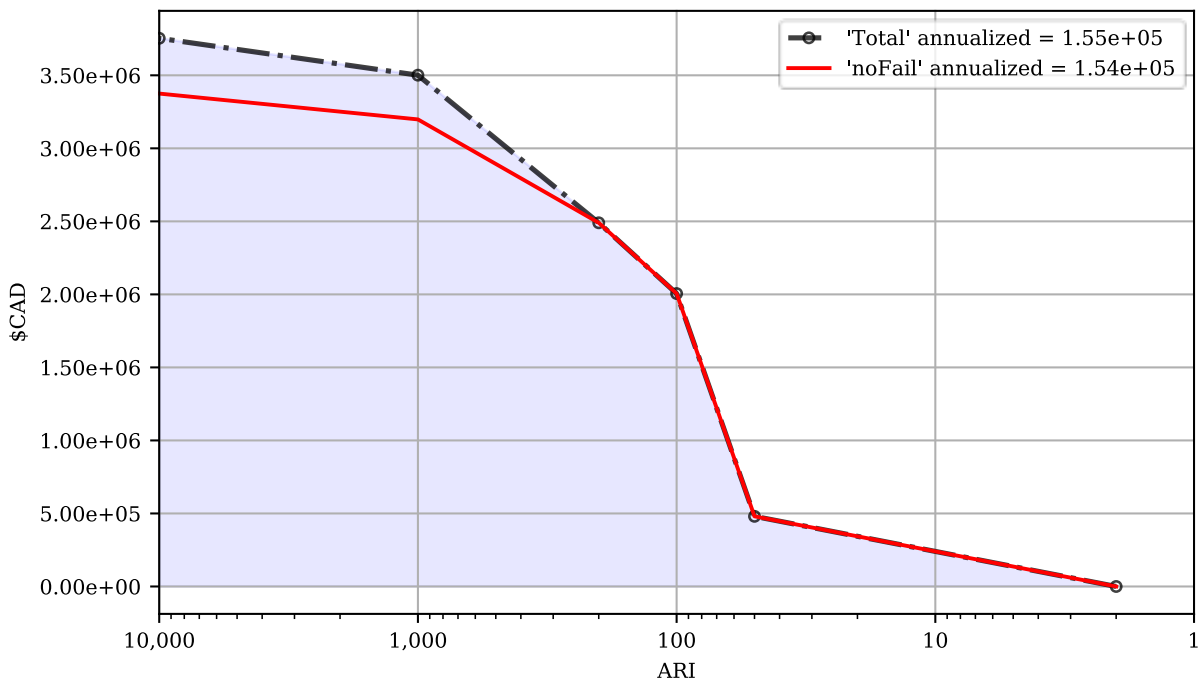
6.3.3. View Results

To better understand the influence of incorporating levee failure, this section will demonstrate how to generate a plot showing the total risk and the portion of that total risk that comes from assuming no failure. Open the ‘Results’ toolset and configure your session by selecting a working directory and the same Control File used above. Now navigate to the ‘Risk Plot’ tab, ensure both plot controls are checked, then **click ‘Plot Fail Split’**. This should generate two risk plot formulations, including the figure below:

¹³ Try running the tool again, but this time selecting ‘Max’. If you look closely at the boxplots, you should see a slight difference in the resolved probabilities. This suggests this model is not very sensitive to the relational assumption of these overlapping failure polygons.



res1 byFail Impacts-ARI plot for 2 scenarios



In this plot, the red line represents the contribution to risk without the companion failure events, which should be nearly identical to the results from Tutorial 2a, and a second line showing the total results.¹⁴ The area between these two lines illustrates the contribution to risk from incorporating levee failure into the model.

6.4. Tutorial 2c: Risk (L2) with Complex Failure

It is recommended that users first complete Tutorial 2b. Tutorial 2c uses the same input data as 2b but expands the analysis to demonstrate the incorporation of more complex levee failure with two companion failure events into the model.

In the same QGIS project as was used for Tutorial 2a, ensure the following are also added to the project:

- *haz_1000_fail_B_tut2.gpkg*: failure polygon 'B';
- *haz_1000_fail_B_tut2.tif*: failure raster 'B'.

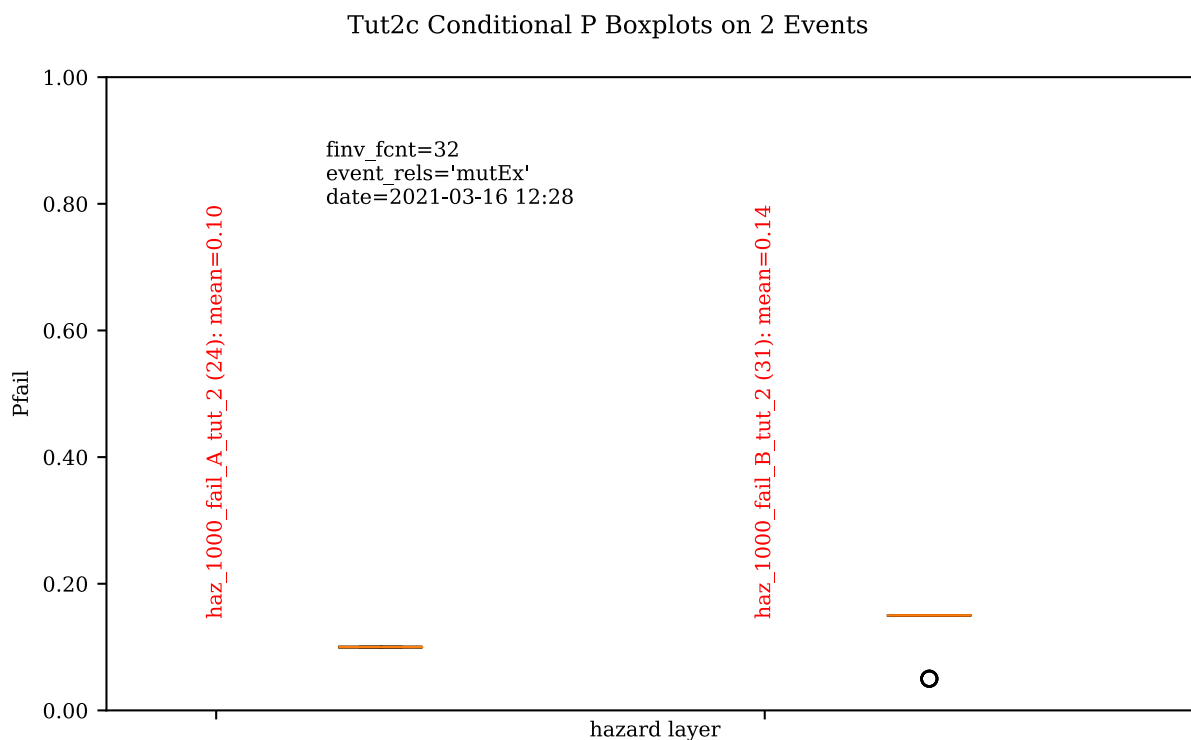
¹⁴ Alternatively, the 'Compare' tool can be used to generate a comparison plot between the two tutorials.



These layers represent an additional companion failure event ‘B’ for the 1000-year event where the failure WSL and probabilities are different but complimentary from those of Tutorial 2b’s companion failure event ‘A’. These could be outputs from two modelled breach scenarios.


6.4.1. Build the Model

Follow the steps in Tutorials 2b ‘Build the Model’ but with including the additional companion failure event ‘B’ in the ‘Hazard Sampler’, ‘Event Variables’ and ‘Conditional P’ steps. For the latter two, ensure both event relation treatments are set to ‘Mutually Exclusive’. Looking at the ‘Conditional P’ boxplot shows the difference in failure probabilities specified by the two companion failure events:



Complete the model construction by running the ‘DTM Sampler’ and ‘Validation’ tools.

6.4.2. Run the Model

Open the ‘Model’ dialog  and follow the steps in Tutorial 2b to setup this model run.



Impacts and Risk

Execute the ‘Impacts (L2)’ and ‘Risk (L2)’ models similar to Tutorial 2b but ensure ‘Generate attribution matrix’ is de-selected.

To explore the influence of the ‘event_rels’ parameter, open the control file, change the ‘event_rels’ parameter to ‘max’, change the ‘name’ parameter to something unique (e.g., ‘tut2c_max’), then save the file with a different name. On the ‘Setup’ tab, point to this modified control file, a new outputs directory, and run both models again as described above¹⁵.

6.4.3. View Results

After executing the ‘Risk (L2)’ model for the ‘event_rels=mutEx’ and ‘event_rels=max’ control files, two similar collections of output files should have been generated in the two separate output directories specified during model setup. To visualize the difference between these two model configurations, **open the ‘Results’ toolset** and select a working directory and the original ‘event_rels=mutEx’ control file as the ‘main control file’ on the ‘Setup’ tab¹⁶. Before generating the comparison files, configure the plot style by opening the same main control file, and changing the following ‘[plotting]’ parameters:

- ‘color = red’
- ‘linestyle = solid’
- ‘impactfmt_str = ,.0f’

¹⁵ Advanced users could avoid re-running the ‘Impacts (L2)’ model by manipulating the Control File to point to the ‘dmgs’ results from the previous run as these will not change between the two formulations.

¹⁶ The control file specified on the ‘Setup’ tab will be used for common plot styles (e.g.,



To generate a comparison plot of these two scenarios, navigate to the ‘Compare/Combine’ tab, select the ‘Control File’ for both model configurations generated in the previous step, ensure ‘Control Files’ is checked under ‘Comparison Controls’, as shown below:

CanFlood Results Toolset

Welcome! Setup Join Geo Risk Plot **Compare/Combine** BCA

Compare or combine results between (up to 4) scenarios

Specify Scenarios:

D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/2/2c/Build/CanFlood_Tut2c.txt Browse

D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/2/2c/Build/CanFlood_Tut2c_max.txt Browse

Control File path Browse

Control File path Browse

Comparison Controls:

☒ Control Files

Combine Controls:

☐ Generate composite scenario

Plot Controls:

☒ ARI vs. Impacts ☒ Impacts vs. AEP

Compare **Combine**

user selected:
D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/2/2c/Build/CanFlood_Tut2c_max.txt
0%

OK Close

Click ‘Compare’ to perform the comparison. You should see two files generated in your working directory:

- Comparison plot showing both risk curves on the same axis; and
- Control file comparison spreadsheet.

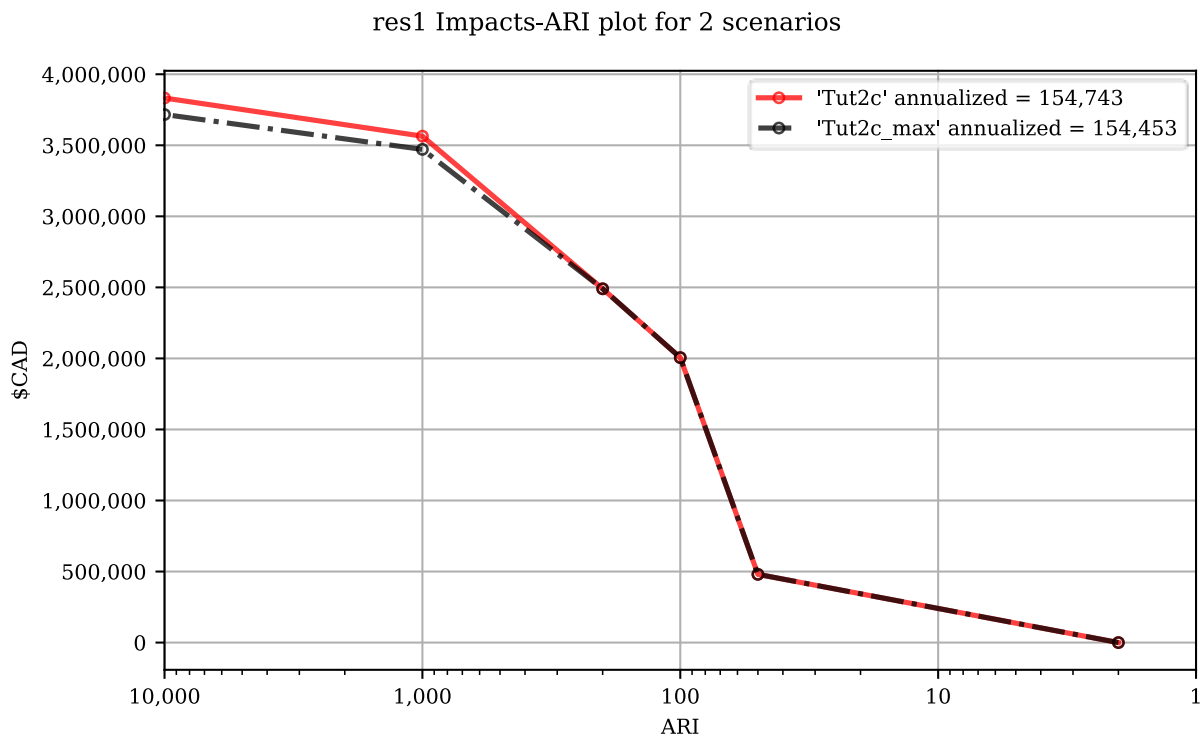


The control file comparison spreadsheet is shown below and is an easy way to quickly identify distinctions between model scenarios.

	tut2c	tut2c_max	compare
parameters.name	tut2c	tut2c_max	FALSE
parameters.cid	xid	xid	TRUE
parameters.prec	6	6	TRUE
parameters.ground_water	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
parameters.felv	ground	ground	TRUE
parameters.event_probs	ari	ari	TRUE
parameters.ltail	extrapolate	extrapolate	TRUE
parameters.rtail	0.5	0.5	TRUE
parameters.drop_tails	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE
parameters.integrate	trapz	trapz	TRUE
parameters.as_inun	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE
parameters.event_rels	mutEx	max	FALSE
dmg_fps.curves	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	TRUE
dmg_fps.finv	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	TRUE
dmg_fps.expos	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	TRUE
dmg_fps.gels	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	TRUE
risk_fps.dmg	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE
risk_fps.exlikes	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	TRUE
risk_fps.evals	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	TRUE
validation.risk1	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE
validation.dmg2	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
validation.risk2	TRUE	TRUE	TRUE
validation.risk3	FALSE	FALSE	TRUE
results_fps.attrimat02	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE
results_fps.attrimat03	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE
results_fps.r2_passet	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE
results_fps.r2_ttl	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE
results_fps.eventtypes	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE
plotting.color	red	black	FALSE
plotting.linestyle	solid	dashdot	FALSE
plotting.linewidth	2	2	TRUE
plotting.alpha	0.75	0.75	TRUE
plotting.marker	o	o	TRUE
plotting.markersize	4	4	TRUE
plotting.fillstyle	none	none	TRUE
plotting.impactfmt_str	,.0f	,.2e	FALSE
cf_fp	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\C	C:\LS\03_TOOLS\CanFlo	FALSE

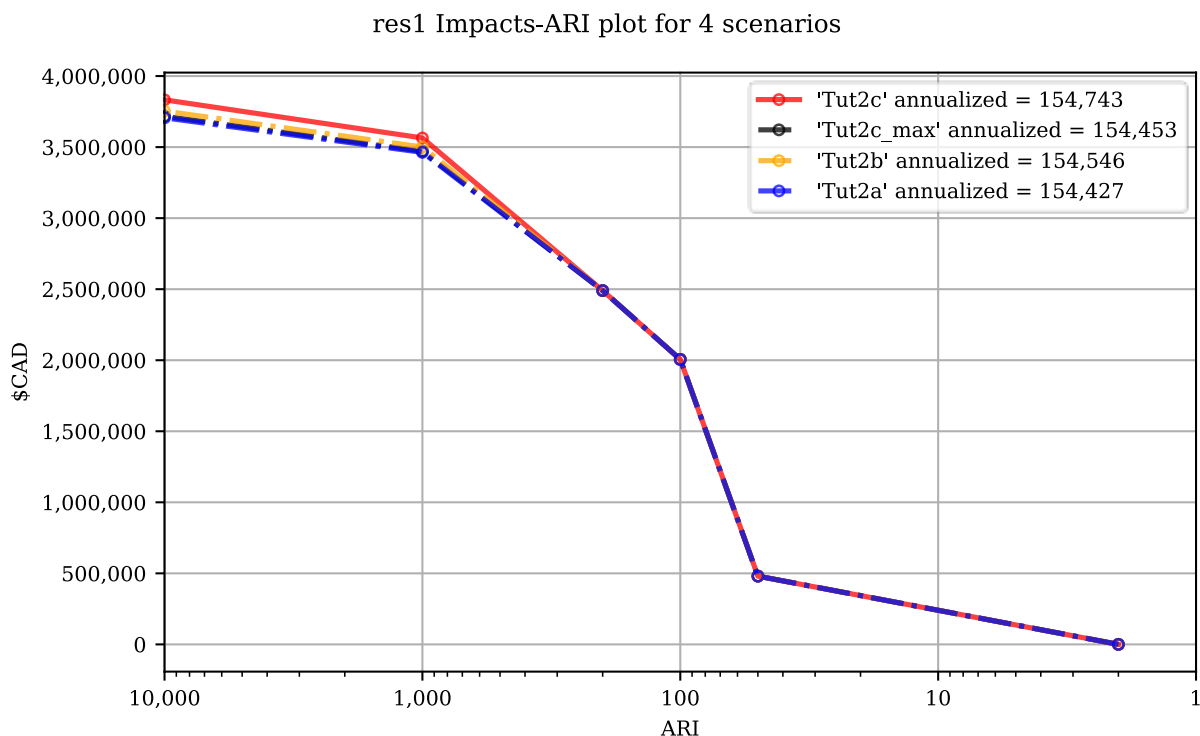


On the comparison plot (shown below), notice the difference in the risk curves and annualized values is negligible, indicating the treatment of event relations is not very significant for this model.





Re-running the comparison tool on the four Tutorial 2 control files constructed thus far yields the following:



6.5. Tutorial 2d: Risk (L2) with Mitigation

It is recommended that users first complete Tutorial 2a before proceeding. Tutorial 2d uses the same input data as 2a but expands the analysis to demonstrate the incorporation of object (or property) level mitigation measures (PLPM) into the model. This can be useful for improving the accuracy of a model where two assets are functionally similar, using the same vulnerability function, but where one has some mechanism to reduce the exposure of the asset (e.g., a backflow valve). Similarly, this functionality can be used to investigate the benefits of introducing PLPMs with a comparative analysis.

6.5.1. Build the Model

Follow the steps in Tutorials 2a 'Build the Model', with the exception of the 'Inventory' step, which we'll modify to apply four new fields to the inventory vector layer ('finv') by configuring the 'Inventory' tab as shown below before **clicking 'Construct finv'**:



Inventory Construction Helper

Vector Layer: finv_tut2 [EPSG:3005]

Nested Functions:

nestID: 0 tag: cap: scale: elv:

Mitigation Parameters:

Depth Thresholds: -1.5 .2 Scale: .75 Value: -10 ☒ Apply Mitigations

Construct finv

This should create a new layer with a 'finv' prefix in your map canvas. Exploring the attribute table of this layer (F6) should show the four new fields that were created and filled with the values specified. These are used by the 'Impacts (L2)' module to modify the exposure passed to each object's vulnerability function and are described in Section 5.2.2. Complete the inventory construction by ensuring 'Apply Mitigations' is checked, the newly created inventory vector layer is selected, and the remainder of the tab is configured as shown below (same as Tutorial 2a). **Click 'Store'.**

Vulnerability Functions

D:/IBI_Work/CanFlood Development/CanFlood 1.0 Testing/Tutorials/2/2a/Build/IBI2015_DamageCurves.xls Browse

Select From Library Update Control File

Inventory Compiler

Inventory Vector Layer: finv_finv_tut2

Elevation type (felv): ground Index FieldName (cid): 123 xid

Store

Complete the 'Hazard Sampler', 'Event Variables', 'DTM Sampler', and 'Validation' steps as described in Tutorial 2a.

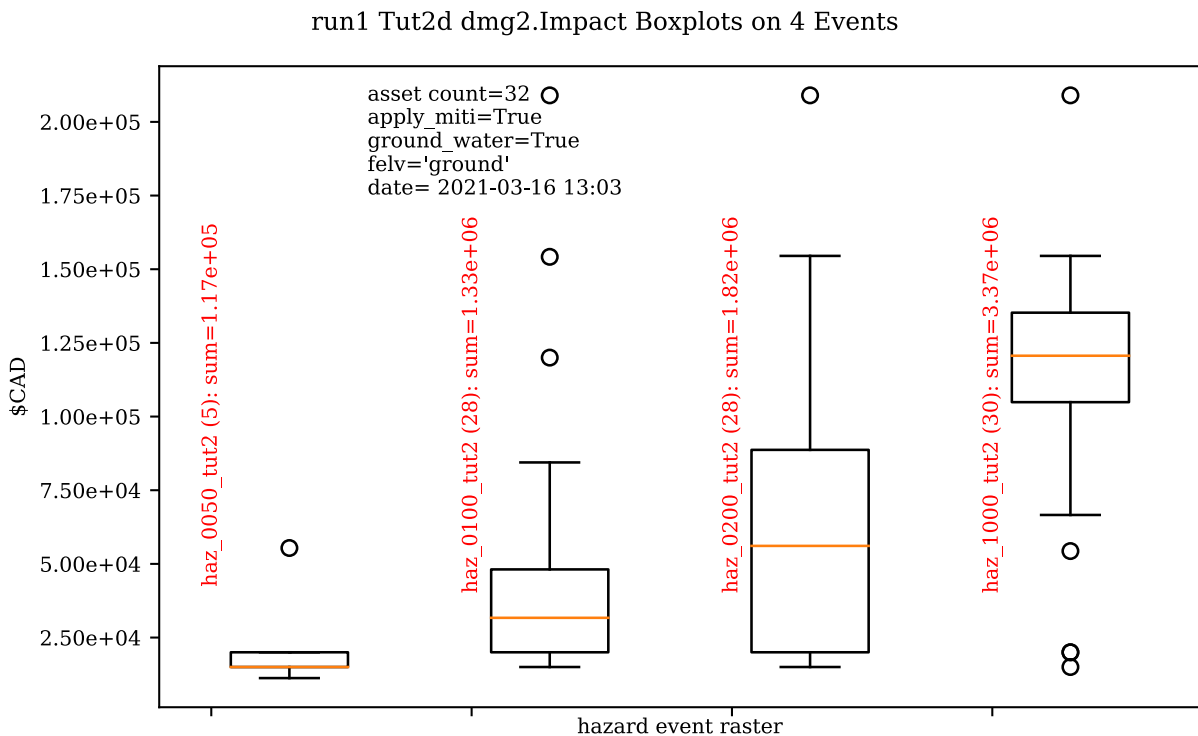


6.5.2. Run the Model

Open the 'Model' dialog  and setup your session similar to Tutorial 2a.

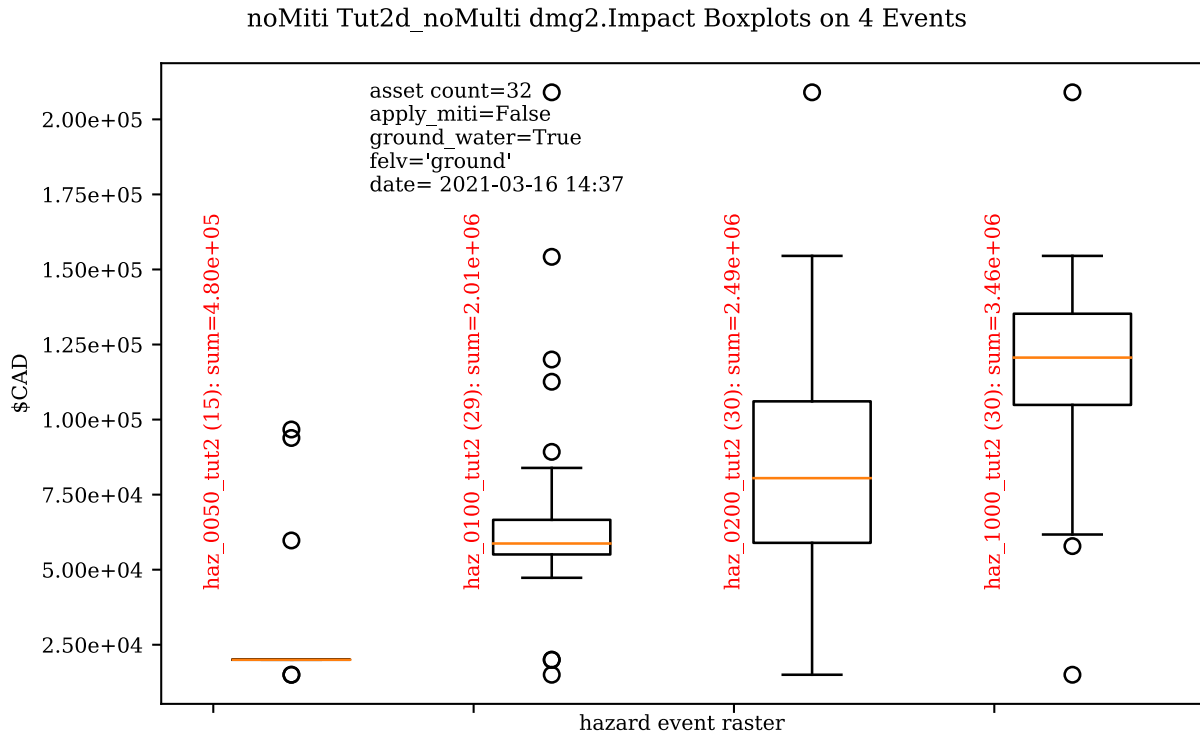
Impacts and Risk

Navigate to the 'Impacts (L2)' tab and ensure ALL 'Run Controls' are checked then **click 'Run dmg2'**. You should see the same types of outputs as Tutorial 2a, but with some additional outputs that will help us understand the influence of the mitigation parameters, including the box plot shown below:



This shows data summaries for the four event rasters, the total impact values (in red text), and some key model info.

To understand the effect of the mitigation parameters, open the control file, change the 'apply_miti' parameter to 'False', change the 'name' parameter to 'tut2d_noMiti', 'color' to 'red', and save it under a different name. On the 'Setup' tab, point to this new control file and change the 'Run Tag' to 'noMiti'. Now move back to the 'Impacts (L2)' tab and **click 'Run dmg2'** again. You should see another boxplot generated in your working directory:




Notice the smaller events (50yr and 100yr) have changed significantly, while the larger events less-so. This makes sense considering we told CanFlood the mitigations would be overwhelmed at depths above 0.2 m (via the upper depth threshold parameter). We can investigate this model behavior further by opening either¹⁷ of the ‘depths_’ outputs, which should look similar to the below (values below the upper threshold are highlighted in red for clarity):

¹⁷ The influence of the mitigation functions on the depths are not reflected in this output.



bid	xid	haz_1000yr_cT3	haz_100yr_cT2	haz_200yr_cT2	haz_50yr_cT3
0	14879	0.611101	-1.029237	-0.732809	-3.067587
1	14880	0.984735	-0.655869	-0.359249	-2.694598
2	14925	0.460159	-1.178262	-0.883227	-3.217845
3	14926	0.285717	-1.357312	-1.061484	-3.394489
4	14927	0.483156	-1.153463	-0.858551	-3.194644
5	14928	0.245552	-1.390093	-1.09452	-3.42889
6	14933	0.41379	-1.229175	-0.933394	-3.266262
7	14934	1.545979	-0.090077	0.205794	-2.133133
8	14935	1.426811	-0.216472	0.07954	-2.25401
9	14936	1.233342	-0.405756	-0.110229	-2.446299
10	14937	1.510791	-0.130525	0.165425	-2.1719
11	14938	1.666955	0.028111	0.323453	-2.013911
12	14939	1.518171	-0.120421	0.174738	-2.160243
13	14940	1.439266	-0.199409	0.09581	-2.241191
14	14941	1.705375	0.064445	0.361303	-1.974746
15	14942	1.435534	-0.202035	0.094936	-2.251201
16	14943	1.813751	0.173451	0.469851	-1.874596
17	14944	3.768471	2.12405	2.420889	0.079099

Similarly, the 'dmg2_smry' spreadsheet '_smry' tab for the mitigation run shows the change in total impact values (per event) calculated at each step of the 'Impacts (L2)' module (bars and arrow added for clarity):



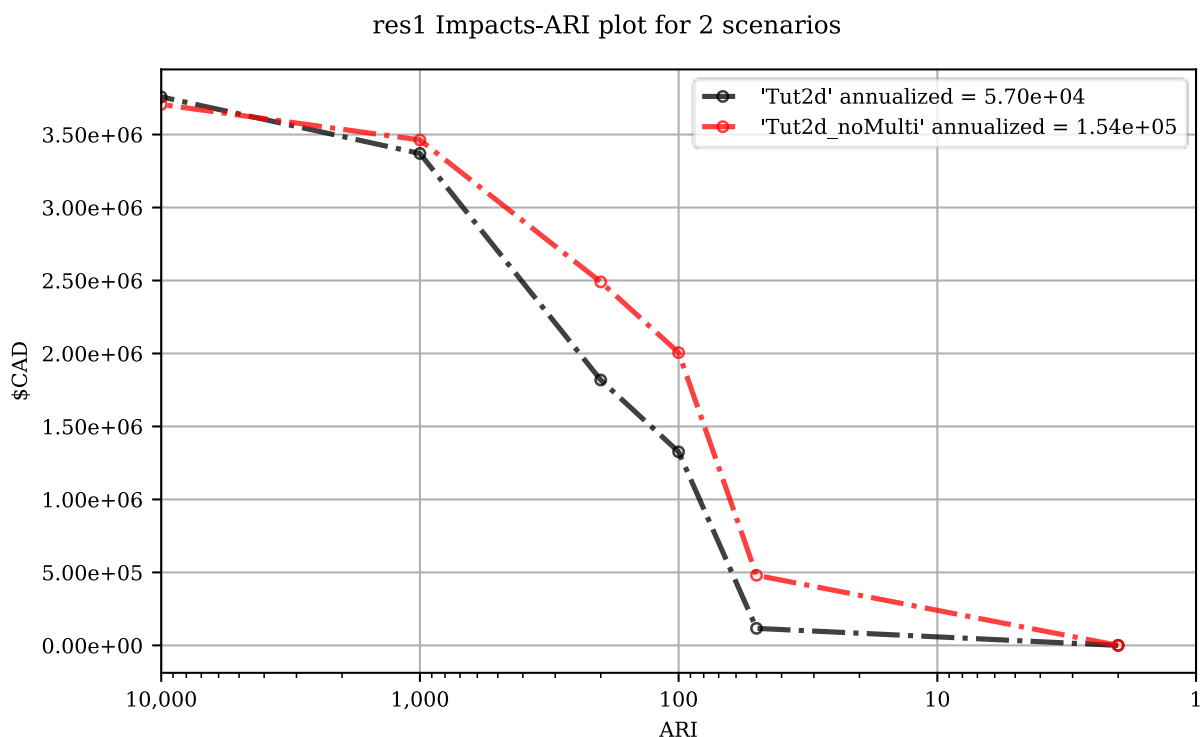
	haz_1000yr_cT3	haz_100yr_cT2	haz_200yr_cT2	haz_50yr_cT3
raw	54,666	33,002	39,955	8,144
scaled	6,840,627	4,180,559	5,037,883	1,187,617
capped	3,462,980	2,005,647	2,490,214	480,277
mi_Lthresh	3,383,419	1,530,403	2,037,191	143,862
mi_iScale	3,370,299	1,326,103	1,818,559	116,647
mi_iVal	3,370,269	1,325,733	1,818,249	116,487
dmg	3,370,269	1,325,733	1,818,249	116,487

This shows the total impacts achieved by the raw curves, then the 'scaling' algorithm ('fX_scale'), the 'capping' algorithm ('fX_cap'), followed by the algorithm that enforced the lower threshold ('mi_Lthresh'), the mitigation scaling ('mi_iScale'), the mitigation value addition ('mi_iVal'), and the final result (identical to the previous row). This progression shows that the 'capping' algorithm had a large influence on the results and the mitigation value addition ('mi_iVal') had negligible influence.



6.5.3. View the Results

The 'Compare' Results tool can be used to show the influence on the risk curve and total risk:



6.6. Tutorial 2e: Benefit-Cost Analysis

This tutorial demonstrates CanFlood's Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) tools for supporting basic benefit-cost analysis for flood risk interventions like the mitigations considered in the previous tutorial. Before continuing with this tutorial, users should have completed and have available the results data for Tutorial 2a¹⁸ and 2d:

- *CanFlood_tut2a.txt*: control file from Tutorial 2a with valid total results ('r_ttl') file and filepath;
- *CanFlood_tut2d.txt*: control file from Tutorial 2d with valid total results ('r_ttl') file filepath.

¹⁸ Alternatively, the 'tut2d_noMiti' from Tutorial 2d can be used.



Begin by opening the 'Results' toolbox then navigating to the 'Setup' tab to configure it using the control file from Tutorial 2d. Now we'll generate a test plot to make sure our control files are valid. Ensure the 'impactfmt_str' parameter is set to ',.0f' (no apostrophes) in the Tutorial 2d control file. Now move to the 'Compare/Combine' tab, enter in both control files, check one of the 'Plot Controls', then click 'Compare'. A plot identical to the one generated at the end of Tutorial 2d should have been generated. Note the EAD of Tutorial 2d is ~57,000. This is the residual annual flood risk for these assets, after the PLPM intervention.

Complete BCA Workbook

Navigate to the 'BCA' tab. Ensure the control file path for Tutorial 2d is shown at the top of the window, then click 'Copy BCA Template'. You should see a new 'cba_xls' parameter set in the control file and your 'BCA' window should look similar to the below:

Now click 'Open' to edit the BCA workbook. You should see the 'smry' tab populated with information from Tutorial 2d, most notably the \$57k EAD calculated for this option.

Complete the remaining input cells on the 'smry' tab by specifying the EAD from 2a and a 4% discounting rate as shown below:



Scenario Description	
name	tut2d
control_filename	CanFlood_tut2d.txt
ead_option	\$ 57,003.04
ead_baseline	\$ 154,427.00
timestamp	2021-03-02 18:45
Cost-Benefit Calculations	
base_year	2021
Discounting rate	4.0%

Now move to the 'data' tab on the workbook to enter in the benefit-cost data of pursuing the Tutorial 2d mitigations. For this tutorial, assume we have determined the following for this intervention:

- Installation of the PLPMs will take 2 years at \$1M/year and provide protection for 100 years;
- Maintenance will cost \$1k/year beginning once construction completes and continue for the 100-year lifecycle of the intervention;
- There will be no change in relative benefits or maintenance costs over time.

The two EAD rows on the 'data' tab should be automatically populated based on the values specified on the 'smry' tab; however, to match the assumptions above we must adjust some of these values as shown in the first six-years of the 'data' tab:

	A	B	D	E	F	G	H	I
			2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
			0	1	2	3	4	5
3	Development Costs							
4	Construction	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000				
5	Engin/Envir/Engag	\$0						
6	Land	\$0						
7								
8	Total	\$2,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
9								
10	Operating Costs							
11	maintenance	\$99,000			\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
12	operation	\$0						
13								
14	Total	\$99,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
15								
16	Grand Total Costs	\$2,099,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
17								
18	Flood Loss Avoidance							
19	baseline EAD	\$15,288,273			\$154,427	\$154,427	\$154,427	\$154,427
20	option EAD	-\$5,643,301			-\$57,003	-\$57,003	-\$57,003	-\$57,003
21	other monetized benefits	\$48,712		=F23/2				
22								
23	Grand Total Benefits	\$9,693,684	\$0	\$48,712	\$97,424	\$97,424	\$97,424	\$97,424

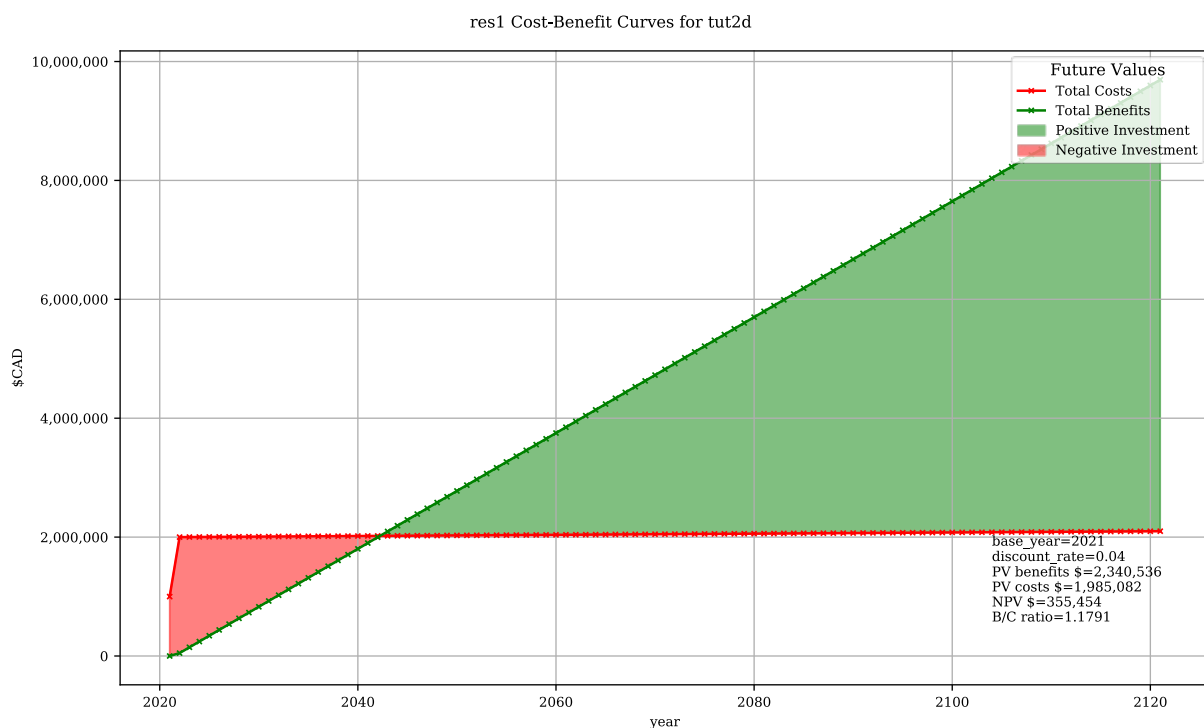


Notice the first year of the 'baseline' and 'option' EAD are blank, reflecting that no benefits are gained yet; however, the second year shows half the benefits will be realized. The \$1000/year maintenance costs should extend through the full 100 years (i.e., copy/paste onto all rightward cells — not shown).

Once the 'data' tab is complete, a 'B/C ratio' of 1.18 should be shown on the 'smry' tab¹⁹. Save and close this spreadsheet.

Plot Financials

To further summarize and analyze the data entered into the BCA worksheet (make sure to hit save!), move back to the CanFlood 'BCA' window, select 'Future Values', and click 'Plot Financials'. The plot shown below should be generated:

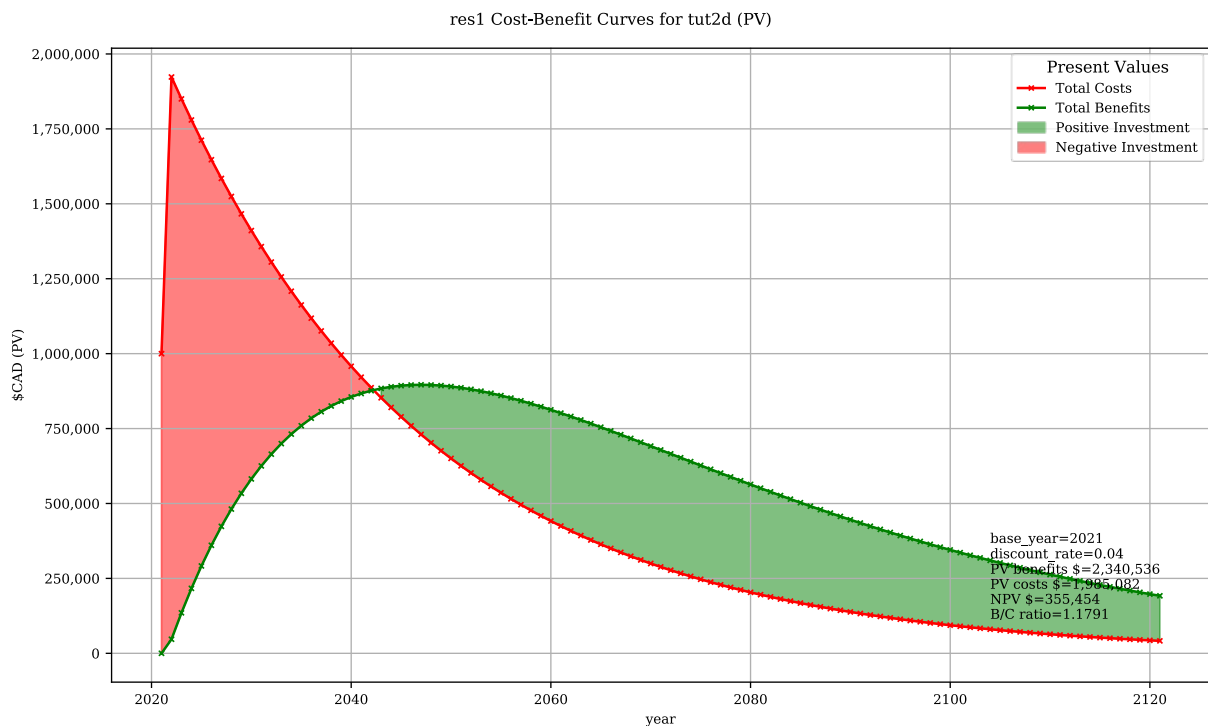


¹⁹ If you get a B/C ratio of 1.19, make sure the \$1000 maintenance costs are entered for every year of the life-cycle



This shows the relative values of the cumulative benefits and costs over time (without discounting). Notice the expensive installation costs exceed the benefits initially; however, after ~25 years the benefits of this option outweigh the costs (the 'pay-back year'). Also notice that, with future values, the plot shows cumulative benefits around \$10M at 100 years. Perhaps by then we will all be living in spaceships... so maybe it's best not to consider such far-off benefits of flood mitigation so significantly.

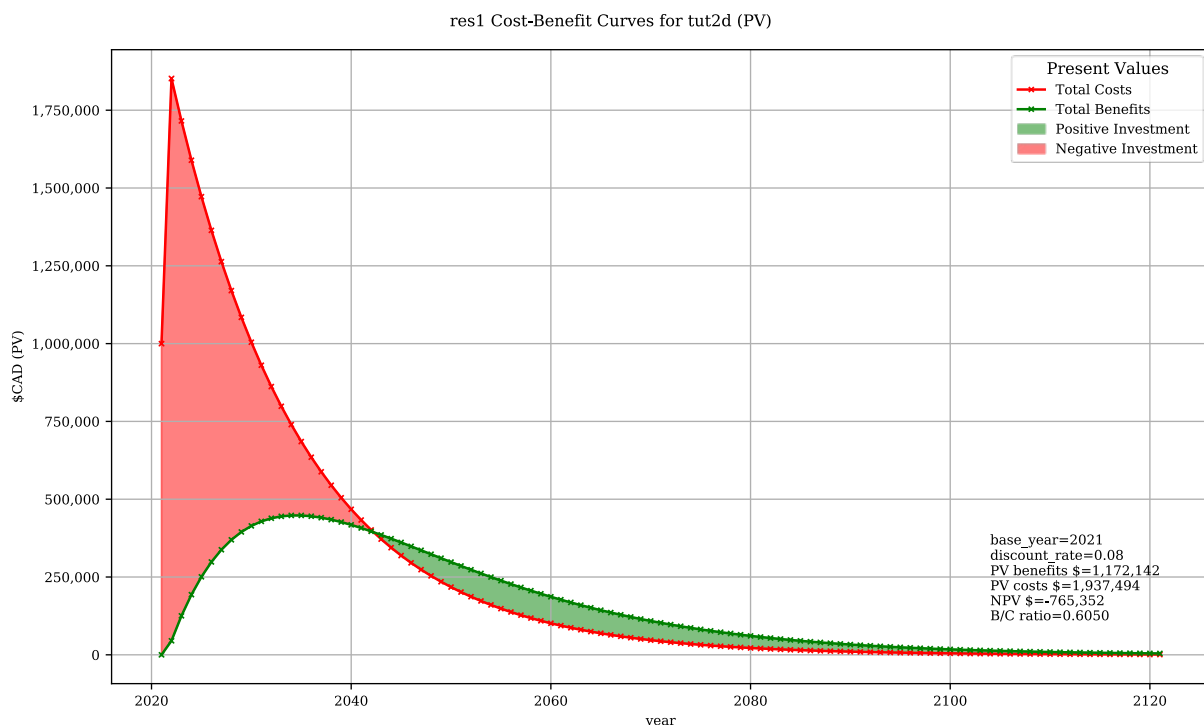
Change the radio button to 'Present Values' and click 'Plot Financials' again. You should see a plot like the below:



Notice the 'B/C ratio' and the 'pay-back year' have not changed, but the plot now shows the costs and benefits decaying with time, reflecting the application of the discount rate.



To better understand the role of the discount rate, return to the worksheet, change the discount rate to 8%, save the worksheet, and in the CanFlood window click ‘Plot Financials’ again:



Notice the ‘payback year’ has not changed, but the relative size of the positive (green) and negative (red) areas has shifted and the ‘B/C ratio’ has dropped below 1. This reflects the more severe discounting of the future benefits brought by the larger 8% discount rate. In other words, by the time the future residents of the study area accrue significant benefits from the PLPMs, the current stakeholders wish they had spent the money on something else.

6.7. Tutorial 3: Risk (L3) SOFDA research model

Sample inputs for the SOFDA research model are provided in the tutorials\3\ folder. Refer to Appendix B for more information.

6.8. Tutorial 4a: Risk (L1) with Percent Inundation (Polygons)

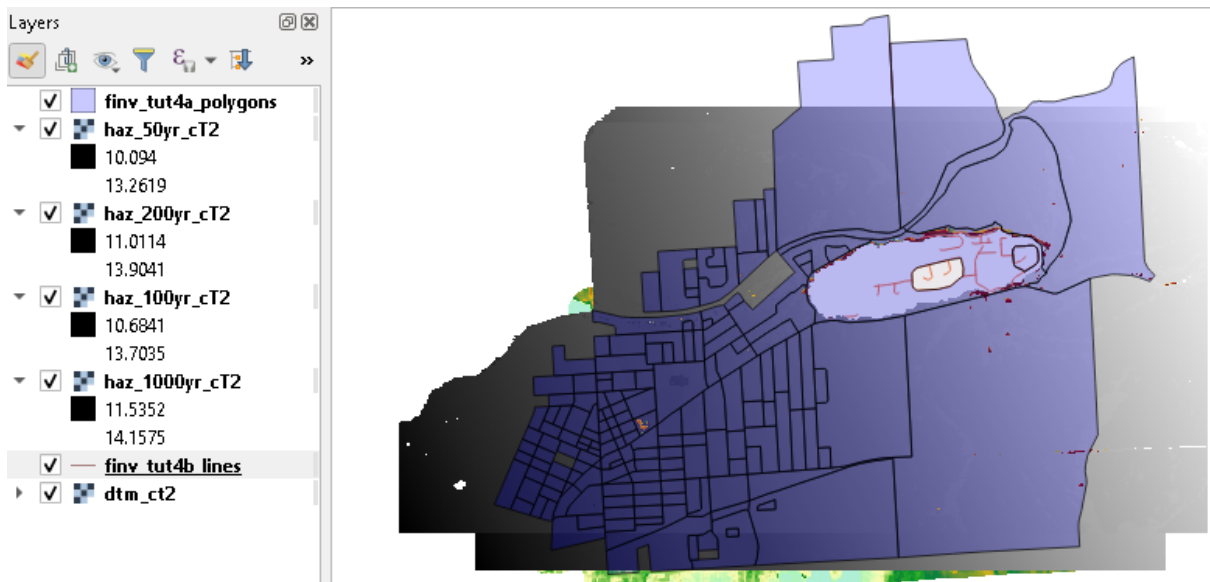
This tutorial demonstrates a risk analysis of polygon type assets where the impact metric is percent inundated rather than depth. This can be useful for some coarse risk modelling, or for assets like agricultural fields where the loss can reasonably be calculated from the percent of the asset that is inundated.



Load the following data layers from the ‘tutorials\4\data\’ folder:

- *haz_rast*: hazard event rasters with WSL value predictions for the study area for four probabilities.
 - *haz_0050_tut4.tif*
 - *haz_0100_tut4.tif*
 - *haz_0200_tut4.tif*
 - *haz_1000_tut4.tif*
- *dtm_cT2.tif*: DTM layer (and corresponding stylized layer definition .qlr file)
- *finv_tut4a_polygons.gpkg*: flood asset inventory (‘finv’) spatial layer
- ~~*finv_tut4b_lines.gpkg*~~: (used in tutorial 4b)

Move the polygon inventory (‘finv’) layer to the top, apply the CanFlood ‘fill transparent blue’ style²⁰, and your project should look similar to this²¹:



6.8.1. Build the Model

Setup

Launch the CanFlood ‘Build’ toolset and navigate to the ‘Setup’ tab. Set the ‘Precision’ field²² to ‘6’, then complete the typical setup as instructed in Tutorial 1a.

²⁰ Available in the CanFlood styles package described in Section 5.4.4 (Plugins > CanFlood > Add Styles)

²¹ Be sure to load the stylized ‘.qlr’ layers in place of the raw layers.

²² This is important for inundation percent analysis which deals with small fractions.



Inventory

Navigate to the 'Inventory' tab, ensure 'Elevation type' is set to 'datum'²³ then **click 'Store'**.

Hazard Sampler

Navigate to the 'Hazard Sampler' tool, load the four hazard rasters into the dialog window, check 'Box plots', check 'Exposure as Inundation%', set the 'Depth Threshold' to 0.5, and select the DTM layer as shown:

CanFlood Build Toolset

Welcome! Setup Inventory **Hazard Sampler** Event Variables Conditional P DTM Sampler Validation

Hazard Rasters to Sample:

Select All Select Visible Canvas Selection Clear Selection Refresh

dtm_ct2
☒ haz_0050_tut4
☒ haz_0100_tut4
☒ haz_0200_tut4
☒ haz_1000_tut4

Summary Plots
☒ Box plots
☐ Histograms

Raster Preparation
☒ conversion ☒ Re-projection ☐ Clip to AOI ScaleFactor: 1.00 **Prep**

Complex Geometry Sampler
 finv gtype: MultiPolygon Sample Stat: ▼

Inundation % Sampler
☒ Exposure as Inundation% Depth Threshold: 0.50 ⊗ ⬆
 DTM Layer: dtm_ct2 [EPSG:3005] ▼

Sample Rasters

run_rsamp finished in 0:00:03.625231

0% OK Close

²³ Risk (L1) inundation percentage runs can not use asset elevations; therefore, this input variable is redundant. When as_inun=True CanFlood model routines expect an 'elv' column with all zeros.

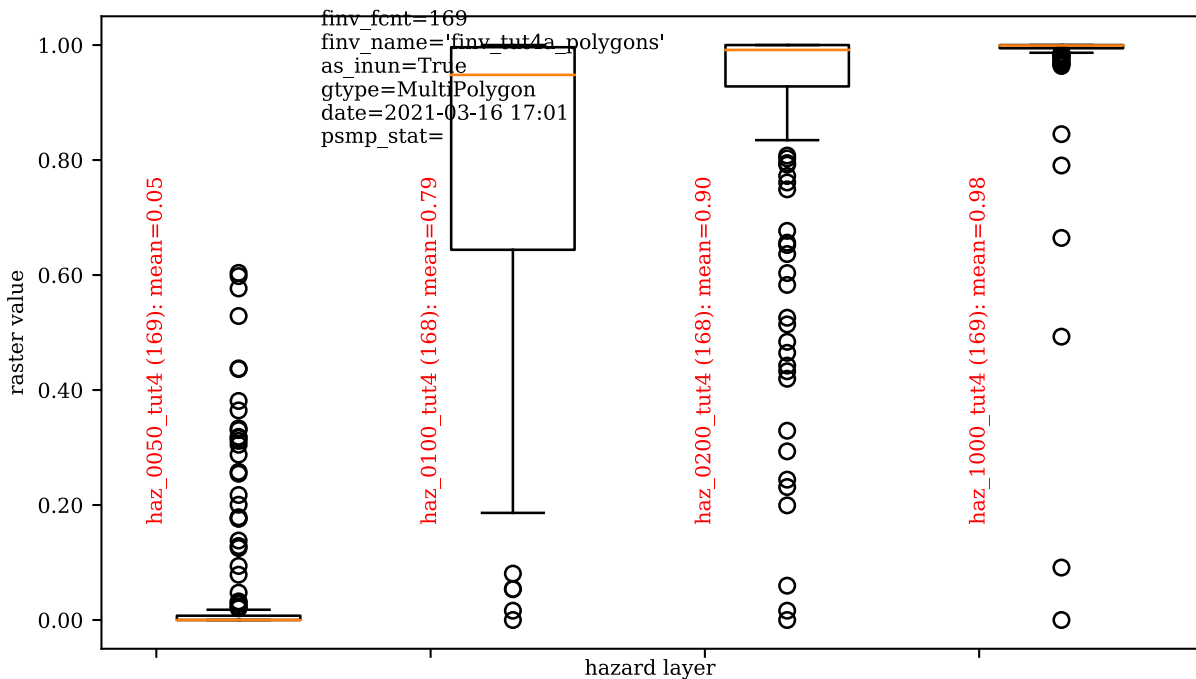


Click **'Sample Rasters'**. Navigate to the exposure data file ('expos') this created in your working directory. You should see a table like this:

xid	haz_0050_tut4	haz_0100_tut4	haz_0200_tut4	haz_1000_tut4
1	0.0203	0.0162	0.0162	1
2	0			0.9792
3	0.1287	0.1994	0.1994	0.967
4	0.4376	0.4647	0.4647	1
5	0.1762	0.2933	0.2933	1
6	0.2577	1	1	0.9981
7	0.3303	0.6558	0.6563	1
8	0.6037	0.9894	0.9894	1
9	0.1382	0.9985	0.9985	1
10	0.1763	1	1	0.9995
11	0	1	1	0.9986

These values are the calculated percent of each polygon with inundation greater than the specified depth threshold (0.5m). The generated box plots show this data graphically:

Tut4a Raster Sample Boxplots on 4 Events






Event Variables and Validation

Run the 'Event Variables' and 'Validation' tools as instructed in Tutorial 1a.

6.8.2. Run the Model

Open the 'Model' dialog  and follow the steps in Tutorial 1a to setup this model run. Navigate to the 'Risk (L1)' tool, check the boxes shown, and click 'Run risk1':



The set of results files discussed below should have been generated.

6.8.3. View the Results

Navigate to your working directory. You should see the following results files have been generated:

- *risk1_run1_tut4_passet.csv*: per asset results
- *risk1_run1_tut4_ttl.csv*
- *tut4a run1 AEP-Impacts plot for 6 events.svg*
- *tut4a run1 Impacts-ARI plot for 6 events.svg*



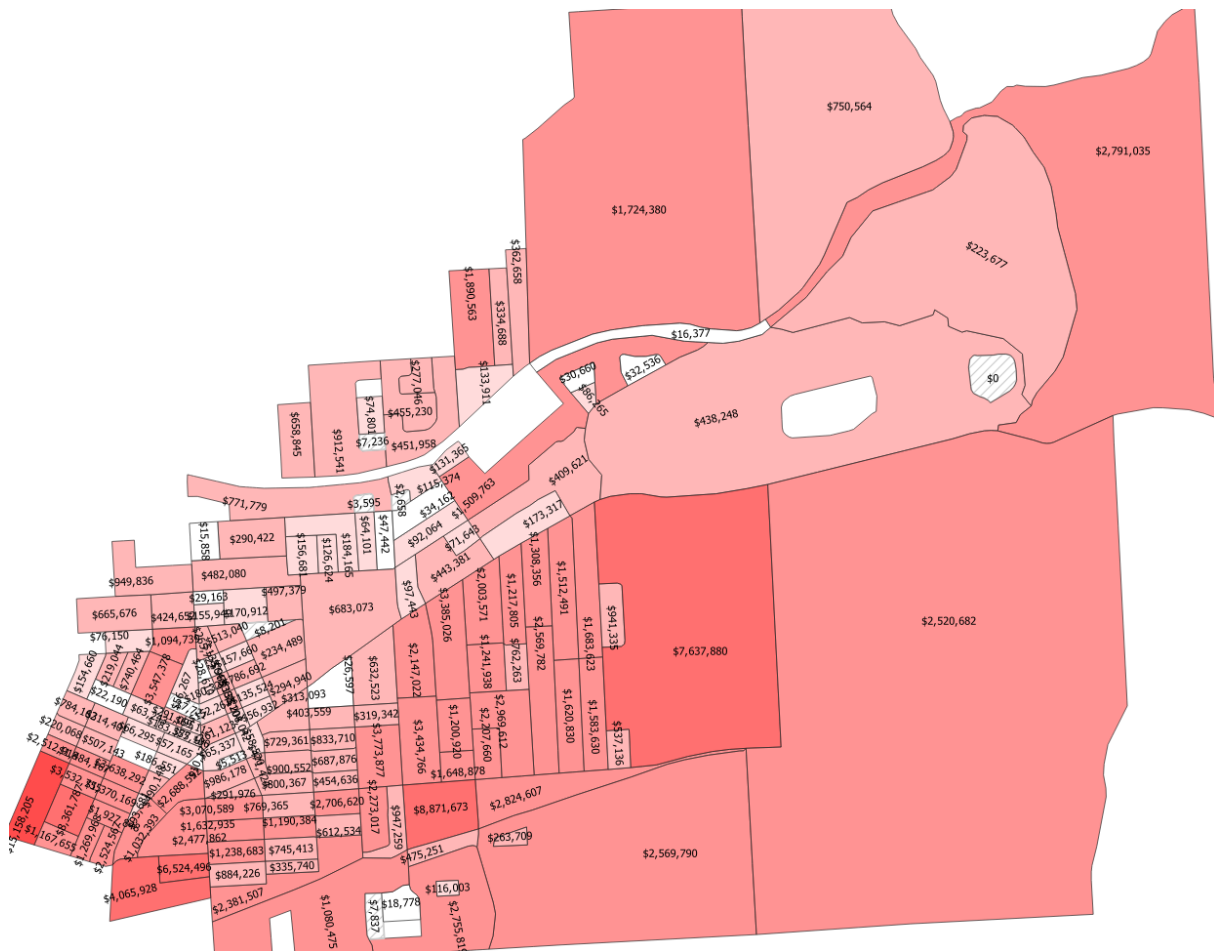
Open the per-asset results ('passet') data file, it should look like this:

xid	0.5	0.02	0.01	0.005	0.001	0	ead
1	0	41750.45	41750.45	41750.45	2577188	3211047	18778.36
2	0	0	0	0	2507731	3134664	7836.66
3	0	3971900	3971900	3971900	19261920	23084426	1080475
4	0	440070.9	440070.9	440070.9	947000	1073732	116002.6
5	0	10297425	10339729	10339729	35253081	41481419	2755819
6	0	1823762	1896000	1896000	1892398	1891497	475250.5
7	0	9812938	9951020	9958607	15173865	16477679	2569790

The first non-index columns are simply the inundation percentage (from the 'expos' data file) multiplied by the asset scale attribute (from the 'finv' data file). The final 'ead' column is the expected value of these four columns.

To visualize this, open the 'Results' toolbox and configure the 'Setup' tab by selecting the control file. Navigate to the 'Join Geo' tab and configure it as shown below:

Click '**Join**'. You should see a new polygon vector layer loaded in your canvas with a red graduated style and labels applied to the EAD results calculated in the previous step:



6.9. Tutorial 4b: Risk (L1) with Percent Inundation (Lines)

Like Tutorial 4a, this tutorial demonstrates a risk analysis where the impact metric is percent inundated, but with line geometries rather than polygons. This can be useful for the analysis of flood risk to linear assets like roads.

Load the same data layers from the 'tutorials\4\data\' folder, with the addition of:

- *finv tut4b lines.gpkg*

Follow all the steps described in Tutorial 4a, but with this new asset inventory ('finv') layer.



The per-asset results should look like this:

xid	0.5	0.02	0.01	0.005	0.001	0	ead
1	0	0	0	0	91.97215	114.9652	0.287413
2	0	0	0	0	21.66863	27.08579	0.067714
3	0	0	0	0	105.0703	131.3379	0.328345
4	0	0	0	0	216.5708	270.7135	0.676784
5	0	0	0	0	167.3306	209.1633	0.522908
6	0	0	56.84627	75.79502	75.79502	75.79502	0.99481
7	0	0	0	0	77.71172	97.13966	0.242849
8	0	0	0	0	215.0408	268.801	0.672003
9	0	0	104.9149	104.9149	410.1443	486.4516	2.527565

The first non-index ‘impact’ columns represent hazard events, with values showing the percent inundation of each segment multiplied by its ‘f0_scale’ value. This could represent the meters inundated (above the 0.5m depth threshold) per segment, if the ‘f0_scale’ value is the segment length (as is the case with the tutorial inventory). Alternatively, the ‘f0_scale’ value could be set to ‘1.0’ for all features which would cause the values to simply reflect the % inundation of each segment (mirrors the output of the Hazard Sampler tool) and the last column would calculate the expected percent annual inundation of the segment.

6.10. Tutorial 5a: Risk (L1) from NPRI and GAR15

This tutorial demonstrates how to construct a CanFlood ‘Risk (L1)’ model from two web-sources:

- The [National Pollutant Release Inventory \(NPRI\)](#); and
- The [GAR15 Atlas global flood hazard assessment](#)²⁴

For more information on these data sets, see Appendix A.

Because this tutorial deals with data having disparate CRSs, users should be familiar with QGIS’s native handling of project and layer CRS discussed [here](#).


²⁴ See Rudari and Silvestro (2015) for details on the GAR15 flood hazard model



6.10.1. Load Data to Project

Begin by setting your QGIS project's CRS to 'EPSG:3978' (Project > Properties > CRS > select 'EPSG:3978')²⁵. Now you are ready to download, then add, the data layer for Tutorial 5:

- *tut5_aoi_3978.gpkg*: AOI polygon for tutorial.

Set the AOI's layer style to 'fill red transparent' to allow you to see through the polygon. Before inventory construction can begin, we must add the NPRI and GAR15 raw data to the QGIS project. While there are many options for accessing and importing such data, this tutorial will demonstrate how to use CanFlood's built-in 'Add Connections'  feature (Section 5.4.1) to first add a connection to the profile, then download the desired layers.

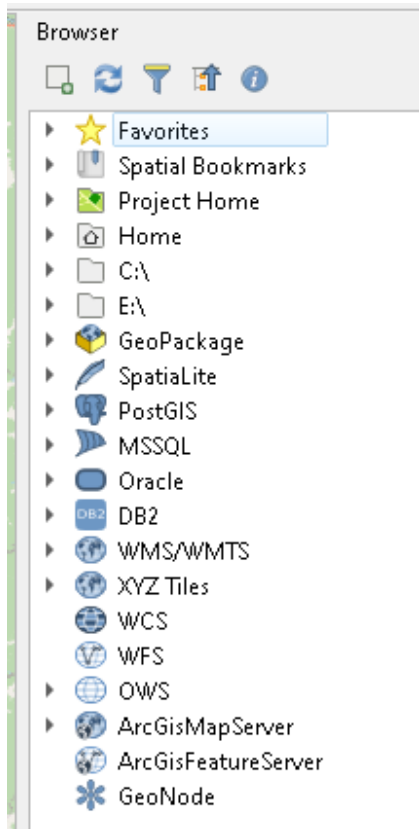
²⁵ Depending on your profile settings, the project's CRS may be automatically set by the first loaded layer.




Connect to Web-Data

Begin by expanding the QGIS 'Browser Panel' (Ctrl + 2) then clicking 'Refresh' on the panel.

It should similar to this:




This shows all the connections in your QGIS profile.


Next, execute 'Add Connections'  (Plugins > CanFlood) to run a script that will attempt to add a set of additional connections to your profile. Your Log Messages should look like this:

```
2021-03-17T07:56:53 INFO cf.DikesDialog.connect_slots: finished
2021-03-17T08:04:45 INFO pushed webConnect
2021-03-17T08:04:45 INFO WebConnect: found config file: C:/Users/Jamie/AppData/Roaming/QGIS/QGIS3/profiles/default/QGIS/QGIS3.ini
2021-03-17T08:04:45 INFO WebConnect.retrieve_fromFile: reading connection info from
C:/Users/Jamie/AppData/Roaming/QGIS/QGIS3/profiles/default/python/plugins/canflood/_pars/WebConnections.ini
2021-03-17T08:04:45 INFO WebConnect.retrieve_fromFile: retrieved 4 connection parameters from file
['GAR15', 'NPRI', 'NHSL', 'AutomaticallyExtractedBuildings']
2021-03-17T08:04:45 INFO WebConnect.addAll: added 4 connections:
['GAR15', 'NPRI', 'NHSL', 'AutomaticallyExtractedBuildings']
2021-03-17T08:04:45 INFO WebConnect: added 4 connections
```



This describes each of the connections that CanFlood added to your profile. To verify this, navigate back to the 'Browser Panel'. You should see the following connections (under each connection type): 

- UNISDR_GAR15_GlobalRiskAssessment (WCS)
- ECCC_NationalPollutantReleaseInventory_NPRI (ArcGIS Feature Service)

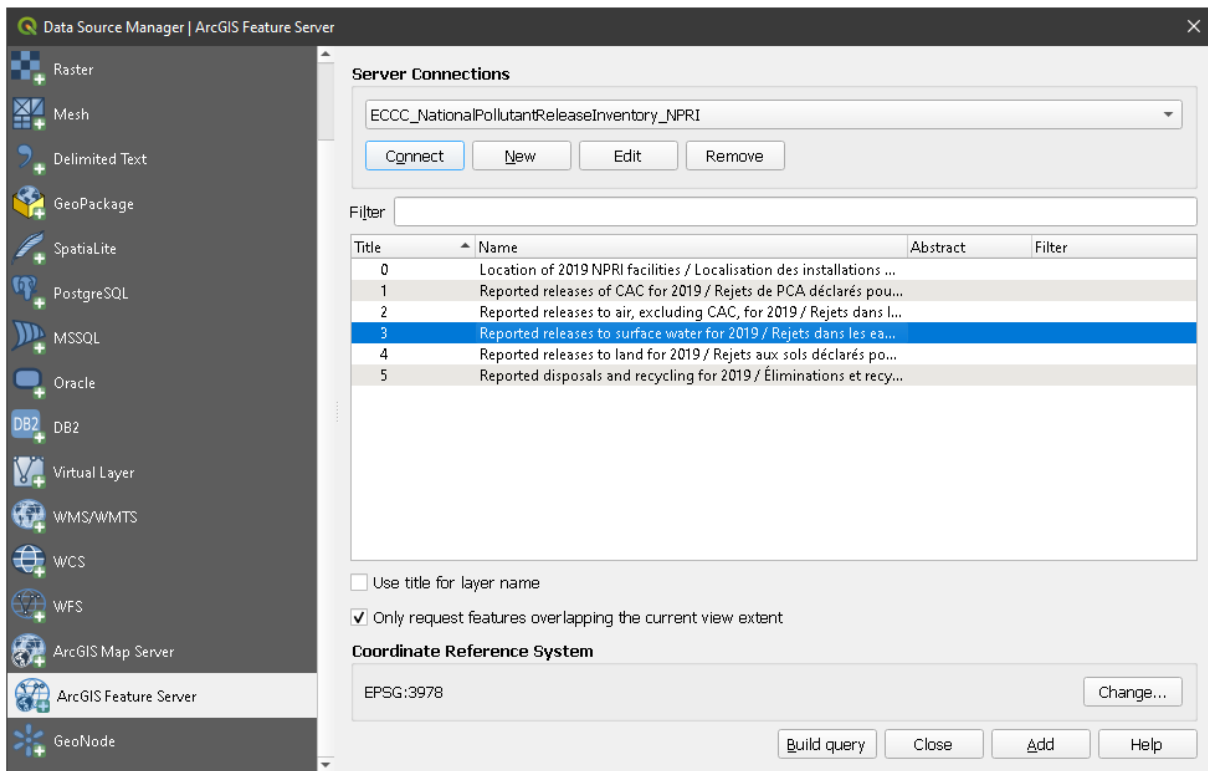
Note that these connections will remain in your profile for future QGIS sessions, meaning the 'Add Connections'  tool should only be required once per profile²⁶.

²⁶ New installations of Qgis should automatically path to the same profile directory (Settings > User Profiles > Open Active Profile Folder), therefore carrying forward your previous connection info.



Download NPRI Data

Now that the connections have been added to your profile, you are ready to download the layers. To limit the data request, ensure your map canvas roughly matches the extents of the AOI²⁷. Now open the QGIS ‘Data Source Manager’ (Ctrl + L) and select ‘ArcGIS Feature Server’. Select ‘ECCC_NationalPollutantReleaseInventory_NPRI’ from the dropdown under ‘Server Connections’. Click ‘Connect’ to display the layers available on the server. Select layer 3 ‘Reported releases to surface water for 2019’, check ‘Only request features...’, then click ‘Add’ to add the layer to the project as shown in the following:



You should now see a vector points layer added to your project with information on each facility reported to the NPRI (within your canvas view). Take note this layer’s CRS is EPSG:3978 (right click the layer in the ‘Layers’ panel > Properties > Information > CRS), this should match your QGIS project and the AOI.

²⁷ Ctrl+Shift+F will zoom to the project extents

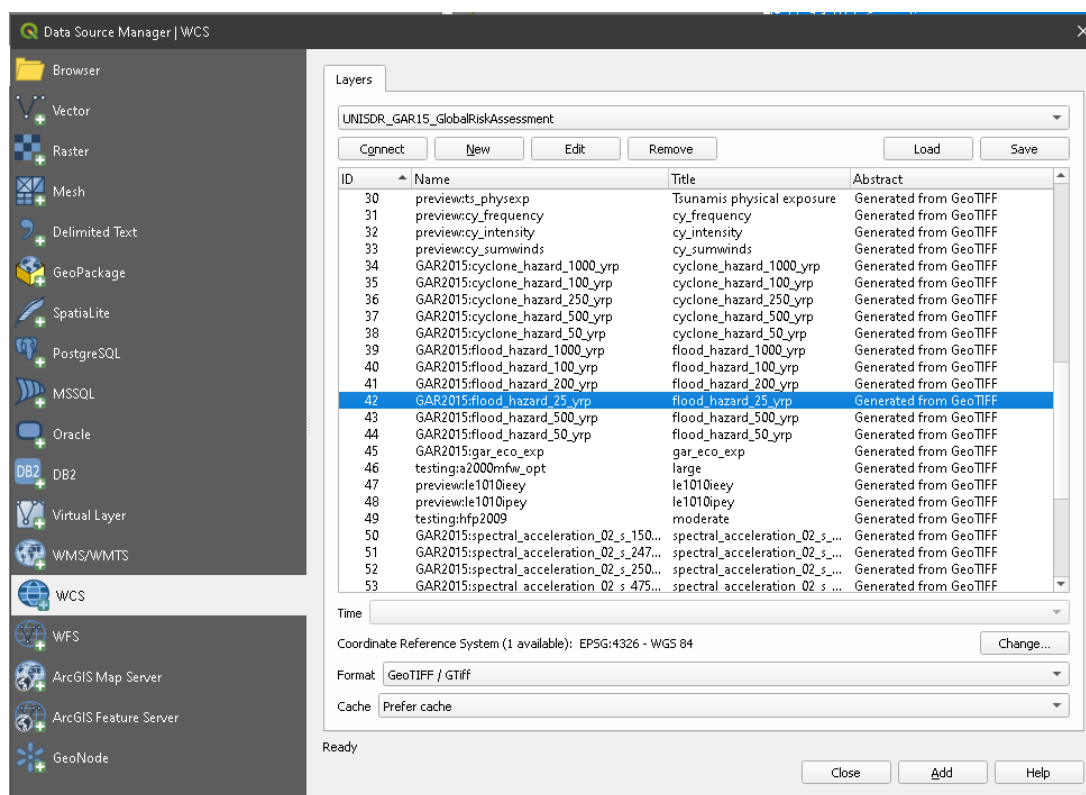


Download GAR15 Data

Follow a similar process to download²⁸ the following layers from

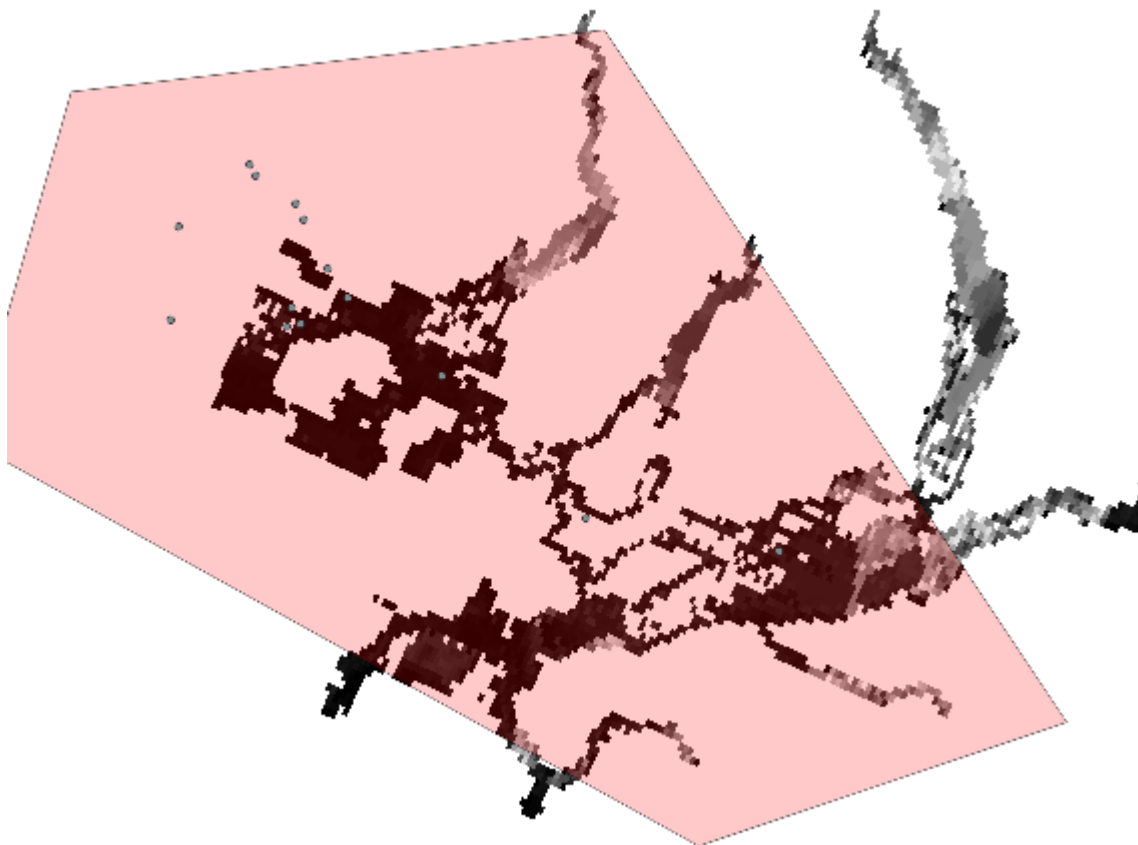
‘UNISDR_GAR15_GlobalRiskAssessment’ under the ‘WCS’ tab as shown below:

- GAR2015:flood_hazard_200_yrp
- GAR2015:flood_hazard_100_yrp
- GAR2015:flood_hazard_25_yrp
- GAR2015:flood_hazard_500_yrp
- GAR2015:flood_hazard_1000_yrp



²⁸ Depending on your internet connection, this process can be slow. It's recommended to set 'Cache'='Prefer cache' to limit additional data transfers, and to turn the layers off or disable rendering once loaded into the project.

You'll have to load one layer at a time, and you may be prompted to 'Select Transformation'²⁹. Once finished, your canvas should look like this:



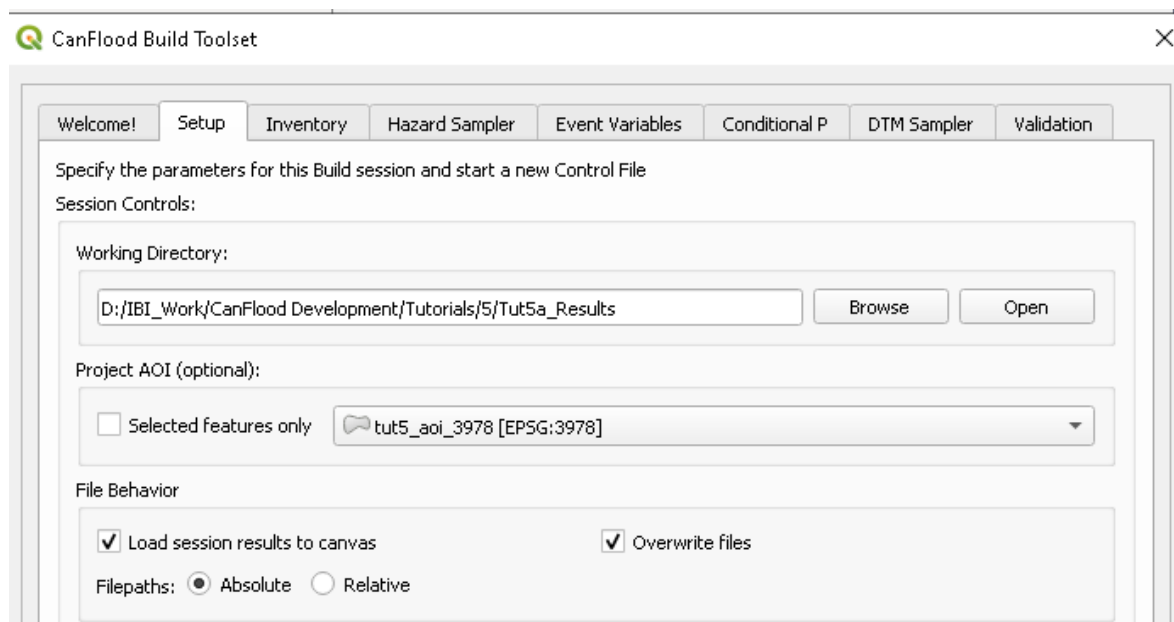
6.10.2. Build the Model

This section describes how to complete the construction of a Risk (L1) model from the downloaded NPRI and GAR15 data. For instructions on the remainder of the Risk (L1) modelling process, see Section 6.1.

Setup

Follow the instructions in Section 6.1.2 *Setup*; however, ensure 'tut5_aoi_3978' is selected under 'Project AOI' and 'Load session results...' is selected.

²⁹ You can safely select any transformation or close the dialog. These transformations are only for display, we'll deal with transforming the data onto our CRS below.



Construct and Store Inventory

Navigate to the 'Inventory' tab. To convert the downloaded NPRI data into an L1 inventory layer that CanFlood will recognize, we need to add 'elv' and 'scale' fields and values. For this simple analysis, we assume each asset has a vulnerability height of zero (i.e., any positive flood depth leads to exposure). This assumption is accomplished in CanFlood by setting 'felv' = 'datum' and setting each 'f0_elv' = 0 (and using depth rather than WSL rasters). Using the Vector Layer drop down, select the NPRI layer and ensure the 'nestID', 'scale', and 'elv' fields match what is shown below. Finally, **click 'Construct finv'** to build the new inventory layer. To generate the asset inventory ('finv') csv file, ensure this new layer is selected in the 'Inventory Vector Layer' drop down. Now configure the 'felv' and 'cid' parameters as shown below, then **click 'Store'**:



CanFlood Build Toolset

Welcome! Setup **Inventory** Hazard Sampler Event Variables Conditional P DTM Sampler Validation

Inventory Construction Helper

Vector Layer: Reported releases to surface water for 2019 / Rejets dans les eaux de surface déclarés pour 2019 [EP: ▼]

Nested Functions:

nestID: 0 tag: cap: scale: 1.0 elv: 0.0

Mitigation Parameters:

Depth Thresholds: Lower Upper Scale: Value: ☐ Apply Mitigations

Construct finv

Vulnerability Functions

Specify vulnerability function set filepath or select one from the library

Inventory Compiler

Inventory Vector Layer: finv_Reported releases to surface water for 2019 /

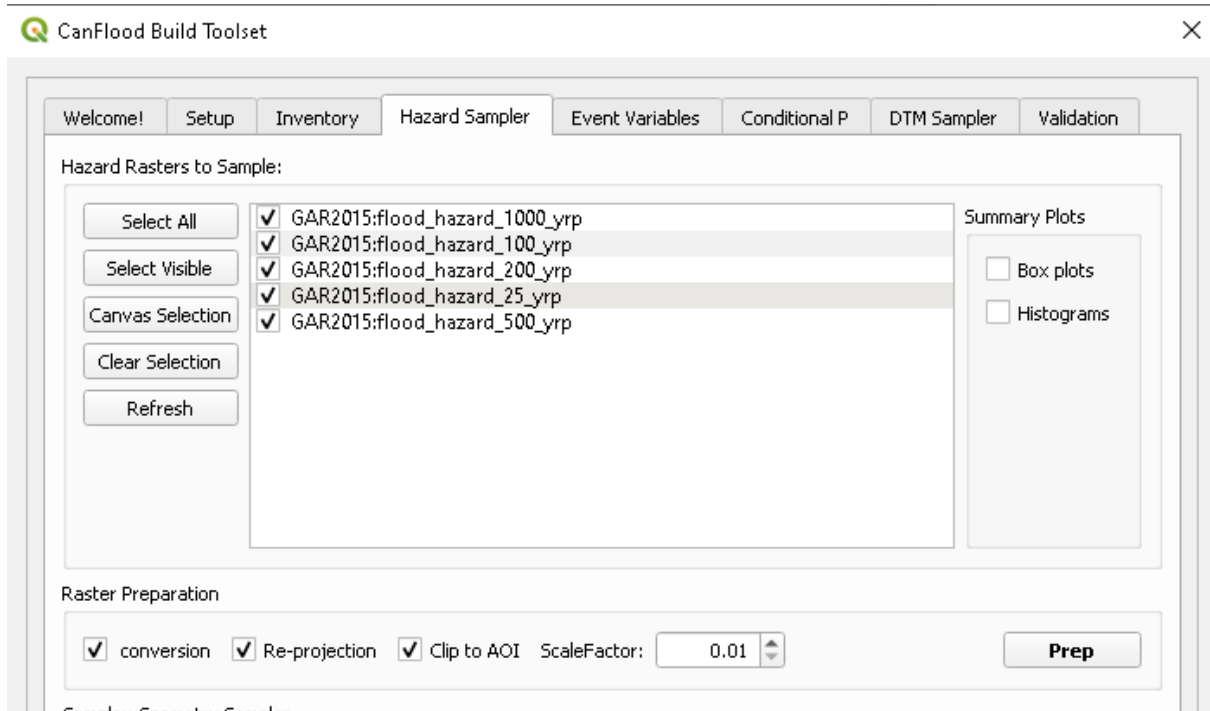
Elevation type (felv): datum Index FieldName (cid): 123 OBJECTID

Hazard Sampler

Now you're ready to sample the GAR15 hazard layers with your new NPRI inventory. Unlike the hazard layers used in previous tutorials, the GAR15 hazard layers provide *depth* (rather than WSL) data in *centimeters* (rather than meters) in a coordinate system other than that of our project. Further, these hazard layers' extents are much larger than what is needed by our project; and because they are web-layers, many of the QGIS processing tools will not work. Therefore, we'll need to apply the four 'Raster Preparation' tools described in Table 5-2 before proceeding with the 'Hazard Sampler'.



Navigate to the ‘Hazard Sampler’ tab, ensure the five GAR2015 layers are listed in the window, and click ‘Sample’. You should get an error telling you the layer CRS does not match that of the project. To resolve this, configure the Raster Preparation handles as shown and click ‘Prep’:



You should see five new rasters loaded to your canvas (with a ‘prepd’ suffix). These layers should have rotated pixels, be clipped to the AOI, have reasonable flood depth values (in meters), and have the same CRS as the project³⁰. Further, each of these rasters should be saved to your working directory. This new set of hazard layers should conform to the expectations of the Hazard Sampler, allowing you to proceed with construction of an L1 model as described in Section 6.1.

³⁰ In some cases, QGIS may fail to recognize the CRS assigned to these new rasters, indicated by a “?” shown to the right of the layer in the layers panel. In these cases, you will need to define the projection by going to the layer’s ‘Properties’ and under ‘Source’ set the coordinate system to match that of the project (EPSG: 3978).

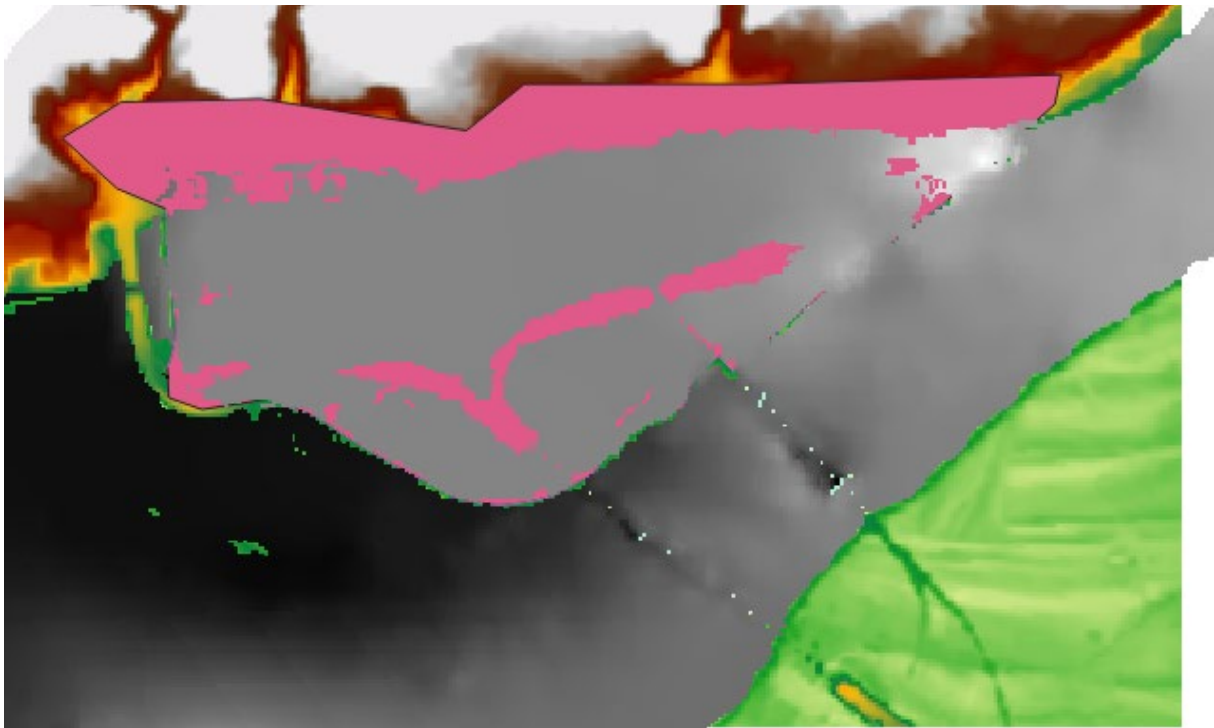


6.11. Tutorial 6a: Dike Failure Polygons

This tutorial demonstrates how to generate ‘failure polygons’ from typical dike information using CanFlood’s ‘Dike Fragility Mapper’ tool (Section 5.4.1). Before following this tutorial, users should be familiar with the hazard event data types described in Section 4.2 (esp. ‘failure polygons’) that are required of Risk (L1) and (L2) models with some failure. Begin by downloading the tutorial data from the [tutorials\6](#) folder and loading it into a new QGIS project:

- hazard WSL event rasters (without failure)
 - *0010_noFail.tif*
 - *0050_noFail.tif*
 - *0200_noFail.tif*
 - *1000_noFail.tif*
- *dike_influence_zones.gpkg*: Dike segment influence area layer with two polygon features, each corresponding to the area of influence of some dike segments;
- *dikes.gpkg*: Dike alignment polyline layer
- *dtm.tif*: Digital Terrain Model (import ‘dtm.qlr’ to get the styled version);
- *dike_fragility_20210201.xls*: Dike fragility function library.

See Section 4.5 for a description of these datasets. Ensure your project CRS is set to ‘EPSG:3005’. Once the GIS layers are loaded, your map canvas should look similar to the below:

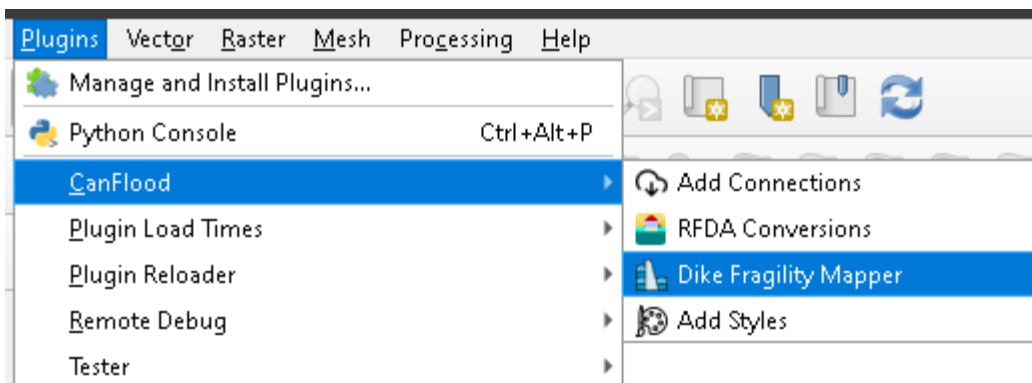


To make this workspace more friendly, ensure the ‘dikes’ and ‘dike_influence_zones’ layers are at the top of the layers panel. Now apply the following CanFlood styles³¹ to each of these layers:

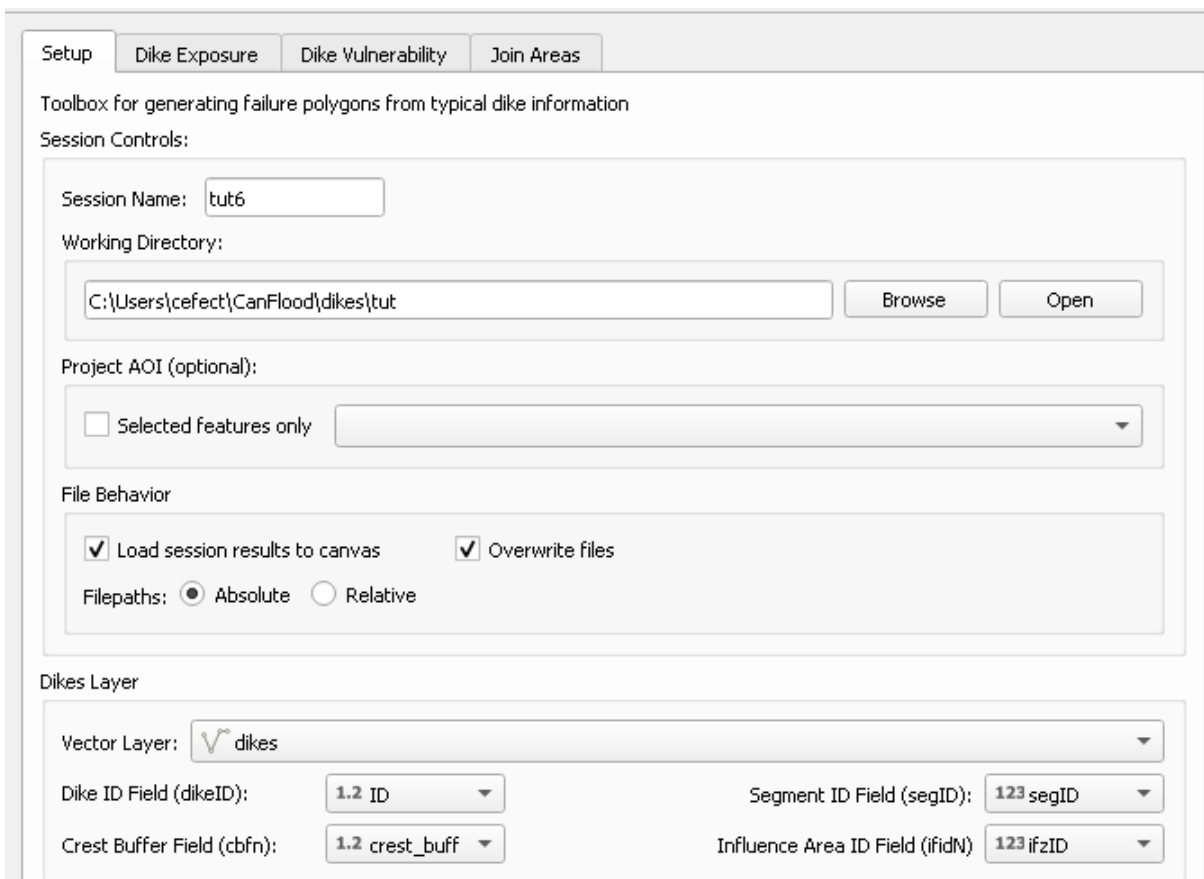
- *dikes*: ‘arrow black’
- *dike_influence_zones*: ‘fill red transparent’

The arrow style is useful as we’ll need to know the directionality of the dike layer to tell the tool which side of the dike to sample. Now we’re ready to open the ‘Dike Fragility Mapper’ dialog:

³¹ Load these styles onto your profile using the Plugins>CanFlood>Add Styles tool described in Section 5.4.4



Configure your dialog similar to what is shown below but using your own directories (ensure 'dikeID' is set to 'ID'):



6.11.1. Calculate Dike Exposure

This step will calculate the exposure, or freeboard, values of each dike segment. Navigate to the 'Dike Exposure' tab, click 'Refresh', then configure it as shown below, taking care to select the DTM layer in the drop-down, but not in the selection window:




CanFlood Dike Fragility Mapper

Setup | **Dike Exposure** | Dike Vulnerability | Join Areas

WSL raster layers (w/o failure or breach) to sample

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0010_noFail	<div>Select All</div> <div>Select Visible</div> <div>Canvas Selection</div> <div>Clear Selection</div> <div>Refresh</div>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0050_noFail	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0200_noFail	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1000_noFail	
<input type="checkbox"/> dtm	

DTM Layer:  dtm

Sampling Parameters:

Dike Sample Length (dist_dike): 40.0 Transect Length (dist_trans): 200.0

Transect Side (tside): ☒ Left ☐ Right

Output Control:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generate Breach Points (breach_pts)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generate Transects Layer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Profile Plots
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generate Processed Dikes Layer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Generate Transect Exposure Layers	

Calculate dike exposure (i.e. freeboard) data:

Get Exposure




Waiting on User...

0%

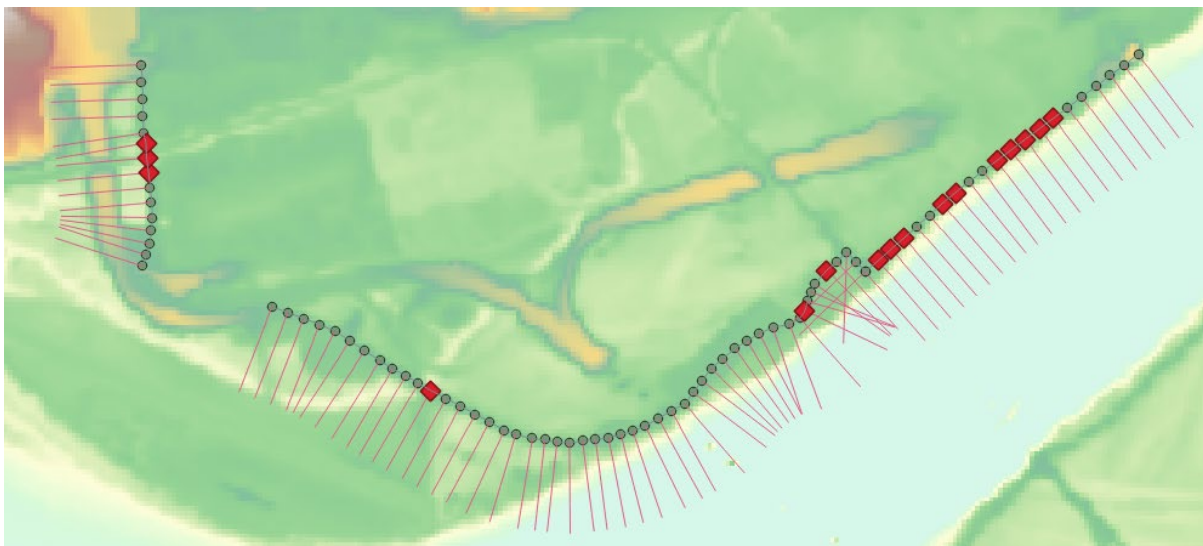
OK Close



Click **‘Get Exposure’**. You should see 10 layers loaded under the ‘CanFlood.Dikes’ group:

- *tut6_dike_dikes*: processed dikes layer
- breach points layers (for each event)
 - *0010_noFail_breach_1_pts*
 - *0050_noFail_breach_3_pts*
 - *0200_noFail_breach_16_pts* (see below )
 - *1000_noFail_breach_50_pts*
- *tut6_tut6_dike_dikes_transects*: transects layer (see below )
- transect exposure points layers
 - *tut6_dike_dikes_0010_noFail_expo*
 - *tut6_dike_dikes_0050_noFail_expo*
 - *tut6_dike_dikes_0200_noFail_expo* (see below )
 - *tut6_dike_dikes_1000_noFail_expo*

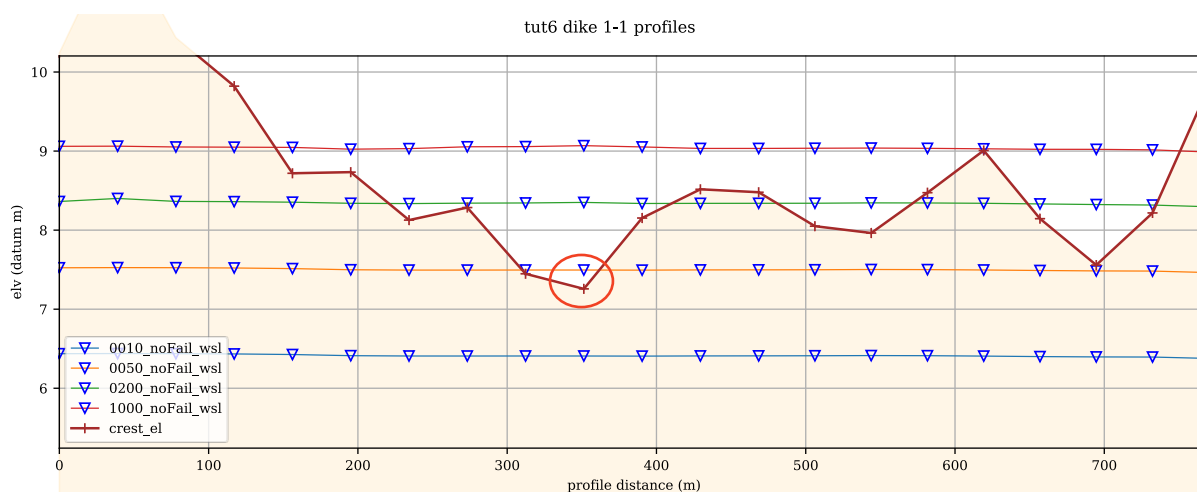
These layer types are explained in Section 6.11, and those relevant to the 200-year series are displayed below. The 40 m dike sample length and 200 m transect length we specified in the dialog box can be seen in the spacing and length of the transects shown below:





At its core, this tool samples the WSL raster at the tail of each transect and the DTM at the head, then compares these to calculate the freeboard. This suggests the user must specify an appropriate transect side, sample length, and transect length based on the configuration of diking and flooding to obtain an accurate freeboard calculation.

To visualize the calculated freeboard values, apply ‘Single Labels’ for the ‘sid’ values on the processed dikes layer, then navigate to your working directory and open the ‘*tut6 dike 43-1 profiles.svg*’ image file. It should look similar to the below:



This is a profile plot of dike 43, segment 1 (sid=4301) showing the calculated crest elevation and WSL for the four event rasters (sampled with each transect). Note that, this plot suggests the freeboard of the 50-year to be around -0.2 m (see red circle above). Now open the ‘*tut6_dExpo_7_3.csv*’ file in the working directory, this is the dike segment exposure (‘dexpo’) dataset that we’ll use in the next step to calculate failure probabilities. Notice the freeboard value of the segment-event in question is -0.2m as expected:

sid	ID	segID	f0_dtag	crest_buff	sid_len	ifzID	0010_noF	0050_noF	0200_noF	1000_noF	crest_el
4301	43	1	Gld	0.5	770.0478	101	0.8491	-0.2385	-1.0937	-1.8116	7.257
4402	44	2	Gldx0.50	0.5	1566.898	101	1.8303	0.7459	-0.9166	-1.5971	7.2812
4403	44	3	Gldx0.25	0.5	448.3159	101	-0.1712	-1.2637	-2.1426	-2.8919	6.0978



6.11.2. Calculate Dike Vulnerability

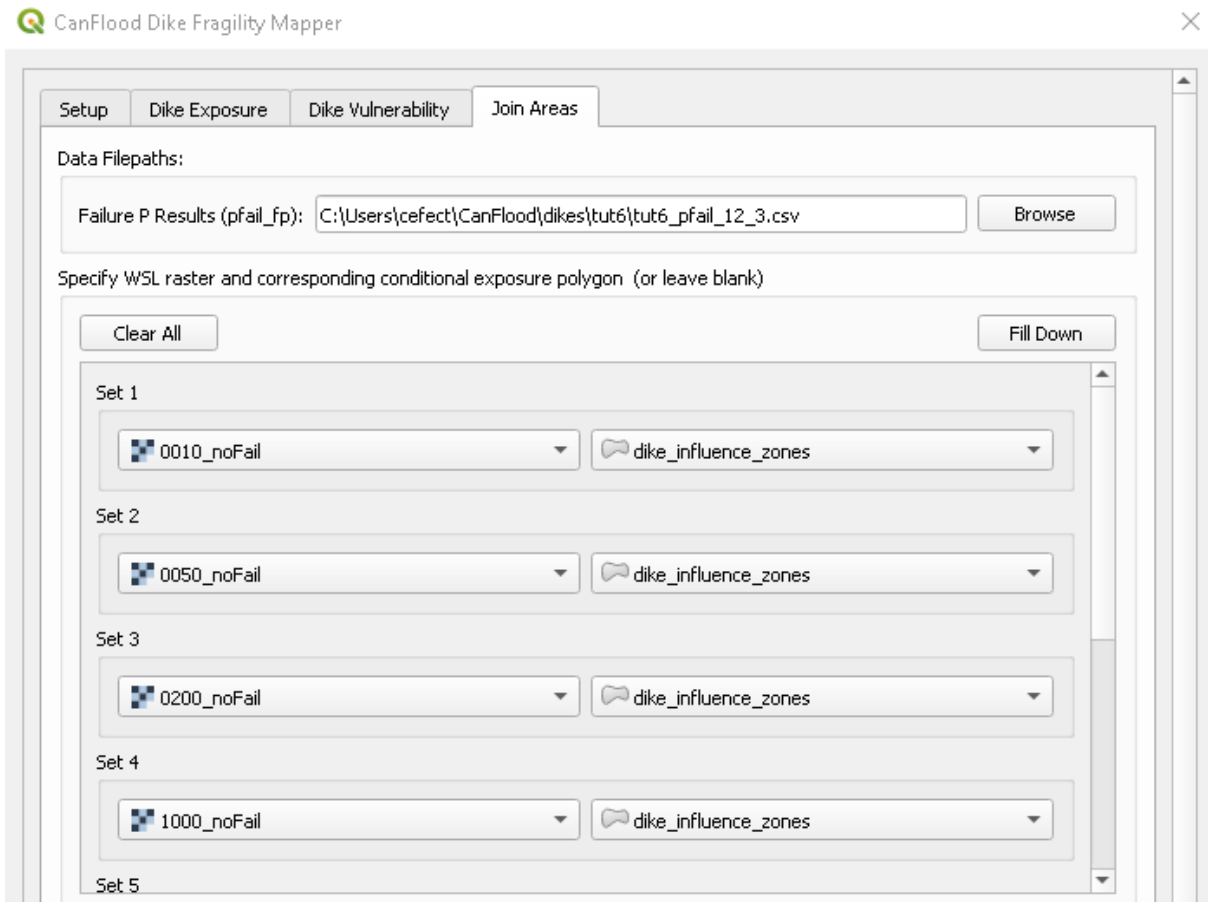
This step will use the previously calculated freeboard values and the user supplied fragility curves to calculate the probability of failure of each segment. Switch to the ‘Dike Vulnerability’ tab, you should see the filepath to the above exposure results automatically populated in the ‘dexpo_fp’ field. Now select the fragility curves library ‘dike_fragility_20210201.xls’ file provided with the tutorial data. The tab-names in this workbook correspond to ‘f0_dtag’ field on the dikes layer, telling CanFlood which curve to apply to which segment. Choose ‘None’ for the length effect corrections. Your dialog should look similar to this:



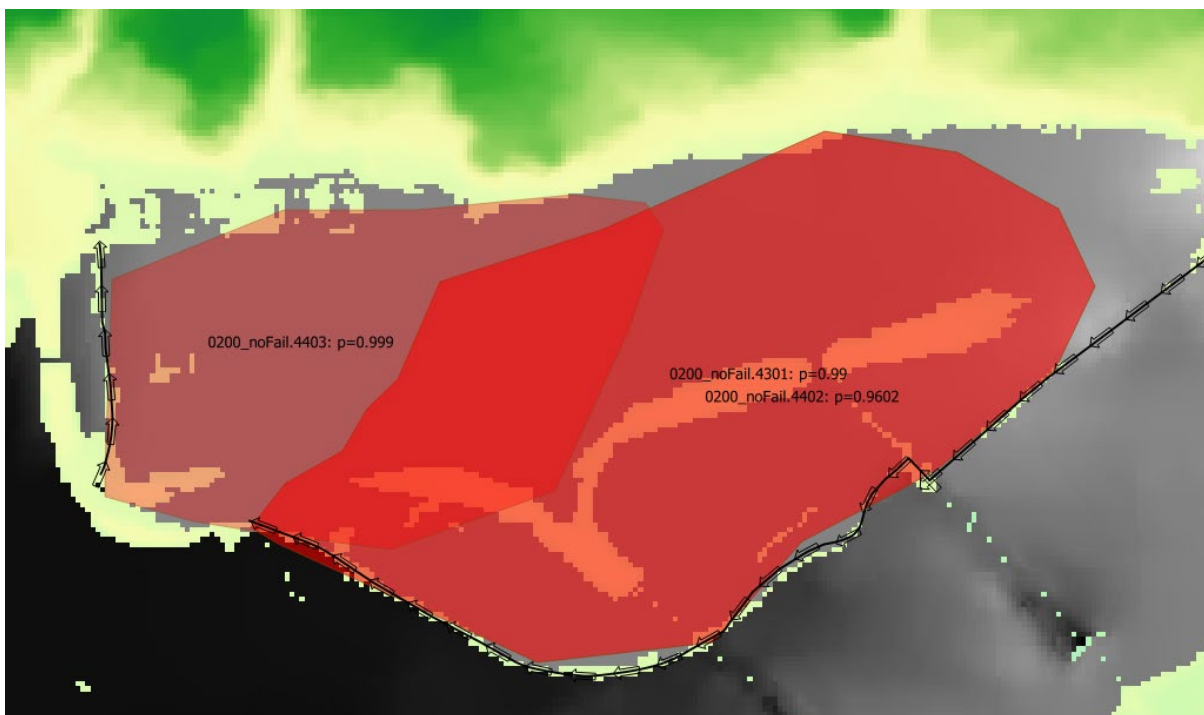
Now click ‘Calc Fragility’ to generate the tabular failure probability data (‘pfail’).

6.11.3. Join to Areas

In this final step, we will join the previously calculated failure probabilities to the user supplied influence areas for each segment based on the links provided on the dikes layer. Navigate to the ‘Join Areas’ tab. You should see the ‘pfail’ data filepath in the corresponding field; if not, navigate to this file. If you successfully ran the ‘Dike Exposure’ tool this session, you should see the first column of raster layers selected; if not, select the four WSL rasters manually in the first column. For the second column, select the ‘dike_influence_zone’ polygon layer in the first drop-down, then click ‘Fill Down’ to populate the remaining drop-downs. Once finished, your dialog should look like the below:



Click **'Map pFail'**. You should see four polygon layers loaded to your canvas, one for each event. Move these layers up on the layers list so they display on top of the rasters. The 200-year is shown below:



These results layers are automatically stylized as failure polygons, showing the event raster name, source dike segment ('sid'), and failure probability of each feature. Notice the 200-year contains 3-overlapping polygon features corresponding to the three segments with failure here, despite the original 'dike_influence_zones' layer having two features. This mapping of polygons to dike segments is set on the dikes layer in the 'Influence Area ID Field' specified on the 'Setup' tab ('ifzID' in this case). In this way, 1:1 or many:many segment-polygon links can be specified, allowing the user to map each breach probability, or group segments to apply the calculated probabilities to a larger dike ring. See Section 5.4.1 for more information on this tool.



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Appendix A: Web Connections

Acronym	Description	Service	Reference
UNISDR_GAR15_GlobalRiskAssessment			
GAR15	UNISDR’s data layers from the global risk assessment conducted for the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 (GAR15) by the CIMA Research Foundation. This data is hosted by the Global Risk Data Platform and contains six global flood depth rasters (in cm; return periods = 25, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000 years) having 1km resolution.	WCS	see below
ECCC_NationalPollutantReleaseInventory_NPRI			
NPRI	Government of Canada’s service to collect information on the release, disposal and transfer of more than 320 substances. The web-service provides release reports from the most recent year. The layer ‘NPRI-Reporting Facilities’ shows the location of facilitates reporting any type of release.	ArcGisFeatureServer	homepage
NRCan_NationalHumanSettlementLayer_NHSL			
NHSL	Collection of thematic datasets that describe the physical, social and economic characteristics of urban centres and rural/remote communities across Canada, and their vulnerability to natural hazards of concern	ArcGisFeatureServer	MapServer
NRCan_AutomaticallyExtractedBuildings			
	Topographical feature class that delineates polygonal building footprints automatically extracted from airborne Lidar data, high-resolution optical imagery or other sources.	WMS	Open Canada



GAR15

Server

Global Risk Data Platform

(<https://preview.grid.unep.ch/index.php?preview=home&lang=eng>)

Data and Model

From *preventionweb* (<https://risk.preventionweb.net/capraviewer/>):

The GAR Atlas global flood hazard assessment uses a probabilistic approach for modelling riverine flood major river basins around the globe. This has been possible after compiling a global database of stream-flow data, merging different sources and gathering more than 8000 stations over the globe in order to calculate the range of possible discharges from very low to the maximum possible scales at different locations along the rivers. The calculated discharges were introduced in the river sections to model water levels downstream. This procedure allowed for the determination of stochastic event-sets of riverine floods from which hazard maps for several return periods (25, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000 years) were obtained. The hazard maps are developed at 1kmx1km resolution and have been validated against satellite flood footprints from different sources (DFO archive, UNOSAT flood portal) performing well especially for big events. For smaller events (lower return periods), the GAR Atlas flood hazard maps tend to overestimate with respect to similar maps produced locally (hazard maps where available for some countries and were used as benchmark). The main issue being that, due to the resolution, the GAR Atlas flood hazard maps do not take into account flood defenses that are normally present to preserve the value exposed to floods.

Additional summary is provided in:

UNISDR. 2015. “Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction 2015 - Annex 1 - Global Risk Assessment.” Geneva: United Nations.

https://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/gar-pdf/Annex1-GAR_Global_Risk_Assessment_Data_methodology_and_usage.pdf.



Additional detail is provided in:

Rudari, Roberto, and Francesco Silvestro. 2015. "IMPROVEMENT OF THE GLOBAL FLOOD MODEL FOR THE GAR 2015." UNISDR.
<https://www.preventionweb.net/english/hyogo/gar/2015/en/bgdocs/risk-section/CIMA%20Foundation,%20Improvement%20of%20the%20Global%20Flood%20Model%20for%20the%20GAR15.pdf>.



Appendix B: SOFDA User Manual

<https://github.com/IBIGroupCanWest/CanFlood/tree/master/manual/sofda>