



Modelling Group  
WATER NEW ZEALAND

# Modelling Symposium

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## Complex Workflow for National Flood Assessment

Presented by  
Emily Lane

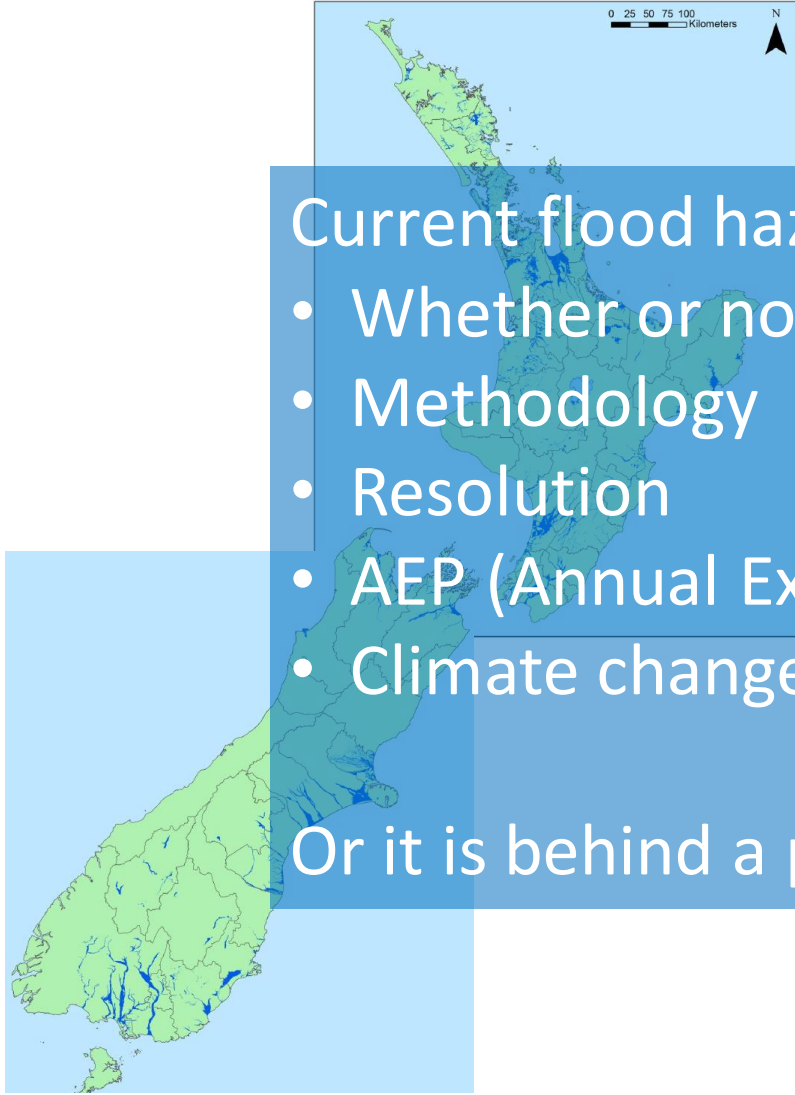
C Bosserelle, S Dean, C Cattoën, A Harang, H Shiona,  
T Carey-Smith, R Srinivasan, R Pearson, M Wilkins

# Large diversity...

Current flood hazard data has no consistency in terms of:

- Whether or not flood modelling is done
- Methodology
- Resolution
- AEP (Annual Exceedance Probability) modelled
- Climate change effects

Or it is behind a paywall for insurance companies



A collage of various flood hazard data maps and web interfaces. It includes an aerial basemap with flood hazard overlays, a map with a legend for 'Flood Information' and 'District Plan', a map showing 'Flood extent (200 year)', 'Flood extent (50 year)', and 'Assessment Incomplete', and a map showing 'Flood Hazard' with 'High', 'Moderate', and 'Very Severe' categories. Other elements include a search bar, a legend for 'Earthquake (China only)' and 'Hail (U.S. only)', and a map showing 'Flood Hazard' with 'High', 'Moderate', and 'Very Severe' categories.

# MBIE Endeavour 5-year Research Programme:

## Mā te haumaru ō ngā puna wai ō Rākaihautū ka ora mō ake tonu:

### Increasing flood resilience across Aotearoa

#### Overall aim: A more Flood-Resilient Aotearoa New Zealand

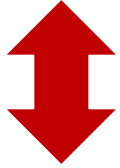
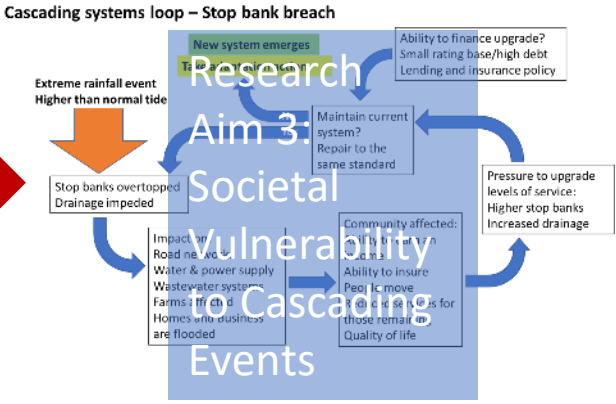
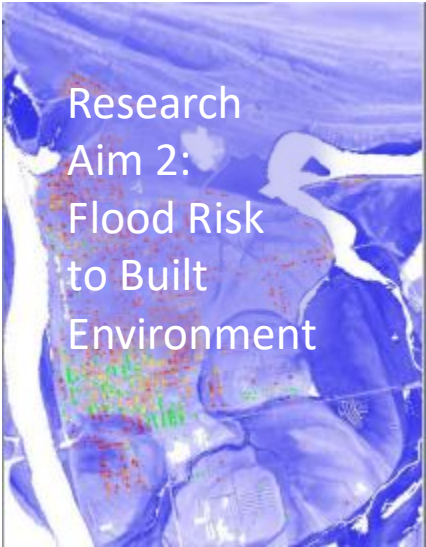
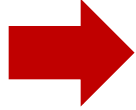
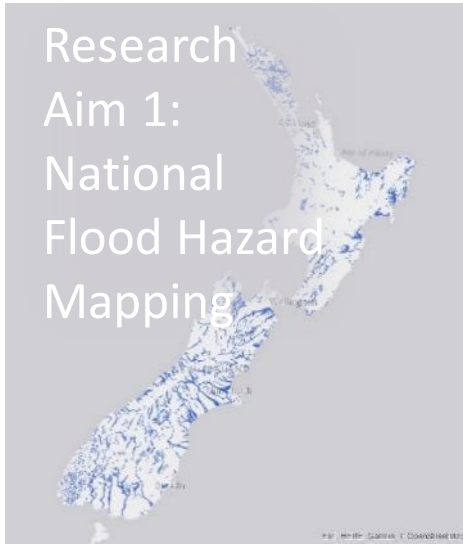
- Produce an updateable nationally-consistent flood inundation hazard and risk assessment for current conditions and future scenarios under climate change.
- Create a forum between science, iwi, policy-makers and stake-holders to ensure desired outcomes

#### Why?

National screening tool:

- Identify where the flood hazard/risk are high – especially in rural areas where there may not currently be information.
- Identify where the flood hazard/risk may increase under climate change.
- Work with local and central government, iwi, stake-holders to determine how to use this information to increase resilience



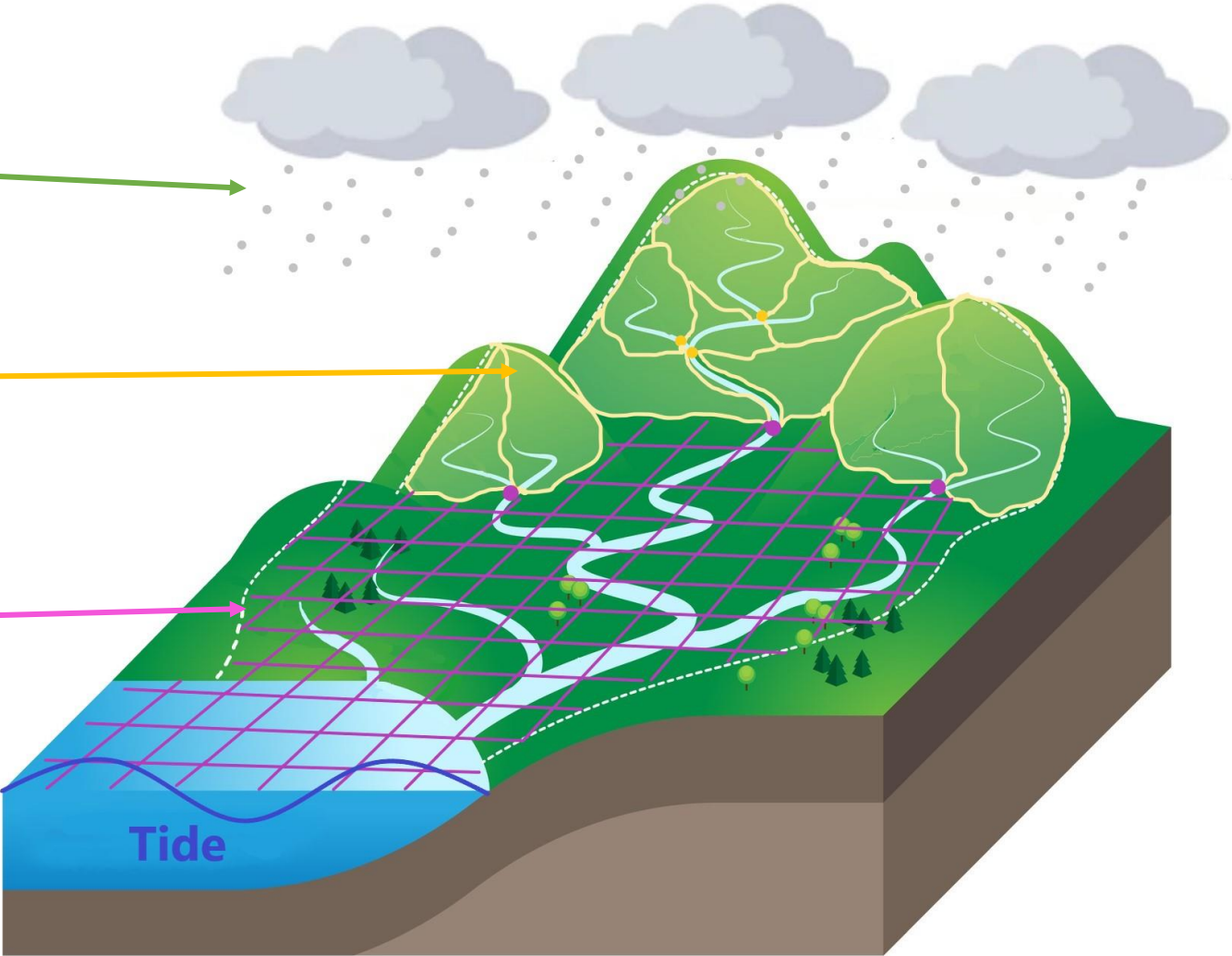


# A Cascade of Tools:

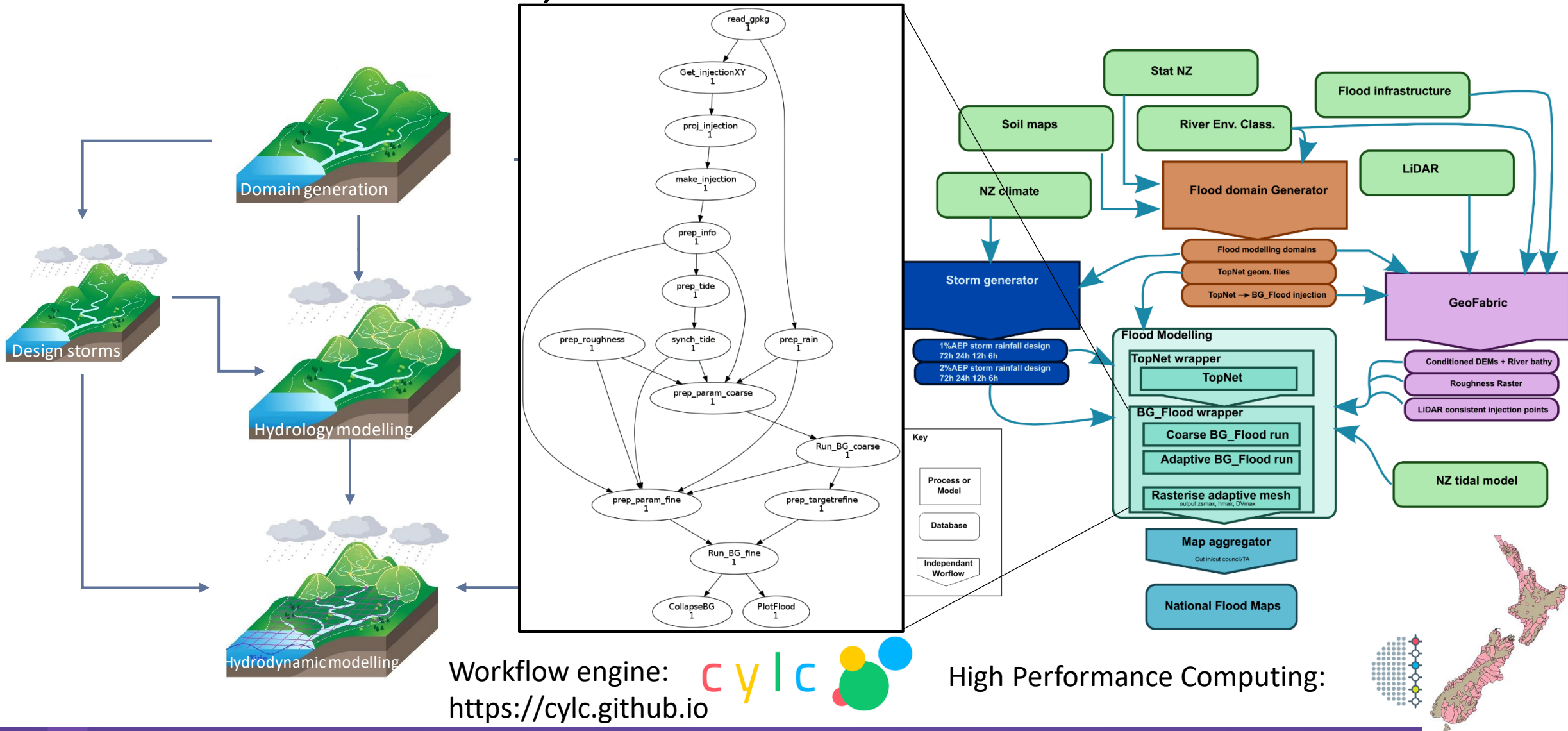
Observation / Design Storms

Hydrological Model

Hydrodynamic Model



# A Cascade of Tools, written as an automated workflow:



# Creation of the domains

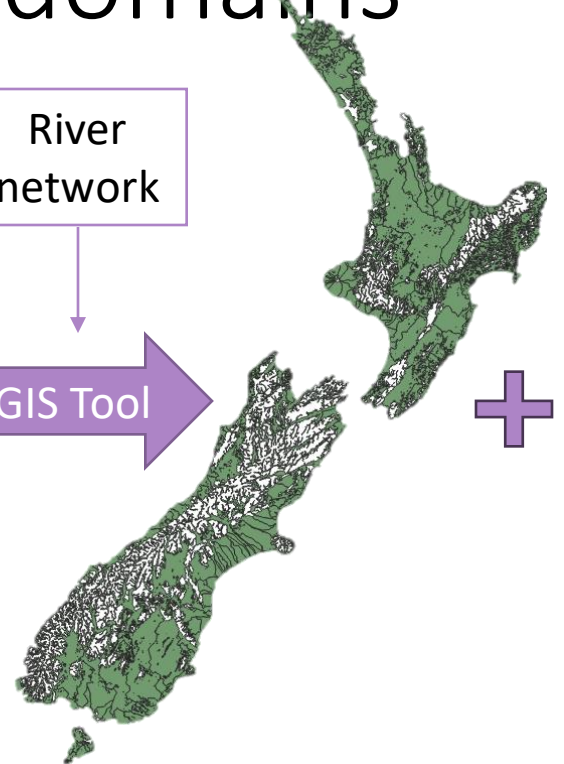


River network

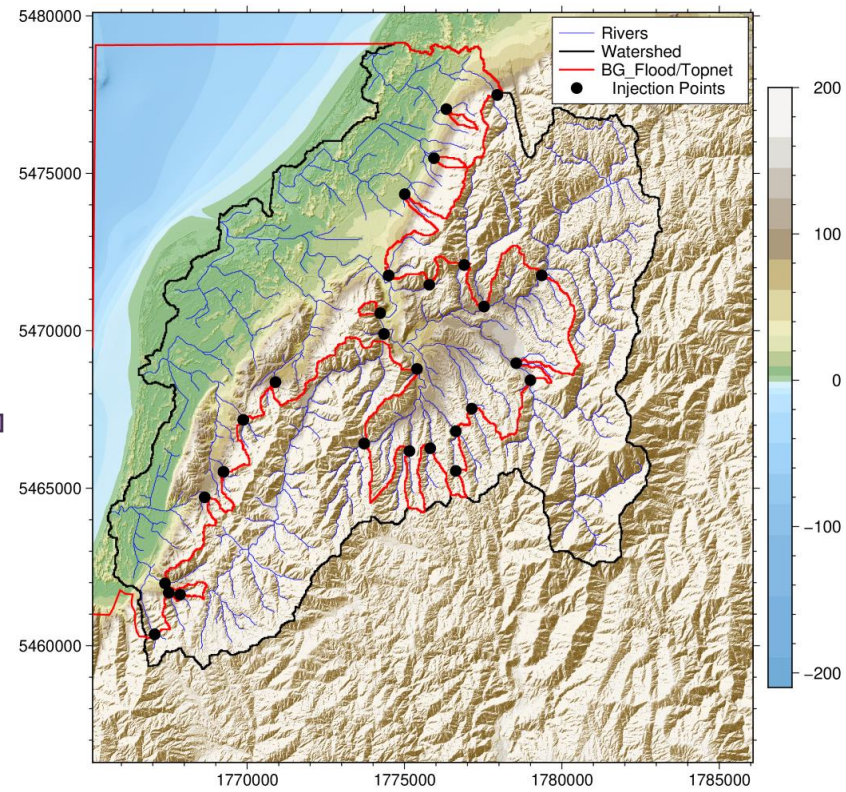
GIS Tool



Manual selection of flood plains



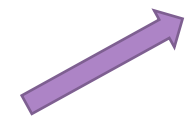
Creation of simulation domains based on catchments.



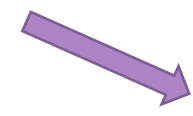
Separation in an Upper Catchment and Lower Catchment areas (based on geographic characteristic and data availability)



Calculation of domain information (area, time of concentration,...)

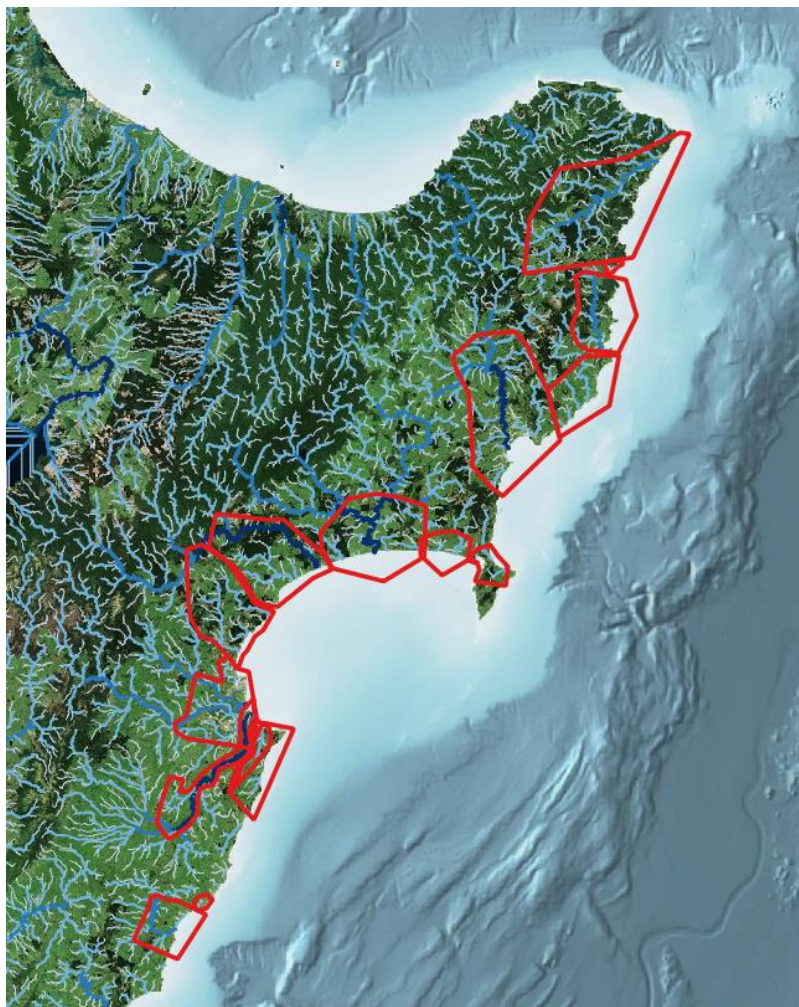


Upper Catchment:  
Hydrological model  
(-)

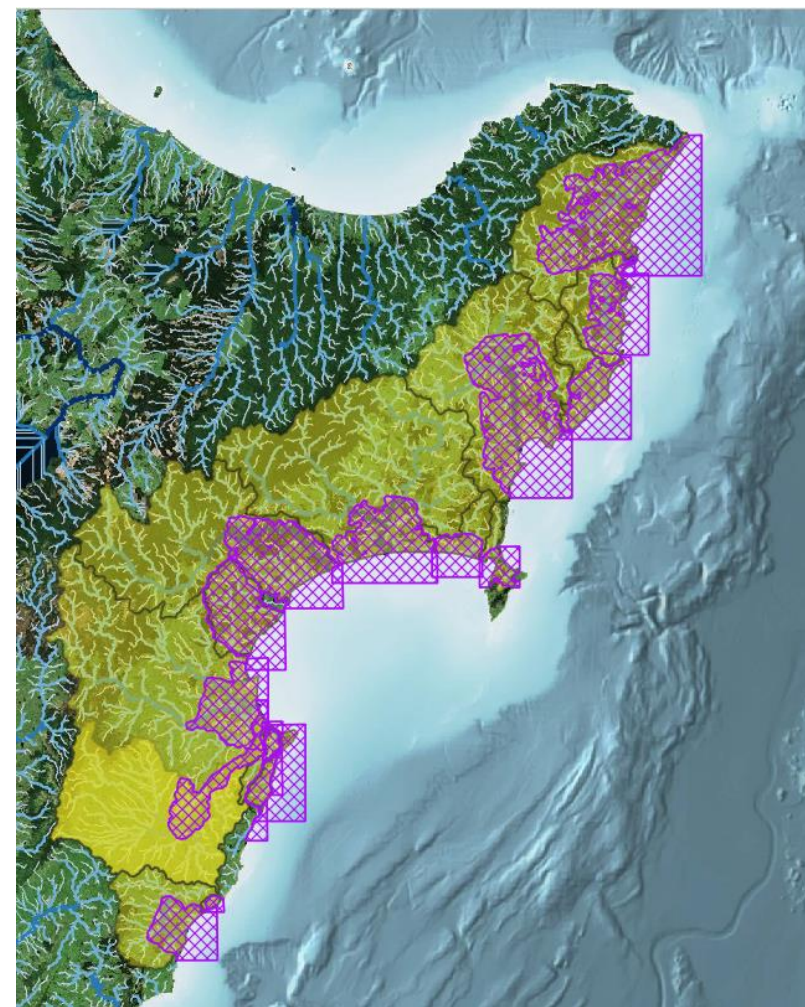


Lower Catchment:  
Hydrodynamic model  
(-)

# Creation of the domains



*Crude Floodplains through Hawkes Bay and Tairāwhiti regions*



*Computational domains through Hawkes Bay and Tairāwhiti regions*

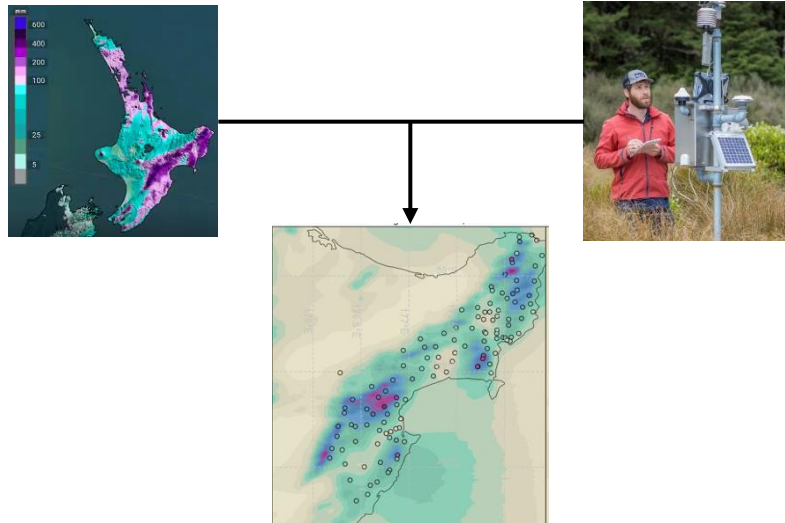


# Rain input



## Validations runs:

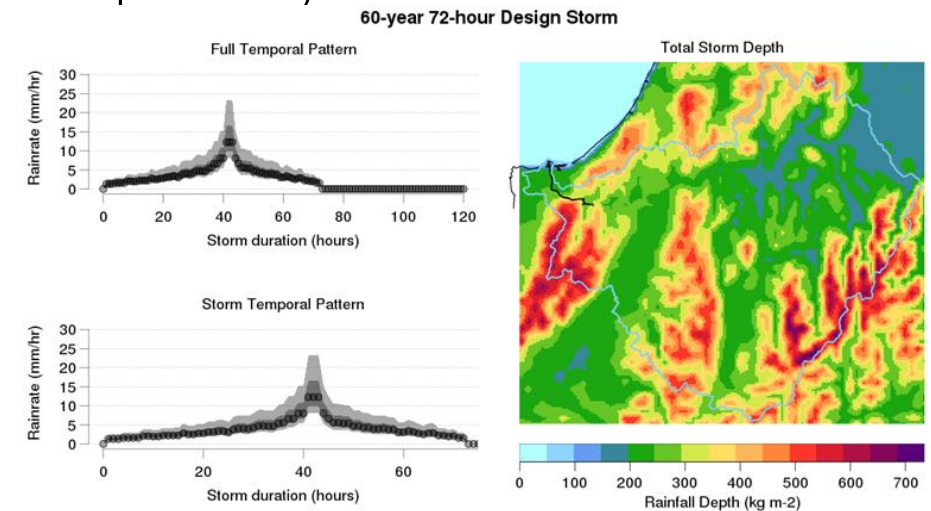
- Use of observations interpolated to create space and time varying maps (VCSN)
- Time series of 500m resolution maps



*Rain intensity snapshot during the storm*

## Design floods runs:

- Creation of ideal storms for the whole country
- Based on HIRDS (High Intensity Rainfall Design System V4) <https://hirds.niwa.co.nz/>
- Duration based on catchment accumulation time
- Under actual and future climate (based on observation of change in rainfall due to temperature)





## TopNET: hydrological model

- The NIWA hydrological model, calculating water balance at a reach/catchment unit.
- Used uncalibrated with the soil permeability model (mapped infiltration rate).
- Creation of antecedent conditions for design runs

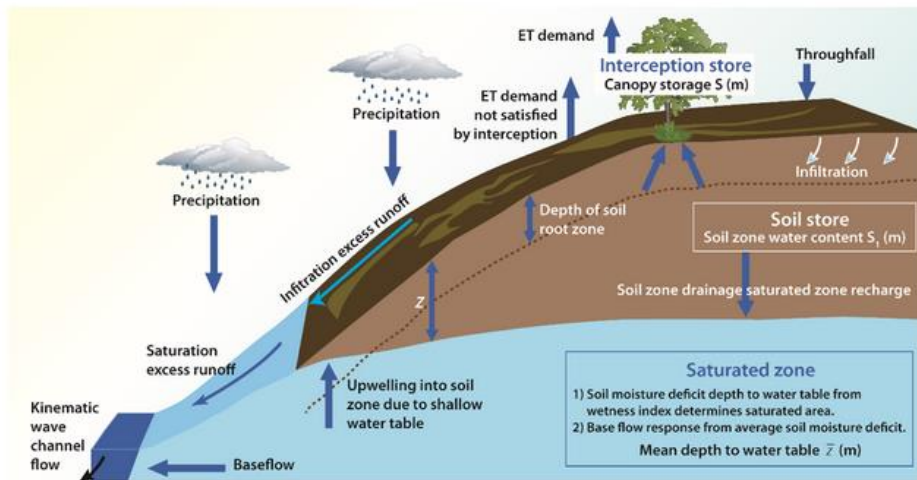
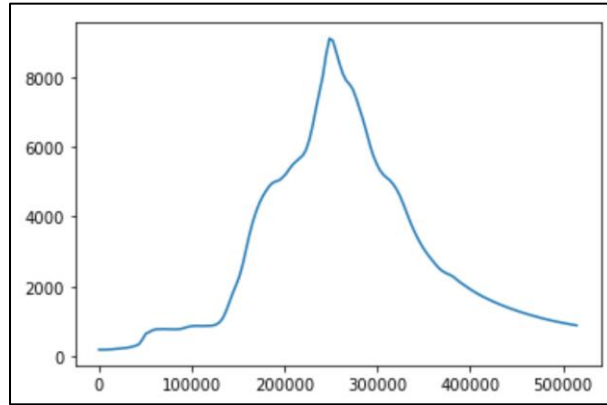


Fig. 1: Schematic representation of the water balance component of TopNet  
(adapted with permission from Bandaragoda et al., 2004)

*River network and unit catchments used  
for TopNET routing*



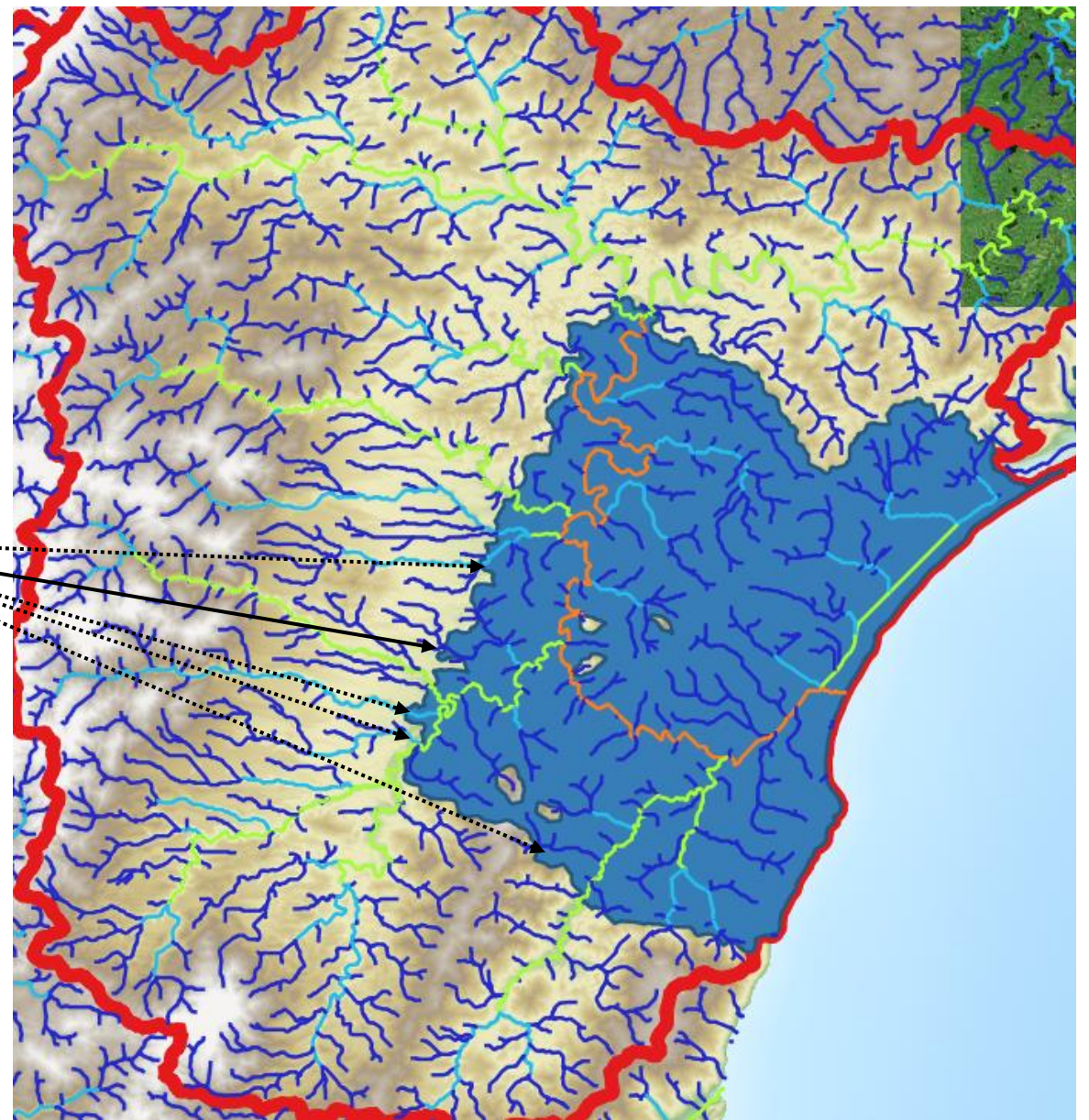
## TopNET: hydrological model



Hydrograph from TopNet

Large number of injections:

- Porangahau: ~50 injections
- Gisborne: ~450 injections



*River network and unit catchments used for TopNET routing*



# Geofabrics :

Automatic generation of the maps

## Creation of a hydrologically conditioned DEM (Digital Elevation Model)

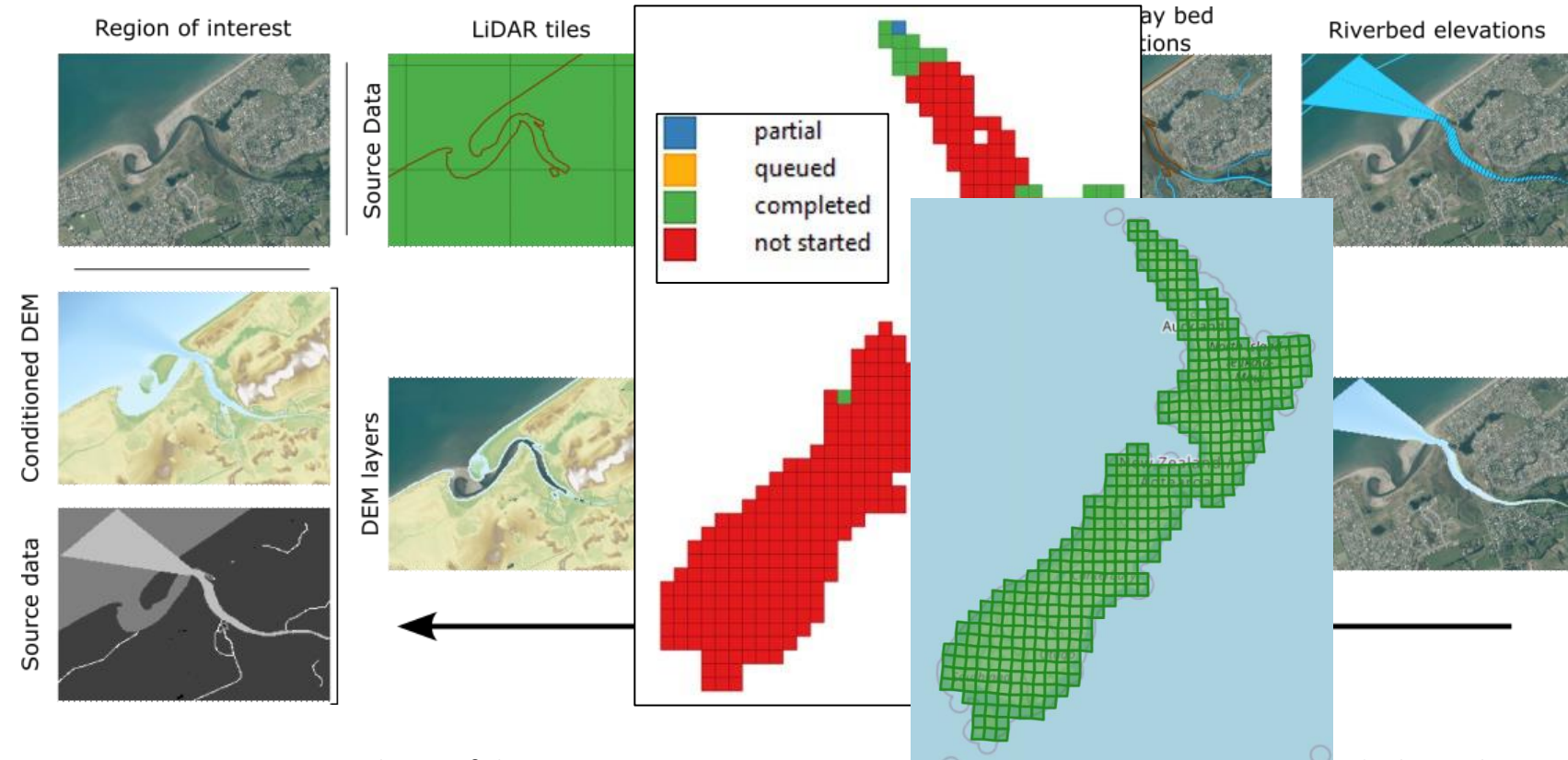
- Extraction of LiDAR data
- Add sea iso-contours
- Open waterways
- Estimate the River Bathymetry
- Add estuary fan (for big rivers)
- Using OSM (Open Street Map) to include drains, culvert, streams

## Creation of the roughness map

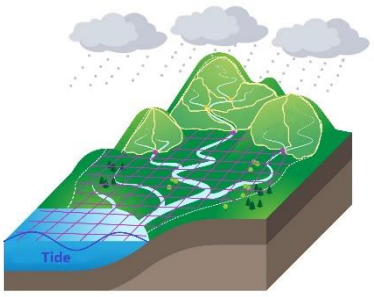
- Based on LiDAR data distribution

## Open-source, automatic

GitHub: <https://github.com/rosepearson/GeoFabrics>



Pearson, Rose et al., *Geofabrics 1.0.0: An Open-Source Python Package for Automatic Hydrological Conditioning of Digital Elevation Models for Flood Modelling*. Available at SSRN: <http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.4463610>



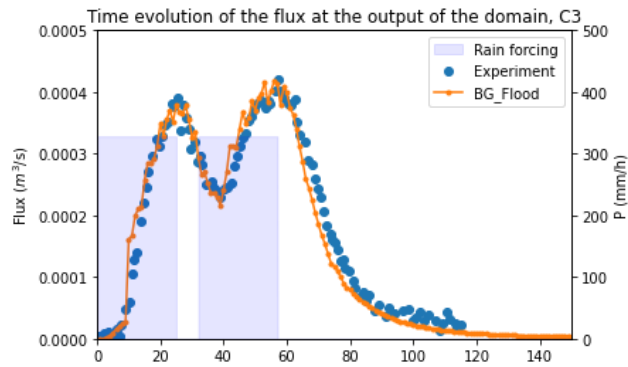
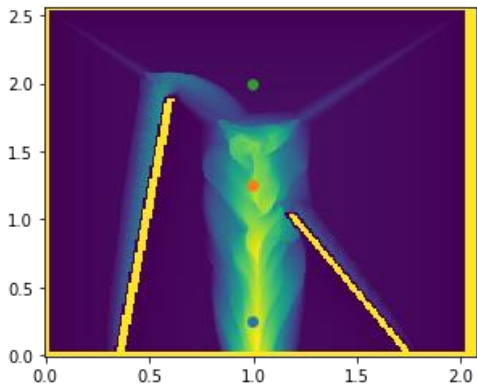
# Hydrodynamics model: BG\_Flood

Fast, open-source, multi-hazard, inundation model

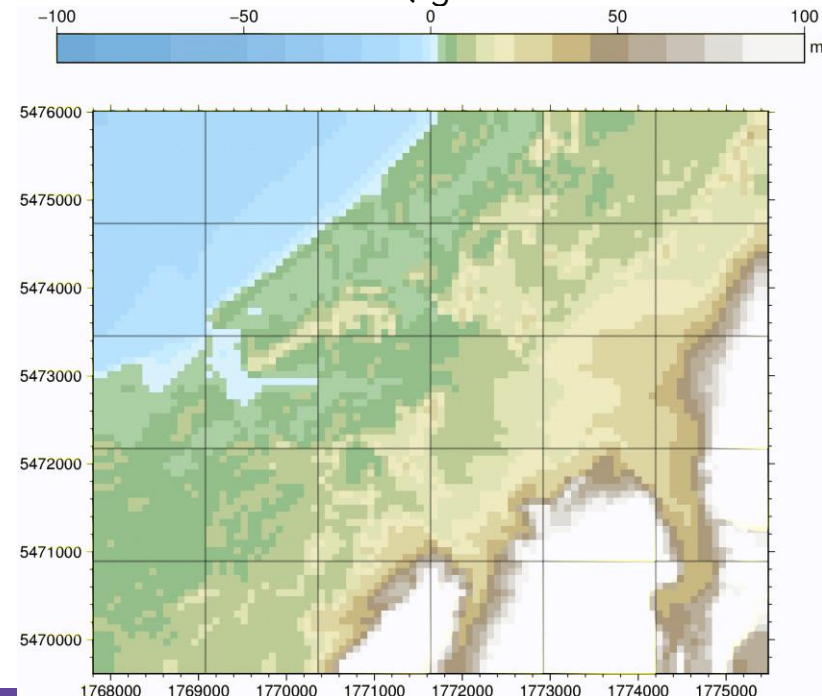
- Compounding (e.g. Tsunami + storm surge + river flooding + rain)
- Free and open-source
- Short setup time + short run time

- Shock-capturing Shallow Water Equation
- Built on Basilisk model basilisk.fr
- GPU + No interface + BUQ grid

CEA2008 benchmark test: Uniform rain on grid



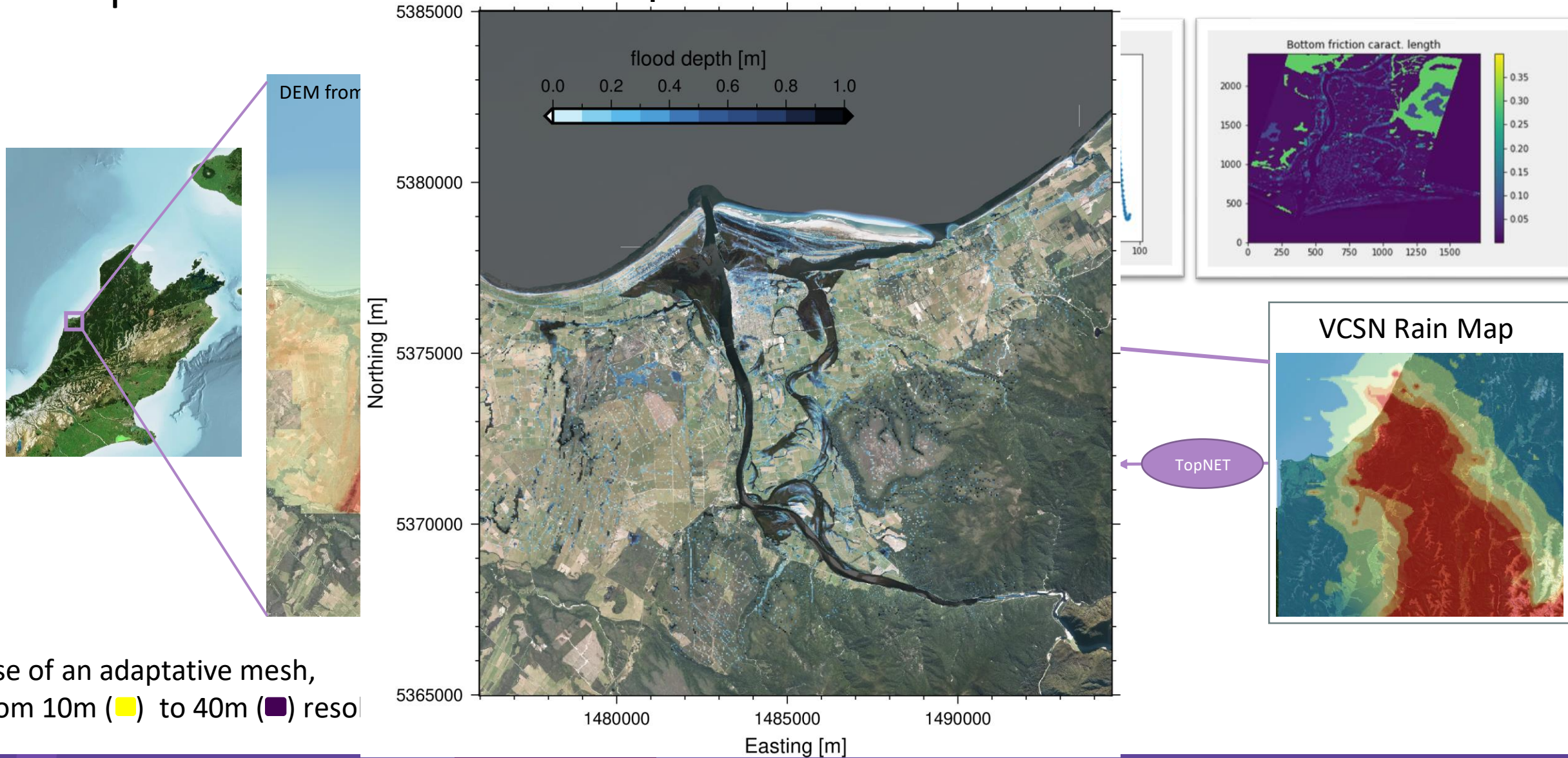
Square  
adaptable grid:



[https://github.com/CyprienBossere/BG\\_Flood](https://github.com/CyprienBossere/BG_Flood)

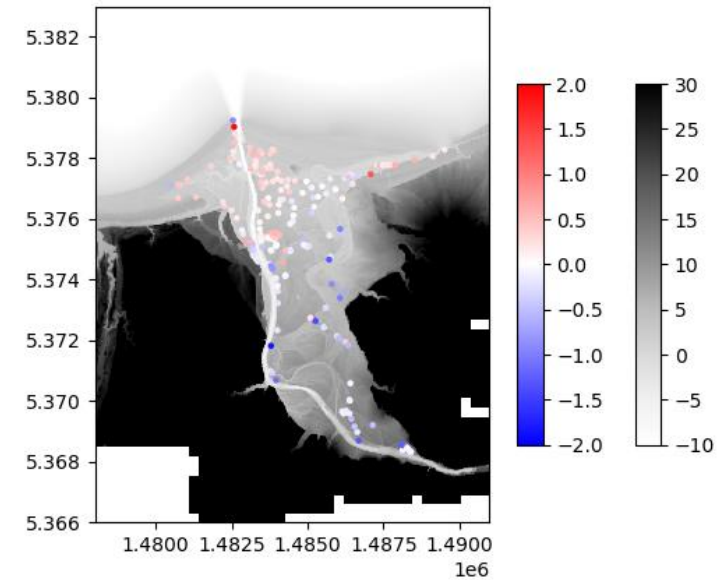
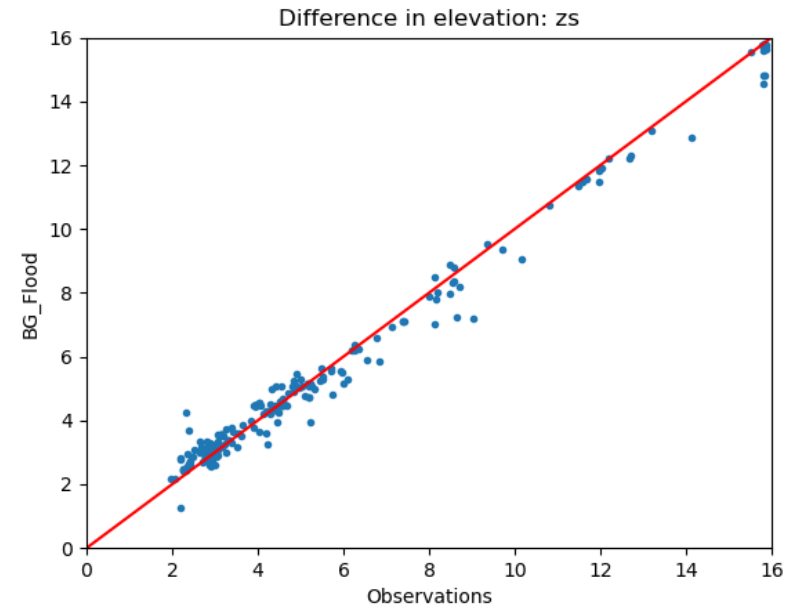
Bosserelle, C.; Lane, E.; Harang, A. BG-Flood: A GPU adaptive, open-source, general inundation hazard model. In Proceedings of the Australasian Coasts & Ports 2021 Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand, 11–13 April 2022.

# Westport test-case set-up



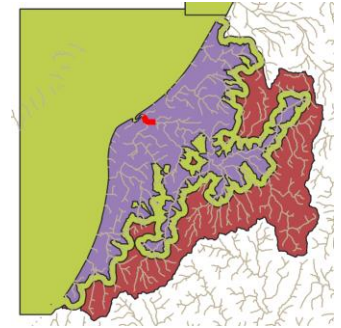
Use of an adaptative mesh,  
from 10m (yellow) to 40m (purple) reso

# Comparison with the observations

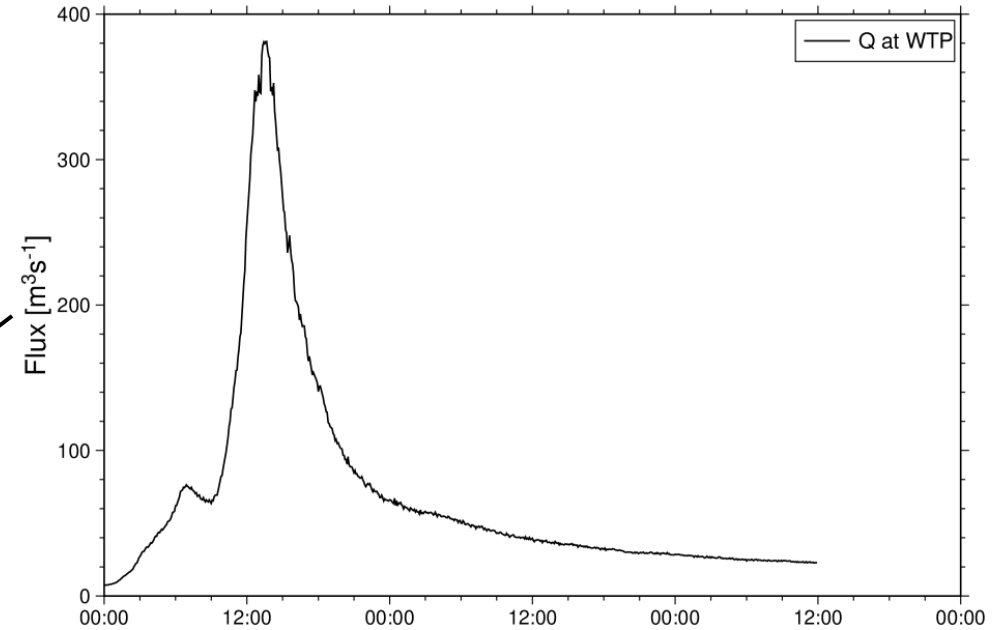
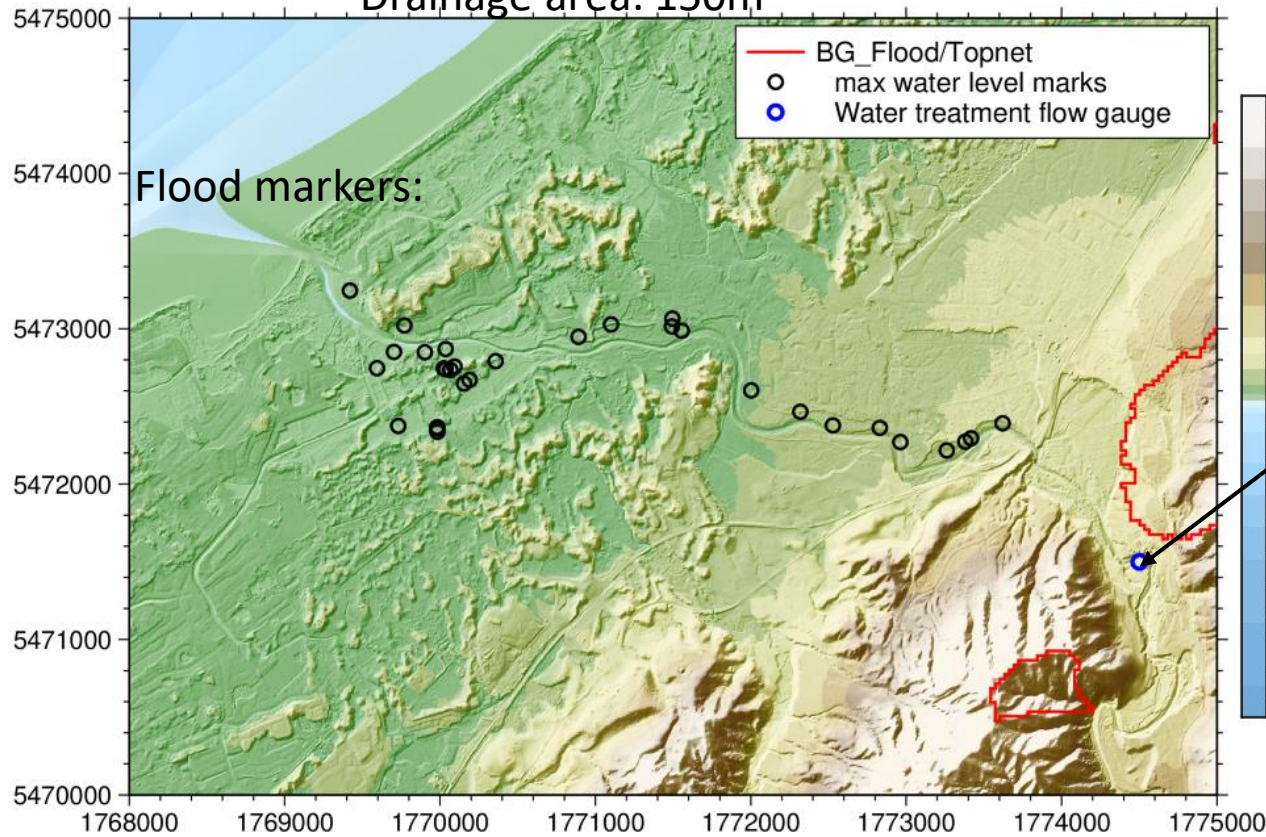




# Pluvial and fluvial flooding: 2005 flood event in Waikanae

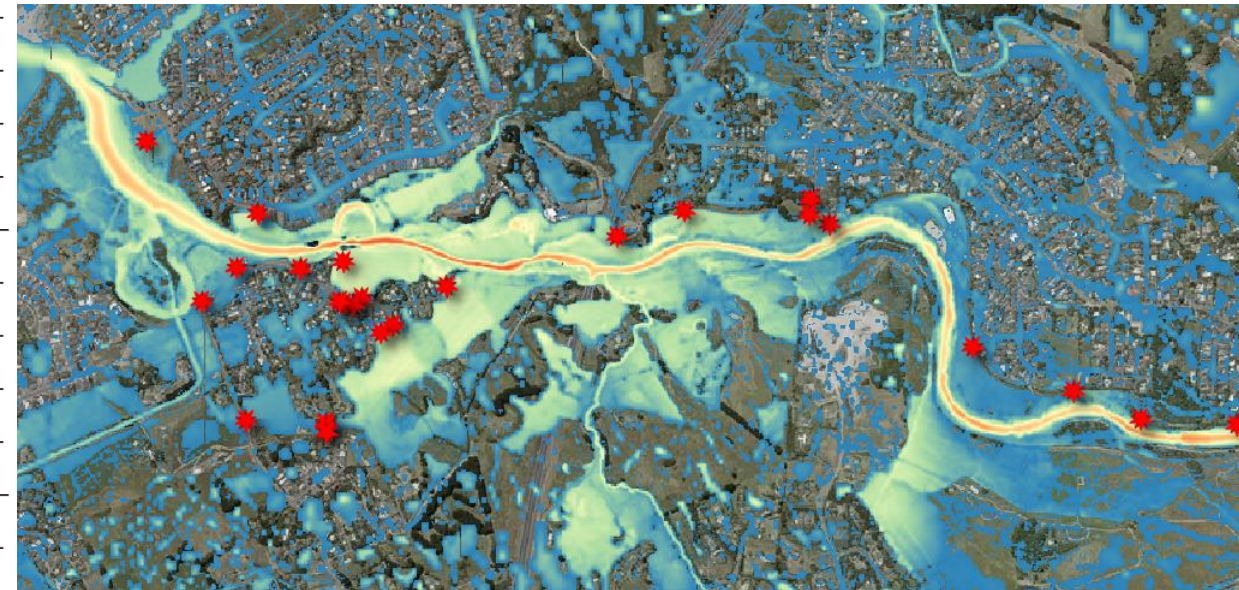
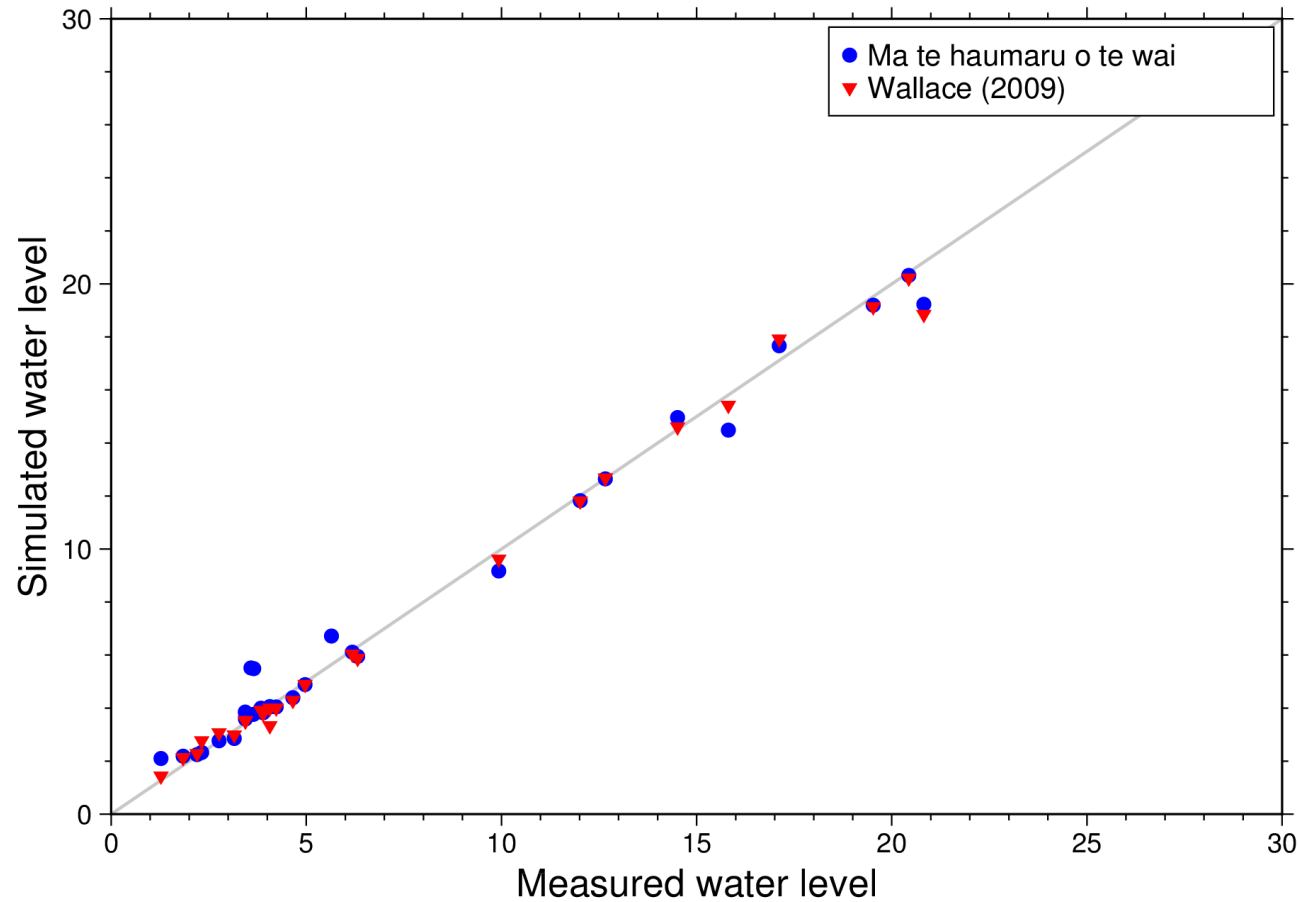


- Peak flow at treatment plant of 380 m<sup>3</sup>/s
- ~ 80 years return period
- Max water level mark
- Drainage area: 150m<sup>2</sup>





# Comparison to observation and other models



*Inundation map with max. water level marks*

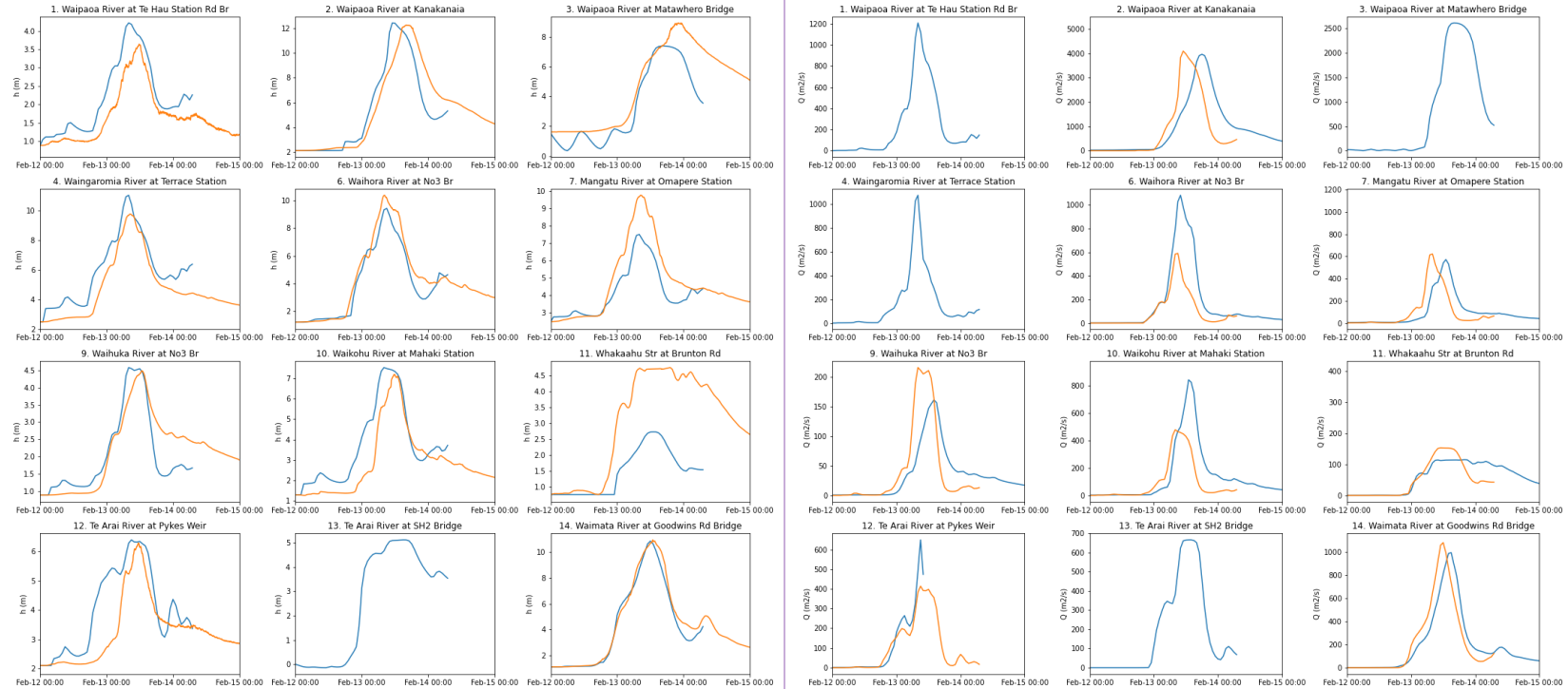
# Floods maps validation in Gisborne

Comparison with observations:



H (m)

Q (m<sup>3</sup>/s)



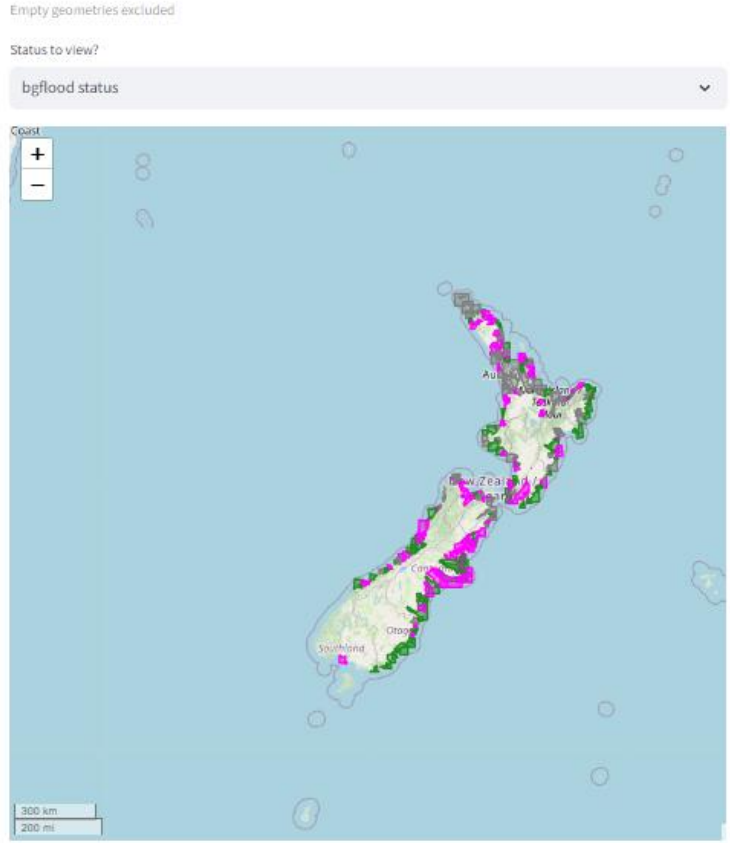
— Observations  
— Simulations

Modelled water elevation in the Gisborne area following TCGabrielle, with gauges and other locations of interest

# Mā te haumaru ō te wai flood simulations

Return period to view?  
100

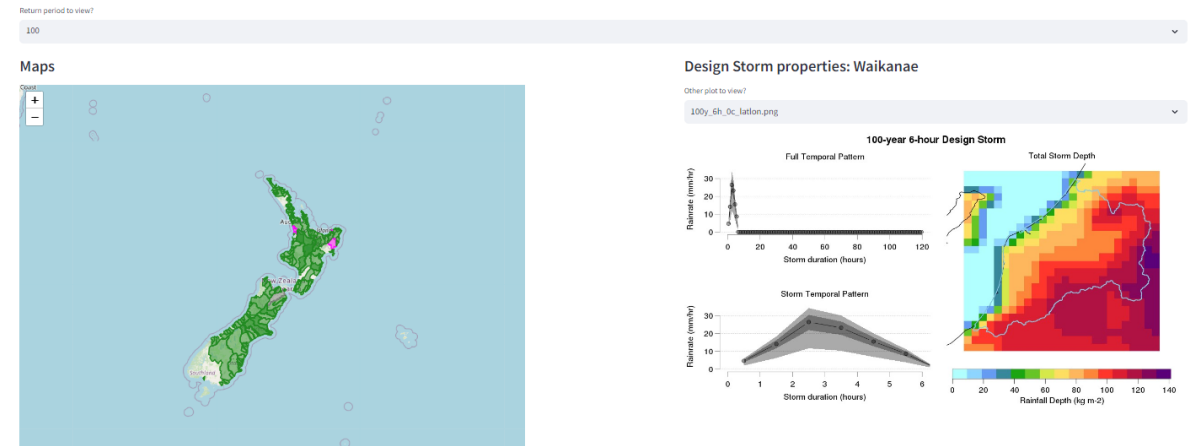
## Maps - Overall Flood Domain Status



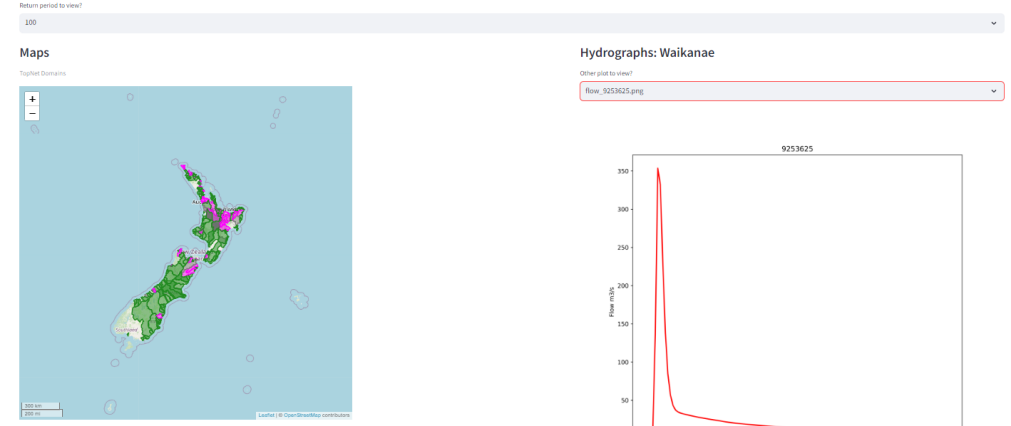
# Bringing it all together...

(A sneak preview of our private dashboard)

## Design Storm status over Basin Domains

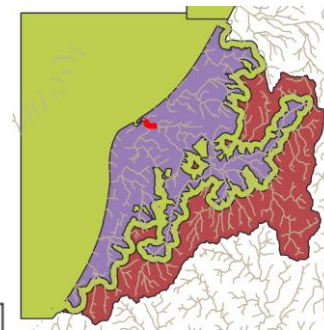


## TopNet Simulation status over Basin Domains

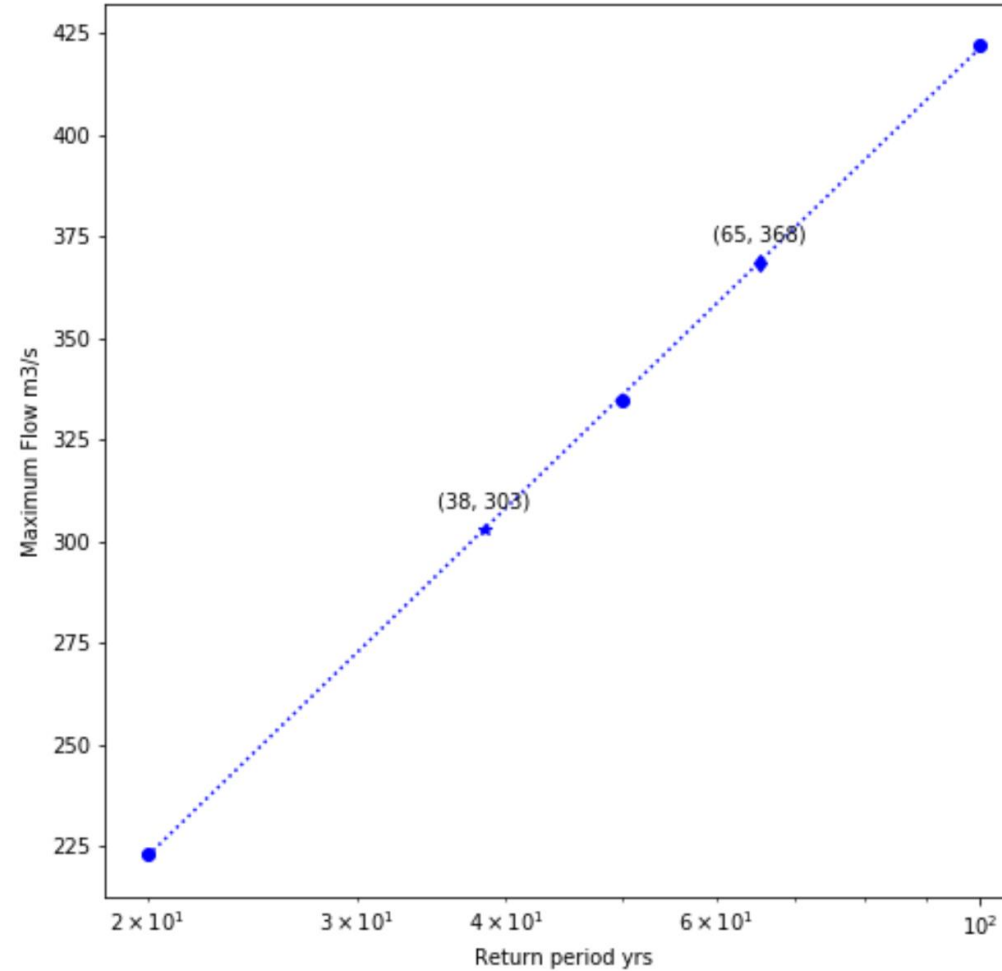
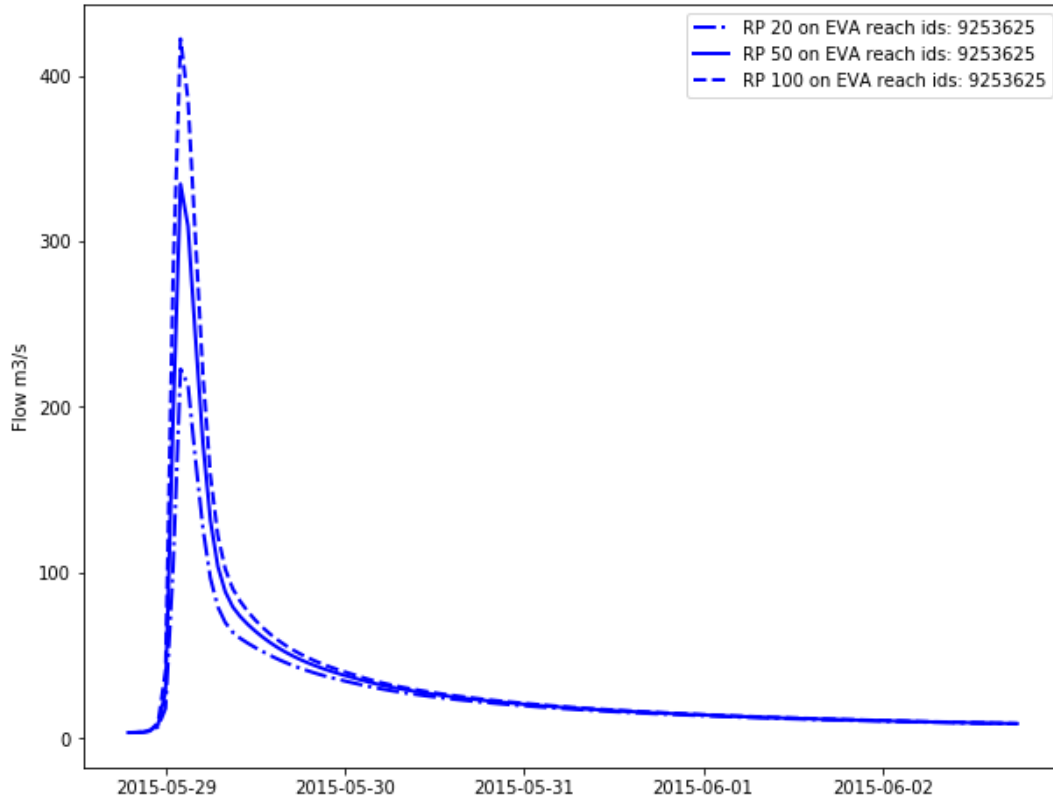


# What is a 1% AEP Flood?

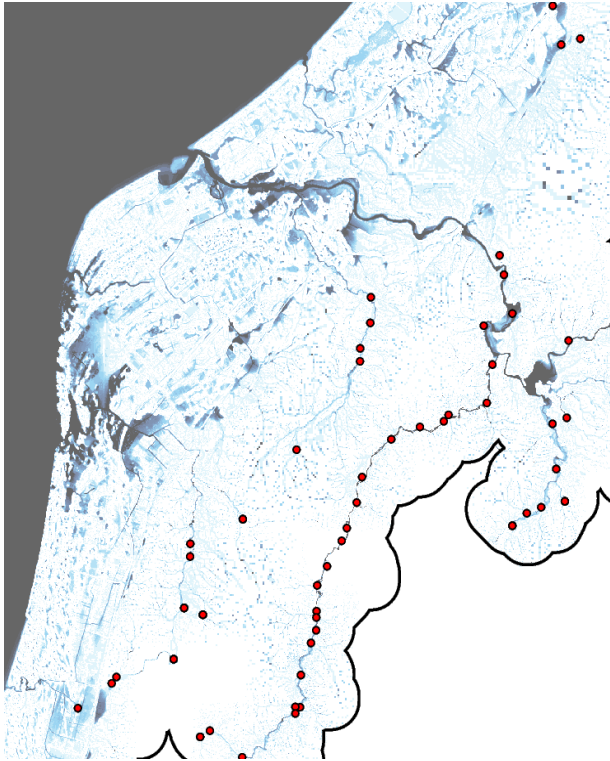
## Waikanae, 12h storm



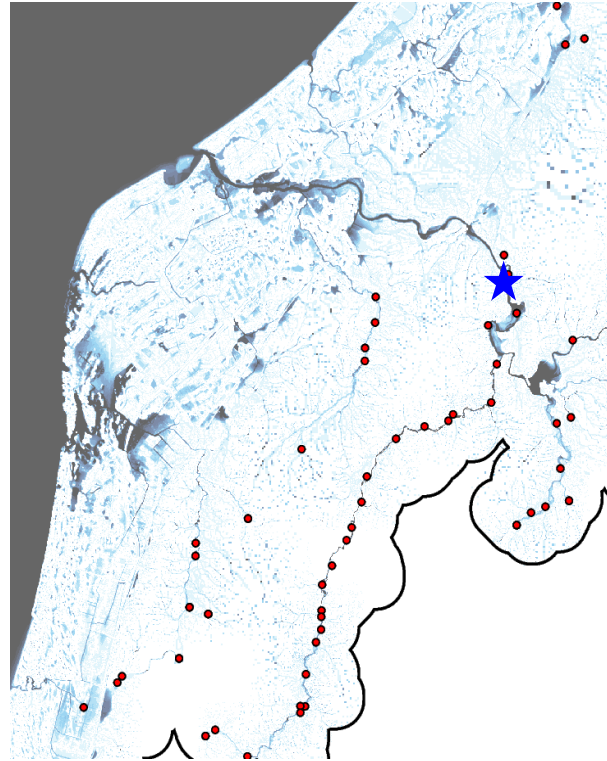
Waikanae: EVA reach ids: [9253625]



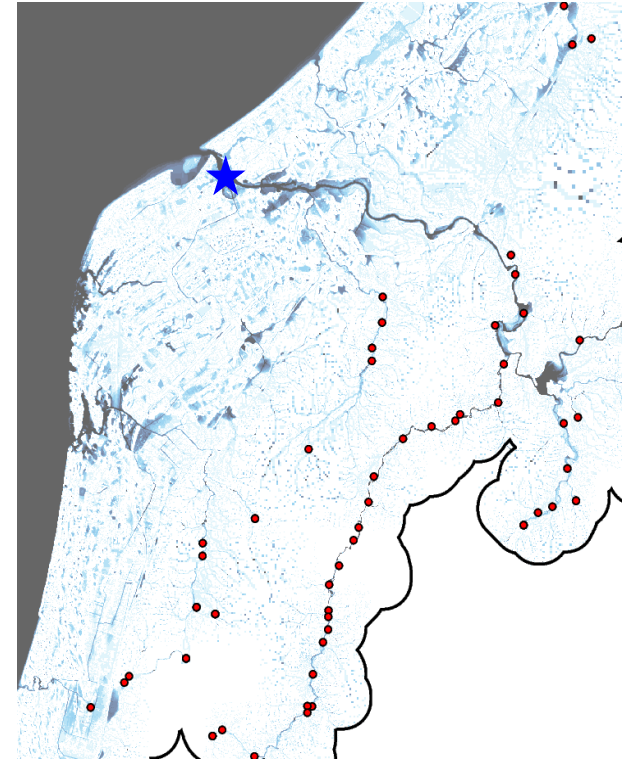
# What that looks like on the ground



1% AEP Design Rainfall

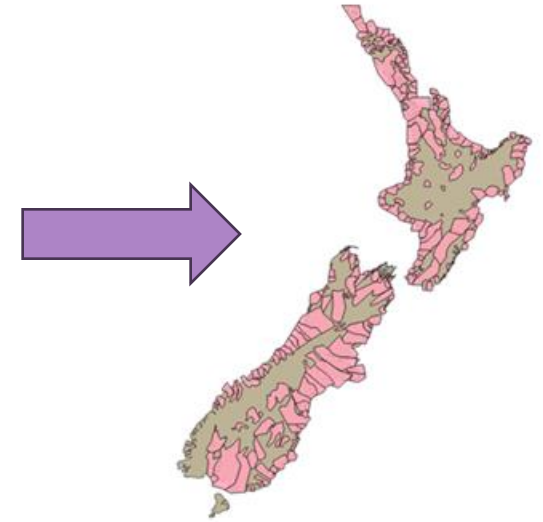
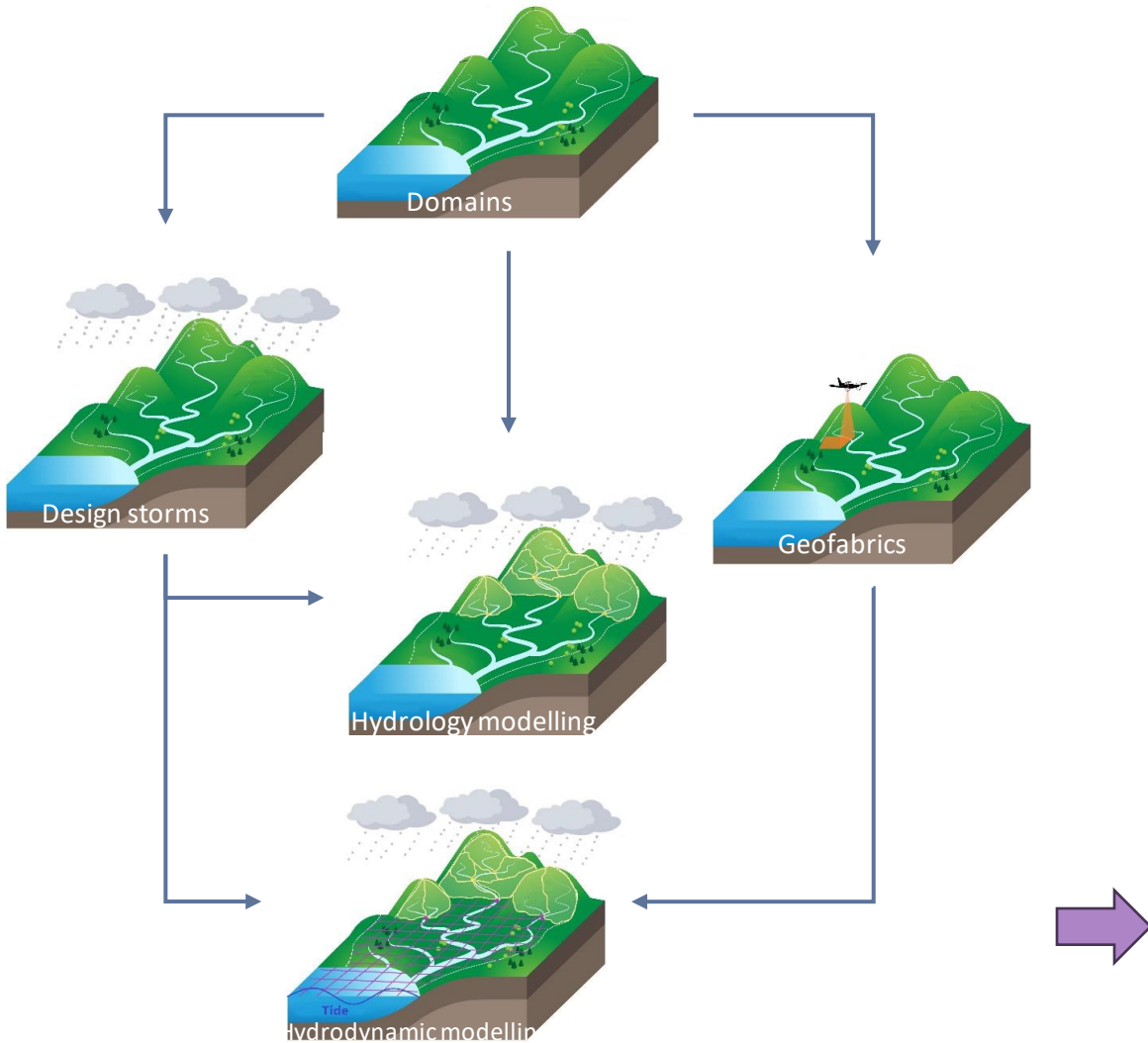


1% AEP Peak Flow at Gauge



1% AEP Peak Flow at Township

# Next steps: Design runs for the whole country



- Initial runs on all the country planned for June 2024
- Second iteratively improved version for June 2025



# Modelling Symposium



Thank you!  
Questions? Patai?

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Website: [niwa.co.nz/flood-resilience](http://niwa.co.nz/flood-resilience)