



Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Resource cards



The impacts of flooding



Immediate impacts

First few days



Long-term impacts

Weeks/months/years





**Impacts on people and
the local community**



Impacts on infrastructure



**Impacts on the
natural environment**



Sentimental
belongings
damaged or
washed away.



Risk of drowning.



Having to
evacuate
property.



Risk of injury.



**Submerged
properties and
businesses.**



**Damaged
infrastructure.**



Closed roads.



**Feelings of grief,
stress, anger and
sadness.**



**Sewage system
overwhelmed.**



**Risk of
electrocution.**



**Food and drink
items contaminated
having been touched
or covered by
flood water.**



**Power supply
disrupted.**



No electricity.



**Phone and Wi-Fi
network connectivity
disrupted.**



**Loss of cultural
items and heritage
monuments.**



**Roads, bridges and
trainlines damaged
or destroyed.**



**Public transport
disrupted.**



**Events and festivals
cancelled.**



**Water supply
contaminated –
no clean drinking
water.**



**Businesses forced
to close.**



Limited access to
medical supplies,
equipment and
services.



Schools and
nurseries closed.



Day care centres
for adults closed.



Crops ruined
having been
touched or
covered by
flood water.



**Livestock
drowned or
washed away.**



**Where little or
no vegetation exists
soil may be eroded
or washed away.**



**Fields become
waterlogged.**



**Riverbanks
washed away.**



The sudden pressure of water running down a slope can push earth and debris with it, leading to a landslide.



Fish washed out of the river and are unable to get back once the water subsides.



Fast flowing floodwater uproots trees and washes them away.



Habitats flooded, nests and homes destroyed – insects, mammals and birds are displaced and struggle.



**Agricultural
fertilisers, pesticides
and industrial
chemicals washed
into rivers.**



**Difficulties in
claiming insurance.**



**Mold and mildew
grows on walls
and surfaces.**



**Contact with
contaminated flood
water can lead to
illnesses and diseases
spreading.**



**Finding resources
to repair or rebuild
damaged property.**



**Structural damage
to property.**



**Soil becomes degraded
and fallow due to the
depletion of oxygen
in the soil profile
leading to reduced soil
biological diversity.**



**Reoccupation of
property not possible
for a long time.**



**Suspension and
disruption of school
classes and exams.**



**Reduced
opportunities
to meet new people
and socialise leading
to loneliness.**



**Food shortages
occur because
of supply and
distribution chains
being disrupted.**



**Increase in deposition
leads to a build-up of silt
and sediment in rivers,
reducing available oxygen
levels, creating unsuitable
habitat for fish, such as
salmon, to spawn.**



**Community
morale low.**



**Tourism numbers
impacted.**



**Individuals
are unable to work
due to long-term
stress or depression.**



Loss of income.



Lower biodiversity
as a result of the
destruction of food
chains, webs and
habitats.



Plants are weakened
and habitats struggle
to recover, weeds
and invasive species
have the opportunity
to flourish.



Increased
insurance costs.

