



The Cabin Creek Flood of 1916

Event Details

- Date: August 1916 (early morning, between 4:30 AM and 9:00 AM)
- Precipitation: Nearly 6 inches in 5 hours
- Flood Type: Summer Thunderstorm
- Fatalities: 74
- Main Impacted Streams:
 - Seng Creek (21 fatalities)
 - Cabin Creek (42 fatalities)
 - Fifteenmile Creek (5 fatalities)
 - Dodson Fork (4 fatalities)
- Location: Boone County, Kanawha County, and Raleigh County (1 fatality)
- Communities Impacted Most: Ferndale (Garrison), Oakley (Sharon), Dry Branch

Mitigation Efforts

- No mitigation measures were in place at the time of the flood.
- 100% of fatalities occurred in areas with no mitigation subsequently implemented.

Risk and Impact Analysis

- **Flood Zone Classification:**
 - 33.8% Zone AE
 - 27% FEMA Advisory A
 - 20.3% Zone A
 - 18.9% Zone AE Floodway
- **Cause of Death (limited information):**
 - 5 fatalities caused by landslides

Demographics of Victims

- **Age Groups:**
 - 6 fatalities (Ages 0–12, Children)
 - 1 fatality (Ages 19–39, Young Adult)
 - 2 fatalities (Ages 40–70, Middle-Aged Adults)
- **Gender Distribution (of known victims):**
 - 21 female
 - 20 male

Mass Casualty Events

- 96.9% of the fatalities occurred in mass casualty events, indicating significant household- or community-level loss of life.

Multimedia & Sources

- [*Charleston Daily Mail, August 10, 1916*](#)
- [*Bluefield Daily Telegraph, August 11, 1916*](#)
- [*Beckley Raleigh Register, August 17, 1916*](#)
- *The West Virginia Flood of August 9, 1916, and the Health Relief Measures* by Mayo Tolman, West Virginia State Department of Health



**Seventy Killed and Five Million
Property Damage Caused by Flood**