

## 6. Flood risk on the River Severn

The Environment Agency provide data on flood risk so that people can check whether they live or work in an area that is affected by floods. The risk of flooding is described as:

- **High risk** if the chance of flooding from rivers or the sea is greater than once every 30 years.
- **Medium risk** if there is a chance of flooding once between 30 and 100 years.
- **Low risk** if there is a chance of flooding once between 100 and 1000 years.

Most places that are close to the River Severn have some risk of flooding. However, the areas affected by flooding vary greatly:

- In some places the flood risk only affects fields and farms.
- In other places the flood risk affects roads, houses, shops or schools.

### Activity

Use the website below to check the flood risk at each of the locations in Table 1.

Weblink: <https://floodassist.co.uk/resources/flood-risk>

Use the slider to set the transparency of the flood layer. If you start at zero then you will be able to see what the landscape looks like when the river is flowing normally. Then slide the slider so you can see which areas are at risk of flooding.

Make a large copy of Table 1 and complete each column as follows:

- **Flood risk** Describe the level of risk (high, medium or low) and the extent of the flooding. Use words like *limited*, *significant* or *substantial* to describe the amount of land that is threatened by flood water.
- **What is at risk?** Use this column to describe what may be at risk. Are there any roads or buildings that may be flooded or is it farmland?
- **River features** Use this column to describe the river and its features. Is the river channel wide or narrow? Is the channel meandering? Is there a confluence where a tributary joins the River Severn? If so, this may explain why there is increased flood risk.

**Table 1:** Locations at flood risk along the River Severn

Location	Flood risk	What is at risk?	River features
Llanidloes			
Caersws			
Newtown			
Caerhowel			
Welshpool			
Melverley			
Shrewsbury			
Atcham			