

Hawkesbury-Nepean Catchment – Case Study

Students learn about the scope, scale, location and topography of this catchment:

Located in NSW...in Greater Sydney, the Hawkesbury-Nepean catchment is one of the largest coastal basins in NSW. With an area of 21,400 square kilometres, over 70 per cent of the catchment consists of mountainous terrain, with about 10 per cent of flat terrain. The south terrain, around 10 per cent of the total catchment, comprises undulating plateau type country. The maximum elevation is about 1,290 metres.

(<https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/basins-catchments/snapshots/hawkesbury-nepean>)

Students undertake the following investigation using visuals, maps, ESRI data to complete the scaffold.

Sites for investigation:

- <https://www.industry.nsw.gov.au/water/basins-catchments/snapshots/hawkesbury-nepean>
- <https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/hawkesbury-nepean-floods/>
- <http://www.infrastructure.nsw.gov.au/expert-advice/hawkesbury-nepean-flood-risk-management-strategy/>

Tributaries and rivers of the catchment	Location, size and topographic features of the catchment.	Main water storage	Key water management issues	Water users	Major environmental hazards

Students use the following geographical tools to investigate water resources.

- Maps (choropleth, synoptic charts),
- Spatial technologies (satellite images),
- Graphs and statistics (multiple tables and graphs presented on a geographical theme),
- Visual representations (annotated diagrams, photographs, aerial photographs)