

Outbursts of Water from Abandoned Mines
Causes, Consequences, Remediation and Responsibility
Litija, Slovenia (March 2010)

Flood Risk

Consequences of Flooding

The impact of flooding upon local communities



Consequence of Flooding

1. **Property Damage**
2. Loss of Life, Illness & Injury
3. Economic Loss





Carlisle 2005


- 
- Thousands of homes affected
 - First few inches of water caused up to 90% of damages sustained
 - Floor coverings
 - Soft furnishings
 - Electrical wiring
 - Internal walls
 - Some homes flooded previously, but renovated in same manner
 - Residents still in temporary accommodation up to 2 years after flood

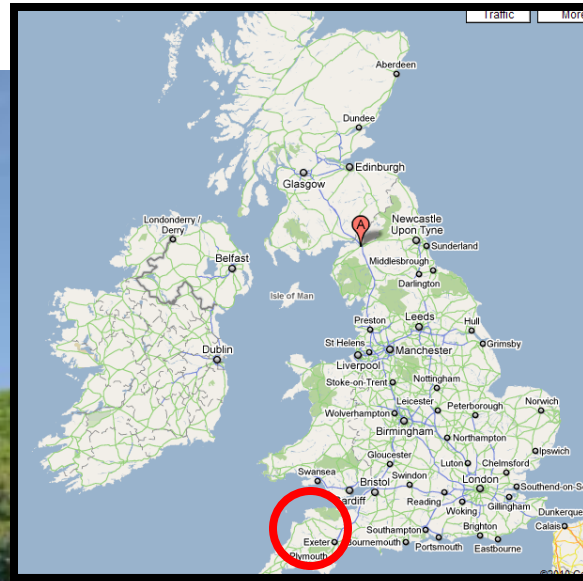
1. Property Damage
2. **Loss of Life, Illness & Injury**
3. Economic Loss





Carlisle 2005

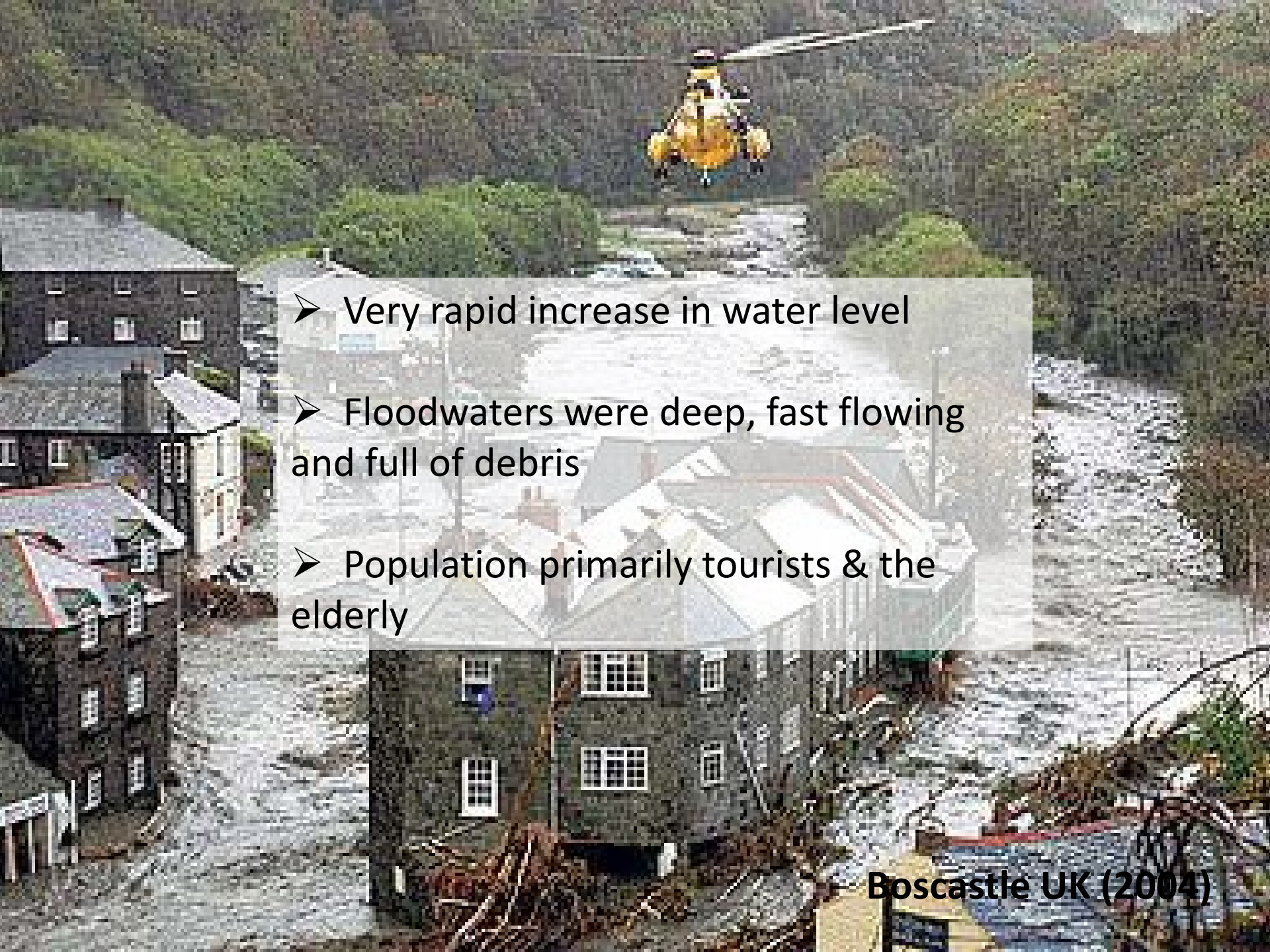
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- Flooding occurred in winter in middle of night
 - Telecommunications, power & emergency services were lost
 - Families separated during evacuation & unable to get in contact
 - Sewer failures led to contamination of floodwater



Boscastle UK (2004)



Boscastle UK (2004)



- Very rapid increase in water level
- Floodwaters were deep, fast flowing and full of debris
- Population primarily tourists & the elderly

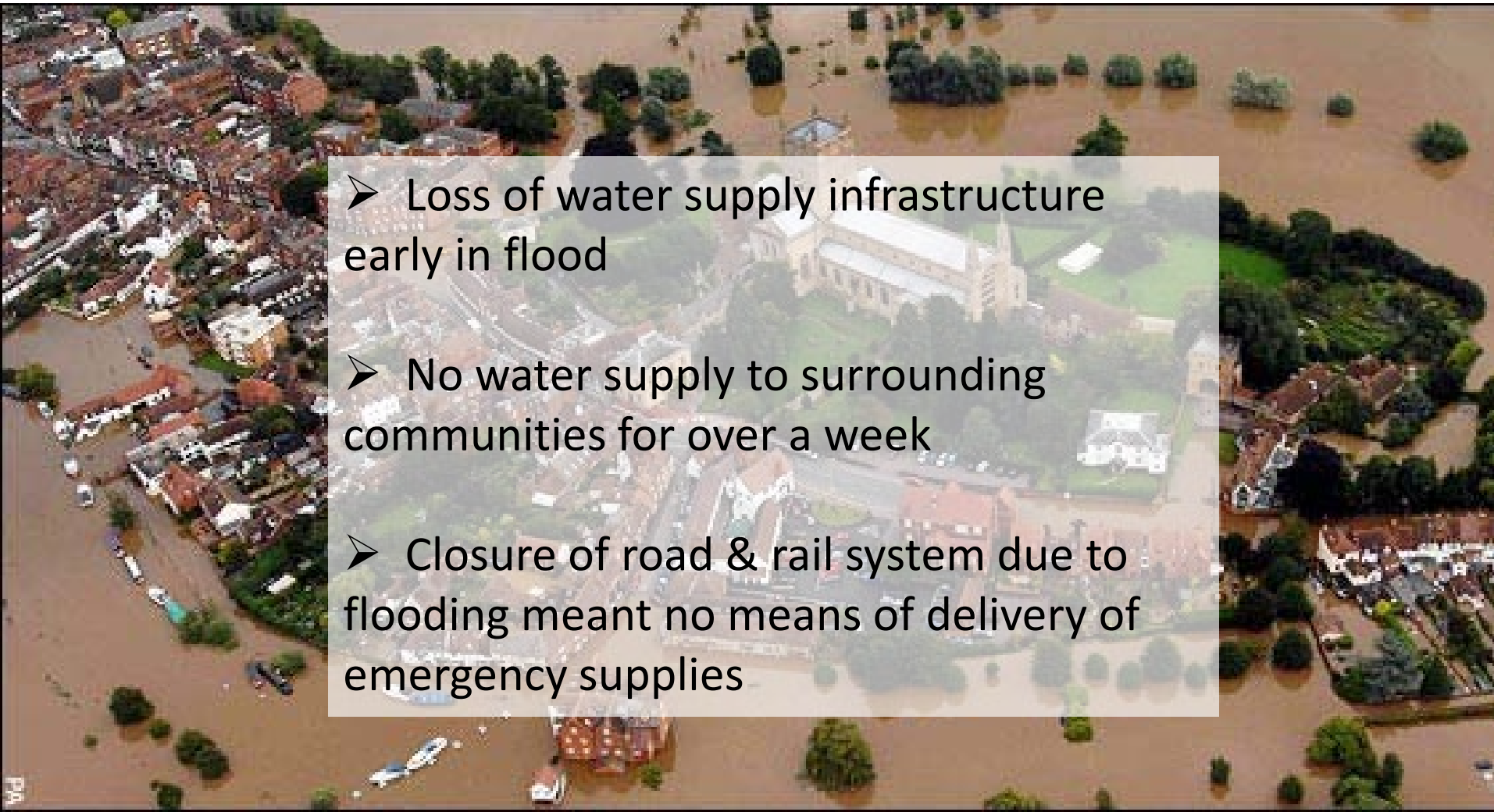
Boscastle UK (2004)

1. Property Damage
2. Loss of Life, Illness & Injury
3. **Economic Loss**





Tewkesbury UK (2007)



- Loss of water supply infrastructure early in flood
- No water supply to surrounding communities for over a week
- Closure of road & rail system due to flooding meant no means of delivery of emergency supplies

Tewkesbury UK (2007)

Case Studies – Flooding as a Result of Mining Failures



Buffalo Creek
US (1972)



Buffalo Creek
US (1972)



Buffalo Creek
US (1972)



Stoney Middleton
UK (2007)



Stoney Middleton
UK (2007)



Baia Mare
Romania (2000)

Managing the risk to the community



- Warning System
- Effective Planning
How to respond in an emergency
- Community Awareness
There is a risk!
- Community Education
How to help yourself
- Resilient Homes & Businesses
Minimise damage

LEADVILLE JOURNAL

Mine Water Poses Danger of a Toxic Gusher



Kevin Moloney for The New York Times

Emily Medina, center, with two other residents of Leadville, Colo., who gathered last week for the testing of an alarm system.

By DAN FROSCH

Published: February 28, 2008

LEADVILLE, Colo. — In a snowswept trailer park, Emily Medina wakes each morning wondering whether she will be washed away by toxic water that local officials fear could burst from a decaying mine tunnel near her home.

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