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LATVIJAS VIDES, ĢEOLOĢIJAS
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Latvia – Lithuania

ICEREG

HISTORICAL ICE FLOODS IN LATVIA: FROM THE PAST TO THE PRESENT

ANDŽELIKA LUCAVA | HYDROLOGY EXPERT
FINAL CONFERENCE 21.01.2026

Flood maps



The Most Significant Ice Floods



River, hydrological station	Years with ice-jams, 1961 – 2024	Maximum H rise	
		H rise*	Year
Daugava, Jekabpils	1962-1963, 1966, 1969-1970, 1972-1973, 1975, 1979-1981, 1983, 1985, 1987-1991, 1994, 1996-1998, 2001-2002, 2004-2005, 2007-2014, 2016-2024	434	2023
Daugava, Zelki	1968-1970, 1972-1985, 1987-1991, 1994-1996, 1998-2002, 2004-2008, 2010-2019, 2021, 2023-2024	725	1988
Daugava, Daugavpils	1965, 1972, 1975, 1981, 1982, 1987-1989, 1991-1994, 1996, 1998-2000, 2003-2006, 2008-2010, 2012-2014, 2017-2019, 2021-2023	321	1981
Gauja, Carnikava	1962, 1963, 1971, 1979, 1981, 1986, 1990, 1995, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2021	162	1963
Lielupe, Mezotne	1961, 1963, 1971, 1979, 1980, 1983-1985, 1994, 1998, 2007, 2013, 2015, 2018, 2022, 2023	275	1985
Lielupe, Stalgene	1963, 1971, 1980, 1987, 1992, 1994, 1998, 2000-2002, 2017, 2022	397	1994
Ogre, Lielpeci	1962, 1963, 1968, 1969, 1978, 1983, 1987, 1996, 2004, 2007, 2013, 2021	352	2013
Venta, Kuldiga	1963, 1986, 1994, 1998, 2000, 2011, 2018, 2022	525	1994

Rīga, 1929



Ice piles in the Gulf of Riga, April 1929

Venta. Ice Floods in Kuldīga



Many observers remember the year 1968, when ice in the adjacent canal lifted and destroyed the small wooden bridge visible in the second photograph. It is also reported that major ice breakup events occurred in 1976 and 1980.

Lielupe, 2013



Lielupe pie Bauskas



Lielupe pie Bauskas



Lielupe pie Bauskas

Lielupe near Bauska, 2013



Lielupe near Stalģene, 2013

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EpEOhQB-lCo>

Ogre, 2013



Ice jam in Ogre, 2013

Carnikava, 2021



Foto: Carnikavas novada pašvaldība

Impact of HPP



Pļaviņu HPP

Pļaviņas, 2017



Ice Piles near Pļaviņas, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YAvIBRMJpVk>

Jēkabpils, 1981



Jēkabpils, 2023



Ice floods in Jēkabpils, 2023

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I6cPwDQwyys>



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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