

Status of Action Items from Review of Emergency Management Plans – May 2023

#	Action Item	Agency	Status
ALL RISKS			
2	Review the benefits and costs of a suitably sized portable backup generator stored in Halls Gap, for use in emergencies e.g. to support fire-fighting water supply, air-conditioning for cooling centres etc.	RG	Completed. Pros and cons evaluated. Acquisition of a generator was decided against at the 22 Feb 2022 meeting.
3	Consider developing a community-specific <i>Halls Gap Evacuation Plan</i> , and communication materials	RG	Terminated. Dropped at the 22 Feb 2022 meeting - no VICPOL engagement.
BUSHFIRE			
4	Advise the ongoing status of the Halls Gap <i>Community Information Guide</i> .	CFA	Completed. CIG withdrawn by CFA, replaced by local web page, which doesn't meet need.
5	Consider whether a Community Alert Siren should be installed in Halls Gap.	RG	Completed. Pros and cons evaluated. Not enough community support to implement.
6	Advise on the use of the Visitor Centre and Centenary Hall as part of the NSP-BPLR.	NGSC	Completed. Use of Visitor Centre and Hall rejected by NGSC/CFA.
7	Advise what actions the RG can take to assist with reducing bushfire risk around Halls Gap e.g. what Bushfire Risk Engagement Areas affect Halls Gap and what the community can do to reduce bushfire fuels.	DEECA/FFMVIC, CFA	No advice received from DEECA/FFMVIC, CFA
8	Consider re-establishing an annual community fuel reduction weekend to reduce fire hazards in Halls Gap	RG	Not actioned yet
9	Indicate what additional bushfire community education and engagement programs are planned for Halls Gap in the next 12 months, and what participation the Halls Gap community should be planning for.	DEECA/FFMVIC, CFA	Overview of general programs provided by CFA. No advice received from DEECA/FFMVIC.
10	Develop an ongoing schedule of community bushfire engagement activities, including for tourism businesses and absentee landlords	RG	Information requested from agencies, but no response as yet
11	Provide fire plug status reports (over time) on:		
	- Refurbishment of fire plug network	NGSC	2023 Fire Plug Audit shows little progress on silt, corrosion, or testing. NGSC addressing.
	- Implementation of 'adopt-a-fire-plug' program	NGSC	Advice distributed electronically, but not yet with rate notices
	- Preparation and distribution of community advice on fire plugs	NGSC	Advice distributed electronically, but not yet with rate notices

#	Action Item	Agency	Status
12	Advise on the status of the <i>Grampians Regional Fire Sub-Plan</i>	DEECA/FFM, CFA	No advice received from agencies
13	Review the Multi Agency work plan in the <i>Municipal Fire Management Plan</i> (MFMP) and advise whether the RG should assist with any items.	CFA, NGSC, DEECA, PV	No advice received from agencies
14	Review the <i>VFRR – B</i> treatments in the MFMP and advise what the RG can do to help with them.	CFA	No advice received from agencies
FLOOD			
15	Indicate what flood community education and engagement programs are planned for Halls Gap in the next 12 months, and what participation the Halls Gap community should be planning for.	VICSES	No advice received from agencies
16	Ask what else VICSES can do to engage the community to better prepare residents for flood emergencies	RG	Information requested, but no response as yet
17	Review plans for flooding signage/displays with Wimmera CMA, and propose actions to implement them. (The Visitor Centres may be an appropriate location for the signage/displays.)	NGSC	No advice received from NGSC
18	Review plans to remind residents and business operators annually of the need to plan for flooding, and plans to review signage/display materials annually and upgrade them as needed. (The Visitor Centres may be an appropriate location for the signage/display materials.)	NGSC, VICSES, CMA	Not actioned yet
19	Post the Halls Gap <i>Local flood guide</i> as a downloadable resource on the relevant pages of the VICSES and NGSC web sites	VICSES, NGSC	Completed
20	Provide local flood response guidance for Caravan and Camping site operators	NGSC, VICSES, CMA	Not actioned yet
21	<p>Review and update the <i>Municipal Flood Emergency Plan</i></p> <p>Update the plan to incorporate information from more recent flood studies</p> <p>Review the management of flash flooding in Halls Gap and upgrade the plan accordingly</p> <p>Review Appendix A and address the incomplete/ erroneous items.</p> <p>Review and update the Halls Gap maps in Appendix F2 using later maps provided in the 2015 and 2017 Water Technology reports.</p> <p>Review the Dam Failure section and include considerations of Lake Bellfield and its potential to cause community damage to Halls Gap.</p> <p>Review and update the <i>Halls Gap Community Flood Emergency Management Plan</i> (Appendix C2)</p>	NGSC, VICSES	Update of plan in progress. Status of individual action items unknown

#	Action Item	Agency	Status
	Review the Dam Break section, and include considerations of Lake Bellfield and its potential to cause community damage to Halls Gap. Review and update the warnings thresholds and Flood Intelligence Card, Property Inundation List and Flood/No Flood Tool. As part of this, review the use of the Halls Gap rainfall thresholds and flood impacts in the <i>Mid West (Grampians) Region Emergency Response Plan Landslide sub-plan</i> Provide the specific detail required to facilitate the self-management of a flood response in Halls Gap, particularly if access/egress is cut off. This should include things like <ul style="list-style-type: none">• pre-recruitment and training of volunteers (and possibly creating a local SES sub-unit),• allocation of responsibilities to volunteers,• nominating a sandbag pick up location (previously the rear of Centenary Hall),• specifying a supply of resources such as sandbags, sand and sandbag filling frames,• nominating where resources will be stored, and who will control access, etc.		
			VICSES subunit not accepted.
			Not actioned yet
			Sandbag facility proposed, but not yet implemented. Specific arrangements not yet finalised.
22	Consider whether a VICSES sub-unit should be established onsite in Halls Gap to act when the community is isolated, and provide extended benefits to the community e.g. faster response to national park rescues.	VICSES	VICSES subunit not accepted. Sandbag facility proposed, but not yet implemented.
23	Review the recommended actions in the <i>Wimmera Floodplain Management Strategy</i> and provide feedback. Identify priority flood mitigation work for Halls Gap Develop and deliver community flood education programs using flood intelligence information	VICSES, NGSC	Not actioned yet
			Not actioned yet
			Not actioned yet
STORM			
24	Indicate what storm community engagement programs are planned for Halls Gap in the next 12 months, and what participation the Halls Gap community should be planning for.	VICSES	Not actioned yet
25	Ask what else VICSES can do to engage with the community to better prepare residents for storm events	RG	Not actioned yet
26	Review whether a NGSC <i>Storm Sub-plan</i> should be developed (including provisions for Halls Gap.)	VICSES, NGSC	Not actioned yet

#	Action Item	Agency	Status
27	Add Halls Gap to the Grampians Regional Resource List on p.33 of the <i>Mid West (Grampians) Region Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan</i> , and consider which of the resources should be stationed there, so that problems of access/egress being cut off can be avoided.	VICSES	Not actioned yet
EXTREME HEAT			
28	Prepare a Halls Gap <i>Extreme Heat Plan</i> .	RG	Plan drafted and referred to NGSC. Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed
29	Determine who will be responsible for subscribing to heat health alerts and activating the <i>Extreme Heat Plan</i>	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
30	Include dealing with tourist populations in the <i>Extreme Heat Plan</i> .	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
31	Focus on cooperation with relevant agencies, but prepare the community to self-manage some elements of extreme heat events, where agency support is unavailable.	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
32	Engage closely with AV on extreme heat planning and response. Align the Halls Gap <i>Extreme Heat Plan</i> with the AV <i>Heatwave Sub-plan</i>	RG, AV	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
33	Engage with the Budja Budja Medical Clinic on heat health matters, including the distribution of heat health communication materials.	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
34	Focus on the NGSC <i>Heatwave Mitigation Plan</i> (or the replacement <i>Extreme Heat Plan</i> when it is completed) as the major source of municipal support for extreme heat events.	RG, NGSC	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
35	Consider the establishment of community cooling spaces as part of extreme heat planning. Consider applying for funding from NGSC.	RG	Completed. Proposal for cooling centres not accepted by NGSC. (May be reviewed.)
36	Review air-conditioning and backup power for community cooling spaces, and the Primary School	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
37	Consider vulnerable persons registers and school backup power as part of its extreme heat planning.	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
38	Re-use DOH heat health resources (as has already occurred in the past) as part of extreme heat planning. Consider ordering heat health printed information and distributing it to accommodation providers for display at reception desks, and to the Visitor Centres, Budja Budja Medical Clinic, the swimming pool, etc.	RG	Deferred until NGSC Extreme Heat Plan completed.
INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS			
39	Consider sponsoring OH&S training provided by an organisation like the NSCA Foundation	RG	Not actioned yet

#	Action Item	Agency	Status
40	Brain-storm options to support dealing with industrial accidents and propose actions (e.g. OH&S training)	RG	Not actioned yet
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASES			
41	Push for the storage of sand, sandbags and sandbag filling frames within Halls Gap.	RG	Sandbag Facility agreed, but not yet implemented
42	Issue advice that for non-air-born hazardous material spills, residents and tourists should simply stay away from a spill location, and cooperate with any emergency services instructions.	RG	Advice drafted, but distribution opposed by emergency management agencies at 22 Feb 2022 meeting. Referred to MEMPC.
43	Issue the <i>Community Emergency Response Information</i> as advice for air-born hazardous material spills.	RG	Distribution of advice opposed by all emergency management agencies at 22 Feb 2022 meeting. Referred to MEMPC.
44	Confirm that there is a hazardous materials incident response plan, that is has been tested/ exercised	CFA	Not actioned yet
TRANSPORT INCIDENTS			
45	Ask agencies to advise what support (if any) the RG or Halls Gap community could provide to help with transport incidents what materials exist for communicating transport incident risks and responses to residents/ tourists	RG	Not actioned yet
			Not actioned yet
			Not actioned yet
TERRORISM / EXTREMISM / SABOTAGE			
46	Consider developing and distributing material containing counter terrorism advice including counter terrorism contact numbers	RG	Advice drafted, but distribution opposed by emergency management agencies at 22 Feb 2022 meeting. Referred to MEMPC.
47	Encourage owners and operators of crowded places to complete the <i>Crowded Place Self-Assessment</i> , and the <i>Crowded Places Security Audit</i> .	RG	Not actioned yet
48	Advise the status of municipal counter-terrorism plans	NGSC	Completed. No NGSC counter-terrorism plans
49	Engage with VICPOL to establish what support (if any) is required from the community in identifying individuals vulnerable to radicalisation protecting events and crowded places	RG	Not actioned yet
			Not actioned yet
			Not actioned yet
50	Consider organising counter-terrorism training for Halls Gap businesses, event organisers, and operators of crowded places	RG	Not actioned yet

#	Action Item	Agency	Status
FAILURE OF LAKE BELLFIELD DAM			
21	Review the Dam Failure section and Appendix C2 - Dam Break, of the <i>Municipal Flood Emergency Plan</i> and include considerations of Lake Bellfield and its potential to cause community damage to Halls Gap.	VICSES	Not yet completed. Flood plan under review
51	Include within the regional and municipal plans considerations of Lake Bellfield and its potential to cause community damage to Halls Gap.	VICSES, DEECA	Not yet completed
52	Ask GWMWater for a copy of the Lake Bellfield <i>Dam Safety Emergency Plan</i> .	RG	Completed - plan not available to HGRG
53	Work with GWMWater and DEECA to develop and distribute a Lake Bellfield Dam Safety Fact Sheet for distribution to residents, business operators, and tourists. Include advice to accept dam safety warnings from GWMWater officers, and to respond to their instructions.	RG	Completed. Factsheet posted on community web site.
FAILURE OF FIRE PLUG NETWORK			
54	Develop and distribute community advice on fire plugs.	NGSC	Advice distributed electronically, but not yet with rate notices
55	Consider what else needs to be done (if anything) to address the risk of failure of the fire plug network	RG	2022 and 2023 fire plug audits completed, recommendations made, but not yet acted on.
COMMUNICATIONS-RELATED			
56	Formalise the role of the Halls Gap Visitor Centres as sources of emergency information, and redesign and expand displays to include information on floods, storms, etc.	PV, NGSC	Not actioned yet
TRAINING / ENGAGEMENT			
57	A schedule for the regular testing of Halls Gap emergency plans should be developed and implemented.	RG	Not actioned yet
BROADER COMMUNICATION CHANNELS			
58	Develop an over-arching all-agencies training/ communication/ engagement strategy for all segments of the community including tourists, for all identified risks.	RG	Information requested from agencies, but no response as yet