East (Gippsland) Region

Emergency Response Plan – Storm Complementary

SES

Safer Communities - Together

Published by Victoria State Emergency Service

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This publication is intended to be consistent with the State Emergency Management Plan (SEMP), published by Emergency Management Victoria in 2020.

Authorised by the Victoria State Emergency Service 168 Sturt Street, Southbank, Victoria 3006

An electronic version of the plan can be obtained at: www.ses.vic.gov.au/about-us/state-and-regional-emergency-plans

Foreword

This plan was developed as an emergency response plan prior to introduction the of the **State Emergency Management Plan (SEMP)** in 2020 under Emergency Management Legislation Amendment Act 2018 (EMLA Act 2018) and therefore constitutes a Complementary Plan to **the Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP).** In time, this plan will be reviewed and transition to being a form Sub-Plan under the **Regional Emergency Management Plan (REMP**) in accordance with the EMLA Act 2018 and with regard to the Emergency Management Planning Legislative Guidelines by 2023.

The Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) East Region led the preparation of this **Emergency Response Plan - Flood Complementary Plan (this plan)** in consultation with other agencies represented on the REMPC.

This plan replaces the **East (Gippsland) Region Flood Emergency Response Plan 2016** and is published to support any immediate operational response.
The plan includes provision of current and accurate information relating to:

- Any VICSES changes in organisation, agency roles and responsibilities.
- Evolution of the sector in relation to multi-agency and cross border arrangements.
- Alignment with arrangements contained in the State Flood Sub-plan.

Version Control
East (Gippsland) Region
Emergency Response Plan – Storm Complementary Plan
Version 1.9 April 2022
Nature of amendment - editing

East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan – Storm Complementary Plan Certification

The East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan – Storm Complementary Plan deals with response to storm incidents within East (Gippsland) area of responsibility.

The following plan is intended to provide the framework for East (Gippsland) Region to effectively and efficiently respond to future emergencies caused by storm, and will remain current until rescinded by authority of the Victoria State Emergency Service Chief Officer Operations.

Date: 22 April 2022

Tim Wiebusch
Chief Officer Operations

This plan is produced by Victoria State Emergency Service and has been adapted from the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan**. All information contained in this plan was current at time of publication.

The Victoria State Emergency Service would like to acknowledge the significant contribution of key stakeholders to ensure the content contained within this plan is of a high quality to support response activities.

For further details about this plan, please contact East (Gippsland) Region:

Regional Manager – East (Gippsland) Region

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Email: east@ses.vic.gov.au

Website: www.ses.vic.gov.au

State Emergency Management Priorities

The State Emergency Management Priorities are:

- Protection and preservation of life is paramount. This includes:
  - Safety of emergency response personnel
  - Safety of community members including vulnerable community members and visitors/tourists
- Issuing of community information and community warnings detailing incident information that is timely, relevant and tailored to assist community members make informed decisions about their safety
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets that support community resilience
- Protection of residential property as a place of primary residence
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihoods and economic production that supports individual and community financial sustainability
- Protection of environmental and conservation assets that considers the cultural, biodiversity, and social values of the environment.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to provide strategic guidance for the effective emergency management of storm impacts in the East (Gippsland) Region.

1.2 Objective

The objective of the **East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan – Storm Complementary Plan** is to outline the arrangements to ensure an integrated and coordinated approach to the management of storm events across East (Gippsland) Region, in order to reduce the impact and consequences of these events on the community, infrastructure and services.

1.3 Scope

This **East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan – Storm Complementary Plan** includes:

- Description of potential risks and consequences of storms to the social, built, economic and natural environments within the East (Gippsland) Region.
- Region specific emergency management arrangements for the management of storms.
- Links to sources of information where the reader can obtain further detail.

1.4 Authorising Environment

The *Emergency Management Act (1986 and 2013)* and the *Emergency Management Legislation Amendment Act 2018 (EMLA Act 2018)* is the empowering legislation for the management of emergencies in Victoria.

The **State Emergency Management Plan (SEMP)** contains policy and planning documents for emergency management in Victoria and provides details about the roles different organisations play in the emergency management arrangements.

The SEMP also identifies Victoria's organisational arrangements for managing the response to emergencies as outlined in the Roles and Responsibilities Section.

The East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan (yet to be developed) will detail specific arrangements for the management of emergencies within the East (Gippsland) Region. This plan has been developed as a subordinate plan of the **East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan** and the **State Emergency Management Plan – Storm Sub-plan.** This plan has been shared with the Regional Emergency Management Committee for comment and approved by the VICSES Chief Officer Operations.

Other relevant legislation includes:

- Victoria State Emergency Service Act 2005
- Essential Services Act 1958
- Planning and Environment Act 1989
- Local Government Act 1989
- Alpine Resorts (Management) Act 1997

1.5 Activation of the Plan

The arrangements in this plan apply on a continuing basis and do not require activation.

1.6 Audience

The audience for this plan comprises the Victorian Government and agencies within the emergency management sector, including business and community groups with a significant role in the management of the emergency.

Although the wider community is not the primary audience, community members may find the contents of this plan informative.

1.7 Linkages

This plan is a complementary plan of the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan** and the **East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan** (yet to be developed). It reflects legislation, the arrangements in the **State Emergency Response Plan**, the strategic direction for emergency management in Victoria and the accepted State practice for managing emergencies.

It is likely that storm events will include severe flooding, flash flooding and storm surge for areas prone to coastal flooding. For arrangements for the management of flooding, refer to the **State Emergency Response Plan – Flood Sub-plan** and **East (Gippsland) Region Flood Complementary Plan** at www.ses.vic.gov.au.

While uncommon, Thunderstorm Asthma may also be associated with storm events as a result of high pollen counts and higher than normal levels of humidity. Thunderstorm Asthma arrangements are currently under development by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Arrangements in this plan have not been repeated from afore mentioned plans, unless necessary to ensure context and readability. All available Victoria State Emergency Service Plans can be accessed at www.ses.vic.gov.au.

Arrangements for the management of secondary consequences are contained in the following:

- For health response – **State Health Emergency Response Plan (SHERP)**
- For rescue – the **Victorian Urban Search and Rescue Response Arrangement (USAR)**
- Flood response – **State Emergency Response Plan – Flood Sub-plan,** and **East (Gippsland) Region Emergency Response Plan – Flood Complementary Plan**.

1.8 Exercising and Evaluation

This plan will be exercised within one year from the date of approval and once every three years thereafter as part of a phased cycle. A Region Storm Scenario has been created to support this function available in Attachment 1 – Region Storm Scenario. The exercise will be evaluated and, where improvements to the emergency management arrangements in this plan are required, the plan will be amended and a revised version issued. Exercises will be conducted in accordance with the State Exercising Framework.

Any operational activity in East (Gippsland) Region requiring the management of a storm event will be regarded as exercising of the plan. The event is to be evaluated and reviewed, as outlined above.

1.9 Review

This plan was current at the time of publication and remains in effect until modified, superseded or withdrawn.

This plan will be reviewed and updated every three years. Consideration will be given to an earlier revision if the plan has been applied in a major emergency or exercise, or following a substantial change to the relevant legislation or arrangements.

2. The Storm Risk within the East (Gippsland) Region

2.1 Region Description

Gippsland is a rural region of Victoria located in the south-eastern part of the state. It covers an area of 41,556[1] square kilometres and lies to the east of Melbourne. Gippsland is comprised of seven municipalities being Baw Baw, Bass Coast, South Gippsland, Wellington, East Gippsland, Latrobe, and Southern Alpine Resort Management Board (Mt Baw Baw).

Gippsland has a variable climate, typified by periods of wet and dry conditions. Weather can be influenced by the north/south movement of strong westerly winds and their associated cold fronts. A shift northwards results in more storms over southern Australia.

Climate change predictions indicate drier and hotter conditions in southern Victoria. There is also a prediction of an increase in the frequency and intensity of storm events.

The Gippsland coastline is vulnerable to coastal inundation during significantly high tides, particularly when in conjunction with storm surges. The severity of impacts varies depending on factors including geomorphology, estuary characteristics and population and infrastructure inundated. In addition, the impact of individual meteorological events on flooding can vary due to precedent conditions and the direction and severity of weather conditions

Gippsland has an estimated population of 271,269[2], with the principal population centres being Traralgon, Moe, Wonthaggi, Warragul, Morwell, Sale, Bairnsdale, Drouin, Leongatha, and Phillip Island. There are many more remote areas in Gippsland containing smaller, more isolated communities that are far away from regional centres.

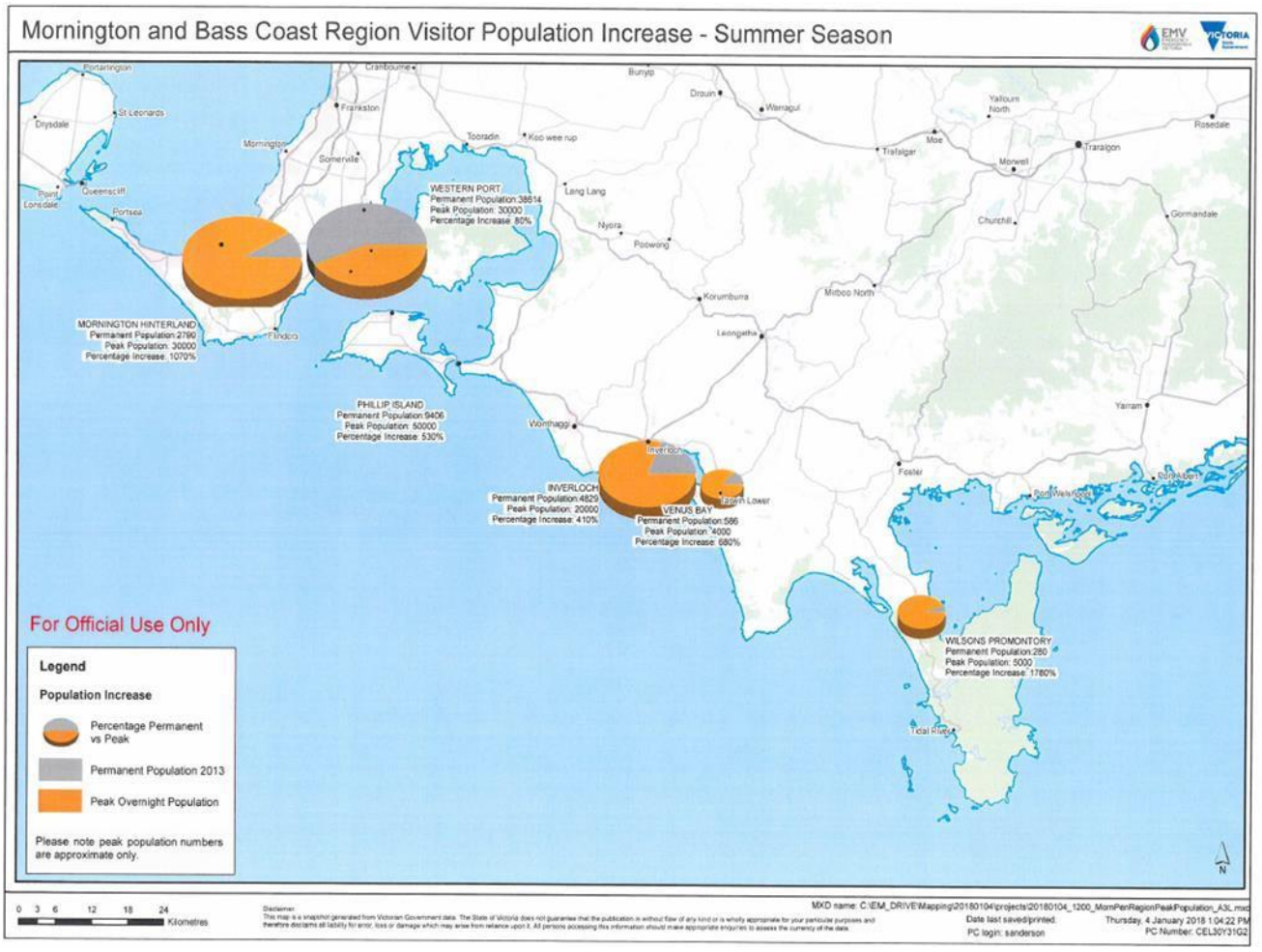
Gippsland is best known for its primary production such as mining, power generation and farming as well as its tourist destinations that include – International events such as the motorcycle grand prix held at Phillip Island, Wilsons Promontory, the Gippsland Lakes, Walhalla, the Baw Baw Plateau and the Strzelecki Ranges to name a few.

Tourism is an important industry for Gippsland. The region received over 5.4 million domestic (overnight and daytrip) and international overnight visitors combined, who spent an estimated $872 million in the year ending December 2017.

Major storms typically occur in Gippsland from October through to March, which is during the regions peak tourist season. There would been major economic impacts and additional complications with vastly exceeded local populations. Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) estimates for peak visitor and permanent resident population totals and maps are listed below.

1 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Census 2016 http://www.abs.gov.au/census.

2 Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Census 2016 http://www.abs.gov.au/census.

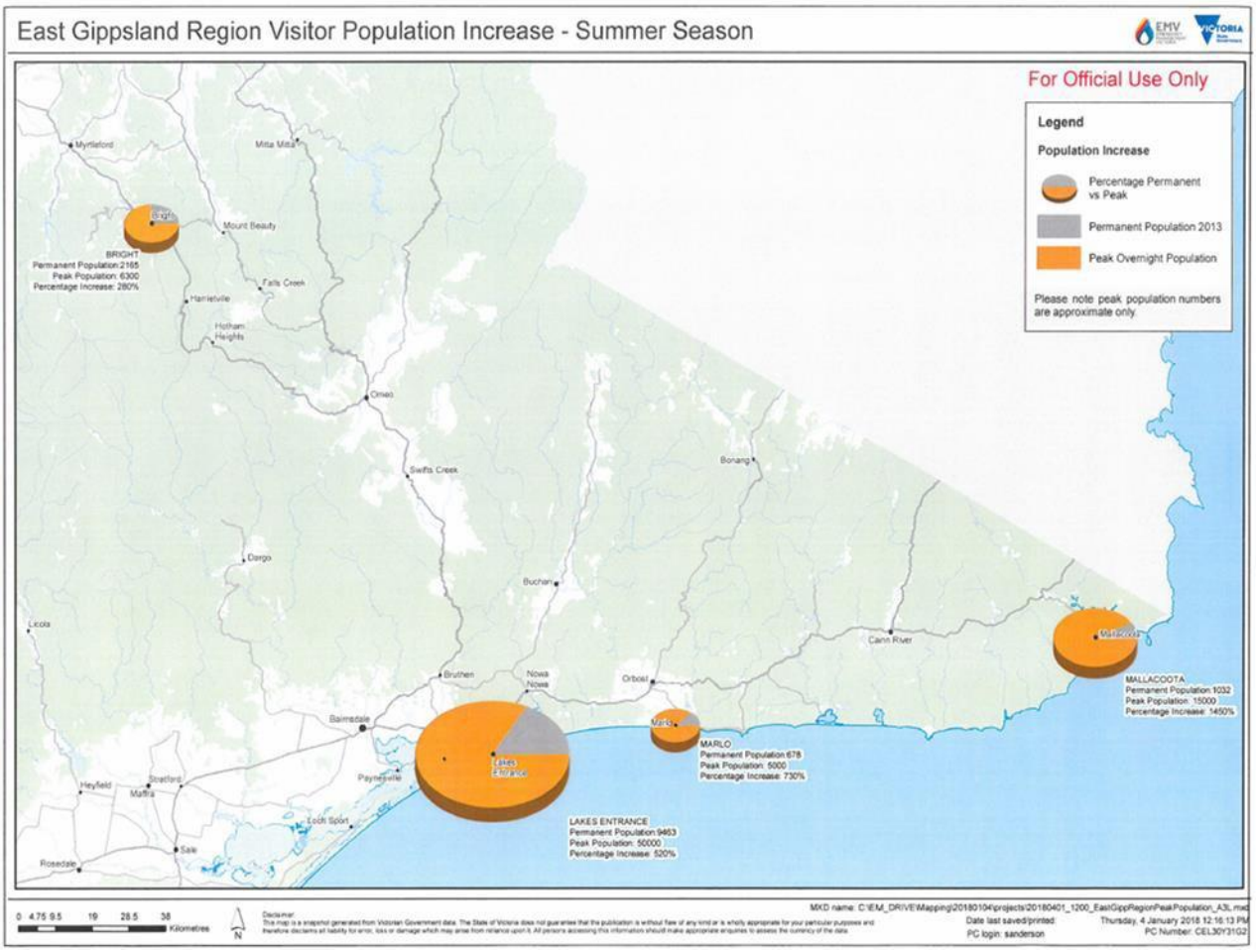


Bass Coast

- Inverloch permanent population 4,829 – peak 20,000 - 410% increase
- Phillip Island permanent population 9,406 – Peak 50,000 - 530% increase
- Venus Bay permanent population 586 – peak 4,000 - 680% increase

South Gippsland

- Wilson's Promontory - permanent population 280 – peak 5,000 – 1,780% increase



East Gippsland

- Lakes Entrance - permanent population 9,463 – peak 50,000 - 520% increase
- Marlo - permanent population 678 – peak 5,000 - 730% increase
- Mallacoota - permanent population 1,032 – peak 15,000 - 1,450% increase

2.2 The Storm Hazard

Storms in the context of this plan include wind storms, dust storms, Tornadoes, snow storms, blizzards, hail storms and severe thunderstorms including hail storms and heavy rain leading to flash flooding.

Severe weather events affecting land-based communities are generally divided into two broad categories:

- Thunderstorm events
- Other severe weather events not directly associated with severe thunderstorms, tropical cyclones or bushfires.

Warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology for weather events that may produce severe phenomena.

2.2.1 Severe Weather and Severe Thunderstorm

The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) issues two types of warnings.

A **Severe Weather warning** is issued for potentially hazardous or dangerous weather that is not solely related to severe thunderstorms, tropical cyclones or bushfires.

These types of severe weather hazards include damaging or destructive winds, heavy rain, abnormally high tides, damaging waves and blizzards in Alpine areas.

A **Severe Thunderstorm** is defined by the Bureau of Meteorology as one that produces any of the following:

- Hailstones with a diameter of 2cm or more
- Wind gusts of 90km/h or greater
- Flash flooding
- Tornadoes.

A severe thunderstorm may be exceeded by a **very dangerous thunderstorm**, defined as one that produces hailstones with a diameter of 5cm or more and/or wind gusts of 125km/h or greater.

The types of hazardous phenomena associated to severe weather include land gales and squalls, heavy rain leading to flash flooding and blizzards.

A table detailing the criteria for issuing severe thunderstorm warnings and severe weather warnings is contained in the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan**.

2.3 Regional Resources

VICSES Resource processes are set out in the '*VICSES Operations Management Manual'*.

Regional Resources remain under the command of the Regional Agency Commander until they arrive at the incident.

Key regional resources that are used for storm response include:

- Attachment 2 - VICSES Regional Resource List
- Attachment 3 - VICSES Unit Map
- Attachment 5 - VICSES East (Gippsland) unit list

Additional specialised multi-agency resources may be accessed during operations through the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) structure. These resources are requested via the State Resource Request System.

VICSES General Response Boundaries Map and are accessible via Emergency Management – Common Operating Picture (EM-COP) for registered users.

3. Consequences

3.1 Possible Storm Consequences

The East (Gippsland) Region has many communities prone to storm events, and the consequences of these include:

- Loss of life or serious injury
- Damage to or loss of:
  - Key infrastructure:
    - Princes Hwy is a major transport route to the region and also NSW. Storms can block roads delaying distribution of basic foods and perishable items.
    - The rail network connects Melbourne to East Gippsland
    - Public buildings in major regional centres can be affected with the loss of power impacting individuals and communities that rely on access to support services.
  - Essential services:
    - Power generated in the region is distributed to metropolitan Melbourne and interstate. The loss of transmission infrastructure would reduce the output of these facilities with the potential to impact tens of thousands of residents through blackouts.
    - Water, sewerage, gas, telecommunications
  - Private property:
    - The impacts of private property as a result of a Strom event can be loss of parts or total destruction habitable areas of the houses, forcing relocation in the short or long term.
  - Industry / business:
    - The loss of transportation access can impact the ability of businesses to be able to continue to trade resulting in economic impacts, potential short or long term loss of employment.
  - Agriculture – crop and livestock
    - Storms have been shown to devastate any crops that have been sown, with the flow of loss of feed for livestock. Whilst the storm may be short term i.e. less than a few days the economic impacts to farmers may not be evident for months.
- Damage to the environment.
- Damaging winds, heavy rains can lead to erosion in sensitive environmental areas.

Information on building critical infrastructure resilience can be found in the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan**. This is supported by the Victorian Critical Infrastructure Resilience Strategy available at www.emv.vic.gov.au/our-work/critical-infrastructure-resilience.

3.2 Storm History

The table below provides summary of five historical storms within the East (Gippsland) Region in the past twenty (20) years.

A comprehensive list of storm events during 1900 to 2016 is available on the Bureau of Meteorology Archives - via http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/stormarchive/

Date	Locality Impacted	Consequences
Feb - 2012	Buchan Caves	Reports of considerable damage to houses and outbuildings as a result heavy rainfalls leading to flash flooding. Water levels rose quickly in the local Creek which broke its banks. Water flowed through the Buchan Caves carpark and Cave system damaging infrastructure, private and public property, roads and bridge abutments. There were reports of a large number of trees that sustained noticeable damage in the area.
Jan – 2009	Orbost	Verandah blown off with extensive tree damage resulting in multiple road closures. Power outages for a number of hours. Winds gusts of 101-102 km/h were recorded in the area. The path of the damaging winds followed a straight line with a small tornado reported at Orbost.
Dec - 2007	Toongabbie Leongatha Loch	Severe thunderstorms produced flash flood in areas or Melbourne and Leongatha. A tornado twisted trees in the Loch which needed to be removed from major roads and properties
Jan - 2006	Boolara	Severe thunderstorms with high winds of up to 100 km/h uprooted and damaged many trees in the area. Houses were damaged with tiled roofs sustaining damaged and buildings damaged by rains and some have water inundation from flash flooding. Farm fences and outbuildings were also damaged by winds and debris. More than 21 local roads were blocked by fallen trees.
Sept - 2000	Warragul	A cold front passed through southern Victoria producing squalls, severe wind gusts were also recorded at Wilson's Prom 107 Km/h, Sale 100 km/h and Bairnsdale 104 km/h Hail smaller than a 5 cent piece was also reported. Wind damage to buildings and trees occurred around Warragul.

4. Community Resilience

4.1 Shared and Individual Responsibility for Action

The National Strategy for Disaster Resilience and VICSES Community Resilience Strategy together provide high level guidance on disaster management for our people, providing examples on how we can work together to build safer and more resilient communities.

Together this can be done by building capacity, increasing collaboration and fostering connections. Foremost is the principle of society taking responsibility for preparing for disasters. The role of the community in disasters is based on individuals taking their share of the responsibility for preventing, preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters. Examples in the context of storms include:

- Individuals being aware of their storm risk, and following advice from emergency services when responding to warnings

- Local governments and communities including storm risk within their Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA) activities, including consideration within emergency management planning and land use planning
- Industry and businesses planning for the risk of disruption, and ensuring arrangements are in place to maintain critical services, and assist communities where possible
- Government agencies undertaking:
  - Risk assessments to gain an appreciation of storm risk
  - Engaging with the community regarding storm risk
  - Working with communities to plan the management of storm risk
  - Providing emergency information and storm warnings
  - Ensuring an effective, well-coordinated response during storms
  - Helping communities to recover and learn following a storm and to build their resilience to future events.

We therefore recognise the importance of working in partnership with communities. When communities play a role in their own safety, resilience is enhanced. The benefits of building community resilience and investing in disaster preparedness (disaster risk reduction – DRR) initiatives include:

- Safer communities
- Less demands on emergency services for assistance
- Less damage to property and infrastructure
- Speedier recovery
- Reduction in overall (impact and recovery) costs to the national economy
- Increase capacity and capability across the board

The East (Gippsland) Region has developed and delivers a range of programs to achieve the goals outlined in the VICSES Community Resilience Strategy and delivers programs to at-risk communities to provide information on what to do before, during and after storms. More information can be found in section *4.4 Community Engagement* and at www.ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe.

4.2 Forecasting and Warning Services

4.2.1 Forecasting Services

The Bureau of Meteorology has a requirement under the Meteorology Act 1955 to warn the community and provide the following services to the Victoria State Emergency Service. These services are outlined in detail in the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan**:

- **Severe Weather Intelligence Briefing** – five-day outlook
- **Severe Thunderstorm Forecast Chart** – thunderstorm forecast issued at 11:30am each day indicating the chance of thunderstorms (outside storm season). A Day 2 forecast will usually be issued at midday during “thunderstorm season” (October to April)
- **Severe Weather Warnings** – Issued when severe weather is expected to affect land-based communities within 6-24 hours and one or more of the following applies:
  - it is not directly the result of severe thunderstorms
  - it is not covered by tropical cyclone or fire weather warnings
  - Severe Weather is already occurring and a warning is not already current

- **Severe Thunderstorm Warning** – Issued whenever there is sufficient meteorological evidence to suggest that severe thunderstorm development is likely, or when a severe thunderstorm has already developed and a warning is not already current.

4.3 Municipal Storm Emergency Planning

Where storms are identified through the emergency risk management process as a high priority to a community, the Victoria State Emergency Service will provide advice and support to the **Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC)** to ensure the **Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP)** contains at a minimum, arrangements for the response to a storm event based on all-hazards and all-agency response.

4.4 Community Engagement

Community engagement programs to build community resilience for storm are conducted in accordance with the VICSES Community Resilience Strategy, as outlined in section 4.1 Shared and Individual Responsibility for Action.

The East (Gippsland) Region community engagement Storm Safe strategy involves, but is not limited to:

- Community Education Awareness sessions are provided to general VICSES volunteers.
- Participation in community led emergency planning and multi-agency activities including municipal storm education responsibilities.
- Community Education Facilitator (CEF) courses are conducted to equip specialist volunteers with the required tools, skills and knowledge to build storm awareness in their local communities.
- Endorsed CEF's from across the region come together to form a Community Education Advisory Group (CEAG) where they support and share ideas on activities used to engage with their community.
- Regular unit activities and events to reinforce the storm and severe weather event risk messaging.
- Building resilience and capacity within communities, for example, effective preparation of properties, response during and after storm events.

4.5 Household and Business Plans

The VICSES advises that every household and business should have written emergency plans. Information on the development of household and business plans can be found at www.ses.vic.gov.au/plan-and-stay-safe.

4.6 Community Safety Advice

Victoria State Emergency Service provides advice to communities in the form of key safety messages for storm including advice for safe evacuation. A full list of community safety advice messages can be viewed online via EM-COP, located in the IMT Toolbox and VICSES public website.

5. Managing a Storm Event

5.1 Roles and Responsibilities

Roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in responding to storms are detailed in the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan.**

5.2 Concept of Operations

The concepts of operations for responding to storm are detailed in the **State Emergency Response Plan – Storm Sub-plan**.

5.3 Escalation and Notification

The Bureau of Meteorology publishes Severe Weather and Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, as detailed in section 4.2 Storm Forecast and Warning Service, on their public website www.bom.gov.au and provides them to pre-identified agencies, organisations and media outlets, including pager and email warning messages to Victoria State Emergency Service at the State and Regional Level.

Upon receipt of a Severe Weather or Severe Thunderstorm Warning, Regional Duty Officers (RDOs) will acknowledge the pager message.

The escalation and notification process for storm response is operationalised within the Victoria State Emergency Service Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 008 – Severe Weather Notification and Activation Process.

Once the levels are met the Regional Duty Officers will notify the Regional Agency Commander (RAC) to notify the Regional Controller and/or Regional Emergency Management Team members for storm response, and any relevant Units.

5.4 Strategic Response Plan

The actions listed below are the responsibility of Victoria State Emergency Service at the Regional and State tiers. Responsibility for these actions may transition to the Regional Controller to support multi-agency response when significant impacts caused by a storm event occur. Associated storm readiness levels and ICC footprints can be located within *JSOP 2.03 Incident Management Team (IMT) Readiness Arrangements* or the VICSES Storm Readiness and Activation Trigger Considerations (v3.0), also available via Attachment 4 – IMT Readiness Levels – Storm or on EM-Cop.

On receipt of advice from the Bureau of Meteorology of the potential for storm activity, the RAC will undertake strategic level planning in anticipation of an event, in alignment with Victoria State Emergency Service severe weather triggers. Key considerations will include:

- Establishing the control structure for managing the event
- Supporting consistent emergency warnings and provision of information to the community
- Preparations for possible evacuations including implementation of evacuation and emergency relief plans and identification of evacuation points
- Confirming agencies at all tiers are activated and appropriate arrangements are in place
- Identifying the likely consequences of the storm event and any interdependencies that may affect planning
- Confirming agencies have adequate resources in place to fulfil their responsibilities and are planning for sustainment and surge capacity, including identification of need for inter-state assistance

- Identifying mass gatherings and large public events that may be at risk, and arrangements to ensure the safety of individuals attending
- Confirming agencies with call-taking responsibilities have resources in place and backup arrangements to cope with the expected call load
- Positioning of Emergency Management Liaison Officers (EMLOs) from key support agencies to Regional Control Centres (RCCs), where appropriate
- Arranging for regular meetings of the Regional Emergency Management Teams (REMTs) and Incident Emergency Management Teams (IEMTs)
- Providing situation reports to the State Control Team (SCT).

5.5 Cross Border Arrangements

For the East (Gippsland) Region, cross border arrangements exist with NSW SES, supported by a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that outlines how VICSES will request assistance from the NSW SES.

5.6 Regional Control Centre

The Regional Response Plan outlines pre-determined facilities that are suitable for the establishment of a Regional Control Centre (RCC) for the management of emergency events, including for storm flood response, in East (Gippsland) Region. The RCC for East (Gippsland) is located at:

Gippsland Region
Level 1, 181 Franklin Street, Traralgon, 3844
Phone: 03 5177 3240
Fax: 03 5177 3284
E: rccgip.all@rcc.vic.gov.au

5.7 Incident Control Centres

The Regional Response Plan outlines pre-determined Incident Control Centre (ICC) locations in the East (Gippsland) Region for emergency response, including storm and flood response.

Additional ICC's are available within the region and will be activated when agreed upon by the Regional Controller and VICSES Regional Agency Controller (RAC) dependant on the location and scale of the storm event.

The activation of the ICCs will be in line with the readiness arrangements outlined in *JSOP 2.03 or the VICSES Storm Readiness and Activation Trigger Considerations (v11.0)*; refer to *Attachment 8 – IMT Readiness Levels – Storm.*

Name	Agency	Location
Bairnsdale	DELWP	574 Main Street, Bairnsdale
Traralgon	DELWP	Level 2, 181 Franklin Street, Traralgon

A map of agreed ICC footprints is available online via EM-COP – refer to schedule 4 – JSOP2.03

5.8 Divisional Command Points/ Field Operations Vehicle (FOV)

VICSES facilities equipped as Divisional Command Points (DCPs) are listed in table below. (Subject to review)

Location	Address	Agency
Bairnsdale Unit	189 Macleod Street, Bairnsdale	VICSES
Sale Unit	35-37 Union Street, Sale	VICSES
Moe Unit	265 Monash Road, Newborough	VICSES
Yarram Unit	50 Railway Avenue, Yarram	VICSES

Further facilities suitable for storms are available from other agencies.

CFA Facilities are referred to as Local Command Facilities (LCFs) they are equipped to VICSES DCP standard. Refer to *Attachment 4 – Municipal Flood Emergency Plans and Local Flood Guides* for individual MFEPs likely to be used.

Where fixed Command and Control Facilities are not available or appropriate to operational conditions, a mobile facility may be deployed to enable an Incident Controller or Commander to manage the incident.

5.9 Regional Resource Requirements

Resources listed below are those that would be required at the peak of an event, and would represent the resources of all agencies with responsibilities under the **State Emergency Response Plan – Flood Sub-plan.**

Agency	Resources
Victoria Police	Swift Water Rescue Team – Available via Rescue Coordination Centre (RCC)
	Traffic Management
	Evacuation Management
	Chain Saw Operators – Trim and Cross Cut
	Sand Bag Crews
CFA	Ground Observers – (Initial impact Assessment)
	IMT Roles
	Ladder Platform – Specialist Access
	Chain Saw Operators / Tree fallers
	Sand Bag Crews
Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV)	Impact Assessment
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	IMT Roles
	Recovery
Local Government	Plant
	Chain Saw Operators / Arborists
	Traffic Management

Department of Health (DoH)	Relief and Recovery
Department of Justice (DoJ)	Assistance with labour for Sandbagging crews
VICSES & CFA	East Gippsland - Technical rescue teams
VicRoads	Chain Saw Operators / Arborists
	Traffic Management

Attachment 1 – Region Storm Scenarios

Region storm scenarios have been developed to support periodic training requirements (outlined in section 1.8) and to provide opportunity to document anecdotal and/or known storm impacts based on historic events.

The below scenarios are based on Storm scenarios of varying intensity.

Weather System

During March 2011, the Gippsland area was experiencing warmer than normal overnight low temperatures. Gippsland Catchments had recorded higher than normal rainfall totals 150% of average monthly totals in West Gippsland and 270% East Gippsland.

On Tuesday March 22nd the BoM issued a Flood Watch for West and South Gippsland (Latrobe, Thomson, Macalister and Avon Catchments and South Gippsland Basin)

In the 24 hours to 9 AM Tuesday rainfall totals of up to 36mm have been recorded in the West and South Gippsland catchments. Due to the slow moving nature of the low pressure system combined with high moisture levels in the atmosphere, isolated rainfall totals of in excess of 50mm in a 6 hour period are possible in the coming days across this region.

Forecast

Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) forecast a broad area of low pressure that will persist near Victoria with a low pressure system developing to the south of the State tonight. The low is expected to be slow moving during Wednesday before moving south eastwards across Tasmania and deepening on Thursday.

Stream rises have been observed in the upper catchments; however this has not developed into flooding. If widespread rainfall in excess of 50mm is recorded across the West and South Gippsland catchments, significant stream rises and areas of flooding may develop over the coming days.

A low pressure system and associated trough over north-western Victoria will drift slowly south-eastwards today. The low will then drift westwards to be south of Mt Gambier by late Tuesday. The low is expected to be slow moving during Wednesday before moving south-eastwards and deepening on Thursday.

A strong wind warning for Victorian waters between Cape Otway and 60nm east of Gabo Island.

Event

Vic SES received a number of calls of flooding to buildings and roads around the Tidal River Campsite located at Wilson's Promontory National Park in South Gippsland. These included calls to rescue people trapped by rising floodwaters which were allocated to the local SES unit located in Foster.
In the previous 24 hours Wilson's Promontory reported 370mm of rain at Tidal River.

Consequences

Isolation

Approximately 400 visitors, staff and local VICSES Crews in the area were unable to leave due to the loss of the single access and egress road with the loss of the bridge at Darby River.

Visitors were later airlifted with the use of helicopters that were in Gippsland for Fire support over the summer period. They were taken to a local airfield at Yanakie and then transported in buses via unaffected roads to the Foster Football ground where a staging area had been established.

Infrastructure

- Generators were damaged and the loss of power impacted the sewerage treatment plant.

- Roads undercut by erosion made vehicle movements hazardous requiring heavy machinery.
- Damaging winds uprooted trees on the road in and out of the Tidal River campsite. Landslides on sections of the road leading to Telegraph Saddle which is the starting point for many of the day and overnight walks in the area also prevented vehicles from accessing the area.
- Walking tracks were damaged.

Personal property losses include:

- Significant water damage to caravans, tents, cars.
- Personal belongings.

Recovery

There was an economic impact with the closure to the park for months so that repairs to the bridge could be completed. This enabled vehicles and personal belongings to be recovered.

Tidal river campsite cabins were severely damaged and have since been rebuilt.

The cost to the government to rebuild the infrastructure was $9 million dollars. This does not include individual insurance claims.

Scenario 2 – Gippsland Storm June 2012

In early June 2012, an extensive band of rain and damaging winds developed across the Gippsland area. Gippsland water catchments had received above average rainfall with saturated catchments which impacted the soils ability to absorb more water.

Forecast

The BoM advised VICSES that a storm cell was expected to develop on Monday 4th of June with the potential for damaging gusts to around 100km/hr along the coast and rainfall totals of up to 100mm are also likely over Gippsland and on the ranges for a 48 hour period. Flood Watches were issued for East Gippsland and West & South Gippsland during the afternoon.

On Monday morning VICSES was advised that wind speeds had increased and rainfall totals increased from 100mm up to 150mm amounts had increased and that 80-120mm was possible through central and eastern Gippsland with peak totals about the ranges of around 150mm.

Event

Strong winds developed along the coast and at elevated locations in the Gippsland with a 144km/hr gust recorded at Mt Buller and 120km/hr at Gabo Island.

Damaging winds and saturated soil levels resulted in trees being brought down, buildings damaged and flash flooding across the region with major impacts in Traralgon South area surrounding Traralgon Creek.

Gippsland received significant rainfall totals of between 150 -200mm in parts of central parts of Gippsland. Numerous stations recorded up to twice the average monthly rainfall in just two days.

Consequences

Hundreds of trees fell as a result of the strong winds causing damage to properties. Roads were blocked over 50 kilometres isolating transport vehicles.

VICSES received 722 Request for Assistance (RFA's) across Gippsland in the 48 hour period. Morwell and Moe recorded the majority of building damage due to water entering buildings.

Isolation

There were also 33 rescue events involving persons trapped or stranded by floodwaters after trying to drive through flood waters.

Infrastructure

- Bridges, roads and recreational areas were damaged in the Latrobe, Wellington and East Gippsland Shires.
- Powerlines and communications services in East Gippsland.

Personal

- 1,500 farmers impacted with crop losses
- Homes were damaged with water inundation
- Small businesses suffered economic losses particularly in the tourist areas.

Attachment 2 – East (Gippsland) Resource List

The table below outlines the resources available for response held by East Region VICSES units.

Unit Name	Primary Vehicle/s	Support Vehicle/s	4WDs	Boats	Trailers	Lighting Towers
Bairnsdale	Primary Rescue (heavy)	Storm/ rescue support	4WD x 2	Rescue Boat – 5.0 Gemini RIB Rescue Boat – 4.7 Jabiru	Storm Trailer	N/A
Bruthen	Ranger 4WD	Storm/ rescue support	4WD x 1	N/A	Storm Trailer	Light Tower
Bendoc	Primary Rescue (Medium)	Storm/ rescue support	4WD	N/A	N/A	N/A
Buchan	Primary Rescue (6-wheel drive medium)	Storm/ rescue support	4WD	N/A	Storm Trailer – (Due Mid 2018	N/A
Cann River	Primary Rescue (Medium)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x2	Rescue Boat – 3.8 Quicksilver IRB (Inflatable Rigid Hull)	N/A	Light Tower
Erica	4WD	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	N/A	Storm Trailer	Light Tower
Foster	Primary Rescue (Medium)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x2	Rescue Boat – 5.0 Zodiac RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat)	Storm Trailer	Light Tower
Inverloch	4WD Twin cab ute	Medium truck to tow boat	4WD	Off Shore Rescue Boat 8.0 Stabicraft & Rescue Boat – 5.0 Zodiac RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat)	N/A	N/A
Leongatha	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x 2	N/A	N/A	Light Tower
Loch Sport	Ranger 4WD	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x 1	Rescue Boat – 5.0 Gemini RIB	Storm Trailer	N/A

Unit Name	Primary Vehicle(s)	Support Vehicle(s)	4WD's	Boats	Trailers	Storm Trailers
Maffra	Primary Rescue (6-wheel drive Medium)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x 2	N/A	Storm Trailer	N/A
Mallacoota	Primary Rescue (Medium)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	Rescue Boat – 4.7 Jabiru Rescue Boat – 4.0 Zodiac IRB IRB (Inflatable Rigid Hull)	N/A	N/A
Moe	Primary Rescue (Medium)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x 2	Rescue Boat – 4.2 Gemini RIB	Storm Trailer	N/A
Morwell	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	Rescue Boat – 5.2 Jabiru & Rescue Boat – 5.0 Gemini RIB	N/A	Light Tower
Traralgon (Morwell satellite)	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	N/A	Storm Trailer	N/A
Orbost	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	Rescue Boat – 4.7 Jabiru	Storm Trailer	N/A
Phillip Island	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue support	4WD	N/A	Storm Trailer	N/A
Rosedale	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	N/A	Storm Trailer	Light Tower
Sale	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD x 2	Rescue Boat – 5.0 Zodiac RHIB (Rigid Hull Inflatable Boat)	Storm Trailer	N/A
San Remo	Primary Rescue (Heavy)	Storm/ Rescue Support	4WD	N/A	N/A	N/A

In addition to the unit resources listed above the following VICSES regional strategic resources and composite teams are available.

- 1 x Field Operation Vehicle (Mobile Command Facility)
- Land Based Swift Water Rescue Crews – trained personnel exist within the Region and are subject to availability.
- 1 x Logistics Truck (With staging area or base camp equipment)

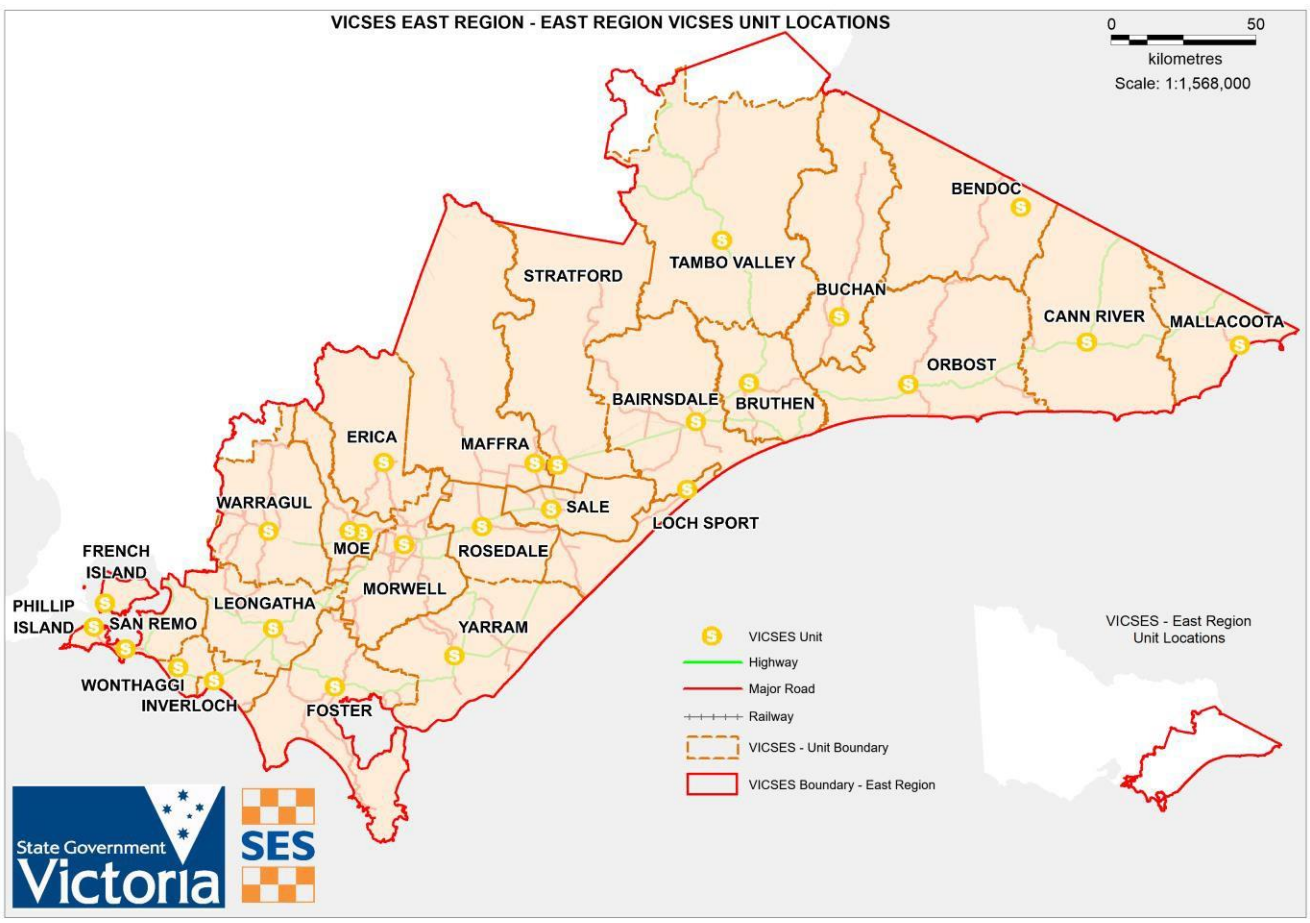
Additional expert multi-agency resources may be accessed during operations through the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) structure. This support is initiated/ accessed in the first instance by the VICSES RDO via the Regional Agency Commander (RAC) to the Gippsland Regional Emergency Management Team (REMT)

Attachment 3 – East (Gippsland) – Unit Map

VICSES Units within East (Gippsland) Region include:

- Bairnsdale
- Bendoc
- Bruthen
- Buchan
- East RECC Unit
- East RHQ Support RSU
- Erica
- Foster
- Inverloch
- Leongatha
- Loch Sport
- Maffra
- Mallacoota
- Moe
- Morwell
- Orbost
- Phillip Island
- Sale
- San Remo
- Stratford
- Tambo Valley
- Warragul
- Wonthaggi
- Yarram

A map of VICSES Units within the East (Gippsland) Region is provided below. Further details are available for registered users of EM COP.

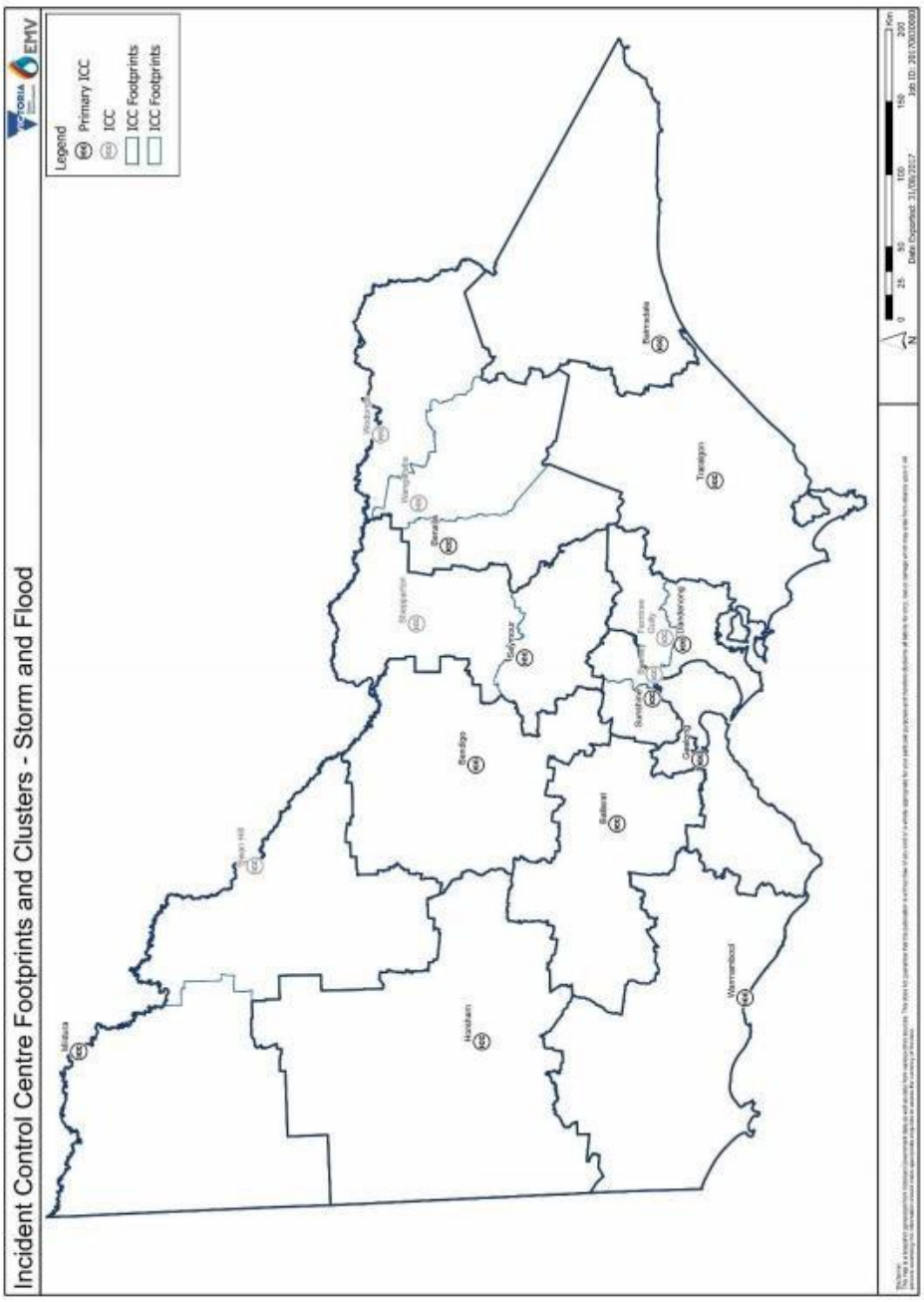


Attachment 4 – East (Gippsland) ICC Footprint – Flood & Storm

Further details on Storm readiness levels is available on EMCOP
https://files-em.em.vic.gov.au/public/JSOP/SOP-J02.03.pdf

Schedule 4

ICC Footprint and Clusters – Flood and Storm



SOP J02.03

IMT Readiness Arrangements
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Attachment 5 – East (Gippsland) VICSES unit list

EAS - Contact number 1800 609 511

Unit Name	Address	Paging Number
Bairnsdale	189 McLeod Street, Bairnsdale Vic. 3875	30095
Bendoc	Corner of James & Nichol Streets, Bendoc Vic. 3888	30099
Bruthen	51 Main Street, Bruthen Vic. 3885	30101
Buchan	32 Main Street. Buchan Vic. 3885	30103
Cann River	29 Monaro Hwy, Cann River Vic. 3890	30105
Erica	1A Lehman Court, Rawson Vic. 3825	30109
ERHSU	130 McLeod Street, Bairnsdale Vic. 3875	30097
Foster	14 Pioneer Street, Foster Vic. 3960	30111
Inverloch	23 Bear Street, Inverloch Vic. 3996	30113
Leongatha	12 Watson Road, Leongatha Vic. 3953	30115
Loch Sport	105 National Parks Drive, Loch Sport 3851	30117
Maffra	90 Landy Street, Maffra Vic. 3860	30119
Mallacoota	Lees Road, Mallacoota Vic. 3892	30121
Moe	265 Monash Road, Moe Vic. 3825	30123
Morwell	75 Airfield Road, Traralgon West Vic. 3844	30125
Orbost	5 Wolseley Street, Orbost Vic. 3888	30127
Phillip Island	125/127 Settlement Road, Cowes Vic. 3922	30129
Rosedale	47 Cansick Street, Rosedale Vic. 3847	30131
Sale	37 Union Street, Sale Vic. 3850	30133
San Remo	14 Davis Point Road, San Remo Vic. 3925	30135
Stratford	53 Mac Farlane Street, Stratford Vic. 3862	30137
Tambo Valley	6870 Great Alpine Road, Swifts Creek Vic. 3896	30139
Warragul	160 Queen Street, Warragul Vic. 3820	30141
Wonthaggi	319 White Street, South Dudley Vic. 3995	30143
Yarram	50 Railway Ave, Yarram Vic. 3971	30145

Attachment 6 - Agency Contact Details

Emergency Management Contacts

Refer to EM-COP - Gippsland Contact Directory

VICSES Contacts

Refer to East (Gippsland) Unit Profiles

Other useful contacts			
Business	Details	Phone	Fax
ABC	Emergency Hotline (Radio Master Control)	1300 737 102	
Ambulance	Medical emergency	000	
AUSLAN	To book an interpreter service 1300 AUSLAN or book online https://auslanservices.com/	1300 287 526	
Country Fire Authority (CFA)	Fire	000	
Agriculture Victoria	Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline	1800 675 888	
Agriculture Victoria	Exotic plant pest hotline	1800 084 881	
Department of Education & Training (DET)	Emergency Duty Officer	1300 333 232	1300 DEECD 2
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	Customer Service Centre	13 61 86	
Energy Safe Victoria	Electrical Emergencies	1800 000 922	
Energy Safe Victoria	Gas Emergencies	132 771	
Environment Protection Authority (EPA)	Pollution Hotline	1300 372 842	
Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority (ESTA)	emergency call-taking and dispatch	03 8656 1200	
Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV)	Fire	000	
Victorian Poisons Information Centre (VPIC)	Poisons information helpline	13 11 26 (000 in an emergency)	
Victoria Police	Emergency	000 131444	
Public Transport Victoria (PTV)	Crisis and Emergency Response	03 9027 4241	03 9027 4011 (facsimile)
Lifesaving Victoria (LSV)	General Enquiries and Life Saving Operations	General: 03 9676 6900 **Operations** **03 9676 6930** (000 in an emergency)	
Transport Safety Victoria	Incident Reporting - passenger transport	Rail Melbourne:	

	and boating	1800 318 244 Bus: 1800 301 151 Maritime: **1800 135 729**	
Victorian Bushfire Information Line (VBIL)	VicEmergency Hotline	1800 226 226	
VicFish	Fisheries Offences	13 FISH	13 3474
VLine / VicRail	24/7 Duty Officer	188 800 007	
VicRoads	Emergencies and Road Closures	131 170	
VICSES Requests for assistance	Flood or Storm	132 500	
VICSES	Life Threatening	000	
VICSES Media	Media enquiries and support	1300 783 933	
VICSES	Emergency Information Line	1300 842 737	
Worksafe	Incident Notification	13 23 60	
VicEmergency	VicEmergency Hotline	1800 226 226	