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## 1. Document control

## 1.1. Governance

| Document title  | Peppimenarti Local Emergency Plan                       |
|-----------------|---|
| Contact details | NT Emergency Service, Planning and Preparedness Command |
| Approved by     | Territory Controller                                    |
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| Document review | Annually  |
| TRM number      | 04:D23:66197  |

## 1.2. Version history

| Date       | Version | Author          | Summary of changes   |
|------------|---------|-----------------|--|
| 16/11/2014 | 1       | John McRoberts  | First version  |
| 04/11/2015 | 2       | Reece P Kershaw | Reviewed and updated   |
| 30/12/2016 | 3       | Kate Vanderlaan | Reviewed and updated   |
| 30/11/2018 | 4       | Travis Wurst    | Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate |
| 12/02/2020 | 5       | Michael Hebb    | Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate |
| 17/11/2020 | 6       | Travis Wurst    | Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate |
| 13/01/2022 | 7       | Janelle Tonkin  | Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate |
| 20/06/2023 | 8       | Travis Wurst    | Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate |

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained within this plan is accurate and where possible reflects current best practice. However, the Northern Territory Emergency Service does not give any warranty or accept any liability in relation to the content of material contained in the document.

## 2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services acknowledges the First Nations people throughout the Northern Territory, from the red sands of Central Australia to the coastal people in the Top End.

We recognise their continuing connection to their lands, waters and culture. We also pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with whom we work and who we serve and protect.

We pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, and to their leaders past, present and emerging.

## 3. Introduction

## 3.1. Purpose

The purpose of this Plan is to describe the emergency management arrangements for Peppimenarti Locality (the Locality).

## 3.2. Application

This Plan applies to the Peppimenarti Locality.

## 3.3. Key considerations

The Emergency Management Act 2013 (the Act) is the legislative basis for emergency management across the Northern Territory (NT). The Act reflects an all hazards approach to emergency and disaster events, natural or otherwise. It provides for the adoption of measures necessary for the protection of life and property from the effects of such events.

The Act defines the emergency management structures, roles and responsibilities for the NT and, in conjunction with the Territory and Regional Emergency Plan(s), form the basis for this Plan.

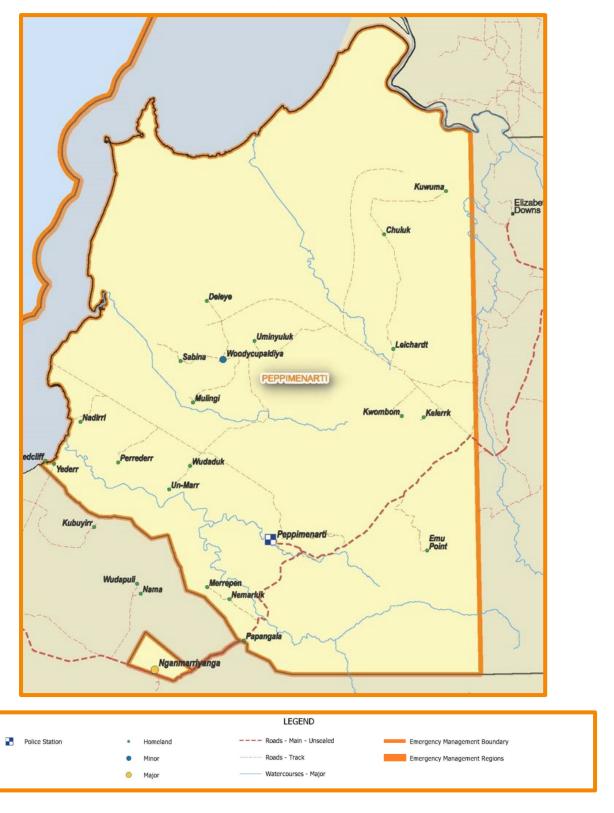
#### This Plan:

- confirms appointment of a Local Emergency Controller
- confirms establishment of the Local Emergency Committee (LEC)
- assesses hazards most likely to affect the community
- specifies control and coordination arrangements for mobilisation of local and, if necessary regional, resources
- identifies roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders
- details specific emergency response procedures for the higher risk situations.

## 4. Locality context

This Plan complements the Northern Regional Emergency Plan<sup>1</sup> as it relates to the Locality. For further information on the hierarchy of plans, refer to the Territory Emergency Plan<sup>2</sup>. The Locality is a remote community situated on Tom Turner Creek, approximately 320 kilometres (km) south west of Darwin and 120 km west of Daly River crossing along the Port Keats Road, and forms part of the Northern Region, as defined by the Territory Emergency Plan.

The population of the Locality is estimated to be approximately 325, with a number of outstations.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications">https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/emergency-management">https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/emergency-management</a>

#### 4.1. Climate and weather

The Locality experiences similar weather conditions which occur throughout the Top End of the NT. There is a distinct Wet Season (November to April) and Dry Season (May to October). Compared to Darwin, temperatures tend to be slightly higher during the Wet Season and slightly lower during the Dry Season.

## 4.2. Geography

The Locality's topography ranges from sea level to a height point of approximately 120 metres (m). The Locality contains a number of significant creeks and water ways including Apsley Strait, The Narrows and Arrimu Creek. The monsoonal rains in the Wet Season result in regular localised flooding of roads in the Locality, resulting in a heavy reliance on barges for supplies.

#### 4.3. Sacred sites

The Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority (AAPA) is a statutory body established under the *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989* and is responsible for overseeing the protection of Aboriginal sacred sites on land and sea across the Northern Territory.

A sacred site is defined by the Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1978 as being 'a site that is sacred to Aboriginals or is otherwise of significance according to Aboriginal tradition.' Sacred sites are typically landscape features or water places that are enlivened by the traditional narratives of Aboriginal people. AAPA requests notification of any action that may have affected a sacred site.

For more information on sacred sites relevant to this Locality or to report an action that may have affected a sacred site, contact AAPA on (08) 8999 4365 or via email at enquiries.aapa@nt.gov.au.

#### 4.4. Sites of conservation

Hyland Bay and associated coastal floodplains is a site of conservation significance for this Locality. For further information about these sites contact the Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security<sup>3</sup> (DEPWS).

#### 4.5. Tourism

Tourism in the Locality is supported by the local art centre.

## 4.6. NT and local government

In March 2019, the NT Government (NTG) implemented 6 regional boundaries across the NT to strengthen the role of the Regional Network Group and align service delivery and reporting. This Locality sits within the Top End Boundary.

NTG agencies that have a presence in the Locality include:

- NT Police, Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES)
  - NT Police Force (NTPF) (police station)
- Department of Health (DoH)
  - Peppimenarti Health Centre
- Department of Education (DoE)
  - Peppimenarti Primary School.

Peppimenarti is within the West Daly Regional Council (WDRC) region.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="https://nt.gov.au/environment/environment-data-maps/important-biodiversity-conservation-sites/conservation-significance-list">https://nt.gov.au/environment/environment-data-maps/important-biodiversity-conservation-sites/conservation-significance-list</a>

## 4.7. Building codes

Buildings and construction in the Locality are subject to the *Building Act 1993* and the *Building Regulations 1993*.

#### 4.8. Land use

Peppimenarti has the following land usage:

- agriculture
- horticulture
- stockfeed
- land trust.

## 4.9. Power generation and distribution

The Locality is serviced by the Power and Water Corporation (PAWC) and contracts Essential Services Operators (ESO) to run these services day-by-day.

### 4.10. Water services

The Locality is serviced by PAWC and contracts ESOs to run these services day-by-day.

#### 4.11. Health infrastructure

The Peppimenarti Health Centre has the capacity to provide emergency medical aid in addition to routine health treatment. Serious medical cases are required to be evacuated to Darwin. Patients can be evacuated either via road or air.

## 4.12. Emergency service infrastructure

The Locality has the following emergency service infrastructure:

- police station and cells
- health clinic.

#### 4.13. Roads

Road access to Peppimenarti is via the Daly River Road which joins the Stuart Highway via Dorat Road at Adelaide River, 110 km south of Darwin. This road becomes an unformed and undrained gravel road from Daly River through to Peppimenarti and passes low lying plains that are subject to flooding during the Wet Season.

The road from Daly River to Peppimenarti is approximately 70 km and is impassable to all traffic for 5 – 6 months of the year.

### 4.14. Airports

The table below lists the airstrips in the Locality:

| Name of the strip | Datum            | Details (type, length, etc.)      | Operator of the strip |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Peppimenarti      | 14°14.'S 130°09E | Dimensions: 1200 m                | WDRC                  |
|                   |                  | Surface: sealed                   |                       |
|                   |                  | Windsock: southern side of runway |                       |
|                   |                  | Lighting: electric, 24 hour       |                       |
|                   |                  | Fuel held: nil                    |                       |

#### 4.15. Telecommunication

Telecommunications are available across the Peppimenarti township via a combination of landline, mobile and satellite communications delivery. Limited communications beyond the township can be experienced. Radio communications include radio, ultra-high frequency, and high frequency.

#### 4.16. Local radio stations

Peppimenarti does not have a local radio station, but has the following broadcasts:

- 106.1 FM Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Local Radio
- 98.5 FM Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association Radio (TEABBA).

## 4.17. Medically vulnerable clients

The Peppimenarti Health Centre has a list of medically vulnerable clients and it is updated regularly. There are no aged care facilities in the Peppimenarti area.

## 5. Prevention

## 5.1. Emergency risk assessments

The Peppimenarti LEC are responsible for undertaking appropriate activities to prevent and mitigate the impact of emergencies in their locality.

## 5.2. Disaster hazard analysis and risk register

The LEC has identified the following hazards for the Locality:

- air crash
- fire (within Fire Protection Zone)
- flood
- road crash
- tropical cyclone.

These hazards have been rated against the National Disaster Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG):

| Hazard                             | Overall consequence | Overall likelihood | Risk rating |
|------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| Air crash                          | Moderate            | Very Rare          | Low         |
| Fire (within Fire Protection Zone) | Minor               | Likely             | Medium      |
| Flood                              | Minor               | Likely             | Medium      |
| Road crash                         | Minor               | Likely             | Medium      |
| Tropical cyclone                   | Minor               | Likely             | Medium      |

## 5.3. Hazard specific prevention and mitigation strategies

Prevention and mitigation relates to measures to reduce exposure to hazards and reduce or eliminate risk. Actions include identifying hazards, assessing threats to life and property, and from these activities, taking measures to reduce potential loss of life and property damage.

The cornerstone of mitigation is guided and coordinated risk assessments, which should involve all potentially affected members of a community. Strategies are developed based on a thorough understanding of hazards identified in emergency risk planning and their interaction with all aspects of society.

Specific prevention and mitigation strategies for identified hazards can be found at **Annex C**.

## 6. Preparedness

Arrangements to ensure that, should an emergency occur, all resources and services that are needed to provide an emergency response and or recovery can be efficiently mobilised and deployed.

## 6.1. Planning

NT emergency plans<sup>4</sup> are required by the Act and are maintained at a Territory, regional and local level. Arrangements in plans aim to be flexible and scalable for all hazards. The planning process enables agreements to be reached between people and organisations in meeting communities' needs during emergencies. The plan becomes a record of the agreements made by contributing organisations to accept roles and responsibilities, provide resources and work cooperatively.

The LEC is responsible for the annual review of operations and the effectiveness of the Local Emergency Plan, supported by the NT Emergency Service (NTES) Planning and Preparedness Command.

## 6.2. Emergency resources and contacts

The LEC are responsible for maintaining the emergency resource register and LEC contact list. Local emergency management stakeholders are to advise the Local Controller of changes to resource holdings, operational response capabilities and key personnel contacts. Emergency resource and LEC contact list for each locality are available on Web-based Emergency Operations Centre (WebEOC).

## 6.3. Training and education

The Act provides the legislative requirement for those involved in emergency management activities to be appropriately trained. Training and education activities are undertaken to ensure agencies are familiar with and understand the NT emergency management arrangements, as well as the relevant controlling and hazard management authorities for identified hazards.

The NTES Learning and Development Command is responsible for emergency management training across the NT. Online and face to face training is scheduled throughout the year.

## 6.4. Community education and awareness

Effective and ongoing community education and preparedness programs that emphasise to communities the importance of practical and tested emergency plans and safety strategies is essential. Empowering communities to act in a timely and safe manner will minimise the loss of life, personal injury and damage to property and contribute to the effectiveness of any warning system.

List of available activities and initiatives in the area:

- NTES hazard briefings
- NTES Paddy Program
- NT Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) Smart Sparx Program.

#### 6.5. Exercises

Local level exercises are a key measure for testing the effectiveness of the local emergency plan and should involve all relevant stakeholders. Exercises ensure that the plan is robust and understood, and that capabilities and resources are adequate. Exercises are conducted if the plan has not been enacted since the last review, or substantial changes have occurred, including:

- legislative changes
- major changes have occurred in the areas of key personnel, positions or functions across prevention, preparedness, response and recovery

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications">https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications</a>

• new or emerging hazards/risks have been identified.

The NTES Planning and Preparedness Command have developed resources that outlines the process to develop the exercise concept in designing, planning, conducting, facilitating, participating or evaluating exercises.

## 7. Response

Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an emergency to ensure that its effects are minimised and that people affected are given immediate relief and support.

#### 7.1. Control and coordination

Arrangements for response are based on pre-agreed roles and responsibilities for stakeholders. When the scale and complexity of an event is such that resources of the community are depleted a number of arrangements are in place for assistance from the region, the Territory and/or the Australian Government. Pathway for assistance is through the Regional Controller.

## 7.2. Local Emergency Controller

In accordance with section 76 of the Act, the Territory Controller or their delegate (section 112 of the Act) can appoint a Local Emergency Controller (Local Controller). The Local Controller is the Officer in Charge of Peppimenarti Police Station. The Local Controller is subject to the directions of the Regional Controller. The powers, functions and directions of the Local Controller can be found in sections 77, 78 and 79 of the Act.

## 7.3. Local Emergency Committee

In accordance with section 80 of the Act, the Territory Controller has established a Peppimenarti Local Emergency Committee (LEC). The Local Controller is Chair of the LEC and remaining membership consists of representatives from NTG and non-government entities within the Locality. Division 11 of the Act specifies the establishment, functions, powers; membership and procedure requirements of a LEC.

## 7.4. Emergency Operations Centre/Local Coordination Centre

| NT emergency management arrangements                             | Controlling authority arrangements |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) (Territory and Regional level) | Incident Control Centre (ICC)      |
| Local Coordination Centre (LCC) (Local level)                    | Incident Control Point (ICP)       |

LCCs will be established as required by Local Controllers to provide a central focus to the management, control and coordination of emergency operations in the Locality. When activated, the functions of the LCCs are:

- information collection and dissemination
- preparation and issue of official warnings and advice to the public
- coordination of the provision of resources required in the locality
- submitting requests for resources through the Regional Controller to the EOC where applicable
- dissemination of information to the media and general public.

The LCC for this locality is the Peppimenarti Police Station. The Regional EOC will be located in Darwin at the Peter McAulay Centre. Agencies and functional groups may establish their own Coordination Centres to provide the focal point for the overall control and coordination of their own agency resources. Liaison Officers from functional groups and support agencies will attend the EOC as required.

ICCs will be established as required by a controlling authority to provide an identified facility for the management of all activities necessary for the resolution of an incident.

An ICP is normally located near the incident in its early stages but may be relocated to an ICC where more permanent and convenient facilities and services are available.

#### 7.5. WebEOC

WebEOC is a critical information management system used throughout the NT for emergency management activities. The system is owned and maintained by NTPFES. The online platform is used for the coordination of multi-agency response to, and recovery from, an emergency event. WebEOC also enables real-time information sharing across all NTG agencies involved in emergency management activities.

## 7.6. Situation reports

It is essential for effective control and coordination of emergency management operations that the Local Controller is able to gather and collate relevant information relating to the emergency from regular, concise and accurate situation reports (SITREPs).

LEC members are to provide SITREPs at agreed times to enable the preparation of a consolidated report which will be distributed to all committee members and other relevant authorities. This may be achieved through WebEOC.

#### 7.7. Activation of the Plan

This plan has 5 stages of activation. These stages are designed to ensure a graduated response to hazardous events, thereby reducing the possibility of under or over reaction by the emergency management agency. The stages are:

| Stage 1 | Alert   | This stage is declared when the Local Controller receives warning of an event which, in their opinion, may necessitate an emergency management response                              |
|---------|---|--|
| Stage 2 | Standby   | This stage is declared when the Local Controller considers an emergency operation is imminent. During this stage passive emergency measures are commenced.                           |
| Stage 3 | Activation  | This stage is declared when active emergency measures are required.  |
| Stage 4 | Stand-down response operations and transition to Recovery | Stage 4 occurs when the Local Controller and Local Recovery Coordinator agree to transition to recovery (if required) in accordance with the transitional arrangements of this Plan. |
| Stage 5 | Recovery  | This stage is called if ongoing recovery operations and coordination is required.  |

The stages identified provide for a sequential response. However, it may be necessary because of the degree of warning and speed of onset of an event, for the Local Controller to skip the actions required under stage 1 or 2.

#### 7.8. Stakeholder notifications

Upon activation of the Plan the following personnel are to be advised as a matter of urgency:

- all available members of the LEC
- Northern Regional Controller
- NTES Territory Duty Officer (TDO).

## 7.9. Official warnings and general public information

Official warnings and general public information will be broadcast to the Locality through the following means:

- radio broadcast
- television news broadcast
- Secure NT website and social media broadcasts and updates.

Official warnings are issued by the Bureau of Meteorology (the Bureau), Geoscience Australia, Bushfires NT (BFNT) and the NTPFES.

Emergency Alert is a national telephony-based emergency warning system that can deliver warning messages to landlines and mobile handsets based on the service address and mobile handsets based on the last known location of the device. Authority to utilise the Emergency Alert may be given by virtue of the pre-approval of a hazard specific emergency plan or under the Territory Emergency Plan.

The approval for the release of an Emergency Alert message can only be authorised by one of the following:

- Territory Controller
- Director, NTES
- Regional Controller
- Chief Fire Officer, NTFRS
- Deputy Chief Fire Officer, NTFRS
- Executive Director, BFNT
- Chief Fire Control Officer, BFNT.

The Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) is an audio alert signal (wailing siren) which may be broadcast on public media to draw attention to the fact that an urgent safety message is about to be made. Generally, SEWS is only played before announcements concerning significant emergencies where emergency management arrangements should be activated as a result.

Control and hazard management authorities may have pre-planned use of SEWS for non-weather related events, through a pre-approved hazard-specific emergency plan.

The approval for the release of a SEWS message can only be authorised by one of the following:

- Territory Controller
- Director, NTES
- Manager Hazard Preparedness and Response NT (the Bureau) (for weather and flood-related events).

Warning and information messages for general public are authorised by the Regional or Incident Controller. The dissemination of such emergency warnings and information is to be by whatever means are appropriate and available at the time.

## 7.10. Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System

The Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS)<sup>5</sup> is a robust incident management system that enables the seamless integration of activities and resources of a single agency or multiple agencies when applied to the resolution of any event.

#### 7.11. Closure of schools

The decision to close schools due to an impending threat will be made by the Chief Minister on advice from the Territory Emergency Management Council (TEMC). When the nature of an event demands an immediate response, local authorities will take the appropriate steps to ensure the safety to the public. This action may include the temporary closure of a school to begin preparations, pending formal closure of the school by the Chief Minister for the remainder of the event.

The decision to reopen schools will be made by the Chief Minister on advice from the Chief Executive, DoE.

## 7.12. Closure of government offices

The decision to close government offices due to an impending threat will be made by the Chief Minister on advice from the TEMC. When the nature of an event demands an immediate response, local authorities should take all appropriate steps to ensure public safety and the protection of property.

The decision to reopen government offices will be made by the Chief Minister on advice from the TEMC.

All NTG agencies are to have an Emergency Preparedness Plan which sets out their processes for closing down their offices once approval has been given. This should have clearly articulated employee guidelines to ensure employees know when they are authorised to leave and are required to return to work.

## 7.13. Emergency shelters or strong buildings

Emergency shelters and places of refuge are buildings or structures that provide people with a place of protection and shelter during a disaster or emergency event such as a cyclone, flood or fire.

The recognised emergency shelters within the Locality are:

Peppimenarti School 100 capacity

• Peppimenarti Store 80-100 capacity.

The DoE in conjunction with the NTPF and the shelter owners are responsible for the management of emergency shelters during an emergency event.

The responsibilities of the emergency shelter manager are:

- the provision of personnel to staff and operate the emergency shelters at such times as they are activated
- the maintenance of effective liaison with other stakeholders with responsibilities relating to shelters, in particular the NTPF.

Emergency shelters are opened under the direction of the Territory or Regional Controller in consultation with the Shelter Group (DoE). Emergency shelters will not normally operate for more than 48 hours.

The timing of the opening of emergency shelters will be dependent upon the severity of the impending incident, the numbers to be sheltered, the time of day the incident is expected to impact and the period of time the emergency shelters are likely to be occupied. The announcement that emergency shelters are open in the Locality will be made by radio broadcast and social media, and will include emergency shelter rules such as no pets or alcohol being permitted in shelters and that food will not be provided.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications">https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications</a>

#### 7.14. Evacuation

Evacuation is a risk management strategy that can be used to mitigate the effect of an emergency or disaster on a community. It involves the movement of people to a safer location and their return. The decision to evacuate a community, including establishing an evacuation centre, is not taken lightly as it represents significant resource and financial implications.

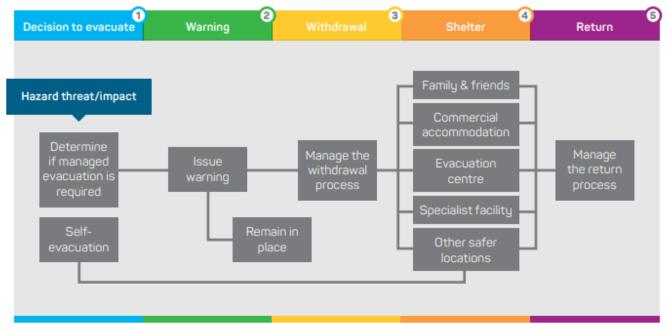
Evacuation of the Locality will be considered as a last resort. Where an evacuation is required the TEMC, in consultation with the Regional Controller, Local Controller and the LEC, will arrange emergency accommodation and transport, as necessary, through the relevant functional group/s.

An evacuation guideline for the Locality can be found at **Annex D**.

Evacuation is a complex process that has 5 distinct steps:

- 1. Decision
- 2. Warning
- 3. Withdrawal
- 4. Shelter
- 5. Return.

Each step is linked and must be carefully planned and carried out in order for the entire process to be successful. Given an evacuation centre will only be opened as a part an evacuation, it is vital to have an understanding of the 5-step process.



Source: Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience, Evacuation Guideline, 2017.

#### 7.15. Identified Evacuation Centres

An evacuation centre is designed to accommodate people for short to medium periods of approximately 4 to 6 weeks, although this figure may vary.

An evacuation centre will provide some or all of the following services:

- meals
- beds
- linen
- personal support
- medical services (or access to them)

assistance accessing finances and recreational activities.

An evacuation centre implies the provision of these services in contrast to an emergency shelter, in which people are expected to be self-sufficient.

For further information on evacuation centres/shelters management, refer to the NT Evacuation Centre Field Guide available on WebEOC.

## 7.16. Register. Find. Reunite Registration and inquiry system

Australian Red Cross, in partnership with the Australian Government Attorney-General's Department, has developed an improved system to help reunite families, friends and loved ones separated by an emergency. This system is called Register.Find.Reunite<sup>6</sup>.

This system can be initiated by either the Territory or Regional Controller without the national system being activated. Any activation of this system should occur in consultation with the Welfare Group in the first instance.

## 7.17. Impact assessment

Immediately after an emergency event, there is a need to identify and assess impacts to inform short and long-term recovery priorities. Comprehensive assessment of all impacts is a vital component of emergency response activities. Guidelines for the conduct of rapid assessments in the NT, including the establishment of dedicated Rapid Assessment Teams (RATs) to collect data in the field, have been developed.

The Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment Group, led by the NTPFES, is responsible for coordinating rapid impact assessments. At the local level, Local Controllers should contact the Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment Group lead to discuss impact assessments if deemed appropriate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="https://register.redcross.org.au/">https://register.redcross.org.au/</a>

## 8. Recovery

The coordinated process and measures for supporting emergency-affected communities in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoration of social, economic and natural environments.

## 8.1. Local Recovery Coordinator and Coordination Committee

When a region and/or locality has been affected by an event, the Regional Recovery Coordinator may appoint a Local Recovery Coordinator in accordance with section 87 of the Act. The Local Recovery Coordinator will establish a Local Recovery Coordination Committee (LRCC) drawing from membership of the LEC and other relevant members of the community as needed. The Local Recovery Coordinator reports directly to the Regional Recovery Coordinator.

Local Recovery Coordinator and Committee functions, powers and directions are established in Division 12 and 13 of the Act respectively.

## 8.2. Transitional arrangements

The transition from response to recovery coordination reflects the shift from the protection of life and supporting the immediate needs of the community to establishing longer term, more sustainable support structures.

The transition to recovery coordination occurs after the completion of the transition checklist and at a time agreed by the Territory Controller and Territory Recovery Coordinator in accordance with the Territory Emergency Plan.

Transition will occur when the Territory Recovery Coordinator is satisfied that the following has occurred:

- the Territory Controller has briefed the TEMC and the Territory Recovery Coordinator
- the Regional Controller has briefed the Regional Recovery Coordinator,
- where there is significant changeover of personnel, the EOC planning operations and logistics sections have briefed incoming recovery planning, operations and logistics staff.

The Regional Recovery Coordinator will ensure all functional group leaders, agencies, support groups and other relevant stakeholders are notified prior to the transition to recovery. This notification is to include changes to relevant contact details and other pertinent information.

An example of response and recovery activities can be found at **Annex E**.

## 9. Debrief

Debrief processes embed continuous improvement into the delivery of emergency management activities. Consistent approaches to lessons learned encourage adaptability, and flexibility across all levels of government. Sharing of knowledge and experiences throughout emergency events assists with ongoing continuous improvement of people and organisations involved.

The NTG implements a lessons learned approach recognising the positive impact on organisational culture commensurate with increasing opportunities to achieve emergency management goals. Whilst lessons learned often begins in one agency through an internal debrief process, those lessons learned are transferable across multi-agencies.

During any operational response, personnel involved are encouraged to record activities where there are lessons to be learned. Activities can include decision making and consequential responses. Where decisions are made by an Incident Controller, Incident Management Team (IMT) member or a functional group member, those decisions should be recorded in a Decision Log (WebEOC). Decision Logs can be referred to as part of the debrief process.

## 10. Related references

The following references apply:

- Emergency Management Act 2013
- Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act (NT) 1989
- Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1978 (Cth)
- Building Act 1993
- Building Regulations 1993
- Territory Emergency Plan
- Northern Region Emergency Plan
- National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework
- National Disaster Risk Assessment Guidelines
- Rapid Assessment Team Guidelines
- Transition to Recovery Checklist.

## 11. Annexures

Annex A Functional groups - roles and responsibilities

Annex B Functions table

Annex C Prevention, mitigation strategies and action plans for identified hazards

Annex D Evacuation guideline

Annex E Summary of response and recovery activities

## 11.1. Annex A: Functional groups - roles and responsibilities

| Functional group                     | Local contact   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Biosecurity and Animal Welfare       | Asyrikarrak Kirim Rangers/Department of Industry,<br>Tourism and Trade (DITT) |
| Critical Goods and Services          | DITT  |
| Digital and Telecommunications       | Department of Corporate and Digital Development (DCDD)                        |
| Emergency Shelter                    | Peppimenarti Primary School   |
| Engineering                          | WDRC  |
| Industry                             | DITT  |
| Medical                              | Peppimenarti Health Clinic  |
| Public Health                        | Peppimenarti Health Clinic  |
| Public Information                   | Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (DCMC)                           |
| Public Utilities                     | PAWC ESO  |
| Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment | NTPFES  |
| Transport                            | Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics (DIPL)                   |
| Welfare                              | Department of Territory Families, Housing and Communities (TFHC)              |

Full details of functional group roles and responsibilities are detailed in the Territory Emergency Plan.

## 11.2. Annex B: Functions table

Emergency response and recovery functions with identified agencies/organisation/provider During an event some of these functions may be needed at a local level.

| Functions  | Agency/organisation/provider responsible |
|--|--|
| Animal / Livestock Management  | DITT/NTPF/Asyrikarrak Kirim Rangers      |
| Anti-looting protection  | NTPF                                     |
| Banking Services   | Peppimenarti Store                       |
| Broadcasting: What radio stations provide announcements?   | TEABBA                                   |
| Clearing of essential traffic routes   | WDRC                                     |
| Clearing storm water drains  | WDRC                                     |
| Clothing and Household Items   | TFHC                                     |
| Community Clean Up   | WDRC/Community Development Program       |
| Control, coordination and management   | Designated Control Authority             |
| Coordination to evacuate public  | NTPF                                     |
| Critical Goods and Services (protect/resupply)  • food  • bottle gas  • camping equipment  • building supplies | Peppimenarti Store                       |
| Damaged public buildings: Coordination and inspections   | DIPL                                     |
| Disaster Victim identification capability  | NTPF                                     |
| Emergency Alerts   | NTPFES/BFNT                              |
| Emergency catering   | Peppimenarti Store                       |
| Emergency food distribution  | TFHC/Community Development Program       |
| EOC, including WebEOC  | NTPFES                                   |
| Emergency shelter. Staff, operations and control   | Peppimenarti School                      |

| Functions   | Agency/organisation/provider responsible  |
|---|---|
| Evacuation centre - Staffing, operations and control  | TFHC  |
| Financial Relief/assistance   | DCMC/TFHC/Centrelink  |
| Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements  |   |
| Identification of suitable buildings for shelters   | LEC   |
| Interpreter services  | Aboriginal Interpreter Service  |
| Management of expenditure in emergencies  | Controlling Authority and any activated Functional Groups at the direction of the Controlling Authority |
| Medical services  | Peppimenarti Primary School   |
| Network communications (IT): Responders<br>/ Public Maintenance and restoration of<br>emergency communication | Telstra   |
| Personal support  | TFHC  |
| Power: Protection and restoration:  | PAWC  |
| Public messaging during response and recovery.  | NTPFES/DCMC   |
| Public/Environmental Health (EH) management  all EH functions including water & food safety  disease control  | Peppimenarti Health Clinic/DoH  |
| Rapid Impact Assessment   | NTPFES  |
| Recovery coordination   | DCMC  |
| Repatriation  | DCMC  |
| Restoration of public buildings   | DIPL  |
| Restoration of roads and bridges (council/Territory) excluding railways                                       | DIPL  |
| Road management and traffic control including public Information on road closures                             | DIPL  |
| Sewerage: Protection and restoration  | PAWC  |
| Survey  | NTPFES  |

| Functions  | Agency/organisation/provider responsible |
|--|--|
| Traffic control  | DIPL                                     |
| Transport : Commercial and Public airport/planes, automobiles, buses | DIPL                                     |
| Vulnerable groups  | TFHC                                     |
| Waste management   | WDRC                                     |
| Water (including drinking water): Protection and restoration         | PAWC ESO                                 |

# 11.3. Annex C: Prevention, mitigation strategies and action plans for identified hazards

#### 11.3.1. Fire

A fire hazard is an event, accidentally or deliberately caused, which requires a response from one or more of the statutory fire response agencies.

#### A fire hazard can include, but not limited to:

| Term           | Definition   |
|----------------|--|
| Structure fire | A fire burning part, or all of any building, shelter, or other construction.   |
| Bushfire       | An unplanned fire. It is a generic term that includes grass fires, forest fires and scrub fires. Bushfires are a natural, essential and complex part of the NT environment. The term bushfire is interchangeable with the term wildfire. |
| Vehicle fire   | An undesired fire involving a motor vehicle.   |

Across the NT, landowners are an essential part of the fire management process. Communication, cooperation and shared responsibility within the community, matched by a capacity to undertake self-protective measures, form the basis of successful fire management throughout the NT.

In areas where there is no gazetted fire protection zone, if the owner or occupier of land is unable to control fire on the land, the owner or occupier must notify BFNT of this fact. When fires are reported to 000, the JESCC will contact BFNT to triage the report. In these areas, firefighting response from BFNT is not guaranteed as there is no established volunteer firefighting resource. BFNT may assist the owner or occupier of the land through the coordination of information and advice to assist the owner or occupier to control the fire. This may include liaison with affected neighbouring owners or occupiers for resource support, provision of fire weather information or the issuing of public information. In some circumstances, BFNT may deploy firefighting resources from larger regional centres to assist the owner or occupier to control the fire. BFNT have a rostered NT TDO to provide 24/7 incident triage coverage who can be contacted through the JESCC.

#### Actions to be taken

As described above, in areas where there is no fire protection zone (BFNT) or Emergency Response Areas (ERA) (NTFRS), fire is the responsibility of the land owner or occupier. Where an owner or occupier has contacted BFNT that they are unable to control fire on the land, BFNT may contact the Local Controller to discuss local response arrangements and coordination of resources.

#### Prevention and preparative controls include, but are not limited to:

- a fire danger period is declared over large areas when climatic and seasonal conditions presents increased fire risk for a prolonged period of time. A fire danger period usually coincides with the accepted 'fire season' in an area. Broadly this is during the Australian summer months in central Australia and during the dry season further north. A permit to burn is required before using fire during a fire danger period in all zones
- a fire ban can be declared for up to 24 hours. A combination of factors are considered when
  declaring a fire ban period including forecast fire danger, ignition likelihood, hazards and
  resourcing. All permits to burn are revoked within the declared fire ban area
- a fire management area can be declared in an area where BFNT have identified heightened fire risk. A fire management plan can be prescribed for a fire management area, and the plan can require landowners to take action to prepare for, or prevent, the spread of fire

- additional fire regulations apply within NTFRS ERA and BFNT fire protection zones. Permits to burn are required throughout the entire year inside an ERA or fire protection zones and a minimum 4 m wide firebreak within the perimeter boundary of all properties and additional firebreaks around permanent structures and stationary engines is required within a fire protection zones
- the BFNT Regional Fire Management Plan
- establishment of an IMT with liaison officers from other agencies to assist
- radio, television and social media posts.

#### Warning and advice approval flow

The Australian Warning System is a new national approach to information and warnings during emergencies like bushfire. The System uses a nationally consistent set of icons, like those below.

#### There are 3 warning levels:

| Warning level           | Description   |
|-------------------------|---|
| Advice (Yellow)         | An incident has started. There is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes  |
| Watch and Act (Orange)  | There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing and you need to start taking action now to protect you and your family                       |
| Emergency Warning (Red) | An Emergency Warning is the highest level of warning. You may<br>be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay<br>now puts your life at risk. |

Each warning level has a set of action statements to give the community clearer advice about what to do. Calls to Action can be used flexibly across all 3 warning levels depending on the hazard.

All warnings and advice will be issued by the Incident Controller from the relevant controlling authority for fire (NTFRS or BFNT).

#### 11.3.2. Flood

| Hazard | Controlling authority | Hazard management authority |  |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Flood  | NT Police Force       | NT Emergency Service        |  |

The Peppimenarti Locality may be subject to isolation caused by seasonal monsoonal/severe storm activity. When such isolation occurs, access by road will be restricted. Isolation causes communities/individuals to be cut off from the rest of the area. This could mean some people in an area are affected by a flood while others are not.

Flood events can cause long-term impacts on communities, such as disruptions to supplies of food, clean water, wastewater treatment, electricity, transport, communication, education and health care. Where isolation is likely to occur for an extended time, preseason planning by the LEC is critical to ensure there will be limited disruptions to critical goods and services.

Drainage for the Locality is via Tom Turner Creek.

Whilst there are no gauging stations for the locality, the following table provides guidance for riverine flooding on NT communities.

As the Hazard Management Authority the NTES have established, equipped and trained 3 volunteer units within the Darwin Locality, to support response and recovery operations to flood events.

The NTES maintain the Territory EOC in a state of readiness. If the EOC is required to be activated by the Local Controller, the NTES will support this activation and facilitate, where possible, the staffing requests for IMT personnel.

#### The indicative impact of floods levels indicated in the table below:

| Flood Classification | Description  |
|----------------------|--|
| Minor flooding       | Flood waters are contained within Tom Turner Creek. There is some water over the access roads to Wadeye and Daly River.  |
| Moderate flooding    | Flooding will occur along the access roads to the community. All properties adjoining the creek will have water over extensive parts of their land. Access to properties along the creek is by boat only. Any evacuation of community is now only possible by air. |
| Major flooding       | Flooding will cover extensive areas. Water over road between Peppimenarti, Wadeye and Daly River.  |

#### Prevention and preparative controls include, but are not limited to:

- community messaging
- community education, flood updates and forecasting.

#### Public safety message process:

- the Bureau issues a flood advice to NTES TDO
- NTES TDO notifies Local Controller and NTES Northern Command Manager
- Local Controller notifies LEC
- NTES Northern Command Manager consults with the Bureau and Incident Controller to determine recommended messaging
- NTPFES Media and Corporate Communications Unit or Public Information Group receives approved messaging to publish.

## Actions to be taken - Flood - guide only

| Organisation/<br>Provider | Flood Watch   | Isolation   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| All members               | Attend LEC meetings Relay information to other key stakeholders | Assist where necessary and ensure all procedures for each location/area to be affected is well prepared |
| Local Controller          | Update LEC members of the impending situation                   | SITREP is to be circulated to committee members and key stakeholders                                    |

#### 11.3.3. Road crash

| Hazard     | Controlling authority | Hazard management authority |
|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Road Crash | NT Police Force       | NT Fire and Rescue Service  |

A road crash occurs when a vehicle collides with another vehicle, pedestrian, animal, road debris, or other stationary obstruction, such as a tree, pole or building. Road crashes often result in injury, disability, death, and or property damage as well as financial costs to both society and the individuals involved. Emergency services are frequently called on to extricate seriously injured casualties from their vehicles following road crashes. This is achieved by employing space creation techniques to create openings in the vehicle. These openings make it possible to administer first aid to the casualty and to remove them from the vehicle.

A number of factors contribute to the risk of collisions, including vehicle design, speed of operation, road design, weather, road environment, driving skills, fatigue, impairment due to alcohol or drugs, and behaviour, notably aggressive driving, distracted driving, speeding and street racing.

Responses to road crash incidents will be coordinated from the JESCC. NTFRS will respond as per predetermined response arrangements contained within the Intergraph Computer-Aided Dispatch (ICAD) system for incidents occurring within an NTFRS ERA. For incidents occurring outside of an ERA, response will be approved by the rostered NTFRS TDO.

#### Prevention and preparative controls include, but are not limited to:

- radio, television and social media posts
- targeted road safety campaigns
- community engagement strategies
- Training in PUASAR024 Undertake road crash rescue delivered by NTES and NTFRS to NTPFES members.

#### Public safety message process:

 NT Police Territory Duty Superintendent to approve public messaging and forward to NTPFES Media and Corporate Communications Unit for dissemination.

## 11.3.4. Tropical cyclone

| Hazard           | Controlling authority | Hazard management authority |  |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Tropical cyclone | NT Police Force       | NT Emergency Service        |  |

A tropical cyclone<sup>7</sup> hazard includes a cyclone threat to the township, housing and infrastructure of the Locality including the surrounding areas. During the cyclone season, November to April, the Bureau keeps a 24-hour watch on developing tropical weather systems. The Bureau will issue a tropical cyclone advice whenever a tropical cyclone is likely to cause winds in excess of 62 km/h (gale force) over Australian communities within the next 48 hours.

**Table - Tropical cyclone categories** 

| Category | Max mean wind (km/h) | Typical strongest gust (km/h) | Transport effects   |
|----------|----------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1        | 63 - 88              | < 125                         | Negligible house damage. Damage to some crops, trees and caravans. Craft may drag moorings  |
| 2        | 89 - 117             | 125 - 164                     | Minor house damage. Significant damage to signs, trees and caravans. Heavy damage to some crops. Risk of power failure. Small craft may break moorings. |
| 3        | 118 - 159            | 165 - 224                     | Some roof and structural damage. Some caravans destroyed. Power failures likely.  |
| 4        | 160 - 199            | 225 - 279                     | Significant roofing loss and structural damage. Many caravans destroyed and blown away. Dangerous airborne debris. Widespread power failures.           |
| 5        | >200                 | > 279                         | Extremely dangerous with widespread destruction.  |

Note: Corresponding approximate wind gusts and central pressure are also provided as a guide. Stronger gusts may be observed over hilltops, in gullies and around structures.

As the Hazard Management Authority the NTES have established, equipped and trained volunteer units, to support response and recovery operations to tropical cyclones.

The NTES maintain the Territory EOC in a state of readiness. If the EOC is required to be activated by the Local Controller, the NTES will support this activation and facilitate, where possible, the staffing requests for IMT personnel.

#### Prevention and preparative controls include, but are not limited to:

- implementation of cyclone preparation initiatives and council clean ups
- radio, television and social media posts

#### Public safety message process (initial notification):

- the Bureau issue a cyclone advice to NTES TDO
- NTES TDO notifies Local Controller and NTES Northern Command Manager

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> More information can be found at: <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/tc-info/">http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/tc-info/</a>

- Local Controller Notifies LEC
- NTES Northern Command Manager consults with the Bureau, Regional Controller, NTES Director and Incident Controller to determine recommended messaging
- NTPFES Media and Corporate Communications Unit or Public Information Group receives approved messaging to publish
- responsibility for development and promulgation of warnings and information post the establishment of an IMT will rest with the Public Information Officer and the Incident Controller.

The response to a cyclone event is staged and dependant on timings of the Watch and Warnings issued by the Bureau and the projected impact on the communities. The following table provides a guide to typical actions for members of the LEC upon receipt of notifications from the Bureau. The table also notes the need for LEC members to contribute to the recovery process post the impact of the cyclone.

## Actions to be taken - Tropical cyclone - guide only

| Organisation/    | Watch   | Warnin  | g (onset of Gale Ford  | ce Winds)  | Reduced risk  | Transition to  |
|------------------|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| Provider         | 48 hours  | 24 + hours  | 6 + hours  | 3 + hours  |   | recovery   |
| All members      | Attend briefings Inform key stakeholders Provide SITREPs Assist the Local Controller as required Ensure final preparations are undertaken prior to stage 2  | Attend briefings Inform key personnel Assist the Local Controller as required   | Attend briefings  Assist the Local Controller as required Inform key personnel   | Assist the Local<br>Controller as<br>required<br>Take and remain<br>in shelter | Remain in shelter until directed by Local Controller Assist the Local Controller as required  | Attend briefings Inform key personnel Assist the Local Controller as required  |
| Local Controller | Liaise with NTES TDO/TEOC  Convene meeting of the LEC  Ensure LEC members and community have activated their Cyclone Plan  Co-ordinate the dissemination of the cyclone watch information to the relevant local community | Liaise with NTES TDO/TEOC  Convene meeting of the LEC  Ensure that the dissemination of the cyclone warning information to the public is maintained  Activate EOC if required | Liaise with NTES TDO/TEOC  Update LEC and allocate tasks as required  Ensure that the dissemination of the cyclone warning information to the public is maintained  At the appropriate time, advise persons at | Take and remain in shelter   | Liaise with NTES TDO/TEOC  When it is declared safe to move outside, ascertain the extent of injury to persons and damage to property  Give directions to survey teams advising community of reduced risk | Liaise with NTES<br>TDO/TEOC  Prepare for<br>transition to<br>recovery  Begin compilation of<br>information for Post<br>Operation Report |

| Organisation/ | Watch   | Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)   |  |                            | Reduced risk   | Transition to   |
|---------------|---|---|--|----------------------------|--|---|
| Provider      | 48 hours  | 24 + hours  | 6 + hours  | 3 + hours                  |  | recovery  |
|               |   |   | risk to move to a<br>shelter<br>NTPF presence<br>will be required at<br>the designated<br>shelter/s  |                            | Prepare for<br>transition to<br>recovery   |   |
| NT Police     | Brief police members  Disseminate warnings and information as required  Maintain normal police duties  Assist Local Controller as required  Ensure all operational vehicles are fully fuelled | Brief police members  Assist with the preparation of the EOC  Disseminate cyclone warning information as directed by the Local Controller and advise information received | Brief police members  Disseminate cyclone information as directed by the Local Controller and advise him of information received  Limit transport and ensure all emergency vehicles are fully operational  Co-ordinate the movement of personnel to shelter  Commence final patrol of area | Take and remain in shelter | When advised by Local Controller move outside ascertain the extent of injury to persons and damage to property and report with damage assessments  Assist Local Controller with prioritising response operations | Assist in the preparation of the final SITREP's  Ensure that all NTPF equipment used in the operation is accounted for, maintained and restored  Inform key personnel |

| Organisation/              | Watch  | Warnin  | g (onset of Gale For   | ce Winds)                  | Reduced risk  | Transition to   |
|----------------------------|--|---|--|----------------------------|---|---|
| Provider                   | 48 hours   | 24 + hours  | 6 + hours  | 3 + hours                  |   | recovery  |
|                            |  |   | Ensure all<br>personnel take<br>shelter  |                            |   |   |
| Peppimenarti Health Clinic | Advise Local Controller of state of preparedness and of any urgent requirements Check generator fuel levels Liaise with NTPF regarding Peppimenarti Homelands/Outstati ons Review booked patient travel arrangements with patient travel in Darwin Review patients that may need evacuation or have special needs Assist in reviewing aged care facilities | Any potential medevac's and long term ongoing treatment patients need to be transported to appropriate safe places, at the discretion of management at the clinic  Fuel all vehicles  Allocate staff to check emergency equipment  Check satellite phones  Review patient medications  Advise Top End Remote Health Management of the situation | Brief personnel  Deliver disaster medical packs to designated cyclone shelters  Allocated health centre vehicles to safe areas  Secure all medical records in filing cabinets or compactor  Transfer patients who require monitoring or treatment to clinic or other designated shelters (with necessary family members)  Advise Top End Remote Health Management in Darwin of the situation | Take and remain in shelter | Ensure all personnel remain in shelter until safe to leave  At the direction of the Local Controller, check the health clinic premises for damage  Check shelters for casualties  Upon advice from the Local Controller, ensure personnel and facilities are available for triage treatment as soon as destructive winds have dropped | Brief personnel On advice from the Local Controller, stand down staff |

| Organisation/       | Watch   | Warnin   | g (onset of Gale Ford   | ce Winds)                     | Reduced risk  | Transition to recovery  |
|---------------------|---|--|---|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Provider            | 48 hours  | 24 + hours   | 6 + hours   | 3 + hours                     |   |   |
|                     | Maintain normal<br>health and<br>community services   |  |   |                               |   |   |
| Peppimenarti School | Participate in pre-<br>cyclone clean up<br>Maintain normal<br>duties  | When advised, close school and advise community to secure buildings  Staff to secure personal residences | Conduct final checks Ensure shelter is prepared Ensure all staff take shelter   | Take and remain<br>in shelter | Ensure all personnel remain in shelter  At the direction of the Local Controller, check the school for damage                         | Assist the Local Controller if required  Advise Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required |
| Peppimenarti Store  | Prepare emergency supplies  Clear yard/store of any dangerous items and lock up store  Assist with community clean up  Maintain normal duties | Staff to secure<br>personal<br>residences<br>Prepare to close<br>store                                   | Undertake final<br>checks<br>Ensure all<br>personnel take<br>shelter  | Take and remain<br>in shelter | At the direction of<br>the Local<br>Controller, attend<br>and assess damage<br>to the store and<br>supplies                           | Advise Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required  |
| PAWC ESO            | Participate in precyclone clean up Fill the main town water supply tank Check all bores and tank levels                                       | Ensure emergency equipment and wet weather gear is prepared Check satellite phone and radios             | Turn off power<br>and water supply<br>to the community<br>All fuel taps on<br>bulk storage tanks<br>are to be turned<br>off | Take and remain in shelter    | At the direction of the Local Controller, commence survey requirements  Advise Local Controller of damage and what essential services | Assist the Local Controller as required  Advise Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and                                     |

| Organisation/<br>Provider | Watch   | Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)                                   |   |           | Reduced risk   | Transition to                          |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|--|--|
|                           | 48 hours  | 24 + hours  | 6 + hours   | 3 + hours |  | recovery                               |
|                           | Activate<br>organisational<br>cyclone procedures<br>Maintain normal<br>duties | Staff to secure<br>personal<br>residence<br>Maintain normal<br>duties | Power house to<br>be secured<br>Water supply to<br>be switched off at<br>tank |           | are still in operation and assistance is required, if required Remove hazards as soon as possible Begin repairing essential services | participate in<br>meetings as required |
| Support organisations     | Undertake duties as re  | equested by the Loc   | cal Controller  |           |  |  |

## 11.4. Annex D: Evacuation guideline

The following is to be used as a guide only.

| Stage 1 - Decision  |  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Authority   | The Regional Controller will authorise the activation of the evacuation plan.  This evacuation plan is to be approved by the TEMC prior to activation.   | Regional Controller<br>in conjunction with<br>TEMC  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Legal references  | The Act and approved Local Emergency Plan. It is recommended that the Minister declares an Emergency Situation under section 18 of the Act, when this evacuation plan is activated.  |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Alternative to evacuation? I.e. shelter in place, temporary accommodation on-site/nearby. | If needed residents will be progressively relocated within the community to <location be="" determined="" to="">.</location>   | Local Controller to arrange   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Summary of proposed evacuation  | <ul> <li>Decision - made by the Regional Controller when the community have sustained damage during <to be="" determined=""> that cannot support residents in situ during recovery.</to></li> <li>The Local Controller to disseminate information to the community.</li> <li>Withdrawal - three stage process:         <ol> <li><location be="" determined="" to="">; community to the <location be="" determined="" to="">; to be registered for evacuation to <location be="" determined="" to=""></location></location></location></li> <li>once registered, groups to move to the airstrip assembly area using buses/vehicles</li> <li>Red Cross to register check utilising Register Find Reunite.</li> </ol> </li> <li>Shelter - evacuees will be encouraged to stay with friends or family. The remainder will be accommodated at an evacuation centre <location be="" determined="" to=""></location></li> <li>Return - to be determined once recovery can sustain return to <location be="" determined="" to="">.</location></li> </ul> | The decision will be informed by additional advice from technical experts, e.g. the Bureau. |  |  |  |  |  |
| Which communities/outstations or geographical area does the evacuation apply to?          | <out and="" homelands="" homesteads="" stations,=""></out>   |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vulnerable groups within the community  | The Medical Group will liaise with local health staff and provide information on medically vulnerable people.  | Medical Group & Transport Group to action.  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  | The identified people will be evacuated <at a="" be="" determined="" time="" to="">.</at>   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Community demographics (approx. total number, family groups, cultural groups etc.) |   |  |
|  | <ul> <li>details of community workers also being<br/>evacuated who may be in a position to<br/>support the operation of the evacuation<br/>centre. Examples include teachers, nurses,<br/>health workers, shire staff, housing staff<br/>and police.</li> </ul> |  |
| What is the nature of the hazard?  | <to be="" determined=""></to>   |  |
| Estimated duration of the potential evacuation?                                    | <to be="" determined=""></to>   |  |

| Triggers for the evacuation                                   | Example   | Regional Controller   |
|---|---|---|
|   | <ol> <li>evacuation planning to commence when<br/>the Locality is under a <to be="" determined=""></to></li> </ol>  |   |
|   | <ol><li>implement evacuation if the severity and<br/>impact has caused major damage and<br/>disruption to all services</li></ol>  |   |
|   | <ol><li>elderly and vulnerable people are to be<br/>considered for evacuation due to limited<br/>health services.</li></ol>   |   |
|   | Further details of the intra-community relocation plan are required.  |   |
| Self-evacuation   | Where possible residents will be encouraged to self-evacuate and make their own accommodation arrangements if they wish to do so. Individuals and families taking this option will be encouraged to register prior to leaving the community.  | Local Controller  |
| Responsibility for the  | Regional Controller   |   |
| coordination Stage 1  | Local Controller  |   |
|   | Stage 2 – Warning   |   |
| Who has the authority to issue warnings?                      | The Bureau will issue advice and warnings. All further public information will be approved by the Regional Controller in consultation with the Public Information Group and NTES.   | Regional Controller<br>to liaise with Public<br>Information Group<br>and NTES |
|   | The Local Controller will coordinate the dissemination of community level information.  |   |
|   | A combination of the following will be utilised:  |   |
|   | <ul> <li>broadcasted over radio and television</li> </ul>   |   |
|   | <ul> <li>social media utilising the NTPFS Facebook<br/>page SecureNT twitter feed.</li> </ul>   |   |
|   | loud hailer   |   |
|   | door to door  |   |
|   | Emergency Alert System.   |   |
| Process for issuing evacuation warnings and other information | At community level, the Local Controller is to appoint a community spokesperson to disseminate up to date situational information at community meetings which are to be held immediately post a convening LEC meeting, at each declared stage of the Local Emergency Plan. A media brief approved by the Local Controller at each LEC meeting, will be announced over the local radio station containing current situational information, relevant safety information, what to prepare, when to self-evacuate, and where to go. | Local Controller  |

| When will warnings be issued (relative to the impact of the hazard)?   | Immediately upon a decision to evacuate being made the LEC will commence coordinating residents to prepare for transport.   | Local Controller  |
|--|---|---|
| What information will the messages contain? (What do people need to know?)  Responsibility for the coordination of Stage 2 | To be determined:      outline of the proposed evacuation plan     measure to prepare residences     safety issues; not overloading transport     items to bring on the evacuation     arrangements for pets and animals.  Local Controller/Regional Controller | Local Controller Biosecurity & Animal Welfare Group liaison |
|  |   |   |
| Outline  | Stage 3 - Withdrawal  |   |
| Outline  | Three stage process:  |   |
|  | 1. community residents to <staging 1="" area=""></staging>  |   |
|  | 2. <staging 1="" area=""> to airport</staging>  |   |
|  | <ol><li>airport to <location be="" determined="" to=""><br/>evacuation centre</location></li></ol>  |   |
| Peppimenarti community to  | Lead  | NTPF  |
| the airstrip   | <ul><li>NTPF</li></ul>  |   |
|  | Overview  |   |
|  | <ul> <li>the community will gather at the <location<br>to be determined &gt; prior to being<br/>transported by community buses to the<br/>airstrip.</location<br></li> </ul>  |   |
|  | Risks/other considerations  |   |
|  | <ul> <li>evacuation should be undertaken during daylight hours, if possible.</li> </ul>   |   |
|  | <ul> <li>risks include inclement weather, persons<br/>with infectious diseases, vulnerable<br/>persons, and frail/elderly persons,<br/>chronically ill</li> </ul>   |   |
|  | <ul> <li>estimated time en-route: minutes each way</li> </ul>   |   |
|  | <ul> <li>estimated timeframe overall: hours<br/>utilising current resources.</li> </ul>   |   |
|  | <ul> <li>alternate transport options.</li> </ul>  |   |

| Assembly area                                   | Likely location of evacuation centre: <to be="" determined="">.  Additional resources will be required to host an evacuation centre in the form of tents and bedding. This will also be the point where evacuee registration will take place. Basic services should be provided i.e. drinking water, information.  Services to be provided</to> | NTPF/TFHC       |
|---|---|-----------------|
|   | Red Cross Coordinator: Red Cross  |                 |
|   | Other details   |                 |
|   | Evacuee registration. Residents will need to register at <location be="" determined="" to=""> or airport if (self-evacuating) to be permitted access to the evacuation centre at the <location be="" determined="" to="">.</location></location>  |                 |
| Peppimenarti community to                       | Lead - NTPF   | NTPF/Transport/ |
| <location be="" determined="" to=""></location> | Example Lead - Transport Group  | Logistics       |
|   | Overview  |                 |
|   | <ul> <li>Transport Group has identified<br/>commercial operators and the Police Air<br/>Section able to provide evacuation<br/>assistance.</li> </ul>   |                 |
|   | <ul> <li>Total proposed air assets: Commercial operators will be charging commercial rates for their services at a cost of (\$).</li> </ul>   |                 |
|   | <ul> <li>The operation will begin athrs with<br/>the first aircraft, leaving <to be<br="">determined &gt; and arriving athrs</to></li> </ul>  |                 |
|   | <ul> <li>The operation will continue throughout<br/>the day until all community members are<br/>evacuated. It is estimated that all<br/>community members can be evacuated by<br/>hrs (arriving in <to be<br="">determined&gt;).</to></li> </ul>  |                 |

| < Location > airport to                          | Lead - Transport Group  | Transport Group          |
|--|---|--------------------------|
| evacuation centre <to be="" determined=""></to>  | Example   |                          |
| determined                                       | Overview  |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>Buses (Buslink) will be on standby at</li> </ul>   |                          |
|  | <ul> <li><location be="" determined="" to=""> airport from        am to receive passengers and         continue throughout the day transferring         to <to be="" determined=""> only, as required.</to></location></li> </ul>               |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>Transport staff will be on the ground at<br/><location be="" determined="" to=""> airport to<br/>marshal passengers on buses only.</location></li> </ul>   |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>Buses to be arranged by the Transport<br/>Group. Evacuees will be collected from<br/><location be="" determined="" to=""> airport and<br/>transported to the <location be<br="" to="">determined&gt;.</location></location></li> </ul> |                          |
|  | A reception team provided by NTPF will meet evacuees and facilitate transport.  |                          |
|  | <ul><li>details <to be="" determined=""></to></li></ul>   |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>estimated time en-route: minutes</li> </ul>  |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>estimated timeframe: possibly hours,<br/>dependant on aircraft arrivals</li> </ul>   |                          |
|  | <ul><li>alternate transport options:</li></ul>  |                          |
| End point  | <location be="" determined="" to=""></location>   | EOC/welfare coordination |
| Transport of vulnerable members of the community | Medical Group to arrange transport of vulnerable people from the community to <location be="" determined="" to="">.</location>  | Medical Group            |
| Registration and tracking                        | <ul> <li>Welfare Group to activate registration<br/>arrangements. Registration will be<br/>undertaken by NTPF and will occur at<br/><location be="" determined="" to="">.</location></li> </ul>   | Welfare Group/<br>NTPF   |
|  | <ul> <li>Names of evacuees will be obtained prior<br/>to boarding buses.</li> </ul>   |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>Where possible details of individuals and<br/>families self-evacuating to be obtained on<br/>arrival at the <location be="" determined="" to=""><br/>airstrip.</location></li> </ul>   |                          |
|  | <ul> <li>If persons are not registered as evacuees<br/>or self-evacuees they will not be provided<br/>access to the evacuation shelter.</li> </ul>  |                          |

| Coordination Stage 3                    | Regional Controller  | EOC coordination.        |
|---|--|--------------------------|
|   |  |                          |
|   |  |                          |
|   |  |                          |
|   | Stage 4 – Shelter  |                          |
| Overview                                | An evacuation centre will be established at the <location be="" determined="" to="">. The <location be="" determined="" to=""> will be the primary areas used.</location></location> |                          |
| Alternate shelter options               | Where possible evacuees will be encouraged to seek alternative accommodation with family, friends or through commercial accommodation.   |                          |
| Estimated duration of the shelter phase | To be determined   |                          |
| Arrangements for domestic animals       | No domestic animals are to accompany evacuees.<br>Any self-evacuees with domestic animals will be<br>expected to make their own arrangements for the<br>animals.                     | Advise Animal<br>Welfare |
| Roles                                   |  |                          |
| Director                                | TFHC   | Welfare Group            |
| Deputy Director                         | TFHC   | Welfare Group            |
| Logistics/planning                      | EOC  | Controlling<br>Authority |
| Admin teams                             | EOC  | DCMC/Welfare<br>Group    |
| Shift manager/s                         | To be determined – drawn from pool of trained staff.   | Welfare Group            |
| Welfare team                            | To be determined   | Welfare Group            |
| Facility team                           | To be determined   |                          |
| Sport and Rec team                      | To be determined   |                          |
| Medical team                            | To be determined. It is likely St Johns volunteers will be requested. Evacuees will be referred to off-site medical services.  | Medical Group            |
| Public health team                      | To be determined   | Public Health<br>Group   |
| Transport team                          | To be determined   | Transport Group          |

| Evacuation centre set-up  | Refer to the evacuation centre template for set-<br>up considerations.   |  |
|---|--|--|
| What strategy will be put in place to close the evacuation centre?        | Closure of the evacuation centre will be largely dependent on the extent of inundation and complexity of the recovery process. |  |
|   | Stage 5 – Return   |  |
| Indicators or triggers that will enable a return                          | (Refer to Recovery action plan for the community) DCMC   |  |
| Who is responsible for developing a plan for the return?                  | Recovery coordination in conjunction with Incident Management Team (IMT).  |  |
| Transportation  | To be determined   |  |
| Route/assembly points en-route  | To be determined   |  |
| End point   | To be determined   |  |
| How will information about the return be communicated to evacuees?        | To be determined   |  |
| What information needs to be conveyed to the evacuated community members? | To be determined   |  |

## 11.5. Annex E: Summary of response and recovery activities

Response

Controlling Authority

The following table outlines a summary of possible response and recovery activities to be considered following an event.

This table is presented as a guide only, assisting emergency managers with operational decision making, planning and resource allocation. It also highlights the importance of response and recovery coordination working collaboratively.

Activities have been broken down and are listed under either response or recovery for simplicity and ease of use. In practice not all response activities will be completed during the response phase. Likewise not all recovery activities will commence after the transition to recovery.

The post event period of any event is highly dynamic and produces many challenges, both foreseen and unpredicted. Response and recovery coordination must be flexible and able to adapt to the situation as it evolves.

In most cases the points noted in this table and in the ensuing document are outlined in greater detail in functional group or agency plans.

Transition

Recovery

DCMC / TCCC

| Ac | tivity                   | Response activities   | Recovery activities   |
|----|--------------------------|---|---|
| 1. | Situational<br>awareness | <ul> <li>Road clearance teams</li> <li>General public</li> <li>Media reports</li> <li>Survey and rescue teams</li> <li>Impact assessment teams</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Contributes to recovery planning through impact assessment data</li> <li>Comprehensive impact assessments</li> <li>Needs assessment</li> </ul> |
| 2. | Public<br>Information    | <ul> <li>Public Information Group<br/>activation</li> <li>Spokes persons identified</li> <li>SecureNT activated</li> </ul>  | Continues in recovery   |
| 3. | Survey and<br>Rescue     | <ul> <li>Survey teams deploy to designated areas</li> <li>Critical sites surveyed</li> <li>Deploy rescue teams - NTFRS and Territory Response Group provide primary Urban Search and Rescue capability</li> </ul> | Survey and impact assessment<br>data used to develop the<br>Recovery Action Plan  |

Road patrol teams deploy and

Road clearance to priority sites Assess Stuart Hwy to Katherine

Emergency accommodation and

check assigned routes

(supply route)

shelter

Road clearance

Emergency

accommodation

Restoration of road networks

Return to business as usual

**Evacuation centres may** 

continue into recovery

and bridges

| Activity   | Response activities   | Recovery activities  |
|------------|---|--|
| 6. Medical | <ul> <li>evacuation centres</li> <li>Provision of resources that will enable people to remain in their homes</li> <li>Emergency clothing</li> <li>Hospital</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Temporary accommodation options</li> <li>Repatriation planning</li> <li>Hospital</li> </ul>   |
|            | road clearance to the hospital  damage assessment  increase morgue capacity  divert patients from remote and regional areas  power (fuel) and water supplies  Medical clinics and field hospitals  determine the need for clinics to be opened  assess damage to clinics  deploy field hospital/s  Medical presence in shelter  supplied by the Medical Group  Ambulance pick up points on key, cleared roads  GP clinics and pharmacies  identify GP clinics able to open  identify pharmacies able to open  Medically vulnerable people  support agencies to follow-up and advise the Medical Group  vulnerable people in shelters  support for vulnerable people at shelters  CareFlight / Royal Flying Doctor Service | <ul> <li>repair works</li> <li>business continuity plans</li> <li>DoH         <ul> <li>health centres</li> <li>repair works</li> <li>reopen other clinics</li> </ul> </li> <li>Support return of vulnerable people in community</li> <li>GP clinics and pharmacies         <ul> <li>ongoing liaison by the Medical Group</li> </ul> </li> <li>CareFlight / Royal Flying Doctor Service - resume business as usual</li> <li>St John Ambulance - resume business as usual</li> </ul> |

| Activi | ity                           | Response activities   | Recovery activities   |
|--------|-------------------------------|---|---|
|        | ssential goods<br>nd services | <ul> <li>Establish emergency feeding and food distribution points</li> <li>Assessing the damage to suppliers and retailers of critical resources</li> <li>Assess the impact on barge operations and any effect on the ability to supply remote communities</li> <li>Implement interim banking arrangements</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Support the re-opening of the private business sector</li> <li>Monitor levels and availability of essential goods</li> <li>Manage logistics arrangements supplying resources to outlying communities</li> <li>Public Health inspections (food outlets)</li> <li>Banking sector business continuity arrangements</li> </ul> |
|        |                               | <ul> <li>Fuel suppliers and point of sale</li> <li>Manage fuel supplies to emergency power generation</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Monitor fuel levels</li> <li>Infrastructure repairs</li> <li>Emergency fuel supplies for recovery</li> <li>Liaise with fuel suppliers, distributors and wholesalers to re-establish long term supply</li> </ul>  |
|        |                               | <ul> <li>Banking</li> <li>Assess damage to banks and ATMs</li> <li>Implement temporary arrangements</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Emergency cash outlets</li> <li>Implement long term arrangements</li> </ul>  |
| 8. E   | vacuation                     | <ul><li>Evacuations within community</li><li>Evacuation out of community</li><li>Registration</li></ul>   | <ul> <li>Support services for evacuees</li> <li>Recovery information for evacuees</li> <li>Repatriation</li> </ul>  |
| 9. P   | Public Health                 | <ul> <li>Communicable disease control response</li> <li>Drinking water safety standards</li> <li>Sewage and waste disposal</li> <li>Safe food distribution and advice</li> <li>Vector and vermin control</li> <li>Food and commercial premises</li> </ul>   | Ongoing in recovery   |
| 10. U  | Jtilities                     | <ul> <li>Power supply</li> <li>Power generation</li> <li>Water supply</li> <li>Sewerage</li> <li>Emergency sanitation</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Restore power network</li> <li>Restore water and sewerage infrastructure</li> <li>Issue alerts until safe to use</li> </ul>  |

| Activity                                    | Response activities   | Recovery activities  |
|---|---|--|
| 11. Impact assessments                      | <ul><li>Training assessment teams</li><li>Initial impact assessments</li></ul>  | <ul><li>Comprehensive impact assessments</li><li>Ongoing needs assessments</li></ul>   |
| 12. Transport infrastructure (supply lines) | <ul> <li>Air (Airport/Airstrip)         <ul> <li>Clear the runway to allow air movements</li> <li>Establish a logistics hub at the airport</li> </ul> </li> <li>Terminal damage and operational capability assessment</li> </ul>  | Monitor repairs and business<br>continuity activities  |
|   | <ul> <li>Road         <ul> <li>Highway and critical access roads damage assessment</li> </ul> </li> <li>Repair work to commence immediately</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Planning and prioritising repair<br/>work of all affected key<br/>Territory Highways (Stuart,<br/>Barkly, Victoria and Arnhem)</li> </ul>   |
|   | Rail  Rail damage assessment  Outage estimation   | <ul> <li>Ongoing liaison with operator<br/>to support restoration to<br/>business as usual</li> </ul>  |
|   | <ul> <li>Port, Harbour and Barge</li> <li>Assess damage to port infrastructure and harbour facilities</li> <li>Assess the damage to barge facilities</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Repairing infrastructure</li> <li>Establish alternate         arrangements for the supply of         remote communities</li> </ul>  |
| 13. Waste management                        | Waste management<br>requirements and develop waste<br>management plan if required   | Continues in recovery  |
| 14. Repairs and reconstruction              | <ul> <li>Private housing         <ul> <li>impact assessments</li> <li>temporary repairs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Government buildings         <ul> <li>damage assessment</li> </ul> </li> <li>Public housing         <ul> <li>impact assessments</li> </ul> </li> <li>Private industry         <ul> <li>damage assessments</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Private housing         <ul> <li>information and support to facilitate repairs</li> </ul> </li> <li>Government buildings         <ul> <li>repairs and reconstruction</li> </ul> </li> <li>Public housing         <ul> <li>long term repair plans</li> </ul> </li> <li>Private industry         <ul> <li>repair and reconstruction</li> </ul> </li> <li>Temporary accommodation for a visiting construction workforce</li> </ul> |

| Activity                    | Response activities  | Recovery activities  |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| 15. Transport services      | <ul> <li>Staged re-establishment of<br/>public transport services</li> </ul>   | Continues in recovery  |
| 16. Tele-<br>communications | <ul> <li>Telstra and Optus will assess the damage to their infrastructure</li> <li>Put in place temporary measures to enable landline and mobile services</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>Repair damage networks and<br/>infrastructure (for private<br/>entities there is support for<br/>operators only)</li> </ul> |
| 17. Public safety           | <ul> <li>Police will maintain normal policing services to the community</li> </ul>   | <ul> <li>Gradual return to business as<br/>usual</li> </ul>  |
| 18. Animal welfare          | <ul> <li>Temporary emergency<br/>arrangements for pets</li> </ul>  | <ul> <li>Reunite pets with their owners<br/>and cease emergency support<br/>arrangements</li> </ul>                                  |
| 19. Community consultation  | <ul> <li>Information provision regarding<br/>the overall situation, response<br/>efforts, what services are<br/>available and how to access<br/>them</li> </ul>      | <ul> <li>Community consultation<br/>process regarding long term<br/>recovery and community<br/>development</li> </ul>                |

## 12. Acronyms

| Acronyms | Definitions   |
|----------|---|
| AAPA     | Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority                 |
| ABC      | Australian Broadcasting Corporation                   |
| AEP      | Aerodrome Emergency Plan                              |
| AIIMS    | Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System |
| BFNT     | Bushfires NT  |
| DCDD     | Department of Corporate and Digital Development       |
| DCMC     | Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet          |
| DEPWS    | Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security   |
| DIPL     | Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Logistics  |
| DITT     | Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade             |
| DOE      | Department of Education                               |
| DOH      | Department of Health                                  |
| ERA      | Emergency Response Area                               |
| EOC      | Emergency Operations Centre                           |
| FERG     | Fire and Emergency Response Group                     |
| ICAD     | Intergraph Computer-Aided Dispatch                    |
| ICC      | Incident Control Centre                               |
| ICP      | Incident Control Point                                |
| IMT      | Incident Management Team                              |
| JESCC    | Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre        |
| KL       | Kilolitres  |
| LCC      | Local Coordination Centre                             |
| LEC      | Local Emergency Committee                             |
| LRCC     | Local Recovery Coordination Committee                 |

| Acronyms | Definitions   |
|----------|---|
| М        | Metre   |
| NERAG    | National Disaster Risk Assessment Guidelines            |
| NT       | Northern Territory                                      |
| NTES     | Northern Territory Emergency Service                    |
| NTFRS    | Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service              |
| NTG      | Northern Territory Government                           |
| NTPF     | Northern Territory Police Force                         |
| NTPFES   | Northern Territory Police, Fire and Emergency Services  |
| RAT      | Rapid Assessment Team                                   |
| RCC      | Rescue Coordination Centre                              |
| SEWS     | Standard Emergency Warning Signal                       |
| SITREP   | Situation Report  |
| TEABBA   | Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association        |
| TDO      | Territory Duty Officer                                  |
| TEMC     | Territory Emergency Management Council                  |
| TFHC     | Department of Territory Families, Housing & Communities |
| WDRC     | West Daly Regional Council                              |
| WebEOC   | Web-Base Emergency Operation Centre                     |