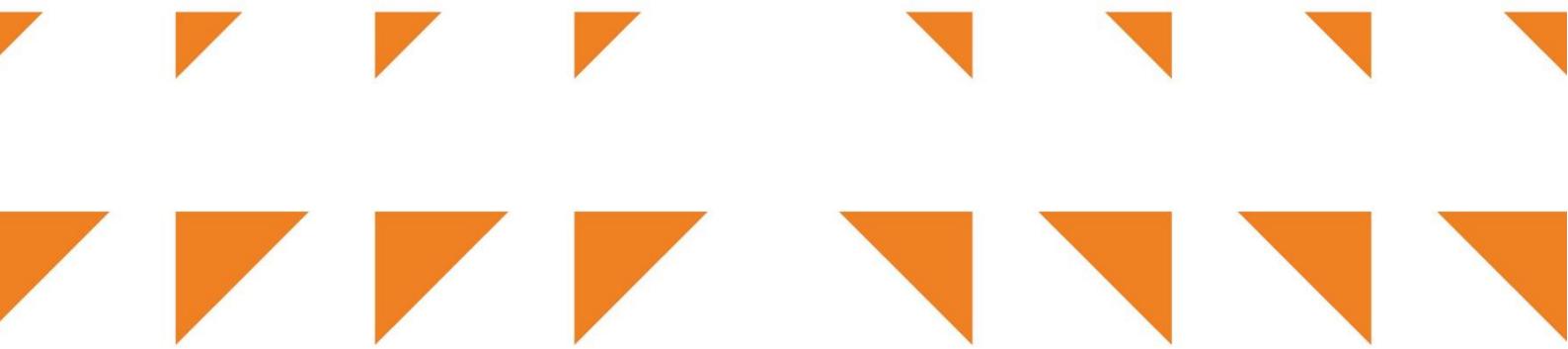




# Wadeye

## Local Emergency Plan



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# 1. Document control

## 1.1. Governance

Document title	Wadeye Local Emergency Plan
Contact details	NT Emergency Service, Planning and Preparedness Command
Approved by	Territory Controller
Date approved	16 November 2014
Document review	Annually
TRM number	04-D25-107669

## 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
13/06/2024	9	Matthew Hollamby	Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate
11/03/2025	10	Peter Malley	Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate
06/01/2026	11	James A O'Brien	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.

### 1.3. Local Emergency Committee members and key stakeholders engaged for review

The following Local Emergency Committee members and key stakeholders were engaged with during the review of the Wadeye Local Emergency Plan, to ensure it addresses the specific needs of the community.

Agency/organisation	Name	Role/position
54 Reasons	Danivah Barique	Committee member
54 Reasons	Majella Dungel	Committee member
Catholic Education NT	Shane Donohue	Committee member
Catholic Education NT	Nick Cantoni	Committee member
Catholic Education NT	Bruce McEvoy	Committee member
Department of Health	Andrew Urquhart	Committee member
Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet	Daniel Tedcastle	Committee member
Kardu Diminin Corporation	Jake Clarke	Committee member
NT Emergency Service	Jamie Richardson	Planning Officer
NT Emergency Service	Mark Cunnington	Operations Manager
NT Police Force	Senior Sergeant Ian Young	Local Controller
One Tree Services	Renee Whiteman	Committee member
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart	Jac Conboy	Committee member
Services Australia	Cindy Reid	Committee member
Thamarrurr Development Corporation	Tracey Leo	Committee member

## 2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Northern Territory Fire and Emergency Services (NTFES) and the Northern Territory Police Force (NTPF) acknowledges the First Nations people throughout the Northern Territory (NT), 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 Wadeye Locality (the Locality).

### 3.2. Application

This Plan applies to the Locality.

### 3.3. Key considerations

The *Emergency Management Act 2013* (the Act) is the legislative basis for emergency management across the 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)
- confirms appointment of a Local Recovery Coordinator
- confirms establishment of a Local Recovery Coordination Committee
- 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>. Wadeye was formerly known (and is still often referred to) as Port Keats. It is a remote Aboriginal community located on the Joseph Bonaparte coastal lowlands between the Daly and Fitzmaurice Rivers.

It is the sixth most populated town in the NT and one of the largest Aboriginal communities in Australia. The inhabitants include 7 language groups, the main language spoken being Murrinh Patha.

The Locality covers approximately 13,650 kilometres (km) consisting of the Daly River Aboriginal Reserve and adjacent offshore islands in the Joseph Bonaparte Gulf. There are no pastoral properties within the Locality. The Locality is located approximately 250 km south-southwest of Darwin.

The Locality population is approximately 3,261 persons, the main population centre being the town of Wadeye. Due to the isolation during the Wet Season, a portion of the population move from the outstations to the larger centres, generally Wadeye, Palumpa, Peppimenarti or Daly River.

To obtain more information about this Locality, BushTel<sup>3</sup> is the central point for information about the remote communities of the NT, their people and cultural and historical influences.

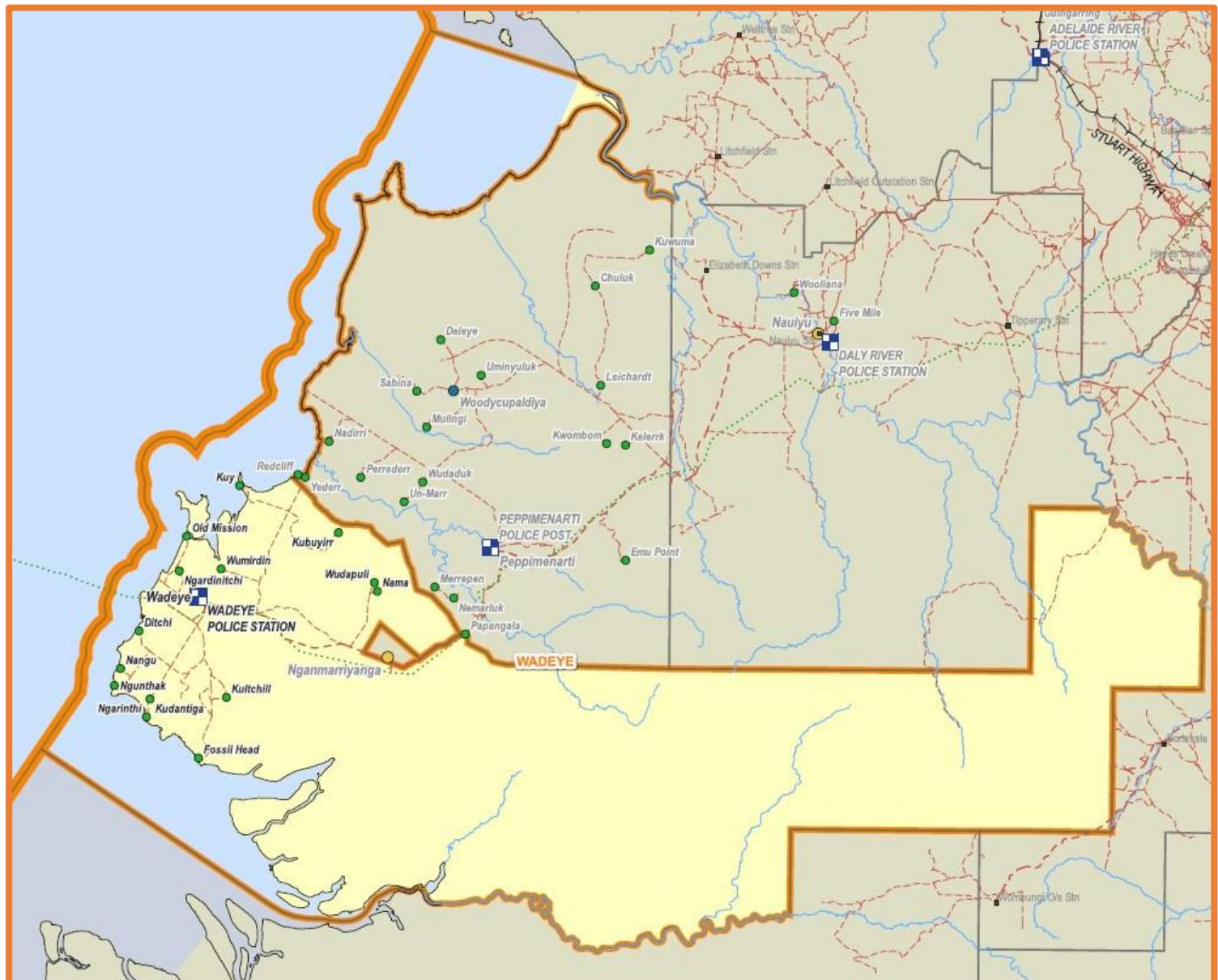
A breakdown of the population is:

Bushtel ID	Locality	Aliases	Approx. population
426	Wadeye	Port Keats	2,259
Bushtel ID	Homelands	Aliases	Approx. population
310	Ditchi	Dithi and Ditji	not recorded
911	Fossil Head		39
912	Kubuyirr		not recorded
936	Kudantiga	Kurantika	16
351	Kultchill	Kulthil and Kutchill	not recorded
718	Kuy		34
717	Merrepen	Matapan	30
1026	Nama	Wudipulinama	33
393	Nangu	Point Pearce	not recorded
716	Nemarluk		26
430	Ngardinitchi	Ngardinitth, Wentek and Wentes Nganami Wentek	not recorded
913	Ngarinithi	Wumarr	6
915	Ngunthak		not recorded
914	Old Mission	Wundakunny	20
435	Wudapuli	Wudapulli and Wudupula	60
937	Wumirdin		not recorded
719	Yederr		2

<sup>1</sup> More information can be found at: <https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications>

<sup>2</sup> More information can be found at: <https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/emergency-management>

<sup>3</sup> More information can be found at: [BushTel - Remote Communities of the NT](https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/bushtel-remote-communities-of-the-nt)



## 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 (October to April) and Dry Season (May to September). Compared to Darwin, temperatures tend to be slightly higher during the Wet Season and slightly lower during the Dry Season.

## 4.2. Geography

The general topography of the Locality consists mainly of gently undulating wooded country with large coastal flood plains to the south and to the north east. South east of Wadeye, the ground rises into the "Sugarloaf Range" with the highest point being Mt. Goodwin some 100 metres (m) above sea level. Other prominent landmarks throughout the Locality are the Docherty Hills, Macadam Range and Wingate Mountains, the highest point of which is approximately 330 m above sea level.

The Locality is drained by a number of creeks and rivers, the major river systems being that of the Fitzmaurice River (which forms part of the southern boundary) and the Moyle River.

## 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 NT.

A sacred site is defined by the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cth) 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](mailto:enquiries.aapa@nt.gov.au).

## 4.4. Sites of conservation

The Hyland Bay and associated coastal floodplains are of significance for the NT, for further information about these sites contact the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE).

## 4.5. Mining and manufacturing

The Bonaparte gas pipeline transports gas from Wadeye to Darwin via Daly River. The pipeline supplies Darwin with gas to support the gas turbines providing electricity to the city of Darwin and the northern parts of the NT, including Katherine.

## 4.6. Tourism

There are no tourism industries in Wadeye.

## 4.7. NT and local government

This Locality sits within the Top End Boundary, with the following NT Government (NTG) agencies that have a presence in the Locality:

- NTPF
  - Wadeye Police Station
- NTFES
  - NT Emergency Service (NTES) Volunteer Unit (non-operational)
- Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C)

- Department of Corrections
- Department of Children and Families (DCF)
- Department of Health (DOH)
  - Wadeye Health Centre
- Department of Education and Training (DET)
  - Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Thamarrurr Catholic College

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

## 4.8. Building codes

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

## 4.9. Land use

Wadeye has the following land usage:

- agriculture
- horticulture
- land trust
- stockfeed

## 4.10. Homelands

Homelands are typically located on Aboriginal land, which is held by the Aboriginal Land Trusts established under the *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976* (Cth). There are also some homelands that are located on Community Living Areas or parcels of land within national parks. Assets on homelands are owned by the underlying leaseholder, which for the majority of homelands is the relevant Aboriginal Land Trust. Generally, homelands are not subject to the NTG leasing or part of the NT's remote public housing system.

The homeland service provider for this Locality is WDRC. Homeland service providers contribute to the delivery of housing, municipal and essential services, including fire breaks, where funding allows. Homeland service providers do not deliver emergency services. Land councils and local ranger groups within the Locality may provide land management activities on Aboriginal land, such as back burning, installing firebreaks and other mitigation works.

## 4.11. Power generation and distribution

The Power and Water Corporation (PAWC) contracts and trains local Essential Services Operators (ESOs) to run these services day-to-day. Power to the community is supplied from generators.

## 4.12. Water services

The PAWC contracts and trains local ESOs to run these services day-to-day. Water is provided to the community from 2 bores.

## 4.13. Health infrastructure

The Wadeye Health Centre has been expanded, and the new centre has clinic consultation rooms, an emergency room, a public and staff training room, baby treatment rooms and consulting rooms for visiting specialists. The 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.

## 4.14. Emergency service infrastructure

The Locality has the following emergency service infrastructure:

- health centre
- NTES volunteer unit
- police station and cells

## 4.15. Roads

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

The road from Daly River to Wadeye is approximately 180 km and is impassable to all traffic for 3 to 4 months of the year.

## 4.16. Airports

The table below lists the airstrips in the Locality:

Name of the strip	Datum	Certified Aerodrome	Details (type, length, etc.)	Operator of the strip
Palumpa	14°20.37'S 129°51.8'E	Non-Certified	Direction: 180°/360°  Dimensions: 1360 m x 18 m  Surface: sealed  Windsock: yes  Hazard: birds  Lighting: electric  Fuel held: nil	WDRC
Wadeye (Port Keats)	14°24.017'S 129°52.080'E	Certified	Direction: 160°/340°  Dimensions: 1410 m x 30 m  Surface: sealed  Windsock: western side runway  Hazard: wildlife  Lighting: electric, 24 hour  Fuel held: emergency only, rotary services, AVTUR/Murin, HVGAS	WDRC

**Certified Aerodrome:** An airport officially approved by the Australian Government Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) that meets strict safety and operational standards, often including air traffic control services<sup>4</sup>.

<sup>4</sup> More information can be found at: <https://www.casa.gov.au/operations-safety-and-travel/aerodromes>

## 4.17. Port (barge) landings

Wadeye has one barge landing in the community, which is crucial for supplies during the Wet Season as access via roads is cut off for up to 3 to 4 months of the year.

## 4.18. Telecommunication

Telecommunications are available across the Wadeye township via a combination of landline, mobile and satellite communications delivery.

## 4.19. Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters

As a result of the Royal Commission into the 2019-2020 summer bushfires, the Commonwealth government implemented the Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters (STAND) initiative. STAND is a Commonwealth funded program, aimed at enhancing the resilience of Australia's telecommunication networks, to prevent, mitigate and manage outages during emergencies.

There are currently 56 sites across the Territory that have STAND capability, and additional sites will be incorporated within the next stage of installation.

There is one STAND site within this Locality which is located at and managed by the following facilities:

- Our Lady of the Sacred Heart - Thamarrurr Catholic College

## 4.20. Local radio stations

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

- 102.1 MHz Remote Indigenous Broadcast Service
- 106.1 FM Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Local Radio

## 4.21. Medically vulnerable clients

The Wadeye Health Centre has a list of medically vulnerable clients and it is updated regularly. Aged care facilities are provided by Thamarrurr Flexible Aged Care Service. Thamarrurr Flexible Aged Care Service offers high care and low care services with 24 hour access to staff providing 8 high care beds and 4 low care beds, with home care also available.

## 5. Prevention

### 5.1. Emergency risk assessments

The Wadeye 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 Territory Emergency Management Council (TEMC) have identified 30 hazards, as outlined in the Territory Emergency Plan, that may pose a risk across the NT, which have been allocated to designated Controlling Authorities and Hazard Management Authorities.

Many hazards require specific prevention and mitigation measures, an annual risk assessment (rated against the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines) is undertaken by the LEC and determines which hazards pose a greater risk to the Locality.

The LEC has identified the following hazards as posing a risk to the Locality, with further advice provided within **Annex C** for those hazards rated at medium risk or higher:

- air crash
- bushfire (within Fire Protection and Management Zones)
- flooding
- heatwave
- human disease
- major power outage
- tropical cyclone

Hazard	Overall consequence	Overall likelihood	Risk rating
Air crash	Major	Extremely Rare	Medium
Bushfire (within Fire Protection and Management Zones)	Moderate	Unlikely	Medium
Flooding	Minor	Likely	Medium
Heatwave	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Human disease	Moderate	Very Rare	Low
Major power outage	Moderate	Unlikely	Medium
Tropical cyclone	Moderate	Unlikely	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>5</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 Regional Controller is responsible for the annual review of operations and the effectiveness of the Local Emergency Plan, supported by the LEC and the NTES Planning and Preparedness Command.

### 6.2. Emergency resources and contacts

The Local Controller is responsible for maintaining the emergency resource register and LEC contact lists. 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 lists 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. For further information contact the NTES Learning and Development Command via email at [Training.EMTU@pfes.nt.gov.au](mailto:Training.EMTU@pfes.nt.gov.au).

### 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 but are not limited to within the area:

- NTES hazard briefings
- NTES Paddy Program
- 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 arrangements with the plan have not been enacted since the last review, or substantial changes have occurred, including:

- legislative changes

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<sup>5</sup> More information can be found at: <https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications>

- major changes have occurred in the areas of key personnel, positions or functions across prevention, preparedness, response and recovery
- 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. The Local Controller can request an exercise by emailing the request through to EmergencyManagementPlanning@pfes.nt.gov.au.

## 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. Activation of the Plan

This plan has 5 stages of activation and are designed to ensure a graduated response to hazardous events, 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.

### 7.2. 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 to seek assistance from the region, the Territory and/or the Australian Government. Pathway for assistance is through the Regional Controller.

### 7.3. 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 for the locality is the Officer In Charge of the Wadeye 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.

## 7.4. Local Emergency Committee

In accordance with section 80 of the Act, the Territory Controller has established a Wadeye 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.

## 7.5. 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 are 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 Territory EOC where applicable
- dissemination of information to the media and general public

The LCC for this locality is the Wadeye Police Station. The Regional EOC is 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.

## 7.6. WebEOC

WebEOC is a critical information management system used throughout the NT for emergency management activities. The system is owned and maintained by the NTFES. 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.

## 7.7. 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.

## 7.8. 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, NTPFES and Controlling Authorities.

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
- Chief Officer, 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
- Chief Officer, 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>6</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 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, DET.

## 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. Sheltering in community

The TEMC have identified the need to review opportunities to support 'sheltering in community' for weather-vulnerable communities under the NT Emergency Management Arrangements.

In the NT, 'sheltering in community' means residents remain in their community in a safe place before, during, and after a hazard. This may include staying at home or arranging their own safe accommodation. For those without options, formal emergency shelters or temporary accommodation may be provided by Incident Controllers until it's safe to return home.

This approach can be supported by additional community resources like personnel, goods, or equipment. While evacuation remains an option, sheltering in community is often safer and more effective when supported. The decision depends on community capacity and the specific event.

## 7.14. 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:

Shelter(s)	People capacity
Wadeye Police Station and cells	50
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart	100

There are also approximately 200 homes built to code within the Locality.

The DET, in conjunction with the NTPF and the shelter owners, is responsible for the management of emergency shelters during an emergency event.

<sup>6</sup> More information can be found at: <https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications>

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 (DET). 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. It is up to the discretion of the local shelter manager if food will be provided.

## 7.15. Evacuation

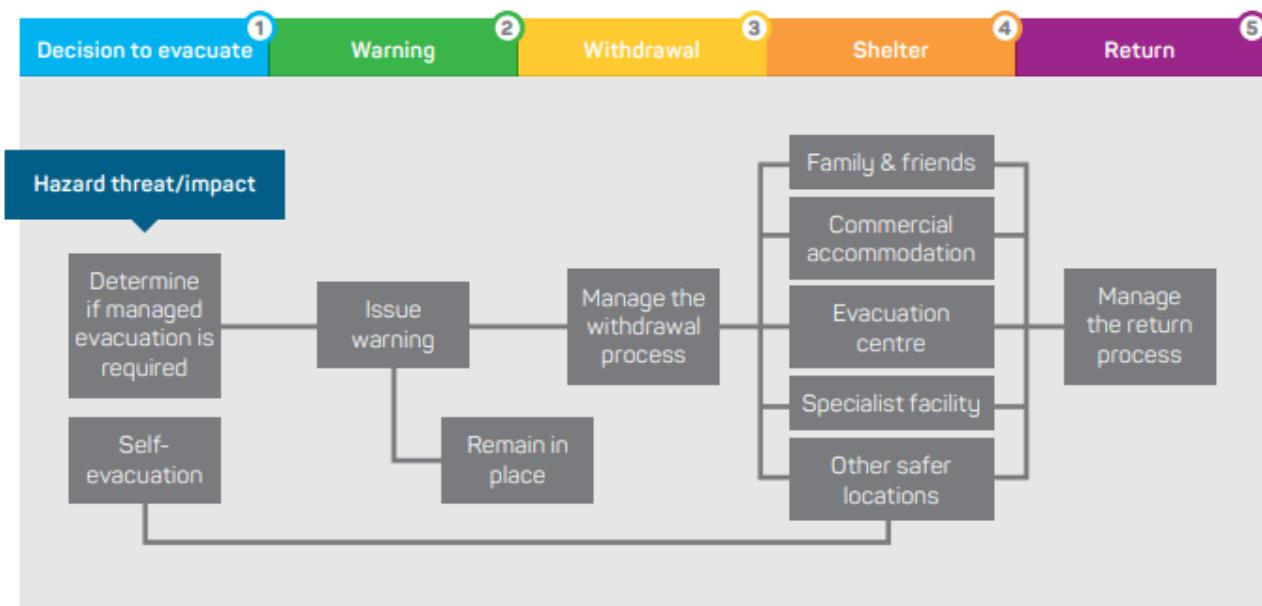
Evacuation is a risk management strategy that can be used to mitigate the effect of an emergency or disaster on a community. It involves the movement of people to a safer location and their return. The decision to evacuate a community, including establishing an evacuation centre, is not taken lightly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

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 Planning Handbook, 2017

## 7.16. Identified evacuation centres

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

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

- assistance accessing finances and recreational activities
- beds
- linen
- meals
- medical services (or access to them)
- personal support

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 management, refer to the NT Evacuation Field Guide available on WebEOC.

## 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 NTPF, is responsible for coordinating rapid impact assessments. At the local level, local controllers or an Incident Controller if appointed, should contact the Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment Group lead to discuss impact assessments if deemed appropriate.

## 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 responsible agency for Recovery is CM&C. 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 D**.

## 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:

- *Aboriginal Land Rights (Northern Territory) Act 1976 (Cth)*
- *Building Act 1993*
- *Building Regulations 1993*
- *Emergency Management Act 2013*
- National Disaster Risk Assessment Guidelines
- National Disaster Risk Reduction Framework
- Northern Regional Emergency Plan
- *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act 1989*
- Rapid Assessment Team Guidelines
- Territory Emergency Plan
- Transition to Recovery Checklist

## 11. Annexures

Annex A Functional groups - roles and responsibilities

Annex B Functions table

Annex C Specific prevention, mitigation strategies and action plans for identified hazards

Annex D Summary of response and recovery activities

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

Functional group	Local contact
Animal Welfare	Thamarrurr Rangers/WDRC/Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)
Critical Goods and Services	Murrinhpatha Nimmipa Store/Thamarrurr Development Corporation (TDC)/ Department of Trade, Business, and Asian Relations (DTBAR)
Digital and Telecommunications	Department of Corporate & Digital Development (DCDD)
Emergency Shelter	DET
Engineering	WDRC/Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI)
Industry	DTBAR
Medical	Wadeye Health Clinic
Public Health	DOH
Public Information	CM&C
Public Utilities	PAWC/ESO
Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment	NTPF/NTFES
Transport	DLI
Welfare	DCF

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	DAF/Thamarrurr Rangers/WDRC/NTPF
Anti-looting protection	NTPF
Banking services	Traditional Credit Union
Broadcasting: What radio stations provide announcements?	Thamarrurr Broadcasting
Clearing of essential traffic routes	TDC/WDRC
Clearing storm water drains	WDRC
Clothing and household Items	Murrinpatha Nimmipa Store/DCF
Community clean Up	WDRC/TDC/Community Development Program
Control, coordination and management	Designated control authority
Coordination to evacuate public	NTPF
Critical Goods and Services (protect/resupply) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• food</li> <li>• bottle gas</li> <li>• camping equipment</li> <li>• building supplies</li> </ul>	DTBAR/Murrinpatha Nimmipa Store
Damaged public buildings: Coordination and inspections	DLI
Disaster Victim identification capability	NTPF
Emergency Alert	NTPF/NTFES
Emergency food distribution	DTBAR/Murrinpatha Nimmipa Store
EOC, including WebEOC, Recovery coordination centre (RCC)	NTPF/NTFES/CM&C
Emergency shelter staff, operations and control	DET/Shelter owner
Evacuation centre - Staffing, operations and control	DCF

Functions	Agency/organisation/provider responsible
Financial Relief/assistance Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements	CM&C/DCF (Category A measures to individuals)/DTBAR (Category B measures)
Identification of suitable buildings for shelters	LEC
Interpreter services	Aboriginal Interpreter Service
Management of expenditure in emergencies	Controlling Authorities and any activated Functional Groups at the direction of the Controlling Authority
Medical services	Wadeye Health Clinic
Network communications (IT): Responders /Public Maintenance and restoration of emergency communication	Telstra/DCDD
Power: Protection and restoration	DJ Air
Public messaging during response and recovery.	Hazard management authority/CM&C
Public/Environmental Health (EH) management • all EH functions including water & food safety • disease control	DOH
Rapid Impact Assessment	NTPF
Recovery coordination	CM&C
Repatriation	DCF
Restoration of public buildings	DLI
Restoration of roads and bridges (council/territory) excluding railways	DLI/WDRC/TDC
Road management and traffic control including public Information on road closures	WDRC/NTPF/DLI
Sewerage: Protection and restoration	DJ Air
Survey	NTPF
Traffic control	NTPF/WDRC
Transport: Commercial and Public airport/ planes, automobiles, ferries, buses	DLI

Functions	Agency/organisation/provider responsible
Vulnerable persons (medical)	DOH
Waste management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>collection</li> <li>disposal of stock</li> </ul>	WDRC
Water (including drinking water): Protection and restoration	DJ Air

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

### 11.3.1. Air crash

Hazard	Controlling authority	Hazard management authority
 Air Crash	NT Police Force	NT Fire and Emergency Services (NT Fire and Rescue Service)

Air crash means an occurrence associated with the operation of an aircraft which takes place between the time any person boards the aircraft with the intention of flight and all such persons have disembarked, and in which any person suffers death or serious injury, or in which the aircraft receives substantial damage.

Aircraft movements across the NT include commercial air transport and general aviation. Personnel involved with aircraft accidents are advised to obtain and read a copy of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau Civil and Military Aircraft Accident Procedures for Police Officers and Emergency Services Personnel<sup>7</sup>.

In the NT, Air services Australia supplies an “on airport” Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting Service (ARFFS) at Darwin, Alice Springs and Yulara Airports. NTFRS will assist ARFFS at these Airports.

Under the National Search and Rescue (SAR) Plan, responding to an aviation disaster that involves an unregistered aircraft, or an aircraft registered in another jurisdiction, is the responsibility of the state or territory in which the disaster occurred. Responses to accidents involving all other civilian (non-military) aircraft that occur outside an aerodrome precinct and within the Australian SAR Region are the Australian Maritime Safety Authority’s responsibility, in conjunction with the applicable state or Territory emergency arrangements.

Responses to air crash incidents will be coordinated from the NT JESCC. NTFRS resources will be responded as per pre determine response arrangements contained within the Intergraph Computer-Aided Dispatch (ICAD) system for incidents occurring within an NTFRS Emergency Response Area (ERA). For incidents occurring outside of an ERA, response will be approved by the rostered NTFRS TDO.

Where an aircraft emergency occurs within the vicinity of a certified or registered aerodrome, the local Aerodrome Emergency Plan (AEP) details the response arrangements to the emergency. The Australian Maritime Safety Authority, in conjunction with the applicable state or territory emergency arrangements, is responsible for coordinating the SAR phase when an aircraft is assumed to be lost, to have ditched or have crashed outside of a certified aerodrome, or a distress beacon associated with the aircraft or persons on board is detected.

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority may transfer coordination to the state or territory police services in accordance with the recovery effort as well as under national SAR arrangements.

#### NTFRS roles and responsibilities for an air crash on an aerodrome include:

- within an ERA where there is no “on aerodrome” fire service, or when designated in the AEP, take charge of firefighting operations
- where the ARFFS or Australian Defence Force fire service is stationed, assist that service in the firefighting operations and provide specialist firefighting equipment

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

- the aviation industry operates under stringent national, state and local legislation and guidelines to minimise risk to the community

<sup>7</sup> More information can be found at: [www.atsb.gov.au/publications/2017/hazards-at-aviation-accident-sites/](http://www.atsb.gov.au/publications/2017/hazards-at-aviation-accident-sites/)

- Australian Government Aviation Disaster Response Plan (AUSAVPLAN 2014)
- in accordance with the Civil Aviation Standards Authority Manual of Standards part 139 aerodromes may have an local AEP
- aerodrome maintenance
- reducing the risk of animal hazards on aerodromes
- training in PUASAR022 Participate in a Rescue Operation delivered to NTFRS members
- skills maintenance of procedures surrounding aircraft incidents developed by the Australian Transport and Safety Bureau.

**Public safety message process:**

- NTPF Territory Duty Superintendent to approve public messaging and forward to NTFES Media and Corporate Communications Unit for dissemination

## Actions to be taken – Air crash – guide only

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
All Members	Attend briefings	Attend briefings	Attend briefings	Attend briefings	Attend briefings
	Inform key personnel	Inform key personnel	Inform key personnel	Inform key personnel	Inform key personnel
	Provide SITREPs	Provide SITREPs	Provide SITREPs	Provide SITREPs	Provide SITREPs
Local Controller			Carry out initial reconnaissance of the area Coordinate requests for assistance from other agencies If required, initiate search procedures If required, arrange for restricted airspace over the incident site	Ensure all personnel (victims and responders) are accounted for Ensure all personnel are advised of debriefing arrangements	Arrange for Critical Incident Debriefing, action as appropriate Compile and forward Post Operations Report
NT Police – 2IC			Dispatch fire trailer and rescue trailer, as directed by the Local Controller Carry out initial reconnaissance of the area Action security procedures for incident scene and personal property Other considerations may include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of temporary morgue</li> </ul>	Account for all equipment used and supervise the cleaning, servicing and refurbishment of equipment Assist the Local Controller with other tasks, as directed	Assist the Local Controller in the compilation of the Post Operations Report

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of temporary enquiry century for the purpose of providing general information on the incident, details of victims, location and safety of victims</li> </ul>		
Health Clinic			<p>Implement call out procedures</p> <p>Equip and dispatch vehicle to accident scene</p> <p>Brief staff and instruct to remain on standby</p> <p>Prepare health centre to receive possible accident victims</p> <p>Advise Aerial Medical Section Darwin and commence triaging</p> <p>Administer emergency treatment</p>	<p>Account for all health personnel</p> <p>Refurbish equipment, as necessary and co-ordinate the re-establishment of normal health centre operations</p> <p>Provide relevant information to the Local Controller for inclusion in the Post Operations Report</p>	<p>Liaise with the Local Controller regarding the requirements for Critical Incident Debrief support</p> <p>Liaise with the Local Controller regarding any on-going public health issues as a result of the incident</p>
Support organisations	Provide support as requested by the Local Controller				

## 11.3.2. Bushfire (within Fire Protection and Management Zones)

Hazard	Controlling authority	Hazard management authority
 Bushfire (within Fire Protection and Management Zones)	NT Fire and Emergency Services (Bushfires NT)	NT Fire and Emergency Services (Bushfires NT)

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

**Prevention** is the activities that can be undertaken by a range of stakeholders that will assist in the mitigation against a bushfire. In the NT, managing bushfire and vegetation on private properties is the responsibility of the landowner.

### Landholder responsibility to control fire

The landholder or occupier of land must take all reasonable steps to protect property on the land from fire and inhibit the fire from spreading.

If a landholder or occupier is unable to control a fire and prevent it from spreading to other land, they must:

- notify Bushfires NT fire control officer or fire warden and all neighbouring property holders
- call 000 in an emergency.

Under section 90(3) of the *Bushfires Management Act* the landholder or occupier commits an offence if the fire has the potential to spread to other land and they fail to take reasonable steps to control the fire and to notify all parties.

Communication, co-operation and shared responsibility within the community, matched by a capacity to undertake self-protective measures, forms the basis of successful fire management throughout the NT.

Outlined below is a list of key prevention activities within the Locality:

- risk assessment through the LEC and other relevant stakeholders
- fire danger period declaration, which spans over large areas when climatic and seasonal conditions present increased fire risk for a prolonged period of time. A fire danger period usually coincides with the accepted 'fire season' in an area. A permit to burn is required before using fire during a fire danger period in all zones
- a fire ban that 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 Zone (FPZ) and Management Zones (FMZ). This includes:
  - permits to burn are required throughout the entire year inside an ERA and FPZ
  - within ERAs and FPZ a 4 m wide firebreak along the perimeter boundary of all properties and with additional firebreaks around permanent structures and stationary engines are required

- compliance inspections
  - both NTFRS and BFNT undertake compliance inspections on firebreak and fuel load management within the ERA and FPZ. Fire Breaks outside these areas are encouraged but not enforceable
- fuel management activities
  - as it is across the NT, it is the responsibility of the land owner / land holder to manage and mitigate the risk on the property. This is a responsibility of both the government and private entities
  - within the Locality the following list are some of the stakeholders responsible for managing and mitigating fuel load:
    - DLI
    - Regional Community Councils
    - Aboriginal Land Councils
    - Parks and Wildlife
    - NTFRS
    - BFNT
    - Contracted private entities.

**Preparedness** is the range of activities that can prepare for an incident. These are commonly training, resource management and allocations and community education.

At a Territory Emergency Plan level the BFNT maintain the Bushfire Hazard plan, which goes into further depth on strategic planning. At the local level all relevant facilities should undertake planning to determine what actions need to occur in the event of local bushfires.

The BFNT undertake community engagement / awareness programs within the Locality, these programs primarily focuses on:

- private home and block preparations
- fire break inspections
- bushfire survival plans
- gamba and buffel grass management and inspections

The Australian Fire Danger Rating System<sup>8</sup> (AFDRS) is a nationally aligned approach to fire weather forecast. Both the NTFRS and BFNT, through a Territory wide observer network, gather a specific range of observation data at selected locations to provide data for the daily Fire Danger Rating. The ratings are described in the below image.

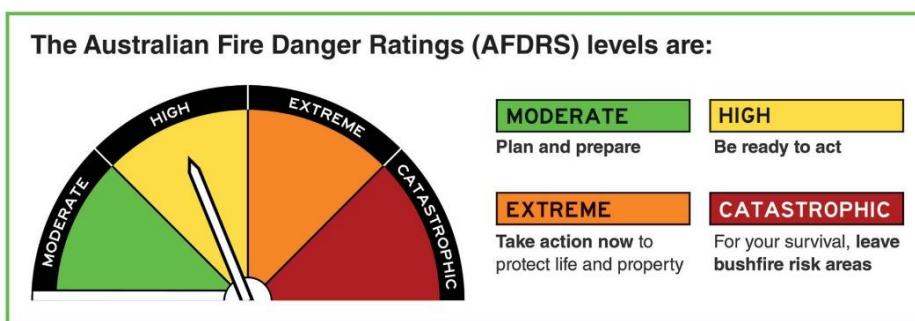


Figure 2: AFDRS Ratings

<sup>8</sup> More information can be found at: <https://afdrs.com.au/>

The response to bushfires is a business-as-usual activity for both the NTFRS and BFNT.

Both agencies are the controlling authority and hazard management authority for fires within each of their jurisdictions. Practically each agency is responsible for managing the technical aspects of responding to a bushfire and commanding its resources through their Incident Controller.

If a fire is occurring within an ERA, the NTFRS is the control and hazard management authority, whereas when the fire is in the FPZ, BFNT is the controlling and hazard management authority.

The BFNT has 3 classifications of incidents and describes them in generic terms, as shown in the table below:

Incident Classification	Description
Level 1	Level 1 fire incidents are characterised by being able to be controlled through local or initial response resources within a few hours of notification. Being relatively minor, all functions of incident management are generally undertaken by the first arriving crew/s.
Level 2	Level 2 fire incidents are more complex either in size, resources, risk or community impact. Level 2 incidents usually require delegation of several incident management functions and may require interagency response. They may be characterised by the need for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• deployment of resources beyond the initial response,</li> <li>• sectorisation of the incident,</li> <li>• the establishment of function sections due to the levels of complexity, or</li> <li>• a combination of the above.</li> </ul>
Level 3	Level 3 fire incidents are protracted, large and resource intensive. They may affect community assets and/or public infrastructure, and attract significant community, media and political interest. These incidents will usually involve delegation of all the Incident Management functions.

### Australian Warning System

The Australian Warning System is a national approach to information and warnings during emergencies like bushfire. The System uses a nationally consistent set of icons, like those below. All warnings and advice will be issued by the Incident Controller from the relevant controlling authority for fire (NTFRS or BFNT). Each warning level has a set of action statements to give the community clear advice about what to do. Calls to Action can be used flexibly across all 3 warning levels depending on the hazard.

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 be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts your life at risk

In instances where the Local Controller is required to perform a task or function, the controlling authority will contact the Local Controller.

Tasks approved by the controlling authority's Incident Controller may include, but not limited to:

- liaison with key community stakeholders
- closure of roads or places
- fire cause or protection of potential area of origin
- post fire impact assessments
- establishment of reception areas / evacuation centres should people evacuate.

## Actions to be taken – Bushfire – guide only

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
All Members	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs
Local Controller	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	<p>On receipt of advice, and as overall controller of the incident:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene a meeting with the local emergency committee, if required</li> <li>• Ascertain state of preparedness</li> <li>• Determine the need to disseminate warnings/information to the public</li> <li>• Ensure communications are establish and maintained</li> <li>• Ascertain the need to set up forward command post and brief personnel identified for command post staffing</li> </ul> <p>Proceed to fire scene and commence the following:</p>	<p>On completion of operation, ensure all personnel (victims/responders) are accounted for</p> <p>Ensure all personnel are advised on debrief arrangements</p> <p>Arrange for a Critical Incident Debrief, action as appropriate</p> <p>Compile and forward Post Operations Report to relevant authority</p>	

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish forward command post</li> <li>Co-ordinate requests for assistance from other agencies</li> <li>Act as on-site media liaison officer</li> </ul>		
NT Police - 2IC	Attend briefings	Attend briefings  Inform key personnel  Provide SITREPs	<p>Establish contact with the Local Controller, and obtain details and confirmation of requirements</p> <p>Proceed to fire scene, advise the Local Controller of estimated time of arrival</p> <p>On arrival of the fire scene conduct reconnaissance of area, and if necessary, initiate evacuation procedures and arrange for security of evacuated property</p> <p>As the interim on-site commander, carry out the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>If possible, establish a mobile command post, upwind of incident and outside primary incident zone</li> </ul>	<p>Upon completion of operations (as authorised by investigating authority) co-ordinate clean-up of scene</p> <p>Account for all equipment used and supervise the cleaning, servicing and refurbishment</p> <p>Assist the Local Controller in the compilation of the Post Operations Report</p> <p>Assist the Local Controller with other tasks, as directed</p>	Attend debrief

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement traffic/crowd control measures</li> <li>• If necessary, appoint staging section personnel to control and marshal vehicular traffic in/out of the area</li> <li>• If required, implement Disaster Victim Identification procedures</li> <li>• If required, ensure statutory investigation procedures are carried out</li> </ul> <p>Unless directed otherwise, maintain regular SITREPs to the Local Controller</p> <p>Other considerations may also include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment of enquiry centre for the purpose of providing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ General information on incident</li> <li>◦ Details of victims</li> <li>◦ Location of victims</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Safety of victims</li> <li>● Arrangements for transportation of deceased persons</li> </ul>		
Wadeye Health Centre	Attend briefings	Implement SOPs to prepare and respond to possible injuries	<p>Establish contact with the Local Controller and if necessary, attend LEC meeting</p> <p>If necessary, implement call out procedures</p> <p>Brief staff and instruct to remain on standby, if required</p> <p>Prepare health vehicles and health centre in the event of possible casualties</p> <p>Advise the Local Controller of state of preparedness</p> <p>Maintain normal health services and if activated, provide additional health and medical assistance, as required</p>	<p>Upon completion of operation, account for all health personnel, refurbish equipment and co-ordinate the re-establishment of normal health centre operations</p> <p>If necessary, liaise with the Local Controller regarding the requirements for Critical Incident Debriefing support</p> <p>Conduct operational debrief with health centre staff</p> <p>Liaise with the Local Controller regarding any ongoing public health issues resultant of the incident</p> <p>Provide relevant information to the Local Controller for inclusion in the final SITREP</p> <p>Stand down personnel</p>	Attend debrief

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
PAWA /DJ Air	Attend briefings	Implement SOPs to protect critical infrastructure	Assist the Local Controller where required	Restore facilities and resume normal duties as soon as possible	Liaise with the Local Controller regarding requirements of attending debriefs and reporting requirements
WDRC/TDC	Attend briefings	Implement SOPs to assist with fire control and assist with the dissemination of fire information to the public	<p>On receipt of advice of bushfire threat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement call out procedures</li> <li>• Brief personnel and place on standby</li> <li>• Ascertain state of preparedness</li> <li>• Establish contact with the Local Controller</li> <li>• Dispatch fire unit/s to area, assess situation and advise Local Controller</li> <li>• If necessary, attend LEC meetings and brief committee</li> </ul> <p>Dispatch units to scene, reassess and take appropriate action to contain and/or extinguish fire, if possible</p> <p>Continue to liaise with the onsite command regarding requests for assistance</p>	<p>Upon completion of operations, account for all personnel and equipment used</p> <p>Supervise the cleaning, repair and refurbishment of equipment</p> <p>Conduct operational debrief with personnel</p> <p>If necessary, liaise with the Local Controller regarding Critical Incident Debriefing requirements and support</p>	Attend debrief

Organisation/ Provider	Stage 1: Alert	Stage 2: Standby	Stage 3: Activation	Stage 4: Stand down	Transition to recovery
			Once under control, patrol area until satisfied fire is no longer a threat		
Our Lady of Sacred Heart School	Attend briefings	Implement SOPs to assist with shelter requirements, if required	Provide mustering point and sheltering assistance, as required by the Local Controller	If necessary, liaise with the Local Controller regarding Critical Incident Debriefing requirements	Liaise with the Local Controller regarding the requirements for attending debriefs and reporting requirements
Support organisations	Provide support as requested by the Local Controller				

### 11.3.3. Flooding

Hazard	Controlling authority	Hazard management authority
 Flooding	NT Police Force	NT Fire and Emergency Services (NT Emergency Service)

The Wadeye Locality may be subject to inundation caused by seasonal monsoonal/severe storm activity. When such inundation occurs, access by both air and road will be severely restricted. Inundation, (also known as pluvial flooding), occurs when an area receives a large amount of water in a short amount of time which causes localities to be submerged. In the NT, this can include when a riverbank is at risk after several days of heavy rain.

A flood hazard includes a flood threat to the township, housing and infrastructure of the Locality including the surrounding areas. The Bureau will issue a flood watch advice with up to 4 days lead time in situations where forecast rainfall and catchment conditions may lead to flooding.

The Palumpa (Nganmarriyanga) community is situated approximately 50 km to the east of Wadeye and about one km off the main Daly River/Wadeye Road. Palumpa is divided by a flood affected causeway (fed by the Anopheles and Chalanyi Creek systems which flow into the Moyle River system) into the old (eastern) and the new housing area which is on the western side of the water course. The highest recorded flood was in 1998 and 2023 when the council office was inundated to a level of 2.1 m.

Palumpa is generally not prone to flooding unless extreme rain falls in the catchments of the Moyle River, Anopheles and Chalanyi Creeks. There is no flood gauge in the area so the prediction of a possible flood affecting the Palumpa Community may not always be possible. Other factors may also affect flooding in the community such as local rain which feeds creeks and watercourses upstream from the crossing.

Should flooding occur it will not always be possible to access the main or eastern part of the community by road. The airstrip, which is approximately 2 km from the community, is situated on relatively high ground, and is expected to remain operable in most circumstances.

Flood waters have previously affected some houses in the older part of the community thus affecting the sewage system and the need to relocate some residents. The power station has been unaffected to date, but the health clinic and abattoirs are both affected as both have septic sewage systems.

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

Flood Impact	Consequence
Disruptive flooding	Causes inconvenience. Low-lying areas next to water courses are inundated. Minor roads may be closed and low-level bridges submerged. In urban areas inundation may affect some backyards and buildings below the floor level as well as bicycle and pedestrian paths. In rural areas removal of stock and equipment may be required.
Community impact flooding	In addition to the above, the area of inundation is more substantial. Main traffic routes may be affected. Some buildings may be affected above the floor level. Evacuation of flood affected areas may be required. In rural areas removal of stock is required.
Critical/emergency flooding	In addition to the above, extensive rural areas and/or urban areas are inundated. Many buildings may be affected above the floor level. Properties and towns are likely to be isolated and major rail and traffic routes closed. Evacuation of flood affected areas may be required. Utility services may be impacted.

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

The NTES maintain the Territory EOC in a state of readiness. If the EOC is required to be activated by the Regional 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:**

- the Bureau weather/flood warnings/advice
- Road closures on flooded causeways

**Public safety message process:**

- the Bureau issues a flood advice to NTES TDO
- NTES TDO issues Australian Warning System to the NTFES Media Unit
- NTES TDO notifies Local Controller and NTES Manager Northern
- Local Controller notifies LEC
- NTES Manager Northern consults with the Bureau and Incident Controller to determine recommended messaging
- NTFES Media Unit or Public Information Group receives approved messaging to publish

**Warnings and advice approval flow**

The Australian Warning System is a national approach to information and warnings during emergencies like storm, flood and cyclone. The system uses a nationally consistent set of icons that are found 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 be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay 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.

On advice from the Bureaus' weather warnings, the NTES determine the Australian Warning System level.

The NTES TDO is responsible for issuing Australian Warning System warnings and advice prior to an Incident Controller is appointed.

Actions to be taken – Flooding – guide only<sup>9</sup>

Organisation/ Provider	Flood Watch	Inundation
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

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<sup>9</sup> Action stages as per Flood products issued by the Bureau of Meteorology

### 11.3.4. Tropical cyclone

Hazard	Controlling authority	Hazard management authority
 Tropical cyclone	NT Police Force	NT Fire and Emergency Services (NT Emergency Service)

A tropical cyclone<sup>10</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.

Wadeye may be subject to tropical cyclones due to its close proximity to the coastal region where tropical cyclones may cross the coastline and proceed inland.

A number of cyclones have directly or indirectly impacted NT in recent years. The following is a summary of significant tropical cyclones to have impacted the Territory:

- Severe Tropical Cyclone Megan – March 2024  
Category 3 system at landfall. Brought destructive winds and major flooding to Borroloola and surrounding areas.
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Trevor – March 2019  
Category 4 system at landfall. Triggered widespread evacuations across the Gulf of Carpentaria and caused significant wind damage and flooding.
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Marcus – March 2018  
Category 5 at peak intensity, Category 2 when crossing near Darwin. Caused widespread damage with destructive winds and heavy rainfall across the Northern Territory, especially Darwin and surrounding regions.
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Lam – February 2015  
Category 4 system at landfall. Brought destructive winds and flooding to Arnhem Land communities, damaging homes and infrastructure.
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Monica – April 2006  
Category 5 system at peak intensity. One of the most intense cyclones recorded in the Southern Hemisphere; caused extensive environmental damage.
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Ingrid – March 2005  
Category 4 system at landfall. Impacted Arnhem Land and the Tiwi Islands with strong winds and heavy rainfall.
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Tracy – December 1974  
Category 4 system at landfall. Devastated Darwin, destroying most of the city and causing 71 fatalities.

Tropical Cyclones are classified into categories based on their sustained wind speed. These categories help communicate the potential severity of a cyclone's impact, including wind damage, storm surge, and flooding. Understanding these categories is essential for assessing risk and implementing appropriate emergency response measures.

The table on the following page outlines the classification system used for tropical cyclones.

<sup>10</sup> More information can be found at: <http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/tc-info/>

**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 Regional 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 issues Australian Warning System to the NTFES Media Unit
- NTES TDO notifies Local Controller and NTES Manager Northern
- Local Controller notifies LEC
- NTES Manager Northern consults with the Bureau, Regional Controller, NTES Chief Officer and Incident Controller to determine recommended messaging
- NTFES Media 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.

## Warnings and advice approval flow

The Australian Warning System is a national approach to information and warnings during emergencies like storm, flood and cyclone. The system uses a nationally consistent set of icons that are found 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 be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay 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.

On advice from the Bureaus' weather warnings, the NTES determine the Australian Warning System level.

The NTES TDO is responsible for issuing Australian Warning System warnings and advice prior to an Incident Controller is appointed.

Actions to be taken – Tropical cyclone – guide only<sup>11</sup>

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

<sup>11</sup> Action stages as per Tropical Cyclone advice and warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology

Organisation/ Provider	Watch	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Reduced risk	Transition to recovery
	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		
	Participate meetings as required		NTPF presence will be required at the designated shelter/s			
NTPF	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  Limit transport and ensure all emergency vehicles are fully operational  Co-ordinate the movement of personnel to shelter  Commence final patrol of area  Ensure all personnel take shelter	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 SITREPs  Ensure that all NTPF equipment used in the operation is accounted for, maintained and restored  Inform key personnel
NTES	Attend LEC meetings  Brief unit members	Brief unit members  Advise the Operations	Brief unit members  Advise the Operations Officer	Take and remain in shelter	Remain in shelter until advised by Local Controller that	Coordinate any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required

Organisation/ Provider	Watch	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Reduced risk	Transition to recovery
	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		
	<p>Advise the Operations Officer of the unit involvement</p> <p>Check and prepare unit equipment</p> <p>Carry out other duties as directed by the Local Controller</p>	Officer of the unit involvement	of the unit involvement		<p>it is safe to move outside</p> <p>Provide SITREPs as required</p>	Organise Request for Assistance documentation
Wadeye Health Clinic	<p>Brief health clinic personnel</p> <p>Advise Local Controller of state of preparedness and of any urgent requirements</p> <p>Check generator fuel levels</p> <p>Review booked patient travel arrangements with patient travel in Darwin</p> <p>Review patients that may need evacuation or have special needs</p> <p>Assist in reviewing aged care facilities</p>	<p>Brief health clinic personnel</p> <p>Any potential medevacs and long term ongoing treatment patients need to be transferred to appropriate medical facilities or appropriate safe places, at the discretion of management at the clinic</p> <p>Ensure all vehicles are fuelled</p> <p>Allocate staff to check emergency equipment</p>	<p>Brief health clinic personnel</p> <p>Deliver disaster packs to designated cyclone shelters</p> <p>Allocate health clinic vehicles to safe areas</p> <p>Secure all medical records in filing cabinets or compactors</p> <p>Transfer patients who require monitoring treatment to the clinic or another designated shelter (with necessary family members)</p>	<p>Take and remain in shelter</p>	<p>Ensure all personnel remain in shelter until it is safe to leave</p> <p>At the direction of the Local Controller, check the health premises for damage</p> <p>Check shelters for casualties</p> <p>Upon advice from the Local Controller ensure personnel and facilities are available for triage and treatment as soon as the destructive winds have stopped</p> <p>Advise the Local Controller on all first</p>	<p>Stand down staff</p> <p>Advise the Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required</p> <p>Prepare to transition back to normal work duties</p>

Organisation/ Provider	Watch	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Reduced risk	Transition to recovery
	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		
	Maintain normal health and community services	Check satellite phones  Review patient medications  Advise Top End Remote Health management of the situation	Advise Top End Remote Health management of the situation  Proceed to shelter		aid/medical requirements	
Our Lady of the Sacred Heart School	Participate in pre-cyclone clean-up activities	When advised, close school and advise community to secure buildings  Staff to secure personal residence	Undertake final checks and shelter preparation  All personnel to take shelter	Take and remain in shelter	At the direction of the Local Controller, check the school for damage  Advise the Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required  Confirm debrief arrangements  Prepare to transition back to normal work duties at the conclusion of Recovery operations	
Murrinpatha Nimmipa Store	Prepare emergency supplies  Clear yard/store of any dangerous items and prepare locking up store  Maintain normal duties	Staff to secure personal residence  Prepare to close store	Undertake final checks  Personnel to take shelter	Take and remain in shelter	At the direction of the Local Controller, attend and assess damage to store and supplies  Advise the Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required  Prepare to transition back to normal work duties at the	

Organisation/ Provider	Watch	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Reduced risk	Transition to recovery
	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		
	Assist the community with pre-cyclone clean-up					conclusion of recovery operation
DJ Air - PAWC	Attend emergency management meeting and perform actions as needed	Monitor	Monitor	Take and remain in shelter	At the direction of the Local Controller, commence survey  Advise Local Controller of damage and what essential services are still in operation	Assist the Local Recovery Coordinator as required
WDRC	If unable to attend, establish and maintain contact with the Local Controller  Brief council personnel  Maintain services	Maintain services as required  Advise the Local Controller on essential service matters and provide assistance as required	Brief council personnel  Advise the Local Controller on essential service matters  All personnel to take shelter	Take and remain in shelter	When it is considered safe, undertake survey duties  Organise plan and equipment as required by the Local Controller	Advise the Local Recovery Coordinator of any urgent priorities and participate in meetings as required  Return to normal work duties as soon as possible
Support organisations	Assist the Local Controller as required					

## 11.4. Annex D: Summary of response and recovery activities

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.



Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
1. Situational awareness	Road clearance teams General public Media reports Survey and rescue teams Impact assessment teams	Contributes to recovery planning through impact assessment data Comprehensive Impact Assessments Needs Assessment
2. Public Information	Public Information Group activation Spokespersons identified SecureNT activated	Continues in recovery
3. Survey and Rescue	Survey teams deploy to designated areas Critical sites surveyed Deploy rescue teams – NTFRS and NTPF Specialist Response Division provide primary Urban Search and Rescue capability	Survey and Impact Assessment data used to contribute to the Recovery Action Plan
4. Road clearance	Road patrol teams deploy and check assigned routes Road clearance to priority sites Assess Stuart Highway to Katherine (supply route)	Restoration of road networks and bridges Return to business as usual

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
<b>5. Emergency accommodation</b>	<p>Emergency accommodation and shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- evacuation centres</li> </ul> <p>Provision of resources that will enable people to remain in their homes/emergency clothing</p>	<p>Evacuation centres may continue into recovery</p> <p>Temporary accommodation options</p> <p>Repatriation planning</p>
<b>6. Medical</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hospital <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Identify any issues with accessing facilities</li> <li>- Initial Impact assessment</li> <li>- Access to critical supplies e.g. medicines, consumables, power or fuel and water</li> <li>- ongoing acute clinical care and critical services requirements</li> <li>- increase morgue capacity</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Health Centres <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identify any issues with accessing facilities</li> <li>- Access to critical supplies e.g. medicines, consumables, power or fuel and water</li> </ul> </li> <li>• GP clinics and pharmacies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- identify operational GP services</li> <li>- identify operational pharmacies</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Support Medically vulnerable people</li> <li>• Medical retrieval services (air and road)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing provision of health services <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- which may include business continuity plans</li> <li>- engagement with stakeholders</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Repatriation of medically vulnerable people in community</li> <li>• GP clinics and pharmacies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ongoing liaison by the Medical Group</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Medical retrieval services - resume business as usual</li> </ul>

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

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
12. Transport infrastructure (supply lines)	<u>Air (airport/airstrip)</u> Clear the runway to allow air movements Establish a logistics hub at the airport Terminal damage and operational capability assessment	Monitor repairs and business continuity activities
	<u>Road</u> Highway and critical access roads damage assessment Repair work to commence immediately	Planning and prioritising repair work of all affected key Territory Highways (Stuart, Barkly, Victoria and Arnhem)
	<u>Rail</u> Rail damage assessment Outage estimation	Ongoing liaison with operator to support restoration to business as usual
	<u>Port, harbour and barge</u> Assess damage to port infrastructure and harbour facilities Assess the damage to barge facilities	Repairing infrastructure Establish alternate arrangements for the supply of remote communities
13. Waste management	Waste management requirements and develop waste management plan if required	Continues in recovery
14. Repairs and reconstruction	Private housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- impact assessments</li> <li>- temporary repairs</li> </ul> Government buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- damage assessment</li> </ul> Public housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- impact assessments</li> </ul> Private industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- damage assessments</li> </ul>	Private housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- information and support to facilitate repairs</li> </ul> Government buildings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- repairs and reconstruction</li> </ul> Public housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- long term repair plans</li> </ul> Private industry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- repair and reconstruction</li> </ul> Temporary accommodation for a visiting construction workforce
15. Transport services	Staged re-establishment of public transport services	Continues in recovery
16. Telecommunication	Telecommunications providers will assess the damage to their infrastructure	Repair damage networks and infrastructure (for private entities there is support for operators only)

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
	Put in place temporary measures to enable landline and mobile services	
<b>17. Public safety</b>	NTPF will maintain normal policing services to the community	Gradual return to business as usual
<b>18. Animal welfare</b>	Temporary emergency arrangements for pets	Reunite pets with their owners and cease emergency support arrangements
<b>19. Community consultation</b>	Information provision regarding the overall situation, response efforts, what services are available and how to access them	Community consultation process regarding long term recovery and community development

## 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
CASA	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
CM&C	Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
DAF	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
DCDD	Department of Corporate and Digital Development
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DET	Department of Education and Training
DLI	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure
DLPE	Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
DOH	Department of Health
DTBAR	Department of Trade, Business, and Asian Relations
EMA	Emergency Management Australia
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
ERA	Emergency Response Area
ESO	Essential Services Operators
FERG	Fire and Emergency Response Group
ICC	Incident Control Centre
ICP	Incident Control Point
IMT	Incident Management Team
JESCC	Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre

Acronyms	Definitions
KM	Kilometres
LCC	Local Coordination Centre
LEC	Local Emergency Committee
LRCC	Local Recovery Coordination Committee
M	Metres
NERAG	National Disaster Risk Assessment Guidelines
NT	Northern Territory
NTES	Northern Territory Emergency Service
NTFES	Northern Territory Fire and Emergency Services
NTFRS	Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service
NTG	Northern Territory Government
NTPF	Northern Territory Police Force
RAT	Rapid Assessment Team
RCC	Rescue Coordination Centre
SerPro	Serve and Protect
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SITREP	Situation Report
STAND	Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters
TDC	Thamarrurr Development Corporation
TDO	Territory Duty Officer
TEMC	Territory Emergency Management Council
WDRC	West Daly Regional Council
WebEOC	Web-Based Emergency Operations Centre