NT EMERGENCY SERVICE

Mataranka
Local Emergency Plan

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1. Document control

1.1. Governance

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1.2. Version history

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

2. Acknowledgement of Country

The Northern Territory 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 Mataranka 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

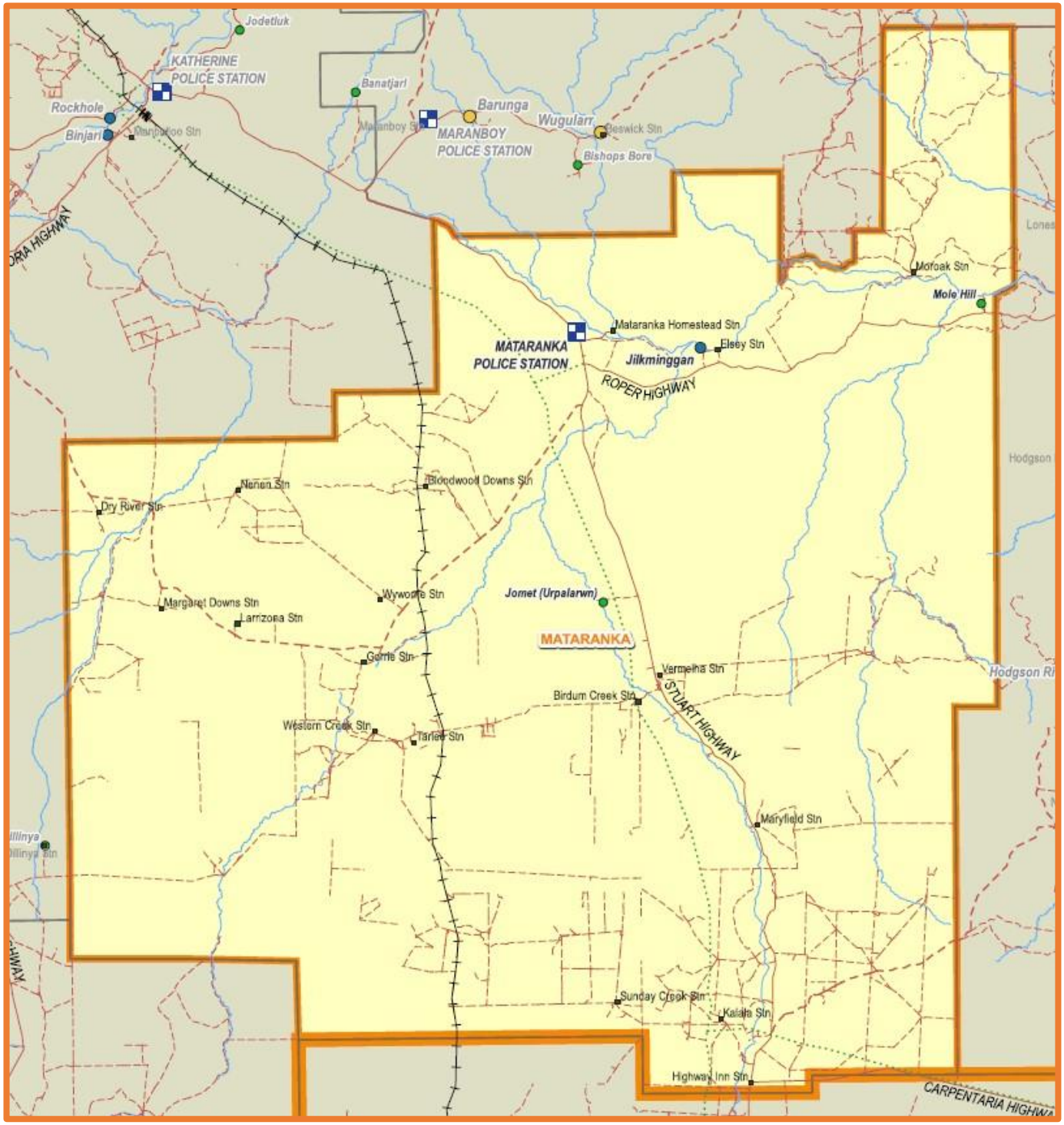
This Plan complements the Northern Regional Emergency Plan[1] as it relates to the Locality. For further information on the hierarchy of plans, refer to the Territory Emergency Plan[2]. The Locality covers approximately 55,000 square kilometres (km) and is located approximately 104 km south of Katherine and forms part of the Northern Region, as defined by the Territory Emergency Plan.

The population of the Locality is approximately 700, with the main population centres being the town of Mataranka and the Jilkminggan Community.

The Locality area extends from Mataranka in the north to Daly Waters in the south. The Locality incorporates Jilkminggan, Larrimah, Mole Hill and Mulggan town camp.

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

[1] More information can be found at: https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications
[2] More information can be found at: https://www.pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/emergency-management
[3] More information can be found at: BushTel - Remote Communities of the NT



LEGEND

- Police Station
- Homestead
- Homeland
- Minor Community
- Major Community
- Roads - Main - Sealed
- Roads - Main - Unsealed
- Roads - Track
- Railway
- Gas Pipeline
- Watercourses - Major
- Emergency Management Boundary
- Emergency Management Regions

4.1. Climate and weather

The Locality is situated in the Big Rivers and experiences weather conditions typical to those of the region. There is a distinct Wet Season (October to April) and Dry Season (May to September).

4.2. Geography

The Locality is lightly timbered grasslands with pockets of rainforest in the Elsey National Park.

The Locality is drained by a number of rivers and creeks, the main being:

- Birdum Creek
- Elsey Creek
- Roper Creek
- Roper River
- Salt Creek
- Strangways Creek
- Warlock Ponds (part of Elsey Creek)
- Waterhouse 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.

4.4. Sites of conservation

Mataranka thermal pools is a site of significance to the NT, for further information about this site and others, contact the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment (DLPE).

4.5. Tourism

Mataranka is known as a tourist destination. Mataranka thermal pools, 110 km southeast of Katherine, other thermal springs, and the Roper River are features of the area. Mataranka is the largest of all 5 centres with tourism playing a predominant role in the region, with the Thermal Pool, Bitter Springs and Elsey National Park as the major attractions. The area also holds annual rodeos and fishing competitions in May and August each year. This attracts a significant number of tourists to the locality during the Dry Season.

4.6. NT and local government

This Locality sits within the Big Rivers region, with the following NT Government (NTG) agencies that have a presence in the Locality:

- NTPF
- NTFES
    - NT Fire and Emergency Response Group (FERG)
- Sunrise Health Services Aboriginal Corporation (DOH)
    - Mataranka Health Centre
    - Jilkminggan Health Centre
- Department of Education and Training (DET)
    - Mataranka School
    - Jilkminggan School

Local government in the Locality is provided by the Roper Gulf Regional Council (RGRC).

4.7. Building codes

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

4.8. Land use

The Locality land use is in consultation between the Northern Land Council (NLC), Traditional Owners and RGRC and has the following land usage:

- air strip
- cemetery
- limestone quarry
- national park
- pastoral
- residential
- sewerage ponds
- waste management

4.9. Homelands

Homelands (outstations) 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 RGRC. 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.

4.10. Power generation and distribution

Mataranka, Jilkminggan, and Larrimah's power supply is provided from the Darwin and Katherine grid. Mataranka and Jilkminggan have an Essential Services Officer (ESO) that is contracted out through the Power and Water Corporation (PAWC). There is no ESO in Larrimah.

Daly Waters' power is supplied via diesel generator.

4.11. Water services

Jilkminggan operates reticulated water and sewer systems, with the water sourced from bores. RGRC is the PAWC agent in Jilkminggan and employs an ESO.

4.12. Health infrastructure

Through the 2 Sunrise Health Clinics in Mataranka and Jilkminggan, the Locality has the capacity to provide emergency medical aid in addition to routine health treatment. Staff for the Jilkminggan clinic are based in Mataranka, with no presence in community afterhours. Serious medical cases are required to be medically evacuated to Katherine or Darwin.

4.13. Medically vulnerable clients

A list of all medically vulnerable clients is held with the manager of the Sunrise Health Clinics within the Locality.

4.14. Emergency service infrastructure

The Locality has the following emergency service infrastructure:

- FERG shed
- police station and cells

4.15. Roads

The Locality has 4 major roads which are:

- Gorrie/Dry River Road
- Homestead Road (to Elsey National Park)
- Roper Highway
- Stuart Highway

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
Daly Waters	16°15'41.54"S 133°22'49.80"E	No	1900 metres (m) x 30 m Night capable, however lights must be manually switched on	Daly Waters Pub
Mataranka Township	14°55'34.49"S 133°3'50.88"E	No	Gravel 1126 m x 30 m Not all weather	RGRC

4.17. Rail infrastructure

The Darwin to Adelaide Railway transits through the NT terminating in the vicinity of East Arm port. At least 12 trains normally use the line each week, carrying either passengers or a variety of freight including hazardous chemicals/materials. Rail maintenance crews also operate various vehicles on the line at different times.

In the event of a major incident, many railway authorities have response capabilities and can provide specialised assistance, advice and support.

The various railway organisations are:

Organisation	Function
Australasian Railway Corp	Managed by both the NT and South Australian Governments
One Rail (Previously Genesee and Wyoming Inc)	Rail operator
Great Southern Railway (GSR)	Passenger service operator (once per week)
Australian Southern Railroad	Train control operator of freight trains
Pacific National	Locomotive operator, including locomotive crews and terminal operators
BJB Joint Venture (BJB)	Track maintenance
Evans Deacon Industries (EDI)	Maintenance of rolling stock
All contact with these authorities is to be through the Regional Controller.	

4.18. Telecommunication

Telecommunications are available across the Mataranka Locality via a combination of landline, mobile and satellite communications delivery. Note: mobile service is predominantly in Mataranka, with limited availability in Daly Waters, Larrimah and Jilkminggan. Satellite communications are the only available service across the remainder of the locality.

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 and managed by the following facility:

- Amanbidjie School

4.20. Local radio stations

The Locality has the following broadcasts:

- 106.1 FM Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) Radio
- 107.7 FM ABC Radio National

5. Prevention

5.1. Emergency risk assessments

The Mataranka 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 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 following hazards were identified as posing a medium risk to the Locality, with further advice provided within **Annex C:**

- flooding
- road crash

Hazard	Overall consequence	Overall likelihood	Risk rating
Flooding	Minor	Likely	**Medium**
Road crash	Minor	Likely	**Medium**

The remaining hazards were identified as posing a low to very low risk to the Locality, and any queries regarding the response to these hazards should be directed through the Local Controller:

Hazard	Overall consequence	Overall likelihood	Risk rating
Air crash	Moderate	Very Rare	**Low**
Bushfire (within Fire Protection and Management Zones)	Insignificant	Likely	**Low**
Coastal marine incident	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Cyber attack (NTG enterprise ICT environment only)	Insignificant	Rare	**Very Low**
Cyclone	Minor	Rare	**Low**
Dam safety	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Earthquake	Minor	Extremely Rare	**Very Low**
Emergency animal disease	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**
Emergency aquatic animal disease	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**
Emergency marine pest	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Emergency plant pest or disease	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**
Fire (within Gazette Area)	Minor	Unlikely	**Low**
Hazardous material	Moderate	Very Rare	**Low**
Heatwave	Minor	Unlikely	**Low**
Human disease	Moderate	Very Rare	**Low**
Invasive animal biosecurity	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**

Hazard	Overall consequence	Overall likelihood	Risk rating
Invasive plant biosecurity	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**
Major Power Outage	Insignificant	Likely	**Low**
Marine oil spill (inside the port)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Marine oil spill (outside the port)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Rail crash	Moderate	Very Rare	**Low**
Space weather	Insignificant	Very Rare	**Very Low**
Storm and water damage	Minor	Unlikely	**Low**
Storm surge	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Structural collapse	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**
Terrorism	Minor	Extremely Rare	**Very Low**
Tsunami	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	
Water contamination (potable)	Minor	Very Rare	**Very Low**

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[4] 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 NT Emergency Service (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 the 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.

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:

- NT Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) Smart Sparx Program
- NTES hazard briefings
- NTES Paddy Program
- Australian Red Cross Pillowcase Program
- St Johns Ambulance First Aid in Schools 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

[4] More information can be found at: https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications

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
- 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. 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.

7.2. Local Emergency Controller

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

7.3. Local Emergency Committee

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

7.4. Emergency Operations Centre/Local Coordination Centre

NT Emergency Management Arrangements	Controlling Authority Arrangements
Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) (Territory and Regional level)	Incident Control Centre (ICC)
Local Coordination Centre (LCC) (local level)	Incident Control Point (ICP)

LCCs are established as required by the Local Controller 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 Mataranka 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.

7.5. WebEOC

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

7.6. Situation reports

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

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

7.7. Activation of the Plan

This plan has 5 stages of activation 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.

7.8. 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, NTPF, NTFES 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)[5] 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. Emergency shelters and strong buildings

Emergency shelters and strong buildings are places of refuge 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/strong buildings capacity within the Locality are:

Shelter(s)	People capacity
Jilkminggan School	150
Mataranka School	150
Mataranka Town Hall	100

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

The responsibilities of the emergency shelter manager are:

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

Emergency shelters are opened under the direction of the Territory or Regional Controller in consultation with the Shelter Group (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

[5] More information can be found at: https://pfes.nt.gov.au/emergency-service/publications

of time the emergency shelters are likely to be occupied. The announcement that emergency shelters are open in the Locality will be made by radio broadcast and social media, and will include emergency shelter rules such as no pets or alcohol being permitted in shelters and it's up to the discretion of the local individual shelter manager to determine if food will be provided.

7.14. Evacuation

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

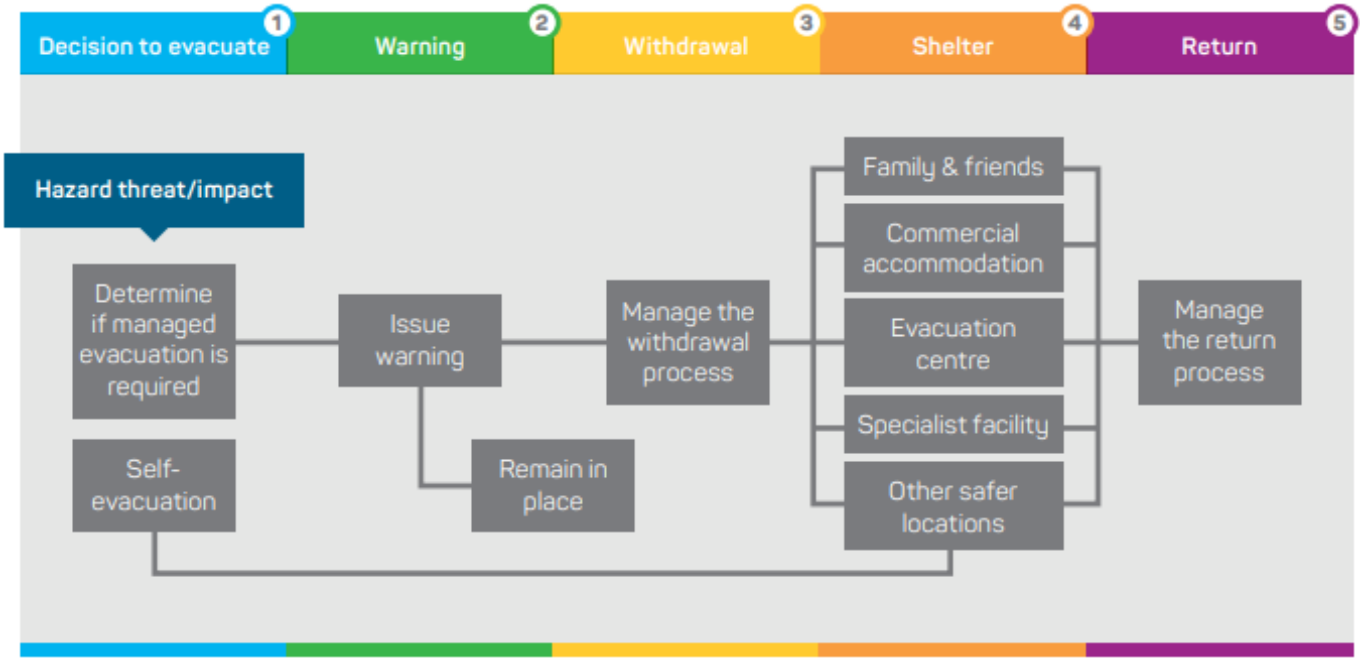
Evacuation of the Locality will be considered as a last resort. Where an evacuation is required the TEMC, in consultation with the Regional Controller, Local Controller and the LEC, will arrange emergency accommodation and transport, as necessary, through the relevant Functional Group/s.

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

Evacuation is a complex process that has 5 distinct steps:

1. decision
2. warning
3. withdrawal
4. shelter
5. return

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



Source: Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience, Evacuation Planning Handbook, 2017

7.15. Identified evacuation centres

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

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

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

7.16. Register.Find.Reunite registration and inquiry system

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

This system can be activated by either the Territory or Regional Controller without the national system being activated, in consultation with the NTPF and the Welfare Group in the first instance.

7.17. Impact assessment

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

The Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment Group, led by the 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 the social, economic and natural environments.

In the NT, the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (CM&C) lead recovery coordination.

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 the CM&C.

The Local Recovery Coordinator will be an employee of the Big Rivers Region's CM&C office and will establish a Local Recovery Coordination Committee (LRCC) drawing from membership of the LEC and other relevant members of the community as needed. The Local Recovery Coordinator reports directly to the Regional Recovery Coordinator.

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

8.2. Transitional arrangements

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

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

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

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

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

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

9. Debrief

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

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

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

10. Related references

The following references apply:

- *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 (NDRRF)
- Northern Regional Emergency Plan
- *Northern Territory Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act (NT) 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 Prevention, mitigation strategies and action plans for identified hazards

Annex D Evacuation guideline

Annex E Summary of response and recovery activities

11.1. Annex A: Functional groups - roles and responsibilities

Functional group	Local contact
Animal Welfare	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)
Digital and Telecommunications	Department of Corporate and Digital Development (DCDD)
Critical Goods and Services	Department of Trade, Business, and Asian Relations (DTBAR)
Emergency Shelter	Mataranka School/Jilkminggan School
Engineering	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure (DLI)
Industry	DTBAR
Medical	Sunrise Health Clinic
Public Health	Sunrise Health Clinic
Public Information	CM&C
Public Utilities	Power and Water Corporation (PAWC)
Transport	RGRC
Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment	NTPF
Welfare	Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Full details on 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	RGRC
Anti-looting protection	NTPF
Banking services	Centrelink/Mataranka Hotel/Mataranka Homestead/Mataranka Store/Mataranka United Service Station/Mataranka Supermarket
Broadcasting: What radio stations provide announcements?	ABC Local Radio
Clearing of essential traffic routes	RGRC/NTPF
Clearing storm water drains	RGRC/PAWC
Clothing and household Items	Mataranka Store/Mataranka Supermarket
Community clean up	RGRC/Individual property owners
Control, coordination and management	Designated control authority
Coordination to evacuate public	NTPF with the assistance of other key stake holders
Critical goods and services (protect/resupply) • food • bottle gas • camping Equipment • building supplies.	Mataranka Homestead/Mataranka Store/Mataranka United Service Station/Mataranka Supermarket/Mataranka Road House/BP
Damaged public buildings: Coordination and inspections	RGRC/PAWC/Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development (DHLGCD)
Disaster victim identification capability	NTPF
Emergency alerts	NTPF/NTFES
Emergency food distribution	N/A
Emergency Operations Centre (EOC), including WebEOC	NTPF/NTFES
Emergency shelter - staff, operations and control	DET/NTPF/FERG members
Evacuation centre – staff, operations and control	DCF
Financial relief/assistance	Centrelink
Identification of suitable buildings for shelters	DLI/LEC
Interpreter services	Aboriginal Interpreter Services (Katherine)
Management of expenditure in emergencies	Controlling authority and any activated functional groups at the direction of the controlling authority

Functions	Agency /organisation/provider responsible
Medical services	DOH/Sunrise Health Clinics
Network communications (IT): Responders, public maintenance and restoration of emergency communication	Telstra/DCDD
Power: Protection and restoration	PAWC
Public messaging during response and recovery.	Hazard management authority/CM&C
Public/Environmental health (EH) management • All EH functions including water and food safety • Disease control	DOH
Rapid impact assessment	NTPF
Recovery coordination	CM&C
Repatriation	As per local arrangements/DCF
Restoration of public buildings	DLI/DHLGCD
Restoration of roads and bridges (council/territory) excluding railways	RGRC/DLI
Road management and traffic control including public Information on road closures	RGRC/DLI
Sewerage: Protection and restoration	PAWC
Survey	NTPF/NTFES
Traffic Control	NTPF/DLI/RGRC
Transport: Commercial and public airport/ Planes, automobiles, ferries, buses	RGRC (buses)/DET
Vulnerable groups	Sunrise Health Clinics/DCF
Waste management • collection • disposal of stock	RGRC
Water (including drinking water): Protection and restoration	PAWC

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

11.3.1. Flooding

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

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

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

A flood hazard includes a flood threat to the community, 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.

Floodplain maps have been developed for populated areas which lie along river reaches that have the potential to flood. Floodplain maps show the depth and extent of inundation caused when rivers rise above their banks[6].

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

The indicative impact of flood levels are provided in the table below:

Flood Classification	Consequence
Minor	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.
Moderate	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.
Major	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.

[6] More information can be found at: https://nt.gov.au/environment/water/water-in-the-nt/flooding-and-storm-surge/floodplain

Should flooding occur, it may not be possible to access the community by road. It is difficult to assess when and to what extent flooding will affect the Mataranka community throughout any given Wet Season.

Although some warning may be possible due to computation of data collected from the Bureau, a flood event may occur with little warning.

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

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

- ensure food stocks are maintained at Community Store (recommended to store six (6) weeks supply of non-perishable food items and emergency water)
- ensure fuel supplies are adequate for such an event
- ensure powerhouse fuel supplies are adequate

Public safety message process:

- the Bureau issues a flood advice to NTES TDO
- NTES TDO issues Australian Warning System to the NTPF and NTFES Media Unit
- NTES TDO notifies Local Controller and NTES Manager Northern Command
- Local Controller notifies LEC
- NTES Manager Northern Command consults with the Bureau and Incident Controller to determine recommended messaging
- NTPF and NTFES Media Unit or Public Information Officer 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 Bureau's 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[7]

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

[7] Action stages as per Flood products issued by the Bureau of Meteorology

11.3.2. Road crash

	Hazard	Controlling Authority	Hazard Management Authority
	Road crash	NT Police Force	NT Fire and Emergency Services (NT Fire and Rescue Service)

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

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

Responses to road crash incidents will be coordinated from the JESCC. NTFRS will respond as per pre-determined response arrangements contained within the SerPro 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.

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

- radio, television and social media posts
- targeted road safety campaigns
- community engagement strategies
- training in PUASAR024 - undertake road crash rescue delivered by NTES and NTFRS to NTPF and NTFES members.

Public message approval flow:

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

11.4. Annex D: Evacuation guideline

The following is to be used as a **guide** only.

Stage 1 - Decision		
Authority	The Regional Controller will authorise the activation of the evacuation plan. This evacuation plan is to be approved by the TEMC prior to activation.	Regional Controller in conjunction with TEMC
Legal references	The Act and approved Local Emergency Plan. It is recommended that the Minister declares an Emergency Situation under section 18 of the Act, when this evacuation plan is activated.	
Alternative to evacuation? i.e. shelter in place, temporary accommodation on-site/nearby.	If needed residents will be progressively relocated within the community to <location to be determined>.	Local Controller to arrange
Summary of proposed evacuation	**Decision** – made by the Regional Controller when the community have sustained damage during <to be determined> that cannot support residents in situ during recovery. The Local Controller to disseminate information to the community. **Withdrawal** – 3 stage process: 1. <location to be determined>; community to the <location to be determined>; to be registered for evacuation to <location to be determined> 2. once registered, groups to move to the airstrip assembly area using buses/vehicles 3. Australian Red Cross to register check utilising Register Find Reunite. **Shelter** – evacuees will be encouraged to stay with friends or family. The remainder will be accommodated at an evacuation centre <Location to be determined> **Return** – to be determined once recovery can sustain return to <location to be determined>.	The decision will be informed by additional advice from technical experts, e.g. the Bureau.
Which communities/outstations or geographical area does the evacuation apply to?	<Out stations, Homelands and homesteads>	
Vulnerable groups within the community	The Medical Group will liaise with local health staff and provide information on medically vulnerable people.	Medical Group and Transport Group to action.

	The identified people will be evacuated <at a time to be determined>.	
Community demographics (approx. total number, family groups, cultural groups etc.)	For more information, refer to the Evacuation Centre Field Guide (page 20 section 4.3) which can be found in WebEOC. Examine the demographic breakdown of the community to be evacuated including: • the total number of people being evacuated • an estimate of the number of people likely to require accommodation in the evacuation centre • a breakdown of the evacuees to be accommodated by age and gender. For example, the number of family groups and single persons, adult males and females, teenage males and females, and the number of primary school-aged children, toddlers and infants • a summary of cultural considerations, family groups, skin groups and community groups • potential issues that may arise as a result of these groups being accommodated in close proximity to one another • a summary of people with health issues, including chronic diseases, illnesses and injuries • details of vulnerable clients (other than medically vulnerable), such as the elderly, frail and disabled (and if they are accompanied by support i.e. family members) • details of community workers also being evacuated who may be in a position to support the operation of the evacuation centre. Examples include teachers, nurses, health workers, shire staff, housing staff and police.	
What is the nature of the hazard?	<To be determined>	
Estimated duration of the potential evacuation?	<To be determined>	

Triggers for the evacuation	**Example** 1. evacuation planning to commence when the Locality is under a <to be determined> 2. implement evacuation if the severity and impact has caused major damage and disruption to all services 3. elderly and vulnerable people are to be considered for evacuation due to limited health services. Further details of the intra-community relocation plan are required.	Regional Controller
Self-evacuation	Where possible residents will be encouraged to self-evacuate and make their own accommodation arrangements if they wish to do so. Individuals and families taking this option will be encouraged to register prior to leaving the community.	Local Controller
Responsibility for the coordination Stage 1	Regional Controller Local Controller	
Stage 2 – Warning		
Who has the authority to issue warnings?	The Bureau will issue advice and warnings. All further public information will be approved by the Regional Controller in consultation with the Public Information Group and NTES. The Local Controller will coordinate the dissemination of community level information. A combination of the following will be utilised: • broadcasted over radio and television • social media utilising the NTPF and NTFES Facebook page SecureNT • loud hailer • door to door • Emergency Alert System.	Regional Controller to liaise with Public Information Group and NTES
Process for issuing evacuation warnings and other information	At community level, the Local Controller is to appoint a community spokesperson to disseminate up to date situational information at community meetings which are to be held immediately post a convening LEC meeting, at each declared stage of the Local Emergency Plan. A media brief approved by the Local Controller at each LEC meeting, will be announced over the local radio station containing current situational information, relevant safety information, what to prepare, when to self-evacuate, and where to go.	Local Controller

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

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

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

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

What strategy will be put in place to close the evacuation centre?	Closure of the evacuation centre will be largely dependent on the extent of inundation and complexity of the recovery process.	
Stage 5 – Return		
Indicators or triggers that will enable a return	(Refer to Recovery action plan for the community) CM&C	
Who is responsible for developing a plan for the return?	Recovery coordination in conjunction with IMT.	
• **Transportation**	To be determined	Transport Group
• **Route/assembly points en-route**	To be determined	
• **End point**	To be determined	
How will information about the return be communicated to evacuees?	To be determined	Public Information Group
What information needs to be conveyed to the evacuated community members?	To be determined	

11.5. Annex E: Summary of response and recovery activities

The following tables list 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
5. Emergency accommodation	Emergency accommodation and shelter	Evacuation centres may continue into recovery

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
	- evacuation centres Provision of resources that will enable people to remain in their homes Emergency clothing	Temporary accommodation options Repatriation planning
6. **Medical**	Hospital - identify any issues with accessing facilities - initial impact assessment - access to critical supplies e.g. medicines, consumables, power or fuel and water - ongoing acute clinical care and critical services requirements - increase morgue capacity Health Centres - identify any issues with accessing facilities - access to critical supplies e.g. medicines, consumables, power or fuel and water GP clinics and pharmacies - identify operational GP services - identify operational pharmacies Support medically vulnerable people Medical retrieval services (air and road)	Ongoing provision of health services - which may include business continuity plans - engagement with stakeholders Repatriation of medically vulnerable people in community GP clinics and pharmacies - ongoing liaison by the Medical Group Medical retrieval services - resume business as usual
7. **Essential goods and services**	Establish emergency feeding and food distribution points Assessing the damage to suppliers and retailers of critical resources Assess the impact on barge operations and any effect on the ability to supply remote communities Implement interim banking arrangements	Ensure enablers are in place to support the re-opening of essential services Monitor levels and availability of essential goods Manage logistics arrangements supplying resources to outlying communities Public health inspections (food outlets) Banking sector business continuity arrangements

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
	Fuel Fuel suppliers and point of sale Manage fuel supplies to emergency power generation	Monitor fuel levels Infrastructure repairs Emergency fuel supplies for recovery Liaise with fuel suppliers, distributors and wholesalers to re-establish long term supply
	Banking Assess damage to banks and ATMs Implement temporary arrangements	Emergency cash outlets Implement long term arrangements
8. Evacuation	Evacuations within community Evacuation out of community Registration	Support services for evacuees Recovery information for evacuees Repatriation
9. Public health	Communicable disease control response Drinking water safety standards Sewage and waste disposal Safe food distribution and advice Vector and vermin control Food and commercial premises	Ongoing in recovery
10. Utilities	Power supply Power generation Water supply Sewerage Emergency sanitation	Restore power network Restore water and sewerage infrastructure Issue alerts until safe to use
11. Impact assessments	Training assessment teams Initial impact assessments	Comprehensive impact assessments Ongoing needs assessments
12. Transport infrastructure (supply lines)	Air (airport/airstrip) 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
	Road Highway and critical access roads damage assessment	Planning and prioritising repair work of all affected key Territory Highways for the Locality (Stuart and Roper)

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
	Repair work to commence immediately	
	<u>Rail</u> Rail damage assessment Outage estimation	Ongoing liaison with operator to support restoration to business as usual
13. **Waste management**	Waste management requirements and develop waste management plan if required	Continues in recovery
14. **Repairs and reconstruction**	Private housing - impact assessments - temporary repairs Government buildings - damage assessment Public housing - impact assessments Private industry - damage assessments	Private housing - information and support to facilitate repairs Government buildings - repairs and reconstruction Public housing - long term repair plans Private industry - repair and reconstruction of enabling infrastructure - support DRFA payment facilitation where eligible Temporary accommodation for a visiting construction workforce if necessary or suitable accommodation is unavailable
15. **Transport services**	Staged re-establishment of public transport services	Continues in recovery
16. **Telecommunication**	Telstra and Optus will assess the damage to their infrastructure Put in place temporary measures to enable landline and mobile services	Repair damage networks and infrastructure (for private entities there is support for operators only)
17. **Public safety**	NTPF will maintain normal policing services to the community	Gradual return to business as usual
18. **Animal welfare**	Temporary emergency arrangements for pets	Reunite pets with their owners and cease emergency support arrangements
19. **Community consultation**	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 led by relevant departments

12. Acronyms

Acronyms	Definitions
AAPA	Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
ABC	Australian Broadcasting Corporation
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System
BFNT	Bushfires NT
CM&C	Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
DAF	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
DCF	Department of Children and Families
DCDD	Department of Corporate and Digital Development
DHLGCD	Department of Housing, Local Government and Community Development
DLI	Department of Logistics and Infrastructure
DLPE	Department of Lands, Planning and Environment
DTBAR	Department of Trade, Business, and Asian Relations
DET	Department of Education and Training
DOH	Department of Health
DRFA	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements
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
LCC	Local Coordination Centre

Acronyms	Definitions
LEC	Local Emergency Committee
LRCC	Local Recovery Coordination Committee
M	Metres
NERAG	National Emergency 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
PAWC	Power and Water Corporation
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
RAT	Rapid Assessment Team
RCC	Rescue Coordination Centre
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SerPro	Serve and Protect
SITREP	Situation Report
STAND	Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters
TDO	Territory Duty Officer
TEMC	Territory Emergency Management Council
WebEOC	Web-Based Emergency Operations Centre