

Pirlangimpi Local Emergency Plan

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1. Document control

1.1. Governance

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1.2. Version history

Date	Version	Author	Summary of changes
22/12/2014	1	John McRoberts	First version
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29/11/2018	4	Travis Wurst	Reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Controller, as the Territory Controller's delegate
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19/06/2024	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

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 Pirlangimpi 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 Plan¹ as it relates to the Locality. For further information on the hierarchy of plans, refer to the Territory Emergency Plan². The Locality covers approximately 12,500 square kilometres (km) and is located approximately 120 km north of Darwin and forms part of the Northern Region, as defined by the Territory Emergency Plan.

The Locality comprises of 4 major communities close to the township of Pirlangimpi, being Pickertaramoor (Tiwi College), Paru, Yapilika (Maxwell Creek) and Port Melville. The Locality population is approximately 400 persons, the main population centre being Pirlangimpi.

To obtain more information about this Locality, Bushtel³ is the central point for information about the remote communities of the NT, their people and culutral 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: https://bushtel.nt.gov.au/

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

4.3. Sacred sites

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

The Tiwi Islands is a site of conservation significance for this Locality, for further information about these sites contact the Department of Lands, Planning and Environment⁴ (DLPE).

4.5. Forestry

Forest products are an important part of the Tiwi Islands economy. The Tiwi Plantations Corporation Pty Ltd is the Trustee Company for the Tiwi Plantations Corporation Trust which manages the industry.

4.6. Tourism

Clearwater Fishing Lodge is situated on the outskirts of Pirlangimpi. This location allows for personal fishing adventures in the many reef, estuary, mangrove and river systems in the area.

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
- Pirlangimpi Police Station
- NTFES
- NT Emergency Service (NTES) Volunteer Unit
- Power and Water Corporation (PAWC)

⁴ More information can be found at: https://nt.gov.au/environment/environment-data-maps/important-biodiversity-conservation-sites/conservation-significance-list

- Department of Health (DoH)
 - Pirlangimpi (Garden Point) Health Centre
- Department of Education (DET)
 - Pirlangimpi Primary School

Pirlangimpi is within the Tiwi Islands Regional Council (TIRC) 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

Pirlangimpi has the following land usage:

- air strip
- residential
- sewage ponds
- waste management

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 TIRC. 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 PAWC are responsible for the supply of power to Pirlangimpi. Power is supplied via 3 Caterpillar diesel generators with a diesel capacity of 102,000 litres.

4.12. Water services

The PAWC are responsible for the supply of water to Pirlangimpi, the water is supplied via a permanent spring.

4.13. Health infrastructure

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.

4.14. Medically vulnerable clients

The Pirlangimpi Health Centre has a list of medically vulnerable clients and it is updated regularly. The Pirlangimpi Health Centre also has a list of clients that require aged care.

4.15. Emergency service infrastructure

The Locality has the following emergency service infrastructure:

- health clinic
- NTES Volunteer Unit (non-operational)
- police station, cells and shed

4.16. Roads

There are a number of sealed roads within each township, including the road connecting Pirlangimpi community to a barge landing, which links the community and the airstrip. All other roads are gravel and are relatively well maintained, however they are prone to flooding/closure and deteriorate during the Wet Season.

Major roads within the Locality are as follows:

- Pirlangimpi Paru
- Pirlangimpi Pirlangimpi/Paru Road Junction
- Putjimirra Road

4.17. 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
Maxwell Creek	11°33.'S	No	Direction: 030°/210°	Tiwi Plantation
	130°35E		Dimensions: 1979 m x 90 m	Corporation
			Surface: dirt	
			Windsock: north of strip	
			Hazard: wildlife	
			Lighting: nil	
			Fuel: nil	
Pirlangimpi	11°23.'S	Yes	Direction: 040°/220°	TIRC
(Garden Point)	130°25E	130°25E	Dimensions: 1143 m x 30 m	
			Surface: sealed	
			Windsock: southern end of strip	
			Hazard: fenced	
			Lighting: nil	
			Fuel: nil	

4.18. Port (barge) landings

The Pirlangimpi concrete barge landing is located within the community on a sealed road and is well protected by a natural bay.

4.19. Telecommunication

Telecommunications are available across the Pirlangimpi township via a combination of landline, mobile and satellite communications delivery. During the Wet Season communications can be intermittent. It has been known during storms in the Wet Season for communications to be disrupted for up to 4 days at a time. Contact in an emergency may require radio or UHF contact to the mainland.

4.20. 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:

Pularumpi School

4.21. Local radio stations

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

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

5. Prevention

5.1. Emergency risk assessments

The Pirlangimpi 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 to extreme risk to the Locality, with further advice provided within **Annex C**:

- air crash
- cyclone
- heatwave
- road crash

Hazard	Overall consequence	Overall likelihood	Risk rating
Air crash	Minor	Likely	Medium
Heatwave	Moderate	Unlikely	Medium
Road crash	Minor	Likely	Medium
Tropical cyclone	Major	Likely	Extreme

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
Bushfire (within Fire Protection and Management Zones)	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Coastal marine incident	Moderate	Rare	Low
Cyber attack (NTG enterprise ICT environment only)	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Dam safety	Not applicable	Not applicable	
Earthquake	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Emergency animal disease	Moderate	Rare	Low
Emergency aquatic animal disease	Moderate	Rare	Low
Emergency marine pest	Moderate	Rare	Low
Emergency plant pest or disease	Moderate	Rare	Low
Fire (within Gazetted Area)	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Flooding	Minor	Extremely Rare	Very Low
Hazardous material	Minor	Extremely Rare	Very Low
Human disease	Moderate	Rare	Low
Invasive animal biosecurity	Moderate	Rare	Low
Invasive plant biosecurity	Moderate	Rare	Low
Major power outage	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Marine oil spill (inside the port)	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Marine oil spill (outside the port)	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Rail crash	Not applicable	Not applicable	
Space weather	Minor	Extremely Rare	Very Low
Storm and water damage	Minor	Rare	Very Low
Storm surge	Minor	Unlikely	Low
Structural collapse	Minor	Rare	Very Low
Terrorism	Moderate	Extremely Rare	Low
Tsunami	Moderate	Rare	Low
Water contamination (potable)	Minor	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 plans⁵ 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.

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

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

NTES Paddy 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
- 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 Pirlangimpi 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 Pirlangimpi 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 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 Pirlangimpi 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)⁶ 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.

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

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

7.13. Emergency shelters or strong buildings

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

The recognised emergency shelter within the Locality is:

Shelter(s)	People capacity
Pirlangimpi Primary School	40

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

The responsibilities of the emergency shelter manager are:

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

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

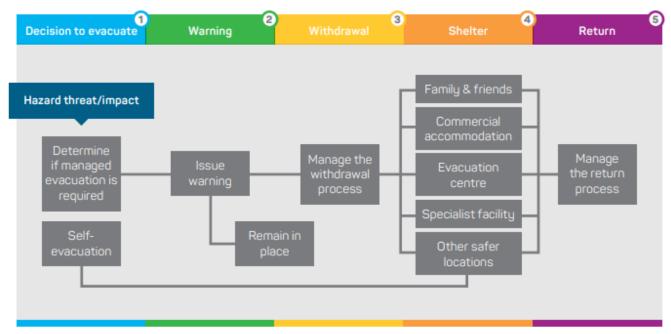
Evacuation of the Locality will be considered as a last resort. Where an evacuation is required the TEMC, in consultation with the Regional Controller, Local Controller and the LEC, will arrange emergency accommodation and transport, as necessary, through the relevant functional group/s.

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 Guideline, 2017.

7.15. Identified evacuation centres

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

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

- 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 Centre 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.Reunite⁷.

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 More information can be found at: https://register.redcross.org.au/

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 the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet (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 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
- 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 Specific 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)
Critical Goods and Services	Pirlangimpi Store
Digital and Telecommunications	Department of Corporate, & Digital Development (DCDD)
Emergency Shelter	Pirlangimpi Primary School
Engineering	TIRC
Industry	Department of Trade, Business and Asian Relations (DTBAR)
Medical	Pirlangimpi Health Clinic
Public Health	Pirlangimpi Health Clinic
Public Information	CM&C
Public Utilities	PAWC Essential Services Officer (ESO)
Survey, Rescue and Impact Assessment	NTPF/NTFES
Transport	Tiwi Enterprise
Welfare	Department of Children and Families (DCF)

Full details of functional groups 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
Anti-looting protection	NTPF
Banking Services	Pirlangimpi Store
Broadcasting: What radio stations provide announcements?	ABC Local Radio/TEABBA/TIRC
Clearing of essential traffic routes	TIRC
Clearing storm water drains	TIRC
Clothing and Household Items	Pirlangimpi Store
Community Clean Up	TIRC
Control, coordination and management	Designated control authority
Coordination to evacuate public	NTPF
Critical Goods and Services (protect/resupply)	Pirlangimpi Store
Damaged public buildings: Coordination and inspections	DLI
Disaster Victim identification capability	NTPF
Emergency Alerts	NTPF/NTFES/BFNT
Emergency food distribution	Pirlangimpi Store
EOC, including WebEOC	NTPF/NTFES
Emergency shelter staff, operations and control	Pirlangimpi Primary School
Evacuation centre - Staffing, operations and control	Pirlangimpi Primary School
Financial Relief/assistance	CM&C/DCF

Functions	Agency/organisation/provider responsible
Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements	
Identification of suitable buildings for shelters	DLI
Interpreter services	Aboriginal Interpreter Service
Management of expenditure in emergencies	Controlling authority and any activated functional groups at the direction of the controlling authority
Medical services	Pirlangimpi Health Clinic
Network communications (IT): Responders /Public Maintenance and restoration of emergency communication	Telstra
Power: Protection and restoration:	PAWC/ESO
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/NTFES
Recovery coordination	CM&C
Repatriation	DCF
Restoration of public buildings	DLI
Restoration of roads and bridges (council/territory) excluding railways	TIRC
Road management and traffic control including public Information on road closures	TIRC/NTPF
Sewerage: Protection and restoration	PAWC/ESO
Survey	NTPF/NTFES
Traffic control	NTPF
Transport: Commercial and Public airport/ planes, automobiles, buses	TIRC/Tiwi Enterprise
Vulnerable groups	Pirlangimpi Health Clinic

Functions	Agency/organisation/provider responsible
Waste management	TIRC
Water (including drinking water): Protection and restoration	PAWC/ESO

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

11.3.1. 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 Personnel⁸.

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 predetermine 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.

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

⁸ More information can be found at: www.atsb.gov.au/publications/2017/hazards-at-aviation-accident-sites/

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
- 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 message approval flow:

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

11.3.2. Cyclone

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

A tropical cyclone⁹ 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.

Pirlangimpi is subject to tropical cyclones, previously and most notably Severe Tropical Cyclone Ingrid¹⁰ in March 2005. Severe Tropical Cyclone Ingrid caused significant impact on the Australian coast in March 2005, impacting the Tiwi Islands as a category 4 system.

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

⁹ More information can be found at: http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/tropical-cyclone-knowledge-centre/understanding/tc-info/10 More information can be found at: http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/history/ingrid.shtml

• 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 NTPF and NTFES Media Unit
- NTES TDO notifies Local Controller and NTES Manager Northern Command
- LC notifies LEC
- NTES Manager Northern Command consults with the Bureau, Regional Controller, NTES Chief Officer and Incident Controller to determine recommended messaging
- NTPF and 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
<u>\$</u>	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 - Cyclone - guide only¹¹

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

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 $^{^{11}}$ Action stages as per Tropical Cyclone advice and warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology

Organisation/	Watch	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Reduced risk	Transition to
Provider	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		recovery
	maintained with Regional Controller, and NTES TDO and advise state of preparedness	SITREPs requirement Activate EOC if required	NTPF presence will be required at the designated shelter/s		Prepare for transition to recovery	
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 and advise of information received Limit transport and ensure all emergency vehicles are fully operational Co-ordinate the movement of personnel to shelter Commence final patrol of area 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

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

Organisation/	Watch	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Reduced risk	Transition to
Provider	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		recovery
	aged care facilities Maintain normal health and community services	check emergency equipment Check satellite phones Review patient medications Advise Top End Remote Health management of the situation	necessary family members) Advise Top End Remote Health management of the situation Proceed to shelter		have stopped Advise the Local Controller on all first aid/medical requirements	
Pirlangimpi Primary 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
Pirlangimpi Store	Prepare emergency supplies Clear yard/store of any dangerous items and prepare locking up store	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

Organisation/	Watch	Warni	Warning (onset of Gale Force Winds)			Transition to	
Provider	48 hours	24 + hours	6 + hours	3 + hours		recovery	
	Maintain normal duties Assist the community with precyclone clean-up					back to normal work duties at the conclusion of recovery operations	
PAWC ESO	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	
Support organisations	Assist the Local Contro	Assist the Local Controller as required					

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11.3.3. Heatwave

Hazard	Controlling Authority	Hazard Management Authority
Heatwave	Department of Health	Department of Health

The NT has naturally warm to hot weather. However, maximum and minimum temperatures occasionally exceed historical records creating heatwave conditions. Heatwave (extreme heat) conditions occur across the Territory between the months of October and March. Extreme heat is predicted to become more frequent, more intense, of longer duration, and occurring earlier in the warm season.

A heatwave occurs when maximum and minimum temperatures are unusually hot (unusual for that location) projected over a 3 day period. Heatwaves can occur with or without high humidity. They have potential to cover a large area, exposing individuals and communities to hazardous heat. Forecast minimum and maximum temperatures are compared to the historical data of a location as well as temperatures over the last 30 days to establish a heatwave occurrence.

Extreme heat can be very taxing on the body. The human body can be over-heated when it is surrounded by a temperature close to or exceeding body temperature of 37°C in the presence of dehydration. If the body's temperature is unable to be reduced adequately by evaporation of perspiration or moving to cooler surroundings, the resulting illness may range from mild to severe/catastrophic.

A heatwave forecast is a warning that the hot temperatures will be a shock to the body, compared to recent temperatures. Even the most acclimatised NT residents can be affected by heat stress. The Bureau's heatwave forecast covers all localities in the NT.

NT Health publishes heat health alerts where a severe or extreme heatwave is forecast to affect:

- a major centre (Greater Darwin Region, Alice Springs, Katherine, Tennant Creek, Nhulunbuy OR
- 3 or more populated centres in a Bureau weather district

AND the forecast is:

- 3 or more days of severe heatwave OR
- 2 or more days of extreme heatwave

The level of a severe or extreme heatwave event will determine the magnitude of response required to effectively manage the situation. The following describes heatwave incident response hierarchy and are based on AIIMS incident classification.

Level	Description
Level 1	The thresholds for a heatwave are activated with a Severe or Extreme Heatwave meeting the triggers. The Severe or Extreme Heatwave has minimal or no impact on normal operations. The Severe or Extreme Heatwave continues for one - 3 days. Hospitals and health services may observe an increase in activity commensurate with the incident. Response by NT Health through heat health alerts. Community alert messaging may utilise Watch and Act or Emergency Warning for day(s) where the heatwave is occurring.
Level 2	The Extreme Heatwave continues for approximately 3 - 6 days. The triggers for activation of plan are met. The Extreme Heatwave has major impact on normal operations. The weather event is resulting in compounding impacts on essential services and infrastructure, and there are anticipated impacts on human health and infrastructure. Hospital and health service activity increases. Response by NT Health through heat health alerts and emergency medical attention. Community alert messaging utilises Watch and Act, and Emergency Warning. Functional groups support

	requested if required. ICC may be established.		
Level 3	An Extreme Heatwave is protracted, exceeding 6 days. The triggers for activation of plan are met. Maximum temperatures for the localities are exceeded for what is normally expected and multiple days with significantly increased night-time temperatures. Public infrastructure is affected. Power supply outages, compounding the heatwave and resulting in the public unable to seek respite from the heat. Abnormally high presentations at hospitals for heat related illness. Abnormally high ambulance call outs. Businesses are taking significant actions to protect the welfare of their workers. There are a significant number of anticipated impacts.		

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

- preseason situational awareness with the Bureau
- developing heat health communication and community engagement strategies
- engagement with government and private agencies, functional groups and community organisations
- preparing fact sheets, and translating into indigenous and multicultural languages
- monitoring the Bureau heatwave forecast and decision support product
- public messaging (using radio, website posts, and social media posts) when a heatwave is forecasted, imminent or in progress

Public safety message process:

- NT Health receives heatwave warning from the Bureau
- the heatwave decision support product is reviewed and localities of forecast severe or extreme heatwave noted
- NT Health Strategic Media, Marketing and Communications Team publish heat health alerts on NT Health Alerts webpage and other channels
- NT Health publishes media release through NTG Media Releases
- NT Health engages with media to broadcast heat health messages

Warnings and advice approval flow:

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.

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.

11.3.4. 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.

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

Responses to road crash incidents will be coordinated from the JESCC. NTFRS will respond as per predetermined response arrangements contained within the SerPro system for incidents occurring within an NTFRS ERA. For incidents occurring outside of an ERA, response will be approved by the rostered NTFRS TDO.

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

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

Public safety message process:

 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 be="" determined="" to="">.</location>		
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.</to> The Local Controller to disseminate information to the community. Withdrawal - 3 stage process: 1. <location be="" determined="" to="">; community to the <location be="" determined="" to="">; to be registered for evacuation to <location be="" determined="" to=""></location></location></location> 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 be="" determined="" to=""></location> Return - to be determined once recovery can sustain return to <location be="" determined="" to="">.</location> 	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?			
Vulnerable groups within the community	The Medical Group will liaise with local health staff and provide information on medically vulnerable people.	Medical Group & Transport Group to action	

	The identified people will be evacuated <at a="" be="" determined="" time="" to="">.</at>	
Community demographics (approx. total number, family groups, cultural groups etc.)	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=""></to>	
Estimated duration of the potential evacuation?	<to be="" determined=""></to>	

Triggers for the evacuation	Example	Regional Controller
	 evacuation planning to commence when the Locality is under a <to be="" determined=""></to> 	
	implement evacuation if the severity and impact has caused major damage and disruption to all services	
	 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.	
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.	
Responsibility for the	Regional Controller	
coordination Stage 1	Local Controller	
	Stage 2 – Warning	
Who has the authority to issue warnings?	The Bureau will issue advice and warnings. All further public information will be approved by the Regional Controller in consultation with the Public Information Group and NTES.	Regional Controller to liaise with 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/NTFES Facebook page SecureNT 	
	loud hailer	
	door to door	
	Emergency Alert System.	
Process for issuing evacuation warnings and other information	At community level, the Local Controller is to appoint a community spokesperson to disseminate up to date situational information at community meetings which are to be held immediately post a convening LEC meeting, at each declared stage of the Local Emergency Plan. A media brief approved by the Local Controller at each LEC meeting, will be announced over the local radio station containing current situational information, relevant safety information, what to prepare, when to self-evacuate, and where to go.	Local Controller

When will warnings be issued (relative to the impact of the hazard)?	Immediately upon a decision to evacuate being made the LEC will commence coordinating residents to prepare for transport.	Local Controller
What information will the messages contain? (What do people need to know?) Responsibility for the coordination of Stage 2	To be determined: outline of the proposed evacuation plan measure to prepare residences safety issues; not overloading transport items to bring on the evacuation arrangements for pets and animals. Local Controller/Regional Controller	Local Controller Animal Welfare Group
	Stage 3 - Withdrawal	
Outline	3 stage process:	
	1. community residents to <staging 1="" area=""></staging>	
	2. <staging 1="" area=""> to airport</staging>	
	airport to <location be="" determined="" to=""> evacuation centre</location>	
<location> community to the airstrip</location>	Lead • NTPF	NTPF
	Overview	
	the community will gather at the <location be="" determined="" to=""> prior to being transported by community buses to the airstrip.</location>	
	 the community will gather at the <location to be determined > prior to being transported by community buses to the</location 	
	 the community will gather at the <location to be determined > prior to being transported by community buses to the airstrip.</location 	
	 the community will gather at the <location be="" determined="" to=""> prior to being transported by community buses to the airstrip.</location> Risks/other considerations evacuation should be undertaken during 	
	 the community will gather at the <location be="" determined="" to=""> prior to being transported by community buses to the airstrip.</location> 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, 	
	 the community will gather at the <location be="" determined="" to=""> prior to being transported by community buses to the airstrip.</location> 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 	

Assembly area	Likely location of evacuation centre: <to be="" determined="">.</to>	NTPF/DCF
	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	
	 Australian Red Cross Coordinator: Red Cross 	
	Other details	
	Evacuee registration. Residents will need to register at <location be="" determined="" to=""> or airport if (self-evacuating) to be permitted access to the evacuation centre at the <location be="" determined="" to="">.</location></location>	
<location> community to</location>	Lead - NTPF	NTPF/Transport/
location to be determined>	Example Lead - Transport Group	Logistics
determined?	Overview	
	 Transport Group has identified commercial operators and the Police Air 	
	Section able to provide evacuation assistance.	
	 assistance. Total proposed air assets: Commercial operators will be charging commercial rates for their services at a 	

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

Coordination Stage 3	Regional Controller	IMT coordination
	Stage 4 – Shelter	
Overview	Overview An evacuation centre will be established at the <location be="" determined="" to="">. The <location be="" determined="" to=""> will be the primary areas used.</location></location>	
Alternate shelter options	Where possible evacuees will be encouraged to seek alternative accommodation with family, friends or through commercial accommodation.	
Estimated duration of the shelter phase	To be determined	
Arrangements for domestic animals	No domestic animals are to accompany evacuees. 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	• Logistics/planning EOC	
Admin teams	EOC	CM&C/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	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 Incident Management Team (IMT).	
Transportation	To be determined	
 Route/assembly points en-route 	To be determined	
End point	To be determined	
How will information about the return be communicated to evacuees?	To be determined	
What information needs to be conveyed to the evacuated community members?	To be determined	

11.5. Annex E: Summary of response and recovery activities

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.



Ac	tivity	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 Spokes persons 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 Hwy to Katherine (supply route) 	 Restoration of road networks and bridges Return to business as usual

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
5. Emergency accommodation 6. Medical	 Emergency accommodation and shelter evacuation centres Provision of resources that will enable people to remain in their homes Emergency clothing Hospital 	 continue into recovery Temporary accommodation options Repatriation planning Ongoing provision of health
	- 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) support for vulnerable people at shelters	ongoing liaison by the Medical Group Medical retrieval services – resume business as usual

Acti	vity	Response activities	Recovery activities
	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 	 Support the re-opening of the private business sector 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
		 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
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 supplyPower generationWater supply	Restore power networkRestore water and sewerage infrastructure

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
	SewerageEmergency sanitation	Issue alerts until safe to use
11. Impact assessments	Training assessment teamsInitial impact assessments	Comprehensive impact assessmentsOngoing 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 Repair work to commence immediately 	 Planning and prioritising repair work of all affected key Territory Highways (Stuart, Barkly, Victoria and Arnhem)
	Rail Rail damage assessment Outage estimation	Ongoing liaison with operator to support restoration to business as usual
	 Port, harbour and barge 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 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

Activity	Response activities	Recovery activities
		reconstruction Temporary accommodation for a visiting construction workforce
15. Transport services	 Staged re-establishment of public transport services 	Continues in recovery
16. Telecommunications	 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	 Police 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

12. Acronyms

Acronyms	Definitions
ААРА	Aboriginal Areas Protection Authority
ABC	Australian Broadcasting Corporation
AEP	Aerodrome Emergency Plan
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System
ARFFS	Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting Service
BFNT	Bushfires NT
CM&C	Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet
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
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
ERA	Emergency Response Area
FERG	Fire and Emergency Response Group
ICC	Incident Control Centre
ICP	Incident Control Point
IMT	Incident Management Team
JESCC	Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre
КМ	Kilometres
LCC	Local Coordination Centre
LEC	Local Emergency Committee

Acronyms	Definitions
LRCC	Local Recovery Coordination Committee
М	Metre
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
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SITREP	Situation Report
STAND	Strengthening Telecommunications Against Natural Disasters
TDO	Territory Duty Officer
TEABBA	Top End Aboriginal Bush Broadcasting Association
ТЕМС	Territory Emergency Management Council
TIRC	Tiwi Islands Regional Council
WebEOC	Web-Based Emergency Operations Centre