

Overview

Glossary

- 1.1 Table 1 shows the terms that are defined specifically for Tasmanian emergency management. These are additional to terms defined in the *Emergency Management Act 2006* (the Act), and have been developed incorporating current national terminology and concepts.
- 1.2 Both 'emergency' and 'disaster' are used nationally and internationally to describe events that result in loss of/to life, property and the environment, and require special arrangements to address the consequences that arise from them. In Tasmania, the preferred term is 'emergency'.
- 1.3 The Act uses shortened phrasing for a number of titles (eg Municipal Committee for Municipal Emergency Management Committee), and this practice is applied in this plan.

Table 1: Terms for Tasmanian Emergency Management

Term	In the Tasmanian emergency management context this means:
Affected Area Recovery Committee	A group established under the authority of the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> to assist councils with longer term community recovery. It may also be referred to as a Recovery Taskforce (especially when its membership comprises State Government representatives).
assembly centre	An identified location where affected persons can assemble. Assembly centres are generally established for a short period of time to meet the immediate personal support needs of individuals and families.
capability	Capability is a function of human and physical resources, systems/processes, training and the supply chain (eg trained personnel with equipment ready for deployment).
capacity	The extent to which a capability can be applied to a particular task or function.
civil defence	Humanitarian tasks including the management of shelters, provision of emergency accommodation and supplies, and repair of critical/essential infrastructure in the event of armed conflict/hostilities.
combined area	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
command	The internal direction of an organisation's resources in an emergency.
community recovery/recovery	Planned and coordinated measures that support emergency-affected individuals and communities, economy/s, infrastructure and the environment.
comprehensive approach	A way of thinking about emergency management by considering prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery (PPRR) aspects of emergencies and their consequences.

Term	In the Tasmanian emergency management context this means:
consultation framework	The various groups within the emergency management system and how they contribute to decision-making, through consultation and collaboration. These groups include established committees, sub-committees, and related stakeholder groups and can be supplemented by temporary working groups.
control	The overall direction and management of response/recovery activities for an emergency. The authority for control can be established in legislation or in an emergency plan and includes tasking and coordinating other organisations resources to meet the needs of the situation (ie control operates horizontally across organisations).
coordination	The systematic acquisition and application of resources (workers, equipment, goods and services) during response/recovery. Coordination can operate vertically within an organisation (as a function of command), as well as horizontally across organisations (as a function of control).
councils	Means Tasmanian local governments. 'Councils' is the preferred term in this plan to provide consistency with the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
debrief	A meeting of stakeholders to review the effectiveness of response/recovery operations.
Deputy Municipal Coordinator	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Deputy Regional Controller	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
emergency	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Emergency Coordination Centre	A generic term for any facility or location where an identified group or team meets to address the consequences of an emergency. The work at Emergency Coordination Centres can be agency-specific or community focused. This means multiple centres may be active for a single emergency, and they may be co-located with other centres depending on the situation (eg an Emergency Operations Centre). Municipal, Regional and State Emergency Management Committees manage the Emergency Coordination Centres that are focused on community-wide consequence management.
emergency management	As defined in the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> . Simply explained emergency management is the framework that provides for planned and coordinated measures that reduce vulnerabilities and enhance capacities to withstand emergencies; as well as cope with, and recover from their impacts.

Term	In the Tasmanian emergency management context this means:
emergency management plan	A document required by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> that describes governance and coordination arrangements and assigned responsibilities for: a geographic area, identified hazard, or function relevant to Tasmanian emergency management. It includes descriptions of processes that provide for safe and effective operations for emergency situations.
emergency management worker	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Emergency Operations Centre	A generic term for any facility or location where an identified group or team meets to give direction for agency-specific work related to an emergency. This includes the acquisition and allocation of resources required by the agency. The way Emergency Operations Centres are used can vary depending on the situation.
emergency power and special emergency power	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
emergency risk management	A systematic process that produces a range of measures that contributes to well-being of communities and the environment.
environment	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
evacuation centre	An identified location for persons of an affected area to be temporarily accommodated. This includes the provision of basic services to meet affected people's immediate personal needs.
Executive Officer	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
exercise	A scenario-based/simulated emergency usually designed to validate emergency management arrangements and/or familiarise workers with them.
hazard	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Incident Control System	A management system for resolving emergencies in a coordinated and interoperable manner.
information centre	An identified location where information is made available for emergency-affected people. They can be virtual (eg call centres or web based), or physical (eg at a community centre). Notwithstanding the structural arrangements, the importance of providing clear and consistent information is acknowledged.
interoperability	The capacity for organisations to work together in a compatible and efficient way.
Liaison Officer	A person nominated to represent his or her organisation for emergency management. Liaison Officers provide advice about their organisation's resources, structures and capabilities; act as a conduit for information and may be authorised to commit resources.

Term	In the Tasmanian emergency management context this means:
Management Authority	The organisation responsible for providing guidance for aspects of comprehensive emergency management. This responsibility is often established in legislation and undertaken in partnership with other organisations. NOTE: Management Authority is an adaptation of the 'Lead Combat Agency' concept, which was prominent when emergency management arrangements were mainly focused on response and recovery.
Municipal Chairperson	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Municipal Committee	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Municipal Community Recovery Coordinator	A council worker who is authorised to coordinate, manage and advise on aspects of municipal community recovery arrangements.
Municipal Coordinator	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
municipal/regional volunteer SES unit	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
National Counter-Terrorism Committee	A national body comprising representatives from the Australian Government, and State and Territory Governments that contributes to the security of the Australian community through the coordination of a nationwide cooperative framework for counter-terrorism and its consequences.
National Counter-Terrorism Plan	A national plan that outlines responsibilities, authorities and the mechanisms to prevent or, if they occur, manage acts of terrorism and their consequences within Australia.
occupier	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
owner	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
PPRR	Refer to 'comprehensive approach'.
premises/property	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
preparedness	Planned and coordinated measures so safe and effective response and recovery can occur.
prevention and mitigation	Planned and coordinated measures that eliminate or reduce the frequency and/or consequences of emergencies.
recovery centre	An identified location for affected persons to access information and assistance after an emergency has occurred. A range of Government and Non Government Organisations operate from recovery centres (it can also be referred to as a 'One-Stop Shop').

Term	In the Tasmanian emergency management context this means:
region	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Regional Committee	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Regional Community Recovery Coordinator	A nominated State Government worker who is authorised to coordinate the delivery of community recovery services within a region, in collaboration with Municipal Community Recovery Coordinators and their deputies.
Regional Controller	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
resources	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
response	Planned and coordinated measures that resolve emergencies.
SEMAG	The Security and Emergency Management Advisory Group is a sub-committee of the SEMC (State Emergency Management Committee). SEMAG oversees emergency management activities across the State and provides the main conduit between State Sub-Committees and Regional Committees with the SEMC.
SEMC Advisory Agency	A State Government agency responsible for providing advice to the SEMC (State Emergency Management Committee) on the adequacy of the comprehensive arrangements for identified hazards relevant to Tasmanian emergency management. This is not an operational role in response or community recovery, nor does it affect existing command, control and coordination arrangements.
Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)	A set of directions detailing what actions are to be taken, as well as how, when, by whom and why, for specific events or tasks.
State Community Recovery Coordinator	A nominated State Government worker who is authorised to provide advice about community recovery capacity, arrangements and policy to the SEMC and the Regional Community Recovery Coordinators.
State Controller	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
State Crisis Centre	A location where Whole-Of-Government emergency management policy and strategy is coordinated from during operations and/or exercises.
state of emergency	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
statutory service	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
Support Agency	Organisations that are responsible for maintaining, or maintaining access to, specific functional capabilities as agreed with Management Authorities. Support Agencies command their own resources in coordination with the Management Authority, as required.

Term	In the Tasmanian emergency management context this means:
validation	Activities that are conducted to assess or review the effectiveness of emergency management arrangements. Standard validation activities include exercises, operational debriefs, workshops, and reviews.
vehicle	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
wildlife	As defined by the <i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i> .
worker	A generic term used to describe people who perform defined functions for an organisation or system, including: staff, volunteers and contractors/consultants.

Acronyms

1.4 Table 2 lists acronyms that are commonly used in Tasmanian emergency management. This list is not intended to be exhaustive and not all of these acronyms are used in this plan.

Table 2: Acronyms for Tasmanian emergency management

Acronym	Stands for...
AARC	Affected Area Recovery Committee
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ADF	Australian Defence Force
AEMC	Australian Emergency Management Committee
AGDCC	Attorney-General's Department Coordination Centre
AGDRC	Australian Government Disaster Recovery Committee
AGDRP	Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment
AHMPPI	Australian Health Management Plan for Pandemic Influenza
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System
AMSA	Australian Maritime Safety Authority
AQUAVETPLAN	Australian Aquatic Animal Disease Plan
AUSCONPLAN-SPRED	Australian Contingency Plan for Radioactive Space Re-entry Debris
AUSVETPLAN	Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear
CDSMAC	Community and Disability Services Ministers' Advisory Council
CIP	Critical Infrastructure Protection
ChemPlan	National Marine Chemical Spill Contingency Plan
COAG	Council of Australian Governments
COMDISPLAN	Australian Government Disaster Response Plan
COMRECEPLAN	Australian Government Plan for the Reception of Australian Citizens and Approved Foreign Nationals Evacuated from Overseas
DACC	Defence Assistance to the Civilian Community
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Commonwealth)
DIAC	Department of Immigration and Citizenship (Commonwealth)
DEDT	Department of Economic Development and Tourism
DEPHA	Department of Environment, Parks, Heritage and the Arts

Acronym	Stands for...
DFACA	Defence Force Aid to Civilian Authorities
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DIER	Department of Infrastructure, Energy and Resources
DMC	Deputy Municipal Coordinator
DoE	Department of Education
DoHA	Department of Health and Ageing (Commonwealth)
DoJ	Department of Justice
DPAC	Department of Premier and Cabinet
DPEM	Department of Police and Emergency Management
DPIW	Department of Primary Industries and Water
DSL	Dangerous Substances Location
DTF	Department of Treasury and Finance
DVI	Disaster Victim Identification
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre
EMA	Emergency Management Australia (Commonwealth)
EMP	Emergency Management Plan
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
FaHCSIA	Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (Commonwealth)
FSST	Forensic Science Service Tasmania
GA	Geoscience Australia (Commonwealth)
GIS	Geographic Information Services
ICS	Incident Control System
IMT	Incident Management Team
JOSS	Joint Operations Support Section (Commonwealth)
LAEIRP	Live Animal Export Incident Response Plan
MAST	Marine and Safety Tasmania
MC	Municipal Coordinator
MCPEM-EM	Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management-Emergency Management
MCRC	Municipal Community Recovery Coordinator
MECC	Municipal Emergency Coordination Centre

Acronym	Stands for...
MHF	Major Hazard Facility
MRT	Mineral Resources Tasmania
NAPHIP	National Action Plan for Human Influenza Pandemic
NCTC	National Counter Terrorism Committee
NCTP	National Counter Terrorism Plan
NECC	National Emergency Call Centre
NEM	National Electricity Market
NEMEP	National Electricity Market Emergency Protocol
NEMMCO	National Electricity Market Management Company
NGERAC	National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee
NGERP	National Gas Emergency Response Protocol
NGO	Non Government Organisation
NLFERP	National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan
NMOSC	National Marine Oil Spill Contingency Plan.
NRIS	National Registration and Inquiry System
OPSMAN 1	Defence Operations Manual: Visits to Australia by Nuclear Powered Warships
PPRR	Prevention and Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
RAF	Request for Additional Funds
RCR	Road Crash Rescue
RCRC	Regional Community Recovery Coordinator
RECC	Regional Emergency Coordination Centre
SCC	State Crisis Centre
SCRC	State Community Recovery Coordinator
SEMAG	Security and Emergency Management Advisory Group
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SES	State Emergency Service
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SIT REP	Situation Report
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SSU	State Security Unit, Department of Police and Emergency Management
TAPHIP	Tasmanian Action Plan for Human Influenza Pandemic

Acronym	Stands for...
TAS	Tasmanian Ambulance Service
TAS POL	Tasmania Police
TasPorts	Tasmanian Ports Corporation
TEIS	Tasmanian Emergency Information Service
TEMP	Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan
TFS	Tasmania Fire Service
TRRA	Tasmanian Relief and Recovery Arrangements
WST	Workplace Standards Tasmania

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Introduction

Authority

- 1.5 This plan is issued under the authority of the Minister for Police and Emergency Management in accordance with the requirements of Section 32 of the *Emergency Management Act 2006*. It is maintained by the State Emergency Service on behalf of the SEMC.

Aim

- 1.6 The aim of this plan is to describe the current governance and coordination arrangements, and roles and responsibilities for emergency management in Tasmania.

Objectives

- 1.7 The objectives of the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan are to:
- a. outline the principles for emergency management in Tasmania
 - b. record roles and responsibilities related to identified hazards and functions
 - c. outline the arrangements for prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery
 - d. describe how the components of Tasmanian emergency management work together under a single, comprehensive and flexible framework.

Scope and Application

- 1.8 This plan sets the framework for all-hazard arrangements in Tasmania based on requirements of State legislation, existing arrangements and accepted practices that support emergency management. They are intended to be broad, scalable and flexible so they can be adapted as required. More specific arrangements for identified hazards or functions are in supporting emergency plans (See Appendix 5.5 for more information).
- 1.9 While the arrangements are always active across the PPRR spectrum they may be formally activated during response and recovery by a range of positions/authorities that include but are not limited to:
- a. the Premier and the Minister for Police and Emergency Management
 - b. State Controller (Commissioner of Tasmania Police)
 - c. Regional Controllers (North-West, Northern, Southern) (Tasmania Police Commanders)
 - d. Director State Emergency Service
 - e. Regional Managers, State Emergency Service
 - f. Municipal Coordinators and Municipal Community Recovery Coordinators
 - g. Responsible Officers from organisations identified in Section 2 of this plan.

Context Statement

About Tasmania

- 1.10 Emergency management arrangements in Tasmania are in part influenced by its geography and location. Geographically, Tasmania is the smallest State of Australia, located south of the Australian mainland. Its population is relatively small and dispersed, having one of the higher median ages in the nation. Additionally its population fluctuates substantially in tourist seasons with 112 000 international tourists recorded as visiting Tasmania in 2006. See Appendix 5.1 for a map.
- 1.11 As an island State, transport networks are of critical importance with numerous seaports and airports enabling access to other parts of the country, as well as internal road and rail networks. Combined with Tasmania's reputation for eco-tourism, its diverse topography and weather conditions, it means that a range of response and community recovery arrangements are maintained for road crash rescue, search and rescue, and managing environmental pollution on land and at sea.
- 1.12 Tasmania's relatively low humidity, temperate weather and forest and tourism industries mean that bushfire is Tasmania's most prominent natural hazard. Storms, flooding, landslip and tsunami are also identified natural hazards affecting the community.
- 1.13 Tasmania has relatively low levels of animal, plant and marine disease and maintaining this status is important for Tasmania's rural communities and primary production industries. As an island State, there is an inherent capacity to control movements through the air and seaports and maintain its relatively pest/disease-free status.
- 1.14 As an island State, security of Tasmania's energy supply is important. Tasmania is part of the National Electricity Market and the National Electricity Market Management Company manages the market and power system from two mainland control centres. Generation of electricity on the island is principally by water and wind through Hydro and is supplemented by a gas-fired thermal plant, and Basslink (a sub-sea inter-connector). Transend and Aurora own Tasmania's transmission and distribution assets respectively. Gas is supplied from the mainland via a transmission pipeline, and petroleum products are supplied to the State via sea tankers from mainland refineries.

Current Security Context

- 1.15 It is standard practice to restrict publication of security related material in the public record as this can increase vulnerability, so only general comments will be made in this plan. Currently, the national counter-terrorism alert level is 'medium'. This level is set by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department and it means that a terrorist attack is assessed as feasible (ie an attack could occur). The terrorist threat to Australia is not likely to lessen in the foreseeable future, although it could change where a specific and credible threat is identified. Tasmania works with other jurisdictions and the Commonwealth to promote consistent and robust national security arrangements.
- 1.16 A range of security related events in recent years (eg 9/11, Bali, Madrid, and Mumbai bombings) have resulted in all Australian jurisdictions re-assessing the nature and immediacy of the terrorist threat to Australia. The Tasmanian Government participated in the development of a new national counter-terrorism framework, which included an Inter-Governmental Agreement that was signed by all Australian jurisdictions in October 2002. This agreement established the National Counter-Terrorism Committee, which is responsible for maintaining the National Counter-Terrorism Plan.

Current Emergency Management Context

- 1.17 Tasmania repealed the *Emergency Services Act 1976* and proclaimed the *Emergency Management Act 2006*, shifting the legislative basis of emergency management to reflect the comprehensive approach and lessons identified from various emergencies in Tasmania, Australia and overseas.
- 1.18 A range of events have heightened focus on emergency management and security arrangements and capability across all governments. Coupled with emerging issues (eg pandemic, climate change), these have led to a renewed comprehensive and all hazards approach. Significantly in Tasmania this has included the integration of security arrangements with emergency management arrangements so that similar arrangements apply to emergency events, irrespective of cause.
- 1.19 Rapid onset/catastrophic events have led to a revised application of response arrangements to be more flexible and provide clarification about authorities and responsibilities to offer assistance from a variety of points of control, as well as the more traditional models for requesting assistance (escalation).
- 1.20 In the community recovery domain, significant reviews have occurred nationally including the Community and Disability Ministers Advisory Council Review of Recovery in 2004, along with the recently completed review of National Principles for Recovery in 2007 (accepted by the Community and Disability Services Ministers Advisory Council and Australian Emergency Management Committee).
- 1.21 Tasmania's capacity to respond to emergencies is developed and shaped by experience gained and lessons learned from prior events. Table 3 summarises a number of events that have contributed to the management of emergencies in this State. In listing these events it is acknowledged that they represent pain and suffering of many individuals and communities, and acknowledgment is made here of this, and the subsequent contribution to the development of Tasmania's capacity to manage future events.

Table 3: Significant Emergencies in Tasmania

Event	Consequence Summary
August 1875 Ship sinking King Island	408 dead. The sinking of the 'Catarraqui' represents the largest number of lives lost in a peacetime emergency in recorded Australian history.
October 1912 Copper mine fire Queenstown	42 deaths and 30 injuries. Of 170 miners underground, 70 escaped up the main shaft. Another 58 miners survived (rescued after spending about 107 hours underground after the fire started). Inter-jurisdictional support for the rescue came from Ballarat and Bendigo. Diving equipment and expertise supported the search. Contributing factors for the consequences included the lack of a warning system and limited egress points.
March 1918 Pandemic influenza ('Spanish Flu') Australia (All jurisdictions)	Mortality unknown. Estimated to be 2.5-5% of the population, with an additional 20% suffering effects of the disease. Infection rate was estimated at 50%.
April 1929 Flooding Northern Tasmania	22 dead. The flooding resulted in the greatest loss of life for any single Tasmanian flood event. 4500 people in Launceston were evacuated. Infrastructure destroyed/damaged included Duck Reach Power Station, suspension bridge in the Cataract Gorge and numerous road and rail bridges. Serious flooding also occurred elsewhere in the State.
March 1946 Aviation crash Hobart	25 dead, 1 aircraft destroyed.
February 1967 Bushfires Southern Tasmania ('Black Tuesday')	64 dead, 900 injured, 80 000 animals dead, 1400 homes destroyed, 264 270 hectares burned.
September 1974 Boiler explosion Mt St Canice Convent Sandy Bay Hobart	7 dead. Convent partially destroyed.
January 1975 Structural collapse Tasman Bridge, Hobart	12 dead. The Tasman Bridge repair took two years and cost approximately \$44 million. It was officially re-opened on 8 October 1977, however more holistic recovery took some 20 years to address the significant social dislocation and psychological effects that resulted.
February 1981 Bushfires West Coast Tasmania	39 homes, 1 community hall and 1 caravan destroyed, 13 500 hectares burnt. Significant community recovery effort mounted by the State Government.

Event	Consequence Summary
February 1982 Bushfires Tasmania (All regions)	1 fire related death, 2 houses, 1 shack and 38 outbuildings destroyed. Apart from 3000 sheep killed, there was damage to farm equipment, fences, 5000 hectares of pastures, large areas of forest and some construction equipment. ADF troops deployed to assist from 5/7 Battalion from the Royal Australian Regiment. Special State of Emergency declared which was the only declaration of this kind made under the <i>Emergency Services Act 1976</i> .
July 1995 Oil Spill 'Iron Baron' Hebe Reef, Northern Tasmania	Between 325-550 tonnes of heavy fuel (or bunker) oil were spilled in Bass Strait over a 20 day period, which included the initial grounding as well as the salvage operations. This resulted in significant environmental impact to wildlife, especially sea birds with a large number of them affected. The full financial cost is unknown but BHP and insurers lost over \$30 million (the ship was valued at \$21 million).
April 1996 Mass shooting Port Arthur	35 dead, 37 injured. Australians reacted to the event with widespread shock and horror, and psycho-social recovery has been incredibly challenging. The political effects included dramatic changes to firearm controls and licensing, increased profile of mental health in the community and ongoing debate about the role of the media in covering such tragedies.
April 2006 Mine collapse Beaconsfield	1 dead. Significant lessons identified related to working with the media, and multi-agency/organisation response operations involving State agencies with the privately owned mine management over an extended period (approximately 2 weeks).
December 2006 Bushfires East Coast, Tasmania	1 dead. 27 homes destroyed and 50 damaged. Forestry Tasmania lost approximately \$50 million worth of production timber. There was significant damage to State road assets at St Marys Pass with recovery continuing into 2009 with an estimated cost of \$1.5 million.
September 2007 Structure fire (Myer) Hobart	A structure fire destroyed the historic 1836 building and resulted in significant and ongoing disruption to trade in the central business district. It is estimated that the fire cost \$100 million (damage to buildings and lost trade), with more than 200 local businesses registering for information in the days after the fire. A significant number of these required additional support to clean up and re-open. While Myer relocated its stores and recommenced trading within a couple of months of the fire, the original site remained empty more than 12 months after the event.

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