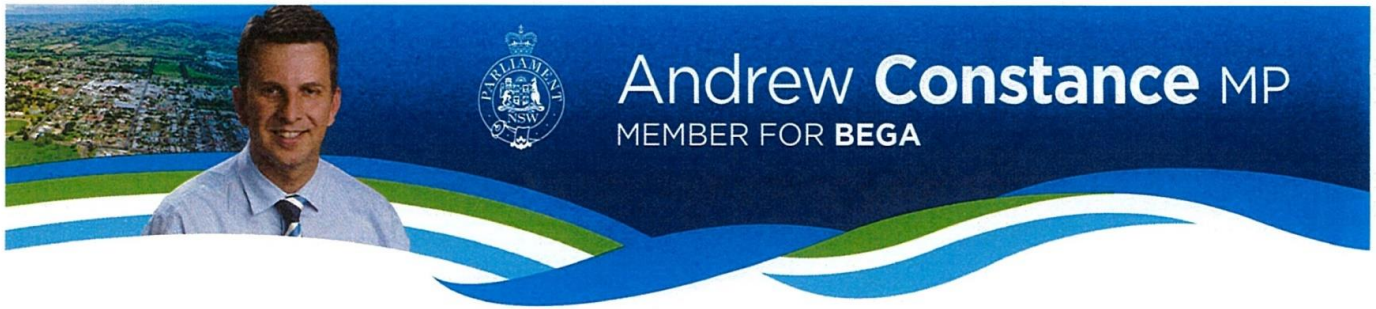


BERMAGUI EMERGENCY GUIDE



**UNDERSTAND THE RISK
MAKE A PLAN
IMPLEMENT THE PLAN**

Compiled in 2020–2021 by
Bermagui Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Inc



Foreword:

The Black Summer Firestorms changed our lives forever. Lives were lost, thousands of homes and properties lost and thousands of Australians left traumatised by what they witnessed.

The aftermath of these tragic fires left our community clearly resolved to see change. One key element of this change relates to land management and emergency response practices close to coastal communities.

The Bermagui community deserves full praise for the incredible response to this major catastrophic event. The actions of volunteers from the RFS to the Surf Lifesaving movement saved our community. That said, the actions of the community leadership over recent times to develop a plan that safeguards the community against future natural disasters is to be highly commended.

I have never seen this type of document produced since Black Summer and I commend those involved for their foresight, their commitment and engagement with all relevant agencies.

The community will be well served by this plan into the future and I know lives will be saved into the future as a result of it.

Andrew Constance MP

Member for Bega



BERMAGUI EMERGENCY GUIDE

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BACKGROUND – HOW IT BEGAN

Several years of drought, hot winds and high temperatures, along with minimal hazard reduction burns, created an ideal environment for bushfire. From September 2019 to March 2020 these conditions started bushfires that heavily impacted various regions of New South Wales, particularly the south eastern region. In eastern and north-eastern Victoria large areas of forest burned out of control for 4 weeks before the fires emerged from the forests in late December. Multiple states of emergency were declared across New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.

This terrible time has become known as the Black Summer of 2019/20.

Few will ever forget the horror of New Year's Eve 2019 when the Badja Forest Road bushfire roared in from the west, ravaging the Bega Valley Shire's northern communities of Cobargo, Yowrie, Wandella, Coolagolite, Quaama, Verona and Brogo.

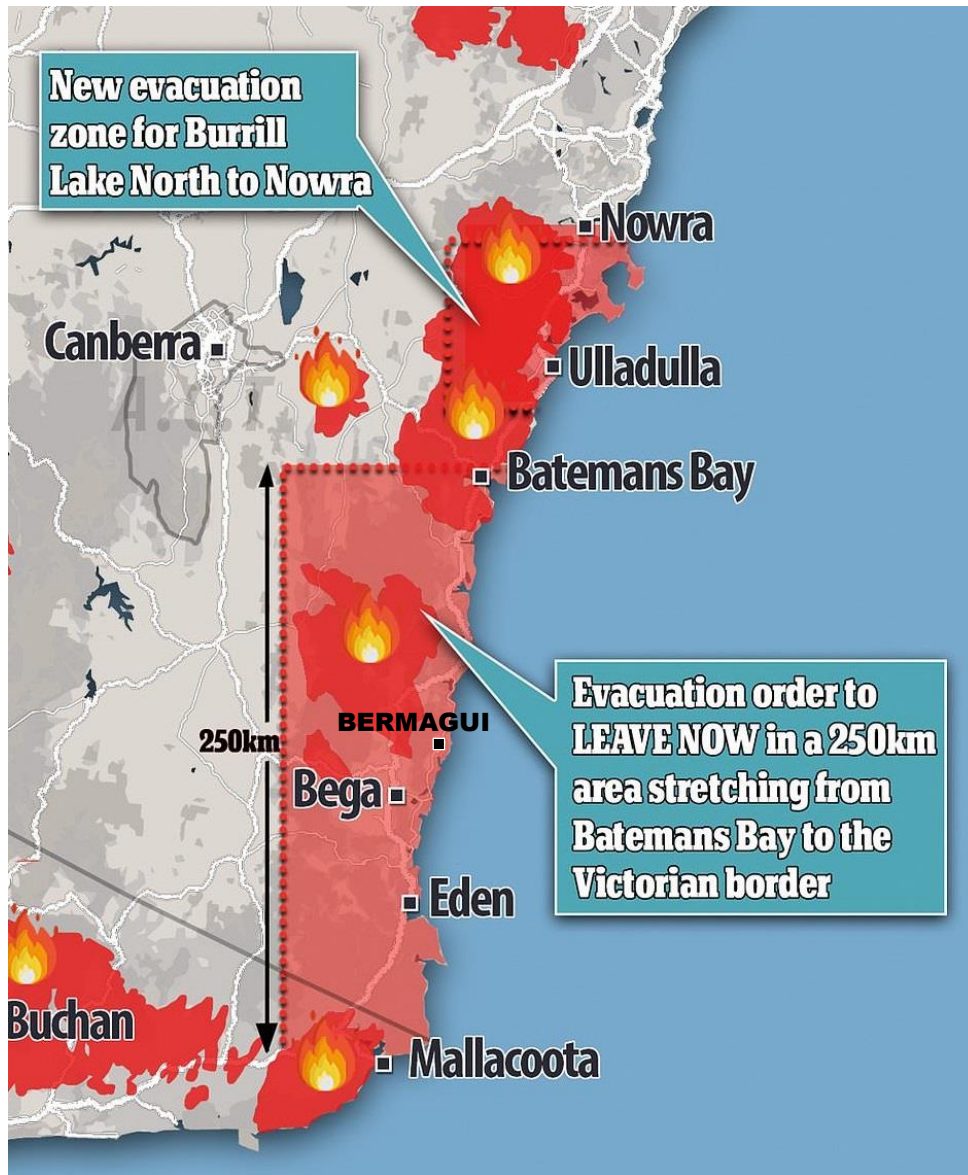
Bermagui was surrounded by fires for weeks and was particularly threatened on 23rd January 2020 when a fire from Gulaga National Park and the inland Dignam's Creek area burned to the coast, stopped by firefighters right on the town's doorstep.

The loss of lives, homes and property was devastating. Mental health and wellbeing issues will continue and further develop for years to come. Unimaginable numbers of livestock, wildlife, birds, reptiles and insects perished. Many thousands of hectares of pasture and forest were razed. Wadbilliga National Park to the west was completely destroyed and may take several decades to recover. 95% of Biamanga National Park to the south and south west of Bermagui and which includes the magnificent Mumbulla Mountain, was lost.

For the first eight days of 2020 there was no power, no water, no phone or internet service making communication very difficult.

Residents and thousands of summer holiday visitors were told to evacuate as the area could not be defended.

The bushfire threat continued for the next nine weeks until the bushfires were officially declared extinguished on 5th March 2020.



Cobargo area, early morning 31 December 2019



Cobargo's main street



Horseshoe Bay Bermagui, mid morning 1 January 2020



Bushfire approaches Bermagui, 23 January 2020



Bushfire ash and debris on Bermagui beaches.

BACKGROUND – HOW IT BEGAN cont'd

The Bermagui Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism was actively involved in the community during this time assisting people to source food, medicine, personal amenities, evacuation and travel information.

In January and February 2020 the Chamber facilitated three meetings under the title “It’s Time to Talk” which were open to all community. A number of important issues were decided at these meetings, one of which was to produce a bushfire emergency plan for Bermagui.

Community members formed a working group and met several times gathering content for the plan and speaking and meeting with emergency services authorities. The advent of COVID-19 delayed progress for some months.

Bermagui Chamber also set about sourcing and applying for grants to assist with the costs of materials and equipment to produce the emergency plan to be distributed to the Bermagui community. Fortunately, they were successful in securing funding to cover production of an initial plan, as well as large emergency notification boards and generators for community use in a power loss situation.

Ultimately, the bushfire emergency plan has evolved in to an emergency guide for bushfire, flood, storm and tsunami.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, the Chamber wants to acknowledge the emergency services personnel – most of whom are volunteers – who worked tirelessly for weeks protecting the community during the bushfires. **THANK YOU Bermagui Rural Fire Brigade, NSW SES Bermagui Unit and Bermagui Police.**

Bermagui Country Club and Bermagui Surf Life Saving Club both provided facilities for the community and emergency services and we are so very fortunate to have these organisations in our town.

Local **ABC Radio** provided continuous updates from emergency services on the progress of the fires which was especially appreciated during times of no power.

Bega Valley Shire Council is to be commended for the information service they provided via their Facebook page. It was exceptional and became the 'go to' place during the bushfire emergency, and continues the same quality service to this day.

There were **numerous individuals and organisations in the local community, in NSW and interstate** who assisted others in many ways – with food, shelter, somewhere to sleep, clean clothes, a sympathetic ear, a comforting hug. Names can't be put to these heroes but they know who they are.

Bermagui Chamber also wishes to acknowledge the funding organisations that awarded grants which have made this guide possible – **Australian Mutuals Foundation & Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals, The Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR) and Bega Valley Shire Council.**



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS cont'd

The following organisations and individuals have supported the production of this emergency guide, either through provision of content or work putting it together.

On behalf of the Chamber and residents of Bermagui, we extend our gratitude for the contributions from:

- **Rural Fire Service** – for content, guidance and support throughout the production.
- **NSW State Emergency Service** – for content in various sections.
- **Bega Valley Shire Council** – for support and encouragement.
- **Bermagui Surf Life Saving Club** – for content information.
- **Bermagui Historical Society** – for photographs and expert guidance on content.
- **Bermagui Fire Plan Committee** – for their work compiling the guide.
- **Allan Douch, Bermagui resident** – for his brilliant work in developing a Bermagui bushfire protection hazard reduction strategy which has been recognised by emergency services and various levels of government.

Without the above support and contributions, this guide would not have been created and the Chamber members encourage each household to use the information contained in the guide to plan for a safe and secure future.

1,000 copies of this guide will be distributed to Bermagui households. Updates will be made to the guide content from time to time and therefore the document has been specifically produced in loose leaf format to allow for updates to be inserted. You may also wish to keep other information in the pockets in the front and back of the guide folder.

Should you wish a soft (electronic) copy of the guide sent to you by email, please request this by email, including your name and address, to vic@bermaguichamber.org.au

The information provided has come from expert sources and is, as the title says, a guide. Importantly, in an emergency situation it is your responsibility to understand the risk, make a plan and implement that plan to the best of your ability.

GENERAL EMERGENCY CONTACTS

SITUATION	CONTACT
Life threatening emergency	000 (Triple Zero)
Bushfire emergency Bushfire information line	000 (Triple Zero) 1800 679 737
Flood, storm, tsunami emergency	132 500 NSW SES
Road closures	Live Traffic https://www.livetraffic.com/ Bega Valley Shire Council www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au www.facebook.com/begavalleyshirecouncil

MY EMERGENCY CONTACTS – *fill in yours*

ORGANISATION/COMPANY	CONTACT
Electricity and/or Gas Provider	
Communications Provider	
Medical Office/Doctor	
Insurance Company	
Family	
Friends	
Neighbours	

INFORMATION SOURCES

SOURCE	WHERE TO FIND THEM
ABC Local Radio	810 AM and 103.5 FM
Bureau of Meteorology (BOM)	www.bom.gov.au/
Fires Near Me	App or www.rfs.nsw.gov.au
Fire Danger Ratings	www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/fdr
Floods, Storms, Tsunami	www.ses.nsw.gov.au
Tsunami	www.bom.gov.au/tsunami/
Bega Valley Shire Council	www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au www.facebook.com/begavalleyshirecouncil

EMERGENCY INFORMATION BOARDS

These will be located at:

- Bermagui-Cobargo Road turn off (facing the T intersection)
- Bleakley Street (on Bunga Street)
- Dickinson Park Oval (facing Lamont street)
- Keating Drive (near the “Welcome to Bermagui” sign)

During any emergency situation these boards will be regularly updated with information from authorities.

EMERGENCY GENERATORS

These will be available for urgent community uses from the Bermagui Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism (phone 6493 3054).

KEYS TO PREPARATION

To prepare yourself and your family for an emergency, you should:
understand your risk, make a plan, and implement your plan.

1. Understand Your Risk

Understand the hazards we are most likely to face in Bermagui and the surrounding region. For each hazard (ie. bushfire, flood, storm, tsunami) you can assess your vulnerability and the likelihood of each occurring. You will then be able to determine the risk to yourself, your family and/or your property.

Rural Fire Service provides a risk assessment tool on their website

www.assessmyrisk.rfs.nsw.gov.au

2. Make a Plan

Prepare an emergency plan. This should include things like how to prepare for evacuation, what you need to take with you, what should be in your emergency kit, how to prepare your home and how to stay informed.

3. Implement Your Plan

Put your plan into action. Start now so you will be ready when an emergency occurs. Discuss and practice your plan and make sure your family and visitors are aware. Making a plan that works for you and being prepared will keep everyone safe and help in the recovery process.

Identify Community Gathering Places

Emergency evacuation centres are set up when an emergency has been officially declared.

In a bushfire emergency, it is recommended that the RFS identification of the Bermagui Community Centre forecourt (Bunga Street) and Dickinson Park Oval (Lamont Street) will be gathering places for those needing support in the interim.

In other emergency situations such as flooding, storm or tsunami, community gathering places will be advised when nominated.

As soon as emergency relief centres are operational, signage will be erected by the Chamber to advise where these are located.

More detail on these key points is provided further on in this guide.

FURTHER STEPS FOR PROTECTING YOURSELF IN ANY TYPE OF EMERGENCY

- Prepare an emergency kit with essential items so that you are always ready to leave quickly
- Create a schedule for routine preparation of your home including things such as:
 - routinely check the condition of the roof and repair loose tiles, eaves and screws;
 - clean gutters and downpipes so water can drain away quickly;
 - trim trees and overhanging branches and keep vegetation and any flammable materials (eg. wood piles) away from the sides of your home;
 - secure loose items that could cause damage if blown around in high winds
 - ensure your home, contents and car insurance is current and covers your assets adequately—check your policy includes debris clean up and disposal;
 - identify where and how to turn off the mains supply for water, electricity and gas; and
 - prepare a family emergency plan and practice the plan.

THINGS TO CONSIDER

- If an emergency happens with little or no warning you may have to act before you receive direction from authorities. You may need to make a quick decision on whether it is safer to stay in your current location or move somewhere else.
- Do members of your household (or regular visitors) include children, the elderly, people with disabilities or other special needs? Make sure your emergency plan takes these needs into account.
- After a disaster, many others in your community need help as well. For this reason, local first responders and other assistance may not be able to reach you right away.
- Be sure to consider the transportation needs for you and your family, recognising that an emergency may impact normal route and transportation methods.
- Finally, you should also make sure to plan for your pets and service animals.

REMEMBER: If told to evacuate by authorities, do so immediately. **Never drive around barricades** – local emergency responders use them to safely direct traffic out of impacted areas. **And never drive through flood waters.**

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES

The protective actions that you should take differ depending on the hazard. The following pages contain general information on some key things to know and actions to take to protect yourself and your family, as well as specific hazards of bushfire, flood, storm and tsunami.

MAKE A PLAN

An emergency plan addresses important items such as what you will do in a particular emergency, where you will go, when you plan to leave, what to take with you. Making a plan before an emergency strikes is essential for a number of reasons including:

- All members of your household can have input.
- All members of your household are aware of the plan and how to access it when needed.
- You can decide your approach with a clear mind and not under the stress of an impending emergency.
- You can plan ahead of time what is important in your emergency kit.

Your emergency plan should include:

- Local evacuation options and routes (taking into account that your closest Evacuation Centre may not be activated if that site is also at risk).
- Items to be included in your emergency kit (including medications).
- Communication plan if normal communications methods are not working (such as a transistor radio with batteries).
- A list of who you might need to contact (do not rely only on numbers in your phone in case there is no service or your phone runs out of charge).
- What personal documents you need to take with you if evacuating.
- What you need to do to prepare your property before leaving.
- Your animals must be considered.
- Ensure you have adequate food and water plus cages, leads and, if necessary, muzzles for animals.
- The closest large animal stalls are at the Cobargo Showground and then Bega showgrounds.

REMEMBER: It is good practice to schedule a family “run-through” of your plan every few months to make sure everyone knows the plan and to capture any changes in circumstances since you made your plan.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES cont'd

CREATE A FAMILY EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PLAN

When an emergency strikes, your family members may be at a variety of different locations depending on the time of day. It is important to have an agreed plan on how you will connect with each other. This could include phone, social media or even a physical location. Pick your safe meeting place options and ensure that everyone in your home knows where to go during different types of emergencies.

Make sure each person has a copy of relevant contact information for:

- Each other.
- Doctors, schools or other relevant organisations.
- Out-of-area contact person – this enables everyone in your family to share updates through that person if local communication is unavailable.
- Red Cross Register.Find.Reunite. <https://register.redcross.org.au>
- Agreed upon meeting places in your own neighbourhood and also further away in a nearby town.

SOURCE INFORMATION ON LOCAL PLANS

When making your plan you might also find it helpful to review the Bega Valley Emergency Plan (EMPLAN). This plan details arrangements for the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies within the Bega Valley Local Government Area:

https://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-LZV-42-36-07

It is also important for parents and guardians to understand how schools and day care centres will communicate with parents and guardians during a crisis. Find out what basic supplies are on hand (food, water, etc) and whether they are prepared to shelter in place and whether they have designated evacuation locations.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES cont'd

PREPARE AN EVACUATION AND SHELTER PLAN

In times of emergency you need to find protection and safe refuge for your family and loved ones. The decision on whether to evacuate or shelter in place depends on many factors and your final decision can only be made depending on the exact circumstances and timing of the emergency you are facing. Factors that can impact on your decision include:

- Amount of lead time/notice received of an impending emergency - for example you might have 24 to 48 hours or more notice of a flood which gives you time to prepare and evacuate the area safely, whereas a fire may start and impact your property within minutes or hours making your choices more limited and preparation time scarce.
- Access to evacuation routes.
- Special needs of family members making early evacuation more important.
- Type of emergency – for example, those on higher ground may have less reason to evacuate in the face of a tsunami warning than those on lower ground nearby.
- The need to relocate medical equipment or assistive devices that are dependent on power for life sustaining purposes.

A decision matrix can be helpful in making your plan so you can agree on your approach before an emergency hits. You can find a sample on page 22.

EVACUATION

Authorities will determine and communicate advice regarding evacuation. Where possible, notice will be given to inform people in the area of the risk and the options available to evacuate or relocate safely ahead of time. In most cases people will be advised to evacuate an area but authorities can also declare a mandatory evacuation if required.

When making your decision it is important to be aware that your location may be cut off from outside support for 2 to 3 days or longer in some situations, and power, sewerage and water supplies may be impacted. If you do not have enough food, water, medication and other supplies on hand to last up to 7 days if required you should leave the area when advice to evacuate is issued.

People who are not fully prepared but choose to stay not only put their own lives at risk but also risk the lives of emergency service personnel called on to assist.

CONSIDER: Would your plan to stay still be the same if you could not access power or turn on your tap?

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES cont'd

SHELTERING

In some situations you may receive very little notice of an emergency and the safest option may be to shelter in place rather than try to evacuate. Your emergency plan should consider which parts of your home provide the greatest degree of safety. For example, in a severe storm this would be away from windows and in a flood it would be a higher place in your property. In a bushfire it might be inside your home with all of the doors and windows closed and tubs and sinks filled with water.

PREPARE YOUR EMERGENCY KIT

In times of emergency it is often difficult to remember everything you need to take and it pays to have an emergency kit prepared at all times. While you can choose to add items at the last minute if you have time, your basic emergency kit should always contain the following items:

- Range of non-perishable food items (including can opener, other food preparation tools)
 - Bottled water
 - First aid kit
 - N95 respirator masks
 - Essential medications, prescriptions and dosage
 - Cash
 - Toiletries – toilet paper, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, personal hygiene items
 - Flashlight/torch with extra batteries
 - Portable battery power pack
 - Candles and waterproof matches
 - Battery powered radio with extra batteries
 - Warm jumper, waterproof jacket, hat and gloves for everyone (plus a change of clothes for all)
 - Closed toe shoes or boots for everyone
 - Woollen blankets if possible
 - Whistle, utility knife, duct/masking tape, plastic garbage bags, ties
 - Back-up charging methods for mobile phones such as extra power cords or a car charger
 - Safety glasses and sunglasses
- (cont'd over)

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES cont'd

- Special items for infants (nappies, formula, etc)
- Special items needed by elderly or people with special needs
- Pet food, water and other animal needs
- Hard copy of local maps
- Important documents (see list below for details)
- Waterproof bag for valuables
- Household Emergency Plan with emergency contact numbers

REMEMBER: Keep your emergency kit in a designated place and make sure all family members are aware of the location. Check your kit every 6 months and update it as the needs of your family change. Your emergency kit should be kept in a waterproof container.

PREPARE YOUR IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS

Keep original or certified copies of important documents in your emergency kit.

You should keep electronic copies where possible in a password protected, encrypted format on a removable flash drive/USB or external hard drive, or use a secure cloud-based service. Keep all of these items in sealed plastic bags.

Important documents will vary depending on your personal situation but may include:

- A list of your household belongings and valuables
- Insurance papers for your house and contents, medical, cars, valuable items
- Wills and life insurance documents
- House deeds, mortgage documents, lease agreements
- Birth and marriage certificates
- Passports/visa details
- Medicare, pension cards, immunisation records
- Bank account and credit card details
- Information on family members and pets
- A back-up copy of important computer files

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES cont'd

UNDERSTAND YOUR INSURANCE

Having the right type and amount of insurance is critical to your ability to recover after a disaster strikes your property. There are many types of insurance available including home and contents, other structures (eg. garages, fences, decks), motor vehicles, etc. Exactly what is covered will depend on your insurer and your policy details.

After a disaster, it may take many months to repair and/or replace your home. Make sure you check your policy for specific details such as:

- Demolition and/or removal of debris
- Access to temporary or emergency accommodation
- Costs of complying with new regulations

To get a sense of what questions you may need to ask it might be useful to visit the Legal Aid of NSW website www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au

They have a number of fact sheets and answers to frequently asked questions available on their website in the section “What to do after a disaster. Your insurance questions answered”.

PRACTICE YOUR EMERGENCY PLAN AND UPDATE IF REQUIRED

Schedule a practice and review of your plan with family members every six months.

You should:

- Review and test your family emergency communication plan.
- Review and test your evacuation and shelter plan.
- Refresh your emergency supplies (check batteries and food use by dates, etc).
- Ensure all family members know where your emergency kit is located.
- Ensure your important documents are up to date.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW OR DO FOR SPECIFIC EMERGENCIES cont'd

IMPLEMENT YOUR PLAN

Now that you have made your plan, you need to be ready to put it into action.

IF EVACUATION SEEMS LIKELY

- Ensure your vehicle is fueled – be mindful of the importance of having enough fuel for everyone and only fill up enough to get you to the next major centre.
- Keep mobile phones and any battery-powered devices charged.
- Leave early enough to avoid being trapped by adverse conditions.
- Follow the recommended evacuation routes and do not take shortcuts because they may be blocked.
- Be alert for road hazards such as washed-out roads or bridges and downed power lines, do not drive into flooded areas.
- Take your emergency supply kit with you.
- Pay attention to your radio or smartphone/tablet and follow local evacuation instructions.
- Take your pets with you but be aware that only service animals may be allowed in evacuation centres and options for supporting pets, particularly large animals, may be limited.

IF YOU HAVE ENOUGH TIME

- Call, text, or email the out-of-area contact in your Family Emergency Communication Plan to inform them of where you are going.
- Keep your home safe by closing and locking doors and windows.
- Unplug electrical equipment such as radios, televisions and small appliances; leave freezers and refrigerators plugged in, unless there is a risk of flooding.
- Disconnect gas bottles and move away from the house.
- Leave a note telling others when you left and where you are going.
- Wear sturdy shoes and clothing that gives protection such as long pants, long-sleeved shirts, a hat.
- Check with neighbours who may need a ride.

BUSHFIRE

The NSW Rural Fire Service provides the following information and advice. You can also go to their website at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

To always be prepared for fires in your area

- Clean your gutters of leaves and twigs.
- Install metal gutter guards.
- Repair damaged or missing tiles on the roof.
- Install fine metal mesh screens on windows and doors.
- Fit seals around doors and windows to eliminate gaps.
- Enclose the areas under the house.
- Repair or cover gaps in external walls.
- Do not store flammable materials up against your house.
- Keep yard free of potential flammable materials, eg. wood piles, plastic toys, hay, compost, fuel drums, etc.
- Attach a fire sprinkler system to gutters.
- Keep lawns short and gardens well maintained.
- Cut back trees and shrubs overhanging buildings.
- Clean up fallen leaves, twigs and debris around the property.
- Have hoses long enough to reach around your house.
- If you have a pool, tank or dam, put a Static Water Supply (SWS) sign on your property entrance, so firefighters know where they can get water.

Prepare your Bushfire Survival Plan

- Discuss your survival plan with family members and visitors.
- A template is available from NSW Rural Fire Services – www.rfs.nsw.gov.au

Know who to call

In life threatening situations, or if you see smoke and there is no fire truck or firefighters, call 000 (Triple Zero)

Other tips if there is a fire in your area

- Watch for floating live embers which can start another fire.
- The ground may contain heat pockets that can burn you or spark another fire.
- Consider the danger to pets and livestock walking on the ground.

BUSHFIRE cont'd

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE FIRE DANGER RATINGS

RATING	WHAT YOU SHOULD DO
CATASTROPHIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For your survival, leaving early is the only option. • Leave bush fire prone areas the night before or early in the day – do not just wait and see what happens. • Make a decision about when you will leave, where you will go, how you will get there and when you will return. • Homes are not designed to withstand fires in catastrophic conditions so you should leave early.
EXTREME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaving early is the safest option for your survival. • If you are not prepared to the highest level, leave early in the day. • Only consider staying if you are prepared to the highest level – such as your home is specially designed, constructed or modified, and situated to withstand a fire, you are well prepared and can actively defend it if a fire starts.
SEVERE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaving early is the safest option for your survival. • Well prepared homes that are actively defended can provide safety – but only stay if you are physically and mentally prepared to defend in these conditions. • If you are not prepared, leave early in the day.
VERY HIGH	
HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review your <u>bush fire survival plan</u> with your family. Keep yourself informed and monitor conditions. Be ready to act if necessary.
LOW MODERATE	

BUSHFIRE cont'd

NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE BUSHFIRE ALERT LEVELS

	<p>Advice</p> <p>A fire has started. There is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.</p>
	<p>Watch and Act</p> <p>There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing and you need to start taking action now to protect you and your family.</p>
	<p>Emergency Warning</p> <p>The highest level of bushfire alert. You may be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts your life at risk.</p>

BUSHFIRE cont'd

The matrix below is based on the NSW RFS Fire Danger Ratings and Bushfire Alert Levels as outlined on the previous pages.

EXAMPLE:

WHEN ABLE-BODIED, PREPARED ADULTS IN RESIDENCE

FIRE RATING	NO FIRE IN AREA	ADVICE	WATCH AND ACT	EMERGENCY WARNING
CATASTROPHIC	Monitor & Prepare	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
EXTREME	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
SEVERE	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	Prepare & Shelter
VERY HIGH	Monitor	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	Prepare & Shelter
HIGH	Monitor	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	Prepare & Shelter
LOW-MODERATE	Monitor	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	Prepare & Shelter

EXAMPLE:

WHEN FAMILY MEMBERS OR PEOPLE WITH HIGHER NEEDS IN RESIDENCE

FIRE RATING	NO FIRE IN AREA	ADVICE	WATCH AND ACT	EMERGENCY WARNING
CATASTROPHIC	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
EXTREME	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
SEVERE	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor/ Leave Early	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
VERY HIGH	Monitor	Monitor & Prepare	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
HIGH	Monitor	Monitor & Prepare	LEAVE EARLY	LEAVE EARLY
LOW-MODERATE	Monitor	Monitor & Prepare	Monitor & Prepare	LEAVE EARLY

BUSHFIRE cont'd

CREATE YOUR OWN MATRIX

FOR USE WHEN: _____

FIRE RATING	NO FIRE IN AREA	ADVICE	WATCH AND ACT	EMERGENCY WARNING
CATASTROPHIC				
EXTREME				
SEVERE				
VERY HIGH				
HIGH				
LOW-MODERATE				

FOR USE WHEN: _____

FIRE RATING	NO FIRE IN AREA	ADVICE	WATCH AND ACT	EMERGENCY WARNING
CATASTROPHIC				
EXTREME				
SEVERE				
VERY HIGH				
HIGH				
LOW-MODERATE				

FLOOD

If you live, work or visit a flood-prone area there are eight tips you can do NOW to prepare for floods.

1. Know your risk

- Find out about the local flood history.
- Know the heights at which your home, business and/or property could be affected by floodwater.
- Contact your local council if you want more information on how flooding could directly affect your property.
- Talk with people who have been in the area a long time about their experiences of floods locally.
- Be aware of the natural signs of flooding.
- Know how you may be warned of possible flooding.

2. Know where to go

- Find the safest route to travel in the event that you might need to evacuate and identify the height at which your evacuation route may be cut.
- Find out where any evacuation centres could be set up in your area.
- Check with friends and relatives outside the flood-prone area to organise a place to go.

3. Know who to call

- For emergency help in floods, call the NSW SES on 132 500.
- Keep local emergency numbers handy near your phone, in your mobile and on your fridge.
- In a life threatening emergency, call 000 (triple zero).

4. Know your plan

- To help households and businesses plan for flooding, the NSW SES has developed Emergency Plan templates:
<http://www.sesemergencyplan.com.au/>
- Complete, share and practise your plan with family and neighbours.
- Review your plan annually and after flood events.

5. Get your emergency kit together – See page 15 for a complete emergency kit to cover all emergencies.

6. Prepare now to act early

- Talk with your local NSW SES members about being FloodSafe.
- Know the triggers, warnings and natural signs of flooding so that you can act quickly.
- Practice your plan and share it with neighbours.

FLOOD cont'd

7. Check your insurance

- Make sure your insurance is suitable to your situation and risk.
- Check the coverage is adequate.
- Make sure your insurance is current.

8. Listen to local radio

- Listen to local radio for information, updates and advice.
- Information will also be posted through social media.

Are you at risk from floods?

NSW has a long history of floods. Some of these have been severe, costing an average of \$128 million damage annually. Approximately 28% of the land area of NSW is subject to flooding. According to the Australian Water Resources Council, rural losses in terms of average annual actual damages are approximately equal to that of total urban losses.

The effects of flooding on rural property owners include losses to livestock, crops, fencing, buildings, personal items, farm equipment and machinery. While damage to crops and fences is usually unavoidable, there is the potential to reduce losses particularly of livestock, irrigation equipment, houses and sheds.

As a rural property owner or manager you may have experienced many floods. It is important to be aware that larger floods than those previously experienced can occur in your area. Even if your property is not directly affected by flooding, you may be isolated and require assistance such as the supply of essential items and feed for livestock.

While in many cases evacuation will not be necessary, you should consider evacuation as an option if severe flooding is predicted. Deciding to remain in your home when it is inundated or surrounded by floodwaters can be dangerous. Flooding may last for weeks. Your home may become a refuge for vermin, snakes and spiders. There may be no water, sewerage, power, telephone or other services for several weeks and you may be unable to call for help in an emergency.

FLOOD cont'd

Stay informed

Your local SES unit can give you information on what you can do to reduce the effects of flooding on your family and your property. General information on preparing for floods and storms can be found on the SES website at www.ses.nsw.gov.au

The NSW Department of Primary Industries can also provide information for rural producers affected by severe floods. The NSW Department of Primary Industries website at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au has a range of articles relating to the effects on flooding on rural producers. Your local council may be able to provide you with information on how flooding affects your property.

How you will be advised of a coming flood

In the Bermagui area flooding will often affect Wallaga Lake causeway and bridge, access to Murrah and Tathra via Tathra-Bermagui Road and in an extreme flood Cobargo-Bermagui Road at the Narira River bridge.

Flood information including flood forecasts, road closures, and advice on evacuations and property protection will be broadcast over local radio stations. In some areas Flood Bulletins are sent out by the SES using faxstream or telephone tree systems. Contact your local SES to find out how you may be advised.

When flooding is likely – Flood Watch

A Flood Watch is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology when flooding is likely. You should be prepared to act should flooding occur.

- Listen to your local radio station for information, updates and advice.
- Lift household items and farm equipment on to benches and tables placing electrical goods on top.
- Secure objects that are likely to float and cause damage.
- Locate important papers, valuables and mementoes. Put them in your Emergency Kit and take them with you when you evacuate.
- Check sheds and outbuildings and relocate waste containers, chemicals and poisons well above floor level.
- Check whether your neighbours need help.
- Locate and prepare pets for possible evacuation.

(cont'd over)

FLOOD cont'd

- If isolation is likely, have sufficient non-perishable food, essential medications, fuel and other necessities to last two weeks; do not forget pet food and stock feed.
- Move livestock to high ground where they can be provided with feed for the duration of the flood.
- Relocate fodder supplies to high ground.
- Move farm equipment and relocate pumps to high ground.

Flood Warning

A Flood Warning is issued by the Bureau of Meteorology when flooding is about to happen. Flood Warnings provide a predicted flood level and time at which a river will reach that level. Flood Warnings are issued in relation to gauges along rivers.

- Never drive, ride or walk through floodwater – this is the main cause of death during floods as water may be deeper or faster flowing than you think and may conceal hidden snags and debris.
- Remember the safety of your pets and any other animals – you are responsible for their well-being. The NSW Department of Primary Industries may be able to assist you.
- Keep listening to a local radio station for further information, updates and advice.
- Keep in contact with your neighbours.

If evacuation is required

Take your Emergency Kit with you. Turn off the electricity and water as you leave and turn off and secure gas bottles. You should leave well before roads to high ground are closed by floodwater. You can go to friends or relatives who live in flood-free areas, or you can go to an evacuation centre. The NSW Government's Resilience NSW department may establish evacuation centres in your area where help will be available including:

- temporary accommodation
- financial help
- personal support
- refreshments and meals
- clothing and personal needs
- help in contacting family and friends

FLOOD cont'd

Where evacuation is necessary and you have livestock

You should notify the NSW Department of Primary Industries with details of:

- a contact person, telephone number and an alternate contact number.
- the location, type and number of animals – closest yards for large animals are at Cobargo Showground.
- your handling facilities – yards, loading ramps, stock crates.
- availability of fodder/food.
- potential problem animals such as unbroken horses and guard dogs.
- any veterinary medication or health problems.
- whether you have a suitable vehicle for transporting the animals.
- whether you can transport the animals to a designated safe area or refuge.
- whether, after the immediate danger period or evacuation, you have any alternative accommodation for your pets or agistment for your livestock.

You should also advise the SES or other emergency services that you are evacuating.

Pets

Pets may be taken to the temporary evacuation centre. They may stay there with you or be collected by the various animal welfare organisations and cared for until the danger has passed. Do not leave your pets behind. Put them on leads or in pet carriers. Dogs should wear a fixed collar with an identification tag. Animal carriers should be labelled with the owners details. Take feed and water with you as well as any medications for your pets.

How the SES can help you

The SES is responsible for responding to floods in NSW. This includes planning for floods and educating people about how to protect themselves and their property. During floods the SES will provide flood information, safety advice and arrange for the delivery of essential supplies to people isolated by floodwater. Where appropriate, the SES will conduct evacuations and undertake flood rescue.

How the NSW Department of Primary Industries can help you

The NSW Department of Primary Industries is responsible for co-ordinating animal relief services for livestock, wildlife and companion animals. They are also responsible for agriculture and animals in floods. Local agricultural co-ordinators in each area are responsible for planning, implementation and coordinating relief programs. DPI emergency hotline contacts are:

- Agricultural and Animal Services Hotline – 1800 814 647
- Local Land Services Office (LLS) – 1300 795 299

FLOOD cont'd

Prepare yourself

Some practical measures you can take right now include keeping a list of emergency numbers near the telephone and assembling an Emergency Kit. Your Emergency Kit should be ready to go – **see page 15**.

DURING A FLOOD

Remember, NEVER enter floodwater. If it's flooded, forget it.

The major cause of death during floods is from people entering or travelling through floodwater. This includes driving, riding and walking through floodwater and children playing in floodwater.

- Floodwater may be deeper or faster flowing than it appears and contain hidden snags or debris.
- Floodwater may contain chemicals, raw sewage, snakes, spiders and much more that could cause illness and even death.
- Roads and surfaces underneath floodwater often wash away, and may not be visible from the surface.

Go to high ground when flooding is imminent

If your area is at risk, go to high ground away from flooded areas.

- Stay with family or friends.
- Evacuation Centres may be set up if an Evacuation Order is issued.
- Choose the safest route to travel where roads along the route are open.
- Roads may become congested or be closed, ensure you leave enough time to travel safely.

Know who to call

- In life threatening situations call 000 (Triple Zero)
- For emergency help in floods call the NSW SES on 132 500

Some reasons you might call the NSW SES in a flood include rescue if trapped by floodwaters; assistance when floodwater is threatening your property; or re-supply of essential supplies if your property is isolated.

- Contact your local council for local road closures.
- Contact RMS for major road closures – www.livetraffic.com
- Contact utility companies for essential services.
- Essential Energy 132 391.

AFTER A FLOOD

The NSW SES will issue an 'All Clear' when it is safe for residents and businesses to return to a flood affected area that has previously been subject to an Evacuation Order.

Important steps between an Evacuation Order and an All Clear

For some residents it is a nervous wait between the Evacuation Order and the All Clear as those affected people are often anxious to return to their properties, assess the damage and begin the clean up. However, prior to declaring the area safe for residents to return to properties, there are a number of important assessments that must be made by agencies including the NSW SES, NSW Department of Public Works, Department of Housing, the local council, electricity and gas suppliers, and other organisations.

These assessments include but may not be limited to:

- The floodwater affecting the community has subsided to a safe level.
- Floodwater has subsided to below the safe working level of a levee.
- The health of the community is not affected by sewage and other pollutants.
- The safety of the community is not affected by damaged infrastructure such as electricity or gas.
- Any other significant safety issue.

When returning to your property:

- Ensure the structural stability of your property before entering. Check for damage to windows, walls and the roof and be especially cautious of potential contaminants including asbestos.
- Make sure the electricity and gas is turned off before going inside. Use a torch to carry out inspections inside buildings.
- If power points, electrical equipment, appliances or electrical hot water systems have been exposed to floodwater or are water damaged in any way, they must be inspected by a qualified electrician before use.
- Gas appliances and gas bottles that have been exposed to floodwater should be inspected for safety before use.
- Wear suitable protective clothing, including boots and gloves, when cleaning up
- Be aware of any slip, trip or fall hazards.
- Never eat food which has been in contact with floodwater.
- Only use clean utensils and personal items.
- Have a supply of fresh drinking water.

DISASTER RECOVERY CENTRES

Disaster recovery centres may be established following some disasters.

Recovery centres may provide a range of welfare services, including financial assistance, personal support, organisation of temporary accommodation and providing information and referrals.

If you have been affected by floods and require assistance, contact Disaster Welfare Services on 1800 018 444.

STORM

BE AWARE!

How will I know if a storm is on its way?

The Bureau of Meteorology releases Severe Weather Warnings. You may hear about them on:

- the NSW SES website.
- Local and statewide media.

Some insurance agencies also send push notifications to members who have signed up for this service.

There are also some weather watch services you can subscribe to that push these notifications to their members.

Know the official storm warnings and what these mean for your emergency plan and how these affect you, your family, neighbours and work mates.

Official Warnings

In NSW, the Bureau of Meteorology alerts communities to the threat of storms on their website at <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather-services/severe-weather-knowledge-centre/warnings.shtml>

Severe Weather Warnings

The Bureau of Meteorology issues Severe Weather Warnings whenever severe weather is occurring in an area or is expected to develop or move into an area. The warnings describe the area under threat and the expected hazards.

Warnings are issued with varying lead times, depending on the weather situation, and range from just an hour or two up to about 24 hours. They are issued for:

- Sustained winds of gale force (63km/h) or more.
- Wind gusts of 90km/h or more.
- Very heavy rain that may lead to flash flooding.
- Abnormally high tides (or storm tides) expected to exceed highest astronomical tide.
- Unusually large surf waves expected to cause dangerous conditions on the coast.
- Widespread blizzards in alpine areas.

STORM cont'd

Severe Thunderstorm Warnings

The Bureau of Meteorology issues Severe Thunderstorm Warnings to alert communities of the threat of more dangerous thunderstorms.

A severe thunderstorm is one that produces any of the following:

- Large hail (2cm in diameter or larger).
- Damaging wind gusts (generally wind gusts exceeding 90km/h).
- Heavy rainfall which may cause flash flooding.
- Tornadoes.

Sometimes there may be little or no warning of storms, especially during the storm season when storms can develop, hit and clear very quickly. There are some natural signs of storms that you can look out for which include:

- A sudden drop in pressure.
- Quick build up of clouds.
- The smell of rain in the air.
- Sounds of thunder.

DURING A STORM

During storms it is important to protect your family and property from major storm impacts including:

- Damaging winds which can bring down trees, branches, power lines, remove roofs and blow around outdoor items, for example outdoor furniture and trampolines.
- Hail which can injure people and damage property.
- Lightning which can down trees, power lines and other structures, and start bushfires in dry conditions.
- Heavy rainfall which can cause water to damage exposed homes, belongings and roadways; rise rapidly; and drain rapidly making drains and other water courses dangerous.
- Damaging surf which can be unsafe and flood homes and properties in coastal areas.

During a storm, you may also be indirectly affected with access roads being blocked or you have no power, utilities or telephone connection.

There are simple things you can do during a storm to help protect yourself and your family:

- Never enter or travel through floodwater.
- Bring children and pets indoors, away from windows.

(cont'd over)

STORM cont'd

- Stay clear of creeks, drains, causeways, gutters, streams, fallen trees, power lines and damaged buildings.
- If driving, put your hazard lights on and pull over to the side of the road keeping clear of drains, causeways, streams, creeks, trees and power lines
- If outdoors, seek secure shelter away from drains, causeways, streams, creeks, trees and power lines

Plan now for what you will do

When a Severe Weather Warning or Severe Thunderstorm Warning has been issued by the Bureau of Meteorology, it is important to follow your home or business emergency plan.

Your plan will outline the possible risks and hazards you face and how you can minimise the impacts of storms. Your plan can also help you identify actions and triggers for looking after children and pets during storms.

If you don't yet have a plan and there are current storm warnings, there are a few actions you can take now:

- Never drive, ride, walk or travel through floodwater.
- Never let children play in floodwater.
- Stay indoors, clear of windows.
- Stay clear of creeks, drains, causeways, gutters, streams, fallen trees, power lines and damaged buildings.
- If driving, put your hazard lights on and pull over to the side of the road keeping clear of drains, causeways, streams, creeks, trees and power lines.
- If outdoors, seek secure shelter away from drains, causeways, streams, creeks, trees and power lines.
- Listen to your local radio station and other media for information, updates and advice.

Prepare your home and business

Just before and during a storm can be times of worry. If you have made an emergency plan for your home or business, this is the time to act on the plans you have made.

There may be specific things outlined in your plan in relation to children, pets and even household items and important papers, photos and memorabilia, things you need to do to ensure that these important things are kept as safe as possible.

There may be certain things you need to add to your emergency kit like important papers, water, food, medications, etc.

STORM cont'd

During a storm follow your emergency plan. There are also some simple general things you can do as well.

For the home:

- Move indoors, bringing children and pets with you.
- Have your emergency kit handy in case you lose power or need to leave and add to your kit specific items relevant to your home or business.
- Park your car under secure cover and away from trees, power lines and drains.
- Before the storm arrives, secure or put away items from around the house, yard, or balcony that could blow around in strong winds.
- Check to see if your neighbours are aware of the warning.
- When flash flooding is likely, leaving low-lying homes and businesses well before flash flooding begins (evacuation) is the best action to take, but only if it is safe to do so. If you are trapped by rising floodwater, seek refuge in the highest part of a sturdy building. Stay there and call 000 (triple zero) if you need to be rescued.

For your business:

- Check back-ups are current.
- Check staff are aware of the storm warning and their plans are being carried out.
- Raise stock if necessary or if there is a risk of flash flooding.

General:

- Listen to your local radio station and other media for information, updates and advice.
- Unplug and avoid using electrical equipment connected to mains power, landline phones and modems.

AFTER A STORM

Storms can cause major damage to your property as well as to local infrastructure including telephone poles, roadways and other buildings.

It is important to follow all directions given by emergency services after a storm.

Sometimes areas may be evacuated during a storm. Do not return to these areas until an 'All Clear' has been issued.

Be aware of health and safety issues.

STORM cont'd

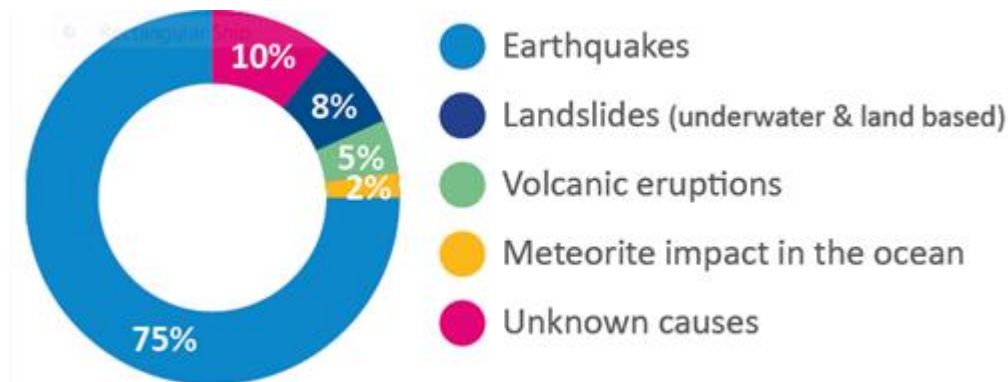
Tips for what to do after a storm

- Keep listening to your local radio station for information, updates and advice
- Check your animals as they often need support.
- Check your house or property for damage (you may need to get experts in to check structural stability).
- Follow health and safety advice when clearing up after storms (wear appropriate clothing and have experts check things like electricity, sewage and water supplies.
- The Council will advise if drinking water has been contaminated from Council supply.
- Do not eat food that has been exposed to storms.
- Stay clear of creeks, drains, causeways, gutters, streams, fallen trees, power lines and any damaged buildings.
- Check to see if your neighbours need help.
- Do not go sightseeing as this may hinder recovery efforts or put yourself and others at risk.

NSW SES provide temporary assistance to make safe property and to provide access to properties. Permanent repairs need to be done by professionals. Clearing away of debris is the responsibility of the property owner.

TSUNAMI

Tsunami is a Japanese word that translates as 'harbour wave' and is a series of waves that can cause inundation and destruction when they reach land. They are usually associated with earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, landslides and meteor impact, which can cause a sudden movement of the water column in the ocean, and create fast-moving waves.



From their point of origin, tsunami waves travel in many directions. As the waves move through the ocean they change shape and direction when they encounter land and variations in the sea floor.

In the open ocean, tsunami waves can travel as fast as a jet plane (640 to 960km/h) and can travel thousands of kilometres from their point of origin, affecting large areas of ocean.

Australia has been affected by over 50 tsunami in the past 200 years. The largest tsunami to have affected the NSW coast in recent times occurred in May 1960 after a 9.5 magnitude earthquake in Chile resulted in a one metre tidal fluctuation at Fort Denison in Sydney Harbour. This caused widespread damage to marine infrastructure along the NSW Coast including damage to boats, wharves, jetties and beaches.

Most tsunami occur in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. The boundary of the Pacific Ocean experiences frequent earthquakes and this boundary is commonly known as the Ring of Fire. There are two major subduction zones in the Indian Ocean that can also generate tsunami.

There is a moderate likelihood of tsunami in NSW compared with other parts of the world and undersea earthquakes are the more likely source of tsunami that could affect NSW. Even a relatively small tsunami could cause strong waves, rips and currents and unusual sea levels that can be dangerous.

TSUNAMI cont'd

Marine-threat tsunami

These occur once about every six years, but are usually only perilous to swimmers and boaters because of the dangerous currents. There is no record of a land-threat tsunami in Australia since European settlement.

In the event of a tsunami

- Find the safest route to travel in the event that you might need to evacuate and identify the point at which your evacuation route may be cut.
- In many locations, it is likely that you will need to evacuate by foot due to congestion on roads.
- Move to higher ground at least 10 metres above sea level or one kilometre away from the coast and rivers.
- Listen to your local radio station for information, warnings and advice.
- Find out where any evacuation centres could be set up in your area, or check with friends and relatives outside the affected area to organise a place to go.

Tsunami risk to life and property damage

There is a significant risk of drowning during tsunami with either marine and land inundation threat. This is due to the potentially dangerous rips, waves, water borne debris and strong ocean currents.

- During a marine and immediate foreshore threat, the risk to life includes drowning.
- During land inundation, tsunami inundation is widespread and extends to areas not normally submerged by water. Tsunami waves can run up well beyond the high tide mark, in extreme cases up to a kilometre inland or up to 10 metres above sea level. Tsunami can also extend into harbours, rivers and estuaries and you should move away from low lying coastal areas, harbours and estuaries as soon as a Tsunami Warning is issued.
- Tsunami are a series of multiple waves that can last several hours, are fast moving and very powerful. The first wave may not always be the biggest so it is important not to return to low lying coastal areas until advised by emergency services that it is safe to do so.
- Boats and other vessels can be at risk from damage. Boats are most at-risk in shallow water where the surge associated with tsunami waves can capsize vessels, push them into other boats and obstacles, or wash debris into the boat. The skipper and any passengers are at risk if they are still on board or within the tsunami impact area when the tsunami arrives.

(cont'd over)

TSUNAMI cont'd

- Marinas, moorings, ports and other marine based infrastructure can be at risk of damage by the sudden surge of water caused by tsunami. Much of this damage is unavoidable and the best advice is to securely tether boats to moorings. Always prioritise life over property damage by leaving the area as soon as a Tsunami Warning is issued, and ensuring you are outside the area at-risk well before the first wave arrives.
- Homes, businesses and other property such as caravans and cars situated in low-lying coastal areas can also be affected by tsunami. Much of the damage will be caused by land based tsunami and in these rare cases is often unavoidable. Prioritise your life and the lives of others above any damage to property.

Tsunami evacuation areas in NSW

NSW SES has developed evacuation areas across most coastal areas of NSW. See the following page showing the area from Wallaga Lake to Murrah and Narooma to Tathra which could assist you to plan for possible tsunami.

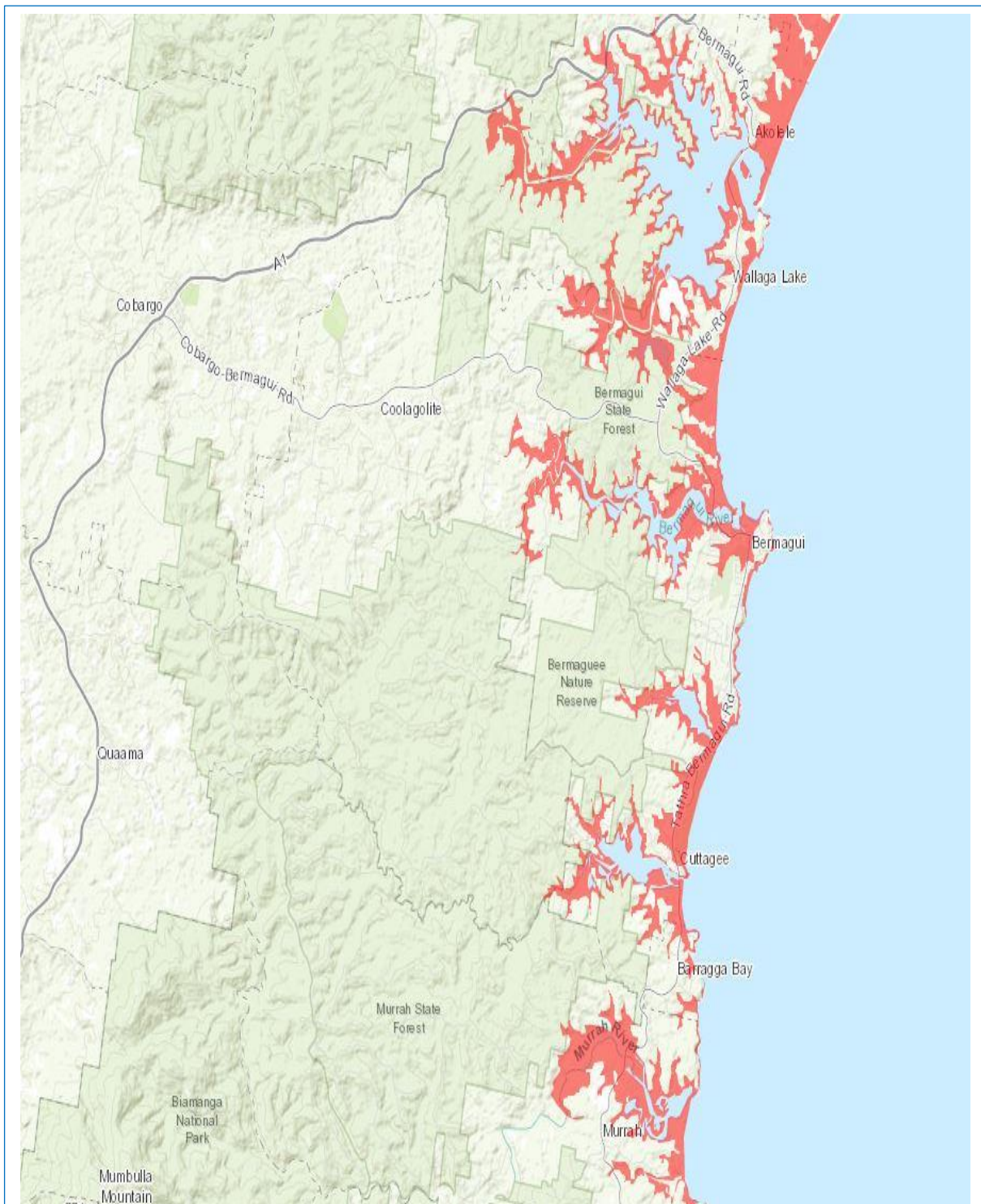
It is important to know that these zones are evacuation areas only, NOT inundation maps.

While the likelihood of a land-threat tsunami on the east coast of Australia is low, the map shows the areas where people would have to move (evacuate) to higher ground in the event of a land-threat tsunami.

View the Tsunami Evacuation Area Map on the NSW SES website – in the map search box enter Bermagui.

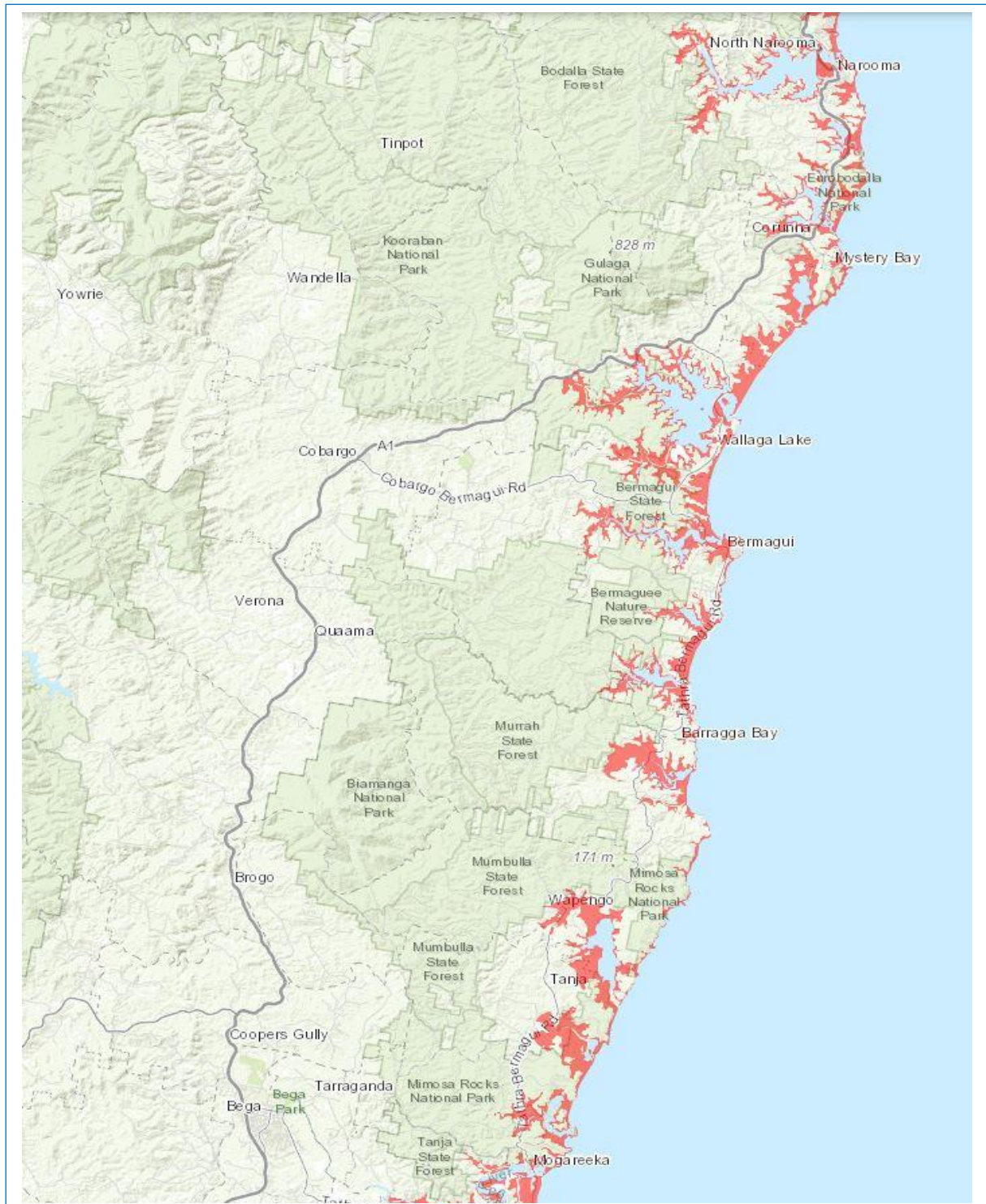
TSUNAMI cont'd

Tsunami evacuation area – Wallaga Lake to Murrah



TSUNAMI cont'd

Tsunami evacuation area – Narooma to Tathra



EMERGENCY SUPPORT RESOURCES

Bega Valley Shire Council has information on a number of resources to support people in the community following an emergency.

Phone 02 6499 2222

Website www.begavalleyshire.nsw.gov.au

RESOURCES OF INTEREST

WHAT IS IT?	WHERE DO I FIND IT?
Essential information for local businesses on how to prepare for, respond to, and recover from potentially significant emergency situations	https://getready.sapphirecoast.com.au/
Information on historical disasters that have affected Australia	https://knowledge.aidr.org.au/collections/australian-disasters/
Livestock Support Services	NSW Department of Primary Industries http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au
Agricultural and Animal Services Hotline	1800 814 647
Local Land Services Office (LLS)	1300 795 299

INFORMATION SOURCES USED TO PREPARE THIS GUIDE

<https://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/>

<https://www.ses.nsw.gov.au/>

<http://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/>

<https://www.legalaid.nsw.gov.au/>

<https://www.qld.gov.au/emergency/dealing-disasters/prepare-for-disasters>

FEMA: Are You Ready Guide

Information on floods, storms and tsunamis is supplied by the NSW State Emergency Service and has been slightly amended to identify the Bermagui area.

BERMAGUI EMERGENCY GUIDE

ADDENDUM – DECEMBER 2021

When work started on the Bermagui Emergency Guide, the plan was to have it completed and distributed to residents by the end of 2020. A few weeks after the 2019/20 Black Summer bushfires were officially declared extinguished (5th March 2020), the Covid-19 pandemic began and this has caused many complications and a delay of several months to the delivery of the guide.

Additionally, the Bega Valley Local Emergency Management Committee required several changes/additions be made to the completed guide. These amendments are listed below.

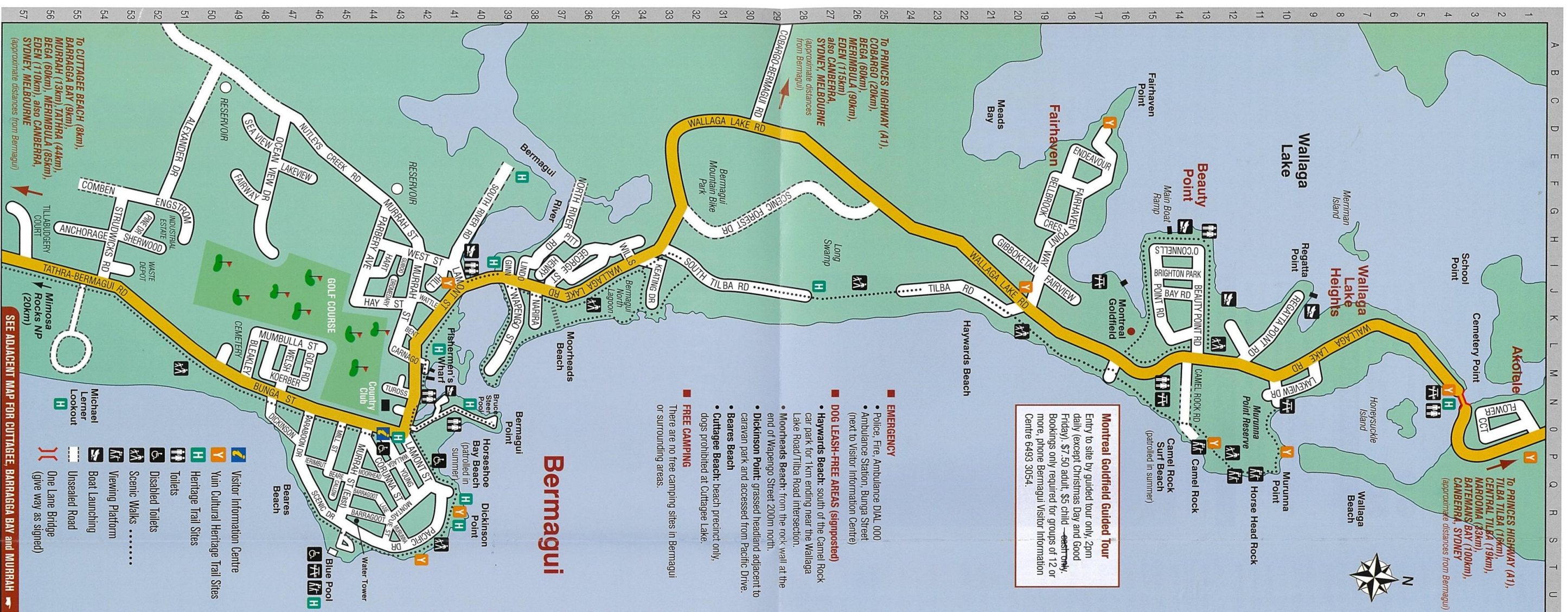
Page	Amendment
10	Amend heading 'Identify Community Gathering Places' to include: <i>Neighbourhood Safer Place</i>
12	Amend 7th bullet point under sub-heading 'Your emergency plan should include:' with additional wording: <i>Declaration will be made by Department of Primary Industries in relation to animal housing.</i>
13	Amend heading 'Create a Family Emergency Communication Plan' to: <i>Create an Emergency Management Plan</i>
14	Under heading 'Prepare an Evacuation and Shelter Plan' include: <i>Listen to the advice of the Emergency Management Agencies to source information on local plans.</i>
16	Additional dot point under 'Prepare Your Emergency Kit': <i>Change batteries in kit every six months.</i>
18	Additional dot point under sub-heading 'If Evacuation Seems Likely': <i>Ensure you turn off all taps prior to leaving your home. Do not leave hoses running in yard as this reduces firefighting capacity.</i>
25	Under point 8 'Listen to local radio', replace first bullet point with: <i>Ensure you listen to the ABC for emergency messages.</i>
28	Include additional wording at the end of the 1st sentence under sub-heading 'How the NSW Department of Primary Industries can help you': <i>and have information on animal safe sites.</i>
30	Under heading 'After A Flood' include: <i>Emergency Operations Centre will direct all information dissemination.</i>
31	In first sentence replace 'some disasters' with: <i>major disasters.</i>
35	First bullet point under 'General' sub-heading, replace 'your local radio station' with: <i>ABC</i>
36	First bullet point under sub-heading 'Tips for what to do after a storm', replace 'your local radio station' with: <i>ABC</i>

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]



Bermagui STREET DIRECTORY

Alexander Drive	F52	Kullaroo Road	L66
Aliinjara Place	M66	Lakeview Court	F47
Amaroo Avenue	L64	Lakeview Drive	M9
Anchorage Place	G54	Lamont Street	L41
Barragoot Street	S45	Lindo Street	I38
Barragoot Lane	R44	Mill Street	P45
Bay Road	I13	Montague Street	R42
Beare Street	Q45	Moorhead Street	Q44
Beauty Point Road	M13	Mumbulla Street	M47
Bellbrook Crescent	H18	Murrah Street (East)	P45
Benny Gowings Road	D78	Murrah Street	L42
Bent Street	K42	Murrah River Road	I66
Bleakley Street	M48	Murruna Street	S43
Blue Wren Place	J43	Narira Street	J38
Brighton Park Road	J13	North River Road	J38
Bunga Street	Q43	Nutlys Creek Road	F44
Burrawong Place	L65	Ocean View Drive	D47
Callow Place	Q45	O'Connells Point Road	L13
Camel Rock Road	M14	Pacific Drive	R41
Carnago Street	M43	Paraboon Drive	P46
Cobargo-Bermagui Road	C29	Parbery Avenue	G44
Comben Lane	F53	Pine Drive	G53
Corunna Street	Q44	Pitt Street	H37
Cuttagee Beach Road	L63	Regatta Point Road	M11
Dickinson Avenue	P47	Rikkara Avenue	K67
Dromedary Court	J44	Scenic Drive	S45
Endeavour Street	F17	Scenic Forest Drive	G25
Engstrom Close	F52	Sea View Court	D48
Fairhaven Point Way	K19	Sherwood Road	G53
Fairview Road	J19	Sinclair Street	M47
Fairway Court	G48	South River Road	I41
Flower Circuit	O3	Strudwicks Road	I54
Four Winds Road	L64	South Tilba Road	I33
George Street	J37	Tatha-Bermagui Road	K54
Gibboketan Place	J19	Tilba Road	K20
Ginn Street	I39	Tuross Street	N43
Golf Road	N46	Wallaga Street	Q43
Guboo Place	I43	Wallaga Lake Road	O1
Hart Street	I43	Wapengo Street	J39
Hay Street	K43	Wattle Street	J42
Henry Street	I37	Welsh Street	M47
Hill Street	I41	West Street	I41
Jerimbut Street	Q46	Willis Street	I34
Keating Drive	I33	Young Street	R4
Koerber Street	M47		

