



SHIRE OF MANJIMUP



13 December 2023

Informal Notes

Local Emergency Management Committee

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Informal Notes of Meeting held 13 December 2023

Informal Notes of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Meeting held in the Manjimup Emergency Services Collocation Building, at 46 Bath Street Manjimup on Wednesday 13 December 2023.

1. Declaration of Opening the Meeting

Shire of Manjimup - Shire President, Cr Donelle Buegge assumed the chair and declared the meeting open at 1.05pm. Introductions were conducted.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

The Shire of Manjimup respectfully acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands in which we work throughout the region and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

2. Attendance / Apologies

2.1 Attendance

Members - Voting

Cr Donelle Buegge	Shire of Manjimup - Shire President
Ben Rose	Shire of Manjimup - Chief Executive Officer
Todd Ridley	Shire of Manjimup - Community Emergency Services Manager
Chris Sousa	Department of Fire and Emergency Services
Ross Bartley	Police Service - Pemberton
Mr Brad Wren	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (proxy)
Jeffrey Bennett	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (proxy)

Members Non Voting & Invited Guests

Nicole Favero	Shire of Manjimup - Ranger & Emergency Services Admin Officer
Erin Hutchins	DFES – District Emergency Management Advisor
Mel Robertson	Water Corporation
Duncan Heyes	Police Service Pemberton
Michael Heydon	Telstra – Guest Speaker
Claudia Tschopp	Warren Health Service (guest)
Sharon Austin	Department of Communities (guest)
Cr Steve Miolin	Shire of Manjimup – Deputy Shire President (proxy)
Colin Jones	Western Power

2.2 Apologies

David Rae	St John's Ambulance Walpole (Community Paramedic SW Great Southern)
Jayden Lowe	Police Service - Manjimup
Alison Raper	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Remo Pessotto	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Roma Boucher	Department of Communities
Steve Page	Police Service – Walpole
Justine Kelly	Warren Health Services
Paige Weaver	Pemberton Northcliffe Health Services
Brooke Thomas	Department of Communities (proxy)

Gail Ipsen Cutts	Shire of Manjimup – Recovery Coordinator
Ivan Woodhams	St John’s Ambulance Walpole Chair
Gary Willcox	St John’s Ambulance Manjimup
Ian Guthridge	Department of Primary Industries & Regional Development
Tim Foley	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Stephen Burch	Shire of Manjimup – Senior Ranger

Mel Robertson arrived 1.07pm

3. Declaration of Financial Interest

Nil

4. LEMC – Update of Terms of Reference, Membership & Contact Details

The biennial review of appointments for the Local Emergency Management Committee for the period 24 October 2023 to 18 October 2025 went to Council on 24 October 2023 with new appointments for Terms of Reference as shown below under Council Resolution 29285. With the commencement of the new Shire of Manjimup CEO Ben Rose and Pemberton Police Sergeant Ross Bartley the proposed appointment and amendment recently went to Council on 7 December 2023 accordingly.
 Terms of Reference contact list was updated by all in attendance.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of the General Meeting held on Wednesday, 28 June 2023.

As there was not a quorum present, voting on approval of the minutes for meeting held on 28 June, 2023 tabled until next meeting.

6. Council’s Response to Minutes of the General Meeting on Wednesday, 28 June 2023.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Dawson Vidovich, S SECONDED: Eiby, W
29206

That Council receive the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) Meeting held on the 28 June 2023 as shown in Attachment: 9.15.1(1). ADOPTED BY EN BLOC RESOLUTION: 11/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Buegge, D SECONDED: Eiby, W
29214

That Council endorse the draft *Shire of Manjimup - LEMA - Local Animal Welfare Plan 2023 – 2028* shown at Attachment 9.7.1 (1) CARRIED: 11/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Eiby, W SECONDED: Dawson Vidovich, S
29217

That Council confirm and accept the amendments to Appointments of the *Local Emergency Management Committee Terms of Reference* for the two year period that commenced 21 October 2021 as follows:

- 1. Brian Robinson to the position of Shire of Manjimup – Interim Chief Executive Officer LEMC Delegate; and**
- 2. Roma Boucher and Brooke Thomas to the positions of Department of Communities LEMC Delegate and Proxy, respectively.**

CARRIED: 11/0

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Darin, J **SECONDED:** Eiby, W
29285

That Council:

1. Make the following appointments to the Local Emergency Management Committee for the biennial period 24 October 2023 to 18 October 2025; and

Voting Members

Cr Donelle Buegge	Shire President
Cr Steve Miolin	Shire Deputy President (Proxy)
Brian Robinson	Shire of Manjimup Interim CEO
Todd Ridley	Community Emergency Services Manager
Remo Pessotto	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Brad Wren	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (Proxy)
Ian Guthridge	Department Primary Industry & Regional Development
Graham Blincow	Department Primary Industry & Regional Development (Proxy)
Roma Boucher	Department of Communities
Brooke Thomas	Department of Communities (Proxy)
Chris Sousa	Department Fire and Emergency Services
Nathan Hall	Department Fire and Emergency Services (Proxy)
Tim Foley	Department Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Jeffrey Bennett	Department Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions (Proxy)
Jayden Lowe	Police Service - Manjimup
Steve Page	Police Service – Walpole
Vacant	Police Service - Pemberton
Justine Kelly	Warren Health Services
Vacant	Warren Health Services (Proxy)
Page Weaver	Pemberton Northcliffe Health Services
Kathy Smith	Pemberton Northcliffe Health Services (Proxy)
Gary Willcox	St John Ambulance Manjimup
Darryl Church	St John Ambulance Manjimup (Proxy)

Non-Voting Representatives

Erin Hutchins	DEMC / SEMC
Gail Ipsen Cutts	Shire of Manjimup – Recovery Coordinator
Ivan Woodhams	St John Ambulance Walpole Chair
David Rae	St John Ambulance Walpole (Community Paramedic SW Great Southern)
Mel Robertson	Water Corporation
Colin Jones	Western Power

2. Confirm the Terms of Reference for the Local Emergency Management Committee as provided in Attachment: 9.15.2(1) including nominations contained in point 1) above.

CARRIED: 9/0

7. Business Arising from Minutes

7.1 Action Task List

Action & Meeting Date	Item	Update	Status	Actioning Officer
04/23 28/06/2023	TELSTRA - Mobile Phone Towers – Backup Generators	<p>28/06/2023: Requirement and importance of Generators for Mobile Phone Tower power to continue coverage during emergencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CESH to contact Boyd Brown from Telstra to attend next LEMC Meeting. • CESH to contact Shire of Boyup Brook regarding their success with this. <p>13/12/2023: Boyd Brown was invited to attend LEMC Meeting. He was unable and advised Michael Haydon will attend. See General Business 11.1.</p>	Completed	Todd Ridley
05/23 28/06/2023	St John Ambulance approval letter to host SJA equipment on Shire Towers	<p>28/06/2023: Preliminary approval was granted by Interim CEO and a formal letter has been drafted and once signed by CEO will be sent to SJA.</p> <p>13/12/2023: Action Completed</p>	Completed	Todd Ridley CEO
06/23 28/06/2023	Shire of Manjimup – LEMA – Local Animal Welfare Plan	<p>28/06/2023: Approved at Council</p> <p>13/12/2023: Now endorsed by Council will need to amend LEMA to reflect the plan which will be completed next year on review.</p>	Completed	Todd Ridley

8. Correspondence

8.1 Incoming

- Communities – Advice of DESO on leave arrangements & updated LEWP Sept 2023 to be tabled in General Business 11.2.
- Communities – Updated Terminology list Oct 2023 for the State Emergency Management Documents and advice a new template for Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan (LERSP) is to replace LEWP for LGs in due course.
- Telstra – Boyd Brown – LEMC Meeting December – Reply Michael Heydon to attend.
- Communities – Natalia Gemmell – restructure Update for Emergency Relief and Support.

8.2 Outgoing

- LEMC Members - Shire of Manjimup – LEMC Agenda, Minutes from previous meeting and Shire of Manjimup – Events Matrix.
- Invitation to Boyd Brown of Telstra to attend LEMC Meeting in December.

9. Events

The committee reviewed the events matrix that was distributed to LEMC Members.
Matrix was tabled, see Item 9.0 Attachment.

Todd Ridley Shire of Manjimup CESM advised there is also the Pemberton New Year Fireworks to be added.

Cr Donelle Buegge Shire President discussed the Cherry Festival and the need for involvement of Rangers, regarding dogs, at next year's events.

10. Members Reports

10.1 Shire of Manjimup –Shire President – Cr Donelle Buegge

- E Scooters are a concern with a recent accident involving rider with no helmet. Would like to know more where the Shire stands and regarding education especially with Christmas coming and more children possibly getting them.
- Commended all Emergency Services volunteers and personnel.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

Ross Bartley Pemberton Police advised that there are none in Pemberton. Riders must be 16yrs or older same as moped, must have helmet, only one person and can be ridden on footpaths etc but can only ride on low-speed roads that are 50km/h or less.

10.2 Shire of Manjimup – Chief Executive Officer – Ben Rose

- Currently on day twelve in his role and has been warmly welcomed by Shire Staff and Councillors.
- Coming from Donnybrook with recent incidents he is comfortable in the Emergency Management areas and their acronyms, having recent meetings with Shire of Manjimup CESM to discuss the emergency services environment in the Shire.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

- 10.3 Shire of Manjimup – Community Emergency Services Manager – Todd Ridley**
- LEMAs to be reviewed in 2024 with all else up to date ready for this season.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

- 10.4 Shire of Manjimup - Recovery Coordinator – Gail Ipsen Cutts**
Apology for meeting. No report received.

- 10.5 Shire of Manjimup – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – Bradley Wren**
Report was tabled, see Item 10.5 Attachment.

Todd Ridley Shire of Manjimup CESM confirmed twenty fires to date in the Shire and to put in perspective, the normal average for November would be about five fires.

- 10.6 Department of Biodiversity, Conservations & Attractions – Jeff Bennett**
Report was tabled, see Item 10.6 Attachment.

Cr Donelle Buegge Shire President asked regarding the drier than normal season and if this is why they were able to burn earlier?

Jeff Bennett DBCA advised yes, they are currently completing Karri burning which is about six weeks in advance, so effectively as it would be around the middle of January. To put this in perspective, in his 43 years they have never been burning Karri in November.

- 10.7 Department of Communities – Sharon Austin**
Report was tabled, see Item 10.7 Attachment.

- 10.8 Department of Fire and Emergency Services – Chris Sousa**
Report was tabled, see Item 10.8 Attachment.

- 10.9 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development – Ian Guthridge**
Last minute apology for meeting.
Report received after completion of meeting for minutes, see Item 10.9 Attachment.

- 10.10 District Emergency Management Advisor - DFES – Erin Hutchins**
Report was tabled, see Item 10.10 Attachment.

- 10.11 St John Ambulance**
Manjimup – Gary Willcox - Community Paramedic SW
Apology for meeting. No report received.

Walpole – Rod Walding - Community Paramedic GS (Acting)
Not in attendance and no report received.

- 10.12 WA Country Health Service**
Pemberton Northcliffe Health Service – Paige Weaver
Apology for meeting. No report received.

Warren Health Service – Claudia Tschopp
Report was tabled, see Item 10.12 Attachment.

- 10.13 WA Police**
Walpole Police – Steve Page
Apology for meeting. No report received.

Pemberton Police – Ross Bartley

- Only two months in his current position at Pemberton very happy to get another post in the South West. He was last in SW in Margaret River about 10yrs ago and been through some major fires and incidents.
- They have a small team of three and looking at busy times over the next few months.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

Manjimup Police – Jayden Lowe

Apology for meeting. Report below received by email:

- Manjimup has had limited emergency management incidents to report on as luckily, they have only had to attend a few traffic crashes.

10.14 Water Corporation – Mel Robertson

- Thanks to DBCA for their recent assistance.
- Reroofed the Mottram Street Tank.
- Business as usual.
- No power, no water.
- There will be a water outage to patch a leak with hopefully minimal disturbance as being completed during midnight and 2am.
- Manjimup dam down 6% this year.
- Looking at increasing water licence and comms a challenge.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

10.15 Western Power – Colin Jones

- Currently upgrading all communication towers, refurbishing, new batteries etc.
- No big issues, they are looking at speeding up work on outage times.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

11. General Business

11.1 Telstra – Mobile Phone Towers & Backup Generators – Guest – Michael Heydon

- A verbal presentation was received providing an outline of co funding project under the STAND program for portable genset to be stationed at exchange that could be deployed, also battery backup on all towers and in the event of widespread outage they will deploy more. He explained that as towers are linked even if one has power, they may not have coverage. Unfortunately, funding didn't get approved.
- Starlink has been trialled recently by WA Police.
- In June 2024 they are closing the 3G network as end of life.
- There is a direct to handset via satellite trial with text, then later they will look at both voice and data.
- Informed that if you have an iphone 14 or 15 they have SMS to 000 functionality in an emergency when there is no coverage.
- Telstra Coverage Map – nothing has changed with sites being turned off etc, factors in play could be illegal repeaters, increase in demand so you then may not have the capacity with more data being used as these can all affect signal so

mobiles should not be solely relied on and you need to have other systems in place.

Sharon Austin Department of Communities asked regarding the fall pendant medical alarms for elderly currently on the 3G Network?

Michael Heydon Telstra advised that they aren't the suppliers, though they are working with the manufacturers of the alarms who will then need to update their own customers regarding this.

Discussion ensued with various members advising regarding the coverage reducing from what they had five years ago.

Brad Wren DCBFCO advised after changing to mobile in Yanmah area, their coverage has drastically reduced over this period and from an emergency services point they are letting community down as no longer reliable.

Todd Ridley CESM advised where previously there was coverage west/north of Manjimup and Palgarup, it has now disappeared. Since the new tower installed near Chip Mill in Diamond, residents who live directly near it had better coverage prior to the installation and since new towers have been installed in the area, the bushfire radio network has also been affected.

Michael Heydon Telstra answered that nothing has changed or been turned off but they may have had fortuitous coverage previously on a fringe area of the map and now other factors may affect this like illegal repeaters, increase in demand therefore reduction in capacity etc. This shouldn't be relied on in emergency need other systems in place. The towers shouldn't cause issues with frequency bans with radios, technicians tested it with no issues found. On a positive, Pemberton now has 5G coverage.

The Committee thanked Michael for his attendance.

Jeff Bennett DBCA left the meeting at 2.20pm.

11.2 Department of Communities – Local Emergency Welfare Plan - LEWP - South West - Manjimup Office - Bridgetown Greenbushes, Manjimup – Sept 2023 – Tabled

- The LEWP document was tabled at the meeting and Sharon Austin advised that this will now require updating to *Local Emergency Relief and Support Plan (LERSP)* which will happen in due course.
- **Trailer Walpole** - There is a new support trailer that will be stationed in Walpole that has available bedding for up to 50-60 and fully stocked with small incidentals for evacuees. This will be housed at DBCA depot in Walpole.

Todd Ridley CESM enquired as we have not received further information back from Roma what the arrangements are for deployment and accessing the trailer?

Sharon Austin advised once the trailer is delivered to Walpole they will confirm the process that they are currently working through with who can deploy it, access etc.

11.3 WALGA Emergency Management Survey 2023

The WALGA Emergency Management Survey for 2023 was completed and lodged on 29 November 2023, no copy was supplied on lodgement.

Erin Hutchins DEMA advised that she will follow up to see if can obtain a copy.

11.4 Water Cartage in Shire (Item without Notice)

Ben Rose CEO asked Mel Robertson from Water Corp for clarification/understanding on the Water Cartage arrangements and also from an emergency services perspective? Mel advised that Northcliffe and Quinninup are cartage sites. Depending on demands, which Quinninup seems to have an expediential increase at the moment so they will look at the draw on that so see if there is a reason.

In the event of a fire impacting the Northcliffe/Quinninup area the local emergency services are aware that we only have what is available in those tanks. Local water cartage suppliers are aware that Mottram St is the area of choice, as the Seven Day Road/South West Highway draw point can cause hammer if they open and close the valve too quickly which can cause bursts etc.

The Airport site, the draw from the tanks can sustain the service providers about two planes, two fill points for the choppers however if you need more than two, your service doesn't fill at the same rate as your drawing, so then you call your water carters in again. Water Corp are working with Airport and Local Shire on upgrading those services but can only go up to the meter, then there is the internal infrastructure that is being managed from Shire perspective.

12. Next Meeting

Next General Meeting date to be advised in 2024.

13. Declaration of Close of Meeting

The Chair, Shire of Manjimup – Shire President Cr Donelle Buegge, thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 2.28pm.

Shire of Manjimup Event Matrix

Event Name	Organisation	Start Date	End Date	Duration of Event	Location	Expected Attendance	Risk SoM	Risk Docs	Traffic Management	Alcohol	Other Agency Approvals/Involvement	SoM Approval Status
Food Truckin For A Cause	TJK Events							Emergency Management Risk Management				
Paddock to Plate at Pemberley	Pemberley of Pemberton	2/12/2023	2/12/2023	< 4 hours	Pemberley of Pemberton	<500	Low	Emergency Management Risk Management	No	Yes - Licenced	No	Approved
Food Truck & Movie Night	TJK Events	4/12/2023	4/12/2023	< 4 hours	Manjimup Heritage Park	<500	Low	Emergency Management Risk Management	No	No	No	Approved
Manjimup Chamber of Commerce - Christmas Tree Light	Manjimup Chamber of Commerce & Industry	8/12/2023	8/12/2023	< 4 hours	Coronation Park	<500	Low	Emergency Management Risk Management	No	No	No	Pending
Lazer Tag - SoM Youth Advisory Group	Shire of Manjimup	8/12/2023	8/12/2023	< 8 hours	Manjimup Heritage Park	<500	Low	Emergency Management Risk Management	No	No	No	Pending
Manjimup Markets and More	Cherry Harmony Festival	9/12/2023	9/12/2023	< 8 hours	Town Hall, Brockman Street, Johnson Cresnet, Manjin Park, Coronation Park	4000	Medium	Emergency Management Risk Management Plan	Yes	Yes - Licenced	No	Pending
East Manjimup Primary School End of Year Concert	East Manjimup Primary School	13/12/2023	13/12/2023	< 4 hours	Sandra Donovan Sound Shell	>500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	17/12/2023	17/12/2023	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Christmas in the Park	Christmas in the Park Committee	17/12/2023	17/12/2023	< 8 hours	Manjimup Heritage Park	<500	Low		No	No	No	Pending
Pemberton NYE	Pemberton Sports Club	31/12/2023	1/01/2023	8 hours +	Pemberton Sports Club	2000	Low	Firework Risk Assessment	Yes	Yes - Licenced	No	Not Required
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	31/12/2023	31/12/2023	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	7/01/2024	7/01/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	18/01/2024	18/01/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Av' A G'day in Walpole		26/01/2024	26/01/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<1000	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	26/01/2024	26/01/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Jazz in the Jarrah	Lione Club of Manjimup	3/02/2024	3/02/2024	< 8 hours	Sandra Donovan Sound Shell	<500	Low		No	Yes - BYO	No	Pending
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	4/02/2024	4/02/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Delirious West 200 Miler (Start Line)	Ultra Series Australia	7/02/2024	7/02/2024	< 4 hours	Northcliffe - Bibbulmun Track near pioneer museum	<500	Low		No	No	No	Pending
One Step Closer	Southern Forest Steppers	10/02/2024	10/02/2024	< 8 hours	Pemberton Sports Club	<500	Low		No	Yes - Licenced	No	Pending
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	18/02/2024	18/02/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Walpole in the Trees Regatta	Walpole Yacht Club	2/03/2024	3/03/2024	8 hours +	Walpole Yacht Club	<500	Medium	Emergency Plan Risk Management Plan	No	No	DOT, DBCA	Pending
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	4/03/2024	4/03/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Southern Forest Campdraft	Southern Forests Campdraft & Rodeo Club	8/03/2024	10/03/2024	8 hours +	Warren Equestrian Centre, Manjimup	<500	Medium	Risk Management Plan	No		No	Not Required
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	18/03/2024	18/03/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Tarmac Rally South West	Targa West P/L	22/03/2024	23/03/2024	8 hours +	Pemberton & Manjimup Roads	1500	Low		Yes	Yes - Licenced	No	Pending
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	8/04/2024	8/04/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved
Walpole Markets	Walpole Nornalup Visitor Centre	22/04/2024	22/04/2024	< 8 hours	Pioneer Park, Walpole	<500	Low		No	No	No	Approved

Remo Pessotto - CBFCO

Report for LEMC Meeting held on 13 December 2023

No of Fires

- Up to this date shire of Manjimup has had 20 fires that brigades attended to, details are as follows:
 - 1 x Deliberately lit on the rail reserve.
 - 1 x Structural - Chip Mill - FRS were called in as breathing gear had to be used.
 - 17 Were from landowners cleaning and tidying up around their properties, this was well before permits started and reignitions from previous burns.
 - 1 x farmer lost his tractor and small square baler plus 15 bales of hay before the Walpole brigade rounded it up with DPaW, the grass was green but still burnt 1.5 ha.

Regulation Burning Times – Period we are in

- Restricted period started on the 9th Nov for Zone 8. Manjimup and Pemberton.
- Restriction period for Zone 6 started on 19th Nov for Walpole and Northcliffe

No of Permits Issued

- 35 permits have been issued up to this date.

Weather Conditions

Weather conditions at this stage is well in front from this time last year with higher temperatures, stronger south east winds have dried out fuels sooner and from the fire Behaviour that has happened around the area we are dealing with fires getting out of hand very quickly, which have shaken up landowners that ended up losing control their burns. Also, on the 28th Nov a thunder storm came through mainly out East of Manjimup with thunder and lightning, places ended up with between 3mm to 84mm of rain and hail out close to lake Muir, all strikes were mainly in DPaW Bush.

Brigade Business / Issues

- With the recent amalgamation of Linfarne with Ringbarkers BFB, this brings our number of Brigades down to eighteen.

Brigade Deployments

- With the lightning storm up the line ended up, Deployed Ringbarkers 2.4 with a crew member to head up to help out on the Dwellingup Fire and at Hyden.

Vehicle Maintenance / Issues

- All brigade Appliances have been serviced ready for working

Communications

- Mobile Phone signal very bad at times while having a conversation it drops out, phone calls have to be dialed up 2-3 times try to get through to finish off the conversation very frustrating and annoying.

General Business

- Nil

ITEM 10.6 ATTACHMENT



Department of **Biodiversity,
Conservation and Attractions**



Warren Region Update for Manjimup LEMC meeting Wednesday 13 December 2023

Prescribed Burning

Warren Region has completed approximately 26,000 hectares of prescribed burning this spring. This has been a combination of 15 prescribed burns. 9 in Donnelly District and 6 in Frankland District. Due to an early start to the season, we have made some good inroads into the burn options program.

Recently we have undertaken some karri burning which is 4-5 weeks in advance of an average year.

Whilst we are still working within the restricted burn period, we will be targeting some more karri burns prior to Christmas.

Bushfire

Crews and staff have been also busy being away on several occasions helping with bushfires in Serpentine, Perth and down at the FRNP.

Warren region has only experienced 9 small fires this season. The latest one was at the Lake Muir Nature Reserve caused from a lightning strike 4 days after the lightning event.

The water bombers for this fire season were based in Manjimup from 23 November 2023.

Regards,

Jeff Bennett

Regional Leader Fire Management

Warren Region

Manjimup

Warren Region

Locked Bag 2, Manjimup, Western Australia 6258
Phone: (08) 97 717 988 Email: warren.admin@dbca.wa.gov.au
dbca.wa.gov.au



Regional Officer, Emergency Relief and Support – Shire of Manjimup LEMC update 13 December 2023

In the event of an emergency please call the All Hazards - State On-Call Coordinator on [0418 943 853](tel:0418943853), this number is manned 24/7.

emergencyservices@communities.wa.gov.au. (Not for public distribution)

Meetings, exercise details or information request can be emailed to sharon.austin@communities.wa.gov.au

Current Situation and Enhancements:

- The Department of Communities' Emergency Relief and Support Directorate (ERS) has been proactively implementing various initiatives to strengthen our capacity and capability in handling emergencies.
- These efforts are a part of our comprehensive preparedness strategy across the state, ensuring readiness for the 2023-24 high threat season.

Funding and Resource Enhancement:

- In late 2022, the Department of Treasury sanctioned additional funding to bolster the resource capacity of the ERS to 36 full-time equivalents (FTE).
- Recruitment for these positions is now underway.
- The majority of these positions are expected to be operational by December 2023.

Response to Advanced High Threat Season:

- On 9 November 2023, the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) advised that the onset of the high threat bushfire season had been advanced from 1 December to 9 November 2023.
- In response, Communities has activated the summer Early Response Team (ERT) roster effective from November 9. This includes the integration of two additional ERT staff members per on-call team, enabling a more efficient response to state-wide activations.

Emergency Management Preparedness:

1. Operational Planning:

- Communities is actively seeking involvement from staff across the State to join the Emergency Activation Workforce, enhancing our capability during high threat periods.
- Emergency management responsibilities have been incorporated into the job descriptions of all Communities staff.

2. Equipment and Logistics:

- The ERS completed a state-wide audit of emergency management equipment, resulting in several improvements:
 - Standardization of the emergency vehicle fleet and emergency response equipment in vehicles and trailers.
 - Acquisition of four additional emergency relief and support response trailers, raising the total to 22 across the state.
 - Enhancement of emergency management reserve stock and establishment of additional regional storage locations with essential emergency equipment.

3. Evacuation Centre Audit:

- In collaboration with Local Governments and emergency management agencies, Communities is identifying and assessing suitable evacuation centres state-wide.
- We have enhanced our evacuation centre risk assessment process and commenced a state-wide audit of these centres for better-informed risk assessment during emergency incidents.

4. Exercises, Training, and Partner Engagement:

- ERS has been conducting Evacuation Centre Training and Desktop Exercises across the state, focusing on effective response and support during regional emergency events.
- In October 2023, we facilitated a Desktop Exercise with 27 partner organisations to test how Communities could work in a coordinated way with State and Local partner agencies to respond to the needs of impacted people and communities in the response and recovery phases of an emergency.
- ERS also supported the DFES Dunsborough and Surrounds Community Preparedness Roadshow, delivering Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness workshops targeted to community sector partners and people with complex needs.

5. State Support Plan:

- Following the State Emergency Management Policy, a statutory five-year review of the State Support Plan has been completed.
- Based on feedback received, the plan has been renamed to 'State Support Plan – Emergency Relief and Support'.
- The State EM Policy Branch at DFES has updated the State EM Framework documents, including revisions to welfare references and other consequential amendments.
- Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans (formerly Local Emergency Welfare Plans) are being updated to reflect the new terminology.

6. Capability Audit:

- Communities commissioned Nous Group to conduct an audit to establish the baseline capability of the Emergency Relief and Support sector in WA, with a view to identifying critical capability gaps across the state.

7. Lessons Learned:

- Following the Kimberley Floods, Communities has embarked on a Lessons Learned project. This initiative is vital for enhancing our operational accountability, continuous improvement, and strengthening our systems for future responses.



Shire of Manjimup LEMC DFES Report – 13 December 2023

DFES has been working with Telstra at a state level to address the concerns over mobile phone reception in the Region. Information received by DFES is attached to this report.

DFES attended the commissioning of the new Marine Rescue vessel which was carried out in conjunction with the annual Emergency Services Blessing of the Fleet in early December in Walpole.

Operations

VFRS Brigades across the Shire have been kept busy with various incidents since the last LEMC, with road crashes being a prominent feature. The commencement of the bush fire season has been challenging for the state, with the LSW Region being called on to support incidents in the Kimberley/ Pilbara, Goldfields and NSW.

Training and Exercises

The DFES Lower South West Region has been actively preparing for the bush fire season, undertaking training and exercising for staff and volunteers, together with reviewing response plans and agreements.

Community Engagement (Linda Ashton)

Community preparedness activities undertaken across the Shire recently included:

- Digital Bushfire Planning for over 55's session at Manjimup CRC (Sept)
- Northcliffe Family Centre BF Planning session (Nov)
- Northcliffe Retirement Village BF Planning session (Nov)
- Northcliffe General Store engagement stall (Nov)

Chris Sousa
District Officer Nelson
0447 362 006

3G/4G coverage issues

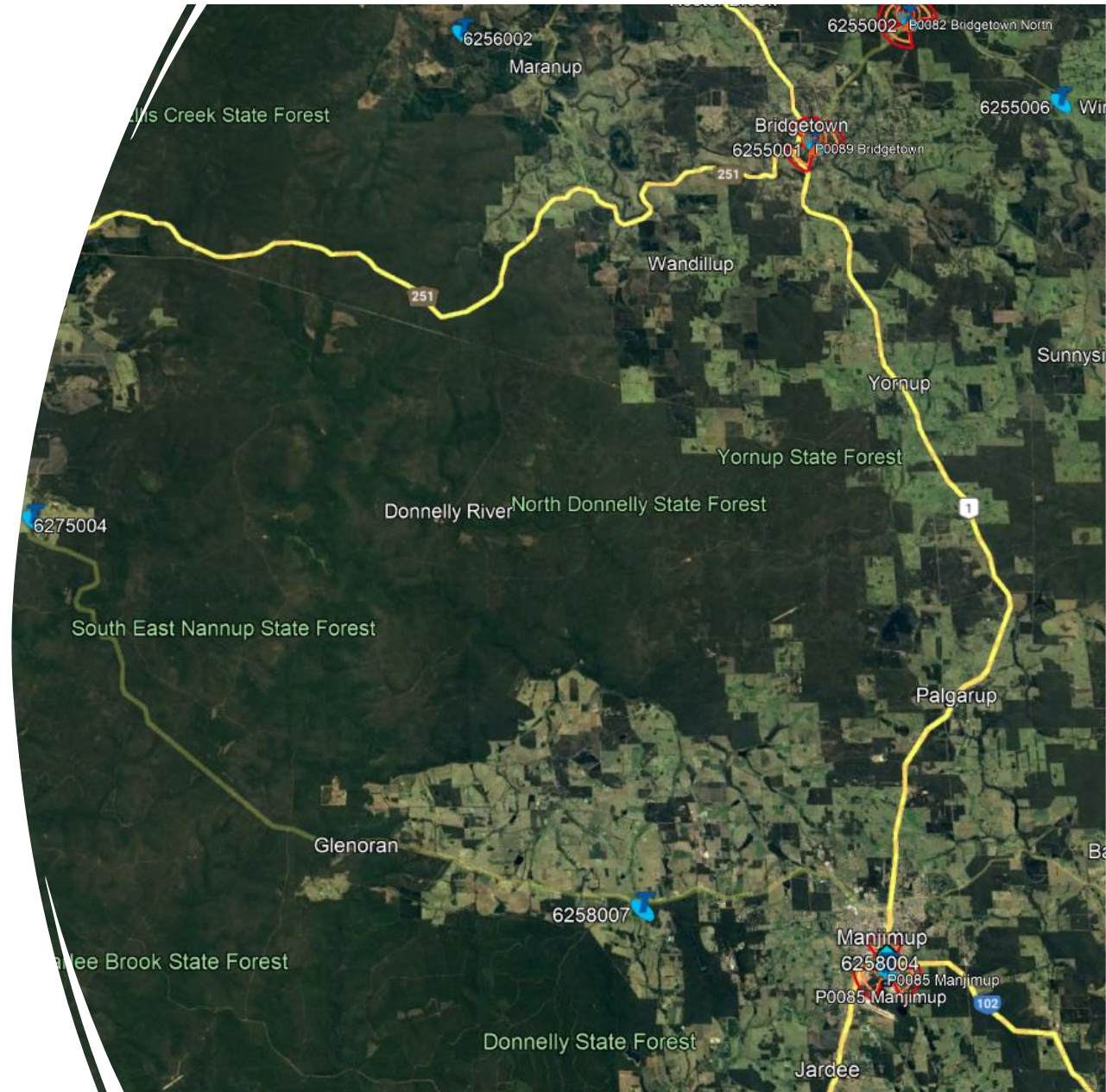
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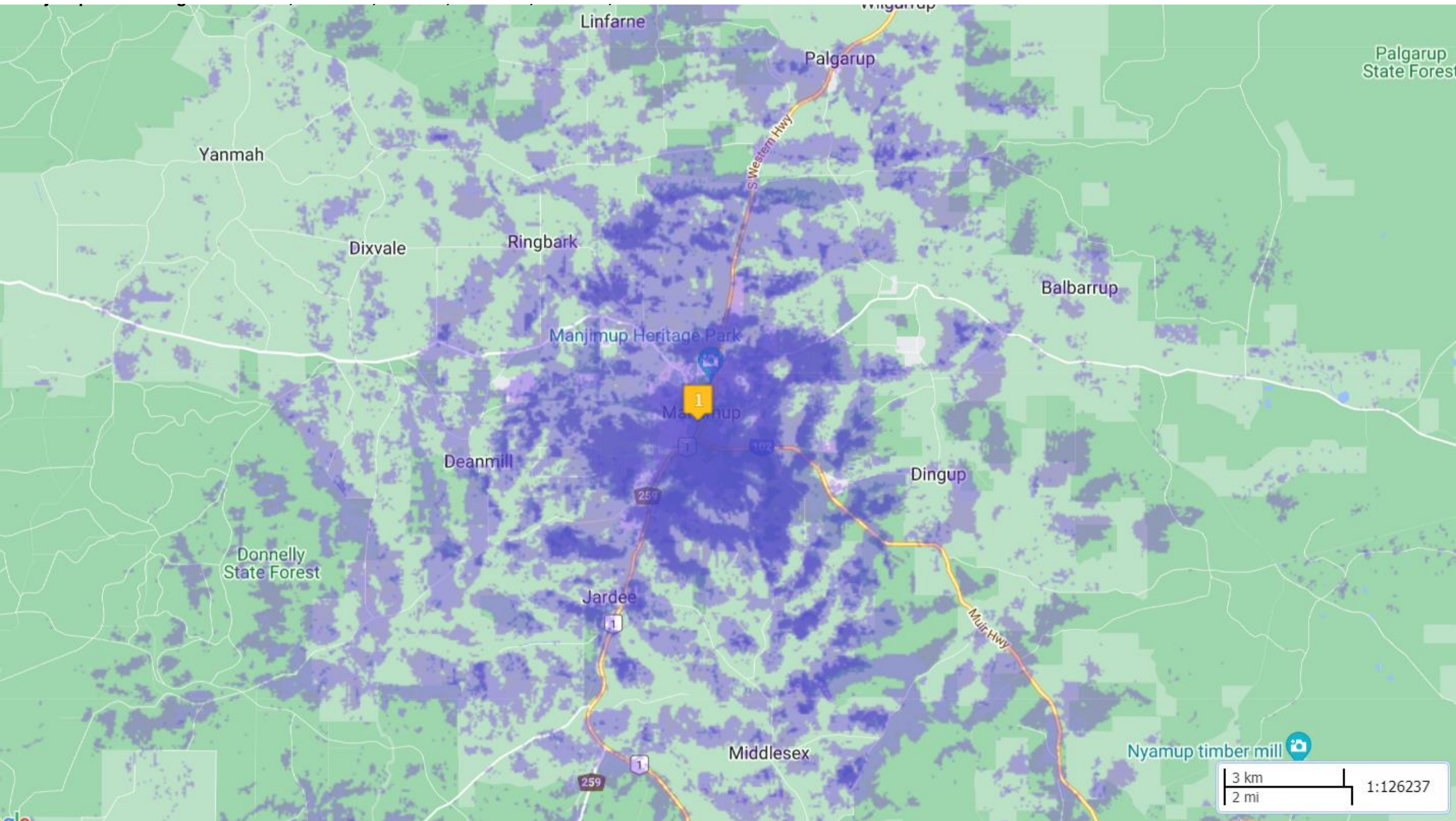
Manjimup Region

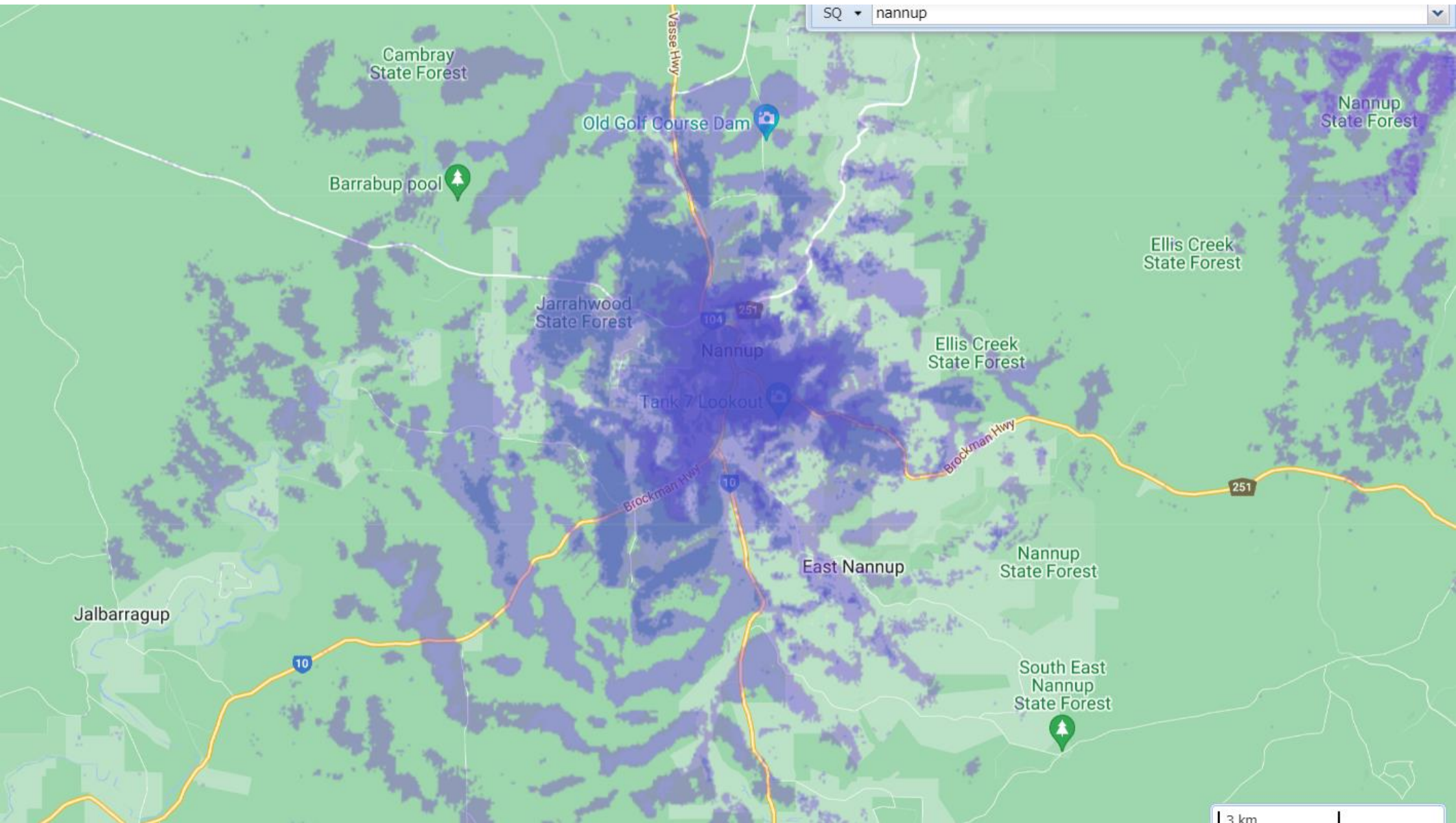


Optus

Whilst we have coverage in the townships of Manjimup and Nannup, we are aware that there is a gap in coverage on the interconnecting roads and wider area surrounding these locations. There are no plans to add more sites in the foreseeable future. However with the launch of our partnership with SpaceX, in two years we will have a satellite direct to handset service which will address this issue.







Telstra

Understanding the factors that impact regional comms.

- The 3G closure shouldn't be impacting users at this point in time.
- The location of the users would be the greatest factor.
- We would need further information such as mobile numbers, addresses and speed tests to investigate the end user experience further.

Recommended phone setup

- The recommendation is a Telstra GO G41 repeater + Yagi antenna to improve and extend coverage.

Plans to improve regional comms

- Working with DPIRD on the Regional Connectivity Program to improve the mobile connectivity to Manjimup and surrounds.
- DPIRD have pushed for additional funding into the Regional Connectivity Program and requested the inclusions of the below 7 sites:
 - • Nannup Exchange
 - • Nannup South
 - • Channybearup
 - • Pemberton South
 - • Biddelia
 - • Palgarup
 - • Mayanup
- The proposal is to deliver 6 new mobile sites and provide a coverage and capacity upgrade to 1 existing mobile site.
- They are currently at nomination stage as they wait for approval from Federal Government.



Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

Incident and Emergency Management

Agency Name:	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development		Date: 11 December 2023
Report prepared by:	Helen Kent	Position:	Emergency Preparedness Coordinator – Incident & Emergency Management Branch

LEMC and DEMC report: December 2023

Prevention/mitigation activities:

DPIRD undertakes prevention/mitigation strategies in line with its role as the hazard management agency for animal and plant biosecurity.

Surveillance program to protect the WA bee industry

Western Australia has strong biosecurity and surveillance measures in place to protect the State's bee industry from exotic pests and diseases including the bee parasite, varroa mite.

Varroa mite was first detected in the Port of Newcastle in New South Wales in June 2022. The national eradication response is now moving to a management phase after it was deemed no longer technically feasible to eradicate.

WA undertakes State and national bee pest surveillance programs which include extensive surveillance at ports and airports, considered to be the highest risk entry points for bees and bee parasites.

The surveillance program is coordinated by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) in WA with the support of volunteer beekeepers and covers Fremantle, Kwinana, Perth Airport, Bunbury, Albany, Esperance, Geraldton and Derby.

As part of the program, there are 40 sentinel hives in place at key locations across the State which act as an early warning system to detect exotic bees and signs of bee parasites. There are also 34 catch boxes located across Bunbury, Fremantle and Geraldton.

Plans are underway to expand the sentinel hive program to monitor additional industrial areas and freight hubs across the Perth metropolitan area.

Floral sweeps using butterfly nets to capture bees for identification are also routinely undertaken at Fremantle, Bunbury and Geraldton ports to monitor for exotic bees and mites.

WA has strict border quarantine to reduce the risk of varroa mite and other bee pests and disease entering the State. Bees, bee products including honey and other apiary products and beekeeping equipment are not permitted to be brought in without meeting import conditions and or treatments.

It is also a legal requirement for all beekeepers including hobbyists in WA to be registered with DPIRD. This is vitally important so that they can be contacted quickly in the case of pest or disease detection.

Beekeepers are also encouraged to check their own hives regularly and report anything unusual immediately by calling the Exotic Plant Pest hotline 1800 084 881

DPIRD responses

Declared incidents which DPIRD is managing:

- Eight (8) declared level 1 and 2 incidents in relation to plant pests/diseases and aquatic pests/diseases
- Nil animal pest/disease incidents

Red dwarf honey bee

DPIRD is investigating the detection of the exotic pest red dwarf honey bee (*Apis florea*) discovered on the Burrup Peninsula near Karratha. Red dwarf honey bees are known to be a vector for numerous exotic bee pests, including brood diseases, internal and external mites, and bee viruses.

The department is calling on the State's beekeepers and land managers to monitor their area for any unusual bees or nests.

Quarantine Area

A **Quarantine Area** (QA) has been declared for the Burrup Peninsula in the Pilbara to support a biosecurity response to eradicate Red dwarf honey bee. Bee keepers with hives, equipment or those who have collected swarms on the peninsula are not permitted to move them outside the Quarantine Area to prevent the pest from spreading.

Affected bee keepers are asked to contact DPIRD's Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) to advise of hives in the area. Workers, residents, businesses and visitors to the Quarantine Area are required to report observations of unusual bees to the PaDIS hotline or via the department's **MyPestGuide® Reporter** app to support surveillance

Impact

Red dwarf honey bees are social bees which live in colonies of at least 3,000 insects. They migrate, swarm, and abscond readily, making them a major threat for exotic incursions and to the Australian environment.

One of the major risks for Australia is that red dwarf honey bee (*Apis florea*) is host to a range of bee brood diseases, parasites, and viruses that may impact European honey bees.

The red dwarf honey bee can carry Eugarroa mite (*Eugarroa sinhai*) a close relative to the destructive Varroa mites. The species can also carry Tropilaelaps mites (*Tropilaelaps clareae*) which is a known pest of European honey bees.

Red dwarf honey bees may also compete with other bees for floral resources.

What to look for:

Red dwarf honey bees are characterised by their external nesting habits. Their nest is made up of an exposed single horizontal comb less than 25 centimetres wide that is built around and attached to tree branches or other support, including buildings and shipping containers.

The pest is easily distinguished from European honey bees by their small size in comparison to the European honey bee, being just 7-10 millimeters in length. They have a red/brown abdomen with black and white bands

Look for unusual bees that look smaller than European honey bees or colonies with exposed combs.



- +61 (0)8 9368 3080
- padis@dpird.wa.gov.au

MyPestGuide®

- [MyPestGuide® Reporter app](#)
- mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au

Queensland fruit fly

Strict requirements for moving of fruit and fruiting vegetables in Bayswater and Belmont have now been lifted, with residents now subject to the same movement conditions as those in the broader Quarantine Area.

Residents are encouraged to continue good garden and waste disposal hygiene to help prevent future outbreaks of this significant pest, which could devastate the State's fruit and vegetable industries.

The Quarantine Area continues to be in place and includes Perth, Belmont, Gosnells, Kalamunda, Vincent, Joondalup, Swan, Wanneroo, Melville, Canning, Bayswater, South Perth, Subiaco, Stirling, Nedlands, Bassendean, Belmont, Claremont, Victoria Park, Cambridge and Mundaring.

While Bayswater and Belmont residents are no longer required to cook, freeze, process or solarise host fruit or fruiting vegetables before disposal, these measures are still highly recommended to prevent this or other pests taking hold in the area. Similarly, these residents do not have to remove fallen fruit every three days but are encouraged to do so to maintain good garden hygiene. Requirements for commercial horticulture businesses in the Quarantine Area remain and DPIRD officers continue to liaise with growers and provide assistance where required.

The new Quarantine Area Notice is in place until Tuesday, 5 December 2023 and will be reviewed as the biosecurity response progresses. The community is encouraged to remain vigilant to support the biosecurity response.

Response

The biosecurity response has made good progress and the program is being modified to the next phase of the campaign.

- Baiting and property inspections have ceased
- Monitoring and surveillance is to continue

For updated information on the new requirements the visit the Qfly biosecurity response DPIRD webpage www.agric.wa.gov.au/qflyupdate. Reports of suspected Qfly should still be made to DPIRD's Pest and Disease Information Service on 9368 3080, email padis@dpiird.wa.gov.au or via the MyPestGuide Reporter app.

Polyphagous shot-hole borer – no update since last report

Polyphagous shot-hole borer (PSHB) *Euwallacea fornicatus* is a beetle native to Southeast Asia. The beetle attacks a wide range of plants by tunnelling into trunks, stems and branches.

DPIRD continues to respond to the confirmed detections of an exotic beetle Polyphagous Shot-Hole Borer in the Perth metropolitan area.

Response activities include:

- Conducting surveillance to determine the distribution of PSHB
- Containing the pest to prevent further spread to non-infested regions within Western Australia
- Providing advice and information to residents, industry and other stakeholders
- Ensuring that all response activities are conducted safely, consistently and efficiently

To stop the spread, a Quarantine Area Notice (QAN) is in place to support the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development's ongoing surveillance program to determine the spread of the pest.

The Quarantine Area covers 25 local government areas. The new areas added to the expanded QAN on 21 March 2023 are:

- Beckenham, Canning Vale, Huntingdale, Kenwick, Langford, Maddington and Thornlie in the City of Gosnells
- Duncraig, Greenwood, Marmion, Sorrento and Warwick in the City of Joondalup
- Alexander Heights, Girrawheen, Koondoola and Marangaroo in the City of Wanneroo
- Ballajura, Beechboro, Bennett Springs, Dayton, Hazelmere, Kiara, Lockridge, Malaga, Middle Swan, Midland, Viveash, West Swan and Woodbridge in the City of Swan
- Forrestfield, High Wycombe, Perth Airport and Wattle Grove in the City of Kalamunda

Link to information about [Polyphagous shot-hole borer | Agriculture and Food](#)

State alerts and investigations

DPIRD is investigating one (1) pest/disease.

National alerts & investigations

DPIRD, and other state jurisdictions, continue to monitor reported outbreaks of African swine fever, Lumpy skin disease and Foot and mouth disease in other countries.

Information regarding Foot and Mouth Disease prevention is available on the WA government website:

[Foot-and-mouth disease advice for Western Australians \(www.wa.gov.au\)](#)

Information is also available on the DPIRD website:

[Foot-and-mouth disease: prevention and preparedness | Agriculture and Food](#)

Important: There are, currently, no known incidences of these emergency animal diseases in Australia.

Emergency animal disease preparedness included in the 2023-2024 State Budget:

The WA State government announced \$10.4 Million, in the State Budget, to enhance preparedness for Emergency Animal Disease (EAD).

Key activities include:

- enhancing EAD preparedness by focussed incident management training, emergency disease exercises and finalising policies and procedures for incident response.
- enhancing communications with industry and community stakeholders to increase awareness of Emergency Animal Diseases and improve preparedness and likelihood of early disease detection and reporting.
- building and developing a veterinary reserve and enhancing veterinary student exposure to rural veterinary opportunities.
- enhancing veterinary capacity
- enhancing the diagnostic laboratory capability and capacity by upgrading the laboratory information management system, including automation of tasks and enhanced sample tracking and security.

Natural hazards – DPIRD support responsibilities and Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA

Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja (Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA - DRFAWA)

Incident details:

11 April 2021: Severe Tropical Cyclone Seroja crossed just south of Kalbarri around 8pm Australian Western Standard Time (AWST).

Impacts at Kalbarri and the nearby town of Northampton were severe with many buildings sustaining significant damage, mostly consisting of lost roofs but other structures were destroyed. Many locations recorded maximum wind gusts greater than 125km/h with the highest being 170km/h from Meanarra Tower near Kalbarri.

DPIRD is managing Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA assistance to primary producers impacted by TC Seroja

Application details for the Primary Producer Recovery Grants Category B and C as at – 30 October 2023

DRFA Measures	Submitted applications	Under assessment	Approved	Approved \$
Category B	65	1	56	\$1,451,629.39 (Expended)
Category C	185	31	147	\$3,077,276.35 (Expended)

Ex-TC Ellie (Kimberley Floods) – January 2023

DPIRD is providing support to affected communities, in relation to its areas of responsibility, in the recovery from the January flooding in the west Kimberley.

- The State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies was formally activated on 9 January 2023 and remained activated until 3 May 2023 to provide support to the local government in relation to the coordination of animal welfare.

Recovery:

- Substantive Wheatbelt Development Commission CEO, Rob Cossart, has been appointed as the State Recovery Coordinator for the Kimberley floods.
- The State recovery structure, across the four recovery environments of Social, Economic, Built and Natural environment, has been formalised with appropriate State Government agencies leading the domains:
 - Social: Department of Communities
 - Economic: DPIRD
 - Built: Department of Treasury and Main Roads WA
 - Natural environment: Department of Environmental and RegulationDPIRD has appointed liaison officers to sit on the social, built and natural environments State-level domains.

- The Shire of Derby West Kimberley has established its local recovery group and relevant subcommittees which are:
 - Media
 - Getting Home
 - Cadjebut Airport
 - Pastoral
 - Social/Wellbeing

DPIRD has provided a departmental representative on the Shire of Derby West Kimberley's local recovery group and relevant subcommittees.

DPIRD has secured funding for an Industry Recovery Officer to be embedded with the Kimberley Pilbara Cattleman's Association (KPCA).

- Dedicated DPIRD web page for affected primary producers outlining available assistance: [Kimberley flood recovery | Agriculture and Food](#)

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA (DRFAWA):

Support measures are designed to assist in meeting the needs of primary producers whose assets or primary production business has/have been affected by a disaster for which DRFAWA has been invoked.

Category B - Assistance measures for primary producers may include grants for:

- Professional advice
- Reimbursement of fees (maximum \$1,500) to obtain professional advice directly related to addressing issues arising from the declared natural disaster event
- Freight subsidy (reimbursement)
Primary producers can claim a maximum of 50% of the costs to the producer of transporting any of the following items as a direct result of a natural disaster:
 - Livestock;
 - Fodder or water for livestock; or
 - Building or fencing equipment or machinery.
 - Fencing (for livestock producers only)
Primary producers can claim 100% of the costs associated with any of the following:
 - restoration/replacement of fencing (to pre-disaster standard) where the fencing has been deliberately dismantled or damaged due to counter disaster operations activities undertaken in order to combat the eligible natural disaster event; and/or
 - reimbursement of the costs of materials only (to pre-disaster standard) to repair/replace boundary fencing damaged/lost as a direct result of the eligible natural disaster event. The measure is only available where the fencing adjoins a major road/rail transport corridor and where the roaming of livestock may present a danger to the travelling public (i.e., the aim being to preserve public safety).

The applicant must demonstrate to DPIRD's satisfaction that, at the time of the natural disaster event, the property was being used to hold or agist livestock.

- Expression of interest for interest subsidy on a new loan to recover
An interest rate subsidy may be available to primary producers for new loans:
 - to repair/replace assets lost or damaged / repair damage caused by the natural disaster event
 - for carry on purposes to implement the next season's production program
 - or to replace livestock lost in the disaster for which the assistance measures under the DRFAWA have been activated

Link to further information regarding available funding and relevant conditions: <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/emergency-response/disaster-recovery-funding-arrangements>

Category D – Exceptional circumstances:
Freight Assistance Program

- Purposes: The Commonwealth and WA State Government jointly funded Freight Subsidy Program is to assist with the ongoing exceptional freight requirements for businesses impacted by ex Tropical Cyclone Ellie (DRFA AGRN1044).
- Eligible applicants: Businesses located in, or delivering to, the four (4) DRFAWA activated local government districts which are the Shire of Broome, Shire of Derby West Kimberley, Shire of Halls Creek and the Shire of Wyndham East Kimberley
- Funding duration: All claims must be submitted no later than two (2) months after a suitable road connection is re-established. Claims may be backdated for all freight movement that occurred on, or after, 1 January 2023
- DPIRD is the designated delivery agency for this funding

FAQs including details of eligibility: [Publications \(dfes.wa.gov.au\)](https://dfes.wa.gov.au)

Applications received (as at November 2023):

DRFA Measures	Submitted applications	Under assessment	Approved	Approved \$
Category B (AGRN 1044 – Ex TC Ellie)	5	1	3	\$ 49,875.70 (ex GST)
Category D (AGRN 1044 – Ex TC Ellie & AGRN 1059 – TC Ilsa)	220	1	206	\$ 4,935,212.11 (ex GST)

Severe Tropical Cyclone Ilsa – 9 April 2023

Incident details:

Severe Tropical Cyclone Ilsa crossed the east Pilbara coast as a category 5 cyclone just before midnight on Thursday, 13 April 2023.

Incident impacts have included:

- Destruction of Pardoo Roadhouse
- Damage/losses on pastoral stations

Local government districts subject to DRFAWA proclamation: Shire of Broome, Shire of East Pilbara and Town of Port Hedland

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA:

Category B: Assistance measures for primary producers may include grants for:

- Interest rate subsidy may be available to primary producers for new loans to repair/replace assets that have been damaged or destroyed
- Freight subsidy - reimbursement (livestock, fodder or water for livestock and building or fencing or machinery)
- Fencing subsidy (where fencing adjoins a major road/rail transport corridor)

Applications received (as at November 2023):

(Shire of Broome, Town of Port Hedland and Shire of East Pilbara)

DRFA Measures	Submitted applications	Under assessment	Approved	Approved \$
Category B (AGRN 1059 – TC Ilsa)	3	1	2	\$90,000 (ex-GST)

Category D – Primary Producer Grants

Grants of up to \$75,000 are available to assist pastoralists with out-of-pocket clean-up and reinstatement costs incurred as a direct result of the flooding associated with Ex TC Ellie and TC Ilsa. The grant covers activities such as the removal and disposal of debris, damaged infrastructure and equipment, deceased livestock; salvaging crops; and repairing damaged infrastructure and equipment.

Note: Cat D for TC Ilsa is being administered under AGRN1044 and expenditure is included in Category D noted in the section relating to Ex TC Ellie (Kimberley floods).

DPIRD training

DPIRD staff emergency management training

Biosecurity Emergency Response Training Australia:

Relevant DPIRD staff are currently completing the Certificate IV in Public Safety (Biosecurity Emergency Response Leadership).

DPIRD emergency management two-day workshop:

The DPIRD Incident and Emergency Management Branch will be delivering emergency response training to its first response teams, and District and Local Emergency Management Committee representatives in their operational role as an Incident Support Group (ISG) and/or Operational Area Support Group (OASG).

Sessions include:

- FRT activation, functional roles and responsibilities
- Role of the District and Local Emergency Management Committee representatives as ISG/OASG liaison officer
- An overview of DPIRD's animal welfare in emergencies role and responsibilities
- Use of DPIRD information and mapping systems during incidents and emergencies
- Hybrid desktop/functional emergency management exercise

Animal Health Australia and Plant Health Australia online training:

DPIRD staff are encouraged to undertake suitable online training which is available on the Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA) websites.

Links to AHA and PHA:

[Home - Animal Health Australia](#)

[Plant Health Australia](#)

DPIRD preparedness for the 2023-2024 natural hazards heightened threat period

See attachment 1

DPIRD's role in emergency management

DPIRD plays an important role in emergency management in Western Australia.

- Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for animal and plant biosecurity with responsibilities across prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery. Link to State Hazard Plan – Animal and Plant Biosecurity: [State Hazard Plan Animal and Plant Biosecurity \(www.wa.gov.au\)](#)
- Provision of support to other HMAs by:
 - coordinating animal welfare for other hazard emergencies including during bushfires, cyclones and floods;

- contributing to the Controlling Agency's impact statement in relation to impacts to primary producers, and other economic impacts through its regional development commissions across the state
- managing eligible assistance for primary producers under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA and providing advice to primary producers in relation to this funding
- providing professional expertise to primary industry producers and small business in a regional context

Animal Welfare in Emergencies

Local governments are encouraged to develop a plan for animal welfare in emergencies (PAWE) which forms part of the local emergency management arrangements (LEMA).

For tools and resources to assist local governments to develop a local PAWE [click here](#) and for assistance in completing the PAWE template, speak to your LEMC or DEMC representative/s.

DPIRD Preparedness for the 2023-2024 Natural Hazards Heightened Threat Period

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has existing initiatives in place, and also undertakes additional activities, to assist in organisational preparedness for the natural hazards heightened threat period.

State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) has formally assigned the role and responsibility for coordinating animal welfare in emergencies to the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

The owner or person responsible for caring for an animal (the carer) is responsible for the welfare of that animal. The owner or carer's ability to address animal welfare issues may be hampered, or prevented, due to the nature of the emergency. In these circumstances, local arrangements, such as the local government's plan for animal welfare in emergencies (PAWE), may assist. If local arrangements do not exist, are inadequate or have been exhausted, the controlling agency or hazard management agency (HMA) may determine the need to access the arrangements under the State Support Plan.

The controlling agency or hazard management agency (HMA) may determine the need to activate the arrangements under the State Support Plan where:

- animal welfare is beyond the capacity and capability of the owners or carers, and
- any local or district arrangements are no longer sufficient or effective; or
- no local or district arrangements exists.

In addition, DPIRD may recommend activation of the State Support Plan to the Incident Controller.

Approval to activate the State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies is by the DPIRD Executive Director - Biosecurity.

Note: DPIRD may support local arrangements for animal welfare prior to the activation of the State Support Plan through the provision of advice, communication and providing connection to animal welfare stakeholders or service providers.

DPIRD's responsibilities may include:

- liaise with the relevant controlling agency or HMA as a liaison officer and/ or member of the incident support group (ISG) or operational area support group (OASG);
- coordinates the activation of the DPIRD internal operational plan in line with this Plan;
- contribute to public information released during the emergency;
- provide situational reports to the CAWE on animal welfare in the emergency;

- establish the Animal Welfare in Emergences (AWEG) to consult on actions undertaken by DPIRD in coordinating animal welfare services for an emergency;
- liaise with the local government and other organisations to coordinate response activities including:
 - providing support and advice on transportation for evacuating animals;
 - identifying the availability of locations to house evacuated animals;
 - managing displaced or stray animals; assisting owners and carers to obtain Restricted Access Permits, where applicable;
 - assessing and triaging impacted animals;
 - identifying/administering treatment;
 - performing/assisting with transportation for euthanasia or perform on-site; advising on/arranging for disposal of deceased animals;
 - identifying/providing emergency food / water / shelter; and
 - identifying and reuniting animals with their owners or carers.
- Coordinate arrangements to best utilise volunteers and donations relevant to DPIRD animal categories;
- coordinate the reporting and future investigation of animal welfare complaints arising as a consequence of the emergency;
- liaise with and advise Local Government and other organisations about suitable temporary containment and other welfare needs of animals.

Business Continuity Plan

DPIRD has a business continuity plan to assist in maintaining delivery of its critical functions.

DPIRD First Response Teams

DPIRD has first response teams (FRTs) to assist with a response in relation to its role as the HMA for animal and plant biosecurity incidents and emergencies, and its support responsibilities in relation to animal welfare in emergencies.

The DPIRD first response teams (FRTs) provide the Department with teams across the State, which may be activated to undertake required actions in relation to response and recovery.

Emergency management training

DPIRD has an ongoing schedule to deliver emergency management training and exercises.

Biosecurity Emergency Response Training Australia

Relevant DPIRD staff are currently completing the Certificate IV in Public Safety (Biosecurity Emergency Response Leadership).

DPIRD emergency management workshop for DEMC/LEMC representatives and FRT members

The DPRID Incident and Emergency Management Branch (IEMB) will be delivering emergency response training to its district and local emergency management committee (DEMC/ LEMC) representatives, and first response teams across the state.

Sessions include:

- FRT activation, functional roles and responsibilities
- DEMC and LEMC representatives' operational role on an ISG and/or an OASG
- Use of DPIRD information and mapping systems during incidents and emergencies
- Hybrid desktop/functional emergency management exercise

On call arrangements

DPIRD appoints on call officers during the DPIRD heightened threat period – 1 November to 31 March, annually.

Incident and Emergency Management Branch On Call Coordinator:

The Incident and Emergency Management Branch (IEMB) staff undertake the role of On Call Coordinator from 1 November to 31 March, annually.

The IEMB On Call Coordinator supports local DPIRD staff;

- by monitoring weather conditions, and incidents and emergencies across the state
- in their role on an Incident Support Group (ISG) or Operational Area Support Group (OASG);
- who undertake a role on a First Response Team.

Regionally based on call officers:

Regionally based on call officers fulfil this function from 25 December 2023 to 15 January 2024.

Regionally based officers:

- monitor weather conditions, and incidents and emergencies in their region
- are the Department's Liaison Officer on an ISG or OASG

DPIRD on call operates:

Monday to Sunday – **7am to 8pm**

Important Disclaimer

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DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ADVISOR REPORT

2nd Quarter 2023-2024

STATE NEWS

The last meeting of the **State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC)** was held on the 4 October 2023. SEMC Communiques can be found [here](#).

2023 SEMC MEETING SCHEDULE

- December 2023

STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DOCUMENTS

The SEMC has approved and published two new State emergency management documents, the **State Support Plan – Emergency Relief and Support** and the **Local Emergency Management Committee Handbook**.

State Support Plan – Emergency Relief and Support

Several key changes were made to the Plan including;

- The change to terminology from ‘welfare’ to ‘emergency relief and support’ and welfare centre’ to ‘evacuation centres’.
- Greater clarity of the emergency relief and support services provided within the six functional domains.
- Greater clarity of Communities role in supporting Disaster Victim Identification services in respect to a major emergency.
- Greater clarity of Communities role as the State agency responsible for leading the social domain in the recovery phase of an emergency.

Please review your internal emergency management documents to reflect new terminology used within the Plan.

Local Emergency Management Committee Handbook

The LEMC handbook provides local governments with a summary of the actions and best practice principles as required under section 38 – 40 of the *Emergency Management Act 2005*, State Emergency Management Policy, procedures, and guidelines.

The LEMC Handbook provides a summary of the WA emergency management arrangements, key roles, and responsibilities and best practice advice for the administration of LEMC.

The Handbook also includes sample LEMC Terms of Reference and Meeting Agenda templates, which can be downloaded from the [SEMC website](#).

CONSULTATION REQUESTS

You can view all current consultations on the [Engage WA EM consultation homepage](#)

State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT

The State Hazard Plan – HAZMAT provides an overview of arrangements for the management of the actual or impending release or escape of a chemical, radiological or other substance that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person, or damage to the health of a person or the environment in Western Australia. The Plan contains information on prevention, preparedness, response and initial recovery. The FES Commissioner is the Hazard Management Agency for the hazards of actual or impending spillage, release or escape of a chemical, radiological or other substance that is capable of causing loss of life, injury to a person or damage to the health of a person, property or the environment.

DFES has completed a comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan - HAZMAT. The DFES State Emergency Management Policy Branch is now seeking broad stakeholder feedback on the proposed amendments and welcomes other questions, queries or comments you have in relation to this Plan.

Please submit your feedback by COB 12 January 2024.

State Hazard Plan – Energy Supply Disruption

The State Hazard Plan – Energy Supply Disruption provides an overview of emergency management arrangements for the hazards of gas, liquid and electricity disruptions. It describes prevention/mitigation of, preparedness for, the response to, and the initiation of recovery arrangements following a disruption, or simultaneous disruptions to energy supplies. The Coordinator of Energy is the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for gas, liquid fuel and electricity supply disruptions.

Energy Policy WA has completed a comprehensive review of the State Hazard Plan - Energy Supply Disruption. The DFES State Emergency Management Policy Branch is now seeking broad stakeholder feedback on the proposed amendments and welcomes other questions, queries or comments you have in relation to this Plan.

Please submit your feedback by COB 5 January 2024.

DISTRICT NEWS

The last meeting of the **District Emergency Management Committee (DEMC)** was held on Tuesday 10 October 2023. The next meeting of the DEMC will be held on Tuesday 19 March 2024.

LOCAL NEWS

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Please check the due date for your five-yearly LEMA reviews and allow a minimum of six months to complete the LEMA review process. Funding opportunities are available to assist with LEMA reviews.

GRANT PROGRAM UPDATES

The State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) oversees the distribution of grant funding to support activities that reduce disaster risk and enhance WA's resilience to disasters.

Information on funding opportunities can be found [here](#).

Disaster Ready Fund

DRF Round Two is expected to open for applications in early 2024. Further information on the timeframes, Guidelines and application process will be made available once the Australian Government announces Round Two.

Please contact semc.grants@dfes.wa.gov.au for further information on the grant programs.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

WALGA offer Emergency Management training for Local Government

Local Governments have an essential role in Emergency Management due to their legislated responsibilities and links to the community. The way emergencies are managed is critical to the safety and sustainability of communities, ensuring the effective functioning of the Local Government and their staff. WALGA offer Emergency Management training courses such as;

- Emergency Management Fundamentals
- Emergency Management Foundations for Local Government
- Emergency Management for Local Government Leaders
- Community Disaster Recovery
- Recovery Coordinators Course for Local Government

All of these courses are valuable in that they build connections and networks with members of other Local Governments across the State, further enhancing information sharing and building capacity.

Further information can be found [here](#).

**Complied by:
District Emergency Management Advisor – South West
Department of Fire and Emergency Services
As at 30 November 2023**





Warren Health Service LEMC Report 08th November 2023

COVID-19

- Warren Health Service has resumed a BAU “business as usual” approach in relation to management of Covid19 with outpatient & inpatient activity.
- Currently screening symptomatic patients via a RAT testing process.
- Inpatients with Covid continue to be nursed with full infection control precautions in place.
- Health service staff are still required to isolate from the workplace for 5 days if Covid positive & seek executive approval to return to the workplace as a close household contact.
- Staff have resumed wearing a face mask in the clinical setting and hospital visitors encouraged with mask wearing with the current covid / influenza trend in the community.

GENERAL

- Continues to be a sustained increase in patient presentations to hospital ED & admissions remain above average for the past quarter 2023.
- Hospital staffing continues to be closely monitored and covered with support
- Hospital has acquired a third rental property in Manjimup to support the required workforce. Currently housing dieticians, nursing, radiology staff & nursing students.
- Emergency procedures / drill discussion exercises have continued with a focus on fire and evacuation (code red & orange), bushfire (code yellow) and aggression management (code black).