

STATE SITUATION REPORT

1700 hrs, 08/02/2014

INCIDENT / EMERGENCY NAME:	Fire Preparedness 8-10 February 2014		
SITUATION REPORT NUMBER:	# 1	INCIDENT LEVEL:	2

SITUATION SUMMARY:	
Situation Summary	<p>Today and tomorrow (Sunday 9th February) have been declared days of Total Fire Ban across the State. Fire danger ratings today are either severe or very high across the state. Fire danger ratings tomorrow are very high, severe, or extreme (Northern Country, North East, East Gippsland) across the state. Very hot temperatures and strong winds are expected this weekend with temperatures above 40 degrees today, and strong winds continuing into Sunday.</p> <p>There is a risk of dry thunderstorms (lightening) developing near the coast during this afternoon. The greatest risk is in the South West.</p> <p>A number of new fire starts from lightening overnight in the Gippsland region as well as 3 ongoing main fire clusters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goongerah cluster - recommendation to evacuate with SEWS issued (27 homes visited, 9 have indicated they will stay) • Club Terrace and Snowy River clusters • Hernes Oak – concern for potential further activity overnight and rapid spread. Evacuation planning in progress. <p>Heat Health Alerts were issued for today for every district except the North East district and East Gippsland district.</p> <p>Recovery coordination for the Grampians Northern Complex fire is ongoing.</p>
Known impacts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There are currently no known impacts in relation to the Heat Health Alert. 2. Recovery activities continue in support of the impacts that have arisen from the January 2014 fires.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES:	
Health Command/Coordination	All health services in East Gippsland have been appraised of the latest fire information and have been undertaking preparedness work. The Gelantipy Bush Nursing Centre is putting arrangements in place to manage the risk.
Health Protection	<p>REMT and DH Environmental Health Officer monitoring water supply situation relating to the limited capacity of water treatment plants in the townships of Euro and Violet Town.</p> <p>A review of forecast temperature data released this morning showed today's Heat Health Alerts for the South West and Wimmera districts were no longer warranted. No adjustments will be made to Heat Health Alert messages.</p>
Human Services Command	<p>DHS program areas were advised of risk situation on the 7th of February 2014.</p> <p>Disability Accommodation Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Metropolitan - increased risk mitigation in regards to a property in extreme risk area • Hume – one property relocation will take place tomorrow • Gippsland – working with Traralgon Incident Controller regarding potential overnight threat to 2 homes <p>Child Protection Services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eastern Metropolitan Region – risk mitigation strategies undertaken • Hume – agencies with responsibilities to move clients in an Extreme FDR notified <p>Personal Hardship Assistance officers remain on a shadow roster in Gippsland in case they are required.</p>
Relief (inc Red Cross)	<p>3 relief centres are operating to support East Gippsland communities at Orbost, Cann River, Delegate (NSW). Contingency planning in place for fall back from Delegate if required.</p> <p>Evacuation planning for Hernes Oak may necessitate the opening of a relief centre – TBA.</p> <p>Relief agencies are aware of heatwave conditions, and also the fire risk and put further standby arrangements in place. The Salvation Army, and Victorian Council of Churches are operational at the local level, the Red Cross is operational at the state and local level.</p> <p>As at 1700hrs today no one has attended any of the relief centres in Gippsland.</p>
Recovery	Recovery operations continue for previous fires, and are being managed through the January 2014 Bushfires - State Recovery Coordination Team .
Communications / Public Information	<p>www.recovery.vic.gov.au has been updated with the latest information about East Gippsland relief centres.</p> <p>A community meeting will be held in Cann River at the relief centre at 4:00pm today (8th February 2014).</p> <p>Participated in the EMJPIC teleconference today to discuss forecast weather and fire trends.</p>

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Business Continuity	Nil to report
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ISSUES:

Issue	Nil to report.
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OPERATIONAL STATISTICS:

RELIEF/ RECOVERY CENTRES

Region and LGA	Location	Type of Centre	Hours/Attendees
Grampians Horsham Rural City Council	Laharum Public Hall 1574 Northern Grampians Road Laharum	Recovery	Friday 7 Feb 10:00am - 4:00pm Tuesday 11 Feb 1:00pm - 4:00pm Thursday 13 Feb 1:00pm - 4:00pm
Grampians Northern Grampians Shire Council	Grampians Community Health Centre 8 Patrick Street, Stawell	Recovery	Friday 7 Feb 2:00pm-5:00pm
Gippsland East Gippsland Shire Council	Orbost Secondary College Assembly Hall, Arnold Street, Orbost	Relief	24 hours Attendees: Nil
Gippsland East Gippsland Shire Council	Cann River P-12 School, Tanboon Road, Cann River	Relief	24 hours Attendees: Nil
Bombala Council, NSW	Delegate Country Club, Bombala Delegate Rd, Delegate, NSW	Relief	24 hours Attendees: Nil

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Region and LGA	Number Emergency Grants	Total \$139,250
Grampians – Ararat	58	\$51,250
Grampians – Horsham	10	\$9,000
Grampians – Northern Grampians	82	\$74,250
Grampians - Pyrenees	1	\$1,250
Gippsland – Baw Baw	1	\$500
Sum Total	152	\$139,250

Next Sit Rep: The next situation report will be issued at 1700hrs, Sunday 9 February 2014

Endorsed by:

Alan Hall: State Recovery Coordinator / Human Services Commander

Justin Dunlop: State Health Coordinator

Authorised for release by:

Peter Higgins: HHSEM Operations Officer