

# East Gippsland Fires 2019-20 Natural Recovery Sub-plan



Environment,  
Land, Water  
and Planning



# Table of Contents

<b>Background to the disaster</b>	3
Fire Impact	3
<b>Purpose</b>	4
<b>Goal</b>	5
<b>Objectives</b>	5
<b>Natural environment recovery agencies and partners</b>	6
<b>Governance, leadership and delegations</b>	7
<b>Roles and responsibilities of partners</b>	8
<b>Natural environment recovery response approach</b>	9
<b>Immediate response activities</b>	10
<b>Engaging with fire-affected communities</b>	10
<b>Governance and Leadership</b>	11
<b>Emergency extractions of threatened wildlife</b>	12
<b>Key challenges and risks</b>	14
<b>Reporting to the East Gippsland Recovery Committee and other agencies</b>	14
<b>Appendix 1 Natural Environment Recovery Action Plan</b>	15
<b>Appendix 2 Statistics for Land Tenure</b>	31
<b>Appendix 2 Statistics for Rainforest Areas</b>	31
<b>Appendix 2 Proclaimed Water catchment table</b>	32
<b>Appendix 2 Burnt area statistics</b>	34
<b>Appendix 2 Potential Impacts on Parks Victoria managed land</b>	35
<b>Appendix 2 Potential Impacts on DELWP managed land</b>	35
<b>Appendix 2 Fencing statistics</b>	36



# Background to the disaster

The East Gippsland environment features an extensive coastline and lake and river systems with diverse landforms and distinct vegetation types. The diversity of natural systems and abundant biodiversity are unique and our community has a connection with and values the region's natural assets.

## Fire Impact

The 2019/20 bushfires were exceptional in size and impact and pose a significant challenge for the recovery of the East Gippsland environment. The bushfires impacted on species and their habitats and a range of threatening processes will continue in the landscape, including invasive species, soil erosion and waterway quality. These will need to be monitored and managed, including the protection of unburnt areas.



*Impact on natural environment. Image courtesy CMA.*

The 2019/20 fires burnt more than one million hectares or 56 per cent of East Gippsland.

A breakdown of the areas impacted is detailed below.

Land Tenure
56% National parks and conservation reserves
12% Other conservation reserves
11% Other state forest
67% Other public land
<b>Total Crown land: 1,000,959 hectares</b>
Waterways impacted
53% Water-supply catchments
32,046 ha Waterways
Rainforest areas impacted
32% Cool temperate rainforest
73% Unclassified rainforest
77% Warm and dry temperate rainforest
<b>Total impacted: 4,434 hectares</b>



# Purpose

The Natural Recovery Sub-plan sets out the arrangements for coordinating and managing the planning and delivery of environmental recovery activities across the region following the East Gippsland 2019/20 bushfires. It supports a multi-agency approach to a coordinated and collaborative recovery program. A range of agencies, organisations and departments will implement the initiatives and activities in the plan.

The Natural Environment Recovery Working Group prepared this plan with reference to the East Gippsland Recovery Plan. It should be read in conjunction with other East Gippsland working group sub-plans.



*Bastion Point. Image courtesy EGSC.*





*Betka Road Regrowth. Image courtesy BVR.*

## Objectives

To deliver a targeted program of recovery work that meets the goals of the Natural Recovery Sub-plan including:

1. Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (including targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs).
2. Work with community groups to assist the restoration of the natural value at a local and regional level.
3. Build resilience in the natural environment for long-term adaptation to a changing climate and supporting safer communities.
4. Nature-based visitor experiences and sites are reestablished that reflect Traditional Owner and community values and aspirations and support recreation, tourism and economic opportunities.

## Goal

To allow ecosystems to recover while reducing risks to natural environmental values and communities through targeted intervention.



# Natural environment recovery agencies and partners

Natural Environment Recovery Working Group partners work together to design, plan, deliver and report on fire recovery activities. The partners include:

- Bushfire Recovery Victoria
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Department of Jobs, Precincts and Resources (Agriculture Victoria)
- East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
- East Gippsland Shire Council
- East Gippsland Water
- Environment Protection Authority
- Federation University Australia
- Gunaikurnai Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation
- Landcare
- Parks Victoria.

The Natural Environment Recovery Working Group is one of five working groups established to support and report on recovery activities to the East Gippsland

Recovery Committee. Each working group has developed a sub-plan to the East Gippsland Recovery Plan 2019-20. The governance framework is detailed below.

- Social Economic
- Economic
- Culture and healing
- Natural environment
- Built environment

In addition, community recovery committees are being established to represent each fire-impacted community or cluster of communities and these also report to the East Gippsland Recovery Committee.

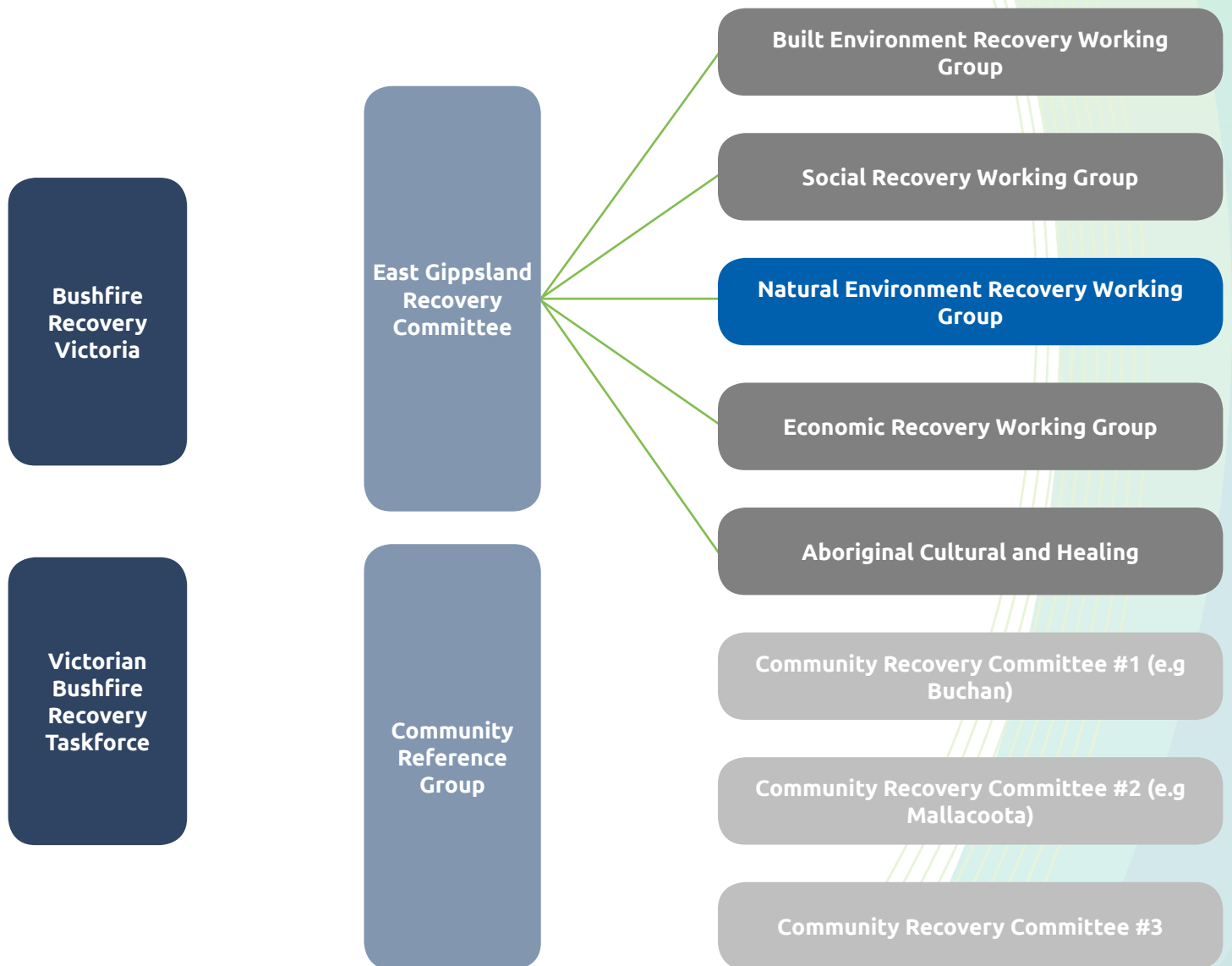
Community recovery committees will empower impacted communities by placing them at the centre of recovery planning and ensuring they have a crucial role in decision-making and prioritisation. A community-led approach is widely recognised as critical to the success of recovery and is embedded in national recovery principles.



*Regrowth. Image courtesy AgVic.*



# Governance, leadership and delegations



# Roles and responsibilities of partners

**Bushfire Recovery Victoria** - will work with communities affected by the bushfire ensuring bushfire recovery is community led and driven;

**Department of Environment Land Water and Planning** - will support the recovery of the environment in fire-affected state forest and Crown land, including the protection of vulnerable and threatened native plants and wildlife, and community access to and enjoyment of public land;

**Department of Jobs, Precincts and Resources (Agriculture Victoria)** - will deliver regional agricultural recovery programs to support the short and medium-term recovery of individuals, communities and industries;

**East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority** - will restore waterways and catchment impacted by bushfire;

**East Gippsland Shire Council** - will restore roadsides, including revegetation, water and erosion control;

**East Gippsland Water** - will ensure suitable drinking water standards for fire-affected communities;

**Environment Protection Authority** - will ensure bushfire waste is managed appropriately.

**Federation University Australia** - advisory capacity;

**Gunaikurnai Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation** - advisory;

**Landcare** - will work with communities and partner agencies to protect and conserve Australia's water, soil, plants, animals and ecosystems, and support the productive and sustainable use of these valuable resources;

**Parks Victoria** - will support the recovery of the environment in fire-affected national parks, including restoration and reopening of nature-based visitor and destinations on public land.



# Natural environment recovery response approach

Environmental recovery after landscape-scale fires can take many years as it relies mostly on natural processes that can speed or slow natural cycles. For instance, plant recovery regeneration and growth rely on seed presence, rainfall and suitable growing conditions.

Natural recovery can be aided by coordination of public and private land management actions in areas where there are high-value natural areas or species. For example, controlling invasive weeds, such as blackberry, or pest animals, such as deer, can assist native plants to recover.

Working across such a vast landscape with limited resources requires a coordinated environmental recovery program, which is prioritised and phased as follows:

1. Immediate response. Immediate actions are underway to prevent further impacts on priority species and areas. Examples include replacing fences along waterways and Crown boundaries, safe evacuation and care of very rare species and aerial control of pest herbivores across sensitive parts of the public estate.
2. Medium-term response. After the first 12 months, threats such as invasive weeds and animals will emerge. Seed set of weeds and increases in pest animal populations will require surveillance and action. Surveillance and control of new weeds from donated hay onto private land is an example of medium-term response.
3. Longer-term response. Ongoing monitoring of environmental recovery, such as water quality, threatened species populations and vegetation extent and quality, will be required for several years, with action to improve the recovery depending on what occurs.
4. Risk prevention and adaption. Over the past 20 years, East Gippsland has experienced five large landscape-scale fire events impacting large parts of the region. Better ways to mitigate impacts to community and the environment will be considered. For example, strategic firebreaks may be required near the interface of public and private land to improve the success of risk-based fuel-reduction burning.



*Aerial post-bushfire. Image courtesy EGCMA.*



# Immediate response activities

Work began immediately to deliver crucial actions supporting the recovery of the natural environment. These activities will increase once we have a better understanding of the impact of the fires and community priorities.

## Engaging with fire-affected communities

Ongoing community engagement is a priority in all recovery planning. As soon as it was safe to do so, agencies such as the Department of Land Environment Water and Planning, Agriculture Victoria, Council, Landcare and the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority began working with affected communities.

Agencies and community groups have engaged through service lines, local offices, mobile service hubs and one-on-one conversations.

Agriculture Victoria immediately contacted people by phone and visited landholders to determine the extent

of impact and assess immediate needs.

The East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority assessed damaged waterways with landholders and planned for repair and replacement of fences, vegetation and waterway structures. The Catchment Management Authority also ran community boat trips and BBQs to help people get together, support one another and discuss things of concern.

The Department of Land Environment Water and Planning is working with landholders on recovery issues, including hazardous trees and damaged boundary fencing.

Landcare has surveyed all members to understand issues for landholders and has sought suggestions for priorities to assist recovery.

These activities have given agencies a good understanding of community issues and recovery needs and have provided a strong basis for the priority actions now underway and proposed in this plan.



*Contractor working in Far East Gippsland. Image courtesy EGCMA.*



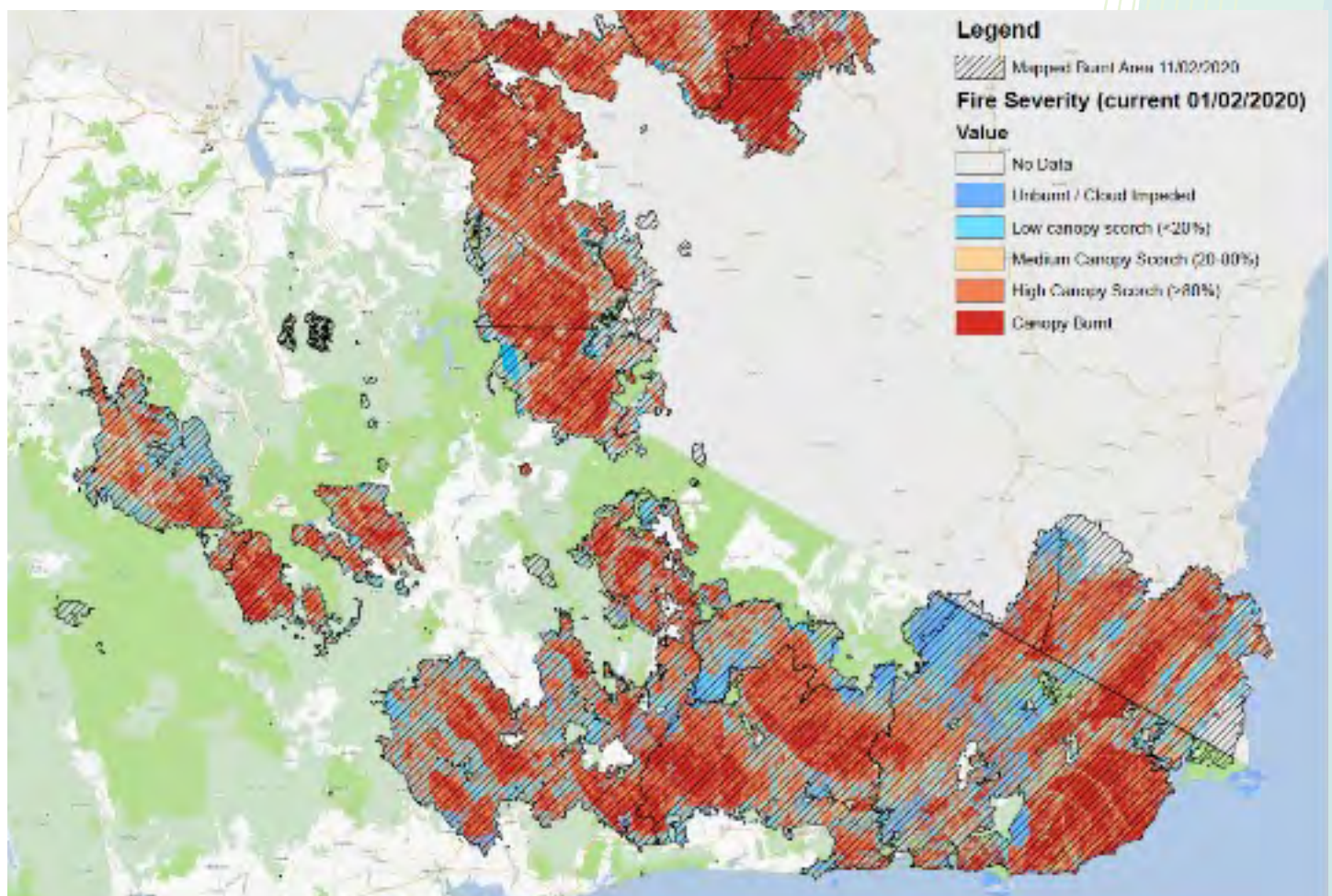
# Governance and Leadership

## Biodiversity response and recovery

The Victorian Government announced a \$17.5 million funding package to support Phase 1 of the Bushfire Biodiversity Relief and Early Recovery program. Immediate response programs include emergency extractions of threatened wildlife, fire-severity mapping, fencing, assessments and re-opening priority visitor sites. See examples of these below.

## Fire severity mapping

Bushfire rapid risk assessment teams identify, assess, prioritise and evaluate risks on public land to minimise further threat to life, property, critical infrastructure and the environment following a bushfire. The assessment teams produce a report within a seven-day deployment, which identifies priority risks, provides practical solutions and costs for risk mitigation.



Map of fire severity.

# Emergency extractions of threatened wildlife

## Eastern Bristlebirds

With the only population of Eastern bristlebird in Victoria threatened by oncoming fires in the Croajingolong National Park, the Department of Land Environment Water and Planning, Parks Victoria and Zoos Victoria, working with Currumbin Sanctuary, Fisheries Victoria and Monash and Wollongong universities, flew a team of experts into Howe Flat on a military Chinook. The team extracted 15 bristlebirds to be cared for by Zoos Victoria. The birds were returned to their natural habitat in April 2020.



*Bristlebird.*

## Aerial shooting operation

The Department of Land Environment Water and Planning and Parks Victoria have engaged professional shooters for an aerial shooting operation to control pest predators and introduced large herbivores in priority fire-affected areas and adjacent public land.

This is a necessary and urgent action to give native plants and animals the best chance of survival after the fires. The operation is targeting deer, feral goats, feral pigs, foxes and feral cats.

## Dargo Galaxias and Yalmy Galaxias

Threatened freshwater fish, crayfish and mussels with very small distributions and low ability to move are most at risk from the impacts of ash and sediment washing into waterways in fire-impacted areas.

It was critical to salvage these species before fire impacts lead to extinction or further decline so experts from the Department of Land Environment Water and Planning, the Arthur Rylah Institute for Environmental Research and Parks Victoria extracted 200 critically endangered Dargo Galaxias from near Mount Hotham, and a small number of critically endangered Yalmy

Galaxias from a stream north of Orbost.

## Agriculture impact assessment data

Agriculture Victoria field officers contacted the owners of, or visited, 907 properties on 55,000 hectares of agricultural land within the fire footprint. More than 450 primary producers were impacted by the fire with 77 primary and secondary residences, 232 sheds and 28 pumps destroyed.

Producers reported more than 1700 livestock dead or missing, 16,800 hectares of pasture burnt, 250 hectares of horticultural crops lost and over 1300 kilometres of internal and 1500 kilometres of external fencing destroyed. Many beehives were also lost.

Agriculture Victoria's initial impact assessments were shared across agencies and are being used to inform and provide agriculture recovery services to farmers. Agriculture Victoria has actioned 430 referrals from primary producers as a result of the assessments.

## Fencing

More than 500 kilometres of boundary and riparian fencing was burnt. The Department of Land Environment Water and Planning and the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority are working with landholders and the community to



reconstruct the fencing. The fencing is being reconstructed through grants to landholders and the employment of local contractors. This not only supports landholders with controlling stock but protects our environment and waterways.

## Visitation and tourism

Public land managers are working to quickly reinstate safe access to public land and bring nature-based tourism attractions back online. Immediate recovery works have included:

- Clean up and decontamination of key sites.
- Installation of temporary bridges at Buchan Caves Reserve to facilitate further recovery works.
- Reopening East Cape and Yeerung Inlet at Cape Conran and Buchan Caves for Labour Day long weekend.
- Impact assessment, removal of hazardous trees and other risk treatment on public land.
- Waterways and catchments
- Agencies, community and landholders are working together to protect catchments and waterways during bushfire recovery.

Immediate recovery works have included:

- Reconstructing riparian fencing along waterways to keep stock out.
- Monitoring water quality, and fish and crustacean health.
- Rehabilitating control lines and access tracks.
- Removing debris loads in waterways.
- Hosting community events along rivers to talk about the importance of waterways and water supplies during these times.



*Agricultural impact. Image courtesy Salvation Army.*

# Key challenges and risks

The Natural Environment Recovery Working Group has defined two types of risk: firstly, the risk in delivery works and activities, and secondly, the impact/risk on the environment if works are not undertaken or not done correctly.

Risks and challenges that may impact successful implementation include:

- The inability to secure enough resources, such as skilled and experienced workers to undertake on-ground recovery activities.
- Community capacity to meet identified needs from within the community.
- Exacerbated impacts through other disasters, such as drought, flood and further landscape fire.
- Poor coordination between partner agencies and the community.
- Emergence of new and invasive pest plants and animals.
- Public land users and stakeholders do not support specific natural environment recovery actions as they conflict or do not align with their uses or aspirations.
- Potential environmental risks associated with other recovery activities. While these should be managed via regulatory requirements, potential off-site impacts should be recognised, monitored and minimised.

## Reporting to the East Gippsland Recovery Committee and other agencies

To ensure accountability to the East Gippsland Recovery Committee, a tiered communication approach will incorporate feedback from each of the partners of the Natural Environment Recovery Working Group:

- Bushfire Recovery Victoria
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
- Department of Jobs, Precincts and Resources (Agriculture Victoria)
- East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority
- East Gippsland Shire Council
- East Gippsland Water
- Environment Protection Authority
- Federation University Australia
- Gunaikurnai Land and Water Aboriginal Corporation
- Landcare
- Parks Victoria.



## Appendix 1 Natural Environment Recovery Action Plan

Actions proposed indicate whether they are funded and describe immediate works already underway reflecting the four-stage approach to fire recovery as listed,

- Immediate – commenced within first 12 months.
- Medium term – commence after initial 12 months.
- Longer term – extend for several years.
- Risk prevention and adaption – designed for longer-term resilience.

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Victorian Government bushfire biodiversity relief and early recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$17.5 million across Victoria funding package for immediate, response and relief actions for early recovery (~\$10 million in Gippsland).</li> <li>• Urgent recovery actions were undertaken by incident management teams as described in State Controller for Wildlife seven-day priority actions.</li> <li>• Theme plans are complete/in development for the following areas to oversee key investment/actions to ensure the survival and recovery of biodiversity.</li> </ul>	Immediate and medium-term response	DELWP	Parks VIC GLaWAC Zoos Victoria Arthur Rylah Institute (DELWP) Royal Botanic Gardens Landcare Federation University Environment NGOs – TFN, EGCMN, Birdlife	Funded	Biodiversity Relief and Early Recovery Program (Funded to 31 December 2020)	To be determined.	
	<b>Theme 1</b> Immediate reconnaissance of critical fauna, flora and habitat and targeted actions Species information collected to inform prioritization of recovery actions					Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037		
	<b>Theme 2</b> Wildlife welfare Emergency feeding and treatment of fire impacted wildlife immediately after fire					<i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>		
	<b>Theme 3</b> Emergency extraction to prevent extinction and limit species decline. Eastern bristlebirds, threatened galaxias fish, spiny crayfish and freshwater mussels removed and managed.					Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999		
	<b>Theme 4</b> Intensified and sustained management of threats; Eight-month program of weed and pest animal control. Includes reinstatement of Southern Ark operations, ground shooting feral and prioritised weed control.							

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	<b>Theme 5</b> Maximise long-term resilience Healing Country – enabling Traditional Owner land management - Increase resilience through new sanctuaries, and prioritised species genetic management	Immediate and medium-term response	DELWP	Parks VIC GLaWAC Zoos Victoria Arthur Rylah Institute (DELWP) Royal Botanic Gardens Landcare Federation University Environment NGOs – TFN, EGCMN, Birdlife	Funded	Biodiversity Relief and Early Recovery Program (Funded to 31 December 2020)  Protecting Victoria's Environment - Biodiversity 2037 <i>Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988</i>  Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999	To be determined.	
	<b>Theme 6</b> Knowledge, data and program management Knowledge acquisition, systems and data management and intervention guidance.							



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	<p><b>Theme 7</b> Nature based community recovery; To support effective human/community recovery. To leave a legacy of people collectively valuing our natural environment and our wildlife.</p> <p>The program will support the recovery of people and the environment by connecting human and nature recovery. Primary goals include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support effective human/ community recovery.</li> <li>• Deliver communication and activities with consideration to psychological principles of calm, safety, hope, connectedness, sense of control/ agency, and sense of things ‘getting back together’.</li> <li>• Recognise and support the role of Traditional Owners in caring for Country.</li> <li>• implement ‘Community at the Centre’ and community-led, place-based recovery.</li> <li>• Catalyse the behavior changes opportunity of a disrupted moment, to nudge a new relationship between people, place, and nature.</li> <li>• Increase the number of people acting for nature, and the effectiveness of those efforts.</li> </ul> <p>The method to achieve this goal is still to be finalised.</p> <p>Zoos Victoria Board has endorsed the intent of this project and initial funding.</p>	Medium to long-term response	Zoos Victoria Community	DELWP	Funded	Protecting Victoria’s biodiversity 2037		

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<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	<p>Commonwealth Government - ‘Bushfire recovery package for wildlife and their habitat’</p> <p>To recover nationally listed species and communities from the impacts of bushfire \$25 million will be provided across Australia for an emergency intervention fund to help with the immediate survival of affected animals, plants, and ecological communities and to control pests and weeds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To date, \$250,000 has been granted to Parks Victoria to assist aerial control of herbivore pests such as deer and pigs. A second round of grants for immediate work is also being considered presently.</li> <li>A public round of community recovery grants has been announced. Assessment of grant proposals is underway.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	Commonwealth and EGCMA DELWP	Parks Victoria DELWP Landcare	Funded	<p>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act</p> <p>National Threatened Species Scientific Committee 10-point Bushfire Response Plan</p>		
	<p>Ash reseedling program</p> <p>To sow and regenerate, areas of suitable receptive seedbed in fire-affected ash forests.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A program of between 5-10,000 hectares fire killed ash reseedling program to assess mountain ash and Alpine ash forest impacted by 19/20 bushfires and previous fires, which due to depleted natural seed stocks are at risk of not regenerating.</li> <li>\$2 million has been allocated to assess at risk forests, a suitable seedbed for re-sowing and seed crops for commercial collection to facilitate targeted an aerial sowing program.</li> <li>Approximately 10,000 hectares of ash forest has been identified as at risk, and upwards of 5000 hectares suitable for treatment.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response			Funded	DELWP Fire Recovery Guide and Reducing Bushfire Risk programs		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Pest plant and animal monitoring  A multi-partner approach managing a new and invasive weeds and pest animals that emerge from the fire event. Approximately \$2 million over three years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New and emergent weeds and pests are controlled before the opportunity for seed set and spread.</li> <li>Environmental risks are controlled allowing greater recovery success and natural processes to occur</li> <li>Local people are involved and employed in the on-ground activity.</li> <li>Agencies and groups such as Traditional Owners are working together on a common outcome.</li> <li>Establish a shared project to monitor and assess the highest priority new and emergent weeds.</li> <li>Control priority weeds and pests in a coordinated program of works.</li> <li>Work with partners, landholders, and local community groups to deliver the program.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	EGCMA	DELWP Parks Vic GLaWAC Landcare EGSC AgVic	Funded	Biodiversity and Water Plan priority		
	Fluker Post Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use a shared network of trail cameras, photo monitoring points (fluker posts) training and monitoring support to Landcare groups impacted by bushfire.</li> <li>Trail cameras purchased and posts provided for photo monitoring for groups.</li> <li>Groups trained on where to put cameras and posts and how to install them effectively.</li> <li>Groups trained on how to analyse images.</li> </ul> Groups supported to write a report and a future on how they will support species recovery in their areas.	Medium-term response	Landcare	Link to EGCMA and Dept. Ag. Weed monitoring and eradication AgVIC	Funded	FEVL Future Plan 2019-2023 EGLN Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 Victoria Landcare Program Strategic Plan		

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Revegetation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Phase 1: Develop a post-bushfire revegetation guide to assist landholders in recovery.</li> <li>Phase 2: Provide native Indigenous species and fencing to increase the amount of healthy native vegetation in the landscape to support the recovery of native fauna and flora.</li> <li>Revegetation guide with species specific to sub-regions within East Gippsland produced in electronic format and distributed through networks.</li> <li>Revegetation guide with species-specific to sub-regions within East Gippsland produced in hard copy format and distributed through networks.</li> <li>Native plants purchase and made available to landholders and taken up by landholders.</li> <li>Rebate system for protective fencing made available and taken up by landholders.</li> <li>Healthy on farm remnant vegetation protected and habitat extended.</li> </ul>	Long-term response	Landcare		Non funded	FEVL Future Plan 2019-2023 EGLN Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 Victoria Landcare Program Strategic Plan		
	Research species selection and planting design for the future <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with experienced landholders and researchers to identify plant species and shelter belt and wildlife corridor design best suited to fire prone areas.</li> <li>Project brief for research developed.</li> <li>Species and designs researched and documented.</li> <li>Results made available to farmers and other landholders.</li> </ul>	Long-term response	Landcare	Federation University	Non funded	FEVL Future Plan 2019-2023 EGLN Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 Victoria Landcare Program Strategic Plan		
	Develop habitat tree pruning guidelines for arborists to assist in habitat retention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MoU developed between relevant agencies.</li> <li>Guide produced and distributed to agencies responsible for engaging contractors for tree pruning or removal.</li> </ul>	Long-term response	Landcare	EGSC DELWP Bushfire Recovery Regional Roads Victoria	Partially funded	FEVL Future Plan 2019-2023 EGLN Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 Victoria Landcare Program Strategic Plan		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Installation of bird nesting boxes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Central coordination point for information and resources about nest boxes appropriate for East Gippsland bird and mammal species.</li> <li>Support Birdlife Australia with practical nest box installation projects.</li> </ul>	Long-term response	Landcare	Birdlife Australia Federation University GLaWAC Greening Australia	Partially funded	FEVL Future Plan 2019-2023 EGLN Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 Victoria Landcare Program Strategic Plan		
	Roadsides (revegetation, water, and erosion control) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding impact on council-managed land. Committee of Management impacted area = 705 hectares. This includes foreshore reserve throughout Mallacoota, replanting and weed and animal control program will be required.</li> <li>Revisiting/remapping Council roadside conservation status (comprehensive audits to identify high-value biodiversity etc). Impacted area = 1,310 km.</li> <li>Roadside weed and pest animal management: introduced weeds and pest animals are already beginning to emerge along these corridors. Many of these weeds are newly introduced through the trucking of hay from other areas of Australia along these roads. To manage this infestation, there is a need for an immediate monitoring program that is resourced to implement remediation works and weed management controls.</li> <li>Monitor and undertake erosion control measures in fire impacted areas.</li> <li>Mitigation against the open drain scouring and erosion that form part of the urban stormwater system in Mallacoota. There are several locations that would benefit from drain and outfall treatments to reduce erosion risk and mitigate siltation of the waterway.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	EGSC	DELWP Regional Roads Victoria	Partially funded	EGSC Roadside Management Strategy 2012		

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<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Re-establish key fish stocks in bushfire affected waterways Investigate the feasibility of a new saltwater fish hatchery including estuarine plankton ponds on the Gippsland Lakes to grow native fish for restocking into fire affected rivers and lakes in Gippsland (\$5.5 million). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dusky flathead</li> <li>• Estuary perch</li> <li>• Australian bass</li> <li>• Mulloway</li> <li>• Prawns</li> <li>• Black Bream</li> </ul> Feasibility of a saltwater fish hatchery has been determined. If feasible, options for development have been explored with key partners.	Medium-term response	VFA	EGCMA GLaWAC EGW	Funded	VFA Strategic Plan 2019		
	Regional opportunities for improving recreational fishing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Economic recovery is accelerated through increased visitation from recreational fishers. Implement priority fish stocking in areas where fish numbers have been impacted by bushfire.</li> <li>• Consider greater stocking of Australian bass in the rivers and marine stocking estuary perch, mulloway, bream, and dusky flathead.</li> <li>• Fish stocks are improved over stock levels before the fire event.</li> <li>• Economic recovery is accelerated through increased visitation from recreational fishers.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	VFA	EGCMA GLaWAC	Non funded?	VFA Strategic Plan 2019		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Removal of hazardous trees on public or Crown land that is damaged by bushfires and poses an immediate safety risk along roads, tracks, and public sites. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restoration of any damage to private assets caused by the falling of hazardous trees during the fire event.</li> <li>Support private landholders in managing burnt and dangerous trees on the boundary and within their property.</li> <li>Safe egress and access on the road network within the fire affected area.</li> <li>Any reported damage or obstruction to private interests resulting from trees falling during the fire response is repaired.</li> <li>Farms and landholdings are safe from the risk of hazardous trees.</li> </ul>	Immediate response	DELWP/EMV BRV	EGSC Regional Roads Victoria BRV VicForests	Funded	EMV JSOP 08.03 Code of Practice for Bushfire Management on Public Land (2012)		
	Autumn/winter firewood collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify suitable sites for the community to access firewood in the autumn firewood collection period, including access to removed hazardous tree residues. This is to include the investigation of sites where tree sections can be safely stockpiled for community access.</li> <li>Manage any illegal fire collection, ensuring community are aware of where, when and what firewood can be collected to avoid significant penalties.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	DELWP	VicForests RRV SP Ausnet EGSC				

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 1</b> - Develop and implement risk-based programs aimed at supporting natural system recovery (this includes targeted pest and invasive animal and weed programs)	Hazardous trees (boundary and internal) Support landholders in replacement of internal fencing via technical advice, facilitation of volunteer agencies and charitable organisations Implement the government's policy to pay half the costs of materials to repair, replace or upgrade bushfire-damaged fencing, that borders national parks, state parks, state forest. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement the government's policy to pay half the materials cost to upgrade boundary fencing to fire resistant or pest resistant standard.</li> <li>Implement the government's policy to fully cover the repair or replacement fences damaged as a result of bushfire suppression activities to pre-existing standard.</li> <li>Rehabilitation of land used as fire control lines by fire agencies in the suppression of bushfires.</li> </ul>	Immediate response	DELWP BRV	Parks Vic AgVIC		Code of Practice for Bushfire Management on Public Land (2012)  DELWP Repair of Fences Damaged by Bushfire and Fire Control Line Rehabilitation Policy  DELWP Repair of Fences Damaged by Bushfire Guideline		
	Boundary and internal fencing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replacement of fencing marks boundaries, securing stock and access arrangements.</li> <li>Implement the government's policy to pay half the costs of materials to repair, replace or upgrade bushfire-damaged fencing, that borders national parks, state parks, state forest.</li> <li>Implement the government's policy to pay half the materials cost to upgrade boundary fencing to fire resistant or pest resistant standard.</li> <li>Implement the government's policy to fully cover the repair or replacement fences damaged as a result of bushfire suppression activities to pre-existing standard.</li> <li>Rehabilitation of land used as fire control lines by fire agencies in the suppression of bushfires.</li> <li>Support landholders in replacement of internal fencing via technical advice, facilitation of volunteer agencies and charitable organisations.</li> </ul>	Immediate response	DELWP BRV	Parks Vic AgVIC	Funded	Code of Practice for Bushfire Management on Public Land (2012)  DELWP Repair of Fences Damaged by Bushfire and Fire Control Line Rehabilitation Policy  DELWP Repair of Fences Damaged by Bushfire Guideline		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 2</b> - Work with community groups to assist the natural values recovery at a local and regional level	Drought and Fire Recovery Employment Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over \$1.8 million injected in the economy.</li> <li>80 people employed for six months.</li> <li>Immediate environment works on public land.</li> <li>Improved mental health outcomes for individuals</li> <li>Increased skills and training opportunities for people impacted by bushfire.</li> <li>Extend the existing Drought Employment program to include community people impacted by the bushfires to provide an immediate and sustained boost to community and regional economy.</li> <li>Build from the success of the drought employment program.</li> <li>Coordinate and prioritise works in partnership with agencies and groups.</li> </ul>	Immediate response	EGCMA	WGCMA NECMA Workways 20 other support agencies and groups	Funded	Victorian Government drought package		
	Deliver and support Landcare projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Plan and co-ordinate community education programs that enhance environmental outcomes for the community.</li> <li>Support Landcare groups to deliver projects and activities that facilitate recovery of the natural environment and sustainable agriculture.</li> <li>Raise awareness of and promote community involvement in Landcare projects and activities that support recovery.</li> <li>Landcare member survey seeking needs identification and capacity distributed and responses collated.</li> <li>Engagement with other agencies, community recovery committees and other forums to identify community needs.</li> <li>Successful grant applications and funding to support recovery projects.</li> <li>All projects promoted in print and electronic media.</li> </ul>	Immediate response	Landcare	Landcare groups Fire affected communities		EGLN Strategic Plan 2018 – 2021 Victoria Landcare Program Strategic Plan		

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 2</b> - Work with community groups to assist the natural values recovery at a local and regional level	Agricultural recovery – restoring biophysical assets on farm <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete and detail Impact assessments on individual farms across fire area (927 properties assessed, over 600 primary producers contacted).</li> <li>Provide information and support to landholders through a range of activities including: one on one consultations, farm visits, workshops, and field days to assist with:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Re-establishing groundcover (pastures, crops)</li> <li>Managing animal health</li> <li>Protecting soils and on-farm water resources</li> <li>Controlling invasive pest plant and animal species</li> <li>Reducing opportunities for off-site impacts</li> <li>Farm planning and land class sub-division</li> <li>Reconstructing boundary and internal fencing</li> <li>Managing vegetation on farms (shelterbelts, fire protection).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Farmers are made aware of broad range of support available (agricultural advice, mental health and well-being, social and financial support).</li> <li>Ensure landholders receive immediate support for agricultural needs, animal welfare and referrals to other agencies.</li> <li>Groundcover and pastures re-established over fire affected area</li> <li>Soil quality is protected and improved.</li> <li>Erosion mitigation measures undertaken (e.g. sediment control fencing).</li> <li>Water sources protected and water used efficiently, minimising waterway impact.</li> <li>More strategic use of vegetation on farm.</li> <li>Land class fencing increased.</li> <li>Animal welfare issues minimised.</li> <li>Pest and weed control measures undertaken.</li> <li>Farmers take up grant opportunities (\$75,000 bushfire recovery grants. Resilience Grant \$5000) and are better connected to agencies providing mental health and well-being and financial support. Farmers participate in range of activities including farm planning and soil and pasture management webinars / field days and the “Back to Business” program</li> </ul>	Medium to long-term response	AgVIC	EGCMA Landcare DELWP BRV Topsoil’s Project Southern Farming Systems Gippsland Mental Health and Well-being Partnership Rural Financial Counselling Service	Funded	AgVIC Land Health Delivery Framework 2017-21 State Agriculture Recovery Operational Plan 2020		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 2</b> - Work with community groups to assist the natural values recovery at a local and regional level	Telling the recovery story <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a platform to share information and data concerning natural environment recovery with the community.</li> <li>Develop interpretative material and educational resources to share natural recovery processes and the importance of intervention actions.</li> <li>To share community and agencies stories and associated research.</li> <li>To develop educational material and undertake professional development sessions with schoolteachers.</li> <li>The community are informed and have access to science and evidence regarding the recovery of the natural environment.</li> <li>A web platform sharing information and data with a social pinpoint application.</li> <li>Educational materials.</li> <li>A professional development program targeted at school curricula needs.</li> </ul>	Long-term response	DELWP	Federation University	Not funded	DELWP community charter  Boston consultancy recommendations on community consultation – e.g. community having access to science and evidenced		

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 3</b> Build resilience into the natural environment for longer term adaptation to a changing climate and supporting safer communities	<p>Waterway Recovery Program</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restore waterway works impacted by bushfire (CMA assets).</li> <li>Partner with landholders, land managers and community groups to use local contractors for implementation.</li> <li>Continue flagship river health programs on Gippsland Lakes and Mitchell River to assist waterway recovery.</li> <li>Riparian landholder fencing under agreement re-constructed (approx. 100km).</li> <li>Weeds controlled along all riparian areas currently part of the rehabilitation program.</li> <li>Fire damaged alignment training infrastructure restored in the Buchan River.</li> <li>Major debris build ups in waterways impacting community assets are removed.</li> <li>Long-term resilience built into the waterways and assets.</li> <li>Major waterway programs continue fire-affected waterways, with high recreational and economic importance in East Gippsland.</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	EGCMA	<p>Individual Landholders</p> <p>Over 40 group and agency partners involved in flagship waterway programs</p> <p>GLaWAC Landcare</p>		Water Plan for Victoria flagship waterway priorities East Gippsland Waterway Strategy		
	<p>Water monitoring in the Gippsland Lakes - Recreation Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake recreation water monitoring in the Gippsland Lakes to complement work being done by other agencies.</li> <li>18/19 Bushfire and Recreation Water Quality report</li> </ul>	Medium-term response	EPA					
	<p>Retain suitable drinking water standards for fire-affected communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>East Gippsland towns with water supply systems continue to receive suitable quality drinking water</li> <li>Provide community health advice to recreational users of the waterways impacted areas.</li> </ul>	Immediate response	EGW			EGW Strategic Plan		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 3</b> Build resilience into the natural environment for longer term adaptation to a changing climate and supporting safer communities	Fire risk reassessment and improving future fuel management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review fire behaviour and fire risk mitigation actions, to modify and improve future programs.</li> <li>Reassessment of fire risk assessment across the fire footprint and modification of fuel management and other fire programs moving forward to improve landscape resilient to large wildfires.</li> <li>Document case studies of fire behaviour, fire impacts and efficacy of mitigation programs such as planned burning.</li> <li>Support of community driven bushfire risk programs emanating from both the Community Recovery Committees and the Safer Together CBBM initiative.</li> </ul>	Long-term response	DELWP CFA	EG Shire Council Federation University		Safer Together		
	Management of ongoing natural resource use of public land <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assess impact on activities and mitigation measures - apiary sites, grazing, hunting etc.</li> <li>review licences, including opportunities to make alternative sites available and to restrict use in highly impacted areas.</li> <li>Establish a scientific process to assess and make decisions on when sites are made available and licence conditions.</li> <li>The interests of licenced forest users are considered and access to licenced areas is resumed as soon as possible.</li> <li>Any impacts to licenced areas are managed appropriately.</li> <li>Sustainable management processes exist for all licenced use of public land in the fire footprint.</li> </ul>	Medium to long-term response	DELWP	Parks Victoria				

Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
<b>Objective 4</b> - Nature based visitor experiences and sites are re-established that reflect traditional owner and community values and aspirations and support recreation, tourism, and economic opportunities	Implementing Working for Victoria program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide employment opportunities for local people displaced from their normal employment by COVID19 to participate in recovery</li> <li>• Employ two Working for Victoria teams of six directly within DELWP district operational teams at Bairnsdale and Orbost to support bushfire recovery activities.</li> <li>• Promote expansion of the program, both within DELWP and to other land management agencies.</li> <li>• Use of teams to support both public land recovery activities and those of partners and volunteer organisations.</li> <li>• Nearly 1.9 extra FTE effort in regions for every 1FTE invested.</li> <li>• Improve use of public land and facilities.</li> <li>• Improved social benefits such as increased volunteering, increased employment and more families staying in rural towns.</li> <li>• Maximise use of investment through existing partnerships and facilities (depots, agency expertise, community connections, etc.).</li> <li>• Injection of local jobs into affected communities with flow on economic benefits.</li> <li>• Nearly 1.9 extra FTE effort in regions for every 1FTE invested.</li> </ul>	Date?	DELWP	DELWP Parks Vic EGCMA Landcare EG Shire		Working for Victoria Policy		
	Reopening visitor destinations on public land Community access restored to key locations in line with 'milestone' dates	Immediate response	Parks Vic GLaWAC DELWP			FFMVic Fire Recovery Plans Victorian Visitor Economy Strategy <i>Destination Gipps have doco?</i>		



Recovery goal	Recovery activity What is the specific action or project	Timelines	Lead Agency	Support Agencies (includes opportunities for support)	Funding Status	Link to policy	Link to Community Reference Group	Status Report Update
	Healing Country <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Traditional Owners to deliver projects and activities to heal Country.</li> <li>Government support for projects healing Country. Traditional Owners actively and meaningfully involved.</li> <li>Support Traditional Owners to remain socially connected and connected to Country.</li> </ul>	Medium to long-term response	GLaWAC	Traditional Owners DELWP PV EG CMA		Aboriginal Culture and Healing Sub plan and Theme 5 of the Biodiversity Recovery Action under Objective 1		
	Cultural heritage recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed cultural heritage surveys of assets within the fire footprint and implementation of any recommendations.</li> <li>To self-determination aspirations are met in delivery of this action</li> <li>Park standards (open, safe, and clean)</li> <li>Protection and management of parks and forests for the enjoyment of current and future generations</li> <li>Job creation and economic activity</li> <li>Overnight visitor stays heritage recovery</li> </ul>	Medium to long-term response	DELWP Parks Victoria GLaWAC Heritage Victoria	TO groups across the fire footprint		Refer to the Aboriginal Culture and Healing sub plan and Theme 5 of the Biodiversity Recovery Action under Objective 1		
	Restoration and management of visitor sites <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restoration and improvement of visitor offer at sites of regional economic significance – Cape Conran, Buchan Caves, Mallacoota Inlet.</li> <li>Reopening of recreation sites, tracks, and trails on public land during the holiday period and beyond.</li> <li>Undertake works required i.e. arborist assessment and works, track access work, rebuild infrastructure etc</li> <li>Grow world-class nature-based visitor economy opportunities in parks. Progress Gunaikurnai Joint Management Plan opportunities - Buchan Caves Reserve Strategic Recovery Directions Planning</li> </ul>	Medium to long-term response	Parks Vic GLaWAC DELWP			FFMVic Fire Recovery Plans Victorian Visitor Economy Strategy Destination Gipps have doco? Joint Management Plan		

## Statistics for Land Tenure

LGA And Burnt Area	National Parks Act and Nature Conservation Reserves	Other Conservation Reserves	Other Public Land	Other State Forest	Total Crown Land	Private Land	Grand Total
East Gippsland Shire Totals	601,789	42,434	38,877	973,589	1,545,690	436,455	2,093,145
Total Burnt Area	337,349	4,910	4,256	654,444	1,000,959	73,882	1,074,841
Unburnt Area	264,440	37,525	34,621	319,145	655,731	362,572	1,018,303
Percentage Burnt	56%	12%	11%	67%	60%	17%	51%

## Statistics for Rainforest Areas

Local Government area and burnt area	Cool temperate rainforest	Unclassified rainforest	Warm temperate and dry temperate rainforest	Total rainforest
East Gippsland Shire Rainforest Totals	2,091	259	4,629	6,979
Total burnt area	675	190	3,570	4,434
Unburnt area	1,416	69	1,059	2,544
Percentage burnt in East Gippsland	32%	73%	77%	64%

## Statistics for Rainforest Areas

LGA and Burnt Area	Restricted Flora	Threatened Flora	Restricted Fauna	Threatened Fauna
East Gippsland Shire				
<b>Total in Burnt Area</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>10,839</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>9,212</b>

## Proclaimed Water catchment table

LGA and burnt area	Grand Total	Bemm River	Betka River	Boggy Creek (Nowa Nowa)	Brodrigg River (Orbost)	Buchan River (Buchan)	Cann River	Lake Hume	Lake Hume Northern Section	Mitchell River	Nicholson River	Rocky River	Tambo River	Upper Kiewa
East Gippsland Shire Supply Catchment Totals	1,067,377	93,259	11,563	26,688	93,601	81,609	62,298	30,0231	3,747	73,508	47,672	2,273	270,411	516
Snowy 16 - Snowy Complex -	245,357	84,414	11,563		88,109		59,264					2,008		
Tambo 35 - Tambo Complex -	231,486			18,025		42,390				11,950	45,964		113,157	
Tambo 64 - Buenba - Pheasant Creek Track	47,420							45,390	1,548					
Tambo 60 - Shannonvale - Mcnamara Hut	31,762							31,762		0				
Tambo 66 - Bindi - Tin Pot Creek	3,488												3,488	
Ovens 22 - Glen Valley - Shannonvale	558							558						
Upper Murray 12 - Glen Valley - Frog Track	456							433	23					
Tambo 52 - Suggan Buggan - Mt Menaak														
Upper Murray 10 - Granite Flat - Bull Hill 02	128								128					
<b>Total Burnt Area</b>	<b>560,526</b>	<b>84,414</b>	<b>11,563</b>	<b>18,025</b>	<b>88,109</b>	<b>42,390</b>	<b>59,264</b>	<b>78,624</b>	<b>1,571</b>	<b>11,950</b>	<b>45,964</b>	<b>2,008</b>	<b>116,645</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Unburnt Area</b>	<b>506,723</b>	<b>8,846</b>		<b>8,663</b>	<b>5,493</b>	<b>39,219</b>	<b>3,034</b>	<b>221,607</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>61,558</b>	<b>1,708</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>153,766</b>	<b>516</b>
<b>Percentage of Catchments Burnt</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>16%</b>	<b>96%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>0%</b>



## Statistics for Proclaimed Water Supply Catchments

LGA and burnt area	Grand Total	BEMM RIVER	BETKA RIVER	BOGGY CREEK (NOWA NOWA)
EAST GIPPSLAND SHIRE PROCLAIMED WATER SUPPLY CATCHMENT TOTALS	<b>1,067,377</b>	<b>93,259</b>	<b>11,563</b>	<b>26,688</b>
Total Burnt Area	<b>560,526</b>	84,414	11,563	18,025
Unburnt Area	<b>506,723</b>	8,846		8,663
Percentage of catchments Burnt	<b>53%</b>	91%	100%	68%

## Burnt area statistics

LGA and burnt area	Named rivers and creeks	Unnamed rivers and creeks (minor)	Total Km
Snowy 16 - Snowy Complex -	2,783	17,386	20,169
Tambo 35 - Tambo Complex -	1,522	7,898	9,420
Tambo 64 - Buenba - Pheasant Creek Track	244	1,185	1,429
Tambo 60 - Shannonvale - Mcnamara Hut	121	788	908
Tambo 66 - Bindi - Tin Pot Creek	7	65	73
Ovens 22 - Glen Valley - Shannonvale	2	10	12
Upper Murray 12 - Glen Valley - Frog Track	5	13	18
Tambo 52 - Suggan Buggan - Mt Menaak	0	14	14
Upper Murray 10 - Granite Flat - Bull Hill 02	2	2	
Total Burnt Area	4,684	27,361	32,046

## Potential Impacts on Parks Victoria managed land

- 609 assets potentially vulnerable to fire in East Gippsland fire footprint - \$20.3 million total potential loss
  - 89 bridge Park – 87%
  - Coopracambra National Park – 96%
  - Snowy River National Park – 77%
  - Errinundra National Park – 65%
  - On average parks in the East Gippsland footprint over 75% burnt
- Bridges or crossings in East Gippsland fire footprint - \$18 million total potential loss
- Confirmed up to \$15 million in losses to date, with impact assessments still ongoing
- Key sites impacted include (percentage burnt):
  - Cape Conran Coastal Park – 68%
  - Buchan Caves Reserve – 95%
  - Croajingolong National

## Potential Impacts on DELWP managed land

- 24 Recreation sites and tracks impacted at an estimated cost to be confirmed, however forms part of a \$2M program of works.
- 9 huts destroyed
- 1 Historic Fire Tower (Stringers Knob) destroyed
- 2 viewing platforms
- 1 toilet destroyed, others damaged
- 1 walking track bridge
- 3 boardwalks
- Damage to minor infrastructure (tables, signs, culverts)
- Site cleanup (hazardous trees, building materials)
- 394 bridges and crossings within the fire area (79 PV) – at an estimated loss of (Ross) 80 bridges @ \$250k=\$20M
  - 200 log fills @ \$20,000=\$4M
  - 50 engineering/geotech surveys @ \$15,000=\$750K
  - 50 crossing designs @ \$25,000 = \$1.25M
- 8 Fire towers in the fire area, with 2 confirmed as damaged
- 1300km of boundary fencing impacted at an estimated cost of \$5M in grants to landowners
- 7,000 hectares of ash forests in need of reseeding at an estimated cost of \$5M
- 1500km of constructed control line to rehabilitate
- 7500km road network to be assessed, stabilized and reopened (Ross) 8,000 guideposts @ \$25=\$200K
  - 20 slips/slumps/collapse @ \$75,000 = \$1.5M
  - Fluming replacement = \$200k
  - Network re-opening = \$1M
- 14 HV registered sites within the fire area

## Fencing statistics

	Registrations	Assessments completed	Grants	Total kilometres
DELWP	233	233	\$2.8 m	447
	Kilometre loss - Internal	Kilometre loss - External		
AgVIC	1,323 km	1,549 km		
Location	Kilometre loss	Kilometre completed		
EGCMA	100 klm	10 klm		