



Tasmania
Explore the possibilities

State Special Emergency Management Plan

STATE FIRE PROTECTION PLAN

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Section 1 Overview

Glossary

Table 1 - Terms and Acronyms

Term	In the context of this plan, this term means...
AFAC	Australasian Fire & Emergency Services Authorities Council
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System
AT	Ambulance Tasmania
BCRC	Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre
BRAM	Bushfire Risk Assessment Model – A computer based modeling tool that uses a series of inputs to assess the risk of bushfire to a specific area. The BRAM has a capacity to produce a series of outputs. It was developed and is managed by Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service
CBRN	Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear
CISM	Critical Incident Stress Management
CO	Chief Officer
Command	The internal direction of an organisations resource in an emergency. (TEMP Issue 6)
Community Fire Refuges	A place for public use where people may seek short term shelter from the fire front during a bush fire
Community Warnings	Warnings to the community advising of a fire or other emergency
Control	The overall direction and management of response/recovery activities for an emergency. The authority for control can be established in legislation or in an emergency plan and includes tasking and coordinating other organisations resources to meet the needs of the situation. (TEMP Issue 6)
COOG	Chief Officers' Operating Guideline
Coordination	The systematic acquisition and application of resources during response/recovery. Coordination can operate vertically within an organisation as a function of command as well as horizontally across an organisation as a function of control. (TEMP Issue 6)
DCO	TFS Deputy Chief Officer
DHHS	Department of Health & Human Services
DO	TFS District Officer
DPIPWE	Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment
DPEM	Department of Police & Emergency Management
EA	Emergency Alert. A national telephone-based emergency warning system to warn the public in the event of major emergencies, including serious bushfires.
ECC	Emergency Coordination Centre
ELT	TFS Executive Leadership Team
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre

ES-GIS	Emergency Services Geographical Information Service. A group of specialist Geographic Information Service (GIS) officers who have expert skills in mapping and associated skills attached to the Land Information office with DPIPW E.
FDI	Fire Danger Index. A relative number denoting an evaluation of rate of the potential fire rate of spread, or fire suppression difficulty for specific combinations of temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and drought effects.
FDR	Fire Danger Rating. A relative class denoting an evaluation of fire rate of spread, or fire suppression difficulty for specific combinations of temperature, relative humidity, drought effects and wind speed. Rated as low/moderate, high, very high, severe, extreme or catastrophic indicating the relative evaluation of bushfire danger.
FSST	Forensic Science Services Tasmania. Expert chemists and scientists that work within the Tasmania Government analytical laboratory.
FT	Forestry Tasmania
Hot Day Response	Enhanced response to vegetation fires, nominally on days where the FDI is forecast to be in excess of 24, normally a two brigade response.
IC	Incident Controller
ICC	Incident Control Centre - where the IMT is based.
ICS	Incident Control System
IOC	Incident Operations Centre – A facility that may be established close to an emergency incident to coordinate operations.
IMT	Incident Management Team established where the nature of an incident is likely to exceed the incident management capacity of the local brigade and/or resources.
JFLIP	Juvenile Fire Lighter Intervention Program
Level 1 incident	A small, simple incident that is generally controlled with local resources. Coordination efforts may include other agencies. Incident Controller will usually undertake more than one functional role. The incident can usually be contained within one operational work period. Conducted under local oversight.
Level 2 incident	A developing or developed incident of medium size or complexity carrying moderate risk that will generally require the use of resources from outside the District/Region and could involve one or several agencies. The incident is not likely to be contained in one operational work period. The Incident Controller may be undertaking more than one functional role but will normally have delegated at least one functional role. May require the deployment of some components of an Incident Management Team. The incident may be conducted under single agency or District/Regional level multi-agency oversight.
Level 3 incident	A major incident carrying high risk that involves many resources and interagency operations. May involve multiple land tenures and/or jurisdictions. The incident may require the commitment of resources over an extended period of time (days or weeks) to resolve. It will require the establishment of a dedicated Incident Control Centre. It will require the deployment of a well-resourced Incident Management Team and may be conducted under State level oversight.
MAC Group	Multi-Agency Coordination Group comprised of senior representatives of TFS, Forestry Tasmania and Parks and Wildlife Service.
Nearby Safer Place	Is a location where people facing immediate threat to their personal safety or property and whom have left it too late to relocate, can gather and seek shelter from a bush fire, the passage of a fire front. This is an <u>option of last resort</u> .
OLG	TFS Operational Leadership Group
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery
Preparedness	the results of measures to ensure, if an emergency occurs, that communities, resources and services are capable of responding to, and coping with, the effects.

Prevention	The results of measures taken in advance of an emergency aimed at decreasing or eliminating its impact on the community and the environment.
PWS	Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service
RC	TFS Regional Chief
RCR	Road Crash Rescue
RECEO	An acronym used by emergency responders in order to detail the priority of tactics for an emergency incident; Rescue Exposures Containment Extinguishment Overhaul
Recovery	the results of strategies and services to return agencies to a state of preparedness after emergency situations, and the results of strategies and services to support affected individuals and communities in their reconstruction of physical infrastructure and their restoration of emotional, social economic, and physical wellbeing.
Response	The results of strategies and services to control, limit or modify the emergency to reduce its consequences.
Reserved Land	Land reserved under the <i>Nature Conservation Act 2006</i>
RFOC	TFS Regional Fire Operations Centre
SEMC	State Emergency Management Committee
SEMAG	Security and Emergency Management Advisory Group
SES	State Emergency Service
SEWS	The Standard Emergency Warning Signal is a siren played for a few seconds at the beginning of a critical emergency warning message on radio or television, to warn the public in the event of major emergencies, including serious bushfires.
SFC	State Fire Commission
SFOC	State Fire Operations Centre
SFPP	State Fire Protection Plan
TasPol	Tasmania Police
TEMP	Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan
TAO	Tasmanian Audit Office
THOs	Tasmanian Health Organisations
TFB	Day of Total Fire Ban – May be declared by Region or Statewide
TFGA	Tasmanian Farmers & Graziers Association
TFS	Tasmania Fire Service
Vulnerable	A person or group of people present when emergency events threaten, and likely to be impacted adversely due to age, frailty, physical or mental disability, social isolation, illness, injury, need for support, cultural or linguistic diversity, or lack of preparedness for the emergency event.

Introduction

The safety of people, property and premises is a shared responsibility between Government and property owners, occupiers and managers. This SFPP outlines the arrangements to achieve this outcome.

Authority

- 1.1 The State Fire Protection Plan (SFPP) has been developed pursuant to section 8(1) (d) of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (The Act) to ensure effective fire and emergency prevention and protection measures are provided throughout Tasmania. These measures will be implemented by Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) and other relevant agencies identified. TFS is established under section 6 of The Act.
- 1.2 Is maintained as a State Special Plan by TFS on behalf of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC).
- 1.3 The SFPP is a special plan and is listed in the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan (TEMP) in section 5.5.2. Refer to Appendix 5.2 of the SFPP to identify where the SFPP fits into State and national emergency management plan arrangements.

Aim

- 1.4 In implementing this plan, agencies focus on the protection of life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies by developing appropriate prevention, preparedness, response and recovery strategies.

Objectives

- 1.5 The objectives of the SFPP are to:
 - a Outline State arrangements for Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery (PPRR) in relation to the identified risks:
 - i Bushfires
 - ii Domestic Residential Fires
 - iii Public Utilities/Business/Industrial Fires
 - iv Provision of Rescue Capabilities
 - v Provision of Hazardous Materials incident mitigation capabilities

Scope and Application

- 1.6 This SFPP sets the framework for effective emergency prevention and protection measures that are the responsibility of TFS and other agencies as required under the *Fire Service Act 1979*. The TEMP specifies the risks that TFS and other agencies is responsible for addressing.
- 1.7 The SFPP identifies the organisational arrangements across the PPRR spectrum in relation to emergencies within, or with the potential to affect, the State of Tasmania.
- 1.8 The SFPP is part of a broader emergency management framework and should be read in conjunction with other plans and documents mentioned in the SFPP along with the TEMP.
- 1.9 The SFPP also recognises that Forestry Tasmania (FT) and the Tasmanian Parks & Wildlife Service (PWS) have responsibility for the administration and management of fire and fire control measures within the land tenures for which those agencies have management responsibility. A Multi-Agency Coordination (MAC) Group is established to coordinate the utilisation of the resources of the three bushfire agencies to achieve the best outcome for the State.

Context Statement

About Tasmania and Current Arrangements

- 1.10 Tasmania has three statutory geographical regions within the State – North, South and North West. Within these regions 233 brigades operate providing a timely and efficient response to emergencies primarily across the settled parts of the state. These services include rapid and effective response to fires and emergencies including rescue and hazardous materials, as well as fire prevention and fire safety education.
- 1.11 Tasmania's relatively sparse population lends itself to challenges in providing and maintaining emergency services across the entire State and as a result relies very heavily of volunteerism to maintain emergency response capabilities.
- 1.12 Tasmania's temperate weather is susceptible to short term high temperatures, low humidities and high winds that make the State prone to occasional periods of severe bushfire conditions. These factors, combined with historically low rainfall and subsequent drought have provided for some of the worst bushfire conditions within Australia.
- 1.13 Historically, Tasmania has been exposed to numerous emergency events costing many lives and destroying property. In 1967, southern Tasmania experienced catastrophic bushfires that killed 64 people and destroyed 1400 homes. The cost of such an event is extraordinary and takes many months if not years for communities to recover.
- 1.14 In addition to this, Tasmania has a high rate, per capita, of house fires and as a result has experienced some deaths in building fires.
- 1.15 The primary purpose of TFS is to minimise the social, economic and environmental impact of fire and other emergencies on the Tasmanian community. This will be achieved through TFS implementing strategies to develop community self-reliance to prevent and prepare for fires and other emergency incidents, supported by a timely and effective response to emergencies.

Historical Emergency Events That Have Impacted on Tasmania

- 1.16 Several events have occurred in Australia since 1967 that have placed a heightened focus on fire and fire related events. Disasters such as the 2009 Victorian Bushfires and the recommendations of the subsequent Victorian Government-initiated Royal Commission have influenced fire and emergency service agencies across Australia. In particular, Tasmania has looked very closely at these recommendations to ensure that the State is best placed through the PPRR spectrum in relation to bushfires.
- 1.17 In 1962 a major bushfire burnt through the Central Plateau over several weeks. The bushfire damaged fire sensitive ecosystems. Vegetation and peat that historically does not recover well from the impact of bushfire was burnt.
- 1.18 The Savage River bushfire in 1982 burnt large tracts of rain forest. This was Tasmania's first major rain forest bushfire since the 1930s.
- 1.19 Bushfires began on the East Coast of Tasmania on Sunday 10 December 2006. On Monday 11 December gale force winds in excess of 100 kilometres an hour drove the fires into Scamander. These fires extended across parts of the Break O'Day and Glamorgan Spring Bay Local Government Areas and continued to burn for 46 days. 26 homes were lost and over 50 other properties were damaged in several communities across the two municipalities.
- 1.20 A fire at Myer in Hobart's central business district in September 2007 completely destroyed the Murray Street store. This had significant impact on businesses and the community in the city. The fire cost an estimated \$100Million (damage to buildings and lost trade). A coronial

inquest into the fire resulted in of recommendations for how TFS could further enhance its urban firefighting capability.

- 1.21 The terrorist events of September 11, 2001, in America and the Bali bombings in 2002 provided a catalyst for increased emphasis on preparing for possible terrorist attacks. This has provided a platform for TFS to provide training and capability in Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) emergencies and also Urban Search & Rescue (USAR) emergencies, which may involve building collapse.
- 1.22 In December 2006, TFS assumed the role of primary responder to Road Crash Rescue (RCR) in urban and some rural areas in conjunction with SES. TFS provides this capability from career brigades located in Hobart, Launceston, Burnie and Devonport and Triabunna volunteer brigade on the east coast. In 2009/10 TFS responded to 685 RCR incidents and performed 80 extrications Statewide.
- 1.23 A bushfire on King Island in 2007 raised concern about the environmental effects. The fire burnt sensitive vegetation that does not normally recover well from bushfire. Additionally, the aftereffects created economic and social challenges for the King island community throughout incident recovery.
- 1.24 In January 2013 a number of major bushfires burnt across all three regions of Tasmania. Bushfires burning at Lake Repulse and Forcett in the Southern Region spread rapidly on 4 January as a result of catastrophic bushfire weather. These fires had a significant impact on the communities of the upper Derwent Valley, Forestier and Tasman Peninsulas. The Forcett fire in particular destroyed or damaged 200 homes and businesses. Extensive stock, feed and fencing losses were also sustained by farming communities in all three areas. This had significant social, economic and environmental impacts on all communities involved. Additionally, the bushfires affected the States tourist industry during its peak period in January.

Section 2 Governance and Management

Roles of Government and Emergency Management Partners

- 2.1 TFS forms part of the Department of Police & Emergency Management (DPEM). Within the Department, TFS works very closely with Tasmania Police (TasPol) and the State Emergency Service (SES) in the provision of its services.
- 2.2 TFS liaises closely with the two main levels of government within Tasmania and has representation on the SEMC and the SEMAG. In addition, TFS is represented on local municipal emergency management committees.
- 2.3 TFS relies on partnerships between business, industry and the community to perform its role, especially in relation to the prevention of and preparation for emergency incidents.
- 2.4 TFS has representation within the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC) and the Bushfire Cooperative Research Council (BCRC), as well as several other influential fire and fire safety groups within Australia.
- 2.5 TFS works closely with FT and PWS to provide bushfire operations on Crown Land, in National Parks, and in State Forests. These three organisations have an interagency protocol in place recognising their close working relationship.
- 2.6 TFS brigade structure (Appendix 5.8)

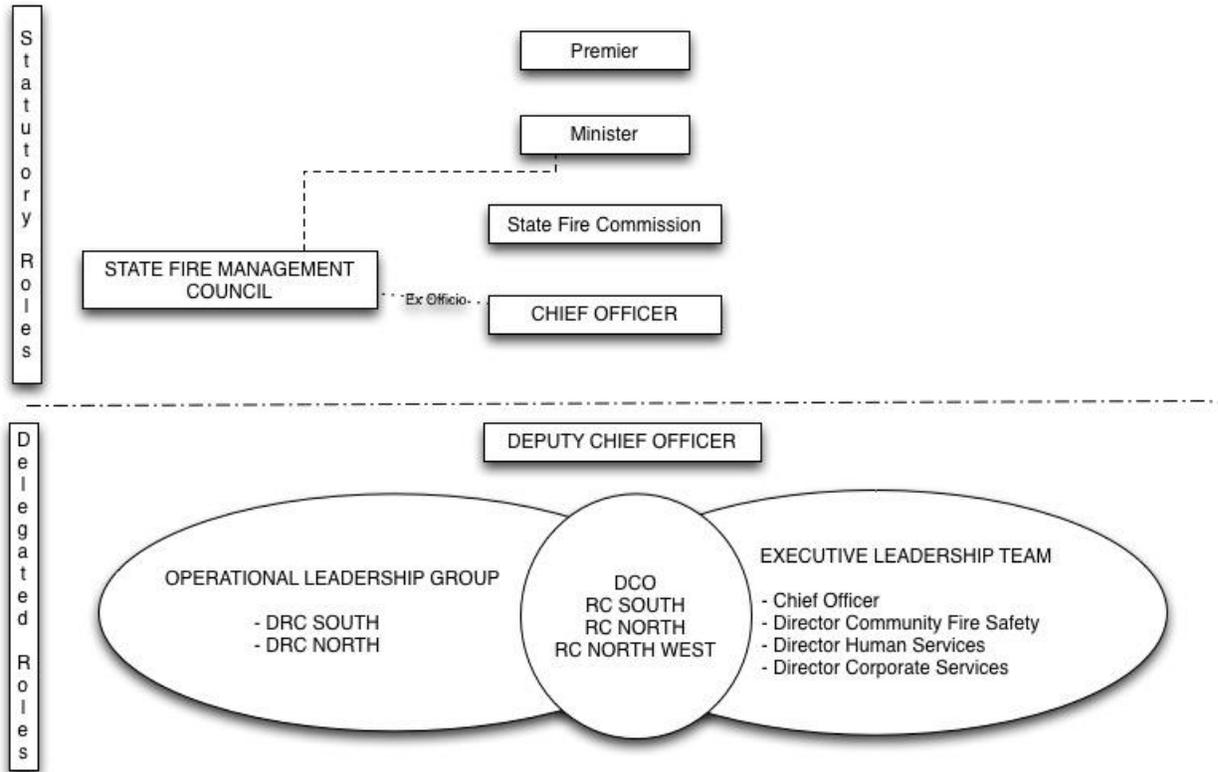
The Legal Framework

- 2.7 Predominantly, TFS is governed by the *Fire Service Act 1979*. The Act provides statutory authority for the creation of the State Fire Commission (SFC). TFS is the operational arm of the SFC, delivering services to the community through career and volunteer brigades and Community Fire Safety.
- 2.8 The General Fire Regulations are made under the provisions of the *Fire Service Act 1979* and govern the requirements for the protection of life and property in commercial, industrial and public buildings and premises.
- 2.9 The TEMP makes reference to the specific risks for which TFS has primary responsibility.
- 2.10 FT is governed by the *Forestry Act 1927* that is silent on fire management. FT discharges its fire management activities as a prudent land owner/ occupier in terms of the *Fire Service Act 1979*.
- 2.11 PWS manages all public reserved land declared under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*. The *National Parks & Reserves Management Act 2002* allocates clear responsibility for all actions required to manage and control fires on reserved land.

Emergency Management Governance

- 2.12 The activities of TFS are managed by the SFC (the Commission). The main functions of the Commission are outlined in section 8 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Appendix 5.12). TFS provides executive support to the Commission. Membership of the Commission as described in section 7(3) of the *Fire Service Act 1979* is:
- a the Chief Officer (CO)
 - b a person nominated by the United Firefighters Union (Tasmanian Branch)
 - c a person nominated by the Tasmanian Retained Volunteer Firefighters Association
 - d a person nominated by the Tasmanian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association
 - e a person nominated by the Secretary of the responsible Department in relation to the *Public Account Act 1986*, and
 - f two persons nominated by the Local Government Association of Tasmania.
- 2.13 The *Fire Service Act 1979* provides for establishment of the State Fire Management Council (SFMC). SFMC has primary responsibility for development of a vegetation fire management policy for Tasmania. Membership of the SFMC is listed under section 14(2) of the *Fire Service Act 1979* and SFMC's specific functions are listed in section 15 of the *Act*.
- 2.14 TFS uses an Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Operational Leadership Group (OLG) to manage the specific functions of TFS.
- 2.15 TFS has several representatives that sit on and provide advice to several State subcommittee, stakeholder and advisory groups.
- 2.16 PWS has responsibility for the management of bushfire on reserved land around the state. The management of bushfire risks in national parks and reserves will be performed in line with the PWS Regional Strategic Fire Management Plans.
- 2.17 FT has responsibility for the management of bushfire on all State forest. Management of bushfire risks in State Forest is undertaken in line with FT Strategic Fire Management Plan.
- 2.18 The three bushfire agencies appoint a representative and deputies to a Multi-Agency Coordinating (MAC) Group. The MAC Group has delegated responsibility from the CO to facilitate and coordinate the management of interagency responses to Level 3 bushfires.

Figure 1 TFS Governance Framework



Current Management Responsibilities

- 2.19 The safety of people, property and premises is a shared responsibility between TFS and property owners, occupiers and managers. This includes, but is not limited to:
- a ensuring public premises comply with the general fire regulations and other relevant codes and standards
 - b utilising fire on properties responsibly and not in a way that endangers other people, premises and properties within the community
 - c maintaining properties so as not to cause undue fire risk to others in the community, and
 - d conducting safe works that comply with relevant workplace standards and requirements.
- 2.20 TFS has defined responsibilities for emergency management for several risks identified in the TEMP. These are defined in SFPP Tables 3.
- 2.21 During emergency management activities TFS works collaboratively with other organisations. Where this working relationship is close and ongoing, Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) formalise working arrangements. An interagency protocol exists between TFS, FT and PWS in relation to the management of bushfires within the State
- 2.22 Response arrangements are implemented through the incident control system of the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS). The AIIMS incident control system is used by all AFAC-aligned organisations in Australia.
- 2.23 In addition to the SFPP, TFS also has responsibility for producing and maintaining other plans (TEMP, Appendix 5.5).

Roles and Responsibilities

Overview

- 2.24 In order to meet Tasmania's emergency management needs TFS manages assigned roles that build on the ongoing responsibilities of owners, occupiers and managers for property and premises,
- 2.25 TFS has two main roles in this area:
- a membership on the Security and Emergency Management Advisory Group (SEMAG), and
 - b Management Authority (SFPP Table 2).
- 2.26 These terms are defined in TEMP.

Table 2 Roles and Responsibilities

Row	Function	Organisation/Position
Bushfire – National Parks and Land Reserves		
1	SEMC Advisory Agency	DPIPWE
2	Management Authority-Prevention & Mitigation	DPIPWE Parks
3	Management Authority-Preparedness	DPIPWE Parks
4	Management Authority-Response	DPIPWE Parks
Bushfire – State Forest		
5	SEMC Advisory Agency	TFS
6	Management Authority-Prevention & Mitigation	FT
7	Management Authority-Preparedness	FT
8	Management Authority-Response	FT
All Fire – Urban and privately managed rural land		
9	SEMC Advisory Agency	TFS
10	Management Authority—Prevention & Mitigation	TFS
11	Management Authority—Preparedness	TFS
12	Management Authority—Response	TFS
Hazardous Materials – Chemical, liquid fuel, explosives (unintentional release of)		
13	SEMC Advisory Agency	TFS
14	Management Authority-Prevention & Mitigation	DoJ Workplace Standards Tasmania
15	Management Authority-Preparedness	TFS
16	Management Authority-Response	TFS
Infrastructure Failure – Building collapse		
17	SEMC Advisory Agency:	TasPol
18	Management Authority—Prevention & Mitigation	DoJ Workplace Standards Tasmania
19	Management Authority—Preparedness	TFS
20	Management Authority—Response	TasPol

Other Functional Responsibilities

- 2.27 Table 3 lists the prevention and mitigation, preparedness and response activities in which TFS is involved and identifies the relevant support agencies. As per TEMP, in emergency situations and at the discretion of the response Management Authority these responsibilities can be varied.
- 2.28 Additional information in relation to other agency functional responsibilities is included in Table 6 of TEMP.

Table 3 Other Functional Responsibilities

Row	Function	Agency	
		Primary	Assisting
1.	Advice		
a.	Evacuation—fire, potential fire, hazardous materials	TFS	Tasmania Police
b.	Hazard risk assessments	Prevention and Mitigation management Authorities	DPEM, DPIPWE GIS, and Desktop Mapping Services, DHHS – Housing Tasmania to address arson Domestic residential Fires.
c.	Mitigation funding programs	SES	DPAC, TFS
2.	Centres:		
a.	Emergency Operations	Response Management Authority	Support agencies
3.	Community awareness	Preparedness Management Authorities	Councils, SES
4.	Criminal investigations (during emergencies)	TasPol	Support Agencies
5.	Debriefs (combined/multi-agency)	Regional Committees	Response Management Authority
6.	Decontamination from:		
a.	Bio-security emergencies	DPIPWE	TFS
b.	CBRN events	TFS	Councils, Facility/site owner, Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
c.	Hazardous materials emergencies (chemical, biological, explosives)	TFS	Councils, DHHS, Facility/site owner
7.	Disposal (for biosecurity emergencies)	DPIPWE	DPIPWE, DIER, TFS
8.	Environmental spill management (oil/chemicals)—land	Facility/site owner	Councils, DPIPWE Environment, TFS, DoJ WST
9.	Environmental spill management (oil/chemicals)—marine		
a.	In port	TasPorts	BoM, DPIPWE Environment,

Row	Function	Agency	
		Primary	Assisting
			Shipping operator, TFS
b.	Less than 3 nautical miles from the coast	DPIPWE Environment	AMSA, BoM, Shipping operator, TasPorts, TFS
c.	More than 3 nautical miles from the coast	AMSA	BoM, DPIPWE Environment, TasPorts, TFS, Shipping operator
10.	Fire response on a marine vessel (eg. Ship)	Captain	TFS (By agreement with Captain of the vessel)
11.	Land-use planning	DoJ	Land Use Planning Unit, Councils, DIER, DPAC, DPIPWE, SES, TFS, DoJ WST, and DHHS--Housing Tasmania land-use planning measures to address arson in domestic residential fires.
12.	Impact assessments (initial)	Response Management Authorities	Support agencies, Councils, SES
13.	Liaison (in emergencies)		
a.	Media (at centres)	Centre coordinator	Support agencies
b.	Media (at the emergency site)	Response Management Authority	Support Agencies
14.	Operational information—situation reports, operational logs	Centres (Coordination, Operations, others)	Response Management Authorities, Support Agencies
15.	Rescue (technical)		
a.	Aircraft crash (all areas except Hobart and Launceston airports)	TFS	Airline operators, SES, AT, TasPol
b.	Aircraft crash (Hobart and Launceston airports)	Airservices Australia	Airline operators, SES, AT, TasPol
c.	Confined space	TFS	Infrastructure/asset owner, AT
d.	Domestic and industrial accidents	TFS	Infrastructure/asset owner, AT
e.	Extrication from road crash and heavy vehicles (rural)	SES	AT, TFS, Transport operator
f.	Extrication from road crash and heavy vehicles (urban)	TFS	AT, Transport operator
g.	Mines	Mine manager	TFS, TAS,

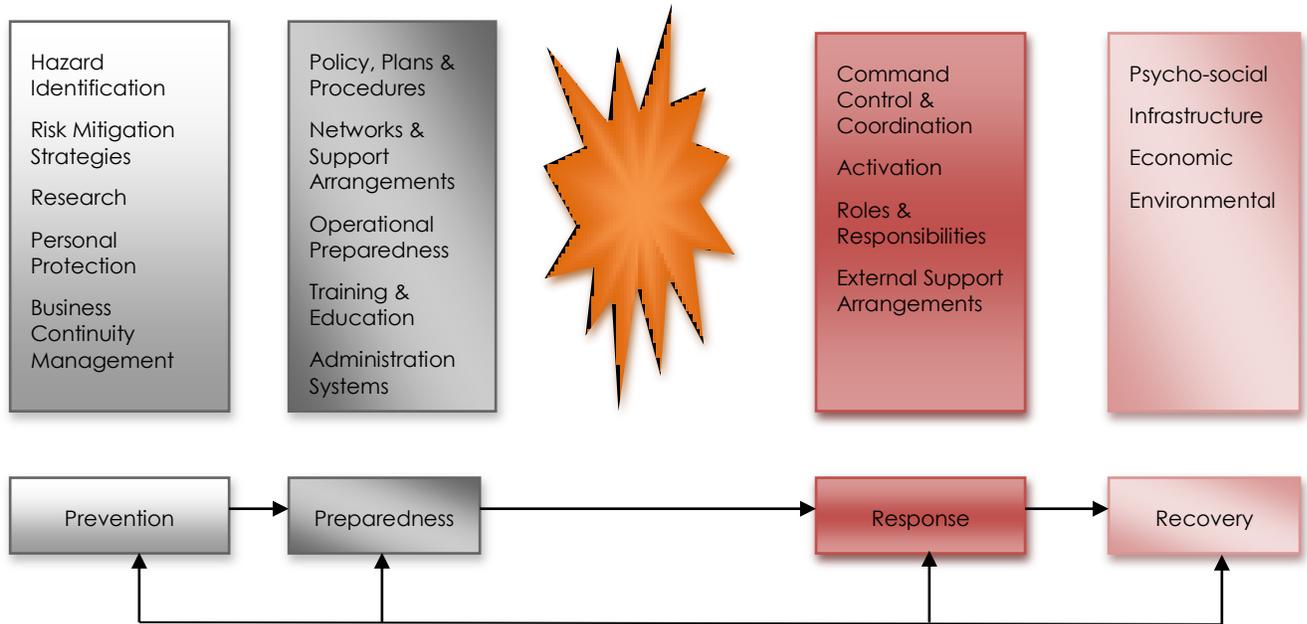
Row	Function	Agency	
		Primary	Assisting
			(By agreement with mine manager)
h.	Trench	TFS	Councils, AT
i.	Urban (USAR)	TFS	AT, TasPol, SES
j.	Vertical (built environment)	TFS	SES
k.	Vertical (natural features)	TasPol	SES, TFS
16.	SEWS (Standard Emergency Warning Signal)	Refer to paragraph 3.3.47 of TEMP	
17.	Warnings for the community (community warnings):		
a.	About severe weather events	BoM	Media, SES, TasPol, TFS
b.	About the emergency	Response Management Authority	Councils, Media, SES, TasPol

Section 3 Emergency Management Arrangements

This section describes the usual arrangements or the arrangements that will be put into place for emergency management. The diagram below summarises these arrangements.

Emergency management arrangements will vary greatly according to the requirements of differing incidents.

Figure 2 Emergency Management Arrangements



Section 3.1 Prevention and Mitigation

Overview

This section summarises what is done to prevent and mitigate risks associated with response.

Current Arrangements and Elements

- 3.1.1 In accordance with Table 2, TFS plays a prevention and mitigation role in urban fire incidents and fire incidents on privately managed rural land. This is done several ways to:
- a provide a fire permit system that assists to prevent uncontrolled landscape fires through conditions that enable fires to be lit safely
 - b provide the ability to impose Total Fire Ban (TFB) prohibiting the use of fires outdoors when weather conditions and fire activity dictate
 - c liaise closely with the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) about parameters for issuing of fire weather warnings to discourage inappropriate use of fire
 - d seek to develop and deliver programs to educate people, including the young, elderly, disabled and people in low income households, about how to prevent fires
 - e seek to influence improvement of education at all levels of the community about preventing and mitigating emergency incidents
 - f collaborate with other organisations with which TFS works closely to provide the best possible service to the Tasmanian community. Where these relationships provide for shared working arrangements, TFS seeks to put in place MoUs and agreements to make working together efficient and effective. Existing MoUs and agreements are:

Partners	In relation to:
TasPol and TFS	<p>Joint Bushfire Arrangements</p> <p>TasPol and TFS in regards to Emergency Traffic Management Points (TMP) access levels</p> <p>TasPol and TFS to formalise the commitment of both services to the conduct of efficient and effective investigation of fires to determine their origin and cause</p> <p>TasPol and TFS position on the protection of people and homes threatened by bushfires</p>
TasPol, Ambulance Tasmania (AT), SES and TFS	Working collaboratively during RCR incidents
Norske Skog and TFS	Fire management activities
Gunns and TFS	Fire management activities
TFS and Environment Protection Authority in relation to	Land based oil and chemical spills
TFS and media organisations	Arrangements for dissemination of community warnings
TFS and Airport Rescue and Firefighting Service	Collaborative working arrangements
TFS and Department of Primary Industry, Water & the Environment	Combat of spills of noxious and hazardous substances from ships
TFS and TFGA	Property management
TFS and Motor Accident Insurance	RCR

Board (MAIB)	
TFS and Department of Sustainability & Environment (Victoria)	Sharing of firefighting resources
TFS and FSST	The provision of assistance in hazardous materials incidents or Fire Investigation, where specialist scientific and chemical knowledge is required
DPIPWE	Partner in relation to development of Community Protection Plans
SFMC	Coordinating the mitigation of bushfire fuels across Tasmania

- g ensure an Interagency Fire Management Protocol is in place between TFS, FT and PWS and that this Protocol is maintained annually to ensure working arrangements are efficient and effective
 - h seek to influence development of improved regulations, codes and standards focusing on fire prevention
 - i offer training through TasFire Training and provide information in a variety of formats to workplaces about how to work safely in the community, business and industry
 - j offer fire equipment services to businesses and the public through TasFire Equipment to enable firefighting and associated equipment to be installed and maintained to the relevant standards
 - k establish pre-incident plans for all alarmed and sprinklered buildings. These plans will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis and appropriate databases and information system updated to reflect changes
 - l provide fire protection and pre-incident planning for major events. These plans will be disseminated to brigades as required, and
 - m establish Community Fire Protection Plans to mitigate the impact of bushfire on Tasmanian communities and enhance resilience.
- 3.1.2 Where TFS does not have an official role in prevention and mitigation, it endeavors to influence and provide advice and guidance on areas of interest with a view to maintaining a safe Tasmanian community.
- 3.1.3 FT, PWS and forest industry companies all have structured planning arrangements in place for the prevention of bushfires and the mitigation of their affects.

Research

- 3.1.4 TFS liaises closely with partner bodies about research into the prevention and mitigation of fires within the community and report back to SEMC when appropriate.
- 3.1.5 Provide for and participate in research programs made available by governing bodies or other recognised authorities into fire prevention and mitigation. The authorities and agencies may include:
- a Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (BCRC)
 - b Australasian Fire & Emergency Service Authorities Council
 - c National Aerial Firefighting Centre
 - d Standards Australia
 - e University of Tasmania and other tertiary institutions
 - f Fire Protection Association of Australia

- g Institute of Fire Engineers
- h Tasmanian Fire Research Fund

- 3.1.6 TFS encourages employees to participate in research.
- 3.1.7 TFS looks closely at other reports, inquests and enquiries and makes determinations in relation to how these affect TFS. As appropriate, resources will be made available to implement relevant recommendations in a timely manner to create a safe Tasmanian community.
- 3.1.8 The MAC group facilitates research in line with the Interagency Fire Management Protocol. TFS, FT and PWS have managed the Tasmanian Fire Research Fund for 18 years to support research into fuels, fire behavior and planned burning in the Tasmanian context.

Risk Management

- 3.1.9 TFS is responsible for having processes that enable provision of specialist advice to support fire risk assessments in Tasmania.
- 3.1.10 In relation to urban and domestic fires, TFS has responsibility for programs to improve the safety of people in the community, with a focus on those most at risk from fire. DHHS–Housing Tasmania has a shared responsibility to reduce risk of arson in State-owned domestic residential properties using appropriate risk management processes.
- 3.1.11 TFS regulates fire protection equipment and building owner's obligations regarding fire safety, obtaining permits to install, maintain or repair fire protection equipment and evacuation planning.
- 3.1.12 TFS ensures owners and occupiers of prescribed buildings meet equipment standards and maintain fire protection equipment.
- 3.1.13 TFS identifies and delivers programs to address bushfire risk.
- 3.1.14 TFS utilises and assists the further development of the Bushfire Risk Assessment Model (BRAM) to strategically analyse bushfire risk throughout Tasmania.
- 3.1.15 The SFMC develops and oversees implementation of a State Vegetation Fire Management Policy. This Policy is used for all land based fire management planning. The Council provides support and guidance to Fire Area Management Committees.
- 3.1.16 The SFMC contributes to the SFPP to ensure Statewide strategic management of vegetation for the purpose of fire mitigation is captured in the plan. The Council also reviews, and where considered appropriate, implements the recommendations outlined in the Tasmanian Audit Office (TAO) Special Report No. 99 into *Bushfire Management*.
- 3.1.17 Fire Management Area Committees develop and oversee implementation of fire protection plans for respective Fire Management Areas and report back to the SFMC on activities.
- 3.1.18 Aurora manages vegetation around its infrastructure in line with chapter 8a of the Tasmania Electricity Code. The Code sets out minimum clearances between vegetation and power lines, and defines greater clearances around power lines in areas prone to higher bushfire danger.
- 3.1.19 In addition to Aurora's cyclic maintenance program, Aurora conducts an annual pre-bushfire season assessment of vegetation in higher bushfire danger areas.
- 3.1.20 To reduce the risk of bushfires starting from asset failure, Aurora carries out a targeted program of works in areas prone to higher bushfire danger.
- 3.1.21 SFMC has endorsed the Tasmanian Electricity Code for use by private land managers in relation to clearances of vegetation around power lines.
- 3.1.22 Brigades carry out pre-incident planning to ensure they are best positioned to manage any risks within brigade boundaries. These plans must be coordinated by District Officers (DOs) and prioritised regionally according to risk management modeling.

- 3.1.23 The TFS Communications Division establishes redundancy systems for communications networks used by TFS and other agencies that use the radio network. This includes risk analysis of infrastructure and application of appropriate measures to mitigate those risks on an annual basis. A report on this process is supplied to the SFC annually.
- 3.1.24 Municipal councils and the Environment Protection Authority are responsible for regulation and policing of smoke emissions within the State. TFS policy is that, where practicable, Officers will comply with these requirements.
- 3.1.25 TFS, in consultation with stakeholders, develops Community Protection Plans that can be used by a variety of user groups. These plans will include:
 - a Local Bushfire Plans for residents. These plans support personal bushfire survival plans and focus on more safety options, especially nearby safer places
 - b Local Bushfire Response Plans for bushfire agency Incident Management Teams, TFS brigades and other firefighters, and
 - c Local Bushfire Mitigation Plans for Fire Management Area Committees and other stakeholders.
- 3.1.26 Community Protection Planning develops and maintains several components aimed at protecting the Tasmanian community when bushfires cannot be controlled, including:
 - a Community Fire Refuge Arrangements
 - b Bushfire Ready Schools, and
 - c Building in Bushfire Prone Areas.

Protective Security

- 3.1.27 TFS carries out protective security practices for all TFS facilities and installations.
- 3.1.28 The TFS Corporate Services Division, in consultation with regional management, establishes security plans for all TFS facilities and installations Statewide.
- 3.1.29 Security plans are developed in consultation with other government departments to provide a whole-of government approach to security.
- 3.1.30 TFS liaises with SEMC and SEMAG about heightened levels of security and advises staff Statewide of the need for this.
- 3.1.31 TFS carries out risk assessments regarding security at its facilities and installations.
- 3.1.32 TFS establishes response capabilities, specific to intentional violence on TFS facilities, including counter-terrorism measures.

Business Continuity

- 3.1.33 The TFS Corporate Services Division, in consultation with regional management, ensures administrative and business continuity capabilities across the organisation including:
 - a redundancy systems for administrative and management staff
 - b Statewide redundancy systems for buildings and infrastructure
 - c redundancy systems for power and telecommunications within State headquarters, regional headquarters and nominated ICCs around the State
 - d redundancy systems for FireComm.

- 3.1.34 Regional management ensures operational capability is maintained throughout each region for all volunteer and career fire stations and in-line with any industrial agreements that may be in place.
- 3.1.35 Radio communications within the TFS radio network is maintained by the TFS Communications Division. Where areas of the State may have poor radio coverage, Communications Division staff can set up repeater infrastructure to improve performance of the TFS radio system.

Land-Use Planning

- 3.1.36 TFS continues to play a significant role in land-use planning with the intention of providing long-term community safety outcomes and to minimise the exposure of the community and Governments to ongoing/long term costs from bushfires.
- 3.1.37 TFS contributes to development of State Planning Policy in line with Building Codes, Australian Standards and other relevant Codes of Practice.
- 3.1.38 Some municipal councils may develop and implement fire management plans for land managed by them in their respective municipalities.

Land management organisations, such as FT and PWS, and large private land owners such as Gunns Group and Norske Skog (Australasia) Pty Ltd also develop and implement fire management plans for the land under their management & ownership.

Section 3.2 Preparedness

Overview

- 3.2 This section describes what is done to be ready to respond and manage an emergency incident, before an emergency occurs or is imminent i.e. the activities that maintain readiness.

Current Arrangements

- 3.2.1 The TFS Deputy Chief Officer (DCO) is responsible for ensuring the operational preparedness of TFS resources statewide.
- 3.2.2 The TFS Deputy Regional Chiefs – South and North and the Regional Chief North West are responsible for ensuring the operational preparedness of TFS regional resources in line with identified risks within the TFS region they manage.
- 3.2.3 The TFS RCs in consultation with Statewide coordinators, regional coordinators and regional staff will identify locations for mobile equipment caches. Where agreement cannot be reached on such issues the DCO will decide where to best place TFS operational resources.
- 3.2.4 Aurora applies a hierarchical response to bushfire threat levels using the Fire Danger Index (FDI) as a trigger.
- 3.2.5 The planning and preparedness arrangements described in this section give an overview of the establishment of, and a framework for TFS to mobilise and manage TFS responses to emergency incidents. Preparedness activities include:
- a development and maintenance of interoperable plans, networks and support arrangements in order to make preparation and planning for emergencies efficient and effective
 - b development and maintenance of a Corporate Plan
 - c development and maintenance of a statewide operations plan
 - d maintenance of a Statewide capability for all risks
 - e delivery of ongoing training and education
 - f regular exercises that test response arrangements and capabilities, and
 - g development and maintenance of deployable resources, information systems and communication systems.

Consultation Framework

- 3.2.6 The SFC is established under Section 7 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* and is responsible for the corporate governance of TFS. Membership and functions of the commission can be found in Sections 7 and 8 of the *Fire Service Act 1979*.
- 3.2.7 The SFMC is established under Section 14 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* and is primarily responsible for the development and implementation of a State Vegetation Fire Management Policy. Membership and additional functions of the council can be found in Sections 14 and 15 of the *Fire Service Act 1979*.
- 3.2.8 The CO and DCO and other relevant staff, as necessary, represent TFS on SEMC and SEMAG. The CO and DCO are responsible for the carriage and implementation of relevant outcomes from these forums across TFS.

- 3.2.9 The CO and DCO, or a delegate/s appointed by these officers, represent TFS on relevant AFAC, national and State forums in regard to specific TFS responsibilities and are responsible for implementation of relevant outcomes across TFS.
- 3.2.10 Regional and Municipal Emergency Management Committees include key stakeholder representatives to ensure the functions and powers are carried out as detailed in Section 22 of the *Emergency Management Act 2006*.
- 3.2.11 A Multiagency Coordination (MAC) group exists with representation from TFS, PWS and FT to enhance the cooperative approach to the management of vegetation fires across Tasmania. The MAC group meets on a regular basis and provides regular feedback to the respective agency heads as required on statewide vegetation fire operations and other issues as set out in Section 4 of in the Interagency Fire Management Protocol.
- 3.2.12 TFS forms and maintains a Statewide hazardous materials working group. Each TFS region is represented and responsible for advising the Operational Management Group (OMG) about internal TFS related hazardous materials issues and capabilities.
- 3.2.13 TFS is represented on the Tasmanian Hazmat/CBRN advisory group.
- 3.2.14 An appointed TFS representative chairs the Tasmanian Urban Search and Rescue Working Group (USAR). This Group is multi-jurisdictional with members drawn from Tasmanian government departments.
- 3.2.15 TFS is represented in the following forums in relation to USAR:
 - a Tasmanian USAR, and
 - b the national AFAC USAR and Technical Rescue Working Group.
- 3.2.16 The TFS regions consult community members about development of community bushfire protection plans for those areas identified as bushfire prone areas. These plans are disseminated to people in these communities to assist them to plan for the impact of bushfire. Community plans are additional to individual bushfire survival plans.

Capacity and Capability

- 3.2.17 TFS maintains processes, systems, assets and supplies so that resources required to deal with response and recovery can be assigned safely, effectively and efficiently. Factors that contribute to this include:
 - a human resource management, that is: ensuring there is sufficient staff in place to fulfill the roles and responsibilities required by PPRR. This includes recruitment, retention, training and succession planning
 - b creation and maintenance of key relationships with stakeholder partners in emergency management throughout Tasmania.
 - c development of education, awareness and training programs for firefighters, fire officers and corporate staff in respective disciplines to enable them to respond to emergencies in the most efficient and effective manner possible. This includes set up and support of incident management teams
 - d development and maintenance of community education programs to better prepare the community for emergencies. This includes distribution of appropriate information to people at risk to ensure they are prepared for and able to respond appropriately to fires
 - e development of programs to assist the community to be better prepared to deal with emergency incidents
 - f establishment and maintenance of a network of brigades located so as to facilitate rapid response to emergency incidents

- g provision and maintenance of appropriately designed and equipped firefighting, rescue and hazardous materials appliances along with ancillary utility vehicles, suitable for the risks to which the brigade is expected to be exposed
- h further development and maintenance of a communications network to enable Statewide communications with brigades and ICCs to facilitate dispatch to emergency incidents and overall emergency management
- i development and maintenance of a central communications and dispatch facility (FireComm) to enable efficient and effective response to and coordination of emergency incidents
- j consultation with communities to develop and maintain specific bushfire response plans. These plans enhance the brigades' abilities to respond effectively and efficiently to bushfires in those communities. These plans are reviewed annually and updated and distributed as required
- k the TFS State Operations Unit establishes and maintains a State Fire Operations Centre (SFOC) to oversee Statewide emergency incident operations for all TFS incidents. Included in this capability is a plan establishing the specific roles within and functions of the SFOC. This plan will be reviewed bi-annually and a report produced and provided to the DCO by 30 September each year
- l establish and maintain regional IOCs to oversee the regional emergency incident operations. Included in this capability is a plan establishing the specific roles within and functions of the regional IOC. This plan is reviewed annually and a report produced and provided to the respective RC by 30 September each year, and
- m provide fire protection and pre-incident planning for major events. Plans are distributed to brigades as required. If a brigade does not have the capacity or expertise to develop such a plan, the respective career officers with appropriate skills are responsible for plan preparation. This will be prioritised and applied regionally.

Warnings and Public Information:

- 3.2.18 TFS communicates with media partners in an efficient and professional manner at all times.
- 3.2.19 Media releases are distributed to media partners as per the TFS Chief Officers' Operating Guideline (COOG), administrative instruction number 6-00 and Tasmanian government media guidelines.
- 3.2.20 FireComm, in conjunction with State Operations, is responsible for distribution of operationally focused media releases.
- 3.2.21 A pool of appropriately qualified staff provides timely updates to the TFS website during emergency incidents to enable efficient and effective communication of information to the public.
- 3.2.22 The BoM is responsible for issuing fire weather warnings to the public when FDI is predicted to reach 'very high' (38 or above).
- 3.2.23 TFS may declare TFBs when, in the opinion of the CO or delegate, conditions are predicted that will make fires difficult to control, or when resources are already heavily committed to large fires across the State. Refer to TFS COOG, 'declaration of total fire bans' for public communications requirements in this situation.
- 3.2.24 TFS may issue 'fire permit periods' when fuel and weather create conditions in which fires may continue to burn overnight and have the potential to cause significant damage. Refer to TFS COOG, 'declaration of fire permit periods' for public communications requirements in this situation.

- 3.2.25 During days of high fire danger and TFBs, TFS State Operations is responsible for coordination of information provided to the public via media partners with an emphasis on ABC Local radio Statewide.
- 3.2.26 When IMTs are set up to manage major incidents, Public Information Sections will be established within those IMTs to provide local, relevant and timely information to the media and the public in relation to that incident. On the establishment of an IMT, the responsibility for performing this function will be transferred from State Operations to ensure continuity of information and accountability is maintained. TFS ensures that the following processes are in place to facilitate the setup of incident information units within IMTs:
- a trained staff who can fill the information officer role as per AIMS system requirements and TFS requirements
 - b facilities, resources and equipment that enable an information unit to be established and function effectively throughout an emergency incident, and
 - c redundancy systems and protocols in place, in the event the incident information unit are unable to function due to system, resource or facility failure and so as to enable communication with the media and the community to continue.
- 3.2.27 TFS develops and maintains an agency emergency management communications protocol in line with the Tasmanian government communications policy.
- 3.2.28 Incident Controllers (ICs) may liaise closely with municipal emergency management coordinators to ensure awareness of the locations of vulnerable groups in the community. Incident planning determines the appropriate protective actions required for vulnerable groups within the incident potential impact area; this is not limited to relocation. DHHS may also provide assistance determining the location of vulnerable people within the community.
- 3.2.29 TFS has established and maintains a system for disseminating emergency warnings, watch and act and advice messages to the media as well as a system for updating and maintaining timely and relevant information on its website. TFS ensures that the following systems are in place to facilitate dissemination of emergency warnings, watch and act and advice messages:
- a trained staff who are able to utilise and disseminate relevant messages to the media and update the TFS website with emergency incident information and other information that may be required from time to time
 - b redundancy systems, procedures and protocols in case of TFS systems failure, and
 - c protocol systems for authorisation of messages.
- 3.2.30 Where the situation requires it, use of the Emergency Alert (EA) system is initiated and used by appropriately trained and authorised personnel. TFS ensures the following systems are in place to facilitate dissemination of EAs:
- a trained staff who are able to effectively and efficiently utilise the EA system and disseminate warnings to the community
 - b redundancy protocols in case of TFS systems failure
 - c protocol systems for authorisation of the EA system, and
 - d public enquiry and information readiness, including consideration of multiple media (call centres, media releases, website updates, industry networks) and access to relevant groups in the community, especially those most vulnerable eg. elderly, incapacitated and tourists.

Emergency Planning

- 3.2.31 TFS develops and maintains the emergency management plans as required by the *Emergency Management Act 2006* and the *Fire Service Act 1979*. These plans are reviewed every two years and describe governance and coordination arrangements for prevention and mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery for the following plans:
- a SFPP
 - b Tasmanian Government Chemical, Biological and Radiological Security Incident Response Plan and Tasmanian Hazardous Materials Emergency Plan. (These plans will be superseded and incorporated into one State special plan for Hazardous Material and CBR emergencies due for completion in 2013)
 - c Tasmanian Road Accident Rescue Arrangements, and
 - d State Special Plan for Structural Collapse Arrangements (currently under development due for completion 2013)
- 3.2.32 The SFMC develops and maintains a State Vegetation Fire Management policy as per Section 15 (a) of the *Fire Service Act 1979*, to be used as the basis for all land fire management planning within the State. Fire Management Area Committees use this as the guiding policy for development of respective area fire management plans.
- 3.2.33 TFS develops working arrangements for the SFOC.
- 3.2.34 Each TFS region prepares plans in line with the risks identified for that region.
- 3.2.35 Brigades are responsible for identifying and preparing plans for risks identified in respective brigade areas.
- 3.2.36 The MAC group carries out planning for the management of bushfire in accordance with the Interagency Protocol.

Validations eg. Exercises and Lessons Identified

- 3.2.37 TFS participates in national, State and local level multi-jurisdictional exercises that are carried out from time to time. TFS will have staff trained in exercise writing to provide a degree of expertise to exercise writing teams.
- 3.2.38 Each TFS region carries out annual exercises for specific risks to test both physical and human resource capability.
- 3.2.39 Annual joint exercises may be carried out to test the ability to form multi agency incident management teams in relation to bushfires.
- 3.2.40 TFS may carry out annual exercises to test its ability to form regional and local incident management teams for multi-risk situations.
- 3.2.41 Agencies may participate in multi-jurisdictional exercises to test whole-of-government capabilities. These exercises may include all levels of government and service providers across a range of hazards.
- 3.2.42 TFS may carry out operational debriefs as per the requirements of COOGs in order to discuss, analyse and learn from actions leading up to, during and post emergency incidents and exercises. The recommendations that stem from the operational debriefs will be disseminated to operational staff by the responsible DO as necessary. DOs liaise very closely with RCs in relation to issues that have potential Statewide impact.

Administration Systems

Information Management

- 3.2.43 The IC for each emergency incident is responsible for collection and management of information related to the emergency.
- 3.2.44 At large and more complex emergency incidents where TFS is the controlling agency, the IC may choose to delegate management of information to the planning section of the IMT.
- 3.2.45 At large and more complex emergency incidents the IC may choose to use the Incident Resource Management System (IRMS) to collect and manage information in relation to the incident.
- 3.2.46 The State Operations Unit of TFS maintains the community warning systems within TFS. This includes the capability to provide timely and accurate warnings to the community during emergencies until the role is handed over to an IMT.
- 3.2.47 The State Operations Unit maintains the Fire Incident Resource Management (FIRM) system in order for FireComm to accurately record all emergency incident information.
- 3.2.48 The State Operations Unit maintains the Australian Incident Reporting System (AIRS) in order to collect and analyse information about emergency incidents TFS has attended.
- 3.2.49 TFS maintains a register of all equipment and assets that the SFC owns and regularly audits this register in order to ensure it is accurate and up-to-date.

Cost Capture/Financial Administration

- 3.2.50 The Incident Resource Management System (IRMS) may be used by the three bushfire agencies to collect financial and administration information in relation to an emergency incident. The IRMS may be used for multi-hazard incidents.
- 3.2.51 Each respective agency is responsible for its own costs incurred through an emergency incident unless prior funding arrangements have been made.
- 3.2.52 Agencies are responsible for collection and capture of costs associated with emergency operations. If the incident is large and protracted the lead management authority may elect to employ the services of specialist staff to collect this information on behalf of all agencies involved in the emergency incident.

Performance Management

- 3.2.53 ICs conduct an operations analysis in relation to emergency incidents. Recommendations stemming from these analyses are coordinated by staff with functional responsibility for each issue.
- 3.2.54 Regional and District staff assess the performance of operational and administrative staff throughout emergency incidents. Training and exercises are conducted to ensure maintenance of appropriate staff skills and qualifications.
- 3.2.55 The MAC group reviews the performance of the appointed IMTs and provides feedback to appropriate staff on their performance in accordance with the Interagency Protocol.

Section 3.3 Response

Overview

- 3.3 This section describes agency response arrangements to emergency incidents. It focuses on control, command and coordination, activation, and key roles and responsibilities.

Command, Control and Coordination

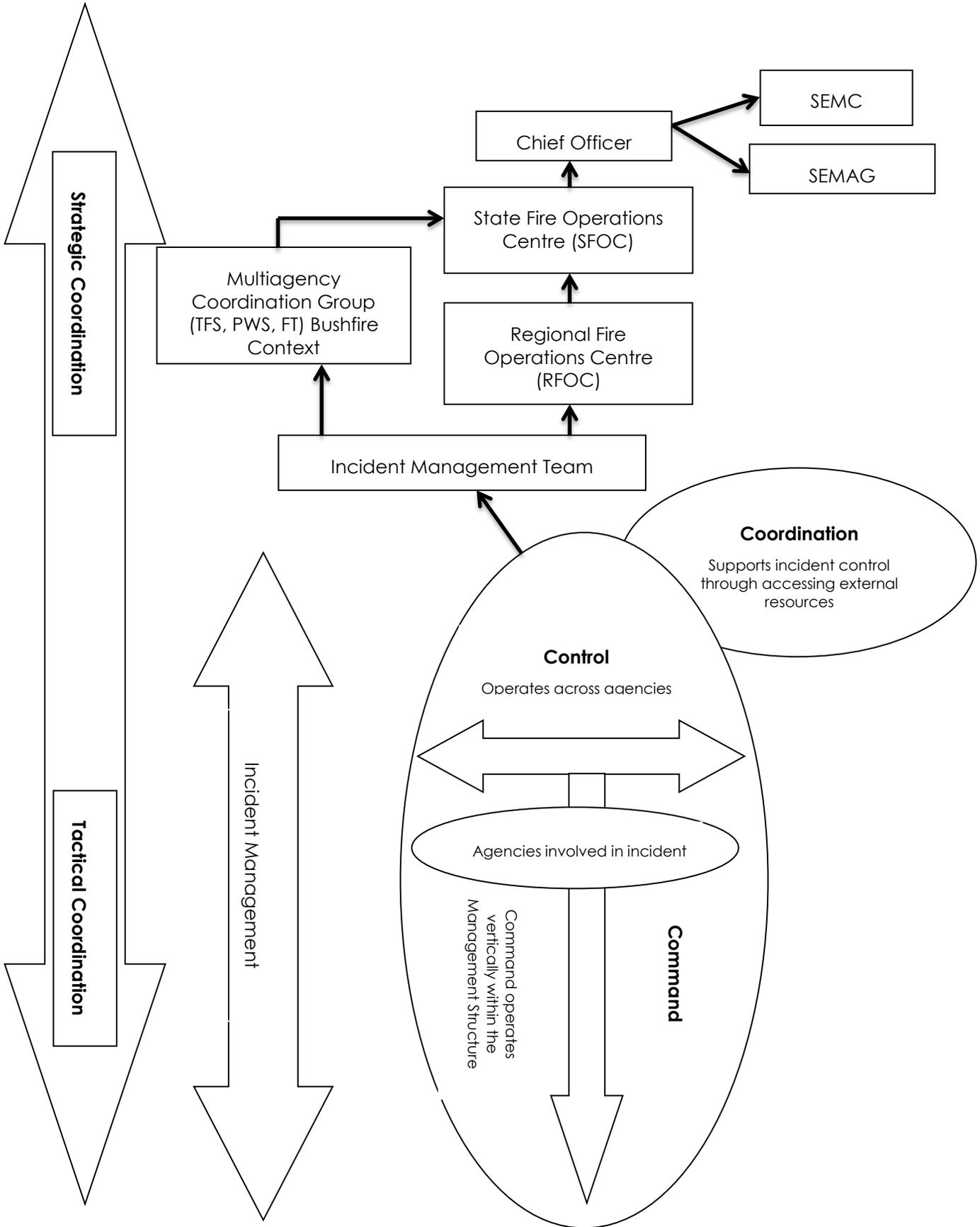
- 3.3.1 TFS and the other bushfire agencies use ICS (AllMS) where they are the primary responding agency. Where the IC feels it is necessary, these agencies form an IMT to manage the incident using resources directly available at the incident scene.
- 3.3.2 Where TFS is not the primary responding agency, the first arriving fire officer assumes the role of Fire Commander and liaises closely with the IC from the lead management agency.
- 3.3.3 Where emergency incidents are expected to escalate and TFS is the lead management agency, the DO with functional responsibility for the brigade or the regional on-call DO initiates formation of an IMT to facilitate effective and efficient management of the incident.
- 3.3.4 IMTs are formed and ICCs located in consultation with the RC and DRC within a region.
- 3.3.5 Control of multi-land tenure bushfires is as per the *Fire Service Act 1979* and the Interagency Protocol.
- 3.3.6 In relation to bushfires, the MAC group performs its functions as per the Interagency Protocol.
- 3.3.7 Where there is significant potential for an emergency event to occur or an emergency incident is imminent, at the direction of the CO or DCO the SFOC may stand up to support the early coordination and management of the incident and the IMT(s) when these are initiated.
- 3.3.8 Where conditions are predicted to create significant potential for an incident to occur or an emergency situation is imminent, the CO, DCO or RC can initiate setup of a fully functioning ICC within a particular region.
- 3.3.9 Where regional resources are overwhelmed, the RC will liaise with the other RCs in relation to the availability of other TFS resources.
- 3.3.10 Where an incident has or is expected to overwhelm TFS's Statewide resources, the CO may choose to request further resources from interstate by the following means:
- a via the Commonwealth Disaster Plan (COMDISPLAN), initiating contact through SEMC and SEMAG, and/or
 - b via agency to agency at the highest level (Chief/Commissioner/CEO), and with the notification/approval of the Minister/DPaC/SES.

- 3.3.11 Where TFS receives an offer of assistance, TFS will:
- a assess the need for assistance
 - b assess the level of assistance being offered
 - c ensure the agency/service offering the assistance has appropriate capability suitable for the tasks required
 - d assess the cost recovery and resource requirements
 - e notify the Minister/DPaC/SES of the offer and the intentions/needs of TFS to accept/reject the offer, and
 - f if TFS chooses to accept an offer of assistance, TFS will appoint a liaison officer to assist with deployment/coordination of the assisting agency.
- 3.3.12 Where TFS is the primary responder to an emergency incident, it enables a seamless transition to recovery by liaising/engaging appropriate authorities/agencies to ensure recovery is as efficient and effective as possible.
- 3.3.13 Where TFS is not the IC in an emergency incident, TFS will continue to provide support/advice to the lead management authority to enable an efficient and effective recovery process.
- 3.3.14 At the conclusion of all major emergencies in which TFS is involved, the IC/Fire Commander is responsible for conducting incident debrief/operations analysis. These will be conducted as per TFS COOGs.

Emergency Powers

- 3.3.15 The General Powers of officers of TFS are provided for in Section 29 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Appendix 5.10) and are adequate to deal with most incidents in which TFS is involved.
- 3.3.16 A fire permit period may be declared for the State or parts of the State. During declared fire permit periods the SFC has powers under Section 62 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Appendix 5.11).
- 3.3.17 A period of TFB may be declared in areas of the State as determined by TFS for specified reasons. During a period of TFB the SFC has powers under Sections 70, 71, 72 and 73 of the *Fire Service Act 1979* (Appendix 5.12)
- 3.3.18 Should additional powers be required, particularly during declared emergencies, these are provided under Division 3—Emergency Powers in the *Emergency Management Act 2006*.
- 3.3.19 Figure 3 below summarises command, control and coordination.

Figure 3 Command, Control and Coordination Summary



Response Strategies

Hazard	Response Action
<p>Hazardous material/s incidents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond from the closest, most appropriately equipped brigade to the report of a hazardous materials incident to provide the most efficient and effective response. • The IC will follow TFS COOGs in relation to the incident being dealt with. • Upon arrival the IC assumes a worst case scenario until information or testing confirms otherwise and approach to the incident is in a safe manner utilising minimum numbers of personnel and time, distance and shielding as protection at all times. • Primary role of the IC is to rescue casualties and evacuate personnel who may become casualties of the incident. • The IC identifies the hazardous material(s) and puts in place measures to limit the spread/damage from exposure. • Request further resources including specialist advice. • Actions for specific hazards may include isolating the incident, containing the spill/leak/contaminant/fire or extinguishing medium. • Actions for specific hazards may include neutralising or dispersing the contaminant, leak, spill and/or extinguishing the fire. • Ensure the decontamination of personnel, equipment and the incident scene. • Monitor the remaining levels of hazardous material before seeking specialist clearance and releasing the scene. • Provide assistance, where required, to determine the cause of any hazardous materials incident. • Where hazardous materials incidents cause a fatality, liaise closely with TasPol and other agencies involved in an investigation. • Collect sufficient information to complete all incident reports accurately. • Ensure vehicles and equipment returned to service to maintain a state of readiness.
<p>Rescue operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond from the closest, best-equipped brigade to the report of a rescue incident to provide the most efficient and effective response. • The IC assesses the scene and requests additional resources, if required. No rescue attempt will be undertaken unless appropriate equipment and trained personnel are in attendance. • The IC will direct initial action to be undertaken to provide support to the victim and stabilise the incident. • The IC will follow the COOG in relation to the specific rescue function being undertaken. • The IC will liaise closely with external resources and agencies to ensure an efficient and effective operation. • Provide assistance, where required, to determine the cause of any rescue incident. • Where an emergency incident causes a fatality, liaise closely with TasPol and other agencies involved in an investigation. • Collect sufficient information to accurately complete all incident reports. • Ensure vehicles and equipment are returned to maintain a state of readiness.

<p>Bushfires</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond from the 'most able firefighting crew of any agency, immediately to a reported bushfire as a priority' regardless of land tenure. Reference should be made to the interagency fire management protocol. • The IC will follow the TFS COOG in relation to the incident being dealt with. • The IC will conduct a 'size-up' of the incident to assess the threat to assets, size, intensity and access to the fire. • Direct initial fire attack strategies in order to contain the size of the fire. • Consider the need for further resources. • Where an incident is escalating the IC will consider expanding the IMT and requesting regional support. • Determine the cause of the fire. Where fires involve fatalities, liaise closely with TasPol in relation to fire cause determination. Refer to the MoU in place between TFS and TasPol for investigation of fires to determine their origin and cause. • Collect sufficient information to complete, accurately, all incident reports. • Check the fire ground is safe and/or secure, to hand over to the owner or an appropriate authority. • Ensure vehicles and equipment is placed back in-service to maintain a state of readiness.
<p>Where bushfires are burning out of control</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warn the community. Gather, analyse and disseminate information about current and predicted fire location, direction and rate of spread, and issue timely warnings to those threatened by fire. • Protect vulnerable people. Protect vulnerable civilians who may be gathered in schools, nursing homes, community shelters and so on. This necessitates identification and assessment of sites in the community likely to be housing or sheltering vulnerable people before the fire season, and the assignment of crews to focus on the protection of these sites and their occupants. • Protect key community assets. Protect key vulnerable community assets that have been identified as such by the community. These may include flagship industries or businesses upon which the community relies for its existence, as well as shopping centres, schools, hospitals/health facilities, power facilities, churches, historic buildings, the local pub and so on. Protecting these will improve community resilience by enabling communities to recover more quickly from bushfires. It necessitates identification of assets that particular communities value, mitigation of vulnerability, and assignment of crews to protect these assets when fires threaten. • Stop the spread of fire in built-up areas. Stop the spread of fire in built-up areas through building-to-building ignitions. Options to allow this to be done rapidly should be explored so resources are not tied up for extended periods at individual homes or buildings. Protection of homes in built-up areas should result in fewer losses than seeking to protect the same number of homes scattered over the landscape, and therefore should be a higher priority for firefighters. • Defend 'homes defensible by firefighters' (homes coded orange). By applying the TWS triage policy, defend 'homes defensible by firefighters', particularly in areas of moderate to high housing density, where firefighting resources can move relatively quickly between homes and other assets under threat. Firefighters should not defend homes that cannot be defended safely, or homes that can be defended safely by civilians who are present. • Fight the fire. This should be the lowest operational priority for fires

	<p>burning under severe to catastrophic conditions. On severe to catastrophic days, fires extinguished in the bush are likely to re-ignite, and any efforts to extinguish them are likely to be fruitless. People and highly valued assets should be protected consistent with priorities 2—5 above. Attention should turn to containing and extinguishing the fire only when conditions have moderated.</p>
<p>Structural fires</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond with the closest, most appropriately equipped brigade(s) to the report of a structural fire to provide the most efficient and effective response. • The IC will follow TFS COOG in relation to the incident being dealt with. • Upon the brigade's arrival, 'size-up' the incident utilising RECEO principles. • Consider the need for further resources. • Attending brigades are to limit damage, where possible, to the room of origin where the fire started, taking care not to destroy fire origin indicators. • Liaise closely with other relevant attending resources such as councils and specialist advice providers. • Determine the cause of the fire and overhaul the fire remains. Where fires involve fatalities, liaise closely with TasPol in relation to fire cause determination. Refer to the MoU in place between TFS and TasPol for investigation of fires to determine origin and cause. • Collect sufficient information to complete all incident reports accurately. • Check the fire ground is safe and/or secure to hand over to the owner or an appropriate authority. • Ensure vehicles and equipment are returned to maintain a state of readiness.

Warnings and Public Information

Warnings

- 3.3.20 TFS may issue warnings about bushfires and other emergency incidents. The warnings may be issued prior to and during emergency events, depending on the circumstances that exist within the State.
- 3.3.21 The IC is responsible for initiating the need for emergency warnings to be issued to the community.
- 3.3.22 Initially FireComm may issue the warning using the automated website based dissemination system or the EA system.
- 3.3.23 Once the SFOC is operational, an appointed officer within the SFOC is responsible for monitoring and coordinating dissemination of warnings through the automated web based system and the EA system.
- 3.3.24 When an IMT is operational for a particular incident the Public Information section within that IMT is responsible for dissemination of warnings through the automated web based system.
- 3.3.25 State Operations has developed redundancy systems in order to maintain the ability to distribute warnings to the community in case of system(s) failure.
- 3.3.26 Where an emergency warning is required the IC must consider the use of the EA system.
- 3.3.27 The EA system is disseminated via FireComm or through authorised and trained EA operators.
- 3.3.28 EA is used in line with the 'Protocol for the use of EA'.

Public Information

- 3.3.29 All information released to the media is to be in accordance with TFS media protocol.
- 3.3.30 All general TFS media releases are to be disseminated through FireComm. FireComm has the capability to deliver media releases in the most efficient and effective manner.
- 3.3.31 The TFS IC is responsible for preparation and authorisation of release of TFS incident specific information.
- 3.3.32 TFS State Operations provides support, where required, for preparation of media releases in relation to emergency incidents. The authorisation of media releases remains with the IC.
- 3.3.33 TFS State Operations provides executive support for release of information to the public on operational matters. State Operations provides a conduit for media organisations to access information within TFS and a reciprocated approach is taken from TFS to media organisations.
- 3.3.34 Where a Level 2 IMT is set up, the IC initiates the setup of the Public Information section and appoints a media liaison officer to provide a link for media to access information in relation to that particular incident.
- 3.3.35 Where an IC sees the need, they may initiate community forums to deliver high quality personalised information during an emergency incident.
- 3.3.36 Where the SFOC is established, a media liaison officer may be appointed to oversee and coordinate release of public information. ICs authorise all information being released to the public.
- 3.3.37 Where an event of State or national significance occurs TFS provides support to the State government media office in relation to provision of operational information about TFS involvement in the emergency event.
- 3.3.38 TFS may provide information about predicted bad bushfire weather days to agencies and organisations responsible for vulnerable people, so those agencies and organisations may assist these people.

Table 4 Summary of Public Information Arrangements

Row	Location	Scope of Information	Provided by	Developed by	Cleared by	Distribution methods
1	On-Site where TFS is the lead management agency	Information about the emergency and its known impact	IC or their delegate	IC on-site or via State Operations Unit	TFS IC	Media TFS website Emergency Alert Emergency Warning BoM
2	On-Site where TFS is not the lead management agency	Provide operational information to the IC or their delegate in relation to TFS operations	TFS Fire Commander or their authorised delegate	TFS Fire Commander or their authorised delegate/media liaison/State Operations Unit	IC of the lead management agency	Media Websites Emergency Alert Emergency Warning
3	Local EOC/ICC	Information about the emergency and its known impact	IC or their delegate/media liaison	IC or their delegate/media liaison	IC	Media TFS website Emergency Alert Emergency Warning
4	Regional	Impact of the emergency on the local /regional community	Regional Chief	IC/State Operations/media Liaison	Regional Chief	Media, TFS website Other government websites Emergency Alert Emergency Warning
5	State	Impact of the emergency on the State	State Controller/ CO/ DCO	State Operations/ Media Liaison/ Government Media Office/ Police Media Unit	State Controller/ CO/ DCO	Media, TFS website Other government websites Emergency Alert Emergency Warning

Other TFS Response Elements

Operations/Coordination Centre Arrangements

- 3.3.39 Each TFS region identifies and documents strategic locations for ICCs, including available resources and infrastructure at the specific EOC location.
- 3.3.40 The DOs with functional responsibility for the brigade response area initiate setup of an EOC in consultation with the RC or DRC.
- 3.3.41 The RC is responsible for triggering the setup of high level ICC in consultation with the CO and DCO. This is done as per the requirements in TEMP Section 5.9.
- 3.3.42 TFS provides liaison officers with appropriate qualifications and experience for each level of ECC put in place.
- 3.3.43 Operational information is transferred through the command structure within TFS.
- 3.3.44 The SFOC provides initial support to the TFS ICCs until they are fully operational and then ongoing support throughout the emergency incident.
- 3.3.45 Each region has one major, identified ICC with the minimum resources required to operate for long duration incidents.
- 3.3.46 TFS develops and maintains minimum requirements for ICCs, including the requirements for major ICCs. The respective RC is responsible for ensuring that each nominated ICC maintains these minimum requirements.

Relocation/Traffic Management Points

- 3.3.47 Where a TFS officer deems there is a necessity to relocate people involved in, around or in the path of an emergency incident, the officer liaises closely with TasPol to coordinate relocation.
- 3.3.48 The TFS IC is responsible for recognising the need for and initiating the relocation of people where TFS is the primary responder to that incident.
- 3.3.49 All temporary relocation of civilians during a bushfire is to be carried out in accordance with TasPol and TFS Joint Bushfire Arrangements.
- 3.3.50 All traffic management points are put in place in accordance with the guiding principles mentioned in the TasPol and TFS Joint Bushfire Arrangements.
- 3.3.51 Suitable Community Fire Refuges are identified and a database of suitable locations is kept by TFS. When opening a community fire refuge the TFS does the following:
 - a provides advice to the SES regarding phase 1 'Alert' and phase 2 'Standby', for councils
 - b makes the request to open a community fire refuge (Phase 3 'Operation')
 - c publishes/issues public information that a community fire refuge is available (through ABC Local radio, other media organisations and the TFS website)
 - d allocates a TFS officer to the community fire refuge to provide a liaison between TFS and the community, and
 - e confirms when the community fire refuge can be closed.

Specialist Support

- 3.3.52 TFS has several arrangements in place with agencies with which it works closely on a regular basis.
- 3.3.53 FireComm provides a central point of contact for specialist support to emergency incidents until an IMT is established. FireComm will then assume responsibility for contact of specialist support. The IMT may choose to utilise FireComm, if required.
- 3.3.54 Emergency Services Geographical Information Service (ES-GIS) provides support to Level 3 IMTs to produce high quality mapping and GIS services.
- 3.3.55 FSST provides assistance at hazardous materials incidents and fire investigations, where specialist scientific and chemical knowledge is required.
- 3.3.56 The Environmental Protection Authority provides specialist support for land based oil and chemical spills.
- 3.3.57 DPIPWE provides specialist support for spills of noxious and hazardous substances from ships.

Operational Analysis

- 3.3.58 Debriefs are conducted to ensure all TFS personnel have the opportunity to discuss, analyse and learn from actions leading up to, during and following operational incidents, including exercises.
- 3.3.59 As soon as possible after an incident/exercise, all crew leaders should encourage informal discussions about the incident. This discussion 'normalises' the event and airs any concerns or feelings that may flag Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team contact.
- 3.3.60 As soon as practicable after an incident the IC must conduct an incident analysis (operational debrief) that may include all career, volunteer and other service representatives.
- 3.3.61 For larger and more complex incidents the difficulty of getting all participants together may require each brigade, Group or agency to conduct its own debriefing with representatives from each of those meetings attending the main incident analysis hosted by regional management of the lead management agency.
- 3.3.62 On completion of the incident analysis the IC or the convener, if at regional level, will prepare an incident analysis report and forward a copy to the Brigade Chief or RC. Dissemination and follow-up of recommendations is as per TFS COOGs.

Finance and Records Management

- 3.3.63 Financial records are collated by the IC. This function may be delegated to the planning officer in coordination with the logistics officer, if the incident becomes large and complex.
- 3.3.64 All response financial records are to be in accordance with TFS policy. All records of expenditure are subject to records management provisions and State archiving legislation and must be maintained to aid any cost recovery processes.
- 3.3.65 ICs are responsible for ensuring all costs associated with emergency incidents are captured and administered as per organisational requirements.
- 3.3.66 Major emergency incidents may require the assistance of financial administrative staff as part of an IMT in order to ensure for compliance with cost capture and financial administration.
- 3.3.67 Costs and reimbursements for bushfires where PWS, TFS and FT have shared tenure are in line with the Interagency Protocol.

- 3.3.68 All major emergency incidents have a cost code to apportion costs to that particular incident.
- 3.3.69 Cost recovery for some emergency incidents may be possible and in this instance the IC and/or the DO with functional responsibility for the primary brigade in collaboration with TFS Corporate Services, are responsible for collating and recovering costs associated with the incident in line with the *Fire Service Act 1979*

Animal Welfare Arrangements

- 3.3.70 During emergency incidents where TFS is the lead management agency and will liaise closely with Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water & Environment (DPIPWE) in relation to animal welfare. DPIPWE will provide specialist advice and liaison to incident management teams when incidents affect large numbers of livestock, un-owned animals or wildlife that require significant coordination of services provided by the private sector, animal welfare organisations and municipal councils. DPIPWE will remain the lead agency when dealing with animal-related issues in relation to emergency incidents.

Critical Infrastructure

- 3.3.71 When power is interrupted through emergency incidents Aurora applies a triage method of prioritising restoration of supply to affected areas.
- 3.3.72 Aurora applies an ICS approach to managing resources and response during emergency events. On days of predicted high bushfire danger Aurora will have teams on stand-by to ensure resources are available to respond when required.

Section 3.4 Recovery

Overview

3.4 A whole-of-government approach will be taken to the recovery of communities affected by emergency incidents. TFS will participate and consult with relevant agencies and committees about their ongoing recovery.

The TEMP and the State Recovery Plan describe operational recovery arrangements for Tasmania, while regional and municipal recovery arrangements are detailed within respective emergency management plans.

Typical considerations for immediate and long-term recovery include, but are not limited to:

- a assessing recovery needs across the four elements (psychosocial, environment, infrastructure and economic), and prioritising the required actions
- b developing, implementing and monitoring provision of recovery activities that are aligned as much as possible with municipal long term planning and goals
- c enabling communication with the community and community participation in decision-making, and
- d where possible, contributing to future mitigation requirements or improvements to planning requirements (eg. through debrief processes).

Current Arrangements

3.4.1 The general, all-hazard arrangements for recovery are summarised in TEMP Section 3.4.

3.4.2 The following table summarises some of the elements of recovery for this hazard/function. The table is intended to complement the all-hazard recovery arrangements described in the State Special Plan for Community Recovery. This information should assist groups with community responsibilities to appreciate the unique characteristics of this plan's context and support better informed and coordinated recovery efforts.

3.4.3 This table is designed for use in conjunction with:

- a the State Special Plan for Recovery, and
- b the relevant Regional Emergency Management Plan.

Table 5 Summary of Community Recovery Issues for All-Hazards

Service/Function	Description	Primary Agency	Support Agency
Social Recovery	The Regional Social Recovery Committee has responsibility to maintain a capability. The following outlines current arrangements and specific roles / functions.	Regional Emergency Management Committee	Council
Coordination	Regional social recovery services coordination	Regional Emergency Management Committee	Council
Accommodation	Provision of emergency and temporary accommodation.	Regional Emergency Management Committee	Council
Animal Welfare	Provide support to the community for preservation and protection of	Council	DPIPWE,

Service/Function	Description	Primary Agency	Support Agency
	domestic animals.		RSPCA
Care of Children	Care of children displaced from parents or guardian	DHHS, Child & Youth Services	DoE
Catering	Provision of emergency catering	Salvation Army	DHHS
Clothing and Household Items	Provision of clothing and household items	St Vincent de Paul	Council Local NGOs
Community Health Service	Restoration of basic health services in the impacted area	DHHS, Tasmanian Health Organisations (THOs)	Medical locals
Personal Support	Provision of personal support services and referral to specialist services where appropriate.	DHHS, THOs,	DoE Aust Red Cross
Pastoral Care	Provision of pastoral care and support	Tasmanian Council of Churches	DHHS
Financial assistance	Provision of short and long term financial assistance to enable affected persons to replace essential belongings lost as a result of the emergency.	DHHS Centrelink	
Interpreter Services	Facilitation of the provision of interpreter services for affected persons from diverse linguistic and cultural backgrounds.	Translating and Interpretive Services	
Legal Services	Provision of legal advice	Community Legal Centre	
Community Centres	Establishment of one stop shops for a range of services.	Council	DHHS
Registration and Inquiry	Registration of affect persons and provision of inquiry facilities to locate those persons	Aust Red Cross	Council DHHS
Transport	Provision of both emergency evacuation support and subsequent coordination of transport	SES	Local operators
Environment			
Community clean-up	Provision of assistance with cleanup of households and community assets following an emergency incident. (As determined by each situation)	Council	DPIPWE Environment DPAC
Waste/refuse collection	Restoration of waste/refuse collection	Council	
Disposal of Stock	Facilitation of the disposal of stock	DPIPWE	Council

Economic			
Financial Relief/assistance	Facilitate discussions regarding financial relief/assistance	Council	DPAC DEDT
	Provision of financial assistance	EOD	DPIPWE (primary producers) TFGA
Infrastructure			
Municipal roads and bridges	Restoration of Municipal roads and bridges	Council	
State roads and bridges	Restoration of State roads and bridges	DIER Roads and Traffic Division	
Other assets eg. dams, pipelines, power lines etc.	Restoration of other assets eg. dams, pipelines, power lines etc.	Asset and utility owner	Land owner
Drinking water	Restoration/re-supply of drinking water	Appropriate Water Authority/s	Bulk water authorities DHHS
Electricity (very high voltage)	Restoration/re-supply of electricity (very high voltage)	Transend	DIER Office of Energy Planning & Conservation NEMMCO
Electricity (domestic and commercial supply)	Restoration/re-supply of electricity (domestic and commercial supply)	Aurora	DIER Office of Energy Planning and Conservation NEMMCO Transend
Natural gas	Restoration/re-supply of natural gas	Powerco	DIER
Telecommunications	Restoration of telecommunications including radio network	Network owner/manager	

- 3.4.4 Information contained in Table 5 summarises the focus on restoration within TFS's community recovery role.
- 3.4.5 Restoration of function of the key agency/ies involved in the emergency response (eg. business continuity planning, debriefing of staff, restoration of equipment) is also an important aspect of recovery, however this is not generally embedded with established community recovery arrangements.
- 3.4.6 The responsible agency may initiate impact assessments to assess damage from emergency incidents. These assessments may be rapid and carried out in parallel with response arrangements or integrated with recovery arrangements.
- 3.4.7 The following table details specific functional recovery activities, initiation of which may be required by relevant agencies.

Table 6 - Summary of Recovery Activities Relevant to Fire

Element	Consequence
Psycho-social	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debriefs of staff during and after the event • Appropriate counseling available through employee assistance program arrangements • Adequate leave and return to normal duties arrangements • Acknowledgment of staff that provided 'back-fill' in order to maintain response capability. • Reports of response capability • Repatriation of external assistance. Including interstate deployment. • Civilian volunteers, who meet with injury or death, while being engaged in emergency operations and exercises under control of TFS, may be compensated in accordance with the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1988. • The general, all-hazard arrangements for community recovery are summarised in Section 3.4 of the TEMP. • Resumption of normal duties within TFS • Staff repatriated to normal working environment • Identified training needs for staff are identified and initiated by District and Regional managers.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment and inventory taken of resources used during the emergency. Re-stowage and replenishment/replacement of resources used. • All TFS members are responsible for cleaning, securing and replacing equipment within their area of responsibility at the conclusion of the incident. Any damage or loss of equipment is to be reported to the relevant line supervisor and appropriate replacement arranged. • Rehabilitation of externally provided equipment used during the emergency.
Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate accounting for resources used during the emergency. • Auditing of all material resources used during the emergency response.
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice to relevant authorities on the stability of structures in the incident affected areas.

Section 4 Plan Administration

- 4.1 This section outlines the key contact for the plan, plan history, maintenance/review requirements, distribution list, summary of consultation for the current issue and communication arrangements for it. It should also include the validation arrangements for this issue of the plan.

Plan Contact

- 4.2 This plan is maintained by the District Officer, State Operations Unit, TFS for the SFC, and SEMC. Feedback regarding this plan should be made in writing to:

Email: fire@fire.tas.gov.au

Mail: Attention District Officer, State Operations, TFS, GPO Box 1526 Hobart 7001

Fax: (03) 62346647

Office phone number: (03) 62308600

Review Requirements and Issue History

- 4.3 This plan is a special Emergency Management Plan within the meaning of Section 35 of the *Emergency Management Act 2006*. The Act requires that this plan is reviewed at least once every two years after the date at which it was first approved by the State Emergency Management Controller.
- 4.4 This issue entirely supersedes the previous issue of this plan. Superseded issues should be destroyed or clearly marked as superseded and removed from general circulation.

Issue No.	Year Approved	Comments/Summary of Main Changes
2.0	2009	Initial Plan approved by State Fire Commission
2.1	2012/13	Redraft and format for multi-risk as per advice from the Solicitor General. Approved by State Fire Commission
2.2	2013	Final version following consultation and approval by the State Fire Commission (this plan)

Distribution List

4.5 This plan is issued electronically on the SES website after it is approved. Courtesy printed copies are provided as follows:

Level	Organisations/Positions
State:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SEMC/SEMAG members• SES Director• SES Senior Planning and Education Officer (For State Controller and liaison with the State Library)• SFC TFS• SFMC• Fire Management Unit PWS• Fire Management Unit –Forestry Tasmania• CO TFS• DCO TFS
Regional:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• SES Regional Managers (North-Western, Northern, Southern)• Regional Controllers (North-Western, Northern, Southern) (Copies can be sent to the SES Regional Manager)• Regional Chiefs TFS (North, South, North-West)

Consultation for this Issue

4.6 The review of this issue of this plan was coordinated by the Senior Station Officer, State Operations, TFS for the SFC & SEMC. This issue was updated/re-written as part of the State Preparedness Project (SES project 2010-2011) and the main round of consultation occurred in mid-2012. During consultation comments were invited from:

- a State Fire Commission
- b SFMC
- c TFS ELT
- d TFS OMG
- e Fire Management Unit, PWS
- f Fire Management Branch, FT
- g Fire Management Officer, TFS
- h Airservices Australia
- i Regional SES EMCs
- j SEMC/SEMAG member agencies

Communications Plan Summary

- 4.7 Once the plan is approved/updated it will be communicated as follows:
- a paper copies sent to all positions listed on the Distribution List
 - b noting by the RCs
 - c printed and electronic copy to Information and Records section of TFS
 - d printed copy to TFS Library, and
 - e electronic copy of SFPP uploaded to TFS website with full public view capability.

Validation of this Plan

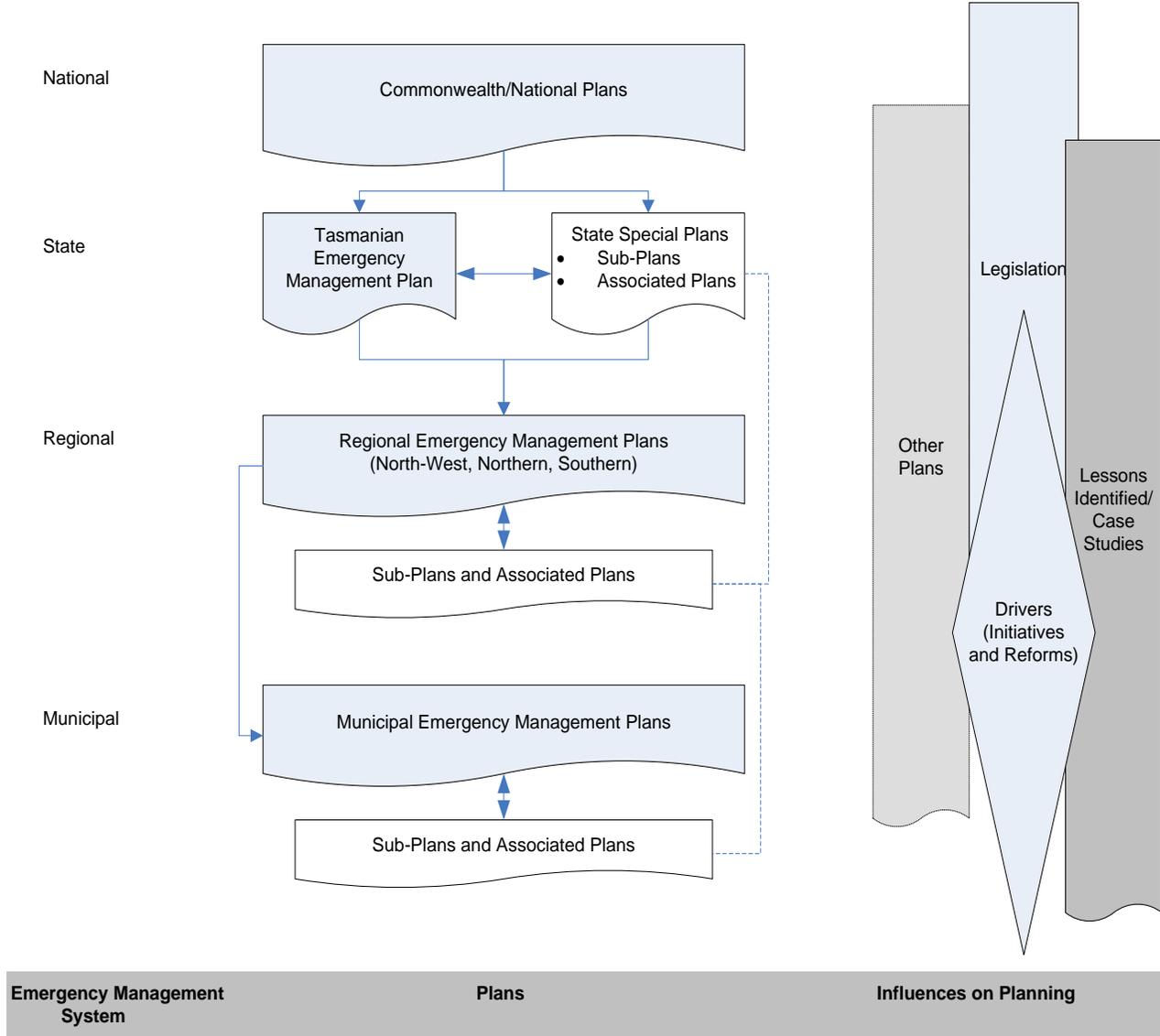
- 4.8 Arrangements in this plan will be validated within the two-year review cycle by:
- a participating in other regional, State and national exercises
 - b conducting/participating in relevant debriefs
 - c bi-annual discussion and review by the SFC, and
 - d TFS appointing a project manager to oversee the review of this plan on a bi-annual basis.

Section 5 Appendices

5.1 Map of Tasmania – State regional boundaries



5.2 Plan Hierarchy



5.3 Legislation

	Title	Agency
State	<i>Acts Interpretation Act 1931</i>	DoJ
	<i>Coroners Act 1995</i>	DoJ
	<i>Dangerous Goods Act 1998</i>	DoJ
	<i>Fire Service Act 1979</i>	DPEM
	<i>General Fire Regulations 2000</i>	DPEM
	<i>Police Powers (Public Safety) 2005</i>	DoJ
	<i>Local Government Act 1993</i>	DPaC
	<i>Wellington Park Act 1993</i>	DPIPWE
	<i>Crown Lands Act 1976</i>	DPIPWE
	<i>Nature Conservation Act 2002</i>	DPIPWE
	<i>Land Use Planning & Approvals Act 1993</i>	DoJ
	<i>Emergency Management Act 2006</i>	DPEM
	<i>Forestry Act 1927</i>	FT
	<i>National Parks & Reserves Management Act 2002</i>	DPIPWE

Plans/Agreements

	Title	Custodian
National	Commonwealth Disaster Plan	Attorney-General, Canberra
	National; CBRN Plan	Attorney-General, Canberra
State	Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan	SES
	State Special Plan for Community Recovery	DPAC
	Forestry Tasmania Strategic Fire Management Plan	FT
	Interagency Protocol	TFS, FT and PWS
Regional	Regional Emergency Management Plans (North-West, Northern, Southern)	SES
	Regional Fire Action Plans (North-West, Northern, Southern)	TFS
	Parks & Wildlife Service Southern, Northern and North Western Fire Management Plans	PWS

5.4 Other Related Documents

	Title	Enquiries
State	Joint Bushfire Arrangements – Tasmania Police & Tasmania Fire Service	TFS and TasPol
	Minimum area coverage agreement	TFS and UFU
	Tasmania Police, Ambulance Tasmania, State Emergency Service & TFS in relation to working collaboratively during RCR incidents.	TFS
	MoU between Norske Skog & TFS in relation to fire management activities.	TFS
	MoU between Gunns & TFS in relation to fire management activities.	TFS
	MoU between TFS & Environment Protection Authority in relation to land based oil and chemical spills.	TFS and EPA
	MoU between TFS & media organisations in relation to the dissemination of community warnings	TFS
	MoU between TFS & Airport Rescue & Firefighting Service in relation to collaborative working arrangements.	TFS and ARFF
	MoU between TFS & Department of Primary Industry, Water & the Environment in relation to the combat of spills of noxious & hazardous substances from ships	TFS and DPIPWE
	TFS & Tasmania Farmers & Graziers Association in regards to property management.	TFS
	MoU between TFS & Motor Accident Insurance Board in relation to RCR	TFS
	MoU between TFS & Department of Sustainability & Environment (Victoria) in relation to the sharing of firefighting resources.	TFS
	TFS & Forensic Science Service Tasmania in relation to the provision of assistance in hazardous materials incidents or Fire Investigation, where specialist scientific and chemical knowledge is required.	TFS and FSST
	Tasmania Police & TFS in regards to Emergency Traffic Management Points (TMP) access levels.	TFS and TasPol
	Tasmania Police & TFS to formalise the commitment of both services to the conduct of efficient and effective investigation of fires to determine their origin & cause.	TFS and TasPol
	Tasmania Police & TFS position on the protection of people & homes threatened by bushfires.	TFS and TasPol
	TFS & Forensic Science Service Tasmania in relation to the provision of assistance in hazardous materials incidents or Fire Investigation, where specialist scientific and chemical knowledge is required.	TFS

Title	Enquiries
Tasmania Police & TFS in regards to Emergency Traffic Management Points (TMP) access levels.	TasPol and TFS
Tasmania Police & TFS to formalise the commitment of both services to the conduct of efficient and effective investigation of fires to determine their origin & cause.	TFS and TasPol
Tasmania Police & TFS position on the protection of people & homes threatened by bushfires.	TasPol and TFS
Tasmania Fire Service Standard Operating Procedures (as amended)	TFS
Tasmania Fire Service – Administrative Instructions (as amended)	TFS
Tasmania Fire Service and EM-GIS (DPIPWE) - GIS and desktop mapping support	TFS and ES-GIS

5.5 Summary of Operations Centres

State

Centre Title/Name	Location	Responsible Agency or Position
State Crisis Centre	Police Building Liverpool Street Hobart	TasPol/SES
SFOC	Corner Argyle and Melville Streets Hobart	TFS
FireComm	Corner Argyle and Melville Streets Hobart	TFS

Regional

Centre Title/Name	Location	Responsible Agency or Position
Hobart (Southern Region)	Corner Argyle and Melville Streets Hobart	TFS
Cambridge (Southern Region)	Cambridge Training Complex 1080 Cambridge Road Cambridge	TFS
Youngtown (Northern Region)	339 Hobart Road Youngtown	TFS
Burnie (North Western Region)	15 Three Mile Line Road Burnie	TFS

5.6 Response Centre Arrangements

Emergency Operations Centres (EOCs) and Emergency Coordination Centres (ECCs)

The main differences between the functions carried out at EOCs and ECCs in Tasmania are identified below.

EOCs	ECCs
Sets objectives, determines strategies and tactics to resolve the emergency or certain aspects of it.	Sets objectives, determines strategies and tactics to resolve consequences of the emergency (can be agency specific or Whole-of-Government/community focused)
Allocates, deploys and manages resources for response to the emergency	Allocates, deploys and manages resources to address consequences from the emergency
Usually agency-specific and typically the response management authority is most likely to establish an EOC	Usually staffed by a range of agency liaison officers
Provides media information about the emergency	May provide public information about the consequences of the emergency

ECC Arrangements

The general arrangements for coordination centres managed by emergency management committees established by the *Emergency Management Act 2006* are summarised below.

Details	Municipal ECC	Regional ECC	State Crisis Centre
Requested/recommended by	Senior Officer for the Response Management Authority AND/OR the municipal Coordinator	Senior Officer for the response Management Authority AND/OR Regional Controller	Senior Officer for the response Management Authority AND/OR State Controller
Opened and closed by	Municipal Coordinator	Regional Coordinator	State Controller
Usually assisted by	Municipal Committee members and councils	Police Regional Committee	DPaC SES State Security Unit
Primary location	Refer to Municipal Plans	Refer to Regional Plans	Hobart
Notification provided to	Municipal Committee members Regional SES Duty Officer	Regional Committee Director SES	SEMC/SEMAG Ministerial Committee (if activated) Regional Controllers, AGDCC

EOC Arrangements

The general arrangements for EOCs managed by TFS are summarised below.

Details	District EOC	Regional EOC	SFOC
Requested/recommended by	District Officer Group Officer Brigade Chief	District Officer Deputy Regional Chief Regional Chief	District Officer State Operations Unit Regional Chief DCO CO
Opened and closed by	District Officer	IC	State IC/State Fire Commander
Usually assisted by	District staff Local brigade Chief	Regional operational and administrative staff	State Operations Unit
Primary location	Nominated location (may be pre-determined)	Regional HQ or Cambridge Training Complex	TFS HQ - Hobart
Notification provided to	District staff	Regional operational and administrative staff	State Operations Unit staff

5.7 EOC Overview

SFOC – facilities

Summary		
Location	Hobart	
Access	2 nd Floor TFS HQ Corner Melville & Argyle Streets Hobart	
Parking	Limited parking during the working week. Generally 40 parking spaces during the weekend. (Limited space for set down/drop off in non-secured areas is available). Closest public car park within 400 metres (not 24 hours), limited street parking is available.	
Facilities		
Communications:		
Telephone points	Yes	International, national, mobile and local calls OK
Data Points	Yes	Access to TFS Server only
Internet Points	No	Access to TFS internet only. Can be made available under emergency conditions, but will take some time.
Video Conference	Yes	TFS Board Room (adjacent on same floor)
Telephone Conference	Yes	SFOC, Board Room and State Briefing Room (adjacent on same floor)
Facsimile (Receive and Send)	Yes	State Operations Unit (adjacent in office)
Information Management:		
Printers	Yes	Mono, colour and A1 map printers
Scanners	Yes	Colour
Light Projection	Yes	Permanently installed with 3 projection screens
White Boards	Yes	Electronic/Smart boards permanently installed
Working Areas:		
Seating	Yes	Can seat 12 people comfortably at a meeting table. Space for additional seating is available. 3 work stations are also set up with fully functioning computers.
Break out areas	Yes	3 rooms of varying size can each sit 12 people comfortably. Other areas are available by arrangement.
Media Liaison Area	Yes	Direct link to ABC local radio
Ancillary Matters:		
Continuous Power	Yes	UPS in SFOC
Kitchen	Yes	1 X Small tea room with automatic hot water urn, small refrigerator, crockery, small table/chairs for 4 people.
Restrooms	Yes	Facilities for men and women with showers
Accommodation	No	Closest approximately 200 metres
Catering	No	Closest approximately 50 metres

Cambridge Training Complex – Facilities

Summary		
Location	Cambridge	
Access	1080 Cambridge Road	
Parking	Generally unlimited parking. Allocated parking for up to 100 vehicles plus undercover engine bays, street parking is also available.	
Facilities		
Communications:		
Telephone points	Yes	national, mobile and local calls OK
Data Points (TFS Server)	Yes	Access to TFS Server only
Internet Points	No	Access to TFS internet only. Can be made available under emergency conditions, but will take some time.
Video Conference	Yes	Available in training room 4 (on same floor)
Telephone Conference	Yes	
Facsimile (Receive and Send)	Yes	Front office administration
Information Management:		
Printers	Yes	Mono, colour and A1 map printers
Scanners	Yes	Mono
Light Projection	Yes	Permanently installed in all training rooms
White Boards	Yes	White boards installed in all training rooms
Working Areas:		
Seating	Yes	Has a large training room that can be set up to seat 30-40 people in a conference type setting. Other training rooms can generally seat up to 20 people comfortably. Multiple work stations can be set up.
Break out areas	Yes	Multiple rooms of varying size.
Media Liaison Area	Yes	Media liaison area can be set up.
Ancillary Matters:		
Continuous Power	No	
Kitchen	Yes	2 large mess facilities with cooking facilities, dishwasher, refrigerator, crockery, tables and chairs. Seating for up to 50 people in the large messing area.
Restrooms	Yes	Facilities for men and women with showers
Accommodation	No	Closest approximately 5 kilometres
Catering	No	Closest approximately 2 kilometres

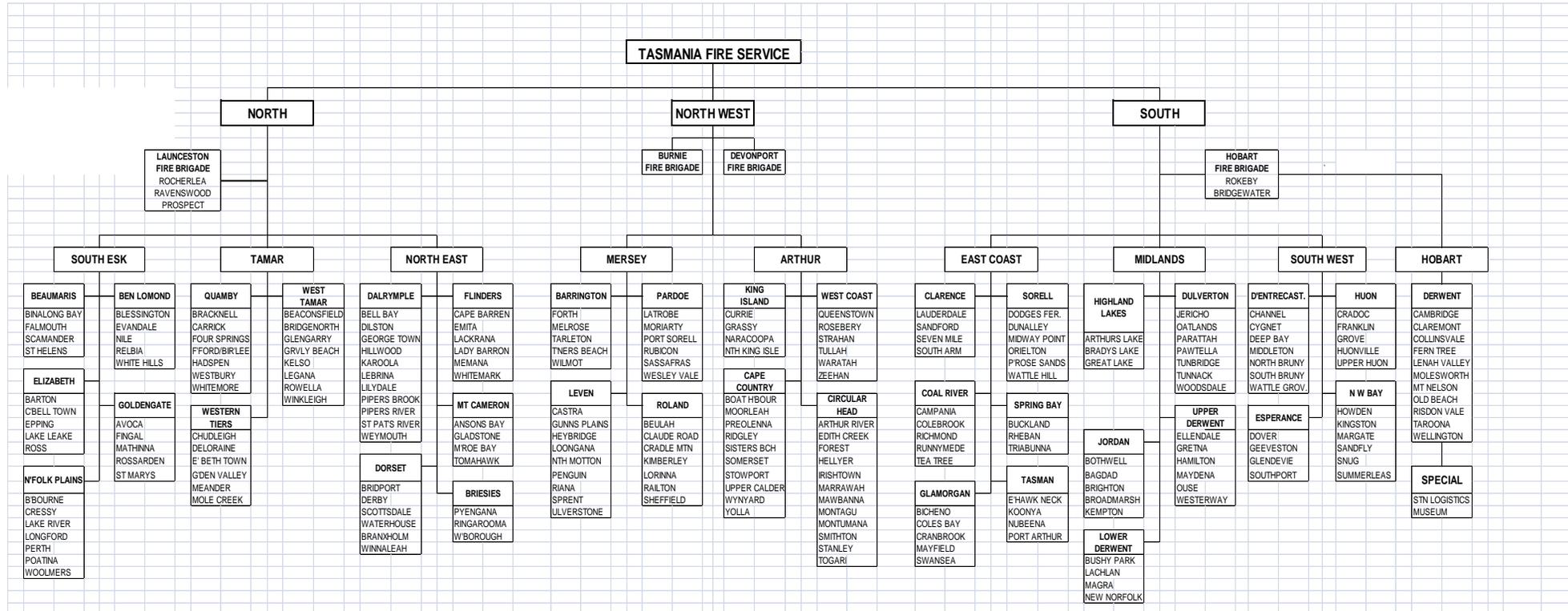
Northern Regional Headquarters – Facilities

Summary		
Location	Youngtown	
Access	Ground Floor TFS Northern Region HQ 339 Hobart Road, Youngtown	
Parking	80 + Abundant parking during the week , closed for the weekend so parking only available for courses after hours and weekends	
Facilities		
Communications:		
Telephone points	Yes	International, national, mobile and local calls OK
Data Points	Yes	Access to TFS Servers Only
Internet Points	Yes	Access to TFS Intranet and 'normal' internet
Video Conference	Yes	NR Major Incident Room (Main HQ)
Telephone Conference	Yes	NR Major Incident Room (Main HQ)
Facsimile (Receive and Send)	Yes	NR Main Office and Training foyer
Information Management:		
Printers	Yes	A1, colour and black and white
Scanners	Yes	Black and white (HQ) colour (training)
Light Projection	Yes	NR Major Incident Room, Training Room 1 and 2 permanently installed
White Boards	Yes	Permanent in each meeting room, free standing electronic in Training Room 1 and NR Major Incident Room
Working Areas:		
Seating	Yes	Logistics Room – 3 work stations, Planning Room – 3 work stations Operations Room – 1 work station, NR Major Incident Room – seat 12 comfortably Training Room 1 – 12 - 16 comfortably , Training Room 2 – 16 – 20 comfortably
Break out areas	Yes	Syndicate Room 1 – 8 comfortably Syndicate Room 2 – 8 Comfortably
Media Liaison Area	No	
Ancillary Matters:		
Continuous Power	Yes	Backup generator
Kitchen	Yes	2 large tea rooms – seating for approx. 35 people.
Restrooms		Facilities for men and women with showers
Accommodation		Closest approx. 300 metres
Catering		Closest approx. 20 metres

North West Regional Headquarters – Facilities

Summary		
Location	15 Three Mile Line Road, Burnie	
Access	North West Regional Headquarters (Gated facility)	
Parking	Parking available at rear of HQ building, approximately 35 car spaces. Front Gate can be locked open when required. Street parking also available	
Facilities		
Communications:		
Telephone points	Yes	National, mobile and local calls available
Data Points	Yes	Access to TFS Server only
Internet Points	Yes	Access to TFS network only and internet
Video Conference	Yes	NW Incident Room
Telephone Conference	Yes	NW Incident Room plus office of Regional Chief
Facsimile (Receive and Send)	Yes	Main Administration Area
Information Management:		
Printers	Yes	Mono, Colour up to A3 and booklets
Scanners	Yes	Colour to A3
Light Projection	Yes	Permanent installation (three rooms available)
White Boards	Yes	Electronic white boards (x2) available. Plus plain 2 whiteboards
Working Areas:		
Seating	Yes	Can seat 10 people at table, additional seating available. Two separate work stations are also available including desktop computers
Break out areas	Yes	3 Rooms, Training Room 1 seats up to 25, Training Room 2 seats up to 15 and third smaller meeting room seat 4-5
Media Liaison Area	Yes	Room available for use – nothing set up for Media Liaison
Ancillary Matters:		
Continuous Power	Yes	Generator back up to Incident Room
Kitchen	Yes	Fully fitted Kitchen
Restrooms	Yes	5 toilets and 2 showers located with NWRHQ complex
Accommodation	No	Motel and Hotel accommodation available in Burnie and surrounds
Catering	No	Caterers available within Burnie

5.8 TFS Brigade Structure



Note:

1. Launceston Fire Brigade includes Rocherlea, Ravenswood and Prospect as co-located or support brigades
2. Hobart Fire Brigade includes Rokeby and Bridgewater as co-located or support brigades
3. Burnie and Devonport are composite brigades

5.9 Fire Service Act 1979 – Section 29

29. Powers and functions of brigade chiefs

(1) The brigade chief of a brigade shall, subject to the directions of the CO, control, direct, and regulate the working of the brigade.

(2) Subject to section 39, the brigade chief of a brigade shall, on receipt of a call to a fire or potential fire, immediately after the first alarm, direct or cause members of his brigade to proceed with all possible speed to the place where the fire or potential fire is and take all necessary action to extinguish the fire or prevent an occurrence of fire and to save all property.

(3) A brigade chief –

(a) may, either alone or with other persons under his command, enter and, if necessary, force open any outer or inner doors of any premises which are on fire or in the vicinity of a fire for the purpose of taking any action which he considers necessary for extinguishing, or for preventing the extension of, the fire, and may take, or give directions for taking, any equipment onto or over any land or premises which he considers convenient for the purpose;

(b) may take any measures which appear to him necessary or expedient for the protection of life and property, and may cause –

(i) any premises to be entered, taken possession of, or pulled down;

(ii) any ship to be entered, taken possession of, or sunk; or

(iii) any premises or ship to be otherwise damaged, destroyed, or removed –

for the purpose of extinguishing or preventing the spread of fire;

(c) may cause water to be shut off from any main or pipe in order to obtain a greater pressure and supply of water for the purpose of extinguishing any fire;

(d) may give such directions or take such other action as he considers necessary –

(i) for the closure of any street, road, lane, or other thoroughfare in the vicinity of a fire; and

(ii) for regulating the use by persons or vehicles of any street, road, lane, or other thoroughfare in the vicinity of a fire;

(e) may, at any time, pull down or shore up any wall or premises damaged by fire which may be, or may be likely to become, dangerous to life or property;

(f) shall have the control and direction of any industry fire brigade present at any fire, and of any persons who voluntarily place their services at his disposal;

(g) may remove or cause to be removed any person, vehicle, or thing whose presence at or in the vicinity of any fire in his opinion interferes with the operations of the brigade, and may take any measures which appear to him expedient for the protection of life and property;

(h) may cause the debris resulting from a fire and any premises or ship where a fire has occurred to be searched, and may remove and keep possession of anything which may prove the cause of a fire;

(i) may cause the supply of gas, electricity or other form of energy to any premises in the vicinity of a fire to be shut off or disconnected;

(j) may cause any vegetation or flammable materials in the vicinity of a fire to be removed or destroyed;

(k) may cause fire breaks to be made to prevent the outbreak or spread of fire;

(l) may cause the access to any place threatened or likely to be threatened by fire to be made or improved; and

(m) may exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be prescribed.

(4) A brigade chief shall not exercise the powers conferred on him under –

(a) subsection (3)(d) where a police officer is present at the fire; or

(b) subsection (3)(h) where an investigation to ascertain whether a crime has been committed is being held by one or more police officers, without the approval of that officer or the most or more senior of those officers.

(5) Every person supplying gas, electricity, or other form of energy to any premises which are on fire or any premises in the vicinity of any fire shall, on being directed by a brigade chief to do so, immediately send some competent person to shut off or disconnect the supply of the gas, electricity, or other form of energy to those premises.

(6) A person supplying gas, electricity, or other form of energy to any premises shall not be liable for any damage by reason of any interruption of the supply of the gas, electricity, or other form of energy resulting from the carrying out of any direction given under subsection (5).

(7) Where a fire or a potential fire occurs on or in any land or premises, and a brigade chief of a brigade in attendance at the fire is satisfied that, by reason of the nature of the fire or potential fire on or in the land or premises, it is necessary or desirable to do so for the purpose of preventing outbreaks of fire, or the entry of persons on areas of danger, or damage to, or interference with, any property or goods, the brigade chief may, when the fire has been extinguished, place in charge of the land or premises at, or in the vicinity of, the fire such members of the brigade or other persons as the brigade chief directs.

(8) Where members of a brigade or any other persons have been placed in charge of any land or premises in accordance with subsection (7), the brigade chief may give to those members or persons such directions as he considers necessary for the purpose of this section, and shall, as soon as practicable after giving the directions, provide those members or persons with a written authority specifying the time for which, and the conditions under which, they have been so placed in charge of the land or premises.

(9) A member of a brigade or other person placed in charge of any land or premises in accordance with subsection (7) shall, while remaining in charge of the land or premises, give effect to all directions given to him in relation to the land or premises by the brigade chief.

(10) The brigade chief of a brigade, in addition to the functions and powers imposed and conferred on him under subsections (1), (2), (3), (7), and (8), shall –

(a) cause a register to be kept containing the names, ages, occupations, and places of residence of all members of the brigade;

(b) summon at least once a month all or as many members of the brigade as may be required for practice in order to render the members fit and efficient for service;

(c) have at all times the immediate charge and control of all equipment, premises, and other property of the Commission allocated to his brigade, and shall cause that equipment, those premises, and that property to be kept in a fit state at all times for efficient service;

(d) at all times have free access to any land, ship, or premises for the purpose of ascertaining and reporting to the CO on any infringement of the laws relating to the storage of hazardous materials or flammable liquid, or on any matters relating to the storage, in or on that land, ship, or premises, of any packages, sawdust, shavings, hay, or straw, or other flammable substance or matter;

(e) at all times have free access to any –

(i) premises specified in a licence granted under the Liquor Licensing Act 1990; or

(ia) premises set up for the purpose of providing overnight lodging facilities for tourists or travellers for a consideration; or

(ii) place of assembly within the meaning of the Public Health Act 1997; or

(iii) place of public entertainment within the meaning of Division 8 of Part 5 of the Local Government (Building and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1993 –

and shall report to the CO any case where the provisions of this Act are not being observed in any of the premises specified in subparagraphs (i), (ii) and (iii), and may in respect of any of those provisions, exercise all the powers and authorities that are conferred on inspectors by or under any of the Acts specified in those subparagraphs;

(f) make such investigations and render such reports to the CO as the CO may require; and

(g) furnish a Committee with such advice, assistance, and information as the Committee requires to enable it to carry out its functions under this Act.

(11) The powers and functions of a brigade chief under this section may, on the brigade chief's instructions or in the case of the brigade chief's absence or incapacity, be exercised or performed by the most senior fire officer of the brigade or, in the absence of a fire officer, the most senior fire-fighter of the brigade.

(12) In relation to an emergency involving the escape of a dangerous substance or a situation that involves imminent danger of such an escape, a brigade chief has the same powers and functions as the brigade chief has under this section in relation to a fire or potential fire.

(13) In this section –

dangerous substance means a dangerous substance within the meaning of the Dangerous Substances (Safe Handling) Act 2005.

5.10 Fire Service Act 1979 – Section 62

62. Powers of Commission during fire permit periods

(1) Where a fire permit period has been declared pursuant to section 61, the Commission may –

(a) take all necessary steps to abate the danger of fire, and for that purpose requisition the services of persons, animals, plant, machines, engines, articles, appliances, or materials for the purposes of fire-fighting operations; and

(b) prohibit the use, at any place in the State, or in the part or parts of the State specified in the notice declaring that period, of any specified plant, machine, engine, article, appliance, or material that it considers likely to cause a risk of fire.

(2) The Commission may make such orders, give such notices and directions, and do all such other acts as appear to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of enabling it to exercise the powers conferred on it by subsection (1).

(3) An order, notice, or direction made or given by the Commission under subsection (2) –

(a) may be made or given so as to apply –

(i) to a specified person, or to the persons of a specified class, or to persons generally; or

(ii) to fires generally or to fires of a specified class; or

(iii) to specified premises, animals, plant, machines, engines, articles, appliances, or materials, or to premises, animals, plant, machines, engines, articles, appliances, or materials of a specified class;

(b) may be made or given so as to apply generally throughout the State or in specified parts of the State;

(c) may exempt –

(i) a person, or all or any persons included in a class of persons;

(ii) a particular class or kind of fire; or

(iii) premises, animals, plant, machines, engines, articles, appliances, or materials, of any class or kind –

from the operation of all or any of the provisions of the order, notice, or direction; and

(d) may contain such incidental or supplementary provisions as the Commission considers to be necessary or convenient for the purposes of the order, notice, or direction.

(4) An order, notice, or direction made or given by the Commission under this section may be notified by publishing it in the *Gazette* or in a daily newspaper published in the State that circulates in that part of the State to which the order, notice, or direction relates, or by serving a copy of it on the person or persons to whom it relates.

(5) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with an order, notice, or direction made or given by the Commission under this section is guilty of an offence against this Act.

5.11 Fire Service Act 1979 – Sections 70, 71, 72 and 73.

70. Days of TFB

(1) The Commission may declare any specified day to be a day of total fire ban, or any specified days to be days of total fire ban, for the purposes of this Act, either throughout the State or in any part or parts of the State.

(2) A declaration under subsection (1) in relation to any specified day or days of TFB may –

(a) specify fires that are not subject to the ban; and

(b) prohibit or restrict the use of specified machines or apparatus in the open air on that day or those days.

(3) With a view to ensuring general public knowledge of a declaration made under subsection (1), the Commission shall cause a declaration made under subsection (1) to be –

(a) transmitted by any radio or television station; or

(b) published in a daily newspaper published in the State which circulates in the State, or if the declaration relates to part of the State, that part of the State to which the declaration relates.

(4) Subject to subsection (7), where pursuant to subsection (1) a declaration is made declaring a day to be a day of TFB or any days to be days of TFB

(a) all permits granted under section 66 in relation to land in any part of the State to which the declaration relates immediately cease to have effect;

(b) no permits shall be granted under that section so as to have effect on that day or those days in relation to land in any part of the State to which the declaration relates; and

(c) the occupier of land on which a fire occurs on any such day (being land in any part of the State to which the declaration relates) shall immediately after becoming aware of the existence of the fire –

(i) take diligent steps to extinguish the fire or to prevent it from spreading; and

(ii) report the fire to the brigade the headquarters of which is situated nearest to that land, to a police officer, or to any member of the Fire Service.

(5) A person who fails to comply with subsection (4)(c) is guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding 50 penalty units.

(6) It is a defence in proceedings for an offence under subsection (5) to show that the failure to comply with that subsection arose from the fact that the defendant did not know that a day of TFB had been declared.

(7) Subsection (4) does not apply to any fire excluded from the ban by virtue of subsection (2)(a) or to any permit in so far as it authorises the lighting of such a fire.

71. Prohibition on fires, etc., on days of TFB

Where a declaration is in force under section 70 declaring any day to be a day of TFB or any days to be days of total fire ban, a person shall not on that day or any of those days –

(a) light, or cause to be lit, or maintain or use, a fire in the open air on any land for any purpose, unless that fire is excluded from the ban; or

(b) use or cause to be used in the open air on any land any machine or apparatus contrary to any prohibition or restriction in the declaration.

Penalty:

Fine not exceeding 200 penalty units.

72. Power of officers of Fire Service on days of TFBan

(1) (Section 72 Subsection (1) omitted by No. 29 of 1995, S. 56)

(2) Where an officer of the Fire Service finds a fire burning on a day of TFB (not being a fire excluded from the ban) in a part of the State to which a declaration under section 70 relates, he may, for the purpose of extinguishing the fire or preventing it from spreading, exercise, in addition to the powers conferred on him by any other provision of this Act, such of the powers conferred on the Commission by section 62(1) as he thinks necessary or expedient.

(3) In the exercise of his powers under this section, an officer of the Fire Service may make or give, either orally or in writing, any order, notice, or direction that could, under section 62, be made or given by the Commission.

73. Power to enter on neighbouring lands and extinguish fires

(1) A person who finds a fire burning within one and a half kilometres of any land of which he is the owner or occupier, being a fire –

(a) that is burning on a day declared to be a day of TFB in the part of the State where that land is situated and is not excluded from the ban; or

(b) that has been lit or is burning in contravention of this Act –

may, subject to this section, enter onto the land on which the fire is burning, with such assistants and equipment, and do all such acts, as may reasonably be necessary for extinguishing the fire or preventing it from spreading.

(2) A person shall not enter on land under the authority of subsection (1) on a day other than a day declared to be a day of TFB ban in the part of the State where the land is situated unless he first gives to the brigade chief of the brigade, the headquarters of which is situated nearest to that land, notice of his intention to do so, if it is reasonably practicable for that notice to be given.

(3) On receipt of a notice under subsection (2), the brigade chief may give to the person proposing to enter the land such directions as the brigade chief considers desirable for the prevention of unnecessary damage and for properly extinguishing the fire or for preventing it from spreading, and that person shall comply in all respects with the directions so given.

5.12 Fire Service Act 1979 – Section 8

8. Functions and powers of Commission

(1) Subject to any directions given to it by the Minister pursuant to section 11, the functions of the Commission are –

- (a)** to formulate the policy in respect of the administration and operation of the Fire Service;
- (b)** to co-ordinate and direct the development of all fire services throughout the State;
- (c)** to develop effective fire prevention and protection measures throughout the State;
- (d)** to develop and promulgate a SFPP;
- (e)** to standardise, as far as is practicable, fire brigade equipment throughout the State;
- (f)** to establish and maintain training facilities for brigades;
- (g)** to conduct such investigations into fires as it considers necessary, and to prepare reports and recommendations to the Minister arising from those investigations;
- (h)** to conduct such investigations into the use of fire as it considers necessary, to instruct the public in the wise use of fire, and to disseminate information regarding fire protection measures and other related matters;
- (i)** to advise the Minister on such matters relating to the administration of this Act as may be referred to it by the Minister, and on matters that, in the opinion of the Commission, should be brought to the attention of the Minister; and
- (j)** to exercise such other functions vested in or imposed on it by this Act or such other functions relating to the preventing or extinguishing of fires as may be imposed on it by the Minister from time to time.

(1A) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (c) of subsection (1), the function referred to in that paragraph includes the establishment and maintenance by the Commission of effective training programmes for members of brigades in hazard reduction burning.

(2) The Commission shall consider each fire protection plan submitted to it pursuant to section 20 and may –

- (a)** approve the plan; or

(b) approve the plan subject to such modifications as it thinks fit.

(3) The Commission shall review each fire protection plan approved under subsection (2) at intervals of not more than 2 years and may –

(a) confirm the plan; or

(b) confirm the plan subject to such modifications as it thinks fit.

(4) (Section 8 Subsection (4) omitted by No. 29 of 1995, s. 7)

(5) Any land proposed to be acquired by the Commission under the authority of section 7(2) may, with the consent of the Governor, be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act 1993 and the purpose for which the land is so taken shall be deemed to be an authorised purpose within the meaning of that Act.

(6) The Commission must perform its functions in respect of Wellington Park in a manner that is consistent with the purposes for which Wellington Park is set aside under the Wellington Park Act 1993 and with any management plan in force in respect of Wellington Park.