



Mount Hotham Alpine Resort

**Community
Bushfire Emergency Management Plan**

Updated
17th February 2015

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Authorisation

This Community Bushfire Emergency Management Plan was prepared for Mount Hotham Alpine Resort and endorsed by the Mount Hotham Emergency Management Planning Committee on **<date>** and Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee on **<date>**.

This Community Bushfire Emergency Management Plan is here signed by the Chair Mount Emergency Management Planning Committee, the Chair Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee and Mount Hotham Resort Management Board Chief Executive Officer.

Chair Mount Hotham Emergency Management Planning Committee

_____ Date signed _____

Chair Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee

_____ Date signed _____

Mount Hotham Resort Management Board Chief Executive Officer

_____ Date signed _____

For the purposes of the Mount Hotham Planning Scheme, the Bushfire Management Overlay and CFA endorsement of the Schedule to the Bushfire Management Overlay, this Community Bushfire Emergency Management Plan is here signed by the CFA Regional Director Hume Region. This endorsement is effective to **<date>**.

CFA Regional Director Hume Region

_____ Date signed _____

Review

This plan will have a major review every three years when the Municipal Fire Management Plan is reviewed. A minor review will be undertaken annually, in March, post bushfire season.

Next Major Review: 2017

Next Minor Review: March 2015

Version Control Table

Version Number	Date of Issue	Amendment	Authorised

Glossary of Terms

BEMP	BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
BMO	BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT OVERLAY
CEO	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
COZFAT	COORDINATOR ZONED FIRE ALERT TEAMS
FDI	FIRE DANGER INDEX
FDP	FIRE DANGER PERIOD
GAR	GREAT ALPINE ROAD
IMT	INCIDENT MANAGEMENT TEAM
MEMC	MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MEMP	MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
MFMP	MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN
MFMPC	MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE
MHAR	MOUNT HOTHAM ALPINE RESORT
MHARMB	MOUNT HOTHAM ALPINE RESORT MANAGEMENT BOARD
MHSC	MOUNT HOTHAM SKI COMPANY
NSP	NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACE
PPE	PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
PV	PARKS VICTORIA
SAP	SAFEST AVAILABLE PLACE
SIP	SHELTER IN PLACE
SMS	SHORT MESSAGE SERVICE
TFB	TOTAL FIRE BAN

Chapter 1: Introduction

Purpose & Objective

The purpose of this Community Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (BEMP) is to enhance community bushfire safety within the Mount Hotham Alpine Resort (MHAR).

Its key objective is to ensure that life is prioritised in the event of a bushfire impacting MHAR.

Background

MHAR is defined under the *Alpine Resorts Act 1983* and is administered by the Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board (MHARMB) under the *Alpine Resorts (Management) Act 1997*. The MHARMB is responsible for the development, promotion, management and use of MHAR land, utilities and infrastructure.

MHAR is a major tourist destination in North East Victoria that offers a variety of holiday experiences in both summer and winter seasons and delivers economic and social wealth to the region.

MHAR is bounded on all sides by the Alpine National Park, making Parks Victoria its only significant neighbour. The Resort is not part of a municipal district but is surrounded by the Alpine Shire. However, it is important to note that under section 5 of the *Alpine Resorts (Management) Act 1997* that for the purposes of the *Emergency Management Act 1986* and the *Environment Protection Act 1970*, an Alpine Resort is deemed to be a municipal district and its Board a municipal council. The MHARMB is, therefore, responsible for delivering a range of public services including a significant role in emergency management within the Resort. The MHARMB however is therefore responsible for delivering a range of public services including a significant role in emergency management within the Resort.

Bushfire risk management is complex within the MHAR due to its isolated location, steep topography, climate, environmental significance, management arrangements and the vegetation in the surrounding Alpine National Park. However, MHAR has some distinct emergency management authority. The *Alpine Resorts (Management Act) 1997* enables the MHARMB to temporarily restrict access, control visitor movement within the resort and or deem areas to be off limits during emergencies (or where there is a reasonable threat of one occurring).

In November 2011 following recommendations of the 2009 Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission, planning schemes in Victoria were amended to improve how they respond to bushfire. This included new State Planning Policy with a focus on prioritising life and introduction of the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO). Where a permit is required under the BMO, bushfire protection measures are implemented to ensure the protection of life and property is prioritised. The standard BMO bushfire protection measures include access, water supply, defensible space and bushfire construction requirements.

The alpine environment at Mount Hotham presents challenges in meeting the standard requirements of the BMO. For example, managing defensible space in the steep terrain has the potential for significant environmental impacts including loss of habitat, land slip and visual/amenity impacts. However, with suitable planning and procedures MHAR has the power under the *Alpine Resorts (Management Act) 1997* to ensure life is appropriately prioritised and development within the Resorts achieves the strict requirements of the State Planning Policy Framework and MHAR planning scheme.

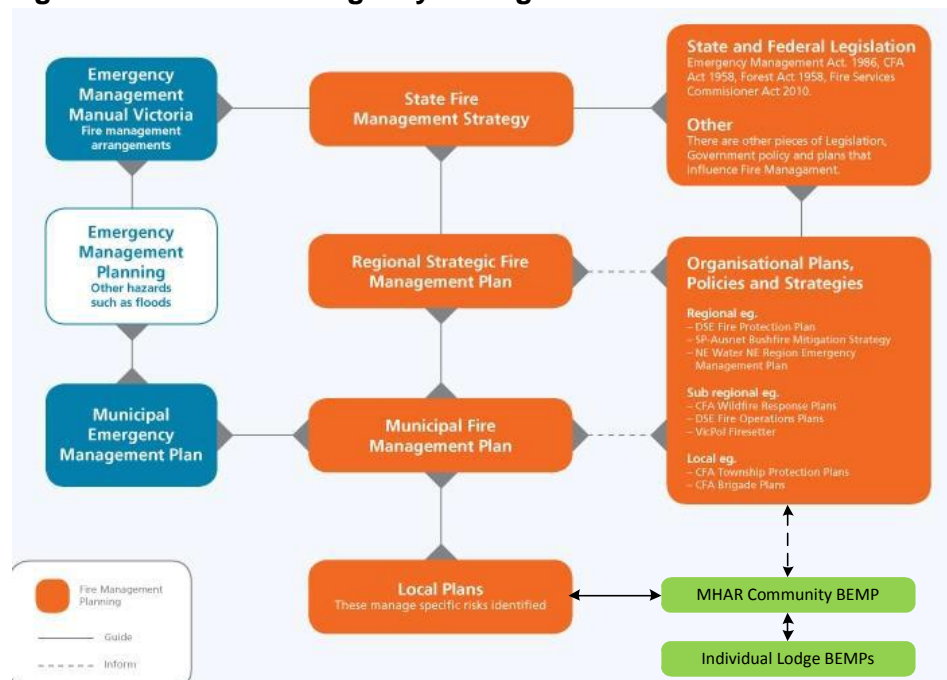
Emergency Management Context

Section 5 of the *Alpine Resorts (Management) Act 1997* deems the MHARMB to be a municipality for the purposes of the *Emergency Management Act 1986*. Under these obligations the MHARMB has a key role in prevention and mitigation activities that reduce and minimise the effects of emergencies when they occur. This includes the formation of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) and the development, maintenance and three yearly review of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP).

Within a tiered emergency management framework of State, regional and municipal plans, the MHARMB prepares and implements a range of plans policies and procedures that are directly involved, or impact on fire management. This includes the formation of a Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC) which act as a subcommittee to the MEMPC and the preparation of a Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP).

As can be seen in Figure 1, this Community Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (BEMP) is subordinate to the MEMP and MFMP. It also instigates the development of individual BEMPs for accommodation, lodges and businesses within the Resort.

Figure 1: Victorian Emergency Management Plans and Policies



The MHAR Community BEMP should be read in conjunction with:

- *The Mount Hotham Resort Management Board Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2012*
- *The Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013- 2015 Final*
- *The Mount Hotham/ Dinner Plain Local Response Plan*

Collectively these documents provide a detailed description of the Resort:

- Environment and surrounds
- Demographics
- Emergency management arrangements

- Fire history
- Measures implemented to reduce the impact of bushfire through planning, preparation, response and recovery

Development of the MHAR Community BEMP

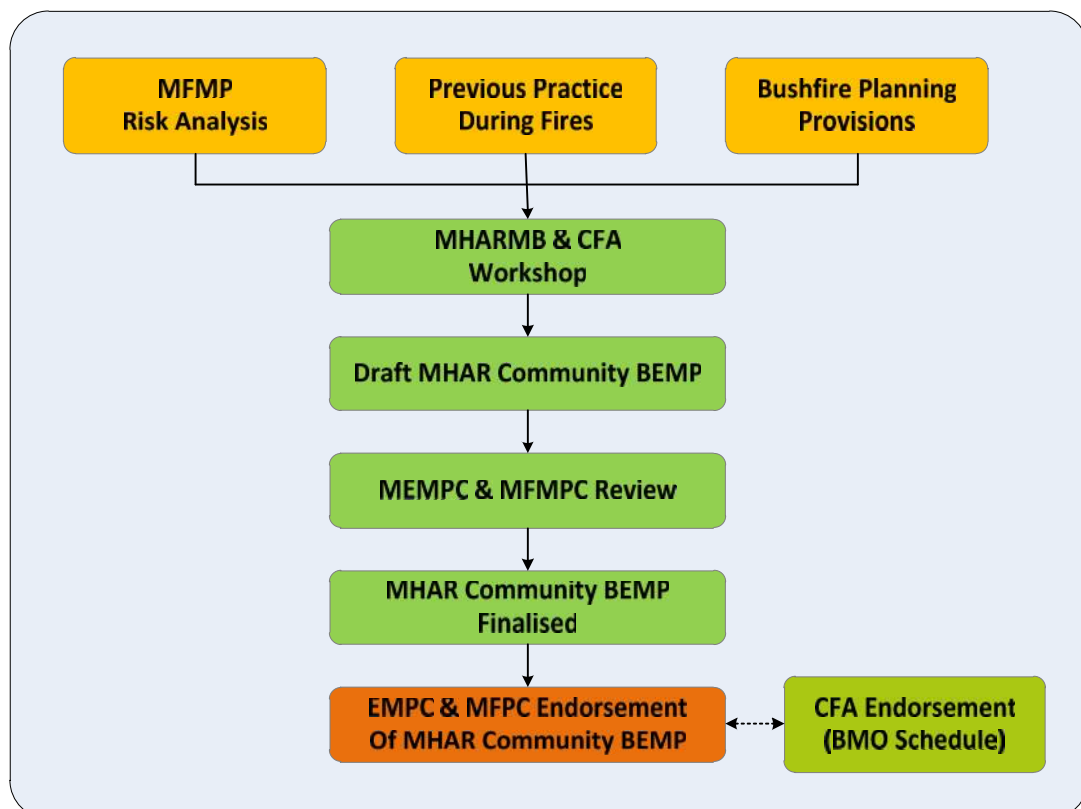
The Resort's MFMP was developed through the risk based planning process described by *ISO 3100: 2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines*. As a subset of the MFMP, this Community BEMP draws on the risk assessment and risk analysis process already undertaken through the broader fire management planning process.

Mount Hotham experienced bushfires in 2003, 2006 and 2013. During these fires various practices were implemented regarding the management of residents, staff and visitors. While these practices are understood by resort management there is a need to ensure they are formally documented. The MHAR Community BEMP fulfils the need to document these procedures including describing appropriate triggers for when actions are to be implemented.

To ensure life is prioritised to the extent necessary to enable development to proceed under the BMO, consideration of measures over and above those historically implemented by the Resort must also be taken into account. This includes restricting access to the Resort when there is significant risk to life safety from bushfire and evacuating all but essential personnel.

With these factors in mind the draft Community BEMP was developed before it was circulated to stakeholders for review and endorsement. The document was then endorsed by the MEMPC, MFMPC and MHARMB. Figure 2 outlines the process undertaken to develop the BEMP.

Figure 2: Development of the MHAR Community BEMP



Chapter 2: Strategy & Trigger Points

Strategies for enhancing community safety

The MHAR Community BEMP is a plan for protecting the Mount Hotham community. It is not intended to direct operational response to fire. Operational response will be determined by the Incident Management Team (IMT) and guided by the Mount Hotham/ Dinner Plain Local Response Plan 2013.

This Community BEMP as far as practicable seeks to avoid the risk to life by limiting the number of people potentially exposed to bushfire and implements a number of strategies to enhance community safety and prioritise life. It adopts a tiered approach, based on forecast fire weather as well as implementing actions when MHAR is threatened by fire. The trigger points in this hierarchy are:

- Forecast fire weather
 1. Prior to declared Fire Danger Period
 2. During declared Fire Danger Period
 3. Total Fire Ban Days (TFB)
 4. Declared Code Red Days
- A bushfire event
 1. A local bushfire event
 2. Under threat

Figure 2 shows Victoria's fire danger rating system. A Total Fire Ban will generally be declared by the CFA Chief Officer when the fire danger rating is forecast to be 'severe' or above. The trigger point in this Community BEMP is based on forecast fire danger ratings for the forecast district (which for Mt Hotham is the North East District) not the specific fire danger indices for the Resort.

Consideration will be given to activating this plan when the neighbouring East Gippsland Forecast District is in Code Red, as the Resort lies near the border of the two Districts. A decision to activate this plan based on a Code Red declaration for the East Gippsland Forecast District will be made by the MHAR on consultation with the CFA District.

Figure 2: Victoria's fire danger ratings



CFA declares the Fire Danger Period for a municipality based on fire conditions such as grassland curing and underlying forest fuel moisture. Once the Fire Danger Period has been declared, fire restrictions come into force. Fires cannot be lit in the open air without a permit.

The declaration of the Fire Danger Period signals the potential for bushfire of sufficient intensity to impact the Resort. It is therefore reasonable that preseason activities are in place before the Fire Danger Period is declared.

The permanent summer population at the Resort is approximately 20 people. Summer visitation is relatively low with numbers on the mountain generally remaining below 50. Given, ski runs and the grassy alpine areas around the Resort, Mount Hotham village is arguably the safest location from bushfire for a considerable distance.

The Resort in effect will close to new visitors under Code Red conditions and if significantly threatened by fire. This avoids risk by minimising people in harm's way and is consistent with the procedures for the neighbouring Alpine National Park. If, following discussions with the CFA District or an Incident Management Team (IMT) it's determined necessary and safe to do so, visitors already on the mountain will be encouraged to leave early. A decision to formally evacuate the Resort will be made in accordance with the Emergency Management Manual Victoria and the State's Emergency Response Procedures.

Code Red days generally occur at infrequent intervals, less than one event per year on average for any fire district. A Code Red declaration indicates the most catastrophic fire weather conditions are expected on that day resulting in multiple large and fast moving fires that cause a significant drain on State resources. They are often predicated by two or three days of public awareness information that an upcoming Code Red event is likely.

A large proportion of the permanent residents on the mountain either work for the MHARMB or have a pecuniary interest in lodges or businesses. The small population over summer enables the MHARMB to quickly communicate with everyone. This is done through a number of methods, including:

- Email
- Phone
- Automated text messaging
- Social media, such as Facebook
- The Mount Hotham website
- Ski Patrol radios

The Resort is well practiced at communicating winter skiing conditions on the mountain. The skills and technology used during winter significantly supports the communication of fire conditions over summer. Under certain circumstances, such as the Resort being significantly threatened by fire the MHRMB door knock every lodge and record who's in the Resort and their mobile phone number. The Ski Patrol radios are also strategically distributed to the community so residents are not fully reliant on the telephone systems and can be quickly contacted. This high level of communication with the residents is a keystone to protecting life at the MHAR during bushfire.

The primary access route to MHAR and only road kept open all year round is via the Great Alpine Road from Harrietville and Omeo. It is an important access route for nearby residents at Dinner Plain and consists of approximately 30km of sealed,

windy road, through mountainous mostly forested terrain, with occasional steep grades. Being caught on this road in the event of a fire is a significant risk.

If threatened by fire, Police or the Incident Controller may determine it necessary to close the Great Alpine Road. However, given its importance as a through road to areas outside of the MHAR this plan does not propose to close the road as a matter of course, for example, under Code Red conditions. The MHARMB will liaise closely with Police and the IMT regarding the closure of the Great Alpine Road.

Shelter In Place

There is no designated Neighbourhood Safer Place (NSP) at MHAR. The steep slopes and topography surrounding the Resort means the NSP criteria are difficult to achieve. However, bushfire is dynamic. If Mount Hotham is impacted by bushfire, it is likely that after consideration of the specific condition on the day certain locations may be judged a reasonable place of shelter.

Where MHAR is under significant threat and '*Shelter in Place*' becomes necessary, in conjunction with the Incident Controller a dynamic risk assessment will be carried out on the day to determine the most appropriate location (Safest Available Place SAP). The MHARMB will use their extensive communications capacity to notify residents of that location for that particular day. Places of shelter are likely to be the anchor points, and safety zones as designated in the Mount Hotham/ Dinner Plain Local Response Plan 2013.

These "Shelter In Place" areas are identified on the Resort map in Appendix 1 and are as follows:

- MHARMB Administration Office Board Room (Primary)
- All Car Parks
- Loch Car Park for operations to the water catchment and Mt Loch area
- Corral Car Park for operations on the west side of Mt Higginbotham
- Slatey Shed

PRIMARY "SHELTER IN PLACE"

The MHARMB Administration Office Board Room is recognised as the primary Shelter in Place for the MHAR. It is a double storey brick and timber clad building with a metal deck roof and a concrete slab floor construction. The layout of the building provides sheltering for people away from radiant heat.

It has back up emergency power supply with a fire hose reel and extinguishers, public toilets, kitchen facilities and emergency supplies of PPE.

There is a fire hydrant adjacent to the building and this operates off the reticulated water supply.

There are two areas located on the ground floor of the building for people to shelter in without having an impact on the response operational nature for the event (this will occur in the Boardroom of the Administration Building).

The building is bordered:

- On the south side by a bitumen car park;
- On the east side the GAR and road reserve either side;

- On the west side a fire buffer zone with approximately a 12 metre fire break; and
- On the north side an adjacent building of brick and metal cladding and metal roof.

Management of Events During FDP

Management of events during the declared Fire Danger Period needs to take into account the Community BEMP to assist in reducing the number of people potentially exposed to bushfire. Event Managers must take into consideration their event's exposure to bushfire risk. Their event's BEMP must include an appropriate FDR trigger for cancellation of the event.

Emergency Management Plans and procedures need to be developed and approved by the MHARMB for all events held within the MHAR during the FDP. These plans must address the strategy and trigger points of the MHAR Community BEMP and prioritise life safety by their design.

Defendable Space around Buildings & Infrastructure

The MHRMB has an annual vegetation management program in place for the maintenance and upkeep of defendable space around all buildings and infrastructure.

To support the Bushfire Management Overlay Schedule (BMO), all lessees are contacted by mail each year prior to the fire danger period, advising them of their obligations to manage and ensure the areas around their buildings are cleared and maintained prior to the FDP commencing.

The prescribed standard includes but is not limited to:

- Whipper snip long grass around building as far as practicable
- Remove wood and or rubbish, both flammable and non-flammable
- Remove any timber stacked on wooden balconies
- Windows and doors to be closed
- Reduce gaps in the building
- Secure cladding

Lessees are required to advise the MHRMB if they intend to do this themselves or require the MHRMB to do it on their behalf.

Records are kept of those responses and for those who have not either actioned or responded by the due date. For those lessees who have not carried out their obligations, the MHRMB carries out the work and this is then charged out to the lessee.

Prior to the FDP the MHRMB also carry out clearing and maintenance around all their infrastructure and buildings to the same standard and expectations it has of lessees.

These activities are a significant part that support waiving the defendable space requirements of the BMO

Chapter 3: Action Statements

This chapter identifies who is responsible for implementing the plan and the actions to be implemented.

1. Roles & Responsibilities

Table 1 outlines who has the responsibility for implementing this plan for the various trigger points.

Table 1: Roles and Responsibilities

Staff Member	Role in this plan	Responsibility	Contact
	CEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principle Accountable Officer 	
	Co-Ordinator Zoned Fire Alert Teams (COZFAT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To coordinate on the ground resources and the zoned fire alert teams 	
	Chief Warden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure this plan is implemented as prescribed by this plan, Monitor, review and disseminate this plan Appoint a temporary Warden if any of the Wardens below are not able to fill their role 	
	Deputy Warden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As prescribed by the Action Statement; and To enact the plan in the absence of the Chief Warden 	
	Warden 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As prescribed by the Action Statement; and To enact the plan in the absence of the above Wardens 	
	Warden 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As prescribed by the Action Statement; and To enact the plan in the absence of the above Wardens 	
	Warden 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As prescribed by the Action Statement; and To enact the plan in the absence of the COZFAT 	
	Warden 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As prescribed by the Action Statement; and To enact the plan in the absence of the above Wardens 	
	Warden 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As prescribed by the Action Statement; and To enact the plan in the absence of the above Wardens 	

2. Action Statement: Prior to Fire Danger Period

Table 2: Action Statement- Prior to Fire Danger Period

Activity	Description	When	Responsible	Actioned
Ensure Community BEMP is up to date	Undertake a minor review of the Community BEMP to ensure it is up to date.	March	Chief Warden	
Ensure resort emergency management contact list is up to date	Update Appendix 2 Emergency Contact List (Part 8 of MEMP)	October	Warden 1	
Ensure resort vehicles are 'fire season ready'	MHARMB vehicles, equipment and allocated zones are detailed in Appendix 3.	November	Warden 2	
Letter to lodges, business etc.	A letter will be sent to all lodges, businesses and residents reminding them of their responsibilities, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage defendable space around their buildings • Update their buildings BEMP in consultation with Local CFA • Familiarise themselves with the MHAR Community BEMP; and • MHARMB Bushfire Protection Compliance Guidelines 	October	Warden 5	
Inspect all village buildings, Essential and Key Infrastructure	All buildings will be inspected to ensure defendable space has been appropriately implemented including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation managed • Combustibles such as wood piles removed • Buildings as far as practical are maintained 	October/ November	Deputy Warden	
PPE	Ensure MHARMB Staff have appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for the bushfire season	November	Warden 5	
First Aid	Update list of MHARMB Staff qualified in first aid Train staff in first aid as required Ensure First Aid Supplies are in stock (full list in Appendix 4)	November	Warden 4	
MHARMB building generator	Ensure generator is maintained and operational. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oil and Fuel Levels • Drive Belt and Battery • Automatic Charging Units • Emergency Stop Buttons and Leads • Staff Training Current Instructions for Use	November	Warden 2	
Ski Patrol hand held radios	Ensure Ski Patrol hand held radios are operational if required. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chargers, harnesses spare batteries are available • Batteries are charged 	November	Warden 1	

Activity	Description	When	Responsible	Actioned
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are instructions for operating radios in case they're given to residents 			
Consider fire and other training needs for staff	Determine staff training needs to adequately implement this plan and deal with bushfire Staff will undertake training as required	June	Chief Warden	
General Supplies	Check stores of general supplies. Detailed list identified in Appendix 5	November	Warden 5	
Check MHARMB building firefighting infrastructure	Check the following is operational: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire hose reels • Building essential safety measures • Fire Extinguishers 	November	Warden 2	

3. Action Statement: During Fire Danger Period

Table 3: Action Statement- During Fire Danger Period

Activity	Description	When	Responsible	Actioned
Monitor CFA website	Monitor CFA website for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire starts • Advice & Warnings • TFB Declarations • Fire Weather Forecasts • North East & East Gippsland District 	Morning and Afternoon	Chief Warden	
Ensure all major events have a BEMP	All major events within the MHAR will have an individual BEMP based on a risk assessment for the event. The event BEMP will be consistent with the MHAR Community BEMP and be developed to the satisfaction of the MHARMB.	Prior to approval of the event	Chief Warden	
Check MHARMB building firefighting infrastructure	Check the following is operational: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire hose reels • Building essential safety measures • Defendable Space • Generator 	October	Warden 2	
Monitor ABC radio	On a daily basis	Daily	Deputy Warden	
Inspect All village buildings, essential and key infrastructure	All buildings will be inspected to ensure defendable space has been appropriately implemented including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation managed to prescribed standard • Combustibles such as wood piles removed • Buildings as far as practical are maintained 	November December January February	Deputy Warden	
Check MHARMB Vehicles	Ensure fire ready	October	Warden 2	
Email Residents and Visitors	Remind them of their responsibilities in the FDP	November		
Test SMS bulk message procedure	Ensure SMS message system is operational	November	Warden 1	
Trail Signage	Permanent trail signage to be placed at major walking trail heads to inform bushwalkers to take care in fire period. List of trail signage location in Appendix 6.	October each year	Deputy Warden	

4. Action Statement: Total Fire Bans

Table 4: Action Statement- Total Fire Bans

Activity	Description	When	Responsible	Actioned
Email staff, lodges and businesses	An email will be sent to all staff, lodges and business to: Inform them of the TFB declaration Request they notify their visitors	Evening before	Chief Warden	
Contact CFA District	Discuss bushfire potential and any other concerns	Morning of/ evening before	Chief Warden	
Place TFB notification on Mt Hotham website	Update Mt Hotham website to inform visitors of the TFB declaration	Evening before	Warden 1	
Inform Events	Inform any major event managers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Of TFB declaration • Forecast FDR for the day • Need to consider and implement their Event BEMP 	Evening before	Warden 1	
Trail Signage	Permanent trail signage to be placed at major walking trail heads to inform bushwalkers to take care in fire period. List of trail signage location in Appendix 6.	October each year	Deputy Warden	
TFB Signage	A "Today is a day of Total Fire Ban" sign will be place in a visible location out the front of the MHARMB building. CFA will also place a sign out the front of the Mt Hotham fire station.	By 8am	Warden 1	
Trail Signage	Total Fire Ban signage to be placed at major walking trail heads to inform bushwalkers to take care. List of trail signage location in Appendix 6.	By 8am	Deputy Warden	
Charge Satellite Phones	Ensure Satellite Phones are charged and accessible	Evening before	Warden 1	
Monitor CFA website	Monitor CFA website for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fire starts • Advice & Warnings • TFB Declarations • Fire Weather Forecasts • North East and East Gippsland District 	All day	Deputy Warden	
Monitor ABC radio	Monitor ABC radio for fire updates	All day	Deputy Warden	

5. Action Statement: Declared Code Red Days

Table 5: Action Statement- Code Red Days

Activity	Description	When	Responsible	Actioned
Email staff, lodges and businesses	An email will be sent to all staff, lodges and business to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform them of the Code Red declaration Request they notify their visitors the resort will be closed and they should leave early 	Day before	Chief Warden	
Contact CFA District	Discuss bushfire potential and any other concerns Check both the North East and East Gippsland Forecast Districts	Morning of/ evening before	Chief Warden	
Resort Closure and Code Red notification on Mt Hotham website	Update Mt Hotham website to inform visitors of the Code Red declaration and Resort closure	Evening before	Warden 1	
Contact MHSC, General Store and Dinner Plain Management	Advise of current situation Establish they have their BEMP procedures in place	Morning	Warden 1	
Inform Events	Inform all major event managers of Code Red declaration, closure of walking tracks and trails and the need to implement their BEMP and cancellation procedures	Evening before	Warden 1	
Resort closure signage	A "Today is a Code Red Day Mt Hotham Resort is closed" sign will be placed in a visible location out the front of the MHARMB building. CFA will also place a sign out the front of the Mt Hotham fire station. Contact and Liaise with VicRoads for the LED signs at Omeo and Harrietville to state that the Resort is closed to visitors	By 8am	Warden 1	
Check Access Points	Check access points which are usually locked and unlock – Telstra Tower and Loch Track	Morning	Deputy Warden	
Trail signage	Code Red signage to be placed at major walking trail heads to inform bushwalkers of closure of Resort walking tracks and trails and closure of the Alpine National Park	By 8am	Deputy Warden	
Charge Satellite Phones	Ensure Satellite Phones are charged and accessible	Evening before	Warden 1	
Monitor CFA website	Monitor CFA website for; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire starts Advice & Warnings TFB Declarations Fire Weather Forecasts North East District 	All day	Deputy Warden	
Monitor ABC radio	Monitor ABC radio for fire updates	All day	Deputy Warden	
Check log books at trail heads	Contact any visitors out on the trails and advise of Code Red Day and that the Resort and Alpine National Park are closed. Retrieve these people if necessary.	Early Morning & Mid Afternoon	Deputy Warden	

6. Action Statement: Local Bushfire Event

Table 6: Action Statement- Local Fire Event

Activity	Description	When ** All Actions will be considered for implementation upon fire start and as per the table for ongoing fires	Responsible	Actioned
Contact CFA Duty Officer	Discuss potential fire behaviour and threat to the Resort	Fire Start/ Morning Each consecutive day of fire	Chief Warden	
Decision to activate under threat plan	Alert area zone teams to be ready for activation within their nominated zones within 15 minutes	Morning	CEO & COZFAT	
Check log book at trail heads	Contact any visitors out on the trail and retrieve them if necessary Place signage at trail heads to advise of the bushfire and the need to contact the MHARMB before beginning their walk	Early Morning & Mid Afternoon	Deputy Warden	
Contact MHSC, General Store and Dinner Plain Management	Advise of current situation Establish they have their BEMP procedures in place	Morning	Warden 1	
Contact Residents and Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify who is in the Resort through phone calls, door knocks Update Contact List and set up SMS messaging, send advice message to activate leaving or staying procedures and advise MHARMB 	Morning	Deputy Warden & Warden 1	
Check Access Points	Check access points which are usually locked and unlock – Telstra Tower and Loch Track	Morning	Deputy Warden	
Monitor Water Supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Check that Loch Dam is full Check Potable water supply is at maximum quantities Portable snowmaking guns deployed to high risk areas 	Morning	Warden 2	
Monitor Fuel Supplies	Check current fuel supplies and maintain records of volumes	Morning	Warden 2	
Secure Gas Tanks	Check automatic sprinklers on gas tanks at workshop to ensure operable	Morning	Warden 2	
Charge Satellite Phones	Ensure Satellite Phones are charged and accessible	Evening before	Warden 1	
Manage General Supplies	Liaise with Hotham Freight to ensure adequate supplies available	Morning	Warden 1	
Inform Events	Inform all major event managers there is a bushfire in the area and to implement their event BEMP Event BEMP	Fire Start	Warden 1	

7. Action Statement: Under Threat

Table 7: Action Statement- Under Threat

Activity	Description	When ** All Actions will be considered for implementation upon fire start and as per the table for ongoing fires	Responsible	Actioned
Decision to activate under threat plan	Mobilise vehicles into identified zones (Appendix 3) Activate snow guns	Morning	CEO & COZFAT	
Door knock lodges	Visit all lodges to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish who's in the resort • Confirm no residents on the mountain unaccounted for • Shut all windows and doors • Tape door to show it has been checked • Place sign on door stating the Resort is under threat and they must contact the MHRMB 	Morning	Deputy Warden	
Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and maintain contact sheet for those on the mountain • Regular updates using group text application • Issue Ski Patrol Radios • Ensure Satellite Phones are charged and accessible 	Morning	Warden 1	
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure currency of information on Facebook, website, social media, group text application • Appoint scribe for recording all actions, communications and updates • Appoint scribe for CEO 	Hourly	Warden 1	
Activate relief centres	Organise accommodation	Morning	Chief Warden	
Distribute radios	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hourly radio checks • Confirm radio channel • Ensure everyone knows how to operate • Back up batteries on charge 	Morning	Warden 1	
Distribute Satellite Phones	Distribute satellite phones in the event of loss of communications	Morning	Warden 1	
Contact airport	Include on contact list and provide radio	Morning	Warden 1	
Safety Zones	Coordinate with IMT	As Required	Chief Warden	
Where road is closed	Supply police with authorised vehicles list Coordinate convoys		Warden 3	

Activity	Description	When ** All Actions will be considered for implementation upon fire start and as per the table for ongoing fires	Responsible	Actioned
Activate Shelter in Place	Activate and set up the MHARMB Administration Building and notify those on contact list via SMS messaging, radios and phone calls if no response	When Required	Chief Warden	
Monitor Shelter in Place Building	Monitor building conditions during an event	Hourly	Warden 3	
Resort closure signage	Contact VicRoads to activate LED signs at Omeo and Harrietville stating Resort is closed to visitors due to bushfire	By 8am	Warden 1	

8. Training Schedule

Annually prior to the Declared Fire Danger Period the following minimum training will occur:

- BEMP Roles and Responsibilities
- Fire Equipment, including pumps and hoses
- Portable Generator Operation
- Satellite Phone Operation
- Radio Operation

9. References

MHARMB Municipal Emergency Management Plan 2012

MHARMB Municipal Fire Management Plan 2013

MHARMB & Dinner Plain Township Protection Plan and Planning Factors 2013

MHARMB Local Response Plan - Bushfire

Victorian Planning Scheme Bushfire Management Overlay and the BMO schedule

Appendix 1: Resort Plan & Safety Zones

- MHARMB Administration Office Board Room (Primary)
- All Car Parks
- Loch Car Park for operations to the water catchment and Mt Loch area
- Corral Car Park for operations on the west side of Mt Higginbotham
- Slatey Shed

Appendix 2: Emergency Contacts

Table 8: Emergency Contact

Appendix 3: MHARMB Vehicles, Equipment & Zone

Mobile Unit #		VEHICLE/ REGISTRATION	TEAM MEMBERS	CAPACITY	OWNER	EQUIPMENT
1	Zone 1	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER				
2	Zone 1	Merc Tipper Truck 1833 AXOR CAB		4400L	RMB	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. Fill Hose and self- fill. Fuel and primer
3	Zone 2	WRR466 NAVARA 4X4 Tray		400L	RMB	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. Fuel and primer. 2 x Shovels. 2 x rake hoe. 1 x axe
4	Zone 3	FORD COURIER SOQ545		400L	RMB	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. Fuel and primer. 1 spare hose.
5	Zone 1	SNV609		800L	MHSC	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. Fuel and primer. 1 x rake hoe. 1 x shovel
6	Zone 4	SOG721 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER		800L	RMB	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. Self-filling. Fuel and primer. 1 X Chainsaw. 1 x axe. 1 x rake hoe
7	Zone 4	WEM878 IZUZU 3 Tonne TRUCK		2000L	RMB	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. Spare hose. Fuel and primer. 1 x rake hoe. 2 x chainsaw
8	Zone 1	WRR465 NAVARA 4x4 Tray		400L	RMB	Hydrant to 63mm Fill Hose. Hydrant to 40mm Hose Adaptor. 40mm Hose and Fog Hose. 3 x hoses. Fuel and primer. 1 x shovel. 1 x rake hoe.
9	Zone 2	Toyota Landcruiser LC Military		400L	RMB	
10	Zone 1	Nissan Patrol Tray Top YMH 359		400L	RMB	

Zone 1 HOTHAM CENTRAL - Snowtel / Arlberg to HOTHAM CENTRAL

Zone 2 INTER URBAN - Intersection of Gallows Court to Snowtel

Zone 3 DAVENPORT - Langi Taan / Bembooka to Gallows Court

Zone 4 WORKSHOP - Slatey / Workshop /Sewerage Treatment Plant Davenport

**TO BE AUTHORISED AND
IMPLEMENTED BY CEO OR
REPRESENTATIVE**

Appendix 4: First Aid Supplies

EQUIPMENT SUPPLIES:

- Fire Blankets
- Wool Blankets
- First Aid Kits with the following
 - Masks
 - Saline Solution Tubes
 - Bandages
 - Surgical Tape
 - Sterile Wound Dressings
 - Gauze Swabs
 - Dressing Packs
 - Emergency Blanket
 - Eye Pads
 - Film Dressings
 - Alcohol Swabs
 - Gloves
 - Scissors
 - First aid procedure sheets for Asthma, Burns, Smoke Inhalation and CPR

Appendix 5: General Supplies

Survival Pack Contents:

- 600ml water bottle
- Juice Pack
- Gatorade/Powerade occasional
- Bag of mixed nuts and dried fruit
- Fruit
- Snack size chocolate bars
- 95 g tins tuna/chicken
- 4 – 6 Vitaweed biscuits
- Snack size packets of savoury shapes and chips
- Muesli Bars
- Occasional bags of lollies
- Sandwiches/rolls

Appendix 6: Trail Signage

Trail Signage will be located at the following locations:

- The General Store (Brabralung Trail Head, formally known as the Hotham-Dinner Plain Trail Head)
- Davenport Access Trail Head on GAR (Huts Walk, Cobungra Ditch & Edelweiss Link Track)
- Slatey Cutting, Big Spur Tracks on GAR (Cobungra Ditch access Tracks, Village Lookout and Big Spur Picnic Point)
- Loch Car Park Trail Head (Huts Walk, Falls to Hotham Alpine Crossing, other Parks Victoria (PV) tracks such as Red Robin, Mt Loch, Australian Alps Walking Track)
- Brandy Creek Trail Head (Cobungra Ditch, Brabralung Link Track, Brandy Creek Mine (PV), Brandy Creek Fire Trail and Cobungra River (PV))

Other trail Heads outside the Resort but linked into the MHRMB Track & Trails network (and also to provide consistency in message to all bushwalkers within the MHRMB area) include:

- Razorback Walking track, Diamantina Springs GAR (Mt Feathertop, Bon Accord Spur Track)
- Mother Johnson's Picnic area GAR (Brabralung Trail)
- JB Plain GAR (Brabralung Trail, Tabletop Track (PV))