

MOUNT HOTHAM
MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2016 – 2018
Version 4.3

HOTHAM



Preface

The Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Committee (MFMP) is responsible for providing a strategic and integrated approach to fire management within the Mount Hotham Alpine Resort. This task forms part of a broader state and regional framework established under the Emergency Management Act (1986) and is supported by the State Fire Management Planning Committee and the Hume Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee (Hume RSFMPC).

The Mount Hotham MFMP is responsible for the development, monitoring and review of the Mt Hotham Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) on behalf of the Mount Hotham Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee. This plan aligns with the Hume Regional Strategic Fire Management Plan 2011-2021 and describes how regional authorities, local government, fire agencies and other relevant organisations can work together to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from bushfire events affecting Mount Hotham.

While the management of all types of fires is important, this plan has focused on bushfire in the first instance. The life of this plan is for three years and it is envisaged that future updates of this plan will include planning for other types of fire. Furthermore, it is important to note that this plan recognizes, but does not duplicate, the extensive work already being undertaken in fire management across the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort. This document is essentially a plan for improving integration of this existing work and developing improved methods for working together.

I join with the members of the Mount Hotham MFMP in commending this document to you for endorsement.



Jenny Molloy
Chairperson
Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee

Version Control Table

Version Number	Date of Issue	Author(s)	Brief Description of Change
1.0		S. Huguenin	Draft MFMP initiated for Comment
2.0			
3.0		MFMP	Minor edits following MFMP review
4.0		MFMP	Edits following consultation period 2012
4.1	14/12/12	C.Hajek	Edits requested by J Molloy
4.2	21/06/15	MHRMB	Three Year Review
4.3	03/10/17	MHRMB	Amended 3.2.5 Fire Danger Rating: Figure 6 to reflect years 2009/10 to 2016/17. Reviewed Appendix 8 to current fire hydrant locations. Added Appendix 10 Fire & Fuel Breaks Plan Changed original Appendix 10 Glossary to # 11.

Authorisation

This integrated Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) was adopted as the three year review of the Mount Hotham MFMP. This Plan was endorsed through a formal motion by the Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP) electronically in October 2017, for which the Chair of the committee will sign for and on behalf of all members of the Mount Hotham MFMP.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Jenny Molloy

Chairperson

Mount Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee

This MFMP was endorsed as a sub plan to the Mount Hotham Municipal Emergency Management Plan through a formal motion by the Mount Hotham Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) electronically on 14th November 2017, for which the Chair of the committee will sign for and on behalf of the members of the Mount Hotham MEMPC.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Jenny Molloy

Chairperson

Mount Hotham Municipal Emergency Management Committee

This MFMP will be adopted through a formal motion by the Mount Hotham Resort Management Board as the MFMP for Mount Hotham, at a future meeting, for which the Chief Executive Officer will sign for and on behalf of the Mount Hotham Resort Management Board.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Jon Hutchins

Chief Executive Officer

Mount Hotham Resort Management Board

The responsibilities and accountabilities attributed to the organisations represented at the Mount Hotham MFMPC are endorsed by:

Signed: _____ Date:

Mark Owens

District 24 Operations Officer
Country Fire Authority

Signed: _____ Date:

Jarrold Hayse

Fire & Land District Manager – Ovens, Hume Region
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Signed: _____ Date:

Craig Hore

Ranger in Charge-Fire and Emergency Operations, North East District
Parks Victoria

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION	7
BACKGROUND	8
2.1 The Integrated Fire Management Planning Framework	8
2.2 Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee	9
2.3 Membership	9
2.4 Period and Purpose	9
2.5 Preparation Process	10
2.6 Stakeholder Analysis.....	11
2.7 Community and Organisational Engagement Process	12
ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN	13
3.1 Environmental Scan.....	13
3.2 Alpine Resort Profile.....	13
3.2.1 Location and Tenure	13
3.2.2 Natural Environment and Climate	13
3.2.3 Demography	14
3.2.4 Economy and Infrastructure	14
3.2.5 Fire Danger	14
3.3 Strategic Implications	15
3.3.1 Weather and Climate	15
3.3.2 People, economy and infrastructure.....	16
MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE	17
4.1 Objective.....	17
4.2 Strategic Direction	17
4.3 Alignment of Regional & Municipal Objective.....	17
FIRE MANAGEMENT RISK STRATEGIES	18
5.1 Risk Identification Process.....	18
5.2 Risk Assessment Process	18
5.3 Risk Management Strategy	19
5.4 Specific Treatments.....	25
5.5 Fire Management Responsibility	27
5.5.1 Response Agencies	27
5.5.2 Regulatory and Service Providers.....	27
5.5.3 Nature and Scope of MHARMB Activities.....	28
5.5.4 Community.....	28

5.6	Balancing Fire Risk Against Other Values	29
5.7	Cross-Boundary Management and Links to Other Programs/Processes	29
6	IMPROVEMENT AND PLAN REPORTING AND REVIEW PROCESS.....	30
7	APPENDICES.....	31
	Appendix 1: Stakeholder Analysis & Community Engagement Plan.....	31
	Appendix 2: Village Guide.....	36
	Appendix 3: Risk Assessment Tables.....	37
	Appendix 4: Environmental Maps & Data.....	41
	Appendix 5: Hazardous Tree Treatment – Identification and Notification Procedures	48
	Appendix 6: Community Information Guide & Neighbourhood Safer Places.....	49
	Appendix 7: Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (BEMP).....	50
	Appendix 8: Mt Hotham Fire Hydrant Map.....	51
	Appendix 9: Fire Safety Management and Evacuation Plan Template.....	52
	Appendix 10: Glossary & Acronyms	53

INTRODUCTION

Victoria has a long history of community, government and organisations working cooperatively to combat the threat of bushfire. However recent challenges such as the decade of dry conditions, an increase in people living in high risk areas and the occurrence of a number of major fires, prompted the need for increased coordination and cooperation to secure fire safety across the state.

This plan, prepared by the Mt Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee reflects the shared responsibilities of government, fire agencies and communities. It demonstrates a collaborative approach between responsible agencies and covers both public and private lands. It is a three year plan and is reviewed annually.

The plan is a written presentation of the dynamic and continually evolving fire planning process undertaken by the Mt Hotham MFMPC for the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort.

The plan is based on the Integrated Fire Management Planning (IFMP) Framework approved by the Victorian State Government, and the State Fire Management Strategy 2009. The provision of the plan is to obtain direction for the development and implementation of structures, systems, processes and products that improve fire management planning in Victoria.

Approaches to fire management are framed by the assessment of risk. This includes an analysis of the fire risks and identification of options for positive change. It places greater emphasis on addressing underlying causes and seeking long-term, sustainable solutions that incorporate the four essential elements of emergency management of planning, preparedness, response and recovery.

Prevention

Regulatory and physical measures to ensure that emergencies are prevented, or their effects mitigated.

Preparedness

Arrangements to ensure that in the event of an emergency occurring all those resources and services that are needed to cope with the effects can be efficiently mobilised and deployed to that area.

Response

Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an emergency. To ensure its effects are minimised and that people affected are given immediate relief and support.

Recovery

The coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure; restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.

To enable an integrated fire management approach, consultation, participation and engagement are essential. This plan documents how agencies involved in fire management within the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort actively participate in the planning process. The plan represents ownership by all of the participating agencies, who are all members of the Mt Hotham MFMPC.

BACKGROUND

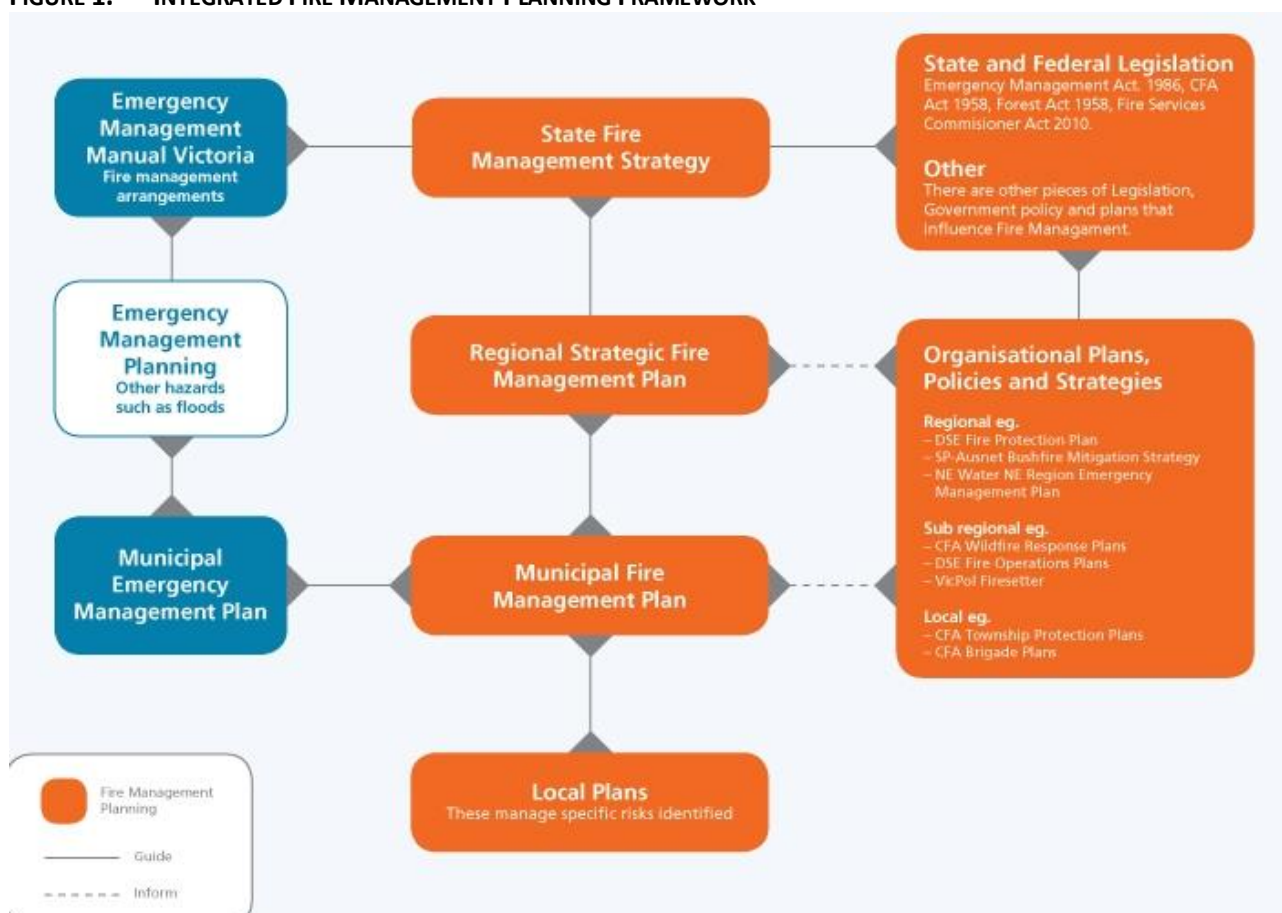
2.1 THE INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Victorian Government developed the Integrated Fire Management Planning (IFMP) Framework for Victoria in response to recommendations made in the Victorian Bushfire Inquiry 2002 – 2003. This IFMP Framework was approved by the Premier of Victoria (September 2006) and implementation of Integrated Fire Management Planning commenced soon after.

IFMP provides a framework for consistent and effective fire management planning across the fire management continuum, by providing a multi-agency approach, bringing together fire management planners and other stakeholders, including emergency service agencies, government departments, private organisations and the community. Working together they build relationships and share information to plan across public and private land tenures for all types of fire. IFMP is based on analysis and management of risk, uses best practices and builds on existing information.

The framework provides structures, policies and procedures to help build on the existing spirit of cooperation and networks that already exist in fire management. It establishes a tiered system of state, regional and municipal plans that provide strategic direction to fire management in Victoria, as illustrated in figure 1.

FIGURE 1. INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING FRAMEWORK



2.2 MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE

The Mt Hotham Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC) was formed in October 2011 as a subcommittee to the Mt Hotham Emergency Management Planning Committee.

Part 6A: Guidelines for Municipal Fire Management Planning, of the *Emergency Management Manual of Victoria*, outlines the terms of reference for these committees, identifies their minimum core membership and the requirement to develop, monitor and review a Municipal Fire Management Plan.

The MFMPC provides a local level forum for building and sustaining organisational partnerships with regards to fire management; and ensures that plans of individual agencies are linked effectively to complement each other.

This is facilitated by the MFMPC having a membership consisting of representatives from key stakeholder organisations with respect to fire management within the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort.

2.3 MEMBERSHIP

POSITION	INCUMBENT	ORGANISATION	CONTACT DETAILS
Chair	Jenny Molloy	General Manager Mt Hotham Resort Management Board	
Deputy Chair	Mark Owens	Operations Officer CFA – District 24	
	Larry Doyle	Captain Mt Hotham/Dinner Plain CFA	
	Jarrold Hayse	Fire & Land District Manager (Ovens, Hume Region) Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	
	Craig Hore	Ranger in Charge-Fire and Emergency Operations, North East District Parks Victoria	

2.4 PERIOD AND PURPOSE

Organisations and agencies involved in fire management already have a range of activities, plans, policies and procedures that are directly involved with, or that impact on fire management. This MFMP builds on this existing work, to chart and coordinate the implementation of measures in use across the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort, which are designed to minimise the occurrence and mitigate the effects of fire. It also seeks to identify the need for adopting or developing new activities, processes and policies, and communicating this need to the relevant responsible authority.

The Mt Hotham MFMP has a three year planning cycle commencing from the date of the Board's endorsement. However it will be subject to annual review and modification as appropriate. This MFMP concentrates on bushfires; however it is expected that future versions of the plan will incorporate both the management of structural and chemical fires, as well as the use of fire (back burns) to support management activities.

2.5 PREPARATION PROCESS

This MFMP has been developed in accordance with Part 6A of the Emergency Management Manual of Victoria and using the IFMP planning process as described in the IFMP Guide. The process follows the seven stage planning cycle as illustrated in figure 2.

Stage 1: Environmental Scanning

Establish a municipal base line from which fire management planning and decision making can be made and measured, including development of fire management objectives.

Stage 2: Risk Assessment

Identification, analysis, and evaluation of the fire risks that potentially impact on the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort.

Stage 3: Analysis

Analysis of treatment options for achieving the fire management objectives.

Stage 4: Decide

Select the most appropriate risk treatment options to achieve the fire management objectives.

Stage 5: Publish

Once the community and stakeholders have validated the draft MFMP, the relevant authorities endorse, publish and distribute it.

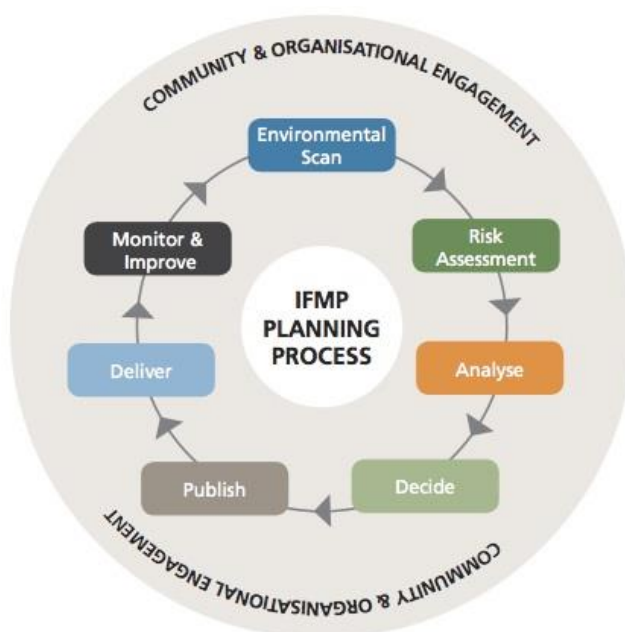
Stage 6: Deliver

Relevant organisations implement the agreed risk treatments in the MFMP.

Stage 7: Monitor and Improve

Track delivery and effectiveness of risk treatments to continually improve the MFMP's contribution to realising the fire management objectives.

FIGURE 2: INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING PROCESS



The planning process is risk based and aligns with the Australian Standard AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines. Figure 3 describes how this is achieved.

FIGURE 3: IFMP ALIGNMENT WITH AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009

STAGE OF THE IFMP PLANNING CYCLE	RELEVANT ASPECT OF THE AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 RISK MANAGEMENT – PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES
Engagement Plan	Communicate and consult
Environmental Scan	Establish the context
Risk Assessment > Analyse	Identify the risk > Analyse the risk > Evaluate the risk
Decide > Publish	Determine and document treatment options
Deliver	Treat the risk
Monitor and Improve	Monitor and review

2.6 STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

The stakeholder analysis consisted of a two part process; first identifying the key stakeholders who needed to be engaged in the MFMP's development and review; and secondly determining the nature and level of their interest in fire management planning. This second step involves considering each stakeholder in relation to eight different fire management roles which are described in figure 4 and four different stakeholder types as outlined in figure 5.

Stakeholder engagement is required during all seven stages in the IFMP cycle to ensure there is collaborative development, delivery and monitoring of the MFMP. These communication and engagement tasks have been built around the model of public engagement developed by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2).

FIGURE 4: FIRE MANAGEMENT ROLES

ROLE	DESCRIPTION
Fire Coordination	Bringing together of fire management agencies and elements to ensure effective response to an incident or emergency. CFA has legislated responsibility under the <i>CFA Act 1958</i> for the prevention and suppression of fires and for the protection of life and property in the Country Area of Victoria. In accordance with provisions in the <i>CFA Act 1958</i> and the <i>Forest Act 1958</i> , DELWP has fire management and fire suppression responsibilities for state forests and national, state and regional parks.
Land Owner/Manager Responsibilities	Landholder/managers are heavily involved in fire prevention and fire suppression on land under their control. They have legislated responsibilities to extinguish a fire burning on their land and to prevent fires from starting from the use of equipment and vehicles (<i>CFA Act 1958</i> , <i>Crimes Act 1958</i>). They are also required to comply with relevant local government laws, relevant planning or building permit conditions and conditions associated with permits to burn.
Response	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after a fire incident to minimise the impact of the fire.
Recovery	A coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.
Community Education	Community education is learning and social development, working with individuals and groups in their communities using a range of formal and informal methods.
Community Care	Community care is about identifying and catering for groups or individuals with specific needs, before during and after fire.
Asset Protection	Asset protection involves protecting key community infrastructure such as power, water supplies, roads, gas pipes and protecting community assets such as parks and the environment. Asset protection can also involve the protection of private assets such as housing, plantations, crops and fences.
Regulatory	The issuing of permits for lighting fires. The development of and compliance with planning controls and permits for developments and building that take into account fire risk/management. The regulation and issuing of permits involving vegetation removal or fuel reduction activities for fire management purposes.

FIGURE 5 : STAKEHOLDER TYPE AND ENGAGEMENT LEVEL

STAKEHOLDER TYPE	DESCRIPTION	PARTICIPATION LEVEL
Internal	Formal responsibilities for IFMP process and outcomes	Collaborate and Empower
Primary	MFMP membership, responsibility for development and review of the plan. These stakeholders are responsible for communication and engagement across and within their own organisations.	Collaborate and Empower
Secondary	RSFMPC membership or fire management role within Mt Hotham Alpine Resort. May be requested to provide specific inputs, or requested to be involved in specific tasks.	Involve and Consult
Tertiary	Strong interest in outcomes and may have valuable information/viewpoints to share.	Inform and Consult

2.7 COMMUNITY AND ORGANISATIONAL ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

In accordance with the IFMP guide the Mount Hotham MFMP undertook a stakeholder analysis and an appropriate level of participation for each was determined. This was then used as the basis for development of the Stakeholder Analysis & Community Engagement Plan (see Appendix 1).

During the development phase of the MFMP the Committee's communication and engagement efforts were focused primarily upon the key stakeholders. It was recognised during this stage that a number of community groups were identified as Tertiary stakeholders and engagement with them and the broader community was seen as a critical component to the long term success of MFMP.

The community engagement process is an ongoing responsibility of the Mount Hotham MFMP and it is expected to gain prominence once the plan's review is endorsed. The Stakeholder Analysis & Community Engagement Plan is an evolving document that is to be shaped according to the MFMP's needs over time. In this manner it will be able to guide the process of broader community engagement with additional activities and details being incorporated as required.

It is also anticipated that in addition to the activities attributed to the MFMP, individual key stakeholders will be utilising their existing processes and undertaking their own community engagement activities in support of IFMP and the MFMP.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

3.1 ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

In undertaking this environmental scanning exercise the MFMPC gathered information relevant to fire management from a wide range of sources. Data sources used included the CFA's VFRR, DELWP fuel loads and natural values. This information was interpreted using the Committee's extensive knowledge and experience with fire management to make predictions, assumptions and conclusions concerning fire risk for the municipality over the period of the plan.

3.2 ALPINE RESORT PROFILE

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort (MHAR) is a major tourist destination in North East Victoria that offers a variety of holiday experiences for visitors and delivers economic and social wealth to the region.

3.2.1 LOCATION AND TENURE

The Resort straddles the Great Alpine Road approximately 460kms from Melbourne via Bairnsdale, and 370km via Wangaratta. Situated in the midst of Victoria's Alps region, it comprises 3450 ha of primarily crown land of which 245 ha is ski fields. The elevation range is between 1060 m and 1861 m elevation, with Mount Hotham village sitting at an altitude of 1750 m.

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

MHAR is bounded on all sides by the Alpine National Park making Parks Victoria it's only significant neighbour. The Resort is entirely encompassed within the municipality of Alpine Shire, however MHAR is independent of the Alpine Shire and MHARMB is responsible for delivering a range of public services including fire management planning.

3.2.2 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE

The Resort incorporates a range of native species and ecosystems, including 87 plants of state significance and one plant of national significance recorded within the Resort. Five plants and four plant communities are listed under the Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 including the Mountain Daisy, Silky Snow-daisy, Alpine Bog and Alpine Snowpatch Communities. Dwarf Sedge (*Carex paupera*) is listed as vulnerable under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999.

Six rare or threatened indigenous fauna species have been recorded within the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort. These include the Mountain Pygmy Possum, Broad-toothed Rat, Alpine Bog Skink and Alpine Tree Frog. The Resort is committed to ensuring appropriate measures are implemented and maintained as outlined in action statements, conservation management plans and guidelines for rare or threatened species.

The vegetation classes are consistent with the altitude, ranging from montane forests through to alpine meadows. The health and occurrence of these vegetation types is highly influenced by fire and the majority of it can be regarded as either "Fire sensitive" or "Fire influenced". The former includes those plants that may be either significantly damaged or killed by fire, the latter includes species requiring certain fire regimes to maintain their structure and composition.

The climate within the Resort is determined by its altitude, topography and orientation. The climate is temperate, characterised by mild summers and cold winters. Average annual rainfall is around 1500mm, which is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year and a significant proportion of which falls as snow during the winter. Relative to other parts of the state the summers are cool, wet and windy with maximum temperatures of around 16⁰c and rarely exceeding 30⁰c, while overnights lows are usually around 8⁰c. The average humidity level over summer is around 65% and the prevailing winds greater than

20kph, generally from the north east, however south-easterly winds often associated with fog and mist, are also quite common.

3.2.3 DEMOGRAPHY

There are no individual townships within the Resort. The Village Guide (Appendix 2) shows the location of the individual accommodation houses throughout the Resort. During the declared winter season most of these are fully occupied with the capacity being between 4,500 and 5,000 people.

There are approximately 25 residents during the green season.

3.2.4 ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

The primary attraction of Mt Hotham is as a tourist destination during the winter months. MHAR can accommodate over 4600 visitors, and while non-winter visitation is steadily growing, visitation continues to be dominated by snow sports activities. Overall Victoria's Alpine Resorts contribute approximately \$686m to the State's economy and generate the equivalent of 5000 annual jobs, with MHAR making up a significant proportion of this. Locally MHAR is a significant seasonal employer and revenue generator for the towns of Harrietville and Bright.

In addition to the village itself, the MHARMB manages a number of important facilities outside of the village area that are concerned with the daily functioning of the Resort. These include water pumping stations & storage sites, waste water treatment plants and gas storage.

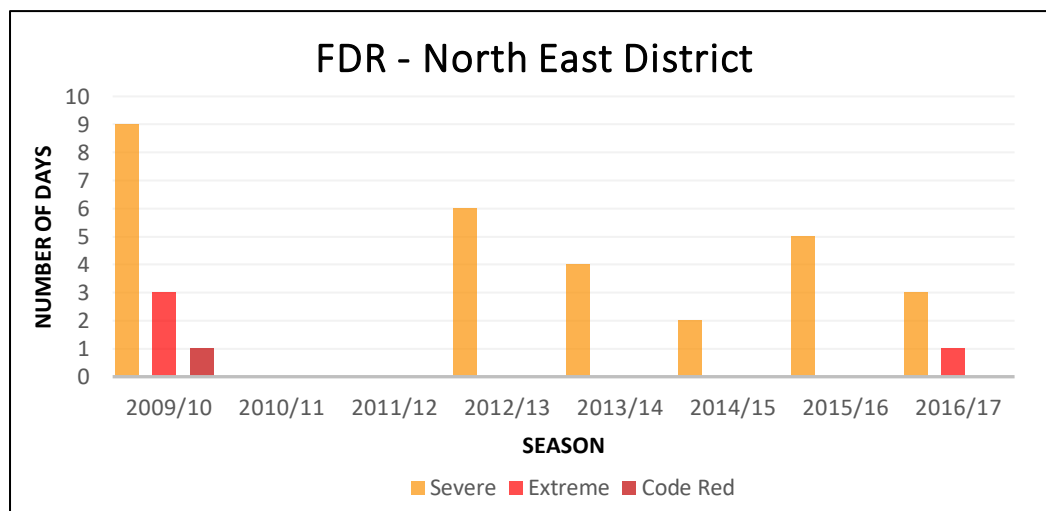
The primary access route to MHAR and only road kept open all year round is via the Great Alpine Road from Harrietville and Omeo. This consists of a twisty road, through mountainous mostly forested terrain, and with occasional steep grades. The Resort also has a network of unsealed four wheel and two wheel drive roads providing access to Resort facilities and the Alpine National Park, many parts of which are growing increasingly popular for outdoor activities; such as bushwalking and mountain biking during the summer months.

3.2.5 FIRE DANGER

The graph in figure 6 provides an historical picture of the fire danger situation for Victoria's North East District, which Mt Hotham is classed.

Due to its elevation, MHAR can have cooler temperatures, higher humidity and frequent rain periods. However, the greater prevalence for strong winds when coupled with the occasional warm spell, can lead to days of a higher FDR. Therefore, these varying conditions need to be taken into consideration when higher FDR are predicted within the district.

Figure 6: Annual FDR Variation for Mount Hotham ARMB



Fire danger rating^[1]

Category	Fire Danger Index	
	Forest	Grassland
Catastrophic (Code Red)	100 +	150 +
Extreme	75–99	100–149
Severe	50–74	50–99
Very High	25–49	25–49
High	12–24	12–24
Low–Moderate	0–11	0–11

3.3 STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

The information above indicates that bushfires can pose a real and significant threat to MHAR. This has been borne out by history with large areas of the Resort being burnt or threatened during 2003, 2006 and 2013. *Although these events impacted primarily on the native vegetation, with no buildings or infrastructure being damaged, if such large fires occurred during more severe fire weather conditions then it would be reasonable to expect some damage to Resort infrastructure.*

In addition, the Resort's reliance on a single road passing through areas of high fuel loads and mountainous topography as the primary access for both people and freight makes it vulnerable to indirect impacts on its social and economic wellbeing from bushfires outside MHAR.

3.3.1 WEATHER AND CLIMATE

Weather conditions and climate have a significant impact on fire management. Typically the municipality experiences spring rains and mild conditions that promote growth followed by warm summers which lead to high fuel loads.

The usual pattern during summer months of north westerly winds accompanied by high day time temperatures and low relative humidity building up over several days to a storm event with a change to south westerly winds creates a situation whereby fire ignition from lightning becomes a likely possibility. These conditions together with a propensity for the fire to run quickly in one direction before rapidly changing direction can transform a fires flank into the new extensive fire front.

With current trends and climate change, research modelling suggests the future climate will be warmer, drier and less predictable. We can therefore expect an increase in the number of extreme fire danger days as well as longer fire seasons.

3.3.2 PEOPLE, ECONOMY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

MHARMB has a relatively small permanent population (<50). Summer visitation is primarily day trippers or people travelling through the Resort area, either along the Great Alpine Road or to access sites in the Alpine National Park. Relative to other municipalities the risk to people from Bushfire might therefore be considered to be relatively low. However MHARMB is actively seeking to encourage greater summer visitation, ensuring day visitors understand the risk of fire and maintaining an awareness of their movements which presents a significant challenge to fire services. Key summer events held in the MHARMB area are the Adventure Kids Festival in January, the Cool Summer festival in February and the Beyond Hotham 4WD experience held in March/April.

The Resort provides considerable local employment and is a significant contributor to both state and local economies with a seasonal average of 350,000 winter visitors. Protection of critical assets during the fire season to minimise any impacts on the Resorts winter operations is therefore a priority.

MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE

The Municipal Fire Management Objective provides a framework for considering, selecting and evaluating fire management activities. This objective was developed using the information examined during the environmental scanning process, as well as being informed by the Hume Regional Fire Management Plan and relevant issues and priorities from regional stakeholders and adjoining municipalities.

4.1 OBJECTIVE

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort working together with the community and fire management stakeholders to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from fire – therefore securing a safer Resort, with a more resilient community and business network, a healthier environment and a prosperous economy.

4.2 STRATEGIC DIRECTION

In developing strategic directions for this plan the MFMP was mindful of the planning context within which they were undertaking this task. The MFMP forms a critical third tier in the State of Victoria's Fire Management Planning hierarchy and therefore was developed in reference to the State and Regional level fire management plans. The MFMP have adopted the following broad strategic fire management deliverables from the State Fire Management Strategy 2009:

- Active participation of the community, the sector and government, working together in fire management planning to reduce the destructive impact of fire on communities and the environment;
- Communities that are resilient to fire;
- Greater understanding of the fire sector within the community; and
- Healthy natural, social and built economic environments.

4.3 ALIGNMENT OF REGIONAL & MUNICIPAL OBJECTIVE

The Mount Hotham municipal fire management objective aligns closely with the Hume RSFMP objectives and vision for fire management. The implementation of this plan will therefore contribute significantly to the realisation of the Hume Regional Strategic Fire Management Plans vision.

Furthermore the formation of the Mount Hotham MFMP and the development of a MFMP using the designated IFMP Guide have strongly supported several of the RSFMP's key objectives. Evidence of this is described in the following table.

Figure 8: Alignment of MFMP & RSFMP Objectives

RSFMP Element	RSFMP Objective	MFMP Contribution
Planning Together	Develop state, regional, municipal and local fire management plans and planning with a clear purpose and a consistent assessment of risk.	The MFMP provides the third tier in the IFMP process and utilises the same risk base approach as used with State and Regional plans
Collaborative Implementation	Develop and implement fire management programs and activities in a collaborative manner.	The MFMP consists of multiagency representation and has incorporated community engagement strongly into the development of the MFMP.
Building Knowledge & Capacity	Build and share knowledge in the fire management sector and across the community. Improve the capability of communities, the fire management sector and the government to deal with fires.	The aspirations of the MFMP converge with the regions in seeking to build both its members and the communities' knowledge and understanding of fire management.
Implementation Support	Support the implementation of the IFMP framework in the Hume region	The development of the MFMP clearly demonstrates support for IFMP at a municipal level.

FIRE MANAGEMENT RISK STRATEGIES

Integrated fire management planning is the risk management process to establish priority setting for fire management activities and is consistent with the international standard for risk Management ISO 31000. Risk is described within the standard as:

$$\text{Risk Analysis} = \text{Consequence} \times \text{Likelihood}$$

5.1 RISK IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

The objectives and risks were identified through the environmental scanning process using Chrichton's Risk Pyramid Framework. The framework facilitates sorting, analysing and assessing information with respect to fire risk. It helps identify the amount of risk generated by the hazard x exposure x vulnerability relationship within the context (people, property, infrastructure, social and economic, biodiversity, the economy and heritage values) of a location or situation. Where:

- Hazard - is a specific event characterised by a certain magnitude and likelihood of occurrence.
- Exposure - refers to the factors, such as people, buildings and networks of the environment and economy that are subject to the impact of a specific hazard.
- Vulnerability - refers to the characteristics of an element exposed to a hazard - road, building, person, and economy, that contributes to the capacity of that element to resist, cope with and recover from the impact of a natural hazard.

Using this method the MFMPC was able to generate a list of bushfire risks for the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort. As the IFMP encompasses planning across all fire hazard environments, hazards were considered within a range of categories to better understand the likely consequences and recovery risks involved. A copy of these categories can be found in Appendix 3.1.

5.2 RISK ASSESSMENT PROCESS

As the first step in the assessment process each of the identified risks were refined into succinct risk statements and entered into the Risk Register. Risk statements describe the risk in terms of the source through to the impact. Each risk statement outlined:

- the hazard (source of risk);
- the element at risk; and
- the consequence of the interaction as a result of an event.

Each of these statements was then qualitatively assessed for their impact using the State Fire Management Planning Committee's State Bushfire Consequence Table (Appendix 3.2). Each consequence was considered in terms of both damage and disruption (loss of service or function) and in some cases, the consequence of an event was not realised at the local level but was of a significant impact at regional and/or state level. In addition the committee took into account existing treatments and their impact on the risk level. Consequence ratings were then entered into the risk register.

The likelihood of each event being realised was assessed using the data derived from the environmental scan and the *Likelihood Table* (Appendix 3.3). Where the committee did not believe it held the necessary technical expertise to make an assessment, advice was sought from relevant authorities outside the committee. Once agreement to *Consequence* and *Likelihood* was reached the *Risk Assessment Matrix* (Appendix 3.4) was used to assign a risk level to each risk statement.

The following figure is a summary of the risk assessment results, detailing the highest priority bushfire risks to the Mount Hotham Alpine Resort. The priority risks were determined by the combined expertise on the MFMPC, which utilised the fire experience of committee members, the VFRR risk register and the understandings developed from the environmental scan.

Figure 9: Mount Hotham Risk Register

Mount Hotham Fire Risk Register	
ID#	Risk Description
1	<p>Risk of significant Response and Recovery “Hotham ARMB - Big D - Police Station and CFA” being rendered not functional by bushfire and affecting the response/recovery capability..</p> <p>Part 1: Loss of Power & Part 2: Loss of Infrastructure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water catchment - risk of bushfire impacting on Water Catchments affecting the Swindlers and Dargo headwaters. There is only a small catchment supplying water for Hotham Village meaning a small fire can have a big impact. Potential for silt and ash impacts on potable supplies - Bushfire & structural fire impact - risk of impacting on infrastructure e.g. Sewage, Gas, Power, Telstra Towers, Water and Workshops for ARMB and MHS - Fire Tower (SMR communications) - Ski lifts & snow making equipment - risk of bushfire impacting on ski infrastructure
2	Risk of loss of life and residential infrastructure in winter through structure fire
3	Risk of fire damaged trees becoming a hazard.
4	Risk of not knowing who is on the mountain in summer and winter (visitor demographics/capability).
5	Risk of incorrect and or poor messaging before / during and after fires between stakeholders (e.g. road closures impacting when not relevant - PV closures of Parks on Code Red Days)
6	Risk of Great Alpine Road (GAR) closing
7	Destruction of Resort infrastructure impending on winter operations.
8	Risk of bushfire impacting on the environmental stability of the ski fields.

5.3 RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Having developed a risk register for Mount Hotham, the Committee was able to allocate the current treatments of responsible agencies against relevant risk areas and thus develop a Risk Management Strategy. This strategy is a matrix of:

Priority risks x treatment x agency x time frames

This creates a snapshot of who is doing what, where and why - to reduce the risks posed by fire within the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort.

It should be noted that these are proposed treatments only for the next 3 years, and that their actual implementation in any given year may be influenced by a variety of factors such as availability of resources and seasonal conditions.

Figure 10: Mount Hotham Risk Management Strategy

Risk Addressed	Responsible Agency(s)	Treatment		Treatment Description	Spectrum					Application	
		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use	Targeted*	Year 1, 2, 3
Planning Together	CFA	1	Emergency Management Plan (Site)	CFA input into site specific emergency Management Plans including bushfire component.		✓				N	All
1	PV	2	Emergency Management Response Plans	Ensure that proper and sufficient works for wildfire prevention and suppression activities on PV managed land are conducted in an operationally safe, environmentally sensitive and cost- effective manner. Ensure efficient and appropriate response.		✓	✓			Y	All
All	ARMB	3	Emergency management plan	Established framework for the effective handling of emergencies and/or disasters.	✓	✓				Y	All
All	DELWP	4	Bushfire hazard identification framework	Identifies the different level of bushfire hazard at a state wide scale and the different responses that planning and building systems will implement.	✓					N	All
All	DELWP	5	Bushfire overlay	Development of a new overlay to replace Wildfire Management Overlays, includes opportunity to modify to local conditions through schedules.	✓					N	All
All	DELWPI	6	Bushfire prone maps	Interactive online map service that identifies areas likely to be subject to fires and consequent construction standards requirements.	✓					N	All
All	DELWP	7	Fire Management Planning	DELWP Fire Management Zones. Strategic landscape scale zoning of public land across the state to achieve fuel management outcomes.		✓				N	All
All	DELWP	8	Fire Operations Plan	Planning of proposed fire prevention activities to be carried out on public land (includes all land managed by DELWP and PV) with the objective of reducing impacts of bushfire on life, community, critical infrastructure, industry and the environment. Includes planned burns, slashing and track works, and additions to the permanent network of strategic fuel breaks.		✓				Y	All
All	DELWP/PV	9	Rehabilitation Plan	Implement a works program to repair or replace fire affected infrastructure to minimise impacts on natural values.			✓	✓		Y	All

Risk Addressed	Responsible Agency(s)	Treatment		Treatment Description	Spectrum					Application	
ID #		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use	Targeted*	Year 1, 2, 3
All	CFA	10	Statutory & Legislative activities	Bushfire Prone Areas & Bushfire Management Overlay, declaration of TFBs, declared danger periods, regulation of burning permits.	✓	✓				N	All
All	DELWP/PV/CFA	11	Fire Access Roads, Tracks & Water Points	Construction/maintenance of a strategic network of waterpoints, roads, tracks and bridges to specified standards in support of fire management activities. Includes Coordination of Fire Access Roads Subsidy Scheme (FARS) by CFA.	✓					Y	All
Working Together	CFA	12	Vegetation Management	Advice to landholders & linkages to CFA Brigades to manage vegetation & lower bushfire risk.	✓	✓				Y	All
All	ARMB/Vic Roads	13	Roadside Vegetation Management	Removal of fuel and vegetation management along roadsides. Includes strategic breaks and routine roadside maintenance (Appendix 10).	✓	✓				Y	All
All	CFA	14	Brigade Burn Program	Removal of vegetation through burning to protect life & property, includes Township Protection Burning, Planned Burn Program & Fuel Reduction Burns by CFA Brigades.	✓	✓				Y	All
All	DELWP	15	Planned burning	Implementation of planned burning and other works as identified in FOP on public land.		✓				Y	All
All	DELWP	16	Crown Land fuel management	Managing fuel loads on crown land. Includes slashing, mulching and burning.		✓				Y	All
All	Telstra	17	Bushfire Mitigation	Removal of identified fire risks to lines & facilities, e.g. tree lopping.		✓				N	All
All	Ausnet Services	19	Routine maintenance of transmission & powerlines	Vegetation management around powerlines and along easement, regular inspections, maintenance of access tracks.	✓	✓				N	All
1, 3	ARMB	20	Routine Maintenance of facilities	Ongoing mowing/slashing/spraying of sites to reduce fuel loads to ensure protection of assets, minimise ignition potential and ensure adequate access and egress. Includes routine maintenance of structures (eg gutter cleaning).	✓	✓				N	All
All	DELWP	21	Routine Maintenance of facilities	Ongoing mowing/slashing/spraying of sites to reduce fuel loads to ensure protection of assets, minimise ignition potential, includes routine maintenance of structures (e.g. gutter cleaning).		✓				N	All
All	Telstra	22	Routine Maintenance of facilities	Ongoing mowing/slashing/spraying of sites to reduce fuel loads to ensure protection of assets, minimise ignition potential and ensure adequate access and egress. Includes routine maintenance of structures (e.g. gutter cleaning).		✓				N	All

Risk Addressed	Responsible Agency(s)	Treatment		Treatment Description	Spectrum					Application	
ID #		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use	Targeted*	Year 1, 2, 3
4	Ausnet Services	23	Supply continuity	Maintain a response capability (scaled to level of risk) so as to minimise length of power disruptions from incidents e.g. fire/storms.			✓			N	All
1, 3	PV	24	Technical advice	Provision of specialist technical advice and support to other agencies involved in fire management activities.			✓			N	All
All	CFA	25	Resourcing/Response	Strategic network of qualified & equipped staff, volunteers & appliances for mounting timely response to fires on private land.			✓			N	All
All	ARMB	25	Resourcing/Response	Maintain ongoing opportunities for trained summer ARMB staff and equipment to assist with fire response by DELWP & CFA.			✓			N	All
All	DELWP	26	Emergency management support	Provide support to other organisations for emergency management, including expertise and specialist resources.			✓			N	All
All	SES	27	Specialist Support	Provide specialist support to other agencies (Vic Pol, CFA, DHHS, DELWP) involved in response to an emergency, e.g. doorknocks, transport, staging area mgt.			✓			N	All
All	Vic Pol	28	Specialist Support	Provide specialist support to other agencies involved in response to a bushfire e.g. vehicle escorts.	✓	✓	✓			Y	All
All	CFA	29	Standard Operating Procedures	Dictate level of readiness according to the conditions to ensure appropriate resourcing & preparedness for optimum response.		✓				N	All
All	DELWP	30	ICCS	Maintenance of a strategic network of Incident Control Centre facilities to support response in emergency management incidents. Includes agreed level 3 ICCs to predetermined standards.		✓				N	All
All	Vic Pol	31	MERC	Coordinate municipal emergency response effort in the event of a major bushfire.			✓			N	All
All	DHHS	32	Regional Resourcing & activation guidelines	Identifies DHHS resource requirements for different emergencies and describes triggers for activation of different levels.		✓				N	All
All	DELWP	33	Communications	Maintenance of a communications network.		✓				N	All
All	DELWP	34	Detection	Maintenance of a detection network. Includes fire lookout towers and detection flights.		✓				N	All
All	DELWP	35	Air support facilities	Maintenance of a strategic network of air support facilities. Includes airbases & helipads.		✓				Y	All

Risk Addressed	Responsible Agency(s)	Treatment		Treatment Description	Spectrum					Application	
ID #		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use	Targeted*	Year 1, 2, 3
All	DELWP	36	Bushfire readiness	Provision of specified levels of skills and resources to respond to emergencies. Includes people (PFFs), equipment, heavy plant, aircraft, facilities and consumables.		✓				N	All
All	Ausnet Services	37	Technical advice	Provision of specialist technical advice, information & assistance to other agencies involved in emergency response e.g. temporary power cessation, line inspection in conjunction with field operations.			✓			N	All
All	DELWP	38	Bushfire response	Respond to bushfires on public land to protect life and minimise impacts on property, communities and the environment. Includes timely provision of public information.			✓			N	All
All	Telstra	39	Response program	Maintain service continuity and minimise disruptions by responding to faults or damage to facilities, includes deployment of mobile communication units and use of generators during power outages.			✓	✓		N	All
All	Vic Pol	40	Operation Firesetter	Increased resources in high risk areas on Severe+ FDI days, increased patrols, increased visibility and covert surveillance so as to reduce the risk of arson and increase capacity in the event of a bushfire occurring.			✓			N	All
1	DELWP	41	Native animal welfare	Management of native animal welfare associated with an emergency incident.				✓		N	All
All	DHHS	46	Emergency grants	Grant to families whose home is impacted by fire, allocated by municipality.				✓		N	All
	DHHS	48	Emergency Relief Handbook	Information & direction for emergency relief arrangements in Vic.				✓		N	All
	DHHS	42	Fire risk management system	GIS program identifying location & details of community facilities managed by DHHS and allied agencies.		✓				N	All
All	Vic Pol	43	Investigations	Investigate suspicious fires to ascertain cause and identify perpetrators.			✓			N	All
	DELWP/PV	44	Enforcement	Programs which support legislative compliance. Includes patrols to enforce campfire regulations, forest closures, fire cause investigations and prosecutions.	✓					N	All
All	Vic Roads	45	Traffic Diversion	Establishment of an appropriate traffic flow, through traffic management in the community and appropriate access and egress for property and business owners. Includes Traffic Management Strategies Assistance to other agencies.		✓				N	All
All	Vic Pol	46	Evacuations	Coordinate evacuation measures undertaken in response to a bushfire threat.				✓		N	All

Risk Addressed	Responsible Agency(s)	Treatment		Treatment Description	Spectrum					Application	
ID #		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use	Targeted*	Year 1, 2, 3
3	ARMB	47	Patrol/ Inspection	Inspections of assets to ensure compliance with regulations and safety requirements, to asses for fire hazards and fires.	✓					Y	All
All	PV	48	Patrol/Inspection	Inspections of assets to ensure compliance with regulations and safety requirements and to assess for fire hazards. Includes Campfire Patrols and Parks Victoria Ranger Patrol Program.	✓	✓				Y	All
All	PV/DELWP	49	Park/Forest closures	Closure of parks/Forests and facilities at times of Code Red Days.		✓				N	All
All	CFA	50	Community Fire Guard	A community development program designed to help reduce the loss of lives & homes in bushfires. It assists neighbouring residents to develop bushfire survival strategies that suit their level of risk, lifestyle, environment & values.		✓				Y	All
All	CFA	51	Bushfire Planning Workshops	Interactive workshop for residents living in High to Extreme bushfire risk areas. Participants are guided through the Fire Ready Kit by a trained facilitator to identify their own bushfire risks and the considerations they'll need to make when putting together their bushfire survival plan.		✓	✓			Y	All
Building Capability	CFA	52	Home Bushfire Advice Service	Individual 1:1 fire awareness & education for residents with the highest level of bushfire risk. Advice on property management, planning, personal capacity & potential fire hazards.		✓	✓			Y	All
See CFA annual Bushfire Project Plan	CFA	53	Fire Ready Victoria	Assists in perception & understanding bushfire risk, to modify behaviours to make individuals act more safely. Includes bushfire awareness sessions for communities, community groups, businesses & service providers.		✓				Y	All
See annual Bushfire Project Plan	CFA	54	Awareness	Fire awareness programs targeted at communities via shows/events/displays.		✓				N	All
All	DELWP/PV	55	Education	Programs which maintain public awareness of the bushfire threat, promote the importance of self-protection & encourage the responsible use of fire by the community. Includes multimedia messaging, in field patrols and publications.	✓					N	All
All	CFA	56	Vulnerable Communities Fire Awareness	Community education & information for vulnerable groups about fire.	✓	✓				N	All
All	Regional Development Victoria		Business and Recovery Support	RDV can provide Small Businesses with mentoring services and advice on grant availability for fire effected communities.				✓		N	All

Risk Addressed	Responsible Agency(s)	Treatment		Treatment Description	Spectrum					Application	
ID #		ID #	Name		Prevention	Preparedness	Response	Recovery	Use	Targeted*	Year 1, 2, 3
All											
All											
All											

5.4 SPECIFIC TREATMENTS

In addition to the above Risk Assessment and Risk Management Strategy, the MFMPC came up with a list of specific treatments. This list of treatments (Figure below) highlights the specific activities either currently undertaken or proposed to be undertaken to mitigate fire risk further and give further detail than listed in the Risk Management Strategy. The treatment id number refers to the Risk Management Strategy above and the Risk Id number to the Risk assessment. The specific activity treatment is listed as is the type and status of the activity. Activity custodians refer to all agencies involved in the treatment regime. In terms of a timeline, the year column refers to the three year life cycle of the plan and which year the treatment is applicable.

Figure 11: Mount Hotham Specific Treatments

Activity #	Risk #	Specific Treatment Activity	Activity Type	Treatment Status	P.P.R.R or Use	Activity Custodian	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
1	1.1	Permanent ARMB generators for RMB Building, sewerage treatment plant, workshop and pump station. ARMB have written start-up and shut down procedures/checks in place for generators. MHSC have a mobile generator for Hotham Airport.	Action	Current	Preparedness	ARMB	Yes	Yes	Yes

Activity #	Risk #	Specific Treatment Activity	Activity Type	Treatment Status	P.P.R.R or Use	Activity Custodian	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	1.2	ARMB Staff trained with CFA minimum skills. One staff member trained in testing fire extinguishers. <u>Water Catchment</u> – Maintaining tracks & trails. <u>Bushfire & structural fire impact</u> – Refer to BEMP Action Statement: Local Bushfire Event, Table 6 (see Appendix 7). <u>Ski lifts & snow making equipment</u> – Snow guns are in place whilst under threat.	Action	Current	Preparedness	ARMB	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	2	ESTA numbering and fire evacuation plans/systems for lodges and clubs (see Appendix 9).	Action	Current	Prevention, Preparedness	ARMB	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	3	SOP – 8.03 Hazardous Tree Treatment. This SOP is a joint operating procedure between DELWP, CFA and Parks Vic (see Appendix 5).	Action	Current	Prevention, Response	Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes
4	4	Refer to BEMP Action Statement: Local Bushfire Event, Table 6, Line 5 (see Appendix 7).	Action	Current	Preparedness	ARMB/CFA	Yes	Yes	Yes
5	5	Ongoing communications with DELWP/PV to ensure that Communications Strategies of Park Closures and the impact on ARMB area. Refer to BEMP Action Statement: Declared Code Red Days, Table 5 (see Appendix 7).	Action	Current	Preparedness	Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes
6	6	Ongoing communications with DELWP, PV and VicRoads to ensure road closures are made only if necessary.	Advocacy	New	Preparedness	Committee	Yes	Yes	Yes

Please note: Risks 7 & 8 are listed under Strategies.

5.5 FIRE MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY

Fire management responsibility within the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort may be described in three categories.

5.5.1 RESPONSE AGENCIES

Country Fire Authority (CFA)

Is charged under the CFA Act with the responsibility for Fire Safety Planning and Fire Suppression in all areas of Victoria excepting the area covered by the Metropolitan Fire Brigade and Fire Protected Areas, however by agreement the CFA provide prevention and suppression services to the public land within the Mt Hotham Resort Management Area.

The CFA is a community based fire and emergency service whose mission is to protect lives and property. CFA responds directly to a range of emergency incidents, as well as conducting broader activities with the community such as education, awareness raising, industry brigades and fire investigation.

Link to CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

Is responsible for fire suppression and management on public land, including integrated programs with Parks Victoria. This includes planned burning for ecological and risk management objectives. Their objective is to protect communities and critical infrastructure from fire and to promote healthy and resilient ecosystems.

Link to DELWP FOPs Planning: www.DELWP.vic.gov.au/fire-and-other-emergencies/fire-plans-and-guidelines

5.5.2 REGULATORY AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board (MHARMB):

The Mount Hotham Alpine Resort Management Board is established by the Minister under Part 4 Section 34 of the Act. MHARMB knowledge and responsibilities make them a key resource of any agency involved in an emergency activity across the PPRR spectrum within the MHAR area. Their functions include:

- to plan for the development, promotion, management and use, of the alpine Resort in accordance with the object of the Act;
- to develop and promote or facilitate the development or promotion by others of the use of the alpine Resort in accordance with the object of the Act;
- to manage the alpine Resort in accordance with the object of the Act;
- to contribute to the development of the Alpine Resorts Strategic Plan and other strategic planning for alpine Resorts as a whole;
- to undertake research into alpine Resort issues;
- to contribute to and support the operation of the Council;
- to prepare and implement a Strategic Management Plan for the Resort;
- to expend or apply revenue of the Board in accordance with a direction of the Minister under section 36(1A);
- to manage the Crown land in Mt Hotham by acting as a Committee of Management under the Crown Land (Reserves) Act 1978;
- to contribute, together with Tourism Victoria, established under the Tourism Victoria Act 1992, and the Council, to the overall promotion of alpine Resorts;
- to develop a tourism and marketing strategy and to promote the Resort;

- to provide services in the nature of: garbage disposal, water supply, gas, drainage, sewerage, electricity, roads, fire protection, transport for the Resort and to charge user pays contributions for the provision of those services;
- to collect fees prescribed by the regulations for the Resort;
- to attract investment for the improvement of the Resort; and
- to carry out any other function conferred on the Board by this or any other Act.

5.5.3 NATURE AND SCOPE OF MHARMB ACTIVITIES

The scope of activities the Board facilitates is as follows:

Our Customer and Community Focus

Human resources, Resort Entry and visitors information, Ski Patrol and visitor safety, weather and snow reporting, snow play, cross country trails, traffic management, transport and snow clearing.

Our Year Round Resort

Visitor services, car parking, marketing, cultural heritage and product development.

Our Services

Asset management, water, sewerage, drainage, waste management, gas, land stability, capital works, plant/vehicles and workshop.

Our Developer Services

Resort master planning, property and leasing, property development, statutory planning and health.

Our Environment on the Ridge

Sustainability, environmental programs and Victorian Alps Nursery.

Our Strategic Partnerships

Business development and stakeholder communications.

Our Corporate Governance

Information technology, emergency management, risk management and statutory reporting. Link to Mount Hotham ARMB: <http://www.mthotham.com.au/all-about-hotham/why-hotham/corporate/who/mounthothamresortmanagementboard.asp>

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):

Is the appointed agency to co-ordinate recovery planning and operations at the State and regional levels. At a municipal level, the responsibility for recovery is with the MHARMB with recovery arrangements and plans outlined in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP).

Link to DHHS website: <http://dhhs.vic.gov.au/>

5.5.4 COMMUNITY

Land managers, the community and individuals all have a responsibility to maintain their properties and to conduct their activities in a responsible manner with respect to fire management. The effectiveness of the Risk Management Strategy relies heavily upon the community understanding and accepting their responsibilities and acting accordingly.

While specific treatments cannot be attributed to private individuals and organisations within the Risk Management Strategy the MFMPC does have an expectation that members of the community will (where appropriate):

- Prepare and plan for fires, both bushfire and structural;
- Prepare their properties for fire events;
- Ensure adequate access and water for fire fighting appliances; and
- Maintain an awareness of fire danger levels and listen for alerts and warnings.

Advice, training and support to groups, businesses and individuals concerning all of these expectations can be obtained from the CFA (see link below).

Link to CFA Fire Safety: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/firesafety

5.6 BALANCING FIRE RISK AGAINST OTHER VALUES

In the course of developing the Risk Register it became apparent to the MFMPC that some of the concerns being raised lay less with the impact of the actual fire and more with that of the treatments being applied. A number of the fire risk treatments adopted in the Risk Management Plan pose a potential threat to some of the very values the MFMPC is seeking to safeguard. It is important that these threats are noted and that a balance be struck between protecting the community from fire and maintaining the economic, social, and environmental wellbeing of the Mt Hotham Alpine Resort.

A number of processes and treatments are already in place to ensure that all values are taken into consideration and protected during the planning and implementation of fire risk treatments. Where conflict does occur the MFMP offers a dispute resolution process for member organisations by establishing a pathway for issues to be escalated and resolved at either a regional or state level by the responsible authorities.

5.7 CROSS-BOUNDARY MANAGEMENT AND LINKS TO OTHER PROGRAMS/PROCESSES

In the development and implementation of this plan, the Mount Hotham MFMPC has endeavoured to ensure that concerns which cross municipal, regional or state boundaries are treated in a seamless manner with regard to risk assessment and treatments. This has been achieved through:

- Consistent use of processes and tools across the region;
- Deliberate alignment of municipal and regional objectives;
- Frequent cross membership of MFMPC's by agencies; and
- Making draft and final MFMP's available to other MFMPC's.

6 IMPROVEMENT AND PLAN REPORTING AND REVIEW PROCESS

Monitoring and improvement forms the final stage in the IFMP process. It is an ongoing activity that entails continuous action undertaken throughout the plan's three year life.

Monitoring, evaluation and reporting occur throughout the life of the plan. The aim is to identify those treatments working effectively and those that may need to be modified. It also seeks to provide a transparent and accurate means of assessing the MFMP's progress in achieving its objective. The table below summarises the proposed implementation, reporting & review activities, and the responsible agency.

Figure 12: Mount Hotham MFMP Reporting and Evaluation Program

Frequency	Task / Action	Responsible Party
Ongoing	Implement actions, as per agreed Action Plan.	Custodians
	Further explore identified opportunities for new or enhanced treatments with relevant stakeholders, and agree course of action.	MFMP
Biannually (Every 6 Months)	Report to MFMP on the progress of treatment/action implementation, including an evaluation of treatment appropriateness, impact, effectiveness, efficiency, and legacy in a manner acceptable to the MFMP.	All Treatment Owners & Action Custodian
	Agenda and minutes to be uploaded to Mt Hotham website.	MFMP
Annually (Every 12 Months)	Update Risk Register & Work Plan to reflect treatment status, as reported by treatment owner.	MFMP
	Conduct strategic review of risks and associated treatment program, asking: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are the identified risks still valid? Do their pre-treatment and residual risk ratings still hold true? Are there new risks that need to be added to the register and managed? Do the treatments currently in place adequately address the identified risks? Are there any new or enhanced treatments required? 	MFMP
	Review and update Plan content and mapping to ensure validity.	MFMP
	Provide overarching progress report to Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee, focusing on the collective effectiveness of treatments in the management of risks and progress towards the achievement of objectives.	MFMP
Triennially (Every 3 Years)	Conduct end-to-end review of Plan, with particular focus on the environmental scan and objectives.	MFMP

7 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Stakeholder Type and Engagement Level		
Stakeholder Type	Description	Participation Level*
Internal	Formal responsibilities for IFMP process and outcomes	Collaborate and empower
Primary	MFMP membership, responsibility for development of the plan, communication and engagement across and within organisations rest with these organisations	Collaborate and empower
Secondary	RSFMPC membership or fire management role within municipality, may be requested to provide specific inputs, dependent upon outputs, or requested to be involved in specific tasks,	Involve and consult
Tertiary	Strong interest in outcomes	Inform and consult

*IAP2 Public Participation Spectrum: *empower* → *collaborate* → *involve* → *consult* → *inform*

Fire Management Roles	
Role	Description
Fire Coordination	Bringing together of fire management agencies and elements to ensure effective response to an incident or emergency. CFA has legislated responsibility under the CFA act 1958 for the prevention and suppression of fires and for the protection of life and property in the Country Area of Victoria. In accordance with provisions in the CFA Act and the Forest Act 1958, DELWP has fire management and fire suppression responsibilities for state forests and national, state and regional parks.
Land Owner/Manager Responsibilities	Landholder/managers are heavily involved in fire prevention and fire suppression on land under their control. They have legislated responsibilities to extinguish a fire burning on their land and to prevent fires from starting from the use of equipment and vehicles (CFA Act 1958, Crimes Act 1958). They are also required to comply with relevant State government laws, local government laws, relevant planning and building permit conditions and conditions associated with permits to burn.
Response	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after a fire incident to minimise the impact of the fire.
Recovery	A coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.
Community Education	Community education is learning and social development, working with individuals and groups in their communities using a range of formal and informal methods
Community Care	Community care is about identifying and catering for groups or individuals with specific needs, before during and after fire.
Asset Protection	Asset protection involves protecting key community infrastructure such as power, water supplies, roads, gas pipes and protecting community assets such as parks and the environment. Asset protection can also involve the protection of private assets such as housing, plantations, crops and fences.
Regulatory	The issuing of permits for lighting fires. The development of and compliance with planning controls and permits for developments and building that take into account fire risk/management. The regulation and issuing of permits involving vegetation removal or fuel reduction activities for fire management purposes.

Mt Hotham Alpine Resort MFMPC Stakeholder Analysis														
Stakeholder	Type				Fire Management Role Within Hume Region									
	Internal	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Fire Coordination	Land Manager	Response	Recovery	Community Info	Community Care	Asset Protect	Regulate	RSFMPC Member	Other
Hume RSFMPC	✓						✓	✓	✓				✓	Regional IFMP oversight & strategic fire planning
MEMPC	✓						✓	✓	✓					Municipal integrated & strategic emergency planning
MFMPC	✓						✓	✓	✓					Municipal integrated & strategic fire planning
MHARMB		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
MHSC		✓									✓			
CFA		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	Fire safety expertise
DELWP		✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	Forest fire expertise
Parks Vic		✓				✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
DHHS			✓				✓	✓		✓			✓	
DEDJTR			✓					✓				✓	✓	Oversight of rural adjustment & development programs, development of planning controls, animal health, agricultural loss & recovery responsibilities
Vic Pol			✓				✓						✓	
SES			✓				✓						✓	
Vic Roads			✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	
Ausnet Services			✓							✓			✓	

Mt Hotham Alpine Resort MFMPC Stakeholder Analysis														
Stakeholder	Type				Fire Management Role Within Hume Region									
	Internal	Primary	Secondary	Tertiary	Fire coordination	Land manager	Response	Recovery	Community info	Community care	Asset protect	Regulate	RSFMPC member	Other
GMW			✓			✓					✓			
Telstra			✓							✓	✓		✓	
Optus				✓						✓	✓			
HVP				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓			
DEDJTR				✓						✓				
Ambulance Vic				✓						✓				
Media				✓			✓		✓					
Local community/industry groups				✓										
General public				✓		✓	✓	✓			✓			Responsibility for private property, social networks & personal wellbeing.
Mt Hotham Chamber of Commerce									✓					
Hotham Ski Association									✓					
Hotham Head lessees									✓					

Mt Hotham Alpine Resort MFMPC Communication & Engagement Plan										
Stakeholder	Engagement Level	Engagement Activity								
		Meeting minutes, reports & agendas	1:1 consultation	IFMP & Mt Hotham web site	Email updates	Media articles	Special meetings	Draft consultation	3 year review	Individual organisation networks
Internal Stakeholders										
Hume RSFMPC	Collaborate & empower	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
MEMPC										
MFMPC										
Primary – answerable for activity/decision										
Mt Hotham Alpine Resort	Collaborate & empower	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CFA										
DELWP										
Mt Hotham Ski Lifts										
Parks Victoria										
Secondary – Contributory responsibility										
Parks Victoria	Involve & consult		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
DHHS										
DEDJTR										
Vic Pol										
SES										
Vic Roads										
Ausnet Services										
GMW										
Telstra										
Tertiary - Interested										
Optus	Inform & consult			✓		✓		✓	✓	
NECMA/GBCMA										
HVP										
DEDJTR										
Ambulance Vic										
Media										
Local community/industry groups										
General public										

Mt Hotham Alpine Resort MFMPC Communication & Engagement Plan										
Stakeholder	Engagement Level	Engagement Activity								
		Meeting minutes, reports & agendas	1:1 consultation	IFMP & Mt Hotham web site	Email updates	Media articles	Special meetings	Draft consultation	3 year review	Individual organisation networks
Tertiary - Interested										
Hotham head lessees	Inform & consult			✓		✓		✓	✓	
Hotham Ski Association										
Mt Hotham Chamber of Commerce										

APPENDIX 2: VILLAGE GUIDE

[Click here for document](#)

APPENDIX 3: RISK ASSESSMENT TABLES

3.1 Risk Categories Table

Risk Group	Risk Category	Risk Element
SOCIAL	People & Social Setting	<i>Life & injury:</i> Public Safety <i>Social services:</i> Functional continuity <i>Health & wellbeing:</i> Social networks <i>Displacement of people:</i> Employment/income
	Infrastructure	<i>Residential:</i> House, flat, caravan, apartments <i>Public accommodation:</i> Boarding house, hotel, hostel, correctional facilities <i>Public assembly:</i> Education, hall, theatre, stadium, cafe, restaurant <i>Health care:</i> Special accommodation homes, nursing homes and hospitals
	Cultural, Heritage	<i>Heritage sites and buildings</i> <i>Indigenous sites</i> <i>Iconic sites and features:</i> e.g. Puffing Billy
ECONOMIC	Infrastructure	<i>Commercial:</i> Shopping complex, office <i>Industrial:</i> Factory (heavy, light, special), warehouse, Silo, chemical, petrol <i>Critical/Essential Infrastructure:</i> Pipelines, Power, public transport systems, Water Catchments, Power Water & Sewerage, Gas, Communications <i>Transport:</i> Road, rail, bridge, tunnel, port, marine, airport
	Production	<i>Agriculture and Farming:</i> Plantation, crop, pasture, poultry, feedlot, sawmill <i>Business/Industrial Capacity:</i> <i>Tourism:</i>
ENVIRONMENT	Biodiversity	<i>Assets that provide biological based ecosystem functions and/or services considered of value.</i>
	Water	<i>Assets that provide of atmospheric/climatic ecosystem functions and/or services considered of value</i>
	Air	<i>Assets that provide water-based ecosystems functions and/or services considered of value.</i>
PLANNING	Governance & Regulation	<i>Corporate Governance Issues, including organisation structures; Boundary issues, Inter-Agency Agreements; Environmental scans; Population projections; urban development projections/planning; Volume projections; Long term/short term solutions; Infrastructure requirements to meet projected community needs</i>
	Planning & Communication	<i>Internal, external, multi-municipal, communications strategies</i>
	Stakeholder Management	<i>Community Expectations; Government expectations; Business and Industry Issues, including risks associated with developing and implementing programs to minimise the impact of fire on business and industry;</i>
	Operational	<i>Encompasses the planning, daily operational activities, resources (including people) and support required within the ‘area of interest’, that results in the successful development and delivery of products/ services.</i>
	Financial	<i>Ability to allocate limited financial resources to maximum effect; Ability to fund adequate resources to meet community needs; Skills & technical expertise; Management skills; Equipment maintenance, upgrades, and replacement funding; Geographical remoteness location needs; Government's ability to fund requirements to meet population growth needs</i>

3.2 State Bushfire Consequence Table

STATE DESCRIPTOR BUSHFIRE	People - Bushfire	Infrastructure - Bushfire	Public Admin - Bushfire	Environment - Bushfire	Economy - Bushfire	Social Setting
Catastrophic	50+ lives lost. Hundreds injured 1000+ houses destroyed. 2000+ people displaced. 30,000 + livestock lost.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for 24-48 hours to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city/several suburbs for more than a week.	Significant statewide outrage. Royal Commission or other similar inquiry leading to changes in policy and practice.	Permanent total loss of one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. Loss of nationally significant cultural assets.	\$1B or 30% of State revenue	Severe disruption to community wellbeing over the whole area or a large part of it for a period of many years
Major	10 -50 fatalities as a direct result of the bushfire event. 300 - 1000 houses destroyed. 500 -2000 people displaced. 10,000 - 30,000 livestock lost. Significant loss of breeding stock.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for up to 8-24 hours to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city/several suburbs for 4 days and up to a week.	Significant regional and local outrage, with some occurring at state level. Parliamentary or other inquiry leading to change in practice.	Permanent partial loss of one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. Extinction of a species or significantly increase the likelihood of extinction to almost certain that intervention such as captive breeding programs are required. Loss of state significant cultural assets.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, forestry, wine and grape etc) to the value of more than \$300M.	Severe disruption to community wellbeing over a wide area or for more than 24 months.
Serious	2 - 10 fatalities as a direct result of the bushfire event. Large number of people affected by smoke. 30 - 300 houses lost. 200- 500 people displaced 4000 - 10000 livestock lost.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for up to 2-8 hours to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city/several suburbs for 2-4 days.	Some outrage at local and regional level.	Long term disturbance to one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. National response and/or support for animal welfare. Loss of a regionally significant cultural asset such as Phillip Island penguins, Healesville Sanctuary, Puffing Billy.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, business etc) to the value of more than \$100M.	Major disruption to community wellbeing over a moderate to large area* or for a period of months.
Significant	Single fatality and/or multiple serious injuries requiring hospitalisation as a direct result of the bushfire event. Up to 30 houses lost. 50 - 200 people displaced. 2000 - 4000 livestock lost.	Loss of critical infrastructure and/or services for up to 1 hour to the Melbourne metropolitan area. Loss of services to a major regional city for 1 day. Loss of services to local community for a week.	Local outrage and concern.	Temporary disturbance to one or more ecosystems or critical habitat elements. Local response and/or support for animal welfare.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, business etc) to the value of more than \$30M.	Localised disruption to community wellbeing over a small area or for a period of weeks.
Important	Serious injury and disability, up to 50 people displaced, up to 2000 livestock lost	Loss of services to regional town for a day. Loss of services to local community of up to a week	Local concern	Temporary disturbance to local habitat . Local response and/or support for animal welfare.	Damage costs including legal actions and/or industry impacts (tourism, business etc) to the value of less than \$30M.	Localised disruption to community wellbeing over a small area or for a period of up to one week.

3.3 Likelihood Table

Level	Descriptor	Description In any one year, the likelihood of the event occurring is:
A	Almost Certain (Annually)	Close to 100% - Annually
B	Likely	33% (i.e., once in every three years)
C	Possible	10% (i.e., once every 10 years)
D	Unlikely	3% (once every 30 years)
E	Rare	1% (once every 100 years)

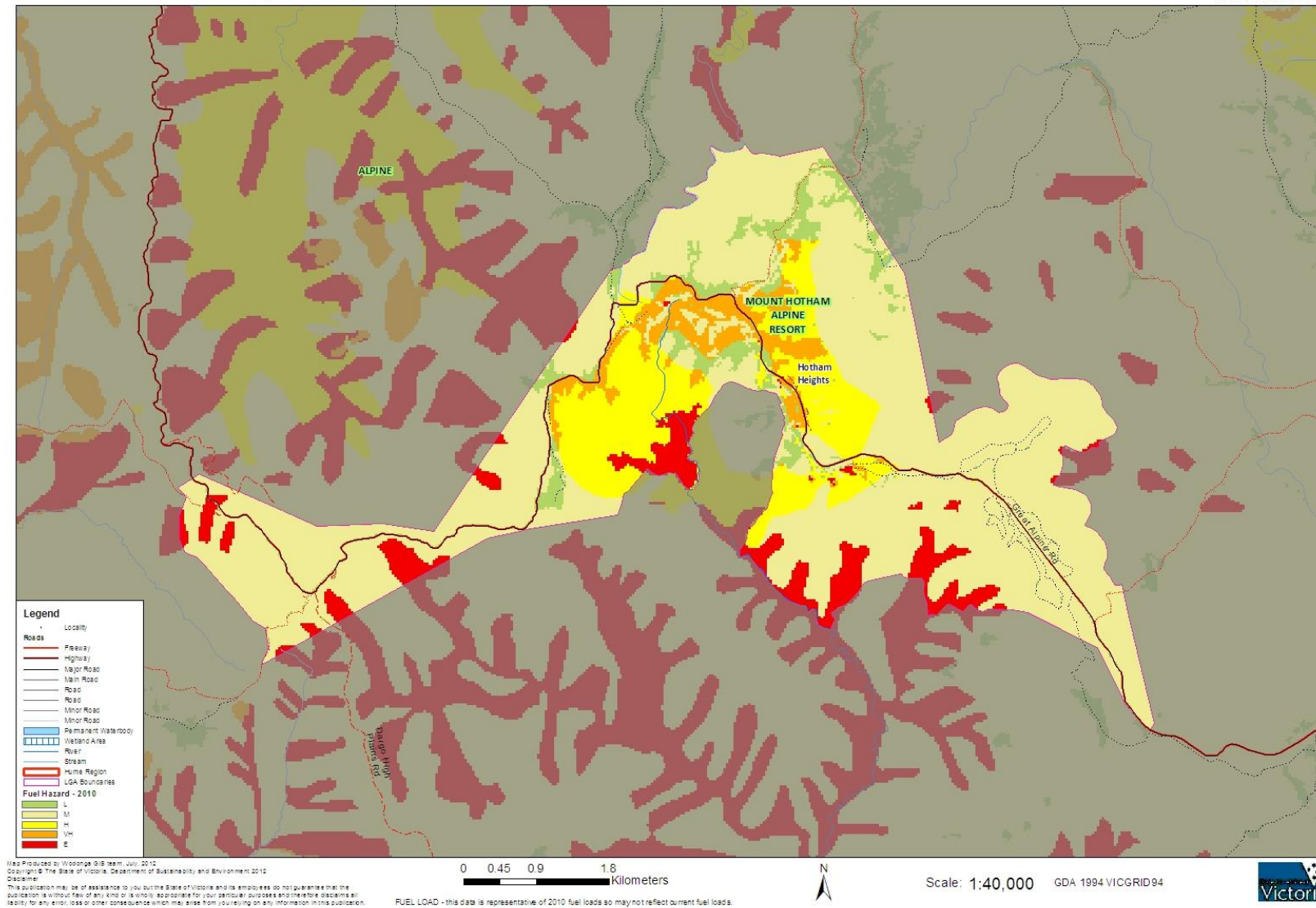
3.4 Risk Assessment Matrix

Consequence Level					
Likelihood Level	Important	Significant	Serious	Major	Catastrophic
Almost Certain	Moderate	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme
Likely	Low	Moderate	High	High	Extreme
Possible	Low	Low	Moderate	High	High
Unlikely	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High
Rare	Low	Low	Low	Moderate	Moderate

APPENDIX 4: ENVIRONMENTAL MAPS & DATA

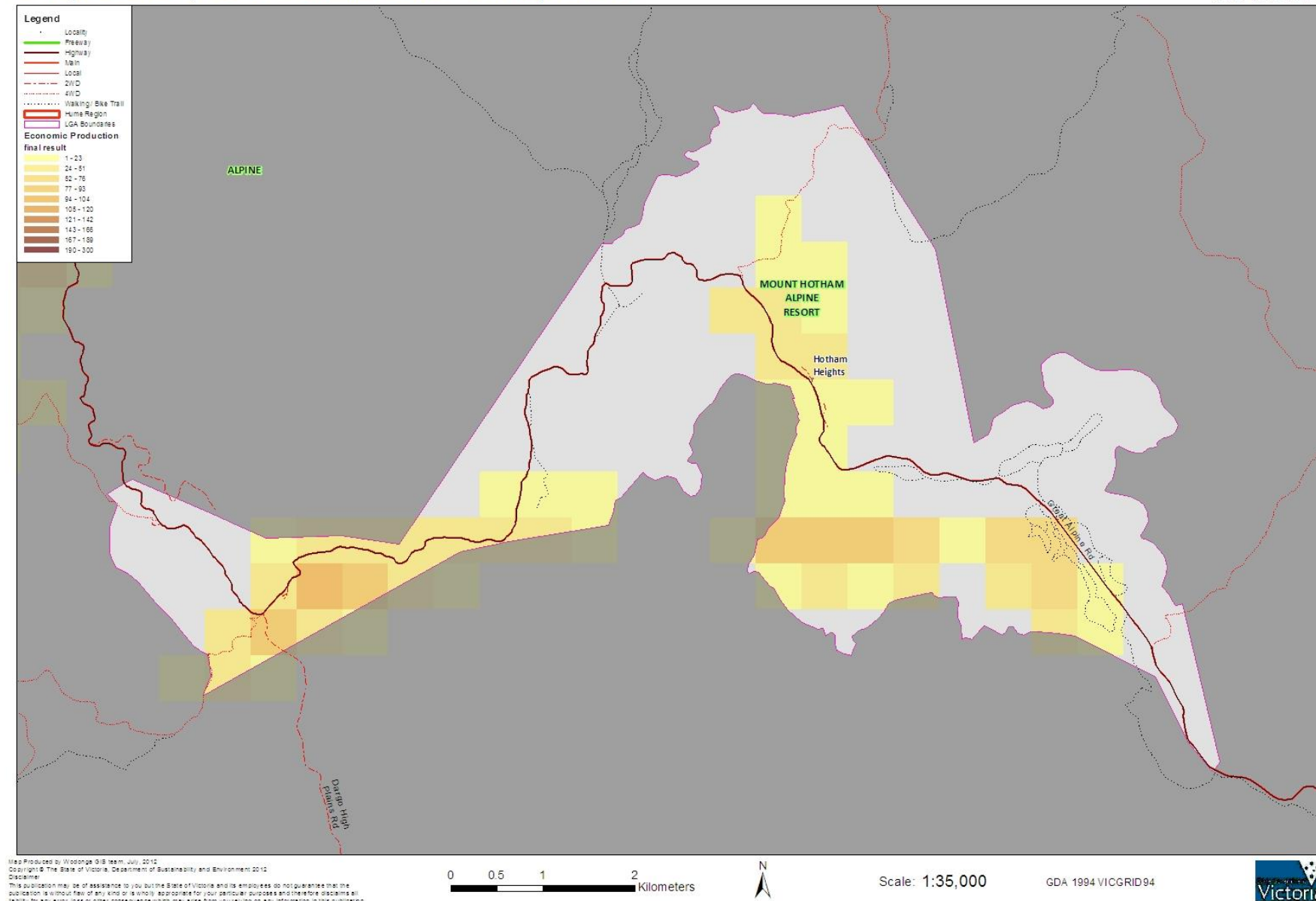
Fuel Loads - Mount Hotham Alpine Resort

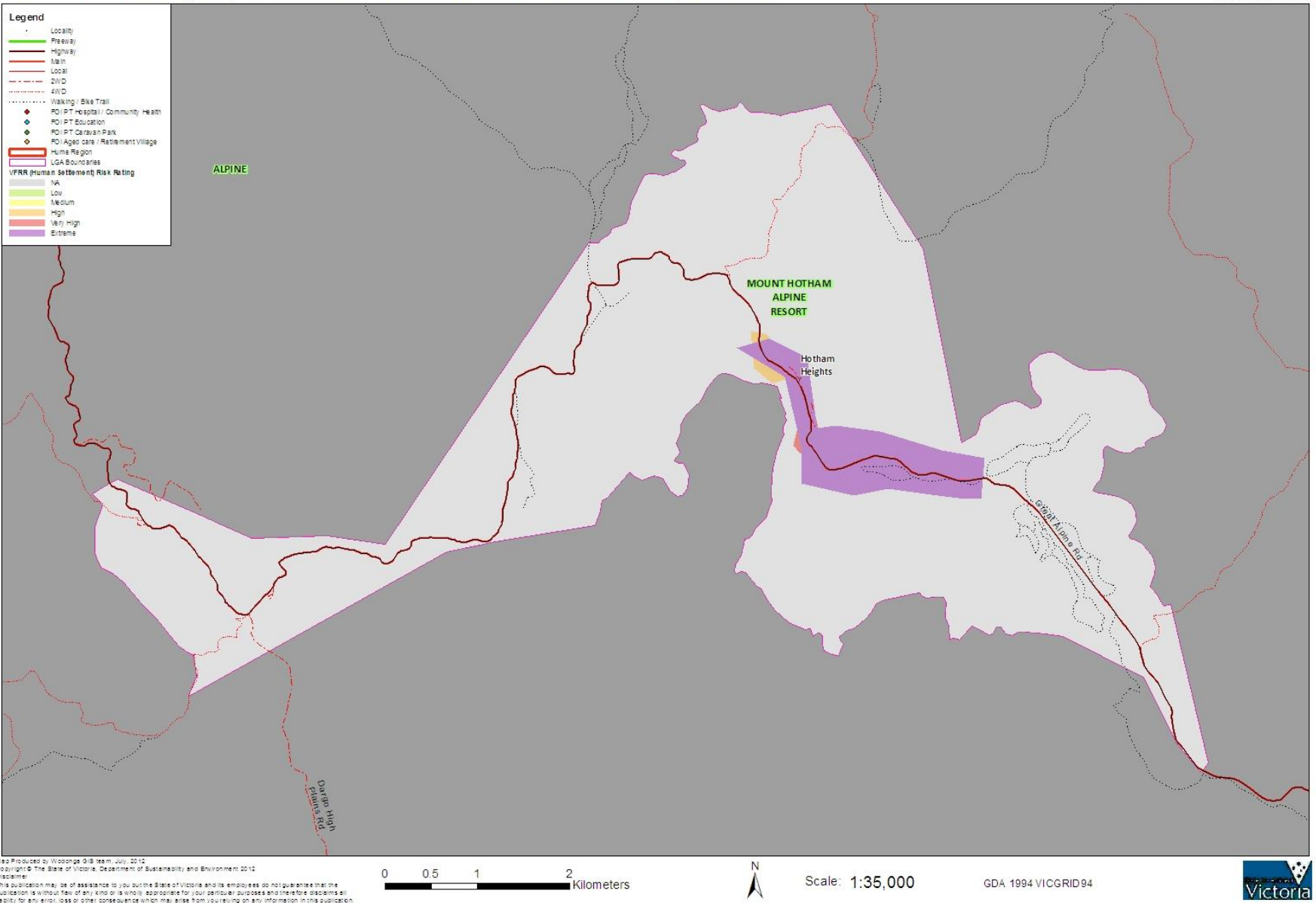
Date: 14/07/2012

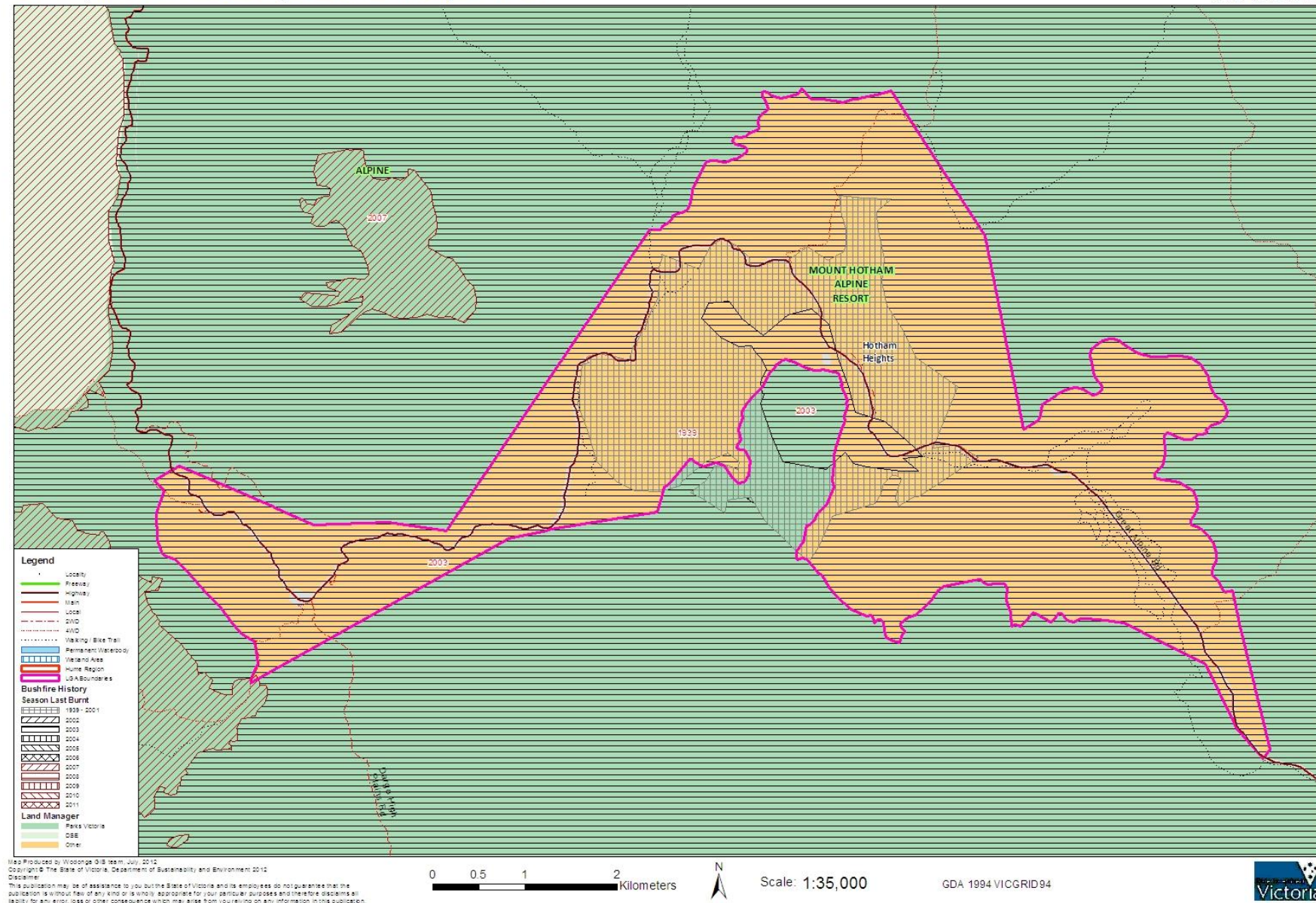


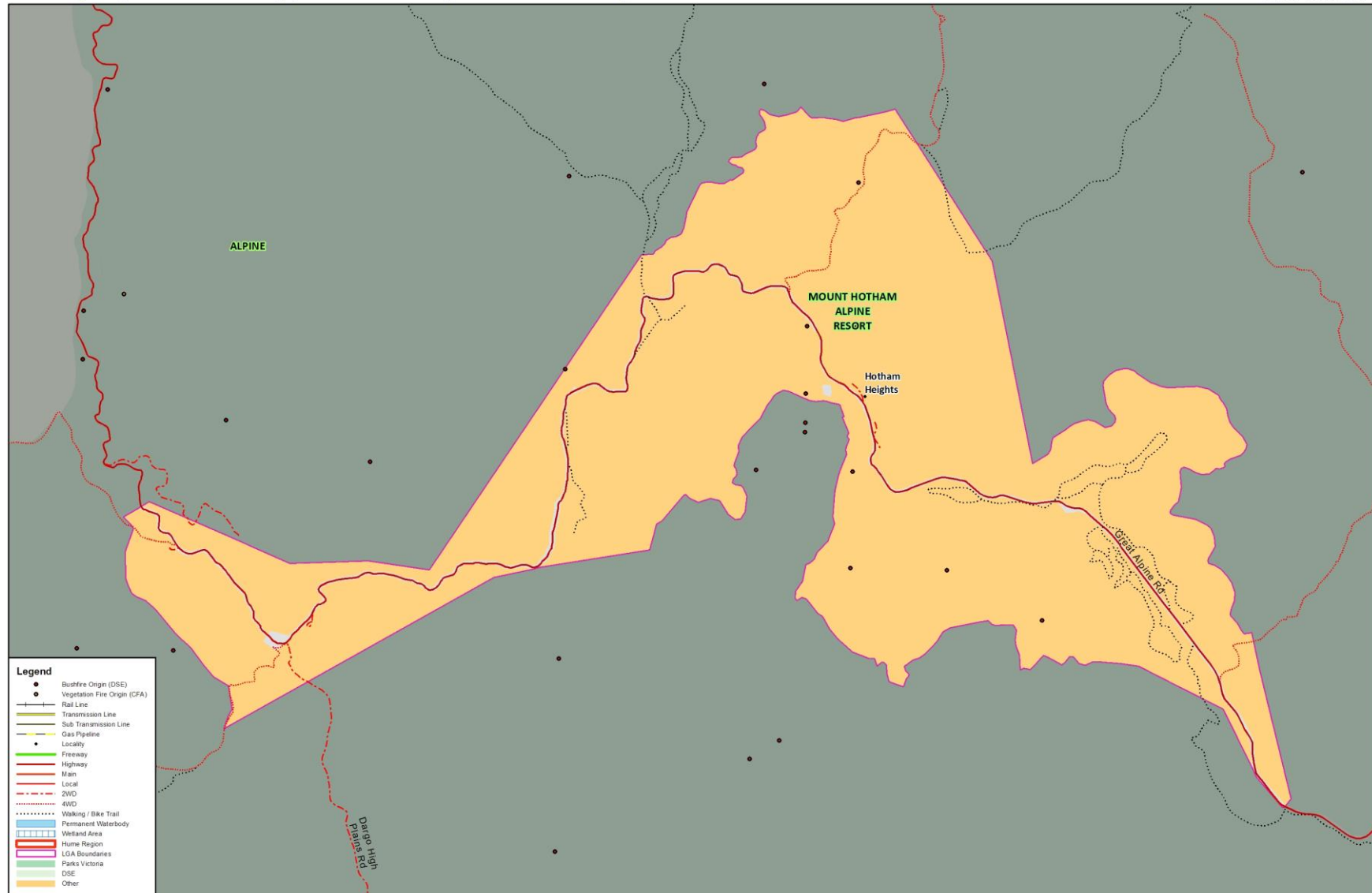
Consequence of Loss, Economic Production - Mount Hotham Alpine Resort

Date: 15/07/2012









Map Produced by Wodonga GIS team, July, 2012.
Copyright © The State of Victoria, Department of Sustainability and Environment 2012

Disclaimer
This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

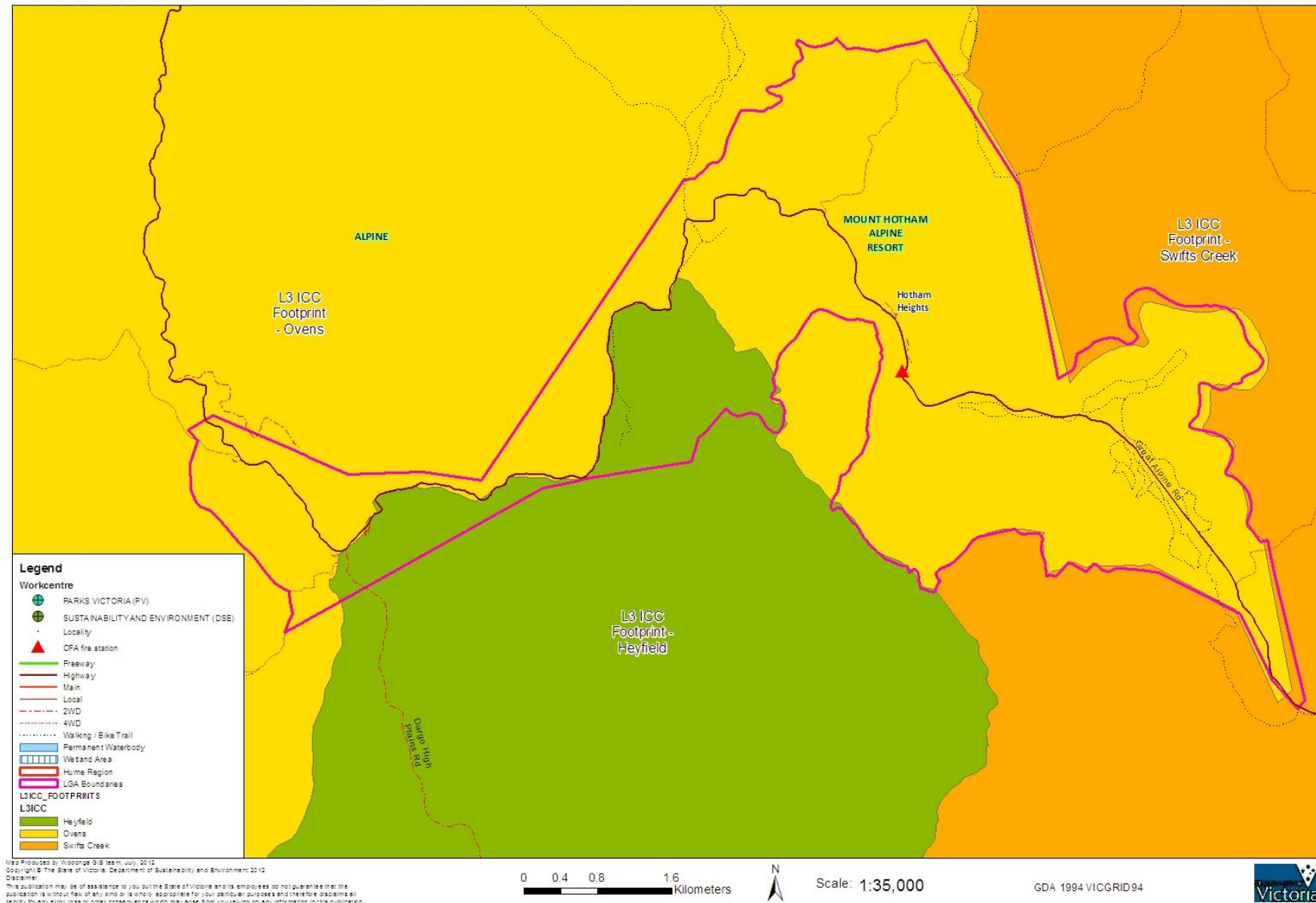
0 0.4 0.8 1.6
Kilometers

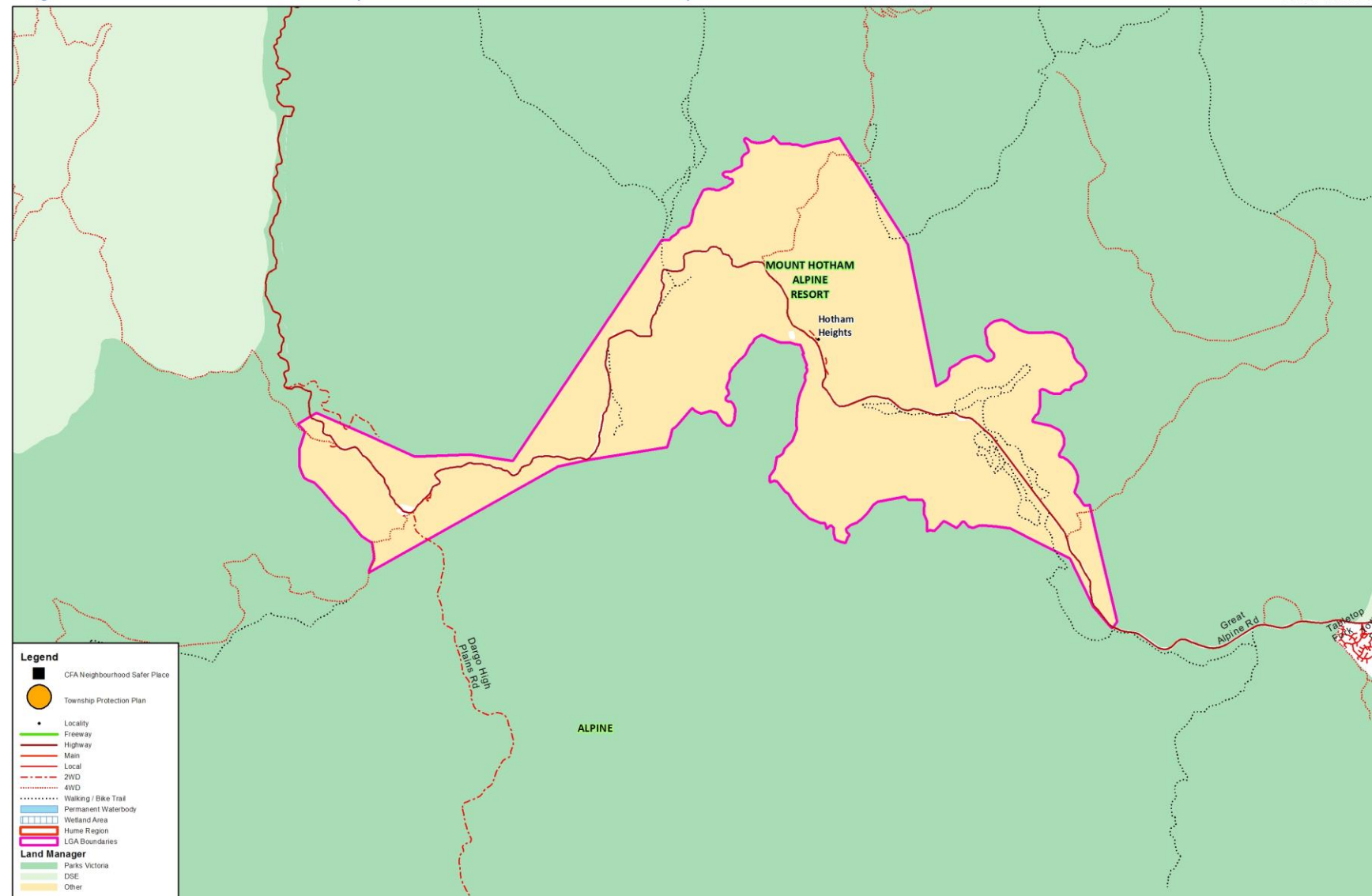


Scale: 1:35,000

GDA 1994 VICGRID94







Map Produced by Wodonga GIS team, July, 2012.
 Copyright © The State of Victoria, Department of Sustainability and Environment 2012
 Disclaimer
 This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

0 0.5 1 2
 Kilometers



Scale: 1:50,000

GDA 1994 VICGRID94



APPENDIX 5: HAZARDOUS TREE TREATMENT – IDENTIFICATION AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

‘SOP – 8.03 Hazardous Tree Treatment’ – This SOP is a joint operating procedure between DELWP, CFA and Parks Vic.

<http://files.em.vic.gov.au/JSOP/SOP-J08.03.pdf>

APPENDIX 6: COMMUNITY INFORMATION GUIDE & NEIGHBOURHOOD SAFER PLACES

A Community Information Guide has been produced for Mount Hotham Alpine Resort and Dinner Plain:

Hotham and Dinner Plain Community Information Guide 2014

There are no Neighbourhood Safer Places -Place of Last Resort within the Mount Hotham Alpine Resort.

More information on Neighbourhood Safer Places can be found on the CFA website at:

<http://www.saferplaces.cfa.vic.gov.au/cfa/search/default.htm>

APPENDIX 7: BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN (BEMP)

[Click here for document](#)

APPENDIX 8: MT HOTHAM FIRE HYDRANT MAP

[Click here for document](#)

APPENDIX 9: FIRE SAFETY MANAGEMENT AND EVACUATION PLAN TEMPLATE

[Click here for document](#)

APPENDIX 10: STRATEGIC FIRE AND FUEL BREAKS PLAN

[Click here for document](#)

APPENDIX 11: GLOSSARY & ACRONYMS

Term	Description
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
Acceptable Risk	The level of potential losses that a society or community considers acceptable, given existing social, economic, political, cultural, technical and environmental conditions.
AFAC	Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Council
APT	Australian Pipeline Trust
ARMB	Alpine Resort Management Board
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System A nationally adopted structure to formalise a coordinated approach to emergency incident management.
Assets and Values	Recognised features of the built, natural and cultural environments. Built assets may include buildings, roads and bridges; Structures managed by utility and service providers; or recognised features of private land, such as houses, property, stock and crops plus associated equipment. Natural assets may include forest produce, forest regeneration, conservation values including vegetation types, fauna, air and water catchments. Cultural values may include recreational, indigenous, historical, and archaeological and landscape values. (Code of Practice for Emergency Management on Public Land)
AWS	Automatic Weather Station The Bureau's standard AWSs use sensors to monitor temperature, humidity, wind speed and direction, pressure and rainfall. Various advanced sensors are available for specialised applications. These sensors can monitor cloud height (ceilometer), visibility, present weather, thunderstorms, soil temperature (at a range of depths) and terrestrial temperature. (Developed from the BOM).
BASO	Brigade Administration Support Officer
BMO	Bushfire Management Overlay
BOM	Bureau of Meteorology
Burning Program	A program of prescribed burns scheduled these for a designated area over a nominated time, normally looking ahead over one fire season (for the coming spring to the following autumn), but can also look ahead five years or more.
Burn Plan	The plan which is approved for the conduct of prescribed burning. It contains a map identifying the area to be burnt and incorporates the specifications and conditions under which the operation is to be conducted.
Bushfire	Unplanned vegetation fire. A generic term which includes grass fires, forest fires and scrub fires both with and without a suppression objective.
Bushfire Danger Period	A period of the year either established by legislation or declared by the relevant agency, when restrictions are placed on the use of fire due to dry vegetation and the existence of conditions conducive to the spread of fire.
Bushfire Management	All those activities directed to prevention, detection, damage mitigation, and suppression of bushfires. Includes bushfire legislation, policy, administration, law enforcement, community education, training of fire fighters, planning, communications systems, equipment, research, and the multitude of field operations undertaken by land managers and emergency services personnel relating to bushfire control.
Campaign Fire	A fire normally of a size and/or complexity that requires substantial fire fighting resources, and possibly several days or weeks to suppress.
CERM	Community Emergency Risk Management
CFA	Country Fire Authority

Term	Description
COL	Consequence of Loss - OESC A dataset is owned and maintained by the OESC. The dataset contains records of infrastructure and assets under the categories: Economic Infrastructure, Economic Production, Environmental Biodiversity, Social Cultural, Social Human Life and Social Infrastructure. The dataset contains detailed attributes about the assets type, value and location.
CIG	Community Information Guide (formerly known as Township Protection Plan)
Consequence	Outcome or impact of an event
Control Authority	The agency, service, organization or authority with legislative responsibility for control of the incident. (Also referred to as the responsible authority or agency.)
Coordination	The bringing together of agencies and elements to ensure effective response to an incident or emergency. It is primarily concerned with the systematic acquisition and application of resources in accordance with the requirements imposed by the emergency or emergencies. Coordination relates primarily to resources and operates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • vertically, within an agency, as a function of the authority to command; • horizontally, across agencies, as a function of the authority to control.
Essential Infrastructure	Those services, physical facilities, supply chains, information technologies and communication networks that, if destroyed, degraded or rendered unavailable for an extended period, would significantly impact on the social or economic wellbeing of the community E.g. Water supply facilities.
Curing	Drying and browning of herbaceous vegetation due to mortality or senescence.
DEDJTR	Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
EHO	Environmental Health Officer – Council
Elements at Risk	The population, buildings and civil engineering works, economic activities, public services and infrastructure etc., exposed to sources of risk.
EMA	Emergency Management Act
EMMV	Emergency Management Manual Victoria
EPBC	Environmental Protection Biodiversity Conservation
Essential Service	A service (including the supply of goods) that if rendered unavailable for an extended period would significantly impact on the social or economic wellbeing of the community E.g. Electricity supply. (Adapted from Essential Services Commission Act 2001)
FDI	Fire Danger Index A relative number denoting the potential rates of spread, or suppression difficulty for specific combinations of temperature, relative humidity, drought effects and wind speed.
FDR	Fire Danger Rating A relative class denoting the potential rates of spread, or suppression difficulty for specific combinations of temperature, relative humidity, drought effects and wind speed, indicating the relative evaluation of fire danger.
FFG Act 1988	Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 – Victorian State Legislation
Fire Management	All activities associated with the management of fire prone land, including the use of fire to meet land management goals and objectives.

Term	Description
FOI	Freedom of Information
Fuel Break System	A series of modified strips or blocks tied together to form continuous strategically located fuel breaks around land units.
Fuel Management	Modification of fuels by prescribed burning, or other means.
Fuel Modification	Manipulation or removal of fuels to reduce the likelihood of ignition and/or to lessen potential damage and resistance to control (e.g., lopping, chipping, crushing, piling and burning).
Fire Season	The period during which bushfires are likely to occur, spread and do sufficient damage to warrant organised fire control.
FRB	Fuel Reduction Burn
Fuel	Any material such as grass, leaf litter and live vegetation which can be ignited and sustains a fire. Fuel is usually measured in tonnes per hectare. Related Terms: Available fuel, Coarse fuel, Dead fuel, Elevated dead fuel, Fine fuel Ladder fuels, Surface fuels, and Total fine fuel.
Fuel Hazard	A fuel complex, defined by volume, type condition, arrangement, and location, that determines the degree of ease of ignition and of resistance to control.
Fuel Management	Modification of fuels by prescribed burning or other means. (AFAC)
GBCMA	Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
GMW	Goulburn Murray Water
GVW	Goulburn Valley Water
Hazard	A source of potential harm or situation with a potential to cause loss. A potentially damaging physical event that may cause loss of life or injury, property damage, social and economic disruption or environmental degradation.
Hazard Layer – DELWP	Hazard layer developed and maintained by DELWP, Office of Land and Fire. It is a state-wide coverage of <30 m ² > cell resolution with approx. 27 attributes detailing surface and elevated fuel loads, hazard ratings and vegetation descriptions.
HRSFMPC	Hume Region Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee
HRSFMP	Hume Region Strategic Fire Management Plan
IAP	Incident Action Plan
IFMP	Integrated Fire Management Planning
IRSED	Index of Relative Social & Economic Disadvantage ABS scoring method for determining and comparing levels of social and economic disadvantage in given areas at a given point in time, with information displayed according to IRSED values from lowest (most disadvantaged) to highest (least disadvantaged).
ISO	International Standards Organisation
ISO 31000:2009	An international risk management standard that provides principles and general guidelines on how to manage risk
ICC	Incident Control Centre The location where the Incident Controller and various members of the Incident Management Team provide overall direction of response activities.
LGA	Local Government Authority Represents relevant Municipal Council (or ARMB) for area of concern.

Term	Description
Likelihood	Probability or frequency of an event can be either qualitative or quantitative.
Loss	Any negative consequence or adverse effect, financial or otherwise.
MBS	Municipal Building Surveyor - Council
MDA	Map Display Area
MEMP	Municipal Emergency Management Planning
MEMPC	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
MERC	Municipal Emergency Response Coordinator – Victoria Police
MERO	Municipal Emergency Resource Officer – Council
MFB	Metropolitan Fire Brigade
MFMP	Municipal Fire Management Planning
MFMPC	Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee
MFPC	Municipal Fire Prevention Committee (<i>superseded by MFMPC</i>)
MFPP	Municipal Fire Prevention Plan (<i>superseded by MFMP</i>)
MFPO	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
Mitigation	Measures taken in advance of a disaster, aimed at decreasing or eliminating its impact on society and environment.
Municipal Area	The geographic footprint of the relevant LGA/ARMB
NECMA	North East Catchment Management Authority
NEW	North East Water
NSP	Neighbourhood Safer Place – Place of Last Resort
OESC	Office of Emergency Service Commission
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response, Recovery
Practicable	What is realistic to achieve in the context of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The severity of the hazard. • The state of knowledge about the hazard or risk and any ways of removing or mitigating it. • The availability and suitability of ways to remove or mitigate that hazard or risk. • The cost of removing or mitigating that hazard or risk. (Dangerous Goods (Storage and Handling) Regulations 2000)
Preparedness	Arrangements to ensure that in the event of an emergency occurring all those resources and services that area needed to cope with the effects can be efficiently mobilised and deployed.
Prescribed Burning	The controlled application of fire under specified environmental conditions to a predetermined area and at the time, intensity, and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives.
Prevention	Regulatory and physical measures to ensure that emergencies are prevented, or their effects mitigated.
Probability	A measure of the chance of an event occurring, often expressed as a number.
Recovery	The coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.
Residual Risk	Risk remaining after implementation of a risk treatment.

Term	Description
Resilience	The capacity of a system, community or society potentially exposed to hazards to adapt, by resisting or changing in order to reach and maintain an acceptable level of functioning and structure. This is determined by the degree to which the social system is capable of organising itself to increase its capacity for learning from past disasters for better future protection and to improve risk reduction measures. (UN/ISDR, Geneva 2004)
Response	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an emergency, to ensure its effects are minimised and that people affected are given immediate relief and support.
Risk	The exposure to the possibility of such things as economic or financial loss or gain, physical damage, injury or delay, as a consequence of pursuing a particular course of action. The concept of risk has two elements, i.e. the likelihood of something happening and the consequences if it happens.
Risk Analysis	A systematic use of available information to determine how often specific events may occur and the magnitude of their likely consequence.
Risk Assessment	The overall process of risk identification, analysis and evaluation.
Risk Criteria	Terms of reference by which the significance of risk is assessed.
Risk Evaluation	Process of comparing the level of risk against criteria.
Risk Identification	The process of determining what, where, when, why and how something could happen.
Risk Management	The culture, process and structure that are directed towards potential opportunities whilst managing adverse effects.
Risk Management Process	The systematic application of management of policies, procedures and practices to the tasks of communicating, establishing the context, identifying, analysing, evaluating, treating, monitoring and reviewing risk.
Risk Reduction	Actions taken to lessen the likelihood, negative consequences, or both, associated with a risk.
Risk Register	A listing of risk statements describing sources of risk and elements at risk, with assigned consequences, likelihoods and levels of risk.
Risk Treatment	Process of selection and implementation of measures to modify risk.
RSFMPC	Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee
SES	State Emergency Services
SFMPC	State Fire Management Planning Committee
SMR	StateNet Mobile Radio
SOP	Standard Operating Procedures
Source of Risk	Source of potential harm
Stakeholders	Those people and organisations who may affect, be affected by or perceive themselves to be affected by a decision, activity or risk.
Susceptibility	The potential to be affected by loss
TAPO	Technical Administrative Project Officer
TFB	Total Fire Ban (A day of Total Fire Ban)
Tolerable Risk	A risk within a range that society can live with so as to secure certain net benefits. It is the range of risk regarded as non-negligible and needing to be kept under review and reduced further if possible.

Term	Description
TOR	Terms of Reference
Treatment	An existing process, policy, device, practice or other action that acts to minimise negative risk or enhance positive opportunities. The word control may also be applied to a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of objectives.
Treatment Assessment	Systematic review of processes to ensure that controls are still effective and appropriate.
Urban Rural Interface	The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development adjoin or overlap with undeveloped bushland.
VFRR	Victoria Fire Risk Register CFA process that identifies assets at risk from bushfire, assesses the level of risk and highlights the risk mitigation treatments currently in place along with the responsible agencies for implementing these treatments. The output is a geographic layer and associated attributes that identifies the asset type; name; location and risk factors and priorities of these assets based on a wildfire occurring in its vicinity on a day of 100 FDI.
VICPOL	Victoria Police
Vulnerability	The conditions determined by physical, social, economic and environmental factors or processes, which increase the susceptibility of a community to the impact of hazards. (UN/ISDR, Geneva 2004)
Vulnerable People	Those living in high bushfire risk areas and who are unable to make an independent decision, including due to cognitive impairment; physically dependant and totally reliant on in home personal care and support; and people who live alone and are geographically isolated with no co-resident carer or family. (DHHS)
WTP	Water Treatment Plant