

Nambucca Shire Council
Local Emergency
Management Plan
March 2016

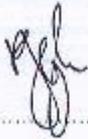


Part 1 – Administration

Authority

The Nambucca Shire Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN) has been prepared by the Nambucca Shire Local Emergency Management Committee in compliance with the State Emergency & Rescue Management Act 1989.

APPROVED



Paul Gallagher (LEMO)

Chair

Nambucca Shire Local Emergency Management Committee

Dated: 8 March 2016

ENDORSED



Chair

<<Name>> Regional Emergency Management Committee

Dated: 30 MAR 16

Contents

| | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Part 1 – Administration | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| Authority | Error! Bookmark not defined. |
| Contents | 3 |
| Purpose | 4 |
| Objectives | 4 |
| Scope | 4 |
| Principles | 4 |
| Test and Review Process | 5 |
| Part 2 – Community Context | 6 |
| Annexure A – Community Profile | 6 |
| General | 6 |
| Landform and Topography | 6 |
| Climate..... | 6 |
| Land Use | 6 |
| Population and People | 7 |
| Transport Routes and Facilities..... | 7 |
| Economy and Industry | 8 |
| Annexure B – Hazards and Risks Summary | 9 |
| Annexure C – Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies..... | 13 |
| Part 3 – Restricted Operational Information | 15 |
| Annexure D – Community Assets | 15 |
| Key Resources and Locations..... | 15 |
| Key Infrastructure..... | 20 |
| Annexure E – Vulnerable Facilities List | 25 |
| Annexure F – Consequence Management Guides..... | 29 |

Purpose

Details arrangements for, prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies within the Local Government Area(s) covered by this plan.

It encompasses arrangements for:

- emergencies controlled by combat agencies;
- emergencies controlled by combat agencies and supported by the Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON);
- emergency operations for which there is no combat agency; and
- circumstances where a combat agency has passed control to the LEOCON.

Objectives

The objectives of this plan are to:

- define participating organisation and Functional Area roles and responsibilities in preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies;
- set out the control, co-ordination and liaison arrangements at the Local level;
- detail activation and alerting arrangements for involved agencies; and
- detail arrangements for the acquisition and co-ordination of resources.

Scope

The plan describes the arrangements at Local level to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and also provides policy direction for the preparation of Sub Plans and Supporting Plans:

- Arrangements detailed in this plan are based on the assumption that the resources upon which the plan relies are available when required; and
- The effectiveness of arrangements detailed in this plan are dependent upon all involved agencies preparing, testing and maintaining appropriate internal instructions, and/or standing operating procedures.

Principles

The following principles are applied in this plan:

- a) The Emergency Risk Management (ERM) process is to be used as the basis for emergency planning in New South Wales. This methodical approach to the planning process is to be applied by Emergency Management Committees at all levels.
- b) Responsibility for preparation, response and recovery rests initially at Local level. If Local agencies and available resources are not sufficient they are augmented by those at Regional level.
- c) Control of emergency response and recovery operations is conducted at the lowest effective level.
- d) Agencies may deploy their own resources from their own service from outside the affected Local area or Region if they are needed.

- e) The Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) is responsible, when requested by a combat agency, to co-ordinate the provision of resources support. EOCONs would not normally assume control from a combat agency unless the situation can no longer be contained. Where necessary, this should only be done after consultation with the Regional Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) and agreement of the combat agency and the appropriate level of control.
- f) Emergency preparation, response and recovery operations should be conducted with all agencies carrying out their normal functions wherever possible.
- g) Prevention measures remain the responsibility of authorities/agencies charged by statute with the responsibility.

Test and Review Process

The Nambucca Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC) will review this Plan every three (3) years, or following any:

- activation of the Plan in response to an emergency;
- legislative changes affecting the Plan; and
- exercises conducted to test all or part of the Plan.

Part 2 – Community Context

Annexure A – Community Profile

GENERAL

The Shire of Nambucca is located on the Mid North Coast of New South Wales, mid-way between Sydney and Brisbane (approximately 460km to each) and 60 km south of Coffs Harbour. The LGA comprises an area of 1,491 sq. Kms. The LGA is bounded on the east by the Tasman Sea, the southern and western boundaries of the Shire are defined by the Nambucca River catchment, while the northern boundary begins approximately 10km north of Valla Beach and runs almost directly west. The Nambucca Shire has an estimated width of 23km at its widest extent, the eastern boundary adjacent to the coastline.

The area covered by this plan includes the whole of the Nambucca Shire which has an area of 1,491 square kilometres and has a population of approximately 19,529, a large influx of people occur during the peak tourist times.

Situated within the plan area are the townships of Macksville, Nambucca Heads and Bowraville containing about 60% of the population. The villages of Scotts Head, Valla Beach, Hyland Park, Taylors Arm, Eungai and Eungai Rail also provide concentrations of population.

The Pacific Highway traverses the area on a North/South axis and carries a vast amount of Local and Interstate traffic. Heavy transport and large passenger vehicles regularly travel this highway giving rise to concern. The Nambucca River also passes through the Shire. This river system is expanding in recreational usage hence the potential for accidents and as for any coastal river there is the flooding threat. The main North Coast Railway Line passes through the area and the Sydney-Brisbane air corridor passes over the rugged interior of the Shire.

LANDFORM AND TOPOGRAPHY

The Nambucca Shire LGA has a wealth of natural resources, open coast and estuary beaches, escarpments, estuaries and wetlands.

The western part of the Shire consists of the rugged topography of the eastern edge of the New England Plateau, dominated by steep hill slopes and valleys. The eastern portion of the Shire is characterised by the gentle slopes of the Nambucca River and Taylors Arm floodplains and the adjacent undulating lands. Isolated steeper ridges from the New England Plateau cut into the eastern section of the Shire and define the middle reaches of the Nambucca River and Taylors Arm valleys. A number of substantial headlands exist in the floodplain and are separated by the beaches and dunal systems.

The major vegetation types found in the coastal region include Banksia, Swamp Paperbark, Brushbox, Blackbutt, Coastal Wattle/Spinifex, Kangaroo Grassland.

CLIMATE

The Nambucca LGA has a mild temperate climate. The average maximum temperature is around 26 C, while the average minimum temperate is around 18 C. Rainfall averages about 18cm a year.

LAND USE

Nambucca LGA's urban form contains a mix of commercial, residential, recreational and civic functions in Macksville. This gives way to small towns and villages that have developed principally in areas with some proximity to the various marine environments (ocean, estuaries and other water bodies).

The residential areas have a mix of educational, recreational and commercial areas serving the local communities. There are 7,616 occupied private dwellings and 1,175 unoccupied private dwellings.

Outside of the developed areas, agriculture is the largest industry, with cattle grazing one of the main activities.

| Land Use Zone / Type / Classification | Area .HA | % of LGA |
|---------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| Rural Zones | 110623.883 | 74.2% |
| Residential Zones | 4488.924 | 3.0% |
| Business Zones | 89.560 | 0.1% |
| Industrial Zones | 153.926 | 0.1% |
| Special Purpose Zones | 384.733 | 0.4% |
| Recreation Zones | 491.111 | 0.3% |
| Environment Protection Zones | 31606.866 | 21.2% |
| Waterway Zones | 1202.190 | 1.3% |
| Unzoned Land | NIL | NIL |

POPULATION AND PEOPLE

The residential population of Nambucca Shire in the 2011 Census was **18,644**. The main centres of population are the towns of Macksville, Nambucca Heads and Bowraville. Other towns include Scotts Head, Valla Beach and other small rural villages. There are 4,555 residents over 65 years old, 6,608 between 20 and 64 and 4,427 under 19 years of age.

TRANSPORT ROUTES AND FACILITIES

Road

The Pacific Highway forms the main road transport route giving access to the Nambucca Shire LGA from the north and south. New England National Park extends along much of the western boundary of the LGA, with minimal road access through that area. The LGA is served by a number of bus operators providing the major form of intra-area public transport.

Nambucca Shire Council also maintains a bridge network of 151 timber bridges, 14 concrete bridges, 5 other bridges (foot/bicycle) and 24 other bridge sized culverts.

Rail

Countrylink operate through Macksville and Nambucca Heads Railway stations and a number of other stations within the LGA to provide access to and from Sydney and north to Grafton.

Both the road and rail corridors are particularly vulnerable to bush fire causing interruption to service and access for commuters and businesses.

Air

There are no commercial air services to the Nambucca LGA.

Hospitals

There is one public hospital in the LGA – Macksville District Hospital.

Schools

There are 4 private primary schools, 8 public primary schools, and 3 public secondary schools in the LGA. In addition, 6 child care centres / pre-schools / kindergartens are operated.

Utilities

Water - Reticulated water service is provided to most areas of the community through the Nambucca Shire Council. The Nambucca Shire water supply is a single source supply drawn from bores sunk into alluvial deposits adjacent to the Nambucca River upstream of the town of Bowraville. Studies have confirmed that the aquifer has limited storage capacity and cannot be expected to meet current and future water supply demands during periods of drought. During the drought of 2002 two of the eight bores began to run dry and it was estimated that there was between 30 to 60 days' supply of water available when the drought broke.

Dam - The Bowraville Off River Water Storage Project was set up with the aim of providing a means for the Shire water supply to be secured against drought. The project was completed in 2014 and the dam has a capacity of 4,640 Mega litres. The dam is not expected to be completely filled until 2016. The water storage will be filled by pumping water from an enlarged bore field during times when river flow is not low. Environmental flows will be maintained in the river by feeding the stored water directly into the town water supply system during periods of low river flows.

Sewerage - Nambucca Shire Council provides extensive reticulated sewerage facilities located in the following areas:

Electricity - Services are provided by Essential Energy.

Emergency Services

There are 3 NSW Fire Brigade stations in the LGA: Macksville, Nambucca Heads and Bowraville. Other emergency services in the LGA include NSW Police Force, NSW State Emergency Service, NSW Rural Fire Service, and NSW Ambulance Service.

ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY

The 2011 Census data indicates that:

- of the employed people in Nambucca (A) (Local Government Areas), 7.4% worked in school education. Other major industries of employment included supermarket and grocery stores 4.8%, residential care services 4.5%, cafes, restaurants and takeaway food services 4.0% and sheep, beef cattle and grain farming 2.7%.
- the most common occupation for employed persons were Technicians and Trades Workers 15.1%, Professionals 15%, Community and Personal Service Workers 14.0%, Labourers 13.2% Managers 13.1%,
- the Nambucca Shire has an unemployment rate of 10.7% compared with the NSW unemployment rate (6.1%).

Annexure B – Hazards and Risks Summary

Members of the Nambucca LEMC met on the 24 August 2015 to review the hazards and risk identified in the current DISPLAN. The following hazards were identified as having risk of causing loss of life, property, utilities, services and/or the community's ability to function within its normal capacity. These hazards have also been identified as having the potential to create an emergency.

In June 2009 a Local Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Study was adopted by the Nambucca Local Emergency Management Committee. This study was facilitated and developed by Echelon Australia and should be referenced to identify the complete list of consequences and risk description for historical purposes. *(Nambucca Shire Council TRIM Ref: SF81:20437/2008 (PDF) 2246/2012 (Word)*

| Hazard | Risk Description | Likelihood Rating | Consequence Rating | Risk Priority | Combat Responsible Agency |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|
| Agricultural Disease (Animal) | An agriculture/horticulture incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation. | Likely | Major | Extreme | Department of Primary Industries |
| Bridge Collapse | Failure of a major bridge structure with or without warning owing to structural failure or as a result of external/ internal events or other hazards/ incidents. | Possible | Major | Extreme | NSW Police |
| Building Collapse | Collapse of building owing to structural failure or impact from external/internal event of other hazards /incidents. | Unlikely | Major | High | FRNSW (USAR) NSW Police |
| Pandemic Communicable Disease (Human) | Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human population | Likely | Catastrophic | Extreme | Department of Health |
| Dam Failure | A dam is compromised that results in localised or widespread flooding. | Rare | Moderate | Medium | Dam Owners NSW SES |

| Hazard | Risk Description | Likelihood Rating | Consequence Rating | Risk Priority | Combat Responsible Agency / |
|-------------------------------|---|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Earthquake | Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage. | Possible | Minor | Medium | NSW Police |
| Fire (Bush or Grass) | Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands. | Almost Certain | Moderate | Extreme | NSW RFS FRNSW |
| Fire (Industrial) | Serious industrial fire in office complexes and/or warehouses within industrial estates. | Unlikely | Moderate | Medium | FRNSW NSW RFS |
| Fire (Residential/Commercial) | Serious residential fire in medium/high rise apartments. Serious commercial fires in shopping centres, aged persons units, nursing homes and hospitals. | Unlikely | Major | High | FRNSW NSW RFS |
| Flood (Riverine/Flash) | River flows exceed the capacity of normal river systems resulting in flood waters escaping and inundating river plains | Almost Certain | Major | Extreme | NSW SES |
| Hazardous Release | Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident. | Unlikely | Major | High | FRNSW |
| Heatwave | A sequence of abnormally hot conditions having the potential to affect a community adversely. | Likely | Major | Extreme | SECON |
| Landslip | Landslip/landslide resulting in localised or widespread damage. | Possible | Major | Extreme | NSW Police |

| Hazard | Risk Description | Likelihood Rating | Consequence Rating | Risk Priority | Combat Responsible Agency / |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Storm | Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localised flooding.(includes tornado) | Possible | Moderate | High | NSW SES |
| Transport Emergency (Air) | Aircraft crashes in LGA resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property. | Rare | Catastrophic | High | NSW Police |
| Transport Emergency (Road) | A major vehicle accident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in risk to people trapped in traffic jams; restrict supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area. | Possible | Major | Extreme | NSW Police |
| Transport Emergency (Sea) | A major accident that results in environmental damage and major recovery operation | Rare | Major | High | Relevant Port / Maritime |
| Tsunami | A tsunami wave of magnitude that presents a risk to land and marine elements. | Rare | Catastrophic | High | NSW SES |
| Utilities Failure | Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence | Likely | Moderate | High | LEOCON |

This page intentionally blank

Annexure C – Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies

Responsibility for the preparation and maintenance of appropriate sub and supporting plans rest with the relevant Combat Agency Controller or the relevant Functional Area Coordinator.

The sub/supporting plans are developed in consultation with the Nambucca LEMC and the community.

The plans listed below are supplementary to this EMPLAN. The sub/supporting plans have been endorsed by the LEMC and are determined as compliant and complimentary to the arrangements listed in this EMPLAN.

These plans are retained by the LEMO on behalf of the LEMC and public release versions may be available on the Council Website.

| Plan/Policy | Purpose | Combat / Responsible Agency | Document Type & Reference No. | Last Reviewed: |
|--|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Nambucca Flood Emergency Sub Plan | Flood | State Emergency Services | SF81: 4006/2013 <i>replaced Nambucca Shire Local Flood Plan SF1753: 7050/2011</i> | February 2013 |
| NSC Floodplain Risk Management Plan | Flood | NSC | Supporting Plan NSC TRIM: SF732: 22331/2008 | February 2005 <i>and currently under review</i> |
| NSC Dam Safety Emergency Plan - Bowra Dam | Dam Safety Emergency)Plan | NSC | Supporting Plan NSC TRIM: SF2007: 16774/2015 | |
| Bush Fire Operations Plan and Risk Management Plan 2011 | Bush Fire | NSW Rural Fire Service | Sub Plan | |
| Neighbourhood Safer Places – Last Resort Guidelines | Fire | NSW Rural Fire Services | Supporting Plan NSC TRIM: SF81 29122/2000 | |
| NSW State Tsunami Plan 2015 | Tsunami in NSW | NSW State Emergency Service | | |
| Mid North Coast Tsunami Response Arrangements 2013 | Tsunami | State Emergency Services | | |

| Plan/Policy | Purpose | Combat / Responsible Agency | Document Type & Reference No. | Last Reviewed: |
|--|---|------------------------------------|--|-----------------------|
| Nambucca LGA Emergency Operations Centre – Standing Operating Procedure | Emergency Operation Centre Arrangements | Nambucca LEMC | TRIM SF81:29515/2009 | |
| NSW Welfare Services Functional Area Supporting Plan 2014 | Welfare Services | FACS | | |
| NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan 2010 | In progress | NSW Health | | |
| Macksville Health Campus | Local Hospital Emergency Arrangements | NSW Health | | |
| NSW Telecommunications Services Functional Area Supporting Plan 2013 | | NSW Telco Authority | | |