

Community Emergency Management Plan

Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities

Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities have interests as a First Nation Community in large areas of East Gippsland, including all land east of Bemm and Errinundra Rivers and south of the NSW border.

This **Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities Community Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)** supports our emergency management arrangements. This CEMP sets out how we respond as a community in an emergency. Our community actions below focus on the key activities taken by our community and the support we require from Agencies.

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Before Any Emergency Starts (Pre-season)



Information

- Our people live in a range of locations across East Gippsland, including in and surrounding Cann River.
- We currently do not have Satellite Internet Service in case the phone network is compromised. We would like this to be provided for an emergency.
- Key Contacts into Monero / Yuin / Cann River Communities:
 - ◊ C/O Moogji CEO (0497 943 700)
- ABC Radio 828AM 100.7 FM
- ABC App
- Facebook – CFA and DEECA
- Emergency information: <https://www.emergency.vic.gov.au>

Phone numbers



- Police / Fire / Ambulance..... 000 (dial 112 if no reception)
- VicRoads 13 1170
- Vic Emergency Hotline 1800 226 226
- State Emergency Service 13 2500
- Hearing Impaired, call text phone TTY 1800 122 969
- DEECA 13 6186
- Parks Victoria 13 1963
- East Gippsland Shire Council 03 5153 9500

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Before Emergency Occurs



Expectation of agency(s)

- Agencies actively engage Monero / Yuin / Cann River Communities on all-hazards in the spirit of self-determination to ensure adequate preparation and planning, including development of family survival plans.
- All emergency prevention and preparedness planning to occur in collaboration with Monero / Yuin / Cann River Communities to facilitate the protection of cultural values.
- Provide a level of 'base-funding' for Monero / Yuin / Cann River Communities to carry out Emergency Management functions that support ongoing engagement and input into emergency management planning
- Include Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities in all cross-border planning meetings.

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During: Emergency Response

Expectation of agency(s)

- Advise Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Community contact at first indication of emergency with potential to impact Country.
- Work collaboratively to minimise risk to cultural heritage from emergency and/or emergency management operations.
- Include Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Community contact in all Emergency Management Team (EMT) meetings as a matter of course, including on email distribution list.
- Include a Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities Emergency Management Liaison Officer (EMLO) in the IMT as a matter of course for emergencies impacting Country.
- Support Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities with supplies as needed via the Moogji contact.



Traditional Weaving by Dawn Mongta, Monero / Yuin / Cann River. Photo: A. Blackburn

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After: Relief & Recovery

Expectation of agency(s)

- Establish separate areas at each Relief Centre (or separate Relief Centre) for Aboriginal people that are culturally sensitive, culturally safe and culturally appropriate.
- Each Relief Centre to have an Aboriginal Liaison Officer who can provide for our needs, including coordinating supply of goods and services.
- Provide support for families whose homes are impacted and/or lost (immediate relief, rebuilding, relocation).
- Provide emotional, mental health and counselling services at the Relief Centre, appropriate to Aboriginal people.
- Facilitate key agencies (including Department of Families, Fairness and Housing, Department of Health) to be on-site at the Relief Centres to support rapid access to community needs.
- Develop a Recovery Plan in collaboration with Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities that identifies the needs of community and threats to Aboriginal heritage, and necessary management action is taken, including further Aboriginal heritage survey.
 - Support community members to return to Country as soon as possible to see damage and support healing of Country.
 - Conduct post-fire cultural heritage surveys as soon as possible to understand impacts to Country and risk mitigation measures.
 - Include Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities in any cross-border liaison meetings to plan for recovery.

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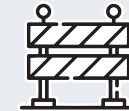
During: Communications



Expectation of agency(s)

- IMT and relevant agencies to contact Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities (via Moogji) at the first instance of an emergency that may impact Country and people, ensuring compliance with the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006* (Vic.).
- Monero / Yuin / Cann River Aboriginal Communities to be involved throughout emergencies as a partner in Emergency Management.
- EMT to provide regular, up-to-date and accurate reports on situation through EMT meetings and direct phone calls to Monero / Yuin / Cann River Communities contacts as required.
- Maintain up-to-date contact lists of key Monero / Yuin / Cann River Communities personnel.

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During: Road closures

Expectation of agency(s)

- EMT to provide timely, accurate and current information about access routes (websites, VicEmergency App).
- Timely response to community members requests to clear road blockages.
- Agencies to consider return access for residents with proof of address.

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During: Pets / livestock

Expectation of agency(s)

- Provide guidelines and support for animal safety during emergencies.
- Assist with the transportation and sheltering of pets and livestock.
- Prioritise permits to allow stock and fodder transport.
- Prioritise vet access to community members.
- Coordinate with animal welfare organisations.



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During: Evacuation



Expectation of agency(s)

- Respect individual decisions of community members to stay or leave early.
- Provide adequate support to community members, particularly vulnerable community members, in evacuation and transport to Relief Centres. This may include safe passage over border into NSW.
- Clear, correct and concise information and key contacts provided to community about evacuations, convoys, cross-border meetings and road opening times.



Mallacoota. Photo: A. Blackburn