

**New South Wales
State Emergency Management Committee**

**Annual Report
2008-2009**

(This page has been intentionally left blank)

CONTENTS

1 INTRODUCTION.....	5
2 THE STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	5
2.1 RESPONSIBILITY AND FUNCTIONS.....	5
2.2 STRUCTURE	6
2.3 DISTRICT AND LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES.....	6
2.4 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP	7
2.5 THE COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT	8
3 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS	9
4 OVERVIEW OF SEMC ACTIVITY	10
4.1 MITIGATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT.....	10
4.2 PLANNING.....	11
4.3 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING	15
4.4 OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES.....	16
4.5 NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATIONS.....	19
4.6 RECOVERY	20
5 AUSTRALIAN SAFER COMMUNITIES AWARDS 2008	23
6 AGENCY, FUNCTIONAL AREA & COMMITTEE REPORTS.....	24
6.1 AMBULANCE SERVICE OF NSW	24
6.2 NSW FIRE BRIGADES.....	26
6.3 NSW POLICE FORCE.....	29
6.4 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE	31
6.5 NSW STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE	33
6.6 VOLUNTEER RESCUE ASSOCIATION	36
6.7 NSW MARITIME.....	38
6.8 DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET.....	40
6.9 AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA	41
6.10 COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA	44
6.11 ENERGY AND UTILITY SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA	45
6.12 ENGINEERING SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA	50
6.13 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA	52
6.14 HEALTH SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA.....	55
6.15 PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA.....	58
6.16 TRANSPORT SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA.....	61
6.17 WELFARE SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA COMMITTEE	63
6.18 NSW CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS STEERING COMMITTEE	66
6.19 PANDEMIC INFLUENZA WORKING GROUP	67
6.20 NSW USAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE	68
6.21 CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP	69
6.22 NSW POLICE FORCE, COUNTER TERRORISM & SPECIAL TACTICS COMMAND	70
6.23 INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT WORKING GROUP	71
7 DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS	73
7.1 CENTRAL WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	73
7.2 FAR WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	75
7.3 GEORGES RIVER DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	78
7.4 HUNTER CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	81
7.5 ILLAWARRA DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	84

7.6	MID NORTH COAST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.....	86
7.7	MONARO DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	90
7.8	MURRAY DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	93
7.9	NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.....	96
7.10	PEEL DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	99
7.11	RIVERINA DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	101
7.12	SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE....	103
7.13	SYDNEY EAST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.....	107
7.14	SYDNEY MID-WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	109
7.15	SYDNEY NORTH DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	112
7.16	SYDNEY SOUTH WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	114
7.17	WESTERN SLOPES DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE	116
7.18	WESTERN SYDNEY DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.....	119
ANNEX A – SEMC MEMBERS.....		121
ANNEX B – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS.....		122

1 INTRODUCTION

This report has been compiled in accordance with Section 17 of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act* (1989) to describe the work and activities of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC) during the financial year 2008-2009.

The NSW Rural Fire Service through Emergency Management NSW (formerly the Office for Emergency Services) provides administrative support to the SEMC and reports on relevant administrative matters.

2 THE STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2.1 RESPONSIBILITY AND FUNCTIONS

The State Emergency Management Committee is the principal committee established under the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act* (1989) (*SERM Act*) for the purposes of emergency management throughout the State and, in particular, is responsible for emergency planning at a State level.

In accordance with section 15 of the *SERM Act*, the SEMC is required to:

- (a) identify, evaluate and monitor hazards and threats to life and property,
- (b) establish and review appropriate emergency management structures at all levels,
- (c) identify emergency resources both within and outside the State and make plans for the allocation and coordination of the use of those resources,
- (d) establish and review systems for use in the control and coordination of emergency operations,
- (e) review and recommend emergency management legislation (including legislation and proposals for legislation of other agencies),
- (f) advise the Minister for Emergency Services on the creation of combined local government emergency management arrangements,
- (g) establish communication networks within and between functional areas at all levels,
- (h) review plans at all levels and within each emergency services organisation and functional area,
- (i) produce specific hazard management guidelines,
- (j) arrange emergency management training for individuals, including individuals employed in emergency services organisations and functional areas,
- (k) produce and disseminate educational material on established emergency management policies and procedures,
- (l) arrange the conduct of training exercises to periodically test emergency management plans,
- (m) advise the Minister on the declaration of states of emergencies,
- (n) advise on the efficient use of local government resources in relation to Displan,
- (o) assist in the selection and training of district and local government personnel for appointment to relevant organisations under Part 2 of the *SERM Act*,
- (p) act as the single point of contact for Commonwealth support to emergency operations in New South Wales in the absence of other arrangements,
- (q) produce standing orders and instructions and standing operating procedures under Displan,
- (r) assist the Minister, as required, in the preparation and review of Displan, and
- (s) arrange for graduated warnings of emergencies to the public.

2.2 STRUCTURE

The SEMC presently comprises the Deputy Chair, the State Emergency Operations Controller, State Emergency Recovery Controller and 20 representatives, as determined by the Minister for Emergency Services. During 2008-2009, the position of Chair was vacant.

Nine Functional Area Committees coordinate functional area support for emergency operations pursuant to section 16 of the *SERM Act*:

- Agriculture and Animal Services
- Communication Services
- Energy and Utility Services
- Engineering Services
- Environmental Services
- Health Services
- Public Information Services
- Transport Services
- Welfare Services

In accordance with Schedule 2(10) of the *SERM Act*, the SEMC may establish committees to assist it exercise any of its functions. Nine committees assisted the SEMC in the exercise of its functions during the year:

- Animal Health Emergency Working Group
- NSW Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Hazardous Materials Steering Committee
- Climate Change Working Group
- Community Warning System Working Group
- Pandemic Influenza Working Group
- Training Advisory Group
- Urban Search and Rescue Sub-committee

2.3 DISTRICT AND LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

The *SERM Act* establishes District and Local Emergency Management Committees whose role is primarily to prepare emergency management plans for the district or local area for which they are constituted.

The 18 District Emergency Management Committees (DEMCs) met regularly during the year. One hundred and thirty seven Local Emergency Management Committees (LEMCs), covering the 151 Local Government Areas, the unincorporated area of the State and Lord Howe Island, also met regularly.

2.4 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

<i>Acting Chair</i>	Commissioner Greg Mullins AFSM
<i>State Emergency Operations Controller</i>	Deputy Commissioner David Owens APM
<i>State Emergency Recovery Controller</i>	Mr Stacey Tannos ESM (From 30 Mar 09)
<i>NSW Police Force & Deputy State Emergency Operations Controller</i>	Assistant Commissioner Catherine Burn APM
<i>NSW Fire Brigades</i>	Commissioner Greg Mullins AFSM
<i>Ambulance Service of NSW</i>	Mr Mike Willis ASM
<i>NSW Rural Fire Service</i>	Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM
<i>NSW State Emergency Service</i>	Brigadier Philip McNamara CSC, ESM, BSc., GrAIM, GrAICD (to 4 Nov 08) Commissioner Murray Kear AFSM (from 4 Nov 08)
<i>Volunteer Rescue Association</i>	Mr Gary Raymond APM, OAM
<i>Agricultural and Animal Services</i>	Ms Renata Brooks (to 23 Mar 09) Dr Nick Austin (from 23 Mar 09)
<i>Communication Services</i>	Mr Tony Gates ESM, BSc.
<i>Energy and Utility Services</i>	Mr Ralph Grimes
<i>Engineering Services</i>	Mr David Wilkins BE
<i>Environmental Services</i>	Mr Joe Woodward BSc., MEng (Hons), PSM
<i>Health Services</i>	Mr Greg Rochford PSM
<i>Public Information Services</i>	Senior Sergeant Kevin Daley
<i>Transport Services</i>	Mr Greg Nott
<i>Welfare Services</i>	Ms Wendy Graham
<i>Department of Premier and Cabinet</i>	Mr Paul Clark PSM (to 23 Mar 09) Ms Veronica Lee (from 23 Mar 09)
<i>Department of Local Government</i>	Mr Mike Fleming
<i>NSW Maritime</i>	Mr Shayne Wilde (from 23 Mar 09)
<i>Department of Planning</i>	Dr Derek Mullins Dip. App. Chem. Th.M. Th.D.
<i>The Treasury</i>	Mr Phil Blunden (to 4 Dec 08)

Details of committee membership and attendance during the reporting year are in Annex A.

The Executive Officer of the SEMC during 2008-2009 was Mr Heinz Mueller.

2.5 THE COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

Executive support to the State Emergency Management Committee is provided by a Secretariat, authorised by section 63A of the *SERM Act*.

Provision of secretarial support was the responsibility of the Office for Emergency Services until May 2009, when the functions were incorporated into the newly formed Emergency Management NSW.

The role of the Secretariat is to:

- (a) Provide executive support services to the:
 - i. Chair
 - ii. State Emergency Operations Controller
 - iii. State Emergency Management Committee
 - iv. Functional Area Committees and other Sub Committees, and
 - v. Short term working parties
- (b) Represent the SEMC on committees at District, State and National levels; and
- (c) Maintain and operate the State Emergency Operations Centre.

Emergency Management NSW is located at:

Level 2, Quad 1, 8 Parkview Drive
SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK NSW 2127
Telephone Phone: (02) 8247 5900
Facsimile: (02) 8247 5951
Homepage: www.emergency.nsw.gov.au

The State Emergency Operations Centre is located at:

Level 4, Sydney Police Centre
151-241 Goulburn Street
SURRY HILLS NSW 2010

3 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CONCEPTS

Three fundamental concepts, consistent with national and international best practice, underpin emergency management in NSW:

1. **All-hazards approach:** NSW has established a single set of management arrangements which apply to emergencies resulting from any hazard, even though specific activities will vary with different hazards.
2. **Comprehensive approach:** NSW embraces the four principles of comprehensive emergency management, commonly referred to as the PPRR approach:

Prevention/Mitigation: to eliminate or reduce the incidence or severity of emergencies.

Preparation: to enhance the capacity of communities and government agencies to cope with the consequences of emergencies.

Response: to ensure the immediate consequences of emergencies on communities are minimised.

Recovery: measures that support individuals and communities affected by emergencies in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure and restoration of physical, emotional and economic well being.

3. **All-agency approach:** Emergency management involves all agencies working in partnership with the community and all levels of government. Effective emergency management is also about building resilience in the community. This means:
 - an alert, informed and active community;
 - an active and involved local government; and
 - agreed and coordinated emergency management arrangements.

The SEMC uses the emergency risk management process to underpin emergency management. The ERM process provides a logical and systematic approach to identifying the risks faced in a community and ensuring they are appropriately treated.

4 OVERVIEW OF SEMC ACTIVITY

Throughout 2008-2009, the SEMC has continued to develop the emergency management arrangements in NSW, participate in emergency management exercises and support state level emergency operations. Significant activities included:

- (a) Continuing work on the strategic review of disaster recovery arrangements, including significant amendments to the *SERM Act* and a review of the Displan.
- (b) Finalising implementation of the recommendations of the 2003 Council of Australian Governments (COAG) report *Natural Disasters in Australia: Reforming Mitigation, Relief and Recovery*, including administration of the Natural Disaster Mitigation Program in NSW.
- (c) Continuing development of emergency management training resources and programs, including support to the delivery of the NSW Police Force Incident Command Course.
- (d) Continuing development of the Sydney CBD Emergency Sub-plan and the associated sydneyAlert warning system.
- (e) Maintaining the emergencyNSW public information portal, including the integration of the sydneyAlert notification system.
- (f) Progressing development of a common incident control system and developing closer links between the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), the Police Operations Centre (POC) and other operations centres.
- (g) Testing of an enhanced interoperable operational management and information management system.
- (h) Continuing management of the Australian Government National Emergency Volunteer Support Fund (NEVSF). This program ended in 2009.
- (i) Reviewing a number of State level Supporting Plans and Sub-plans.
- (j) Research into the effects of climate change on the emergency management system.
- (k) Contributing to the development of an Australian catastrophic natural disaster plan and the review of a number of Australian Government emergency management plans.
- (l) Representation on the Australian Emergency Management Committee (AEMC).
- (m) Supporting the Ministerial Council for Police and Emergency Management.

4.1 MITIGATION AND RISK MANAGEMENT

4.1.1 *COAG review and natural disaster and relief and mitigation arrangements*

During 2008-2009, NSW finalised the implementation of the 66 recommendations contained in the 2003 report *Natural Disasters in Australia: Reforming Mitigation and Relief and Recovery*.

New South Wales was represented on the following national working groups formed to advise on implementing the recommendations:

Community Safety: Rick Stone,

Remote Indigenous Communities: Rick Stone,

National Risk Assessment Advisory Group (NRAAG): Trevor Cox, Neil Hargreaves, Heinz Mueller

4.1.2 *Mitigation activities*

During 2008-2009, Emergency Management NSW continued to administer the Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme (NDMP) and the National Emergency Volunteer Support Fund on behalf of the SEMC. Negotiations with the Commonwealth were undertaken in relation to a replacement program for the NDMP and the resulting Natural Disaster Resilience Program will be implemented in 2009-2010.

4.1.2.1 *The Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme*

The Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme (NDMP) was established as a five-year program starting in 2003-2004, and extended to the 2008-2009 financial year.

During 2008-2009, negotiations began on a replacement program for the NDMP. NSW provided significant input to the Commonwealth on the replacement program, which was announced in the May 2009 Federal Budget. The package (called the Natural Disaster Resilience Program) will integrate the Bushfire Mitigation Programme (BMP), Natural Disaster Mitigation Programme (NDMP) and the Working Together to Manage Emergencies (WTTME) program. The Natural Disaster Resilience Program is to be implemented in the 2009-2010 financial year.

The NDMP has been based on shared funding between the three levels of Government on a 1:1:1 basis, with provision for an applicant to seek a reduction in contributions in exceptional circumstances.

The SEMC established a State Mitigation Assessment Committee (SMAC) for NDMP, comprised as follows:

Chair:	Chair, SEMC
Secretary:	Manager, Mitigation and Risk Management,
Members:	Department of Premier and Cabinet Treasury Engineering Services Functional Area Coordinator
Expert advisors:	Department of Environment and Climate Change Rural Fire Service Roads and Traffic Authority (as required) State Emergency Service
Others:	Technical experts co-opted as required.

The SMAC takes advice on priorities for flood related projects from the State Assessment Committee (SAC), chaired by the Department of Environment and Climate Change.

There were 145 applications for the NDMP 2008-2009 funding year, worth more than \$27 million (Commonwealth and NSW contribution). In all, the Minister for Emergency Services approved 75 new projects, with Commonwealth and NSW contributions of more than \$12.55 million. Below is a summary of the approved NDMP projects by number and allocation for 2008-2009.

NSW NDMP Commonwealth and State Contributions 2008-09

<i>Hazard Category</i>	<i>Number of Projects</i>	<i>Funding Provided</i>
Bushfire studies	5	\$803,664
Bushfire works	2	\$67,000
Coastal	3	\$490,000
Community awareness	9	\$983,500
Emergency risk management studies	1	\$13,332
Flood studies	20	\$2,415,332
Flood works	23	\$4,996,332
Mapping	3	\$303,000
Miscellaneous (inc. livestock & landslide projects)	9	\$2,481,646
Totals	75	\$12,553,806

4.1.2.2 Working Together to Manage Emergencies program

In September 2004, the Australian Attorney-General announced the Working Together to Manage Emergencies initiative, which recognised the need to develop self-reliance at both community and local government level to enhance community safety. In 2008-2009, the focus of this initiative was supporting volunteers through the National Emergency Volunteers Support Fund (NEVSF).

During the 2008-2009 funding year, the SEMC received 208 applications under the NEVSF (totalling \$5.331m), of which 58 were recommended by NSW for funding and all were approved (totalling \$873,052).

4.2 PLANNING

4.2.1 Australian Government plans and planning activity

The SEMC actively contributes to a range of Australian Government sponsored planning activities. During the year, Committee representatives and their colleagues from the Commonwealth and other State and Territory governments were involved in:

- ongoing development and review of a National Catastrophic Disaster Plan,
- development of strategies for improving volunteer attraction and retention,
- development of climate change adaptation strategies for the emergency management sector,
- building a strategy for enhancing national partnerships with the private sector and NGOs, and
- development of national strategies for community engagement, education and enhancing self reliance and recovery

4.2.1.1 Remote Indigenous Communities Advisory Committee

Remote indigenous communities have diverse and complex emergency management needs resulting from a combination of isolation, exposure to natural hazards, inadequate services, infrastructure and employment opportunities, transient populations, differing governance arrangements and entrenched disadvantage. There are more than 50 discrete indigenous communities in NSW, of which a third can be considered remote.

The Australian Attorney General, Phillip Ruddock, launched the national strategy for emergency management in remote indigenous communities, *Keeping Our Mob Safe*, in Broome in June 2007. The strategy has seven priorities:

1. Decision-making structures in remote indigenous communities for emergency management
2. Communication and engagement with remote indigenous communities on emergency management;
3. Community emergency management planning for remote indigenous communities;
4. Community resourcing for emergency management in remote indigenous communities;
5. Coordinated and cooperative approach to emergency management in remote indigenous communities;
6. Empowering indigenous people through emergency management training;
7. Education of indigenous people (in emergency management).

During 2008-2009, the SEMC steering committee continued to implement the strategy in NSW, conducting pilot implementation programs with the Toomelah and Malabugilmah / Baryulgil communities.

4.2.2 State Plans and Planning Activity

The NSW emergency management arrangements are described in the State Disaster Plan (Displan). Displan is supplemented by a series of sub-plans to deal with specific hazards. Eight of the nine functional areas have a supporting plan for Displan and the various sub-plans. Development of a Communication Services Functional Area Supporting Plan was initiated during the year. Emergency management plans are regularly reviewed, at least once every five years, and after every significant emergency or exercise.

Plans reviewed and endorsed during the year:

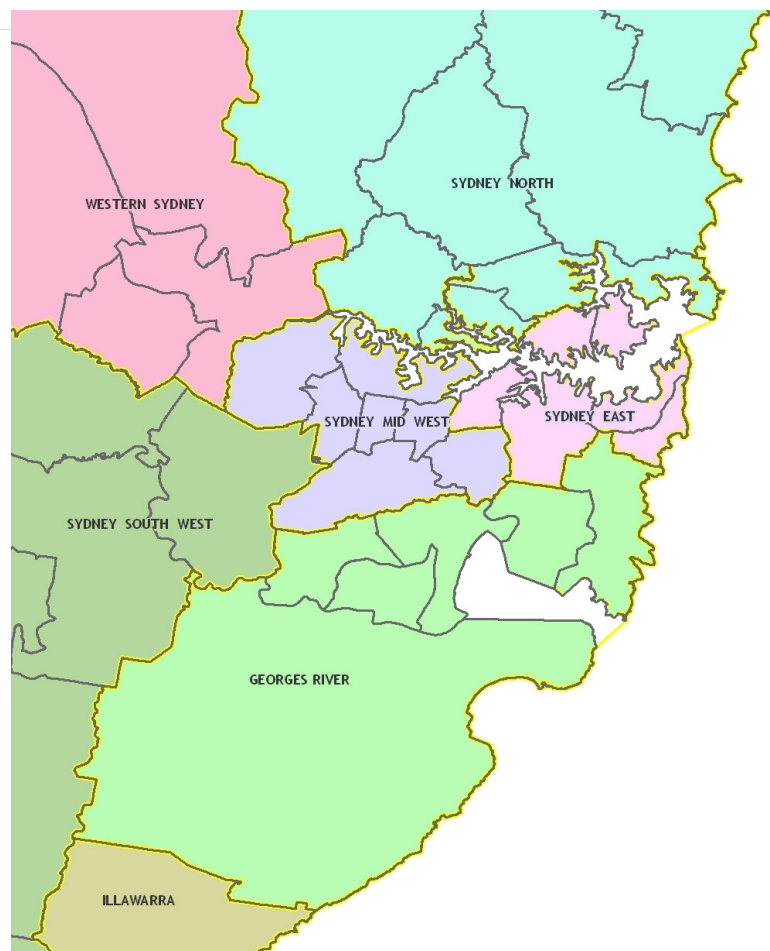
- Wires Down Sub-Plan
- Major Structural Collapse Sub-Plan
- NSW Tsunami Emergency Sub-Plan

4.2.3 District Plans

District Disaster Plans are in place for all Emergency Management Districts. The Emergency Management Districts are set out in Annex D and displayed on the maps below.



Emergency Management Districts compiled using Land and Property Management Authority Local Government Areas as at December 2008



4.2.4 Local Plans

Local Disaster Plans are in place for all Local Emergency Management Committees, including the Unincorporated Area and Lord Howe Island. Emergency Risk Management Studies and Local Mitigation Strategies are an important part of local Displan reviews.

4.2.5 Spatial Information

During 2008-2009, the Emergency Information Coordination Unit (EICU) within the Land and Property Management Authority (LPMA) provided mapping and other spatial services to Emergency Service Organisations (ESOs), Functional Area Coordinators (FACs) and operations centres, as well as to District and Local Emergency Operations Controllers.

As part of planning and preparation for emergencies, the LPMA:

- distributed the Emergency Services Spatial Information Library (ESSIL) to the specifications provided by ESO Geographic Information System (GIS) Managers, to all ESOs, District Emergency Management Officers (DEMOs), Local Emergency Management Officers (LEMOs), and as required to FACs
- sourced and converted other geospatial information as requested by ESOs and FACs
- collected aerial and Light Detection and Ranging (LIDAR) imagery for use by ESOs and other SEMC agencies
- provided GIS support to Emergency Management NSW and to ESOs and FACs for major event planning, including World Youth Day 2008, New Year's Eve 2008, First Night and Australia Day 2009
- developed and provided web-based services to ESOs and other organisations through the Spatial Information Exchange (SIX)
- provided training and support in the use of ESSIL and other LPMA products
- provided training and support on the EICU Toolkit, through the Spatial Information Management System (SIMS), which is made available to all Emergency Management Districts and LEMOs
- Provided GIS services and support for major exercises.

There was a considerable increase in the participation rate of ESOs and FACs in SIMS training in regional areas throughout the year, with a noticeable increase in involvement in the application of spatial information in the planning and preparation for major events.

During the response and recovery phase of the March and May 2009 North Coast floods, the LPMA provided mapping and technical services, including LIDAR and aerial imagery, and web services capability.

During the year, the EICU continued to improve its capability to support SEMC members and emergency operation centres through:

- the extension of ESSIL to include Computer Aided Design (CAD) data and Emergency Services Climate Change mapping requirements
- training of DEMOs, LEMOs, FACs, as well as local GIS personnel in the use of ESSIL and SIMS in exercises and emergencies
- coordination of mapping for major planned events such as World Youth Day 2008 and New Year's Eve 2008
- improved web based systems for sharing spatial information within the SIX architecture
- improved data quality in the ESSIL.

The strategic initiatives and priorities of the EICU are to expand the usage of GIS in emergency management through improvements in spatial data, training, and technology.

4.3 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRAINING

4.3.1 Training Advisory Group

The Training Advisory Group consists of three representatives from the emergency service organisations, two representatives from the functional areas and two District Emergency Management Officers. Emergency Management NSW Manager, Professional Development chairs the Group and the Training Coordinator, Professional Development is the Deputy Chair.

The terms of reference of the Group ensure compliance with the Australian Quality Training Framework (AQTF) standards. They are:

- To conduct training needs analysis for multi-agency emergency management training, and advise the SEMC on training and assessment needs.
- To advise on the development and implementation of competency-based curricula to meet training needs.
- To advise on the development and implementation of assessment strategies.
- To review all training material every two years to ensure that accuracy and relevance of content are maintained and that changes in relevant legislation, emergency management structure and industry work practices are included.
- To validate assessment strategies and results to ensure quality and consistency of assessment.
- To review compliance with AQTF standards and advise on managing risks of non-compliance.

The Training Advisory Group met four times during the year.

4.3.1.1 Key achievements

The Training Advisory Group:

- reviewed eight current SEMC training resource kits to ensure compliance with 10 Units of Competency on Scope of Registration
- developed and approved three policies relating to training and assessment processes and staff during the year; and
- conducted a Trainer/Assessors Professional Development Workshop for District Emergency Management Officers.

4.3.2 Emergency Management Australia Institute Activities

Ninety-eight participants from a range of NSW emergency service organisations and functional areas were involved in residential training courses conducted by the Emergency Management Australia Institute (EMAI) during the year.

Two EMAI extension courses were conducted during the year:

- Work in an Emergency Operations Centre/Manage an Emergency Operation, Griffith, 22-25 September 2008
- Plan and Manage Recovery Services, Boolaroo, 23-27 February 2009.

These courses were funded by EMAI and delivered by EMAI and NSW trainers.

4.3.3 Training Statistics

Table 1 Summary of professional development, cross district training and EMAI extensions.

<i>Activity</i>	<i>Budget</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
Manage Emergency Operations and Work in an Emergency Operations Centre (MNC, NR, P districts) Coordinated by NR district	\$8,300	\$4,119
Manage Emergency Operations (IL, M, Mu, R, SH districts) Coordinated by IL district	\$6,000	\$6,805
Professional Development and Training	\$54,000	\$55,829
EMAI Extension courses (NSW contribution)	\$18,000	\$12,324
Totals	\$86,300	\$79,077

Table 2 Professional Development for SEMC Staff and DEMOs

<i>NSW Internal and External courses, conferences and workshops</i>	<i>2008-2009</i>
Business Administration	1
Advanced Diploma of Emergency Management	3
Graduate Certificate in Emergency Management	1
Conference at Sydney (November 2008)	25
Professional Development Workshop at Sydney (May 2009)	20
RTO Validation Workshops	3

4.3.4 Public Awareness

During 2008-2009, Emergency Management NSW continued to collaborate with the Australian Government, individual emergency service organisations and functional areas to promote public awareness about hazards, risk reduction and response measures. Emergency Management NSW and agency staff continued to contribute to the work of the National Community Safety Working Group and the Australian Tsunami Warnings Group. The National Community Safety Working Group focused on developing a nationally agreed strategy for public education preparedness campaigns and on emergency warning signals.

The **emergencyNSW** website provides public emergency and preparedness information. The site, located at www.emergency.nsw.gov.au, presents current emergency management news, State level emergency plans, training information, pre-emergency information, recovery, historic emergency information and district emergency information.

4.3.5 Publications

The State Disaster Plan (Displan) and its Supporting and Sub-plans are available on the **emergencyNSW** website www.emergency.nsw.gov.au

Training resource material is made available to course participants. The following publications are available from Emergency Management NSW:

Books and booklets

- Emergency Management Arrangements for NSW
- Emergency Management Planning
- Exercise Management
- Implementation Guide for Emergency Management Committees
- Implementing Emergency Risk Management (NSW)
- Introduction to Emergency Risk Management (NSW)
- Managing an Emergency Operation
- Managing an Evacuation
- Working in an Emergency Operations Centre

4.4 OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES

4.4.1 Roles and Responsibilities

The New South Wales State Disaster Plan (State Displan) outlines the roles and responsibilities of the emergency services organisations and functional areas, including coordination arrangements.

4.4.2 Commonwealth Support

The State Emergency Operations Controller, through the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), is the single point of contact in the State for requesting Commonwealth assistance.

The SEOC is in regular contact with the Australian Government's Attorney General's Department Coordination Centre (AGDCC), which is kept informed of incidents and emergencies in NSW as they occur. The SEOC and AGDCC coordinate requests for NSW emergency service assets to deploy overseas if requested.

4.4.3 Emergency Operations Centres

4.4.3.1 State Emergency Operations Centre

The State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) is located at the Sydney Police Centre, Goulburn Street, Surry Hills.

4.4.3.2 Functional Area Operations Centres

A number of functional areas also operate coordination centres:

<i>Functional Area</i>	<i>Location</i>
Agriculture and Animal Services	Orange
Environmental Services	Sydney CBD
Health	Everleigh
Public Information Services	Sydney CBD
Transport Services	Sydney CBD
Welfare Services	Parramatta

4.4.3.3 District Emergency Operations Centres

Emergency Management Districts have established district emergency operations centres and maintain consistent standing operating procedures to allow inter-operability. A number of district level exercises were held during the year to test the operation of the district emergency operations centres.

4.4.3.4 Local Emergency Operations Centres

All Local Emergency Management Committees met on a regular basis during the year and have identified appropriate local emergency operations centres.

4.4.4 Significant Activities

The State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) maintains continuous situational awareness of all emergency activities impacting on New South Wales.

In addition, it coordinates support to and from the Commonwealth, State level operational support to lead agencies and supports SEOCON control of an emergency response.

In 2008-2009, the SEOC was involved in the following exercises, planned events and emergency operations:

4.4.4.1 Exercises

Exercise Nimbus - SEOC participated in a state level exercise led by the Department of Premier and Cabinet to test arrangements for transitioning from a pre-planned event to an emergency operation for the New Year's Eve events around Sydney Harbour.

Exercise Sudden Impact – SEOC participated in a major national counter-terrorism exercise in Sydney involving the Commonwealth and State Governments, which tested both state and national capabilities to respond to a terrorist incident.

Exercise Ausnami – SEOC staff participated in a national exercise to test the effectiveness of the Australian Tsunami Warning System's (ATWS) communications for delivering and managing tsunami warnings for Australia.

Exercise Graphite - SEOC staff were involved in the writing and observation of a full-scale field exercise involving a simulated hazardous materials environment while attempting to undertake rescue and recovery duties.

Exercise Road Runner V - Emergency Management NSW conducted a Safety Site Cache familiarisation for the safety site marshals under the Sydney CBD Emergency Sub Plan.

4.4.4.2 *Planned events*

Operation SWEETLAND - New Year's Eve - The SEOC supported the NSW Police Force and the Department of Premier and Cabinet's Office of Protocol and Special Events during the Sydney New Year's Eve celebrations.

Operation Angelus - World Youth Day 08 - The SEOC supported the NSW Government during the largest youth event in the world held in Sydney.

4.4.4.3 *Emergency operations*

Storm /Floods - North Coast – May 2009 - SEOC coordinated support to the emergency response including to the Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) following the severe weather that resulted in widespread flooding. Natural disaster declarations were made for the Armidale Dumaresq, Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Lismore, Kyogle, Richmond Valley, Clarence Valley, Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Port Macquarie – Hastings, Nambucca, Kempsey, Tenterfield, Glen Innes Severn and Guyra local government areas.

Flooding - North Coast Flood - March 2009 - SEOC coordinated support to the emergency response (including the PIIC) as a result of flooding that resulted in Natural Disaster Declarations for Kempsey, Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Nambucca and Clarence Valley Local Government Areas.

Sydney CBD Power Outage - March 2009 - The SEOC supported the SEOC in control for this event

Flood - Mid-North Coast - February 2009 - SEOC supported the response to this event controlled by the SES that resulted in Natural Disaster Declarations in the Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Nambucca, Kempsey, Hastings, Clarence Valley and Greater Taree Local Government Areas.

Flood – Bourke – February 2009 - SEOC Monitored the response to this event that resulted in Natural Disaster Declarations in the Bourke and Moree Plains Local Government Areas.

Landslide - Papua New Guinea - December 2008 - SEOC coordinated the initial NSW response upon activation of the *Australian Government Overseas Disaster Assistance Plan (AUSASSISTPLAN)*.

Bangkok Airport Closures – December 2008 - Due to the closure of the International airport in Bangkok as a result of civil unrest, the *Australian Government Plan for the Reception of Australian Citizens and Approved Foreign Nationals Evacuated from Overseas (COMRECEPLAN)* was activated. The SEOC coordinated the initial planning in the event that reception services were required in Sydney.

Flood/Storms – Peel Valley - November 2008 - SEOC closely monitored the emergency response to due to storms and heavy rain and flash flooding that with widespread effects in the Peel River Catchment area. Natural Disaster Declarations were made for the Tamworth, Gunnedah, Narrabri and Walcha Local Government Areas with significant damage to local and state government infrastructure, rural production and stored fodder

Mumbai Repatriation – November 2008 - Following the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, the *Australian Government Plan for the Reception of Australian Citizens and Approved Foreign Nationals Evacuated from Overseas (COMRECEPLAN)* was activated and SEOC coordinated the NSW Reception Point operation assisting more than 620 passengers returning to Sydney Airport from India.

Animal Plague – Locusts – October 2008 - The SEOC closely monitored Industry and Investment (I&I) NSW (formerly NSW Department of Primary Industries) during a plague locust outbreak, which affected many areas of the state.

Animal Disease - Suspected Hendra Virus – Ballina August 2008 - SEOC closely monitored the I&I NSW response to a potential incidence of Hendra virus at stables adjacent to the Ballina racecourse.

Pandemic - Influenza A (H1N1) - The SEOC supported the NSW Department of Health during the early stages of the pandemic. SEOC support included assisting with the provision of accommodation and other welfare support, teleconference, information management, alerting and the coordination of communication between the Commonwealth and NSW.

Drought - The SEOC continues to monitor the ongoing and widespread effects of the drought in NSW with more than 50 percent of the state remaining drought declared through most of the year.

Request For Australian Government Assistance - Lord Howe Island - The SEOC coordinated the request for assistance between the Lord Howe Island Board and Emergency Management Australia for the transport of heavy earth moving equipment to the island, following a severe storm, which caused major damage and resulted in a Natural Disaster Declaration.

NSW assistance to other jurisdictions - SEOC monitored or assisted in the coordination of the following support: Queensland: Maritime oil spill on Moreton Island and the mainland and South East Queensland severe storms; Victoria: Victorian bushfire emergency; United States of America: Bushfires

4.5 NATURAL DISASTER DECLARATIONS

The following Natural Disaster Declarations were made for Financial Year 2008-2009:

<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Declared Event</i>	<i>Declared Local Government Areas</i>
21 May 2009	Flood	Armidale Dumaresq Tweed Byron Ballina Lismore Kyogle Richmond Valley Clarence Valley Coffs Harbour Bellingen Port Macquarie - Hastings Nambucca Kempsey Tenterfield Glen Innes Severn Guyra
19 April 2009	Storm	Lord Howe Island
30 March to 1 April 2009	Flood	Bellingen Coffs Harbour Clarence Valley Kempsey Nambucca
15 to 18 February 2009	Flood	Coffs Harbour Bellingen Nambucca Kempsey Port Macquarie-Hastings Clarence Valley Gloucester Greater Taree
15 to 17 February 2009	Flood	Gwydir
13 to 15 February 2009	Flood	Bourke Moree Plains
6 to 7 February 2009	Bushfire	Muswellbrook Singleton
1 to 9 February 2009	Bushfire	Tumut Tumbarumba
7 February 2009	Bushfire	Gosford
30 January 2009	Bushfire	Bega Valley Eurobodalla

<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Declared Event</i>	<i>Declared Local Government Areas</i>
22 January to 9 February 2009	Bushfire	Shoalhaven Eurobodalla Palerang
15 to 16 January 2009	Bushfire	Penrith
6 to 18 January 2009	Bushfire	Wingecarribee Shoalhaven Goulburn Mulwaree
26 to 29 December 2008	Bushfire	Bland
13 December 2008	Flood	Liverpool Plains
28 November to 1 December 2008	Storm and flood	Tamworth Gunnedah Walcha Narrabri
5 to 6 September 2008	Storm	Bellingen
24 to 28 April 2008	Storm and flood	Greater Taree

4.6 RECOVERY

4.6.1 Recovery Principles

Recovery is the process of returning an affected community to its proper level of functioning after an emergency. A recovery operation aims, as far as possible, to assist the affected community to manage its own recovery, while recognising that there may be a need for external technical, physical and financial assistance. Recovery activities often begin spontaneously within a community. Formal recovery operations provide structure for what would otherwise be ad hoc assistance offered to people affected by emergencies.

Unlike the response phase of an emergency, where the efforts of a small number of organisations are focussed on saving lives and property, recovery is characterised by a complex array of issues and a much broader range of organisations and stakeholders. Recovery programs and processes can have a lasting impact on the community and are often costly in terms of financial and other resources.

The National Principles for Disaster Recovery were endorsed by the Community and Disability Services Ministers' Advisory Council in March 2008. The principles underpin recovery operations in NSW. They are as follows:

Disaster recovery is part of emergency management, which includes the broader components of prevention, preparedness and response. Planning for recovery is integral to emergency preparation and mitigation actions may often be initiated as part of recovery.

Disaster recovery includes physical, environmental and economic elements, as well as psychosocial wellbeing. Recovery can provide an opportunity to improve these aspects beyond previous conditions, by enhancing social and natural environments, infrastructure and economies – contributing to a more resilient community.

Successful recovery relies on:

- understanding the **context**
- using **community-led** approaches
- employing effective **communication**
- recognising **complexity**
- ensuring **coordination** of all activities
- acknowledging and **building capacity**

4.6.2 Roles and Responsibilities

During 2008-2009, the SEMC and its member organisations continued to develop and implement enhancements to disaster recovery arrangements in New South Wales. The most significant initiative during this period was the development of amendments to the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act*, which were passed by NSW Parliament on 17 June 2009, and assented to on 19 June 2009. The amendments created two new statutory positions, the State Emergency Recovery Controller—known as the SERCon—and Deputy State Emergency Recovery Controller, and in doing so, streamlined and formalised existing mechanisms for providing Government support to communities affected by disaster.

The responsibilities of the SERCon / DSERCon include:

- overseeing the preparation and maintenance of NSW recovery policies, arrangements and plans, unless otherwise prescribed in hazard specific plans
- liaising closely with the SEOCon during the response phase of an emergency
- coordinating comprehensive assessments of the extent of damage (in consultation with the SEOCon if the response is still ongoing) and the need for recovery operations, and reporting this to the Minister for Emergency Services
- in consultation with the SEOCon, recommending the appointment of a Recovery Coordinator to the Minister for Emergency Services
- overseeing and supporting District and State level Recovery Coordinators as needed
- on behalf of the Minister, coordinate a meeting of the State Disaster Council, if required, to coordinate the activities of Government and non-Government agencies in relation to recovery activities
- chairing the State Recovery Committee (if established) to coordinate recovery activities at the State level if a State Recovery Coordinator is not appointed and
- monitoring and reporting to the Minister for Emergency Services on the progress of recovery.

The SERCon / DSERCon have the authority to engage the support of Government agencies as required and also engage with industry, non-government organisations, and Local and Commonwealth Government, as necessary, to address issues affecting the recovery process.

4.6.3 Significant Recovery Activities

4.6.3.1 Tamworth flood (Nov 08)

As a result of storms and heavy rain in the Peel River catchment on 28 November 2008, there was major flash flooding in Tamworth and the surrounding district. The area was declared a natural disaster on 29 November with significant damage to local and state government infrastructure. There was significant impact on rural production, with a number of farmers losing winter crops near to harvest, recently sown summer crops and stored fodder. A Recovery Committee coordinated the delivery of services to individuals, organisations and businesses affected by the flood.

4.6.3.2 Mumbai Terrorist Attack – November 08

Following the terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, Emergency Management Australia activated COMRECEPLAN on Friday, 28 November 2008 and requested NSW support to receive Australian citizens at Sydney Airport. A reception centre established at Sydney International Airport assisted over 620 affected passengers from various flights. The operation involved a number of organisations including the NSW Police Force, the Department of Community Services, Red Cross, Anglicare, the Adventist Development and Relief Agency, and NSW Health.

4.6.3.3 Mid-North Coast floods and storms (Feb 09)

On the 18th of February 2009, a Natural Disaster was declared following major flooding on the Mid-North Coast, particularly around the areas of Bellingen, Coffs Harbour, Nambucca, Kempsey and Port Macquarie-Hastings council areas. The recovery operation focused providing temporary accommodation to a number of evacuees, as well as immediate and ongoing material and financial assistance to those suffering hardship and damage.

4.6.3.4 Victorian Bushfires – February 09

In response to the Black Saturday bushfires of 7 February 2009, New South Wales deployed significant contingents of emergency service personnel from a range of agencies, to assist with both the response and recovery phases of the operation. With respect to recovery, NSW deployed staff and volunteers to provide

strategic advice and support, and to work at the Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC), which was opened to coordinate offers of assistance from the New South Wales community.

4.6.3.5 Coffs Harbour Flood – March 09

In late March and early April, near record levels of flooding occurred on the Nambucca, Bellinger and Coffs Creek catchments and caused considerable damage and disruption to the area. A Recovery Committee facilitated the transition to recovery operations and three Recovery Centres provided assistance in the Bellingen, Urunga and Coffs Harbour areas.

4.6.3.6 North Coast Floods – May 09

On 22 May 2009, a natural disaster was declared following extensive wind and flood damage on the North Coast. The declaration initially covered Tweed, Byron, Ballina, Lismore, Kyogle, Richmond Valley and Clarence Valley, and was later extended to cover a total of 16 local government areas. On the 24th of May 2009, the former NSW Police Commissioner Ken Moroney was appointed as the Recovery Co-ordinator for the North Coast Floods. Recovery committees and recovery centres were established at Lismore, Grafton and Kempsey, and they operated alongside the Coffs Harbour recovery committee and recovery centre, which had continued its operations from the March floods.

5 AUSTRALIAN SAFER COMMUNITIES AWARDS 2008

In 2008, NSW received a total of 21 entries for the Australian Safer Communities Awards. The State presentation ceremony was held on Wednesday 24 September 2008 at Parliament House, Sydney. The following awards were presented by the Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon Tony Kelly:

Winning Entries – State

- NSW State Emergency Service for its Business FloodSafe Toolkit Online, which helps businesses to calculate their flood liability and gives them a step-by-step guide to developing individual business continuity plans to help them better cope with the damaging consequences of floods.
- Campbelltown City Council, Camden Council and Wollondilly Shire Council for their joint Drives for Learners in Macarthur Booklet and Log Book Run Events, which is a practical educational behavioural project that targets learner drivers and their supervisors in the Macarthur Region and the wider community.
- NSW Jewish Board of Deputies for its Jewish Emergency Management Plan (JEMP) NSW which is a community-based initiative to provide a coordinated management plan to deal with any emergency, either locally or overseas, that might affect members of the Jewish Community.

Highly Commended - State

- Ambulance Service of NSW for LIFE – Live it Save it, which increases a patient's chance of surviving a cardiac related incident through community education.
- Council of the City of Sydney for its Security and Emergency Management Operations Centre, which assists in producing a safer community.
- Hunter Region Surf Life Saving Australia Helicopter Rescue Service Ltd for its Helicopter Winch Simulator developed for training its personnel and other organisations providing a helicopter rescue service to the community.
- Surf Life Saving Australia for its On the Same Wave campaign, which provides support to young Australians of all backgrounds, to become part of the beach experience and to engage with Surf Life Saving around Australia.

The three winning NSW entries, three cross-jurisdictional entries and one national entry were forwarded to Emergency Management Australia to be judged by a National panel against other State and Territory winners. The National awards presentation ceremony was held on Tuesday 11 November 2008 at Parliament House, Canberra. The following awards were presented by the Hon Robert McClelland, Attorney-General of Australia:

Winning Entries - National

- NSW Jewish Board of Deputies for “Jewish Emergency Management Plan for NSW” (Volunteer Organisations Category)
- Surf Life Saving Australia (submitted by NSW) for “The Australian Coastal Public Safety Guidelines” (Projects of national significance or cross – jurisdictional)

Highly Commended Entries – National

- NSW Fire Brigades on behalf of the national Triple Zero 000 awareness campaign (State/Territory Government Agencies Category)
- Campbelltown City Council, Camden Council and Wollondilly Shire Council for “Drives for Learners in Macarthur’ Booklet and Log Book Run Events” (Local Government Category)
- Australian Geomechanics Society and Sydney Coastal Councils Group for “Landslide Risk Management Guidelines” (Projects of national significance or cross – jurisdictional)

6 AGENCY, FUNCTIONAL AREA & COMMITTEE REPORTS

6.1 AMBULANCE SERVICE OF NSW

The role of the Ambulance Service of NSW (ASNSW) in an emergency management setting is to:

- a. provide pre-hospital care and transport for the sick and injured;
- b. establish command and control infrastructure using Incident Control System principles;
- c. provide and/or assume responsibility for transport of health service teams and their equipment to the sites of incidents or emergencies, receiving hospitals or emergency medical facilities when requested by the Health Services Functional Area Coordinator;
- d. provide coordinated communications for all health systems involved in emergency responses;
- e. provide accredited rescue units as determined by the State Rescue Board;
- f. provide Special Casualty Access Teams and Urban Search and Rescue paramedics as required; and
- g. provide fixed and rotary wing pre-hospital and aero-medical retrieval services across New South Wales.

6.1.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.1.1.1 Planning

- The Ambulance Service of NSW has participated in whole of government planning for events such as the Repco Rally Championships in Northern NSW, the World Masters Games, Bathurst 2009 and V8 Supercar event in October 2009. There has also been a requirement for the Ambulance Service to plan for provision of ambulance resources at environmental protest activities such as the 2009 Climate Camp at Helensburgh.
- ASNSW co-hosted the United Nations International Search and Rescue Advisory Group (INSARAG) Medical Working Group (MWG) in Sydney during April 2009. The group has completed the draft INSARAG Guidelines Medical Supplement; this has been distributed for review and comment. The MWG has also completed a review of the INSARAG External Classification (IEC) Checklist with specific reference to the medical requirements during the classification process. The MWG has recommended changes, which have been reviewed and endorsed by INSARAG. This is of significant importance for NSW USAR Taskforce who will be required to undergo this process in 2012.
- The ASNSW Director Special Operations has been endorsed by AusAID and approved by INSARAG as the Australian IEC (medical) Classifier for the Region.

6.1.1.2 Training and exercises

Training activities that the Ambulance Service has participated in include:

- Multi Agency Incident Training (MAIT)
- Multi-Agency Exercise Writing Course
- Major Incident Training (ASNSW)
- Ambulance Service Commander Training
- NSW Police Counter Terrorism Commander Awareness Training
- Incident Control System (ICS) Training
- Microsoft “Groove” Training
- Chemical, Biological and Radiological Training
- Special Casualty Access Team Training
- Special Operations Team Training
- Rescue Operator Training
- Emergo Training
- Securing Our Regional Skies

The Ambulance Service participated in the following 2008-2009 National Counter Terrorism Committee (NCTC) NSW Drill Style Program exercises:

- *Exercise Rover II*
- *Exercise Seahorse*
- *Exercise Bathurst*
- *Exercise Pecton Shield*

- *Exercise Close Quarters*
- *Exercise Sudden Response II*
- *Exercise Bravo*
- *Exercise Sudden Impact*
- *Exercise Busker*
- *Exercise Kip II*
- *Exercise High Resolution*
- *Exercise Green Bell*

6.1.1.3 *Capability development*

The Ambulance Service report to National USAR Steering Committee May 2009 identified the following areas of capability development:

- A review of vaccination schedule was undertaken by the UN INSARAG Medical Working Group. The outcomes identify a wide variation for levels of vaccination exists among the worlds USAR teams; it is therefore recommended that Australian USAR Teams focus on prophylactic administration of vaccines pertinent to Australia's area of response (Asia Pacific). Although this policy mainly applies to New South Wales and Queensland it is recommended that senior logisticians and team leaders, who may be involved in responding overseas with a State Medical Team, also receive these vaccinations.
- The Ambulance Service has finalised the NSW USAR Taskforce medical cache. The cache has been established to enable deployment to two sites or incidents. The cache is packed in palletised storage cases which can be deployed by road or air at short notice. The total budget of the medical cache amounts to \$260,000.
- The Ambulance Service Special Operations Teams development continues and this new capability is underpinned with the purchasing of new vehicles, additional training and embarking on multi-agency training for interagency responses.
- The Ambulance Service completed the collaborative CBRN Psychological First Responders project with the University of Western Sydney. Analysis of the survey data has been undertaken and the Ambulance Service is working as co-authors with the University of Western Australia on journal articles and academic papers regarding the outcomes learned from this project.

6.1.2 *Significant activities – response*

6.1.2.1 *Victorian Bush Fires*

Significant logistical support to ASNSW strike teams deployed with NSW Rural Fire Service to the Victorian Bushfires. Such coordination included the sourcing of vehicles, specialist pharmaceutical items and equipment.

A number of Ambulance Service Special Operations Strike Teams formed part of the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) multi-agency task forces to Victoria. The Special Operations Strike teams are fully self sufficient in the field for up to 72 hours and the teams consisted of one Commander and four Special Operations paramedics. The Special Operations team's role was to provide clinical / medical care to the NSW RFS personnel and this included activities such as fatigue management, ensuring re-hydration of all personnel and pre-hospital care to fire-fighters if an incident occurred. The inclusion of Ambulance Service Special Operations Teams in NSW RFS taskforces has proven to be very successful and ongoing planning is underway to enhance this support for future NSW RFS deployments both within NSW and interstate.

6.1.2.2 *Floods Northern New South Wales*

The Ambulance Service deployed significant resources to assist in the flood operations on the Far North Coast of NSW as part of a nine day deployment. This included transport of evacuated patients from isolated communities and aged care facilities, provision of liaison officers, provision of specialist strike teams for isolated communities, aero-medical evacuations and rescues and assisting Queensland Ambulance Service as required.

6.1.2.3 *Swine Flu Influenza*

When the influenza H1N1 pandemic began in the Americas on 25 April 2009 the Ambulance Service immediately established close liaison with NSW Health with a liaison presence in the Public Health Emergency Operations Centre (PHEOC) by Sunday 26th and had released its first clinical fact sheet to paramedics on the 28th April as well as setting up a dedicated H1N1 intranet page in that same week. During

the CONTAIN Phase, the Ambulance Service played a valuable support role to the PHEOC by opening the Public Health Support Coordination Centre (PHSCC) at the Sydney Ambulance Centre. The PHSCC was staffed by Ambulance as well as NSW Public Health personnel and was tasked with ensuring that all the welfare and logistic requirements of families in quarantine were met. This overlaid the provision of meals, medicines and welfare checks on top of managing whole of Health logistics for stockpile items and anti-virals. The main challenges identified by the Ambulance Service during this time have been broadly identified as communication (internal and external), the correct use of Personal Protective Equipment and workforce continuity.

6.1.3 Significant activities – recovery

- Following the Northern NSW floods, the Ambulance Service was involved in a number of recovery activities with respect to the repatriation of patients to health care facilities and restoration of damaged ambulance property.

6.1.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

- The Ambulance Service has commenced the development of a senior Commanders course. The course is aimed at enhancing the emergency management skills of the Services senior managers and will cover all aspects of command and control.
- The Service has been involved in extensive consultation with other jurisdictional ambulance services, Council of Ambulance Authorities, Australian Health Policy Committee and private industry for the development and implementation of a national triage label. It is envisaged the new initiative will be implemented in 2009-2010.

6.1.5 Future directions

During 2010 there will be a review and amendments made to AMPLAN, the State Major Incident / Disaster Plan.

~

6.2 NSW FIRE BRIGADES

The NSW Fire Brigades (NSWFB) is one of the world's largest urban fire and rescue services. In 2008-2009, the NSWFB had 6904 firefighters, more than 5800 Community Fire Unit volunteers and 379 administrative and trades staff working together to provide high-quality professional service to the community. The NSWFB is responsible for managing fires in the major cities, regional centres and towns throughout the State. It also receives all Triple Zero (000) emergency calls and Automatic Fire Alarm activations for the State of NSW. The NSWFB is the combat agency for dealing with hazardous materials emergencies; is the largest provider of non-fire rescue services in NSW with 170 accredited rescue units; provides community first responder services at a number of locations for medical emergencies; maintains the State's specialist building collapse rescue capability (urban search and rescue [USAR]); and provides chemical, biological and radiological response (CBR) in support of the NSW Police Force counter-terrorism arrangements.

6.2.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.2.1.1 Mitigation

During 2008-2009, the NSWFB implemented a range of strategies to reduce the number and severity of emergency incidents, deaths and property damage in the community through effective prevention, mitigation, preparedness and engagement programs.

The main priorities in this area included the NSWFB Community Fire Unit (CFU) Program. In 2008-2009 the NSWFB conducted targeted community engagement and recruitment activities and attracted an additional 1,164 residents to the CFU program across 157 units. As at 30 June 2009, there were 418 CFUs operated by more than 5,800 volunteer members across metropolitan and regional NSW.

Other priorities included addressing the safety needs of key at-risk community groups; conducting effective community education programs; establishing and supporting fire station-based community engagement activities; developing strategic partnerships to enhance community safety; increasing community and business

preparedness; providing regulatory, advisory, inspection and investigation services; and researching, identifying and addressing major community risks.

NSWFB firefighters across the State, often in conjunction with the Rural Fire Service, participated in numerous hazard reduction burns, particularly in the local government areas of Bankstown, Hurstville, Manly, Balgowlah, Mosman, Baulkham Hills, Byron Bay, Warragamba, Corowa, and Berrigan to reduce fire risk in bushfire-prone areas. Weather conditions and high fuel moisture content unfortunately prohibited many planned burns from taking place.

6.2.1.2 Planning

During 2008-2009, the NSWFB continued to review, enhance and develop emergency-related plans to increase community safety, quality of life and confidence by minimising the impact of hazards and emergency incidents on the people, environment and economy of NSW.

Organisational planning activities addressed major changes in the external operating environment which will significantly affect the NSWFB in its role in emergency management. These changes include climate change and water shortages; heightened global and regional security risks; demographic changes, including an ageing population; changing fire risks in modern homes; difficulties in attracting retained firefighters in regional areas; reducing volunteerism; greater emphasis on prevention; and increasingly complex hazards.

During 2008-2009, NSWFB operational personnel began training and preparing for their role in the World Masters Games, an event which is to be held in Sydney in October 2009. Special Events Planning and Coordination staff worked closely throughout the year with NSW Police, event coordination authorities and other State and Commonwealth agencies to assist with the planning for events such as: the 2008 Australian Olympic Team Homecoming Parade, the 2008 Bathurst 1000, 2008 Sydney Running Festival, 2009 New Year's Eve celebrations, 2009 Anzac Day, 2009 Mardi Gras and the 2009 Royal Easter Show.

Special Events Planning and Coordination staff will continue to provide strategic level planning support to promote better information sharing and cooperation in emergency management.

6.2.1.3 Training and exercises

Over the 2008-2009 period, the NSWFB continued to train staff to deal with identified community risks and implemented a comprehensive program of exercises to rehearse, test and review existing operational plans and capabilities. The NSWFB conducted numerous exercises at Local, District and State levels targeting multi-agency involvement as both a combat and support agency, in accordance with the NSW State Disaster Plan.

The 2008-2009 year saw the NSWFB participate in a variety of joint training exercises with other emergency service and support agencies, transport operators, public utilities and industry, including:

- The National Counter Terrorism Committee NSW drill-style exercise program in conjunction with other Commonwealth and State agencies;
- Transport emergency exercises, including airports, road and rail;
- Major infrastructure exercises in conjunction with water and energy utilities and other government agencies;
- Exercises involving major commercial sites, including high-rise residential blocks, shopping centres, oil refineries and other major industrial sites;
- Protective security exercises with a particular focus on dignitary and motorcade protection and multi-agency decontamination at terrorist incidents; and
- Rescue and urban search and rescue exercises, to rehearse rescue capabilities, including integrated command and control, logistics and multi-agency deployments of emergency services personnel and equipment.

6.2.1.4 Capability development

Throughout 2008-2009 the NSWFB focussed on a number of key priorities to ensure appropriate capability development to meet community needs. As a result of these efforts:

- Thermal Imaging Cameras (TICs) are now in use on 141 operational appliances, with a further 11 allocated to training units and 32 in surge capacity and servicing stocks, thus greatly increasing fire crew rescue and fire attack capabilities in low-visibility environments.
- Every fire appliance now has an automated external defibrillator installed and emergency medical treatment and oxygen resuscitation packs.

- All fire stations across the State have now received new Orion gas detector kits and associated subsequent training to increase firefighter and community safety.
- The NSWFB's first firefighting vessel, Marine 1, was launched in 2007 and so has now completed its first full year of service. This resource has greatly improved the NSWFB's response and preparedness capability to marine incidents on Sydney Harbour, including fires, rescue and hazardous material incidents.
- The capability of the jointly owned and operated counter terrorism aircraft Fire Air 1 was significantly enhanced with a new winch, wire strike kit, onboard moving map system and enhanced communications equipment.
- As part of the NSWFB's on-going fleet renewal program, orders have been placed for 18 new Class One 4 x 4 replacement appliances for commissioning in early 2010. There are 28 new Class 2 rural appliances on order, with commissioning to commence in August 2009 and completion forecast over the following 18 months. The new Class 2 appliances will displace other older appliances, which will become Service Exchange Vehicles.
- In 2008-2009, 19 new replacement Class 3 appliances were commissioned, with a further 24 trucks to be commissioned in the next 12 months. There has been one new Heavy Rescue appliance commissioned with the remaining three to be commissioned during August/September 2009.
- A new 44 metre Bronto Ladder Platform has been ordered and will be commissioned in August 2010. High visibility markings and LED emergency lighting is also being implemented across the entire NSWFB vehicle fleet.
- Major construction projects completed in 2008-2009 included a new fire station at Lavington (Albury) at a cost of \$1.375 million and Raymond Terrace (Grahamstown) at the cost of \$2.00 million.
- Extensive renovations and refurbishments were completed at fire stations in Bellingen, Blackheath, Brunswick Heads, Crookwell, Darlinghurst, Glebe, Dunheved, Forster, Lidcombe, Moama, Narellan, Silverwater and Yamba fire stations and at the new Disaster Response and Education Centre at Ingleburn.
- Major renovation began during the year at Kandos fire station, while tendering for major renovations at Coffs Harbour, Miranda and Wallerawang fire stations is programmed to start in early 2009-2010.
- A new fire station at Sawtell is due to be completed in July 2009
- During 2008-2009, development approvals were obtained for new fire stations at Baulkham Hills and West Wallsend (Holmesville). These stations are planned for construction during 2009-2010.
- Further development of the NSWFB holistic approach to community and firefighter bushfire risk management on the bushland/urban interface through a three-pronged strategy comprising hazard reduction burns, introduction of the I-Zone project, and community resilience to bushfires including the Community Fire Unit (CFU) program.
- Communications capability at major incidents have been enhanced with the introduction of a trial of the application COMICS (Communications and Incident Control Structure), a product that has been developed in house and records details of the Incident Management Team (IMT), Sector Commanders, Specialised Commands and other agencies on a single screen. COMICS is designed by firefighters for firefighters to retain a record of personnel acting in each position during the course of the incident for future reference.
- New primary rescue accreditations were completed for crews at Bulli, Toronto, Belmont, Regentsville and Moama, while secondary rescue accreditation was finalised for Engadine.
- The Hazardous Materials Response Unit purchased a new boat named Otter II. The resource is in service and responds to hazardous materials incidents upon waterways within the Sydney metropolitan area.
- Atmospheric monitoring capabilities have been enhanced through the procurement of two Area RAE monitors. The monitors can assess hazardous atmospheres remotely and feed information to a central point.
- Other emergency management priorities included conducting disaster planning and joint training exercise with other emergency services and government agencies and continued assessment of risks to ensure effective allocation of appropriately-trained staff and resources.

6.2.2 Significant activities – response

During 2008-2009, NSWFB fire crews responded to 137 721 fire and other emergency incidents.

Examples of major incidents attended included:

- A major Hazmat recovery operation in August 2008 at Thredbo after approximately 1,000 litres of diesel escaped from a holding tank into the Thredbo River.
- A major factory fire in Tuggerah on the State's Central Coast in February 2009.

- More than 425 NSWFB firefighters were sent to Victoria to assist the Victorian emergency services with the bushfire disaster that occurred on Saturday 8 February 2009. Firefighters from as far north as Tweed Heads, Eden in the south and Temora in the west, headed to Victoria to assist their colleagues from the Victorian Country Fire Authority (CFA). They worked with other emergency services personnel from NSW including officers from the NSW Rural Fire Service, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Forests NSW and the Ambulance Service of New South Wales. In total, the NSWFB provided eight deployments to Victoria, with each team made up of more than 50 firefighters that included permanent and retained firefighters and senior officers. Firefighters worked under extreme and dangerous conditions, working long days and living in makeshift facilities established in the town of Alexandra.
- A 5th Alarm structure fire in March 2009 at Camden involved a 5,000 litre above-ground LPG cylinder with a substantial LPG-fuelled fire burning under the tank.
- A 4th Alarm fire that resulted from an explosion at the Eastgate Shopping Centre, Bondi Junction. The March 2009 incident occurred in a complex comprising two 30 storey residential apartment buildings, with a shopping complex on levels 1 to 9. More than 1,000 people were evacuated during the incident.
- Bushfire and Rescue Officers worked alongside NSWFB Strike Teams and other emergency service agencies in response to the flooding that impacted the Northern Rivers in May 2009. Specialist officers assisted with the conduct of specialised swift water rescue and evacuation of affected persons.

6.2.3 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

Throughout 2008-2009, the NSWFB continued to enhance a number of key strategic initiatives to ensure community resilience during times of emergency. This included expanding the Community Fire Unit Program; enhancing counter-terrorist capability, particularly for USAR and CBR emergencies; and implementing a wide range of community-based engagement programs and prevention strategies.

~

6.3 NSW POLICE FORCE

The NSW Police Force is Australia's oldest and largest police organisation, and one of the biggest in the English speaking world. It operates on land, sea and from the air to provide community based policing from more than 500 police stations. The organisation has a large and diverse workforce with over 19 000 employees.

The organisation aims to protect the community and property by preventing, detecting and investigating crime, monitoring and promoting road safety, maintaining social order and performing and coordinating emergency and rescue operations.

The NSW Police Force provides Emergency Management Controllers at Local, District and State level whose role is to support combat agencies in emergency operations and to control emergencies where there is no combat agency appointed under the State Disaster Plan.

Eighteen District Emergency Management Officers are employed by the NSW Police Force, to provide planning, training and operational support to District Emergency Management Committees on behalf of the State Emergency Management Committee (SEMC).

6.3.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.3.1.1 Mitigation

The NSW Police Force work closely with other agencies to implement mitigation strategies applicable to a broad range of community issues.

6.3.1.2 Planning

The NSW Police Force (State Emergency Operations Controller) is responsible for the State Major Structure Collapse Sub Plan, State Lucas Heights Emergency Sub Plan and the State Aviation Emergency Sub Plan.

6.3.1.3 Training and Exercises

A wide range of NSW Police Force officers have undertaken various emergency management training throughout the year, targeting various levels of service and skill requirements.

Students at the NSW Police Academy in Goulburn complete four hours of emergency management training during the Constable Education Program. This provides a general awareness and knowledge, forming the basis for future training in this field.

The NSW Police Force conducts an Incident and Emergency Management course (4 days) which is generally completed by Constable to Sergeant rank. The Incident and Emergency Management Course covers the skills required to stand all police officers in a better state of readiness to respond to incidents and emergencies across the State.

The Command Level Training (CLT) program establishes and maintains a pool of senior police with the knowledge skills, training and attributes necessary to successfully manage any major event or incident in New South Wales. The CLT model is designed to apply international best practice to local needs and conditions through individual projects. This training includes various aspects of emergency management, suitable for those senior officers performing the role of Emergency Operations Controllers.

Both operational officers and administrative staff have completed the emergency management courses offered by the State Emergency Management Committee. These courses are facilitated by the eighteen District Emergency Management Officers and compliment any internal training offered. The NSW Police Force is represented on the Training Advisory Group which is a sub committee of the State Emergency Management Committee. Furthermore, a number of officers completed courses offered at the Australian Emergency Management Institute, Mount Macedon.

The NSW Police Force contributed and participated in various exercises throughout the year including :

- *Exercise Graphite* (November 2008) testing agency responses to an aviation emergency at Sydney International Airport
- *Exercise Sudden Impact* (November 2008) testing command, control and co-ordination arrangements in response to a terrorist incident involving mass casualties.
- *Exercise Road Runner* (various) to practice the emergency management arrangements required during the activation of the Sydney CBD Emergency Sub Plan. This is in addition to the monthly testing conducted by the NSW Police Force and Roads and Traffic Authority of the CBD Emergency Warning System.

Exercises have also been developed and conducted by Central Metropolitan Region (Incident Command and Control) and the Simulated Operations Unit (Local Emergency Operations Controllers).

6.3.2 Significant activities – Response

The NSW Police Force was involved in various emergency responses and significant activities across the State including (but not limited to) those listed below :

- The NSW Police Force was responsible for security, traffic and emergency management operations during World Youth Day (WYD) 2008 celebrations held in July 2008. The event, which attracted large numbers of pilgrims from various countries, culminated in various activities being held across Sydney. This was a massive planning and logistical operation, which was co-ordinated by the WYD Police Security Command.
- During the Mumbai Repatriation operation in December 2008, the NSW Police Force provided logistical and security support and co-ordinated Disaster Victim Registration.
- The NSW Police Force provided significant personnel and resources in support of the Victorian bush fire emergency in February 2009. Three hundred general duties officers, Disaster Victim Identification teams, Police Media and Emergency Management personnel were deployed to Victoria to assist during this devastating emergency.
- In March 2009, the Sydney CBD and surrounds experienced a series of power outages. The NSW Police Force performed numerous rescues and assisted with various other tasks, including traffic duties.
- Local police and Emergency Operations Controllers assisted the State Emergency Service during severe weather and flooding on the Mid North Coast Floods in March 2009. The area again sustained similar conditions in May 2009 in which numerous townships were evacuated on the North and Mid North Coasts.
- Following the World Health Organisation declaring swine influenza to be a public health event of international significance, the NSW Police Force enacted Strike Force Maccine to support NSW Health and ensure business continuity.
- The Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) is maintained and operated by the NSW Police Force's Communications Group to provide public information and handle victim enquiries during an emergency.

The centre was activated on three occasions during the past year. Of note, the centre received a total of 10,545 calls between 21 and 29 May 2009. This was an extraordinary effort and one of the highest call volumes ever experienced by the centre. The centre also operated in support of Victoria, taking a significant number of calls concerning offers of assistance in the aftermath of the Black Saturday bush fires.

6.3.3 Significant activities – Recovery

The NSW Police Force contributed significantly to the new recovery arrangements aimed at improving the governance arrangements for managing the community's recovery from an emergency.

The Rapid Impact Assessment (RIA) process was utilised by Local Emergency Operations Controller during the North / Mid North Coast floods in May 2009 to provide guidance to the Recovery Co-ordinator.

6.3.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

The NSW Police Force commenced and successfully instituted a number of strategic projects including (but not limited to) those listed below :

- In September 2008, the Commissioner of Police approved the creation of the Police Emergency Management Unit which will improve the organisation's corporate capability in regards to emergency management and business continuity. The unit consists of four police officers who fulfil the role of Staff Officer, Exercise and Training Co-ordinator, Business Continuity Co-ordinator and Project Officer. This unit continues to successfully operate, providing executive support and advice concerning emergency management and business continuity issues to commands and business units.
- Each business unit within the NSW Police Force reviewed and tested their Business Continuity Plans in accordance with corporate requirements.
- Personal Protective Equipment was funded and supplied to the eighteen District Emergency Management Officers across the State. In addition, the provision of standard and modern information technology equipment was also approved. This equipment will be progressively rolled out over the next 24 months.
- Satellite telephones and personal Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacons (EPIRB) were funded and supplied to the Alpine Search and Rescue Unit. Emergency equipment was also funded for Botany Bay and Flemington Local Area Commands for Emergency Operations Centres.
- Articles and other educational information relating to emergency management were published in various editions of the Police Weekly and internal Intranet site.

6.3.5 Future directions

Emergency Management remains a priority of the NSW Police Force with a number of projects planned for the upcoming year. These include the provision of portable Emergency Operation Centre kits and Emergency Support Vehicle.

The NSW Police Force will continue to work closely with members of the State Emergency Management Committee, State Rescue Board and emergency services alike.

~

6.4 NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE

The NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) is responsible for the prevention, mitigation and suppression of bush and other fires in local government areas (or parts of areas) and other parts of the State constituted as Rural Fire Districts; for the coordination of bush fire fighting and bush fire prevention throughout the State; for the protection of persons from injury or death, and property from damage, arising from fires; and for the protection of the environment, having regard to the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

6.4.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.4.1.1 Mitigation

The RFS continues to be a leader in development control and advice, bush fire hazard reduction, responsible bush fire environmental management and community engagement. Interaction with the community before, during and after fire events remains the main focus. This, coupled with closer working arrangements with

other fire agencies and land management agencies, Police and the media ensures that the Service is able to provide both our volunteer membership and the community with the required support.

Influencing the environment in which our volunteer and other fire fighters operate through planning; management of fire hazards; and by engaging the community in preparedness is of critical importance to their safety and wellbeing. Every year the RFS, in conjunction with its partner agencies, undertakes an extensive range of protection works designed to ensure that the community is well prepared and that loss of life and property is minimised.

RFS members spend a significant number of hours delivering community awareness and engagement activities in their local areas. A number of activities are specifically targeted at children and young people and include the expanded ten week school-based Cadet Training Programme. This programme is designed to teach our future leaders about community fire safety, fire suppression and volunteering within their community.

6.4.1.2 Planning

Bush Fire management plans, developed at the local level, form the basis for planning for the response to bush fires within local government areas in NSW. The RFS, on behalf of the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee, develops policies, guidelines, frameworks and tools for these plans, and assists the local Bush Fire Management Committees to develop Bush Fire Risk Management Plans and Operational Coordination Plans.

An updated bush fire risk management planning framework was implemented across the State during 2008-2009 (having been trialled in 2007-2008). This framework is spatially based and provides significant improvement on the existing framework and will facilitate the production of more realistic and useful planning instruments for fire authorities, land managers and the broader community to effectively manage bush fire risks.

6.4.1.3 Training and exercises

The RFS conducted numerous exercises at local and district level targeting multiagency involvement as both a combat and support agency in accordance with the Operational Coordination Plans and NSW State Disaster Plan.

Each of the four Regions conducted major regional exercises, testing the readiness and capabilities of staff and volunteers. Regions also conducted scenario-based Incident Management Workshops and Incident Management Exercises to enhance staff and senior volunteer preparedness for incident management.

During the year, the Operations Section conducted in excess of 25 tours of the State Operations Centre with an informative explanation of operational management as well as the state-of-the-art technology now being used. Many of these were for NSW, other State, Federal or International Authorities who were researching better methods of conducting their own business. It also included community groups such as Probus, Rotary, Legacy, school and cadet groups.

6.4.1.4 Capability development

The RFS again, in conjunction with officers from the Bureau of Meteorology conducted Fire Weather courses which are designed to provide insight into the complex world of fire weather forecasting. These courses have proven to be very popular with 40 officers from RFS, NSWFB, NPWS and Forests NSW attending.

6.4.2 Significant activities – response

During the 2008-2009 fire season there were 15 Section 44 Declarations covering seven different Local Government Areas. The s44 fires occurred between December 2008 and March 2009. The 2008-2009 season saw more than 632 Incident Management Team (IMT) personnel engaged during this year's s44s and saw 63 strike teams being mobilised within NSW, with a maximum of 14 on a single day. The 2008-2009 fire season recorded more than 52,000 hectares (having a perimeter exceeding 800 kilometres) being burnt under wildfire conditions. There were 38 days declared as 'Total Fire Ban' days.

There were more than 700 aircraft 'taskings' associated with incidents during the 2008-2009 season, with a maximum of 61 being deployed on a single day in February. A number of the total tasking numbers were to assist SES with flood relief activities (evacuations or supply drops).

The season also saw one of the worst recorded natural disasters in Australia - the Victoria bush fires on February 7 2009, with fire and land management agencies from NSW supplying significant resources to assist over an extended period.

The RFS deployed a total of 131 Strike Teams; 316 vehicles; and more than 3200 personnel to Victoria during the period 7 February to 11 March, with the largest movement of personnel being 624 persons in transit on a single day. This was the largest contingent from both the RFS and NSW combined agencies to assist with an interstate emergency incident.

The RFS also participated in an expert multi-agency task force lead by the Bush Fire Co-operative Research Centre formed to collect crucial data from the fire ground. The results from the Task Force will be submitted to the Victorian Bushfires Royal Commission.

The Service continues to provide support and assistance to the Victorian Country Fire Authority and other agencies.

6.4.2.1 Response to incidents:

During the reporting period, RFS crews responded to a total of 19,474 incidents.

Assistance was also provided to the NSW State Emergency Service for storm relief activities, which resulted in major deployments to the NSW North Coast.

6.4.3 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

The RFS was the principal sponsor for the International Wildfire Management Conference held in Sydney in June 2009, with more than 400 RFS personnel attending, along with delegates from other Australian and international fire and land management agencies. This conference was an invaluable opportunity to exchange information about fire management, community engagement and fire technology.

6.4.4 Future directions

Starting in 2009-2010, the RFS, in conjunction with state, local and non-government welfare agencies, will be introducing an Assist Infirm Disabled and Elderly Residents (AIDER) programme. The AIDER programme is designed to provide an assessment of these most vulnerable community members' properties and undertaking works to improve the protection afforded to their properties by clearing vegetation on and around their houses.

~

6.5 NSW STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

The NSW State Emergency Service (SES) is the combat agency responsible for the planning and control of rescue and response operations for flood, storm and tsunami events. The Service is also responsible for providing assistance and support to the NSW Police Force, NSW Fire Brigades, NSW Rural Fire Service and the Ambulance Service of NSW.

The SES provides 84 units accredited for general land rescue and 30 units accredited for vertical rescue under the State Rescue Board arrangements. The Service also provides Community First Responders to assist the Ambulance Service of NSW provide life-critical first aid in rural and remote areas across the State.

The Service comprises some 10,000 volunteers organised into 228 units. The volunteers are supported by 189 staff located at the Service's 17 Region Headquarters and State Headquarters in Wollongong.

Three organisations are affiliated to the SES. These are the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol (RVCP), the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association (AVCGA) and the Wireless Institute Civil Emergency Network.

6.5.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.5.1.1 Mitigation

The Service was a major contributor to the NSW Floodplain Management Authorities annual conference held jointly with Victoria in March 2009. This conference is the most high profile event on the flood mitigation calendar. It was unfortunate that serious floods occurred during the same week as the conference and many SES delegates were required to leave and return to operational duties. The SES also participated in the NSW Coastal Conference.

The SES continues to receive a high volume of floodplain and coast landuse development proposal referrals from developers, councils and the NSW Department of Planning, providing mostly generic responses. The Service attempts to provide more detailed responses to what appear to be the most significant matters (as indicated by risk or precedent). More than 90 development and rezoning matters have been sent to the Service and more than 10 Major Development Projects have been referred by the Department of Planning since July 2008.

6.5.1.2 Planning

The review of Flood Sub-plans was the main activity of the Service's State and Regional planning resources during the year. A total of 21 individual local flood sub-plans were re-endorsed by their respective Local Emergency Management Committees and a further 20 were in the process of review as at June 2009. Flood Intelligence information for the relevant key flood warning gauges was also reviewed and updated during the planning process.

A number of post event intelligence, warning and flood information projects were implemented during the reporting year and the results will inform intelligence updating, plan review and warning systems enhancement. Locations included Lismore, Grafton, Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Kempsey.

Throughout the year, the Service continued to work on the NSW tsunami arrangements, including the review of the NSW Tsunami Emergency Sub-plan, which was updated and re-endorsed in December 2008. The implementation work of the Australian Tsunami Working Group (ATWG) was drawing to a close although not finalised as of June 2009. The national warning system was launched in October 2008 and in June 2009 a national exercise was used to test the system (see Exercises for details). Following on from the Tsunami Risk Assessment Scoping Study for NSW completed previously, the SES has started tsunami inundation modelling for some of the key locations identified in the scoping study. Preliminary results are being assessed for Batemans Bay and Umina on the Central Coast.

In a repeat of activity in previous years, tsunami update briefings for local government and emergency services were delivered to 325 delegates at venues in Sydney, from Ballina to Newcastle on the North Coast and from Kiama to Merimbula on the South Coast. The SES has also been developing a tsunami education DVD for emergency service organisations. This will be distributed in late 2009.

6.5.1.3 Training and Exercising

Training in critical skill areas has continued throughout the period at State, region and local levels. The total numbers of qualifications exceeded 9,000, with more than 116 Certificate III (Rescue) qualifications issued.

There has been ongoing delivery of Skills Trainer and Assessor courses developed from the Training and Assessment Training Package (TAA). Alpine Search and Survival training and skills maintenance has been conducted throughout the winter months with regular alpine training exercises. The partnership with Victoria SES has continued and selected units are now trained and equipped in this new capability. Consultation has been underway to develop relevant Alpine Search and Survival units of competence.

The SES Learning and Development section has been fully involved in the review of the Public Safety Training Package throughout the period, with volunteers and staff attending consultation workshops reviewing the 'industry wide' units of competence. Staff and volunteers have also attended national workshops designed to develop national 'skill sets'.

The Service delivered exercises for three LEMCs and two DEMCs and also delivered exercise management training to all Region planning staff.

The most significant activity was the national tsunami exercise, *Exercise Ausnami*, conducted in June 2009. This exercise was the culmination of the work to establish the Australian Tsunami Warning System. The

exercise involved dissemination of tsunami warnings from the Bureau of Meteorology through the SES and the SEOC to all levels of the emergency management structure in NSW. Early indications were that the exercise was successful in that it demonstrated a genuine capability for warning dissemination but at the same time, identified areas needing further work.

During the year, the Service worked with the NSW Dam Safety Committee (DSC) to conduct a series of flood exercises for the owners and operators of prescribed dams (dams over a certain size or risk ranking). The exercises were run by the SES using a specially modified version of the very successful Nevagazunda package which is based on a flood occurring in a fictitious location in NSW. Exercises were conducted at Tamworth and Orange involving, in total, around 80 participants. As well as educating dam owners about emergency management issues in floods, the exercises were aimed at testing the Dam Safety Emergency Plans for the dams which is an annual audit requirement of the DSC.

The SES participated in the National Counter Terrorist Committee exercise *Exercise Sudden Impact* in November 2008. Staff and volunteers from the Sydney area provided the moulage for the exercise. This involved the planning for and implementation of moulage services for several hundred casualties.

The SES worked with the Bureau of Meteorology and the SEMC in the development of *Exercise Nimbus*.

6.5.1.4 Capability development

The Service is currently undertaking a modernisation process of its flood rescue capability. While the SES has traditionally provided for flood rescue, this has been predominantly flood boat centric in its delivery. The SES is now expanding its flood rescue capability to cover the full reach, throw, row, go and helo flood rescue spectrum. Key components of this modernisation involve better flood rescue training for all volunteers, a challenging experiential swift water awareness training at Penrith Lakes for flood boat operators and the development of a level three (go) (Technical Rescue) capability.

6.5.2 Significant activities – response

The major operational activity for the year were the operations conducted as a result of severe weather impacting Northern NSW. Between February and May 2009, the SES conducted three separate operations in a similar area. The weather conditions required concurrent storm and flood response operations to be managed, along with numerous flood rescue activations. The focus of operations centred around Coffs Harbour, where very heavy intense rainfall resulted in flash flooding and a subsequent 100 flood rescues as well as inundation of premises and businesses. The other significant areas impacted were Lismore, Grafton and Kempsey where evacuation orders were issued based on predicted flood levels. A large number of residences were also isolated as a result of flooding. Many areas of Northern NSW were declared natural disaster areas.

The SES conducted a State level After Action Review following the flood and severe weather events on the North Coast between February and May 2009.

A total of 23,504 calls were taken on the 132 500 emergency number at the State Operations Communications Centre and satellites call taking centres during this period.

Two inter-state deployments were undertaken as follows:

- In November 2008, NSW deployed 334 personnel to Queensland to assist in responding to significant storm damage in the North Western suburbs of Brisbane. The NSW SES completed a total of 976 requests for assistance on behalf of Queensland SES during the deployment period.
- In February 2009, support was provided to the Victoria SES following the bushfire disaster. A total of 26 personnel were deployed and provided support with Operations Management personnel and Critical Incident Support. The SES also provided 91 personnel to staff the NSW Government Information line for enquiries for the bushfire disaster.

The SES responded to 596 road crash rescue activations, 305 flood rescue activations and 317 community first responder activities during the year.

6.5.2.1 HI N1 Human Swine Influenza Response

The Service enacted its Influenza Pandemic Response Plan and took proactive measures to provide information and posters on cough and hand-wash protocols to all staff and volunteers as well as the provision of enhanced Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to the Service's accredited General Land Rescue and

Community First Responder Units. The Service undertook one resupply task in support of DoCS utilising arrangements detailed in the provision of non-medical assistance.

6.5.3 Significant activities – recovery

The SES continues to contribute to the development of improved processes and procedures associated with the transition between initial response operations and long-term recovery operations. The SES handed over operations to regional and local recovery committees following the Northern NSW flood and storm events conducted between February and May 2009.

6.5.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

Against a backdrop of continuing work on risk assessment and planning for floods and storms, a high priority is to ensure a progressively improving capability to deal with tsunami warnings. A State level plan exists with regional and local sub-plans to be developed. The regional planning work is the subject of a current National Disaster Mitigation Program (NDMP) project to be completed by the end of 2010.

The Service has initiated a process of incremental rapid assessment planning using electronic and printed maps of tsunami warning and evacuation areas as the visual building block for tsunami response planning. The maps define the warning and evacuation area for tsunami land threat warnings as being land lower than ten metres above sea level or less than one kilometre distance from open water (ocean). Each SES coastal region has received these maps and by a process of iteration, the maps are fine-tuned to incorporate improvements in a number of aspects, including boundary definition and control points.

Research is continuing into the risks associated with flash flooding, pedestrian and motorist safety in floods and the definition of the risks associated with people sheltering inside buildings if they cannot evacuate before floodwater arrive.

The Service has provided high level and consistent representation to the SEMC Climate Change Working Group, the NSW Flood Warning Consultative Committee, the Emergency Management Sub-committee of the NSW Dam Safety Committee, the NSW Floodplain Management Authorities, the Australasian Fire and Emergency Service Authorities Council (AFAC) Public Safety Working Group, the NSW Flood Program State Assessment Committee, Emergency Management Australia Institute, the Emergency Management Information Development Plan and the National Emergency Warning System project.

The Service has developed a capability to deliver 'live' media updates from the State Headquarters Operations Centre. This capability will be further enhanced in the 2009-2010 through the construction of a dedicated media studio.

6.5.5 Future directions

Emergency Risk Management targets for 2009-2010 will focus on flood, storm and tsunami risk assessment, planning and community education and include: evaluation of all previous community education surveys and development of improved community education strategies; ongoing promotion of Business FloodSafe and Home FloodSafe; continuation of incremental tsunami planning; development of regional sub-plans incorporating tsunami and other coastal hazards; the review of Hawkesbury-Nepean Flood Emergency State Plan; NSW Tsunami inundation modelling and risk assessment for selected high priority sites; implementation of tsunami training and exercise material; and development of policy and/or guidelines around the Flash Flood Shelter In Place research project.

~

6.6 VOLUNTEER RESCUE ASSOCIATION

The Volunteer Rescue Association (VRA) provides primary rescue, specialist rescue and support roles to coastal and rural NSW. The Association supports the other Emergency Services and Functional Areas in their roles and comprises 70 squads with 3,500 people.

The VRA has three main sponsors, the NSW Government, NRMA Insurance and NRMA Road Services and Clubs NSW. Other funding is from limited Federal Government grants (through the National Emergency Volunteers Support Fund - NEVSF) and local community fund raising.

In 2009, the VRA celebrates its 40th Anniversary in serving the people of NSW.

6.6.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.6.1.1 Mitigation

The VRA continues to have a high standard of Risk Management including Occupational Health and Safety. The Association's primary insurer, Lloyds of London, has reduced its public liability premium for the second year in a row, citing excellent risk management practices by the VRA as its reason for the reductions.

The VRA is also involved in many community preventative programs such as Driver Reviver, Driver Education Programs, Marine Safety Programs, Wilderness Safety Programs and Community First Aid Programs.

6.6.1.2 Planning

The VRA continues to have representatives on the State Rescue Board, State Emergency Management Committee, District and Local Rescue and Emergency Management Committees, and General Land Rescue Rural Service Delivery Model Working Groups.

The VRA supported the recent formation of Marine Rescue NSW as a community enhancing initiative and has been heavily involved in its planning and implementation through the VRA Marine sub-committee. The transition of VRA marine operatives continues smoothly as issues are raised and resolved in the detail of that transition.

6.6.1.3 Training and exercises

The VRA continues to contract the registered training organisation Risk, Response and Rescue as a provider of its Competency Based Training Program. The Association's "bottom up" audit system was introduced this year across the State. The VRA conducts regional, local and specialist training in the land, vertical, marine, diving, cave, snowfield, swift water, wilderness search, air support, emergency communications, grief and loss management, critical incident stress management, chaplaincy, emergency catering and emergency lighting environments. In 2008-2009, the VRA again planned and managed the State Navshield bush navigation weekend for all emergency and support services.

6.6.1.4 Capability development

The VRA has recruited and retained 100 new trainees in 2008-2009, who are working towards their State Rescue Board accreditation.

In capacity development, the Association has purchased underwater sonar for use Statewide if required to assist police with underwater searches.

The VRA's electronic database continues to be developed to house response data, HR information, education and training materials, competency based training records and assets register. The database has built-in resilience and redundancy safeguards on location both in Australia and overseas.

Significant capacity development will need to be undertaken in the future as new arrangements with the NSW Police Force are implemented, with respect to radio communications and dispatch functions. The VRA is currently scoping this project.

6.6.2 Significant activities – response

The VRA has contributed significantly to the land and marine rescue and recovery effort in NSW in 2008-2009. The Association performed 8,891 operational tasks, with members contributing 308, 472 operational volunteer hours and 255, 604 non-operational volunteer hours. Of the 564, 076 total volunteer hours provided, 60,557 hours were spent assisting the other emergency services and functional areas. The VRA was involved in the rescue of 785 people and the recovery of 107 deceased people on behalf of the NSW Police Force.

6.6.3 Significant activities – recovery

The VRA contributed significantly to the Victorian Bush Fire recovery effort, Sydney storms, North Coast floods and the World Car Rally on the North Coast of NSW. VRA support staff contributed in Recovery Call Centres for a range of events this year, including the "swine flu" and the Victorian bush fire recovery effort.

6.6.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

The VRA, in its 40-year history has performed the following services to the community and emergency services of NSW: 365,399 operational tasks, 11,365,505 operational volunteer hours, 9,313,782 non-operational hours, 20, 681, 987 total volunteer hours, 910, 501 hours assisting other emergency services and functional areas, 38, 017 people rescued and 4,797 deceased people recovered for the NSW Police Force.

Our priority is recruitment, training, retention and succession planning.

6.6.5 Future directions

The VRA's future directions are to provide a timely, efficient and effective rescue service. The Association's corporate goal is to be more recognised both financially and philosophically for its contribution to the rescue effort in this State.

~

6.7 NSW MARITIME

NSW Maritime is the State agency responsible for ensuring that NSW is prepared to respond to marine oil or chemical spills and shipping incidents in NSW State waters that could lead to an oil or chemical spill. Under the National Plan to Combat Pollution of the Sea by Oil and other Noxious and Hazardous Substances (the National Plan) arrangements NSW Maritime is the statutory authority for marine pollution matters in its jurisdiction.

Combat agency roles for responding to marine oil and chemical spills and shipping incidents are divided between NSW Maritime and the Sydney, Newcastle and Port Kembla Port Corporations as follows:

- Queensland border to Fingal Head – NSW Maritime
- Fingal Head to Catherine Hill Bay - Newcastle Port Corporation;
- Catherine Hill Bay to Garie Beach - Sydney Ports Corporation;
- Garie Beach to Gerroa - Port Kembla Port Corporation; and
- Gerroa to the Victorian border – NSW Maritime.

6.7.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.7.1.1 Mitigation

The majority of recommendations from the Pasha Bulker grounding and response (June 2007) have been implemented or are of an ongoing nature.

NSW Maritime conducted a debrief following the NSW assistance provided to Queensland for the Pacific Adventurer oil spill and consequent shoreline cleanup. Recommendations to improve NSW's ability to respond to large scale oiled shoreline incidents, including supporting a protracted response over several months, are being prepared.

6.7.1.2 Planning

NSW Maritime continued to represent NSW on the various National Plan committees and working groups.

Presentations have been made to the coastal district emergency management committees on the marine emergency response arrangements.

A NSW Maritime chaired technical working group, which includes representation from NSW Maritime, the Port Corporations, supporting agencies and the oil industry, met on four occasions and has continued to coordinate the implementation of relevant recommendations from various exercises and incidents in NSW and other States.

6.7.1.3 Training and exercises

NSW Maritime conducted the following training courses:

- Oiled Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup (3 courses);
- Marine Incident Responder 1 (1 course); and
- basic response training for casual staff at Port of Yamba.

In the last year a total of 90 personnel from NSW Maritime and other agencies have attended the Oiled Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup courses, 12 NSW Maritime personnel attended the Marine Incident Responder 1 course and eight casual staff attended the Yamba training.

Additionally, a number of State personnel attended national training courses.

Each of the five commercial ports conducted annual equipment deployment exercises.

6.7.2 Significant activities – response

There were no significant incidents during the year; however, several minor incidents occurred, involving oil spills from ships within the major trading ports. The Port Corporations responded to these incidents within their respective port areas.

There have also been three incidents of drifting disabled vessels off the coast, including:

- On 23 October 2008 the container ship Cosco Fuzhou bound for Port Botany lost engine power and was drifting approximately 10 nautical miles East of Terrigal in a NNW direction at 3 knots, unable to restart its main engine. A salvage tug was placed on standby in case it was needed. The ship was able to safely anchor approximately, 6NM East of Terrigal in a depth of 60m. Specialist technicians were taken to the ship to carry out engine repairs.
- On 3 February 2009, the small chemical tanker Rathboyne lost engine power off Port Stephens and drifted to within 3 nautical miles of the coast before it was able to anchor successfully. The crew were unable to restart the engine. A tug from Newcastle was sent to tow the vessel to Newcastle port for repairs.
- On 23 May 2009 the large barge (112m x 30m) Aussie 1, with 200 tonnes of marine diesel on board broke its tow line during storms and drifted to within 10 nautical miles of the coast near Forster. A salvage crew were winched onto the barge and were able to rig an emergency tow line to the tug. An additional tug from Newcastle attended and towed the barge to Newcastle port for inspection and replacement of the towline.

Under national arrangements, NSW Maritime, Sydney Ports Corporation and Newcastle Port Corporation provide personnel to assist with the response to the Pacific Adventurer oil spill in Queensland. A total of 27 people from NSW assisted on Morton Island or the mainland.

6.7.3 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

The migration of the NSW Oil Spill Response Atlas to a new Geographical Information System (GIS) platform (ArcGIS) has commenced, with completion expected in early 2010.

A major State marine chemical spill response exercise is being prepared for October 2009.

6.7.4 Future directions

NSW Maritime continues implementing its training and exercise program to ensure that NSW has the capacity to respond effectively to major marine oil or chemical spills and shipping accidents.

~

6.8 DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET

The Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPC) is a member of the State Emergency Management Committee. DPC takes the lead in whole of government initiatives, has a key role in counter terrorism and provides coordination and facilitation support to planning, response and recovery activities as required.

6.8.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.8.1.1 Planning

DPC has led NSW input to the COAG Working Group on Influenza Pandemic Prevention and Preparedness and the development and implementation of the COAG pandemic exercise program, *Exercise Sustain 08*. The exercise concluded in November 2008 following a third and final discussion exercise and a functional exercise involving COAG meeting by teleconference. *Exercise Sustain 08* exercised national governance arrangements, public communication capabilities and considered policy issues in selected key areas that may arise when an influenza pandemic is widespread in Australia.

6.8.1.2 Training and exercises

DPC actively participated in the NSW counter terrorism investigation and consequence management exercise, *Exercise Sudden Impact*, in November 2008. This included activation of the State Crisis Centre and a meeting of the Crisis Policy Committee (officials only), responsible for overall policy management of a terrorist incident, supported by Liaison Officers from the relevant agencies.

The State Crisis Centre's primary function is to centralise information, support the Crisis Policy Committee and Government decision-making, liaise with the Australian and other State and Territory Governments and coordinate inter-jurisdictional assistance and public information arrangements.

The exercise also tested the use of secureNSW as a key NSW Government public information tool of the Public Information Coordination Office, managed by the Public Information Functional Area Coordinator.

6.8.2 Significant activities – response

6.8.2.1 H1N1 Influenza 09

DPC worked closely with NSW Health and the State Emergency Operations Controller in the response to the H1N1 Influenza 09 outbreak. Key activities include coordination of NSW representation on the National Pandemic Emergency Committee (NPEC), briefing the Premier, liaison with the Commonwealth Government in relation to governance, decision-making and communications and working with Heads of Treasuries to develop funding arrangements for a pandemic.

6.8.3 Significant activities – recovery

DPC worked closely with Emergency Management NSW to develop and implement enhanced recovery arrangements in NSW. As a key part of these arrangements, Government established the statutory roles of State Emergency Recovery Controller (SERCon) and Deputy State Emergency Recovery Controller (DSERCon).

DPC undertook a supporting role in the major recovery activities in the mid north coast and north coast floods in March and May 2009. DPC also supported the process to activate Community Recovery Grants for primary producers and small businesses following these floods.

6.8.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

DPC represented NSW on a number of national projects in relation to emergency management. Key projects include the development and implementation of a national emergency warning system and the national emergency call centre surge capability arrangement. DPC will continue as the lead NSW agency on these projects in 2009-2010.

6.8.4.1 Redeployment of Public Sector Staff to Assist in Recovery Activities

Following the Hunter and Central Coast Storms in June 2007 the redeployment of public sector staff to support the recovery effort was raised as an issue requiring attention.

DPC facilitated an amendment to the *Public Sector Employment and Management Act 2002* that provides for public sector employees to be temporarily assigned to assist in disaster recovery activities.

6.8.4.2 NSW Counter Terrorism Plan

DPC and the NSW Police Force continued to update the NSW Counter Terrorism Plan with key amendments relating to the enhanced NSW recovery arrangements.

6.8.4.3 COAG Working Group on Natural Disaster Arrangements

In April 2009, following significant natural disasters in Victoria and Queensland, COAG agreed to establish a Working Group to develop recommendations on ways to enhance Australia's natural disaster arrangements. NSW is represented on the Working Group by DPC and Emergency Management NSW.

6.8.5 Future directions

DPC will continue to lead and coordinate whole of government projects or input to national activities as required.

~

6.9 AGRICULTURE AND ANIMAL SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator/Chair: Nick Austin
 Deputy: Graeme Eggleston (to 31 March 2009)
 Suzanne Robinson (from 1 April 2009)
 Executive Officer: Suzanne Robinson (to 31 March 2009)
 Simon Oliver (from 1 April 2009)

Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Department of Primary Industries	Nick Austin
Animal Welfare Advisory Council	Ross Burton / Bob Biggs
Animal Welfare League NSW	Maryanne Dalton / Paul Johnson
Australian Chicken Meat Federation	Vivien Kite
Australian Egg Industry association	Nola Komis
Australian Quarantine Inspection Service	Currently vacant
Australian Veterinary Association NSW	Frank Doughty
Department of Environment and Climate Change (NPWS)	Bob Conroy / Andrew Leys
Dogs NSW	Alan Candlish
HANROB	Brett Bell
Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai Local Agricultural and Animal Emergency Group	Judy Perrin
Horse Rescue Australia	Kraeg McKenzie
Local Government Association and Shires Association of NSW	Robert Verhey
Manly Warringah Pittwater Local Agricultural and Animal Emergency Group	Peggy Brown
Native Animals Trust Fund	Audrey Koosmen
Northern Tablelands Wildlife Carers Inc	Julia Davies
NSW Cat Fanciers Association	Cheryl Steffe
NSW Farmers' Association	Shaughn Morgan
NSW Fauna and Marine Parks Association	Craig Snowden / Rick Webb
NSW Food Authority	David Miles
Pet Industry Association of Australia	Les Sperrin / Joanne Sillince
Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA)	Dave O'Shannessy

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Livestock Health and Pest Authority State Management Council	Steve Orr
Sydney Metropolitan Wildlife Services	Greg Petterson
Wildlife Information and Rescue Service (WIRES)	Jim Watt

The NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI) sponsors the functional area and is also the combat agency for animal and plant pest and disease emergencies. The purpose of the functional area committee is to coordinate the prevention, preparedness, response and recovery of emergencies involving agriculture and animals.

6.9.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.9.1.1 Mitigation

As part of developing community education resources, NSW DPI continues to update the emergency management web pages on the NSW DPI website and various emergency information pamphlets and Primefacts.

The functional area continues to improve preparedness for potential locust plagues by updating policies, plans and procedures. Significant work has been put into the safe use of aircraft in emergencies and for locust control including the development of an Expression of Interest for contracting aircraft operators, auditing and the development of policies, procedures to enhance the safe use of aircraft.

A Memorandum of Understanding was finalised with the Australian Horse Industry Council. Memoranda of Understanding are in the process of being developed with Australian Seabird Rescue, Royal Agricultural Society Homebush, NSW Apiarists' Association, Game Council and the Equestrian Federation of Australia.

Work on the National BioSIRT database system continues.

Two Natural Disaster Mitigation Projects were completed. This included the development and distribution of Response Plans for Hobby Farmers and Rural Residential Landholders in the Georges River and the Lower Hawkesbury Floodplain areas and the development of a management guide titled Planning for emergencies – a guide for animal holding establishments to assist businesses to develop an effective response plan for dealing with emergencies.

6.9.1.2 Planning

The focus of planning during the year was broad, with the functional area contributing to multi-agency planning through its representation on the State Emergency Management Committee, the SEMC Pandemic Influenza Planning sub-committee, the SEMC Climate Change Working Group, the Catastrophic Disaster Workshop, the Recovery Issues Workshop, Rapid Impact Assessment Workshops and Impacts/Costs Framework for Natural Disasters and Fire Emergencies Workshop.

The Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area also contributed to continuing review of national plans for emergency animal and plant pest and disease emergencies and also provided comments on the State Disaster Plan and *SERM Act* reviews. The terms of reference for the functional area were also reviewed.

Functional area representatives at local and district level were active in a range of local and district planning activities, including contributing to emergency risk management studies and Displan reviews

Operational preparedness for animal and plant pest and disease emergencies was maintained by participation in the National Rapid Response Team.

There was plague locust swarm activity and suspected egg-laying activity in the south-west and central parts of the State during autumn 2008. NSW DPI planned for a locust outbreak in spring 2008 in the Riverina and south west of the State. Preparedness activities included surveillance, communications, training, policy and procedural reviews and reviewing resources. As a result of this 2008-2009 locust activity, swarms and egg-laying subsequently occurred in the far west, central west and north-west of the State during autumn 2009. NSW DPI is now developing response plans for an expected locust outbreak in spring 2009.

NSW DPI is making significant contributions to the AUSBIOSEC national program that is working toward a shared approach to emergency management for biosecurity emergencies across the different sectors such as

locusts, animal, plant and fish pests and diseases. The program aims to use similar arrangements, structures and systems for management of biosecurity emergencies.

6.9.1.3 *Training and exercises*

NSW DPI staff and members of the functional area were involved in a number of training activities during the year. These included a range of activities as part of NSW DPI First Response Team preparedness activities, such as continued focus on disease headquarters training, systems and procedure development, and developing Regional Emergency Management Teams to respond to general emergencies.

In summary, NSW DPI staff:

- contributed to the Police Incident Command Courses and NSW Health emergency management training courses and conducted several Basic Emergency Management Training Workshops across the State,
- trained new staff from various agencies in preparedness for the spring 2008 locust campaign. Refresher courses were also run for staff that had previous experience in locust control,
- have been actively involved with NSW Health in enhancing shared preparedness information for respective and shared responses,
- have been working with industry groups such as the Lot Feeders Association and Australian Pork Limited to assist these industries in identifying likely pathways for emergency diseases and actions to mitigate those risks, whilst enhancing their preparedness for a response,
- attended Oiled Shoreline Assessment and Clean-up Courses conducted by NSW Maritime.

Functional area representatives participated in three significant exercises during the year:

1. *Exercise Pecten* in October 2008, involving a terrorism threat to Shell Australia's Gore Bay Terminal incorporating a large-scale petroleum fire and oil spill. A&ASFA representatives from the NSW Oilspill Technical Working Group attended.
2. *Exercise FXG* (Pandemic flu in Hunter New England) a NSW Health exercise involving a response to human swine flu in NSW
3. Ausnami in June 2009, a national tsunami exercise to test communications for tsunami warnings.

6.9.1.4 *Capability development*

An additional 150 staff have been trained during 2008-2009 in various aspects of emergency management bringing the total trained to 420 staff.

6.9.2 *Significant activities – response*

6.9.2.1 *Flooding*

The functional area responded to floods in the north-west and to several flood events along the north coast and mid north coast between January and May 2009. NSW DPI staff attended emergency operations centres as Liaison Officers, coordinated the use of helicopters and ground support in the location, rescue and emergency feeding of stock, removal of stranded livestock, care for pets in evacuation centres, coordinating the disposal of animal carcasses and activating the Flood Hotline (assess/register damage).

6.9.2.2 *Locusts*

As a result of plague locust swarm activity and egg-laying activity in the south-west and central parts of the State during autumn 2008, NSW DPI was involved in a locust response program in the States south west during spring 2008. The focus of this control campaign shifted into the central and North West in 2009. Both campaigns involved significant control of locust nymphs and adult swarms using ground and aerial control techniques. Significant laying occurred in the autumn of 2009 through the far west, central west and central northern regions of the State. This may result in significant locust activity in spring 2009.

6.9.2.3 *Bushfires*

NSW DPI staff assisted the RFS in the January 2009 bushfires at Londonderry, Wingecarribee, Shoalhaven, Peats Ridge and Tumut by providing information to property owners on animal preparedness and water replacement in dams.

NSW DPI also provided liaison officers to the Public Information Coordination Centre in Sydney to support the Victorian bushfires.

6.9.2.4 *Swine Flu*

NSW DPI provided support to the Department of Health through the provision of advice to industry and the Department of Education and Training regarding pigs.

6.9.3 *Significant activities – recovery*

6.9.3.1 *Floods*

NSW DPI staff coordinated recovery activities after north-west and north coast floods including the delivery of a number of recovery workshops. Staff also attended community meetings, Recovery Centres and Recovery Committees established on the north coast.

NSW DPI staff coordinated the replacement of water into dams on animal welfare grounds, which was used by the RFS for the control of bushfires.

6.9.4 *Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities*

The Department intends to continue to implement emergency management training workshops for NSW DPI staff including those on the NSW First Response Team, National Rapid Response Team and Regional Emergency Management Teams who are deployed during the initial response phase of an emergency.

The priorities for 2009-2010 are to complete all outstanding memorandum of understanding, prepare for a likely spring 2009 locust control campaign and continue training staff involved in emergency preparedness and response.

~

6.10 COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator:	Tony Gates (Government Chief Information Office)
Deputy	Stephen Smith (Government Chief Information Office)

The Communications Functional Area provides services for the two-way transport of information (voice and data) between different parties, generally by varying types of telephone or radio services.

The responsibility for the telecommunications industry and the management of radio frequency spectrum in Australia rests with the Australian Government. The Communications Functional Area was formed as a result of the deregulation of the telecommunications industry in the early 1990s and the need to have coordinated state input into the development of national strategies for radio and telecommunications.

The Communications Functional Area is sponsored by the Government Chief Information Office (Department of Commerce), which is responsible for the NSW Government Telecommunications Agreements (GTAs), the NSW Government Broadband Service (GBS), the NSW Government Radio Network (GRN) and Mobile Data Radio Network (MDRN). GCIO represents NSW on various national committees.

Communications is crucial to an agency's operational activities and telecommunications are generally supplied by commercial service providers direct to agencies. Agencies either operate their own radio networks or use the GRN/MDRN. Some agencies do both. The functional area liaises with all agencies and more than 90 communications services providers on communications issues on an ongoing basis

6.10.1 *Significant activities – prevention and preparedness*

Telecommunications service providers are responsible for ensuring the continuation of telecommunications services in emergencies and agencies are responsible for ensuring that they have a diverse mixture of communications services to ensure continued operations in emergencies.

The functional area has specific responsibilities to maintain GRN and MDRN services on a 24 x 7 basis. GRN links are currently being upgraded from in-ground wired services to predominantly above ground wireless (microwave) services. The GRN is also being upgraded from a mixed digital/analogue service to a fully digital service.

6.10.1.1 Capability development

As a member of the National Coordinating Committee for Government Radio communications (NCCGR), the Functional Area Co-ordinator is a leading contributor to efforts to improve interoperability across jurisdictional boundaries.

6.10.2 Significant activities – response

The functional area was involved in managing communications issues during the Northern Rivers floods and participating in contingency planning for a Swine Flu pandemic.

6.10.3 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

- Co-ordinated New South Wales Responses to the ACMA review of the 400 MHz Spectrum
- Reviewed the management contract for the Government Radio Network
- Gained approval for an upgrade of the Government Radio Network to P25

6.10.4 Future directions

The priorities for the financial year 2009-2010 are:

- Complete the P25 upgrade
- Implement a new five-year managed contract for the Government Radio Network for 2011
- Develop a strategic plan for the development of radio over the next ten years.
- Collaboration with NSW Police on the integration of radio services.

~

6.11 ENERGY AND UTILITY SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator/Chair Ralph Grimes
Executive Officer: Russell Wade

Members (as at June 2009):

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
<i>NSW Government agency members</i>	
Industry and Investment NSW [formerly Department of Water and Energy (DWE)]	Ralph Grimes (NSW NOSEC and NGERAC representative)
NSW Police	Ben Millington (SO to SEOCON)
Department of Services and Administration (formerly Department of Commerce)	David Wilkins (ESFAC)
<i>Electricity Industry Sector</i>	
TransGrid	Andrew Kingsmill
EnergyAustralia	Steve Longhurst
Integral Energy	Graeme Carter
Country Energy	Peter Johnson
Macquarie Generation	John Neely
Delta Electricity	Chan Sinnadurai
Snowy Hydro Limited	Ken Lister
Eraring Energy	Julian Gaillard
<i>Gas Industry Sector</i>	
APA Group	Geoff Callar
Jemena Asset Management	Norman Brown
Origin Energy / Albury Gas	John Massey
Country Energy (Gas)	Geoff Walker
<i>Water Industry Sector</i>	
Sydney Water	David Parsons
Hunter Water Corporation	Colin Cribb

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Sydney Catchment Authority	Steven Hancock
State Water Corporation	Gaye Cameron
Country Energy Water Networks	John Coffey
Petroleum and LPG Industry Sector	
Caltex Australia Limited	Grant Perris
The Shell Company of Australia Limited	Brian Mathias
Mobil Oil Australia Pty Ltd	Peter Maher
VOPAK Terminals Australia	Neil W Trillo
Elgas Ltd	Aldo Costabile

The purpose of the Energy and Utility Services Functional Area (EUSFAC) is to set in place the arrangements for the coordination and management of, and recovery from, a significant disruption in supply of an energy or utility service within New South Wales.

These arrangements are embodied in the Energy and Utility Services Functional Area Supporting Plan, which is authorised under the State Disaster Plan.

The Energy and Utility Services Functional Area is coordinated through industry sectoral working groups, for the following purpose:

- Review and maintain industry sectoral plans for responding to a supply disruption and for ensuring consistency with State and Commonwealth plans.
- Review emergency and infrastructure risk assessments in order to identify threats to the supply continuity of energy and utility services.
- Develop scenarios and conduct exercises in order to test the plans, assess the impacts caused by supply interruptions and identify the inter-dependencies between the industry sectors and other functional areas.
- Advise the SEOCON, SEMC, functional areas and other stakeholders as required, on issues relevant to the supply of energy and utility services.
- Provide energy and utility services support to any agency that is planning for, responding to, or engaged in any stage of an emergency or event involving energy or utilities supply.

Following the major restructure of the NSW Public Service in June 2009, the Office of Water was established as a separate entity to the Minerals and Energy Division of Industry and Investment NSW. EUSFAC retains functional responsibility within the scope of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989*, for the coordination of emergencies with water utilities. Working arrangements are being developed to ensure continuity of this function.

6.11.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.11.1.1 Mitigation

Two Ministerial Council on Energy committees are responsible for prevention, planning, response and recovery activities in energy related emergencies. EUSFAC is the NSW jurisdictional representative on each as follows:

- The National Oil Supplies Emergency Committee (NOSEC) is a joint industry and government committee, which develops policy and procedures for managing a shortfall in the supply of liquid fuels. NOSEC manages projects that enhance the national capability to mitigate the risks in the liquid fuel supply chain.
- The National Gas Emergency Response Advisory Committee (NGERAC) advises the Ministerial Council on Energy, member Ministers and recently formed Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) on, and coordinates the management of, a shortfall in the supply of natural gas and the mitigation of risks in the natural gas supply chain.

In December 2008, the Ministerial Council on Energy agreed that its Energy Security Working Group review in conjunction with the Standing Committee of Attorneys General (SCAG), the penalty regimes for disruption of critical energy infrastructure.

EUSFAC is supporting the Industry and Investment NSW representative in this review by researching previous incidents of disruption, offences and penalty frameworks and by conducting risk assessments for the

outcomes of such disruptive events. The outcomes of the review are due to be considered by the Energy Ministers in December 2009.

Following three major power outage incidents in the Sydney CBD in March/April 2009, EUSFAC participated in the development of an offences and penalty regime to reduce the risk of disruption to electricity and gas supply, caused by damage to underground services from unauthorised excavation.

EUSFAC has contributed to the ongoing risk mitigation project to develop the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG), through providing comments on the successive iterations of the draft guidelines.

6.11.1.2 Planning

Liquid Fuels

EUSFAC has conducted international research into options for dealing with shortfalls in supply in the liquid fuels market. This research is being consolidated into a Discussion Paper for review by a range of stakeholders. This is a prerequisite to the development of the NSW Liquid Fuel Supply Disruption Response Plan. The revised plan will be consistent with the revised National Liquid Fuel Emergency Response Plan (NLFERP) and NSW State Disaster Plan (Displan).

Electricity

EUSFAC has conducted an analysis of the current electricity emergency response framework, including the response plans of the market operator (NEMMCO up to 30 June 2009 and AEMO from 1 July 2009), the Transmission Network Service Provider (TransGrid) and the Distribution Network Service Providers (EnergyAustralia, Integral energy and Country Energy). This is a prerequisite to the review of the existing response plan and the development of a NSW Electricity Supply Disruption Coordination Plan. This is work in progress as at 30 June 2009. The revised plan will be consistent with the AEMO national plan, and as with the NSW Liquid Fuel Supply Disruption Response Plan, the NSW State Disaster Plan (Displan).

Natural Gas

In 2008, the NSW Minister for Energy approved the NSW Gas Supply Continuity Scheme. The scheme, a framework for market management of gas supply shortfalls, was developed in conjunction with the scheme operator and other jurisdictions in the National Gas Market. With the introduction of changes to the National Gas Market and creation of AEMO, the Scheme has undergone amendments during the period. Consequentially, updates to the NSW Natural Gas Supply Disruption Response Plan 2008 are planned by EUSFAC.

Wires Down

EUSFAC continues to participate in the working group that is developing a Memorandum of Understanding between NSW Fire Brigades and TransGrid and the Electricity Distribution Network Service Providers (DNSPs), namely EnergyAustralia, Integral Energy and Country Energy. The MOU supports the Wires Down SubPlan, endorsed by SEMC in 2008.

World Youth Day 2008

The Utilities Working Group continued the planning for World Youth Day (WYD) and EUSFAC finalised a Coordination Plan for the event, held in July 2008.

6.11.1.3 Training and exercises

EUSFAC (and staff) participated in the following exercises in the reporting period:

Exercise Name	Sponsor	Date
Pectin Shield I – desktop	Shell Company of Australia	3 Oct 08
Pectin Shield II – field	Shell Company of Australia	30 Oct 08
Rainbow	Sydney Water Corporation	14 Oct 08
Ampere	NEMMCO and TransGrid	21 Oct 08
Epping-Chatswood Detraining Exercise	RailCorp	16 Nov 08
Sudden Impact – discex	CTSTC and NCTC	19 Nov 08
Nimbus NYE	DPC – OPSE	1 Dec 08

EUSFAC (and staff) participated in the following training courses during 2008-2009:

<i>EUSFAC Member</i>	<i>Course</i>	<i>Date</i>
Ralph Grimes	Police Senior Officers Incident Command Course (ICC)	27 Mar 09
Russell Wade	Grad Cert Emergency Management residential module 4 and Graduation	1-5 Sep 08 25-26 Nov 08
Russell Wade	Police Senior Officers Incident Command Course (ICC)	23 Sep 08 8 May 09
Roy Quigley	Undertake Emergency Planning at EMAI	15-19 Sep 08
Roy Quigley	Business Continuity Management at EMAI	17-21 Nov 08
Roy Quigley	Police Senior Officers Incident Command Course (ICC)	19 Jun 09

As NGERAC representative, EUSFAC participated in preparations in June 2009 for *Exercise PARTICIPO*, which was conducted on 14 July 2009.

EUSFAC staff participated in the following industry training during 2008-2009:

<i>EUSFAC Member</i>	<i>Sponsor and Purpose</i>	<i>Date</i>
Russell Wade	VOPAK – construction site visit for fuel storage tanks in Port Botany.	9 Aug 08
Russell Wade	Jemena and Delta Electricity – gas storage loop and Colongra gas-fired power station site visit	11 Nov 08
Russell Wade	Jemena – Ops Centre and Sydney secondary gas main loop site visit	13 Feb 09

6.11.1.4 Capability development

EUSFAC (and staff) participated in SEMC-coordinated capability development projects such as the series of Rapid Impact Assessment workshops, which have examined the information requirements needed at an Emergency Operations Centre from emergency services and functional areas. EUSFAC has provided a mapping toolkit and input to the model templates for Response and Recovery stages.

EUSFAC staff continued to monitor weekly fuel stock reports to obtain a consolidated picture of NSW fuel supply. The data analysis model was demonstrated to the Commonwealth Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism's NOSEC representatives as a potential model for jurisdictional fuel data recording.

Industry and Investment NSW has developed a weekly natural gas market analysis report. EUSFAC now monitors NSW gas supply chain flows, supply and demand balance using this report. The benefit is that potential gas supply issues can be more easily identified and assessed using data analysis rather than relying solely on response to events.

6.11.2 Significant activities – response

EUSFAC and staff participated in the NSW Government's support to World Youth Day 2008, by maintaining a presence in the Police Operations Centre during the entire WYD event, coordinating and resolving issues involving utility services.

EUSFAC (and staff) provided assistance and response to over 30 incidents and events during the period. The following table of key incidents and events reflects an increasing number and diversity of issues involving EUSFAC in 2008-2009:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Incident / Event</i>
3 Jul 08	Eraring – power station security breached by protestors
10-21 Jul 08	World Youth Day – EUSFAC 24/7 support at Police Operations Centre
22 Jul 08	Concord Hospital - standby generator failure
18 Aug 08	Lismore - TransGrid DirectLink 330kV line damaged by light aircraft
4 Sep 08	Maroubra - EnergyAustralia 132kV underground cable damaged
9 Oct 08	Clyde - Shell refinery plant shutdown for substantial overhaul
24 Oct 08	Alexandria – EnergyAustralia 132kV underground cable damaged

Date	Incident / Event
1 Nov 08	Bayswater – power station security breached by protestors
22 Nov 08	Eraring – power station security breached by protestors
27 Nov 08	Munmorah – power station security breached by protestors
18 Dec 08	Northern NSW / SE Qld – Caltex fuel supply shortage
30 Dec 08	Boggabilla – power supply disrupted due to storm damage
31 Dec 08	New Year's Eve – EUSFAC support to Special Event management
7 Jan 09	Appin – gas-fired power generator directed to shut down due to ambient air quality
10 Jan 09	Sydney Festival First Night - EUSFAC support to Special Event
15 Jan 09	Peat's Ridge – bushfires close to gas and fuel pipelines and EnergyAustralia transmission lines arcing onto bush
23 Jan 09	Tuggerah – TransGrid transformer failure cuts power to Central Coast
26 Jan 09	Australia Day - EUSFAC support to Special Event management
6-8 Feb 09	High temperature events and bushfires – utilities impacts
14-19 Feb 09	Northern Rivers – Country Energy response to floods
18 Feb 09	Hat Head – town sewerage service failure
27 Feb 09	Clyde – Shell vapour recovery unit failure affects fuel tanker filling
7 Mar 09	Mardi Gras - EUSFAC support to Special Event management
20 Mar 09	Chippendale – gas and water mains severed in development site
30 Mar 09	CBD – EnergyAustralia power outage affects peak hour
31 Mar 09	North Coast – Country Energy response to floods
2 Apr 09	Red Hill – landslip impacts on town water supply to Coffs Harbour
4 Apr 09	CBD – EnergyAustralia power outage from substation fault
28 Apr 09	North Sydney / CBD – power outage following contractor damage to EnergyAustralia 132kV cables
25 Apr 09	NSW – H1N1 virus impacts utilities' business continuity planning
28 Apr 09	Moomba – gas supply infrastructure failure impacts supply to NSW
7 May 09	Ashfield – gas mains damaged impacting Parramatta Road traffic
20 May 09	North Coast floods – Country Energy response
28 May 09	Bellevue Hill – Sydney Water mains failure impacts utility services

6.11.3 Significant activities – recovery

As a EUSFAC member, Country Energy played a significant role in the Recovery Operations following the North Coast Floods in March and May 2009.

6.11.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

The strategic achievements for EUSFAC are:

- Participation in the NSW Government's support to the World Youth Day 2008 event.
- Coordination with the telecommunications infrastructure sector.
- Improving responsiveness to demands and requests made of EUSFAC.
- Participation in the NSW Police Incident Command Course.
- Increasing awareness of the Energy and Utility Services sector and its critical infrastructure and emergency management issues among stakeholders.
- Securing EUSFAC's role within the agency in supporting priorities R1 and R3 of the NSW State Plan 2006.

The strategic priorities for EUSFAC are:

- Continuing interdependency studies for continuity of supply across the electricity, gas, liquid fuel, water, wastewater and telecommunications industries, and related sectors, functional areas and agencies.
- Positioning EUSFAC within the new Industry and Investment NSW agency structure and its corporate planning framework.
- Developing revised emergency arrangements for the National Electricity and Gas Markets with the newly formed Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO).

- Supporting the development of measures to reduce the risk of disruption to critical energy infrastructure.
- Supporting the SEMC in the conduct of projects, exercises and the coordination of the stages of emergency management.
- Continuing relationship building across the energy and utility services sector and with other SEMC members' agencies and stakeholders.
- Participating in NOSEC projects and programs that will inform the revision of the NSW Liquid Fuel Supply Disruption Response Plan.
- Consulting with the sector and other stakeholders on the revision of the NSW Liquid Fuel Supply Disruption Response Plan, the NSW Electricity Supply Disruption Coordination Plan and the Energy and Utility Services Functional Area Supporting Plan.
- Reviewing arrangements for ongoing support to water utilities with the NSW Office of Water.

6.11.5 Future directions

The key priorities and strategic projects for FY 2009-2010 are:

- Establish agreed emergency arrangements for the National Electricity Market.
- Finalise the revised NSW Electricity Supply Disruption Coordination Plan.
- Revise emergency arrangements for the National Gas Market. Include the changes into a revised NSW Gas supply Disruption Response Plan.
- Release a Discussion Paper on future arrangements for managing a disruption to liquid fuel supply and rewrite the NSW Liquid Fuel Supply Disruption Plan.
- Review arrangements for EUSFAC coordination of incidents involving or impacting on water utilities.
- Rewrite the Energy and Utility Services Functional Area Supporting Plan.

~

6.12 ENGINEERING SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator: David Wilkins

Deputy Functional Area Coordinator: Rick Still

Members:

Department of Water and Energy

Department of Environment and Climate Change including National Parks and Wildlife Service

Hunter Water Corporation

Roads and Traffic Authority of New South Wales

Forests NSW

City of Sydney

Sydney Water Corporation

Rail Corporation New South Wales

State Water Corporation

The NSW Department of Commerce (Commerce) is responsible for co-ordinating the engineering services component of the NSW Government's emergency management arrangements.

The Engineering Services Functional Area focuses on providing an engineering response to emergencies in support of Combat and other Agencies.

6.12.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.12.1.1 Mitigation

- Participation in Natural Disaster Mitigation Program for NSW

6.12.1.2 Planning

- Revision of State Engineering Functional Area Plan for all districts
- Participation in development of revised recovery section of Displan.

6.12.1.3 Training and exercises

Engineer-specific training continues with District Engineering Services Functional Area Coordinators from across NSW brought together on one occasion for internal training workshops and exercises. These activities develop the capability of Engineering Services team members to respond to emergency events.

6.12.1.4 Capability development

The major capability development was in recovery operations. Engineering developed protocols for establishing community recovery centres and obtained telecommunications equipment to allow these centres to be more rapidly established in future events.

A web based simultaneous SMS broadcast communication was established for engineering to facilitate rapid standby and deployment messaging to the whole engineering team.

6.12.2 Significant activities – response

2008-2009 required a high response commitment having more major emergencies and events requiring significant Engineering response than in the previous 5 years. The major deployments were:

- The retaining wall on a private construction site at Botany Road which failed was successfully shored up by Engineering. This collapse had earlier closed Botany Road to traffic for an extended period. The existing wall which had not collapsed but was not safe was re-anchored by Engineering to allow removal of the temporary earth berm and for construction on the site to be safely undertaken.
- Mid-North Coast floods and storms, Feb 09 – damage assessments and engineering response.
- Hat Head sewerage scheme failure, Feb 09 – temporary system and system repair assistance to Council.
- Bourke flood, Feb 09 – assistance to SES
- Coffs Harbour flood, April 09 - damage assessments and engineering response.
- Lord Howe Island storm, April 09 – damage assessment and repair concept development.
- North Coast flood, May 09 – damage assessments and engineering response.
- Swine Flu June 09 – Planning and coordination response
- Engineering also provided assistance to Police, NSWFBs and SES for a number of smaller incidents including building fires, explosions, damaged buildings, scaffolding and crane collapses and storm damage:
 - White Bay Hotel, fire – Sept 08
 - Granville, store fire – Sept 08
 - Castle Hill construction site crane topple – Sept 08
 - Top Ryde, photocopier store fire – Sept 08
 - Twin Rd/Boyce St, Ryde, car crash into house – Dec 08
 - Marrickville, chocolate factory fire – Jan 09
 - Bankstown, residential flats scaffolding collapse – Nov 08
 - Crystal Street, Petersham, bomb blast – Feb 09
 - Castlereagh Street, Sydney, scaffolding collapse – Feb to March 09
 - St Peters, footwear warehouse fire – March 09
 - Bondi Junction, apartment gas explosion – March 09
 - Wilcox St, Bankstown, factory fire in – March 09
 - Seven Hills, factory fire – March 09
 - Surry Hills, apartment building fire – April 09

6.12.3 Significant activities – recovery

- Tamworth flood (Nov 08)
- Mid-North Coast floods and storms (Feb 09)
- North Coast flood (May 09)

6.12.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

- Provision of assistance to other agencies in their management of recovery from various natural disasters. This included the establishment and ongoing support to Community Recovery Centres following floods on the north coast.

- Administration of Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) for storm events particularly the 2009 North Coast, and the 2006 Newcastle-Central Coast storms.
- Update of Engineering's operations procedures.

6.12.5 Future directions

- Appointment of dedicated full time staff member as ESFAC.
- Ongoing development of Engineering Services team in Recovery role
- Strengthening the involvement of the Functional Area network.
- Development of MoUs with key engineering consultant firms.
- Strengthening the Sydney based response team.
- Clarification of issues in the *SERM Act* and Displan with regard to Engineering's role.

~

6.13 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator/Chair
(Deputy)

Joe Woodward
Craig Lamberton

Executive Officer:

Greg Thomas

Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (DECCW) - (Chair)	Mr Joe Woodward / Mr Craig Lamberton / Mr Greg Thomas
Ambulance Service NSW	Mr George Smith
Australasian Convenience and Petroleum Marketers Association	Mr Nic Moulis
Department of Commerce	Mr Dave Wilkins / Mr Rick Still
Independent Transport, Safety and Reliability Regulator	Mr Chris Sanders
Ministry of Transport	Mr Emad Makram
NSW Health	Ms Gillian O'Malley
National Parks and Wildlife Service (DECCW)	Mr Kevin Shanahan / Geoff Ross
Plastics and Chemical Industries Association	Mr Steven Holland
Roads and Traffic Authority	Mr Phil Halton
Sydney Catchment Authority	Mr Graham Begg
Sydney Water Corporation	Mr David Parsons / Mr Bruce Angus
WorkCover NSW	Mr Serge Morson / Mr Steve Robins
Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability	Mr Ralph Grimes
Department of Planning	Mr Fred Fattal
Department of Primary Industries	Dr Graeme Eggleston / Mr Kevin Cooper
Local Government Association of NSW and Shires Association of NSW	Mr Bob Verhey
NSW Fire Brigades	Superintendent Robert McNeil
NSW Maritime Authority	Mr Shayne Wilde / Mr Robert Lea
NSW Police Force	Sergeant Ben Millington
NSW Rural Fire Service	Mr Graham Douglas / Mr Simon Heemstra
RailCorp	Mr Christopher Collier
Emergency Management NSW	Mr Rick Stone
Sydney Ports Corporation	Mr Jim Pullin
WSN Environmental Solutions	Ms Judy White

The purpose of the Environmental Services Functional Area is to:

1. Protect the environment during emergency response and recovery operations;
2. Coordinate scientific support for the on scene Controller during operations to combat the pollution of the sea and inland waters within NSW;
3. Advise and coordinate scientific support to the NSW Fire Brigades during land based hazardous materials emergency response operations;

4. Advise the Combat Agency, and other Functional Areas or Organisations involved in the emergency, on environmentally sound and legal practices for the disposal of wastes or contaminated materials resulting from an emergency;
5. Once the material has been rendered safe, direct and coordinate cleanup of hazardous materials which pose a threat to the environment; and
6. Conduct post response operations investigations following incidents or emergencies involving hazardous materials.

The Environmental Services Functional Area Committee assists the Functional Area Coordinator in the planning for, and to coordinate the provision of Functional Area support and resources to, emergency response and initial recovery operations. In particular, the Terms of Reference for the Committee are to:

1. Provide advice to the State Emergency Management Committee on the Environmental Services Functional Area;
2. Prepare and maintain the Environmental Services Functional Area Supporting Plan (Enviroplan) to the State Disaster Plan;
3. Contribute to the preparation and maintenance of Sub-Plans to the State Disaster Plan; and
4. Coordinate the provision of the Environmental Services Functional Area support for emergency operations.

6.13.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.13.1.1 Planning

The Environmental Services Functional Area participated in the following State-level Emergency Management planning groups:

- NSW State Emergency Management Committee;
- NSW Environmental Services Functional Area Committee Meeting;
- NSW Chief Executive Officers' Counter Terrorism Coordinating Group;
- NSW Chemical, Biological, Radiological Steering Committee;
- NSW Chemical, Biological, Radiological Recovery-Decontamination Working Group;
- NSW National Plan Executive Committee;
- NSW National Plan Technical Working Group;
- NSW Animal Health Emergency Working Group;
- NSW Public Health Emergency Management Committee; and
- Hazardous Materials Incident Sub-Committee.

6.13.1.2 Training and Exercises

The Environmental Services Functional Area presented at the following courses:

- Multi-Agency Incident Team Training (1 course);
- NSW Fire Brigades Technician's Course (1 course);
- NSW Public Health Emergency Management Course (2 courses);
- Police Incident Command Course (2 courses); and
- Joint emergency management / hazmat presentation with NSW Fire Brigades to local government representatives.

In addition, a Hazmat Incident and Emergency Response course was run for DECC's Operational Division staff.

The Functional Area participated in the following exercises in 2008-2009:

- The Shell deployment exercise;
- The Sydney Water Appin water treatment plant incident control centre exercise; and
- *Exercise Kip II* Radiological Dispersion discussion and tactical response exercises.

In addition, DECCW is participating in the planning for the marine chemical spill exercise scheduled for October 2009.

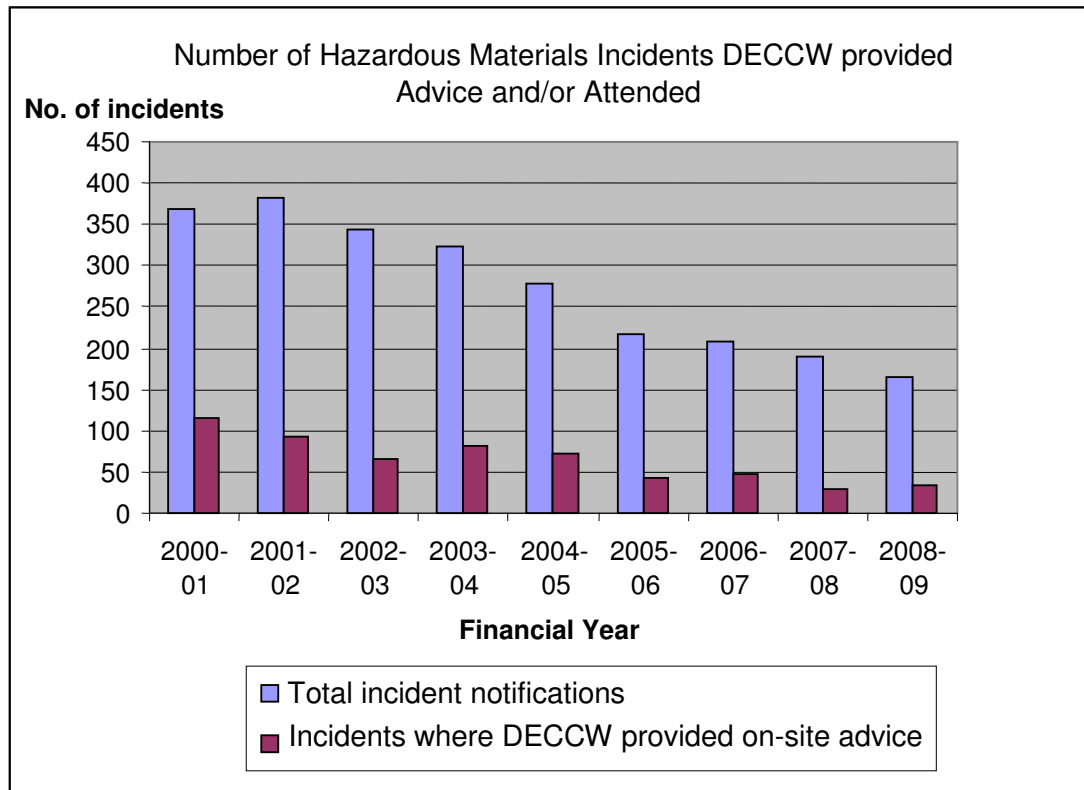
6.13.1.3 Capability development

DECCW continues to develop protocols and staff awareness regarding response and recovery operations associated with avian influenza, marine and land based oil and chemical spills.

DECCW staff also attended the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) “Chemical and Biological Agent Awareness and Laboratory Based Live Agent Training Course” and the “Oil Shoreline Assessment and Cleanup Course”.

6.13.2 Significant activities – response

DECCW was notified of a total of 166 incidents in 2008-2009. DECCW staff responded to the incident site to advise the responders on 34 occasions and provided advice over the phone for the remainder without attending the incident site.



6.13.2.1 Significant incidents

Significant incidents and emergencies during 2008-2009 include:

- Marulan, 5 August 2008 – A truck carrying a mixed load of dangerous goods rolled-over on the Hume Highway.
- St Peters, 22 August 2008 – A spill of between 200 to 500 litre 90% acetic acid with some entering stormwater drains.
- Cobargo, 28 August 2008 – The majority of a milk tanker’s load entered a creek following an accident on the Princes Highway.
- Glendon Park, 3 September 2008 – 41 x 200 litre drums were dumped on the roadside.
- Tamworth, 30 September 2008 – A spill of tallow into the Peel River resulting in a 3 Km long “slick”.
- Mathoura, 7 October 2008 – A fuel tanker rollover resulted in a reported loss of more than 10,000 litre diesel.
- Scone, 20 October 2008 – 1000 litres of liquid pool chlorine stored at a swimming pool complex leaked and flowed into a stormwater drain.
- Yennora, 23 November 2008 – A fire occurred in an illegal tyre dump resulting in firewater entering Prospect Creek.
- Eden, 29 November 2008 – A motor vehicle accident involving a milk tanker carrying 20,000L of milk resulting in loss of containment and the milk entering a large pond near a creek.
- Chipping Norton, 4 December 2008 – A fire at two adjacent factories involving unidentified chemicals in unknown quantities. Firewater run-off potentially threatened a local creek.
- Nyngan, 29 December 2008 – A Crop-duster crashed while carrying out operations using the pesticide Roundup.

- Wyee, 2 February 2009 – Nineteen 205L drums potentially containing hazardous material found dumped on property.
- Somersby, 20 February 2009 – A chemical factory was evacuated after a reaction occurred when stored trichloroisocyanurate was accidentally wetted. The reaction released chlorine and the resultant solution formed bleach.
- Seven Hills, 23 March 2009 – A fire in a textile printing factory involved significant amounts of paints and thinners.
- Mascot, 25 March 2009 – A fire occurred in a storage area at Sydney Airport. The area contained 58 drums of Avion 50 (a mix of sodium hydroxide and 2-butoxyethanol). About half the drums were compromised and 2,000L of product was spilled.
- Bega, 20 April 2009 – 1400L of sodium hypochlorite escaped from the sewage treatment plant into an open drain.
- Spring Plain East, 23 April 2009 – A truck carrying 2000L of glyphosate crashed spilling 800L of product.
- Beresfield, 9 May 2009 – A truck rolled on F3 losing 6,000L of glycerine into a table drain.
- Port Botany, 15 May 2009 – A shipping container on a ship bound for Brisbane was emitting a gas. The container contained an unknown quantity of 60Kg drums of solid organophosphate pesticide.
- Foster, 23 May 2009 – A barge carrying 200 tonnes of diesel was being towed off Black Head, just north of Forster when tow lines broke in rough seas and high winds.

6.13.3 Significant activities – recovery

The Environmental Services Functional Area participated in the review of the State Disaster Plan's disaster recovery arrangements.

6.13.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

Environmental Services is participating in the ongoing review of NSW's State Disaster Plan to ensure it is involved in any emergencies that may impact the environment or public health. In addition, DECCW continues to work with the NSW Fire Brigades and the Police Force to improve plans for responding to incidents involving radioactive materials.

The strategic priorities for the Environmental Services Functional Area include:

- Planning and preparedness for response to and recovery from actual and potential animal health, marine oil/ chemical spill and CBR emergencies; and
- Continue to meet responsibilities and help to minimise impacts on the environment during emergencies and hazardous materials incidents.

6.13.5 Future directions

The Environmental Services Functional Area Coordinator chairs a working group developing a NSW Climate Change Action Plan to aid organisations with a role in emergency management to adapt to ongoing climate change.

~

6.14 HEALTH SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator/Chair	Greg Rochford
(Deputy)	Dr Ron Manning
Executive Officer:	Gillian O'Malley

The role of the Health Services Functional Area in an emergency management setting is to coordinate and control the mobilisation of all health resources. This includes ambulance, medical, mental and public health and health communication services including:

- a. the mobilisation of health resources to the emergency site or sites and the initiation of prioritised patient management;
- b. the provision of coordinated hospital and medical response to emergencies;
- c. the provision of mental health services to victims, emergency workers, and the communities affected by emergencies;

- d. the provision of public health services to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies; and
- e. a coordinated health communications response for prevention, preparation, emergency response and subsequent recovery impacts.

Five major contributing health service components constitute the whole of health response incorporating an all-hazards approach. They are:

- a. Ambulance Services
- b. Medical Services
- c. Mental Health Services
- d. Public Health Services and
- e. Health Communications.

NSW Health is the combat agency for health emergencies within NSW. This particularly applies to human infectious disease emergencies from whatever cause.

6.14.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

Significant planning activities undertaken during the 2008-2009 financial year include:

- Disaster preparedness service agreements for Chief Executives of Area Health Services – 2008-2009 reviewed. New arrangements will be in place for 2009-2010 with a whole of health single agreement incorporating disaster preparedness.
- Ongoing engagement with Department of Health and Ageing on improved disaster preparedness and emergency management within the aged care sector
- Health Disaster Preparedness Strategic Education Framework endorsed and implemented.
- Disaster Preparedness Risk Management policy endorsed and implemented.
- Health Response Team uniform policy revised and endorsed
- Vulnerable Groups – Identification and Mitigation in Natural Disasters project in conjunction with Department of Lands Emergency Information Coordination Unit funded and commenced (June 09)
- Health service planning for Repco World Rally Championships (Australian round) in northern NSW (3 – 6 September 2009) and Sydney 2009 World Masters Games (10 – 18 August 2009)

Training and exercise activities involving NSW Health officers included:

- *Exercise Mercury MJEX* Queensland and Western Australia – NSW Health sent three EmergoTrain Educators to act as umpires 15 – 17 October 2008
- *Exercise Sustain '08* - a series of four national, whole-of-government discussion and functional pandemic influenza exercises in 2008 auspiced by the COAG Pandemic Influenza Working Group. Scenario set when the pandemic has spread widely through the community
- NSW DISEX Seahorse on 10 September 2008.
- Kingsford Smith Airport Exercise held on 18 November 2008.
- *Exercise Sudden Impact* 25 November 2008, a National Counter Terrorism exercise conducted at Holsworthy Army Base.
- *Exercise Kip II* - Radiological incident based scenario 1 April 2009.
- Emergo Train System state based exercises were conducted across 6 rural hospitals and 5 metropolitan trauma centres during the year. These exercises continue to be highly regarded by clinicians and hospital controllers in enabling staff to develop their disaster response capability.
- EmergoTrain System Senior Instructor courses (4) were conducted for 84 participants in Tweed Heads, Northern Territory, Western Australia and New Zealand.
- Major Incident Medical Management and Support Team Members Courses (3) were conducted with 74 participants. An Instructors course was held in Darwin during June 2009, with NSW sending four participants, and an Educators Course was also held at the same time with one NSW Health participant.

6.14.2 Significant activities – response

NSW Health operated four medical clinics at 3 different locations during World Youth Day 2008 – the Catholic Church's youth festival held in Sydney 15 – 20 July. In addition a clinic operated at Sydney Olympic Park where temporary accommodation for over 20 000 registered pilgrim nights was provided. Several influenza clinics were also established at two schools and Sydney Olympic Park as a result of influenza outbreaks. Planned event operations progressed smoothly with approximately 460 presentations

across the Onsite Medical Units (15-20 July). There were over 500 Pilgrim presentations to hospital emergency departments, including over 50 admissions.

HEALTHPLAN was on alert for the City to Surf Fun Run on 10 August 2008. Eight (8) medical teams (including 5 resuscitation teams) provided immediate treatment to 34 patients and a total of 7 ambulance transfers to hospital with one deceased on course.

Mid North Coast floods – March and May 2009 - report prepared by North Coast Area Health and SES debrief attended by NSW Health. Issues raised included transport of Nursing Home clients, and Evacuation Centre/Recovery Centre requirements for Mental Health.

Influenza Pandemic – Australia was notified by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 24 April 2009 of outbreaks of a novel strain of influenza (H1N1 2009) in Mexico, USA and Canada. NSW Health provided a number of briefings to SEMC members early in the outbreak and commenced daily SEOC situation reports in 26 April 2009. The State Public Health Controller led the NSW response in this phase. Australia including NSW entered CONTAIN phase of the Australian Health Management Plan for Pandemic Influenza (Commonwealth) on 28 April 2009. Those confirmed by testing with the virus, and close contacts, were required to enter 7 days isolation or quarantine. NSW moved to PROTECT phase on 17 June and the NSW Health State Incident Control Management Group coordinated the whole of health response from that point onwards.

Disaster Mental Health activities for 2008-2009 included:

- Disaster Mental Health Guidelines prepared to final draft stage.
- Participated in strategic planning for Disaster and major events, including Pandemic, Drought, Community recovery, WYD- Identify and document mental health roles and responsibilities.
- Developed operational protocols and principles for management of mental health presentations during World Youth Day.
- Mental Health Helpline activated for WYD08 and for medical malpractice matter
- Mental Health input provided for Recovery Centre Framework for Counter Terrorism and Secure NSW website, identifying mental health roles and responsibilities and providing links to further information and resources
- Resources developed for clinicians, other agencies, GPs and general public. Generic versions ready to be adapted for use in specific events.

6.14.3 Significant activities – recovery

The State Health Services Functional Area Coordinator (HSFAC) placed HEALTHPLAN on standby during the April - May 2009 North Coast and Mid North Coast storms and resulting flooding. The NSW Health response was managed locally with support from the State HSFAC through the Health Services Disaster Control Centre (HSDCC). North Coast Area Health Service contributed to the recovery effort through Local Emergency Management Committees.

6.14.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

Improved disaster preparedness in the aged care sector

Initiation of the Vulnerable Communities data collection project

6.14.5 Future directions

Medical Services Supporting Plan – complete re-write

Review of Ambulance Supporting Plan

Review of NSW Health Influenza Pandemic Action Plan in early 2010.

~

6.15 PUBLIC INFORMATION SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator: Sergeant Kevin Daley – NSW Police Media Unit

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
NSW Fire Brigades	Kate Dennis
NSW Ambulance Service	Kathryn Wood John Wilson
State Emergency Service	Steve Delaney
NSW Rural Fire Service	Rebel Talbert Ben Shepherd
NSW Maritime	Neil Padget
RTA	Tracey Arthur Shannon MacKay
City of Sydney	Alistair Walton/Julie Delvecchio
Emergency Management NSW	Craig Roberts
Community Relations Commission	Warren Duncan
Dept of Health NSW	Jason Donohue
DPI	Trudy Glasgow Brett Fifield
State Rail	Scott McIntyre/Matthew Vane Tempest
DOCS	Wendy Graham
Sydney Airport	Karen Harrigan
Sydney Ferries	Scott Mclean
Ministry of Transport	Greg Nott Chrissy Flanagan
NSW Police Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command	Supt John Stapleton
Dept of Premier and Cabinet (Counter Terrorism and Disaster Recovery Unit)	Esther Fitzsimon

The Public Information Functional Area is responsible for the co-ordination of public information during an emergency and the development of public information strategies and plans in support of the State Displan and other agencies requiring that support.

The co-ordination of public information is in line with the Functional Area Supporting Plan which has been developed to reflect the changing needs of public information and the way emergency management organisations broadcast important information to the community in a timely and co-ordinated manner.

The Public Information Functional Area Coordinator (PIFAC) also provides strategic public information advice to the State, District and Local Emergency Operations Controllers, and to other Functional Area Co-ordinators as requested.

6.15.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

During 2008-2009, the Public Information Functional Area has been significantly involved in a range of emergency management and counter terrorism related activities involving public information related issues, advice and warnings.

The Public Information Functional Area has provided support and advice in a number of emergency exercises.

6.15.1.1 Planning

District Emergency Management Officers Annual Workshop - 21 - 23 Oct

The PIFAC attended the annual workshop and provided an overview of current Public Information directions in emergency management including the launch of the Sydney CBD Emergency Warning System in December 2008, and the support that the Public Information Functional Area can provide District Emergency Management Officers.

Illawarra District Emergency Management Committee

The PIFAC attended the 18 June 2009 meeting of the Illawarra District Emergency Management Committee Meeting, where he provided an update to media officers and media representatives about the latest public

information roles, responsibilities and arrangements of the Public Information Functional Area, and an update on current issues and initiatives.

Broadcast of Emergency Warnings Conference

The Attorney-General's Department Public Affairs Branch (AGDPAB) hosted the meeting for the Broadcast of Emergency Warnings Conference in Sydney on 11 and 12 June. The PIFAC provided a presentation on the emergency warnings currently used in NSW including SydneyALERT, the Sydney CBD Emergency Warning System, SEWS, EmergencyNSW, secureNSW, and the use of the media.

National Forum on Emergency Warnings to the Community (NFEWC)

This forum was conducted on the 26 and 27 February in Canberra and provided an opportunity for a range of stakeholders to discuss issues impacting upon emergency warnings to the community.

6.15.1.2 Training and exercises

Exercise Sustain 08 – 14 November - National Pandemic Influenza Exercise

This exercise was a teleconference style exercise including specific objectives for the Communications Officers Network. The PIFAC provided advice regarding the public information arrangements and co-ordination.

Pandemic Influenza Discussion Exercise. Brisbane 5 – 6 August. Discussion Exercise 3: Crisis Communications

The discussion exercise was based on syndicate work focused on jurisdictional representation. The program included an overview of the National Influenza Pandemic Public Communications Guidelines. The discussion exercise also included presentations from various stakeholders including media.

Exercise "Pecten Shield"

This exercise was a NSW Counter Terrorism Discussion/Deployment Exercise conducted on 3 and 30 October. *Exercise Pecten Shield* was developed to provide the opportunity for Shell Gore Bay Terminal staff and relevant combat agencies to test their preparedness and response to an incident resulting in injury, fire and oil spill. The exercise was used to develop media officers in the public information arrangements involved in multi agency operations.

Exercise Sudden Impact – 10 – 14 November 2008

This exercise was an Investigation and Consequence Management Exercise (ICMEX) conducted over five phases involving the NSW Police Force, and other NSW and Australian Government agencies. The exercise scenario involved the detonation of improvised explosive devices (IED's) on board a train carriage and a bus. The Police Operations Centre, State Crisis Centre and Public Information Co-ordination Office (PICO) were activated. The activation of the PICO provided public information officers from responding agencies the opportunity to test their interoperability with their own agency, and the connectivity with the Police Operations Centre.

Exercise Graphite – November 18 Sydney Airport Emergency Exercise

In one of the largest exercises ever conducted at Sydney Airport, almost 1000 police and emergency services personnel and agency support staff took part in a major emergency response to an aircraft which crashed on landing. *Exercise Graphite* was a full-scale exercise conducted at Sydney Airport in November and focussed on the activation of the Sydney Airport Emergency Plan in the event of an emergency declaration. The exercise provided a rigorous test of the emergency arrangements for the airport.

New Year's Operation - Exercise Nimbus" – December 1

The Office of Protocol and Special Events (Department of Premier and Cabinet) and Emergency Management NSW co-ordinated this exercise for New Year's Eve preparations at the Police Operations Centre. The exercise involved media and public information officers from a range of agencies and focussed on the co-ordination and dissemination of public information.

Exercise Puck

This exercise was a multi agency district rescue exercise at Sydney Olympic Park. The exercise, involving Police, Fire, Ambulance, NSW Health, Sydney Olympic Park Authority and the SES was based around a multi-casualty accident involving a car and a bus. One of the objectives was to display response capability to a major collision.

Securing Our Regional Skies (SORS) – Regional Airport Security Training

This program provides an overview of the current security environment relating to regional airport security, and participants included local police and emergency service organisations, council representatives and airport owners and operators. Training has been conducted at a number of regional airports in 2008-2009. Each training session was highlighted through local media and provided the opportunity to promote training and a multi agency approach.

Incident Commanders Course

The PIFAC attended the Incident Commanders Course and delivered the Public Information Arrangements presentation. The presentation is focussed on the role of the Public Information Officer in the Incident Command and Control System Course (ICCS) and the co-ordination of public information as set out in the Public Information Functional Area Supporting Plan.

NSW Counter Terrorism Commanders Awareness Workshop

The PIFAC delivered the NSW Government Counter Terrorism Public Information Response and Recovery Arrangements presentation at the NSW Counter Terrorism Commanders Awareness Workshop, on 30 June - 1 July 2009 and at successive workshops. The presentation focuses on the co-ordination of public information across agencies in relation to an imminent or actual terrorist incident.

6.15.1.3 Capability development

NSW Government Counter Terrorism Public Information Response and Recovery Arrangements (PIRRA) were developed during 2008-2009 and circulated to all agencies. The PIRRA was endorsed by the Chief Executives Counter Terrorism Co-ordinating Group and the Cabinet Standing Committee on Counter Terrorism. The PIRRA has been presented at the NSW Counter Terrorism Commanders Awareness Workshops conducted on 30 June - 1 July, and successive workshops.

6.15.2 Significant activities – response

World Youth Day 2008

A public information plan and arrangements for World Youth Day 2008 was co-ordinated in consultation with all agencies and the World Youth Day Co-ordination Authority. The event provided the opportunity to develop staff from a range of agencies in the aspects of working in the Police Operations Centre.

Victoria Bushfires

The NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) opened up to take calls to ensure a coordinated, whole-of-government approach for the donation for non-cash offers of goods and services. The hotline ensured donation details from NSW residents were collated into one central database and passed on to Victorian agencies in a coordinated fashion. The PIFAC travelled to Victoria and provided Public Information management support and assistance during the bushfire operations.

CBD Power Outage

The PIFAC coordinated the dissemination of public information and media advice and provided support to the SEOCON following the power outage in the Sydney CBD on 30 March 2009 and during subsequent outages.

Mid North Coast/Northern NSW Floods

The PIFAC attended the State Emergency Operations Centre, monitored the situation and provided Public Information support to the SES, the SEOCON and LEOCONs as required. Information about health and safety issues was coordinated for public dissemination.

Swine Flu Operation

The PIFAC provided public information support to the SEOCON and NSW Health Media, co-ordinated the development of the NSW Swine Flu Public Information Strategy, assisted NSW Health and Carnival Australia with Public Information and Media Management for the return of the cruise ships Pacific Dawn and Dawn Princess. The Functional Area also provided ongoing support to NSW Health regarding the whole of government Public Information Strategy and provided a Police Public Affairs Branch Media Officer to NSW Health to assist with website content.

6.15.3 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

Initial test of the Sydney CBD Emergency Warning System

The initial monthly test of the Sydney CBD Emergency Warning System was conducted on the 23 December 2008. The system underwent a full test of the 98 speakers and 13 Variable Messaging Signs throughout the CBD. Subsequent monthly tests have focussed on selected sites. The next full test is scheduled for December 2009.

NSW Government Counter Terrorism Public Information Response and Recovery Arrangements (PIRRA)

The PIRRA was developed in 2008-2009 and circulated to all agencies. The PIRRA was endorsed by the Chief Executives Counter Terrorism Co-ordinating Group and the Cabinet Standing Committee on Counter Terrorism. The PIRRA has been presented at the NSW Counter Terrorism Commanders Awareness Workshops conducted on 30 June - 1 July, and successive workshops.

National and State Public Information Guidelines Presentations

The National Counter Terrorism Committee - Public Information Sub-Committee (NCTC - PISC) conducted media training (presentation on the National Counter Terrorism Public Information Guidelines). The sessions were supported by presentations on the respective jurisdictional CT Public Information Arrangements. The target audience for the training/presentations was media officers from Police, Dept of Premier and Cabinet, and emergency service organisations who might be required to respond to a terrorist threat or incident. The training was conducted on Monday, 17 November 2008 and 29 April 2009 and was hosted by the Counter Terrorism and Disaster Recovery Unit, NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet.

6.15.4 Future directions

- Review the Public Information Functional Area Supporting Plan.
- Translation and Interpreting Services – formalise arrangements for accessing services in consultation with the NSW Community Relations Commission.
- Develop a discussion exercise for the Public Information Sub-Committee on relevant public information issues.
- Emerging Media – consider the use/relevance of electronic media, such as Facebook and Twitter throughout the phases of an emergency.

~

6.16 TRANSPORT SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA

Functional Area Coordinator/Chair
(Deputy)

Greg Nott
Glenn Sheedy

Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Bus and Coach Association	Vic Bowden
Commercial Vessels Association	David Cribb (to March 2009)
Ministry of Transport	Greg Nott
Roads and Traffic Authority	Linda Muller
RailCorp	Ron Creighton
Sydney Ferries Corporation	Scott Voyzey
State Transit Authority	Gary Durler
NSW Taxi Council	Howard Harrison

The Transport Services Functional Area (TSFA) is responsible for the coordination of the State's air, land and sea emergency transport resources that may be needed by a combat agency or other functional area.

Transport tasks might include:

- Movement of emergency equipment and personnel
- Movement of emergency supplies and goods, including water, fuel and food
- Evacuation of people and animals
- Assistance for medical transport

- Transportation of animals and infectious material/dangerous goods

6.16.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.16.1.1 Planning

Significant planning activities undertaken during the 2008-2009 financial year include the:

- Refining of emergency transport plans developed in support of the Sydney CBD Emergency Sub Plan
- Finalisation of the transport plans in support of the Newcastle CBD Emergency Sub Plan and continued work on the Parramatta and Wollongong Plans
- Emergency transport planning and operational coordination for the World Youth Day Event
- Development of a Standard Operational Guide to manage Sydney Harbour Bridge traffic and transport disruptions
- The complete revision of the Sydney Traffic Emergency Precinct Plan

6.16.1.2 Training and exercises

The TSFA actively participated in all relevant SEMC, DEMC and LEMC sponsored exercises and those conducted under the auspicious of the National Counter Terrorism Committee. These included exercises to test plans relating to:

- CBD emergencies
- Incidents in the underground rail network
- State and District level Emergency Operation Centre operations
- Transport responses to potential terrorism attacks
- World Youth Day transport coordination and emergency response arrangements
- Road transport emergencies
- Major events such as New Year's Eve

6.16.1.3 Training

RailCorp conducted several train/rail environment familiarisation exercises in the Sydney metropolitan and outer metropolitan areas for emergency responders.

The Ministry of Transport provided ongoing subject matter expertise to the Police Senior Officer Incident Command Course.

6.16.1.4 Capability development

The World Youth Day events provided the opportunity for a significant number of transport staff to be trained to work in the Transport Joint Operations Centre and the Police Operations Centre. Additionally, staff were trained in use of the TSFA's electronic incident management system.

6.16.2 Significant activities – response

The TSFA provided significant transport resources in May 2009 during the North Coast storms and floods. Buses were used to assist with evacuations of Grafton, Lismore, Kempsey and several smaller communities. Transport coordination arrangements were implemented at the Local, District and State Levels.

6.16.3 Significant activities – recovery

The TSFA participated in the Recovery Committees associated with the Mid Coast and North Coast Flood events and provided bus and taxi transport to Recovery Centres.

6.16.4 Strategic initiatives and achievements

6.16.4.1 World Youth Day planning and coordination

The Ministry of Transport, Sydney Ferries and RailCorp were represented in the Police Operations Centre for the duration of the event. A Joint Operations Centre (JOC) was also established to coordinate the event's transport and traffic arrangements. The JOC comprised representatives from the Ministry of Transport, the RTA, State Transit Authority, World Youth Day Coordination Authority and Police.

These arrangements allowed for the effective coordination of transport arrangements both at the strategic and operational levels. Importantly, the structures were designed to accommodate transport responses to emergencies associated with, or separate to, the event.

6.16.5 Future directions

- Complete the implementation of a new electronic incident/emergency management system. The system will provide interoperability between transport agency systems and those used in the State Emergency Operations Centre and the State Crisis Centre
- Strengthen transport precinct security and emergency response arrangements through stakeholder engagement
- Contribute to a review of transport critical infrastructure security and consequence management arrangements
- Continue to participate in national and state forums for the development of counter terrorism and emergency management arrangements
- Further develop transport geospatial planning capabilities

~

6.17 WELFARE SERVICES FUNCTIONAL AREA COMMITTEE

Functional Area Coordinator/Chair Wendy Graham
(Deputy) Murray Nott
Executive Officer: Teena Windsor
Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Department of Community Services	Wendy Graham (Chair)
Adventist Disaster Relief Agency (ADRA)	Bruce Prince
ANGLICARE	Doug Philpott Brendan Delaney
Australian Red Cross – NSW	Jason Collins Diana Bernardi
Centrelink	Emilijia Todorova Paula Webber
Community Relations Commission	Peter Reynolds
Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care (DADHC)	Anna Christou
Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA)	Paul Cramer
Housing NSW	Jen O'Donnell
Insurance Council of Australia	Karl Sullivan
Local Government and Shires Association	Noel Baum
NSW Department of Commerce (Office of Fair Trading)	Shobhna Pandaram
NSW Department of Education and Training	Kristine Bajuk
NSW Department of Primary Industries	Graeme Eggleston Suzanne Robinson
NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet	Alison Francis
NSW Health	Katrina Hasleton Gillian O'Malley
Emergency Management NSW	Melanie Howard Jennie Symmonds
State Emergency Service	Andrew Gissing Belinda Davies
St Vincent de Paul	Barry Smith

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
	John Gresser Brian Emms
The Salvation Army	Lyall Reese
Uniting Church	Stephen Robinson

The Welfare Services Functional Area is sponsored by the Department of Community Services (DoCS). Its role is to coordinate welfare services during an emergency. This includes the management of evacuation centres and the coordination of welfare services such as personal support, material aid, emergency accommodation, food and financial assistance to people who have been affected by an emergency.

6.17.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.17.1.1 Planning

Enhanced NSW recovery arrangements were approved by Cabinet in March 2009, including the creation of the statutory positions State Emergency Recovery Controller and Deputy. These arrangements have allowed the Welfare Services Functional Area to more clearly define the parameters of its role and responsibilities within NSW Emergency Management Arrangements. A significant change resulting from these arrangements is the responsibility for establishing Recovery Centres, which been transferred to the Engineering Functional Area. These arrangements were tested in the North Coast flood events in March and May 2009 and significantly enhanced the capacity of Welfare Services to focus on the provision of welfare services to disaster affected people.

Other key planning projects have included the development of Disaster Relief Grant Guidelines and processes and guidelines for conducting outreach in communities affected by disasters.

Regional Welfare Services Committees have been convened regularly across the State and Regional Welfare Services Coordinators have participated in a range of district and local planning activities.

At a State level, Welfare Services contributed to State and National multi-agency planning through representation on the a number of key committees and working groups: SEMC Pandemic Influenza Sub Committee, National Registration and Inquiry System (NRIS) National Working Group, NSW Impact Assessment Working Group, *SERM Act* Review, National Disaster Recovery Sub Committee.

6.17.1.2 Training and exercises

DoCS staff and members of the functional area have been involved in a number of training and exercise activities this reporting period.

Exercises

- *Exercise Graphite*, a field exercise at Sydney Airport dealing with a major aircraft crash.
- *Exercise Sudden Impact*, discussion exercise dealing with a terrorist attack on the public transport system.

DoCS also conducted two regional field exercises in Gosford and Blacktown. These exercises focussed on Evacuation Centre management, operations and resource capacity and were attended by DoCS, participating non-government agencies and supporting Government agencies.

Training

DoCS staff presented at the following courses:

- NSW Public Health Emergency Management Course
- Police Incident Command Courses

DoCS Disaster Recovery Participating Agencies (Salvation Army, Red Cross, Anglicare, St Vincent de Paul, ADRA) received funding through the National Emergency Volunteers Support Fund to undertake a series of eleven regionally based Welfare Services Volunteer Team Leader Training courses. These courses were supported by DoCS and included a multiagency discussion exercise.

Emergency Management Australia Institute (EMAI) funded four “off campus” training courses in Evacuation and Recovery Centre Management during this reporting period. These courses were jointly facilitated by DoCS and EMAI. The courses were undertaken in Batemans Bay, Coffs Harbour and Glenn Innes and were

attended by DoCS regional staff, volunteers from the Welfare Services Participating Agencies and staff from other NSW Human Services agencies.

6.17.2 Significant activities – response

Welfare Services were activated in response to 14 natural and four non-natural emergencies in this reporting period. A total of 26 evacuation centres were established during this reporting period. Significant natural disasters included Tamworth Floods (November 08) and the Northern NSW flood events in February, March and May 2009. A number of non-natural events such as unit block fires and the Bondi apartment block gas explosion (March 09) also required the assistance of welfare services.

6.17.3 Significant activities – recovery

6.17.3.1 Mumbai Terrorist Attack – November 08

DoCS coordinated provision of welfare services at the Sydney Airport Reception Centre for passengers returning from Mumbai who had been directly affected by the terrorist attack. DoCS was supported by Community Partners, Red Cross, Anglicare and ADRA in this event

Reception Welfare Services included:

- meet and greet, care and comfort of passengers and provision of Mumbai Assistance Flyer
- provision of immediate assistance needs such as emergency accommodation and transport
- identification of passengers requiring additional personal support and counselling assistance and referral to NSW Mental Health representatives.
- identification of passengers seeking further information about Australian Government assistance and referral to Centrelink.

6.17.3.2 Victorian Bushfires – February 09

Welfare Services Functional Area provided support to the Victorian Bushfire Emergency. Welfare Services Liaison Officers were deployed to the Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC) which was opened to collate offers of assistance from the NSW community. The State Welfare Services Functional Area Coordinator was deployed to Victoria to provide strategic advice and support, during the first week of the disaster.

6.17.3.3 H1N1 Influenza (Human Swine Flu) – May 09

Welfare Services Functional Area provided support to NSW Health, providing welfare assistance to people who had been placed in home quarantine or isolation.

DoCS coordinated the provision of essential food supply and personal requisites to 35 families in home quarantine. Food purchase and delivery was provided by the Salvation Army. SES also provided assistance with delivery of essential household items.

DoCS coordinated the provision of the reception function for passengers on the cruise ship, Pacific Dawn, who were returning to Sydney. Twenty Red Cross and ANGLICARE volunteers provided H1N1 information sheets to relatives and friends greeting passengers.

DoCS involvement in this operation concluded on 17 June, with the introduction of the PROTECT phase. DoCS continues to work with NSW Health on refining procedures and protocols for the delivery of essential food and personal items to people in home quarantine/isolation during the CONTAIN phase of a pandemic.

6.17.3.4 Coffs Harbour Flood – March 09

Disaster Recovery Officers had a key role in this recovery operation and provided welfare services from the three Recovery Centres, (Coffs Harbour, Urunga and Bellingen). Welfare services continued until the closure of the Coffs Harbour Recovery Centre on 12 June 2009. Over \$61,000 was provided in immediate assistance and over \$520,000 in Disaster Relief Grants for essential contents and structural repairs was provided to eligible residents.

Over 635 calls for assistance or information were made to the DoCS Disaster Welfare 1800 number. One thousand four hundred homes were visited as part of the door-to-door outreach strategy coordinated by Red Cross, providing information about recovery services to affected residents.

6.17.3.5 North Coast Floods – May 09

Disaster Recovery Officers again worked in the three Recovery Centres (Grafton, Lismore, and Kempsey) providing welfare services until the closure of the Recovery Centre in Grafton on 24 July 2009. As of October 2009, approximately \$130,000 was provided in immediate assistance and approximately \$300,000 in Disaster Relief Grants for essential contents and structural repairs was provided to eligible residents. Five hundred and ninety nine people were provided with emergency accommodation by ADRA in this event.

Over 1000 calls for assistance or information were made to the DoCS Disaster Welfare 1800 number. Nearly 1000 homes were visited as part of the door-to-door outreach strategy coordinated by Red Cross, providing information about recovery services to affected residents in the Grafton and Kempsey areas

6.17.4 Strategic initiatives, achievements, priorities

Welfare Services Functional Area continues to develop strategies to increase the pool of NSW Disaster Recovery Officers by deploying staff from across Human Service agencies such as Aging Disability and Homecare, Housing NSW and Centrelink. This coordinated approach has been successful in meeting demand for welfare services, as well as maximising on the combined experience and expertise of staff. These arrangements will continue to be developed and formalised in the 2009-2010 year.

The Welfare Services Functional Area plan will be revised to reflect the enhanced NSW recovery arrangements.

6.18 NSW CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR & HAZARDOUS MATERIALS STEERING COMMITTEE

Chair

Chief Superintendent John Bedford - NSW Fire Brigades

(Alternate)

Superintendent John Stapleton – NSW Police Force

Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
Ambulance Service NSW	Supt Jenny Nelson
Department of Environment and Climate Change	Mr Craig Lamberton
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Ms Veronica Lee
NSW Fire Brigades	Superintendent Rob McNeil Superintendent Steve Baker
NSW Health	Dr Paul Armstrong
NSW Police Force	Superintendent John Stapleton Senior Sergeant Paul Taylor
Emergency Management NSW	Mr Rick Stone

The NSW Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) and Hazardous Materials Steering Committee (NSW CBRN Committee) is responsible for the development, maintenance and review of the CBRN and Hazardous Material multi-agency prevention, preparedness, response and recovery capabilities within NSW.

6.18.1 Significant Activities – prevention and preparedness

Prevention of accidental release of CBRN agents is the role of manufacturers, suppliers, transporters and users and is governed by a range of workplace safety and specific hazardous materials regulations. The Steering Committee provides expert advice in preparation of these regulations.

Prevention of criminal acts resulting in CBRN incidents is the responsibility of the NSW Police and other Counter Terrorism agencies, with the NSW CBRN Committee assisting as required.

The NSW CBRN Committee established linkages and is working closely with National Counter Terrorist Committee CBRN Security Sub Committee and Working Groups which are progressing implementation of the National CBRN Security Strategy as well as specific projects such as site decontamination, CBR training and equipment.

6.18.1.1 Planning

The NSW CBRN Committee was heavily involved in preparations for World Youth Day, which assisted in the development of a gas detection area monitoring capability and further CBRN capabilities.

6.18.1.2 Capability Development:

The NSW CBRN Committee has undertaken a number of enhancement projects, including working with State Rail regarding atmospheric monitoring in the underground rail network and working with Defence Science Technology Organisation in developing a plumbing modelling project.

Additionally, the NSW Police Force, NSW Fire Brigades and Ambulance Service of NSW have been working with the University of Western Sydney and other national agencies to develop "Psychosocial Best Practice Guidelines for Response to Guidelines to CBRN Incidents".

6.18.1.3 Training

The NSW CBRN Committee, in close consultation with the NSW Counter Terrorist Training Steering Committee, developed and delivered Multi Agency Incident Control Training (MAIT) programs for senior representatives from Police, Ambulance and Fire Brigades.

6.18.1.4 Exercises:

The NSW CBRN Committee has been involved in numerous multi-agency state and national exercises during the reporting period, including *Exercise KIPP II* in April 2009. Additionally, a new series of drill style exercises which incorporate CBRN scenarios at different types of infrastructures was commenced. Further, some member agencies participated in specific "live agent training"

6.18.2 Future Directions

The NSW CBRN Committee will continue to focus on multi agency preparedness, training and exercises, as well as reviewing actual incidents to identify lessons learnt that can feedback into processes to increase prevention, preparedness, response and recovery activities.

Its 2009-2010 Work Plan includes:

- Review of State CBR / Hazmat Plan
- Review of the National CBRN Security Strategy, with view of progressing items identified as state based responsibilities.
- Review of National Counter Terrorism Committee (NCTC) CBRN Security Sub Committee capability survey and reports, with view of progressing areas identified as gaps.
- Assist in the development and implementation of the National CBRN Strategic Plan.
- Assist as required in the implementation of the COAG Hazmat Review recommendations.
- Facilitate training exercises such as *KIP II* and drill style exercises
- Review as required Hazmat incidents and make recommendations on PPRR improvements.

~

6.19 PANDEMIC INFLUENZA WORKING GROUP

Chair NSW Health/Ambulance Service
Director, NSW Health Counter Disaster Unit
(Alternate) Director, Biopreparedness Unit, Department of Health
Executive Officer: Emergency Management NSW representative

Members:

Organisation	Name
Department of Community Services Welfare Services Functional Area Controller	Wendy Graham
Department of Education and Training	Marnie O'Brien
Department of Primary Industry Manager, General Emergencies and Preparedness	Suzanne Robinson
Department of Premier and Cabinet Counter Terrorism and Disaster Recovery	Alison Francis

NSW Police Force Public Information Functional Area Controller	Inspector Kevin Daly
NSW Food Authority	David Miles
State Emergency Service	Greg Slater
Other agencies as invited	

The purpose of the Pandemic Influenza Working Group is to:

1. Develop and maintain a Workplan
2. Maintain and review the NSW Human Influenza Pandemic Plan (HIPP) as required
3. Finalise the work of the outstanding Taskforce Working Groups (review expected outcomes and revise as appropriate)
4. Identify and address gaps in NSW pandemic planning
5. Provide advice to the SEMC on influenza pandemic planning and preparedness in NSW
6. Prepare and maintain HIPP annexes (public) and/or Standing Operating Procedures (agency versions) as required.

6.19.1 Issues considered by the group

The NSW HIPP was scheduled for a complete rewrite in 2009 to be coordinated by the Group. This was delayed as a result of the Influenza Pandemic, which began late April and is continuing.

6.19.2 Significant activities

Australia was notified by the World Health Organization (WHO) on 24 April 2009 of outbreaks of a novel strain of influenza (H1N1 2009) in Mexico, USA and Canada. NSW Health provided a number of briefings to SEMC members early in the outbreak and commenced SEOC situation reports on 26 April 2009. The State Public Health Controller led the NSW response during this phase. Australia including NSW entered CONTAIN phase of the Australian Health Management Plan for Pandemic Influenza (Commonwealth) on 28 April 2009. Those confirmed by testing with the virus, and close contacts, were required to enter 7 days isolation or quarantine. NSW moved to PROTECT phase on 17 June and the NSW Health State Incident Control Management Group coordinated the whole of health response from that point forward.

Briefings were provided to the SEMC as required with regular reports to the SEOC ongoing.

6.19.3 Significant achievements, initiatives, priorities

Subject to the outcomes of any Influenza Pandemic Advisory Group decisions, assist with the rewrite of the NSW HIPP; and contribute to the rewrite of the NSW Health Influenza Pandemic Action Plan.

6.19.4 Future directions

See above.

Reconvene regular meetings and progress Work Plan.

~

6.20 NSW USAR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Chair Warwick Kidd (NSW Fire Brigades)

Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
NSW Police	Inspector Ian Rotsey
NSW Health	Dr Gary Tall
NSW Ambulance	Superintendent George Smith
NSW Dept of Commerce	Alan O'Brien

The Urban Search and Rescue Advisory Committee (USARAC) is a sub-committee of the SEMC, which was established to provide advice to the SEMC on Urban Search and Rescue (USAR), in particular, aspects of the

Major Structural Collapse Sub-Plan to the NSW State Disaster Plan. The USARAC also provides the NSW State representative on the National USAR Working Group.

6.20.1 Significant activities – prevention and preparedness

6.20.1.1 Planning

Ongoing review of Major Structural Collapse Sub-Plan

6.20.1.2 Training

The NSW Brigades has established a Rescue and Disaster Education Centre at Ingleburn. Plans have been developed for the building of a USAR prop at Ingleburn. The centre will be used as the base for most USAR capability development training for the agencies involved with the Taskforce.

A Volunteer Canine Search and Rescue Team is in the process of being established. Warwick Kidd has undertaken the role of the Chair Person for the National USAR Canine Technical Working Group, which has developed national guideline for USAR Canines.

Awareness training on USAR was delivered during the NSW Police Counter Terrorism Multi Agency Incident Training courses.

6.20.1.3 Capability development

The NSW Committee has completed the Commonwealth USAR Capability development project that placed \$1.35m towards developing the NSW USAR capability. This has been used to purchase a stand-alone USAR response medical cache for the NSW Ambulance Service; it has provided replacement vehicles for the USAR cache in the Hunter and Illawarra regions. The remainder of the money was used to upgrade existing equipment in the cache that was at or near its end of life cycle.

6.20.2 Future directions

- The key priority is USAR training at the NSW Fire Brigade's new Disaster and Education Centre.
- NSW USAR Taskforce has been advised that international classification as a Heavy Rescue Team will be undertaken in 2012.

~

6.21 CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

Chair Joe Woodward
(Alternate) Mark Conlon
Executive Officer: Mike Bailey
Members:

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name</i>
NSW Fire Brigade	Ken Thompson
NSW Rural Fire Service	Simon Heemstra
Emergency Management NSW	Heinz Mueller
NSW DECC	Mark Conlon
NSW Dept of Primary Industry	Simon Oliver
NSW Department of Health	Glenis Lloyd
NSW Department of Planning	Fred Fattal
NSW Department of Lands	Tony Sleigh
NSW Department of Commerce	Stephen Smith
NSW Department of Local Government	Mike Fleming

The Climate Change Working Group acts as the central point of contact for the NSW emergency management system on climate change issues and, through the SEMC, advises the Minister for Emergency Services and the NSW Government on the impact of climate change on the emergency management system.

Issues considered:

Identification of hazards and the likely affects of climate change on those hazards and the gathering of evidence that may be appropriate to assist with planning, personnel and equipment levels for future emergency management planning.

6.21.1 Significant activities

The Group is overseeing the compilation of a series of natural hazard and risk profiles for each of eight (8) State Plan Regions of NSW, drawing from scientific expertise to identify historical and existing hazards and the risks projected to arise through climate change.

This information will help establish a base for climate change emergency management program statements to prepare the State for the unavoidable impacts of climate change, and particularly changes to extreme weather related events.

The Group is also working to highlight relevant climate change vulnerability of emergency sector resources, including bases and equipment.

It will work to ensure community awareness, involvement and resilience is increased through education campaigns from various agencies on projected natural hazard and risk levels under climate change, and will encourage community risk self-assessment.

6.21.2 Significant achievements, initiatives, priorities

The SEMC Climate Change Working Group has overseen a successful application for funding which is to be shared between the Commonwealth and NSW Governments for the nominated NDMP Project: Future vulnerability to hazards in NSW – Stage 1.

It has also worked to coordinate input and initiatives from the emergency management sector into the NSW Climate Change Action Plan.

6.21.3 Future directions

Financial year 2009-2010 will see:

- the completion and distribution to emergency managers of Natural Hazard and Risk Profiles for all eight (8) State Plan Regions of NSW
- further studies of damaging East Coast Low weather systems as part of the Eastern Seaboard Climate Change Initiative
- the launch of NDMP project: Future vulnerability to hazards in NSW – Stage 1
- the creation of a project coordination framework for the improved flow and exchange of information between member agencies of the SEMC Climate Change Working Group
- the completion of emergency management sector input into the NSW Climate Change Action Plan, and
- continued work towards improved levels of cooperation between emergency services.

~

6.22 NSW POLICE FORCE, COUNTER TERRORISM & SPECIAL TACTICS COMMAND

New South Wales Police Force has been formally identified as the combat agency for terrorism under Displan.

6.22.1 NSW CT Exercise Steering Committee

A total of twenty-two (22) drill style exercises under the auspices of the NSW CT Exercise Steering Committee were conducted within NSW during 2008-2009. The exercise activities involved either single or

multi-agency participation. The 2009-2010 CT Drill Style Exercise Program has been approved by the NSW CT Exercise Steering Committee.

Further, the NSW State Emergency Service (SES) and the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) now have senior representation on the NSW CT Exercise Steering Committee.

6.22.2 Exercise Sudden Impact

Exercise Sudden Impact was an Investigation and Consequence Management Exercise (ICMEX) conducted in Sydney in November 2008. The aim of the exercise was to evaluate the investigation and health capabilities' response to multiple terrorist attacks, within NSW, in accordance with the national CT arrangements. The exercise phases included a number of discussion exercises and a major field deployment and involved NSW and Commonwealth participation.

6.22.3 First Responders Package

The First Responder Training Package has been developed for police to cover issues associated with Occupational Health and Safety of First Responders when responding to a terrorist incident. As a result, the training is concentrated on risks and mitigation of risk rather than 'Command and Control'. Training sessions included Introduction (to terrorism); Prevention; Chemical, Biological and Radiological threats; OH&S risks for First Responders to a Terrorist Incident; and Suicide Terrorism.

6.22.4 CT Commanders Awareness Workshop

The CT Commanders Awareness Workshop was delivered to identified Police Commanders, Police Forward Commanders and their support staff and senior officers of the NSW Fire Brigades and Ambulance Service of NSW. The program included the management of actual or potential terrorist events.

6.22.5 Securing Our Regional Skies Program

The NSW Securing Our Regional Skies (SORS) Training Program 2008 – 2009 was conducted in Regional Airports (RA's) within NSW. Commonwealth agencies and State police and security advisors engaged with local stakeholders including owners and operators responsible for airport security and local emergency services and provided information on current threats to Regional Airports and security awareness training.

The NSW SORS Training Program 2009 – 2010 Funding Proposal has been submitted to the Office of Transport Security (OTS) from the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.

~

6.23 INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT WORKING GROUP

When a major disaster impacts a wide area, rapid access to accurate and reliable consequence information is essential to the timely development of appropriate response and recovery plans. The assessment of the extent and severity of impact provides critical intelligence to the combat agency and the Emergency Operations Controller by informing multi-agency response and recovery efforts.

The need for a consistent framework for the collection, interpretation and presentation of consequence assessment information has been recognised by the SEMC. At its meeting on 4 December 2008, the Committee endorsed the establishment of a NSW SEMC Initial Impact Assessment Working Group to undertake the following activities:

- Review what information may need to be collated to properly inform the response and recovery efforts and methods of sourcing such information.
- Review existing and developing Initial Impact Assessment processes across Australia and globally.
- Identify existing and required expertise necessary to conduct an Initial Impact Assessment in NSW.
- Develop an all hazard NSW Initial Impact Assessment process, consistent with the considerations and approached developed at the national level.
- Consider methods of capturing, storing and sharing Initial Impact Assessment data across agencies and a multiple EM levels

- Additional activities as determined by the Working Group in developing Terms of Reference for the approval of the SEMC.

The Impact Assessment Working Group comprises of representatives from the following agencies:

- Emergency Management NSW
- State Emergency Service
- NSW Rural Fire Service
- NSW Fire Brigades
- NSW Police Force
- District Emergency Management Officers
- Communications Services Functional Area
- Energy and Utility Services Functional Area
- Engineering Services Functional Area
- Environmental Services Functional Area
- Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Department of Local Government
- Department of Lands Emergency Information Coordination Unit
- NSW Treasury
- Australian Defence Force

6.23.1 Significant activities

Following the establishment of the Initial Impact Assessment Working Group, a series of workshops was held to develop an all-hazard NSW Initial Impact Assessment process.

An interim impact assessment policy and reporting mechanism was endorsed by the SEMC meeting on 5 March 2009. Prior to its endorsement, the interim impact assessment policy and reporting mechanism had been piloted in a range of different emergencies occurring in late 2008, including the floods in Tamworth, Bourke and the mid-north coast and storms in Young. Feedback from these operations was incorporated in the interim policy.

Members of the Initial Impact Assessment Working Group also participated in a National Rapid Impact Assessment Workshop and assisted with the development of a report and recommendations arising from the workshop.

As part of the activities of the Initial Impact Assessment Working Group, staff from Emergency Management NSW engaged in an extensive research program, particularly with representatives of Emergency Management Queensland, who were involved in the Cyclone Larry response.

6.23.2 Significant achievements, initiatives, priorities

The Working Group's main achievement during the reporting period was the development of the interim impact assessment policy and reporting mechanism, which was submitted and endorsed by the SEMC meeting on 5 March 2009.

6.23.3 Future directions

The Working Group's priorities during 2009-2010 will be to refine the NSW Initial Impact Assessment process through further workshops and through the incorporation of lessons learned through the actual use of the processes in exercises and operations.

~

7 DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 CENTRAL WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair: Stephen Bradshaw
(Alternates) Michael Goodwin

Mark Szalajko
David Driver

District Emergency Management Officer: John Mayfield

Members:

Organisation	Representatives
Emergency Operations Controller	Stephen Bradshaw
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	John Stonestreet
NSW Fire Brigades	Neil Harris Tony Grant Gary Galwey Greg O'Connor
NSW Police Force	Michael Goodwin Mark Szalajko David Driver
Rural Fire Service	Gordon Hill
State Emergency Service	Craig Ronan Bob Evans
Volunteer Rescue Association	Glenn Hinton
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Greg Markwick
Engineering Services	Trevor Liu
Environmental Services	Richard Whyte
Health Services	Geoff Marshall
Transport Services	Vicki McPherson
Welfare Services	Dennis Shrimpton
Local Government	
Bathurst Regional Council	Brian Dwyer
Blayney Shire Council	Grant Baker
Cabonne Shire Council	Robert Staples
Cowra Shire Council	Bob Sly
Forbes Shire Council	Ray Graham
Lachlan Shire Council	Barrie Toms
Lithgow City Council	Andrew Muir
Oberon Council	Ian Tucker
Orange City Council	Kel Gardiner
Parkes Shire Council	Greg Godde
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Martin Holmes
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Paul Dodd
Country Energy	Peter Cady
Jemena (previously Alinta)	Peter Woods
RTA	Paul Maloney
Telstra	David Minney

7.1.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met four times during the year, in March, June, September and December.

7.1.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.1.2.1 District planning activities

The review of the District Displan continued during the year.

The Central West Engineering Services Functional Area (EngPlan) was endorsed in December 2008.

7.1.2.2 Local planning activities

All Councils within the Central West have completed their Emergency Risk Management (ERM) studies.

7.1.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 63 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	39
Managing an Emergency Operation	10
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	14
<i>Total</i>	<i>63</i>

7.1.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.1.4.1 District level exercises

There were no district level exercises during the reporting year.

7.1.4.2 Local level exercises

The State Rail tabletop exercise *Edgcombe 08* was conducted at Lithgow.

A State Rail field exercise was conducted at Edgcombe tunnels (Lithgow) – as a follow up to the tabletop exercise.

A Bathurst 1000 tabletop exercise was conducted.

7.1.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

Water shortages were a major issue for the district.

7.1.6 DEMO activity report

The DEMO has been involved in various committees and activities:

- Local Airport Emergency Planning committees
- Delta Electricity Emergency Planning Committee, Mt Piper and Wallerawang power stations
- DEMO representative on SEMC State Training Advisory Group
- North Coast Flood Recovery Operations at Kempsey
- Presenter on Police Emergency Incident Management Course
- Liaison Officer on behalf of the SEOC at the Police Operations Centre during World Youth Day in July 2008
- Chair of the Evacuation Subject Matter Advisory Group for SEMC
- During the course of the reporting period, the DEMO attended several meetings of all LEMCs within Central West Emergency Management District

7.1.7 Future directions

Priorities for the next financial year and specific projects the DEMC intends to progress or complete:

- To see the continued development and improvement of local emergency operations centres
- To continue to monitor the impact of current water shortage issues in the Lachlan Valley

7.2 FAR WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair
(Alternates) Stephen Bradshaw
Michael Thomas
Ian Dickson

District Emergency Management Officer: Kel Wise

Members:

Organisation	Representatives
Emergency Operations Controller	Stephen Bradshaw
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Chris Patrick, Gail Wheeler
NSW Fire Brigades	Neil Harris, Dave Felton, Gary Galwey
NSW Police	Brett Smith, Michael Thomas, Ian Dickson
Rural Fire Service	Gordon Hill
State Emergency Service	Far West Region - Graeme Craig, Marc Coulter Macquarie Region - David Munk Murray Region - James McTavis, Craig McIntyre
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Greg Marwick
Communication Services	Steve Chadd
Energy and Utility Services	Water – Chris Millsteed Power – Ross Hunter Gas – Peter Rushby
Engineering Services	Greg Goodlet, Chris Evans
Environmental Services - EPA	Carmen Dwyer, Denis Harvey
Environmental Services - NPWS	Paul Seager
Health Services	Christine Druce
Transport Services	Sharlie Ovrahim
Welfare Services	Michael Framp, Ron Cotterill
Local Government	
Bogan	Keith Dawe, Jim Hampstead
Brewarrina	Peter Jennings, Glenda Tasker
Bourke	Bruce Gray, Lynette Gooch
Cobar	Brian Cohen, Louise Peebles
Central Darling	Reece Wilson, Graeme Wellings
Broken Hill and Unincorporated Area	Paul DeLisio, Sonya Stubing
Wentworth	Tony Cheng, Yvonne Ryan-Orchard
Participating organisations and observers	
NSW Western Lands	Geoff Woods
Australian Defence Force	Randall Dart
Royal Flying Doctor Service	Dr Mike Hill, Magnus Badger
Australian Rail and Track Corporation	Paul Dodd
Pacific National	Jim Hanlon
RTA	Andrew McLuckie
Mines – Perillya	Tony Edwards

7.2.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met four times during the year in August, November, February and May. Two meetings were held in Broken Hill and two in Cobar.

7.2.2 Significant activities – planning:

As a result of *Exercise TONTO* and the Exercise Debrief Report, significant planning associated with a remote area emergency response and recovery will be followed up by a Phase 2 Exercise in 2010.

In association with the Royal Flying Doctor Service, the District Emergency Management Committee has made significant efforts to investigate options for establishing and maintaining facilities for aero-medical response and evacuation, particularly in the Unincorporated Area.

The Committee has also been involved in planning and preparations for the introduction of new statewide arrangements for emergency communication systems. Efforts have been made to address concerns about network coverage, and this work will continue in the next financial year.

7.2.2.1 District planning activities:

The current Displan was approved in 2006 and will be due for review in 2011.

7.2.2.2 Local planning activities:

Local Emergency Management Committee plans reviewed or completed:

- Bourke
- Cobar
- Bogan
- Broken Hill

Emergency Risk Management studies initiated or completed:

Completed

- Brewarrina
- Bogan
- Bourke
- Wentworth
- Cobar
- Broken Hill

Initiated

- Central Darling Shire

Funding is pending for the Broken Hill Technological Disaster Emergency Risk Management Study.

A funding bid for the progression of the Unincorporated Area Natural and Technological Disaster Emergency Risk Management Study was not successful.

7.2.2.3 Mitigation Strategies completed

Local Government Authorities that have completed their Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Studies are now awaiting further direction and advice of funding arrangements in the areas of Risk Treatment Options and Mitigation Strategies.

7.2.3 Significant activities – Training:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	23
Managing an Emergency Operation	19
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	18
<i>Total</i>	<i>60</i>
<i>Spatial Information Management System (SIMS) Roll Out by Department of Lands</i>	22
<i>Site Control training with Broken Hill teams</i>	25

7.2.3.1 Tri-State Conference

The 20th Anniversary of the Tri-State Conference was held in Tibooburra on 30 July and was very successful with the collaboration of Police and Emergency Service Organisation representatives from NSW, Queensland and South Australia to discuss the unique challenges of law enforcement and emergency situations in the remote/outback areas.

A range of topics was discussed at this year's conference including presentations on Air Disaster and Coronial Investigations, Retaining personnel and Managing X, Y and Z Generations, Gladstone Explosion and emergency response, remote policing and the Churchill Foundation, Snowtown Homicide investigation. There were also presentations on the recent Victorian Bushfire event and the Cross Border Deployment.

Delegates also benefited from the opportunity of discussing cross border issues with their interstate colleagues and exchanging ideas and information on a range of operational issues.

An auction was held in aid of the Royal Flying Doctor Service. Special gifts and memorabilia were donated from all organisations and original art works from Broken Hill Artists. The auction raised \$15,200 on the night.

7.2.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.2.4.1 District level exercises

There were no district level exercises held during the 2008-2009 period.

7.2.4.2 Local level exercises

- Field Exercise “*BRAEMAR*” conducted at Bourke Airport
- Field Exercise “*Gold Fever*” conducted at Tibooburra
- Field Exercise “*Nose Dive*” Airport Exercise conducted at Brewarrina
- EOC Desktop Exercise held in Wentworth
- DoCS Welfare Response / Recovery Exercise conducted at Broken Hill

7.2.5 DEMO activity report:

The District Emergency Management Officer was involved in the following activities:

- Attended the Emergency Management Australia Institute for the Exercise Management course
- Attended the Emergency Management Australia Institute for the Facilitate Emergency Assessment and Determine Treatment Options course
- Spatial Information Management System (SIMS) roll-out with the Department of Lands
- Facilitated the Rural Service Delivery Model Project for the district
- Participated in Map Info training in Sydney
- Participating in upgrade of professional qualifications program - Advanced Diploma in Emergency Management conducted by SEMC / EMA
- Personal Development Training conducted by the SEMC

7.2.6 Future directions:

Maintaining attendance levels at District Emergency Management Committee meetings remains a challenge. Our future direction is to analyse the issues and determine strategies to generate interest and be prepared to make the necessary changes to meet the current climate.

The District's continuing goal is to support inter-agency relationships, highlighting the importance of collaboration and face-to-face meetings, to cater for effective and efficient emergency management practices and procedures in a challenging service delivery environment.

~

7.3 GEORGES RIVER DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Catherine Burn
 (Alternate) Peter McErlain
 District Emergency Management Officer: Daniele (Danny) Fraticelli

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Catherine Burn (Peter McErlain)
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Jeff Gilchrist (Paul Tonge)
NSW Fire Brigades	Terry Farley (Christopher Shapter)
NSW Police Force	Peter McErlain
Rural Fire Service	Terry Jackson (Michael Beltran, Brian Graham)
State Emergency Service	Gary Jones (Kerith Cameron)
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Kerrie O'Grady (Margaret Norris)
Engineering Services	Rod Murphy (Sam Kartambis)
Environmental Services	Not directly represented (Gregory Thomas is a non-participating nominee as per instructions from EPA)
Health Services	Ian Rewell (Phillip Sheard)
Transport Services	Emad Makram (Noel Barber)
Welfare Services	Tracey Stokoe (Lisa Charet)
Local Government	
City of Botany Bay	Steven Poulton
City of Randwick	Peter Stone (Terry Papaioannou)
St George Combined LEMC:	
City of Hurstville	Warren Birkinshaw (Michelle Whitehurst)
Kogarah Municipal Council	Frank Tambosis (Peter Karadimas)
City of Rockdale Council	Karim Elazar (Wayne Beck)
Sutherland Shire Council	Des Hewitt (Jeremy Morgan)
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Alan Hunter
ANSTO	Maria Petrou
Caltex Refineries (NSW) Pty Ltd	Simon Davies (Rod Rutledge)
Electricity - Energy Australia	Danny Hui
Gas - Agility Services	Mick Spooner (John Kinsley-Jones)
NSW Police Force (Marine Area Command)	Mark Hutchings (Glenn Finniss)
Sydney Airports Corporation Ltd	Mark Farrar
Sydney Ports Corporation	Jim Pullin (Shane Hobday)
Telecommunications - Telstra	Aaron White (Megan Quinn)
University of NSW	Dennis Cameron (Karl Natschev)
Water/Sewerage - Sydney Water	Bruce Angus (David Parsons, Alan Robinson)

7.3.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in July 2008, November 2008 and March 2009.

7.3.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.3.2.1 District planning activities

Review of the Georges River District Displan, endorsed on 1 September 2000, is progressing with the assistance of a Volunteer in Policing.

A review of the Botany Bay Port Hacking Marine Emergency (Sub) Plan, endorsed on 20 June 2002, was initiated in June 2007 and continued during the reporting period.

All of the Functional Area Supporting Plans for the District/Metropolitan Area are due for review or endorsement. The Engineering Services Functional Area submitted a District Supporting Plan for comment in April 2009.

7.3.2.2 *Local planning activities*

A review of the Randwick Displan, endorsed on 20 June 2001, was initiated by the LEMC in early 2007. The review is progressing.

The St George (Combined) Displan, last amended in May 2001 is currently under review.

The Botany Bay Displan is currently due for review, as is the Sutherland Displan.

The Botany Bay, Randwick and St George ERM projects are not due for review until 2010. The Sutherland ERM Project has been in final production since 2007.

7.3.3 *Significant activities - training*

A total of 200 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	114
Exercise Management	17
Introduction to Emergency Risk Management	3
Managing an Emergency Operation	13
Managing an Evacuation	23
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	30
<i>Total</i>	<i>200</i>

7.3.4 *Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported*

7.3.4.1 *District level exercises*

An Airport Line field exercise (*Exercise Boost II* - 26 October 2008) was conducted, which involved some limited district-level and facility resources for an incident involving a fire on-board a passenger train in the tunnel system between the International and Domestic Terminals. Key outcomes were an understanding of the interconnections between interfacing facilities and the need for private entities to interact as well as emergency services.

A Sydney Airport field exercise, *Exercise Graphite*, was held on 18 November 2008, involving a large wide-bodied airliner with loss of directional control disintegrating on landing with subsequent multiple fire and wreckage strewn over a large area. This was the largest of its type ever conducted in Australia. Key lessons learnt were that the location command elements need to be identifiable and consultation between those elements needs to occur, were practicable, before impact and/or in the very early stages following impact.

Several other smaller desktop or discussion styles exercises were given district assistance. However, these involved various district individual agencies or a small group of agencies being mainly emergency services and facility operators.

7.3.4.2 *Local level exercises*

Emergency procedures and processes were tested at a mass-casualty discussion exercise at the Westfields complex, Pagewood (14 November 2008). This exercise was well attended by several emergency services, some LEMC members and senior Westfields personnel from all parts of the East Coast.

The University of NSW (*Exercise Code Black* - 24 November 2008) saw a non-terrorist related security (shooting) scenario conducted forcing both a shelter-in-place (lock-down) and an evacuation strategy. The exercise continued onto mid and long-term recovery management issues for the University. Key learning included a requirement for increase situational awareness for University personnel and its management in addition to an update of standard operating procedures and consideration for alternate communications systems.

The St George LEMC conducted a practical Local Emergency Operations Centre (LEOC) exercise (*Exercise St George* - 23 March 2009), based on a significant weather event. Identified issues concerned the readiness state and suitability of one of the three LEOCs and the currency of the standard operating procedures, which are now being addressed.

Several other smaller desktop or discussion style exercises were given district assistance. However, these involved various local individual agencies or a small group of agencies being mainly emergency services and facility operators.

7.3.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

<i>Operation</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Involvement</i>
World Youth Day	21/07/2008	SEOC Liaison Officer
Victorian Bushfires - NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre	14-15/02/2009	SEOC Liaison Officer
Mid North Coast Flood - Coffs Harbour	01-02/04/2009	Assisted with Impact Assessment
North Coast Floods - State Emergency Operation Centre and NSW Public Information and Inquiry Centre	22-23/05/2009	SEOC Liaison Officer
H1N1 (Swine Flu) Pandemic	28/05-03/06/2009	SEOC Liaison Officer
Several other small emergencies and incidents where support was provided from district-level agencies or support was provided to other districts		

7.3.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

District Displan Review

Lucas Heights Emergency Evacuation Sub Plan Review

Botany Bay Port Hacking Marine Emergency Sub Plan Review

7.3.7 DEMO activity report

<i>Operation</i>	<i>Date(s)</i>	<i>Involvement</i>
Undertake Emergency Planning Course (EMA)	15-19/09/2008	Participant
Manage Recovery Functions and Services Course (EMA)	29/09-02/10/2008	Participant
Vietnamese Radiological Safety and Response Delegation (Sydney)	16/10/2008	Presenter
DEMO Conference	21-23/10/2008	Participant
SES Regional Rescue Competition	07/03/09	Observer
Radiological Security and Response Conference (Hanoi and Dalat, Vietnam)	16-25/04/2009	Presenter
DEMO Professional Development Workshop	19-22/05/2009	Participant

~

7.4 HUNTER CENTRAL COAST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Lee Shearer
 District Emergency Management Officer: Michael Slowgrove
 Members:

Organisation	Representatives and alternates
Emergency Operations Controller	Lee Shearer
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Peter Elliott Jeffery Hescott
NSW Fire Brigades	James Smith Gregory O'Connor Stephen McGuinness Keith King
NSW Police Force	John Gralton Charles Haggett Geoffery McKechnie Max Mitchell Des Organ Craig Rae David Swilks
Rural Fire Service	Peter McKechnie
State Emergency Service	Gregory Perry Marnie Hillman Bernard Kates
Volunteer Rescue Association	Trevor Milgate
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Bruce Reddan
Engineering Services	Roger Davison
Environmental Services	Mark Hartwell
Health Services	Chris Kewley Scott Pearce Louise Barker-Allner
Transport Services	Andrew Partyka
Welfare Services	Margaret Piper
Local Government	
Cessnock	Lewis Oldfield
Dungog	Gregory McDonald Steven Hitchens
Gosford	Robin Benson
Lake Macquarie	Keith Stevenson
Maitland	Wayne Cone Richard Minter
Muswellbrook	Chris Gidney
Newcastle	Denis Hainsworth
Port Stephens	Peter Murray
Singleton	Gary Woodman
Upper Hunter	Coleen Pinkerton
Wyang	Grant William
Participating organisations and observers	
ABC Radio	Bronween Bashford
Australian Defence Force	Martin Holmes
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Peter Callingham Greg Watson
Bureau of Meteorology	John James
Energy Australia	John Donkin Peter Yorke
Hunter Port Corporation	Ron Sorenson
Hunter Valley Mines Rescue	Seamus Devlin
Hunter Water Corporation	Colin Cribb

Organisation	Representatives and alternates
Jemena	Philipp Bourquin
Premiers and Cabinet	Ben Chard (Hunter) Leonie Baldwin (Central Coast)
RailCorp	Ron Creighton
Roads and Traffic Authority	Craig Walker
Telstra	Warren Clews Michael Bird
Westpac Helicopter Rescue	Peter Cook

7.4.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the reporting period, in the months of July, November and March.

7.4.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.4.2.1 District planning activities

The Hunter Central Coast DISPLAN was endorsed in August 2007 and will be revised following the outcome of the State DISPLAN review.

The Hunter Central Coast Engineering Service plan was reviewed and updated as a Functional Area supporting plan to the District Displan.

Ongoing discussions and planning occurred with the Department of Lands, Emergency Information Coordination Unit (EICU) regarding the rollout of the Spatial Information Management System to LEMCs and Emergency Operation Centres (EOC's).

7.4.2.2 Local planning activities

The Newcastle and Lake Macquarie LEMC Displans were reviewed and endorsed during the reporting period. The review of Local Displans continues to be a priority of Local LEMCs.

The Newcastle CBD Emergency Arrangements plan and website www.emergencynewcastle.com.au continues as a priority for the Newcastle LEMC, including the ongoing development of community education strategies.

The Warnervale Local Airport Plan review was commenced in conjunction with Wyong LEMC.

As reported in the Annual Report for 2007-2008 all Eleven (11) Local Government Areas within the District completed their respective ERM studies and these studies continue to be one of the planning priorities within the District.

The review of local flood plans in conjunction with SES and LEMCs also continue as a priority planning activity.

7.4.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 160 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	79
Emergency Management Planning	16
Exercise Management	17
Managing an Emergency Operation	15
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	33
<i>Total</i>	<i>160</i>

Additional training activities conducted in the district included the hosting of an Emergency Management Australia (EMA) and SEMC funded "Recovery Functions and Services" Course which was attended by various DEMOs, agency and functional area representatives from the Hunter Central Coast, Mid North Coast, Northern Rivers, and Peel Emergency Managements Districts.

7.4.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.4.4.1 District level exercises

During the reporting period, the District participated in the National Tsunami Exercise, *Exercise Ausnami*.

7.4.4.2 Local level exercises

During the reporting period, the following local exercises were conducted:

Exercise 123

This exercise was a facilitated discussion exercise (September 2008) conducted in conjunction with the Newcastle LEMC, Newcastle Council, community and local businesses. The aim of the exercise was to examine the effectiveness of the Newcastle CBD Emergency Arrangements Plan and related local Displan to build and promote collaborations, communication and coordination between agencies. Key issues identified from the exercise were to continue with the Community Education Awareness strategies and planning to facilitate improved response to and recovery from an emergency/incident.

Exercise ATM

This exercise was a facilitated desktop exercise conducted in February 2009 in conjunction with the Singleton LEMC. The aim of the exercise was to evaluate emergency response arrangements for a rail and major road transport incident.

The debrief report highlighted a number of recommendations which are being managed by the Local Emergency Management Committee to ensure that adequate resources and planning are in place for an emergency event of this nature.

7.4.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

The Hunter Central Coast Emergency Management District provided significant support to the Northern Rivers and Mid North Coast Emergency Management Districts during the Floods/Storms Natural Disasters of February and May 2009.

7.4.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

Strategic priorities and activities for the Hunter Central Coast during the reporting period included:

- Continuing enhancement and strengthening of strategic partnerships with key industries within the District
- Promotion of emergency management awareness with Local Councils, business communities and agencies within the District; and
- Ongoing promotion of the Newcastle CBD Emergency Arrangements Annex and “Emergency Newcastle” website with the Community, local business and council.

7.4.7 DEMO activity report

In addition to facilitating training courses and participating/facilitating in exercises mentioned above, the District Emergency Management Officer attended a range of professional development activities, including working towards completion of the Advanced Diploma Public Safety (Community Safety).

The DEMO also assisted in the facilitation of exercises conducted by Department of Community Services, Newcastle Port Corporation and the Department of Commerce as well conducting Emergency Management briefing sessions for the Department of Primary Industries Regional Management Team (Hunter/Central Coast), Central Coast Health Senior Executive Team and other agencies (Commonwealth and State) during the reporting period.

The DEMO is also a representative on the State Training Advisory Group, presented at the NSW Police Force Senior Incident Management Course and as presenter (Emergency Management) at NSW Police Force Local Area Command training forums.

7.4.8 Future directions

The District will be working towards the ongoing review of all emergency risk management projects, District and Local Displans, local emergency operations centre standing operating procedures and the enhanced use of GIS in planning and operational activities.

7.5 ILLAWARRA DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair	Bob May (until 31 December 2008)
	Mark Murdoch (from 1 January 2009)
(Alternate)	Wayne Dedden (until 31 December 2008)
	Kyle Stewart (from 1 January 2009)
District Emergency Management Officer:	Peter Conelius

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
District Emergency Operations Controller	Bob May (until 31 December 2008) Mark Murdoch (from 1 January 2009)
Local Emergency Operations Controllers	
Kiama – Shellharbour	Mick Plotecki (until 10 March 09) Micheal Willing (from 11 March 09)
Shoalhaven	Kyle Stewart (until 20 Dec 08) Bill Carter (from 21 Dec 08)
Wollongong	Wayne Dedden (until 31 Dec 08) Kyle Stewart (from 1 Jan 09)
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Mick Bray
NSW Fire Brigades	Greg O'Connor
NSW Police Force	Various
Rural Fire Service	Terry Jackson
State Emergency Service	Peter Higgins
Volunteer Rescue Association	Wayne Dreghorn
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	John O'Connor
Engineering Services	Craig Summerhayes
Environmental Services	William Dove
Health Services	Phillip Sheard Ian Rewell
Transport Services	Steve Spires
Welfare Services	Robert Cox
Local Government	
Kiama	Bryan Whittaker
Shellharbour	Arthur Webster
Shoalhaven	Bill Paterson
Wollongong	John Shepherd
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Bob Kyle
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Mark Roberts
Maritime NSW	Craig Whitmore
Port Kembla Port Corporation	Jim Robinson
Integral Energy	Greg Fitzgerald
Jemena	Hans Borek
Telstra	Brian Whittaker
Sydney Water	Tony Frigo
Roads and Traffic Authority	Wayne Wilson
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Geoff Thrower
RailCorp	John Hoyle
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Joanne Edney
ABC Radio	Peter Riley
NSW Police VKG Warilla	Bob Henderson

7.5.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in August, November and March.

7.5.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.5.2.1 District planning activities

The District Disaster Plan is to be reviewed in 2009-2010, and the committee is awaiting advice on recent amendments to State Displan and the review of the *SERM Act*.

An update of the District Engineering Plan has been drafted.

The District Transport Plan and the District Welfare Plan are due for review, with the Welfare Plan awaiting details of a new State level Plan

The SES is undertaking coastal evacuation planning for tsunami events

7.5.2.2 Local planning activities

The Emergency Risk Management Study is in its final stages for Shoalhaven, and is due for completion in July 2009.

The Emergency Risk Management Study is in its final stages for Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong, and is due for completion in December 2009.

The Kiama / Shellharbour Displan is due for review in 2010 and the Wollongong Displan is due for review in 2011.

The Shoalhaven Displan review was completed during the reporting period.

The Wollongong CBD Emergency Arrangements are due to be completed in November 2009.

7.5.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 89 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	25
Managing an Emergency Operation	20
Managing an Evacuation	17
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	27
<i>Total</i>	89

7.5.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.5.4.1 District level exercises

There were no District level exercises conducted during the reporting period.

7.5.4.2 Local level exercises

Wollongong LEMC conducted an exercise in June 2009 to test communications, set up of the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) and its facilities. Main outcomes centred around identified deficiencies in the EOC including some equipment needs, amended layout, the need to better display geographical information, parking arrangements and media facilities.

An air crash exercise was conducted at the Shoalhaven EOC on 13 August 08 in conjunction with HMAS Albatross. No major problems were experienced.

RailCorp conducted a rail corridor familiarisation exercise on Saturday, 15 November 2009 involving personnel from RailCorp, Police, NSW Fire Brigades, Rural Fire Service and State Emergency Service to familiarise agencies with access, egress points and particular issues associated with the rail corridor from Waterfall to Thirroul

7.5.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

There were no EOC activations during the reporting period.

7.5.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

A new facility was opened in Shellharbour in May 2009, containing the Rural Fire Service District Office for Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong, and a new Emergency Operations Centre.

7.5.7 DEMO activity report

During the reporting period, the DEMO:

- Assisted other Districts with training in Batemans Bay, Griffith, Young, Yass and Bourke.
- Assisted with police Incident and Emergency Management lectures and tutorials for Police students at College Goulburn in November 2008, March and June 2009.
- Assisted the Rural Fire Service with an operational exercise at Queanbeyan in October 2008.
- Assisted the Area Health Service with EMERGO training and exercise *Surfside 2008* at Milton / Ulladulla Hospital to consider the hospital's surge capacity, providing advice on the hospital disaster plan and control process and procedures.
- Assisted the Police with its LEOCON Training Working Party in November 2008.
- Assisted the Police with its pilot of the HYDRA exercise in April 2009.
- Attended Port Kembla Port Security Committee meetings.
- Attended Illawarra District Bushfire Management Committee meetings.
- Supported a Section 44 Bushfire Emergency in Shoalhaven in February 09.
- Assisted with the conduct of Spatial Information Management System training at Nowra in February 2009.
- Attended a Risk Assessment workshop for the Metropolitan Coal longwall mining proposal at Helensburgh in March 2009.
- Assisted with emergency planning and evacuation training for Scout Association personnel in June 2009, in preparation for the Australian Jamboree in January 2010.
- Participated in the SEMC review of the SERM Act in April 09.

7.5.8 Future directions

A District exercise is to be conducted in November 09.

~

7.6 MID NORTH COAST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Lee Shearer
 (Alternate) Paul Fehon
 District Emergency Management Officer: Peter Davidson
 Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Lee Shearer
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Peter Pillon
NSW Fire Brigades	Phil Treacy
NSW Police Force	Paul Fehon Mark Holahan Peter Thurtell
Rural Fire Service	Peter McKechnie Brian Daly
State Emergency Service	David Mackey Peter Floyd Greg Perry
Volunteer Rescue Association	Peter Mostyn
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	John Williams

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Engineering Services	Mick Donohoe
Environmental Services	Mark Hartwell
Health Services	Liz Clarke Christopher Kewley
Transport Services	Ross Chalmers
Welfare Services	Alan Rogers
Local Government	
Bellingen	Adam Newman
Coffs Harbour	Greg Hackfath Jason Gordon
Gloucester	Gil Gendron
Great Lakes	Andrew Blatch
Greater Taree	Greg Blaze
Kempsey	Maria Frazer Bruce Morris
Lord Howe Island Board	Barrie Rogers
Nambucca	Bruce Redman
Port Macquarie Hastings	Steve Finlay Jeffery Sharp
Participating organisations and observers	
ABC Radio Mid North Coast	Cameron Marshall
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Ian Wickham Greg Watson
Australian Defence Force	Michael Houston Alan Hunter
Country Energy	Garry Woods
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Julie Byers
Maritime NSW	Jim Green
Roads and Traffic Authority	Peter King Craig Walker
Telstra	Peter Hunt

7.6.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in August and December 2008 and late April 2009. The planned meeting for early April was postponed to late April due to a severe weather event and related operations.

7.6.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.6.2.1 District planning activities

A review of the Mid North Coast District Displan is due during 2009. However, the Mid North Coast District Emergency Management Committee has resolved to await the outcomes of the reviews of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989* and the State Displan before proceeding.

The District Engineering Services Functional Area Plan was reviewed and endorsed. The Hunter New England Area Health Service Functional Area Plan was reviewed and endorsed.

7.6.2.2 Local planning activities

All Local Emergency Management Committees within the District met regularly during the reporting period, maintaining local emergency management arrangements and liaison networks.

The Kempsey Technological Hazard Emergency Risk Management Study was completed. Emergency Risk Management Studies are still proceeding for Gloucester, Greater Taree, Great Lakes and Port Macquarie Hastings Local Government Areas.

7.6.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 37 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	25
Managing an Emergency Operation	1*
Managing an Evacuation	6*
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	5*
<i>Total</i>	<i>37</i>

* Numbers from Mid North Coast involved in Courses at Northern Rivers.

7.6.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.6.4.1 District level exercises

On 24 September 2009, Hunter New England Area Health conducted *Exercise XFG* to test surge capacity at their Public Hospitals in relation to influenza pandemic.

On 25 September 2009, a Spatial Information Management System (SIMS) Geospatial Information System refresher course was conducted by the Department of Lands Emergency Information Coordination Unit for Local Government Councils. All Local Government Councils within the Mid North Coast Emergency Management District were represented.

On 15 June 2009, the Mid North Coast District participated in *Exercise Ausnami 2009*, a Tsunami Communications Exercise testing communications and the dissemination of warning messages.

7.6.4.2 Local level exercises

On 25 August 2008, *Exercise Coming Round that Mountain*, a tabletop/discussion exercise was conducted by Gloucester LEMC, testing local response to a mass passenger rail emergency.

An Emergo Train Exercise was conducted by Hunter New England Health at Taree Hospital to test health and supporting agencies responses to a mass casualty event.

7.6.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

During the reporting period, a number of severe weather events occurred and a number of resulting SES flood/storm operations were monitored.

Local Emergency Operations Centres were established as indicated below to support SES operations and/or conduct rapid impact assessments for consideration of formal recovery operations:-

- Urunga - February severe weather event impacting Bellingen LGA
- Port Macquarie - February severe weather event impacting Nambucca, Kempsey and Port Macquarie Hastings LGAs
- Coffs Harbour - March/April severe weather event impacting Coffs Harbour and Bellingen LGAs
- Kempsey – May flood event impacting Kempsey LGA

On 1 April 2009, the Coffs Coast Recovery Committee was established, jointly chaired by Mayors of Coffs Harbour and Bellingen LGAs, to manage the recovery of affected communities from the March/April severe weather event. Recovery Centres were located at Coffs Harbour, Bellingen and Urunga to deliver recovery services to the affected communities. The scope of these centres also included Nambucca and Grafton LGAs.

On 26 May 2009, the Macleay Valley Recovery Committee was established, chaired by the Mayor of Kempsey LGA, to manage the recovery of affected communities from the May severe weather event. Particularly affected were the communities of the lower Macleay where the rural levees were overtopped. A recovery centre was located at Kempsey to deliver recovery services to the affected community.

As a result of a severe weather event impacting Lord Howe Island during April 2009, the Lord Howe Island Board requested engineering support to assess damage to the airport runway and the seawall and provide advice on some landslips. The District Engineering Services Functional Area coordinated attendance of an Airport Pavement Engineer and Structural/Geotech Engineer. A request was made for Commonwealth assistance through the SEOCON to transport heavy earth moving equipment to the island for ongoing recovery works. This request was satisfied by the State Transport and Engineering Functional Areas.

7.6.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

As encouraged by the State Emergency Service Region Controller and the Mid North Coast District Emergency Management Committee, Councils are beginning to collect and display road closure information on web sites for flood events.

A joint SES/EOC and training facility was established by Port Macquarie Hastings Council at Port Macquarie. The Coffs Harbour/Bellingen severe weather event in March/April and subsequent joint recovery operations has provided the catalyst for Bellingen and Coffs Harbour Councils to make formal approaches concerning combining for Emergency Management purposes as per section 27 of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act*.

7.6.7 DEMO activity report

The DEMO:

- Participated in LEMC meetings conducted in the District.
- Participated in World Youth Day operations as Liaison Officer to SEOC.
- Participated in a NSW Maritime Oil Spill Shoreline assessment Course held at Coffs Harbour.
- Participated in a Climate Change Workshop conducted by the Department of Environment and Climate Change.
- Participated in Region Welfare Services Functional Area Coordinating Committee Meetings.
- Supported the Coffs Bellingen LEOCON and the Nambucca Kempsey Port Hastings LEOCON during Flood Operations in February, March/April and May 2009.
- Participated in Recovery Coordinating Committee operations at Coffs Coast (Coffs Harbour and Bellingen) and Macleay (Kempsey) and subsequent recovery centre operations at Coffs Harbour, Bellingen, Urunga and Kempsey.
- Provided training support to Barrier, Northern Rivers, Peel, and Hunter Central Coast Districts.
- Assisted the State Engineering Services Functional Area Coordinator to conduct an Engineering Functional Area training exercise for District Engineering Functional Area Coordinators and Deputies from across the state.
- Completed Australian Emergency Management Institute Courses of Manage Recovery Services and Business Continuity Management.
- Attended and participated in the two conferences provided by the SEMC for DEMO professional development.

7.6.8 Future directions

Over the next financial year, the District Emergency Management Committee's priorities and specific projects will include:

- Review of the Mid North Coast District Displan and District Emergency Operation Centre Standing Operating Procedures
- Support of the SES Tsunami planning processes at Region and Local levels
- Encouraging all councils in the District to adopt web based road closure information systems for floods and other emergencies
- Continuing to encourage Local Emergency Management Committees to plan Emergency Operations Centre exercises and review Emergency Operations Centre Standing Operating Procedures
- Promoting the new State recovery arrangements and incorporating these into District and Local planning processes
- Continuing liaison with the Lord Howe Island Board concerning maintenance of LEMC meetings, emergency management arrangements, operational debriefs and related links with the mainland

~

7.7 MONARO DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Mark Murdoch
 (Alternate) Gary Merryweather
 District Emergency Management Officer: Ross Holmes
 Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Mark Murdoch
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Brian White
NSW Fire Brigades	Wayne Roberts
NSW Police Force	Peter Volf
Rural Fire Service	Ken Hall
State Emergency Service	Tony Casey
Volunteer Rescue Association	Peter Pullin
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Wendy Goodburn
Engineering Services	Ross Bailey
Environmental Services	Nigel Sargent
Health Services	Karen Lenihan
Transport Services	Alex Codina
Welfare Services	Rob Cox
Local Government	
Bega Valley	James Murray
Bombala	Grantley Ingram
Cooma-Monaro	Pat Booker
Eurobodalla	Warren Sharpe
Lake George (Queanbeyan City and Palerang Shire)	Gordon Cunningham
Snowy River	Brett Smith
Participating organisations and observers	
ACT Emergency Services Agency	Jan Dachs
Australian Defence Force	Vicki Munslow (previously Stacey Porter)
Country Energy	Julian Besestri
Jemena	Chris Lamb
Maritime NSW	Shayne Wilde
National Parks and Wildlife Service	Ian Dicker
Snowy Hydro Ltd	Ken Lister
Telstra	Morrie Butler

7.7.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in July 2008, November 2008 and March 2009.

7.7.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.7.2.1 District planning activities

The District Displan was revised in 2006. The Engineering Sub-plan has undergone review.

7.7.2.2 Local planning activities

The Cooma-Monaro, Eurobodalla and Lake George Displans have been reviewed. Other local Displans are current.

The Snowy River, Eurobodalla and Bega Valley ERM studies have been completed. Lake George and Cooma-Monaro ERM studies have been initiated.

7.7.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 29 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	19
Exercise Management	10
<i>Total</i>	29

A number of 'awareness sessions' were delivered by the DEMO during the report period to groups including local government officials, councillors, National Parks and Wildlife Service personnel and senior management teams from Police Local Area Commands.

Emergency Information Coordination Unit (Department of Lands) Spatial Information Management System training was conducted on 17 – 18 February 2008.

On the 8 – 9 April 2009, a tsunami briefing and planning workshop were conducted by the State Emergency Service in two locations within the District (Batemans Bay and Merimbula).

7.7.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.7.4.1 District level exercises

The District Marine Search and Rescue Exercise was conducted at Bermagui on 5 – 6 July 2008. Day One of the exercise involved training on the theoretical application of search theory. Day Two involved an on-water search operation, which aimed to test the uptake of the previous day's training, operational deployments and search coordination. Key lessons identified included the benefit of early intelligence confirmation and confirmed the operational capabilities of the volunteer marine rescue agencies.

On 13-16 September 2008, the District Emergency Management Officer participated in the Rural Fire Service South Region Incident Control Workshop and Exercise. He presented during the workshop on relevant emergency management arrangements and was one of the directing staff during the exercise component. The exercise was designed to test RFS operational management systems and interactions with the emergency management arrangements.

On 5 June 2009, the District Emergency Management Officer participated in an ACT discussion exercise involving a human influenza pandemic. Key lessons included the importance of consistent planning and response and the criticality of business continuity planning.

On 15 June 2009 the District Emergency Management Officer, District Emergency Operations Controller and relevant District Emergency Management Committee members participated in the national tsunami exercise, *Exercise AUSNAMI*.

7.7.4.2 Local level exercises

During the course of the reporting period, the following local level exercises were conducted:

Bega Valley – Field exercise conducted involving an air crash to test the airport emergency plan and the coordination arrangements between emergency service organisations.

Cooma-Monaro – Field exercise involving a transport accident to test emergency service organisation / rescue protocols. A group of medical students from Australian National University was also involved.

Eurobodalla - Field exercise conducted involving an air crash to test the airport emergency plan and the coordination arrangements between emergency service organisations.

Lake George – Functional exercise of local emergency operations centre with the purpose of activation and deployment.

Snowy River - Field exercise conducted involving an air crash to test the airport emergency plan and the coordination arrangements between emergency service organisations.

Snowy River – Discussion exercise conducted involving an incident in the Ski Tube terminal (underground train facility) with a purpose of testing emergency service activation procedures and business continuity issues.

Snowy River – Field exercise conducted involving a land search operation with a purpose of testing agency coordination protocols.

7.7.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

27 December 2008 – marine search operation for yacht ‘Georgia’ (Sydney – Hobart entrant) and crew. Managed by NSW Police Force Marine Area Command with support from District Emergency Management Officer.

January - February 2009 – significant wildfire activity throughout District requiring Displan activations:

- Dingo Road Fire (s.44 declared) – possible impact on Batemans Bay and communications infrastructure
- Jingera Rock Fire (s.44 declared) – possible impact upon communities
- Left Hand Creek Fire (s.44 declared) – potential to grow uncontrolled
- Belimbla Fire (s.44 declared)
- Desert Creek Fire (s.44 declared)
- Donovan Fire (s.44 declared)
- eight other ‘notifiable’ fires monitored by District
- Seventeen ‘non-notifiable’ fires reported to DEMO for information and monitoring.

17 May 2009 – search operation for missing 9-year-old female near Eden supported.

17 – 18 May 2009 – search operation for missing trail bike riders near Braidwood supported.

7.7.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

Over the period of this report, the District Emergency Management Officer continued the strong relationship with the ACT Emergency Services Agency. The DEMO holds observer positions on the ACT Emergency Committee and the ACT Joint Operations Planning Group. Additionally, the DEMO maintains a similar position on the Canberra International Airport Emergency Committee.

At its meeting on 27 November 2008, the District Emergency Management Committee voted unanimously to embrace an ICS consistent operations management system when conducting EOC activities.

7.7.7 DEMO activity report

During the course of the reporting period the DEMO attended several meetings of all LEMCs within Monaro Emergency Management District. Additionally, he had several ‘out of session’ meetings with a number of agency commanders, functional area coordinators and local government officials.

On 10 September 2008 the DEMO facilitated the multi-agency debrief following the Blue Lake cornice collapse.

On 21 October 2008, the DEMO attended the Rural Fire Service South Region Incident Controller’s pre-season briefing.

On 31 March 2009, the DEMO attended the Rural Fire Service South Region Incident Controller’s post-season briefing.

7.7.8 Future directions

Encourage and mentor LEMCs within Monaro Emergency Management District to progress with an ICS consistent operations management system when conducting EOC activities.

Encourage those LEMCs who have not completed ERM projects to do so.

~

7.8 MURRAY DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Mark Murdoch
 (Alternate) David Simmons
 Gary Commins
 District Emergency Management Officer: Kevin Gabriel

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Mark Murdoch
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Bob van Oort (Laurie Evans)
NSW Fire Brigades	Col Holmes (Gary Galwey)
NSW Police	David Simmons (Gary Commins)
Rural Fire Service	George Alexander (Gary Eason)
State Emergency Service	Peter Jhonston (Craig MacIntyre)
Volunteer Rescue Association	John Boyd (Graeme Manning)
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Eryn Knoble (Giles Butler)
Communication Services	Gary Humphrey (Grant Carroll)
Energy and Utility Services	Rayden Bender [Electricity]
	Mel Jackson [NSW for Water]
	Andrew Evans (Ian White) [Vic for Water]
Engineering Services	Fred Spain (Kevin Ellison)
Environmental Services	Frank Robinson (Rob Monteith)
Health Services	Denise Garner, Richard Scott
Transport Services	Andrew Proctor, Col Honeyman (Lionel Gillman)
Welfare Services	Ron Lawler
Local Government	
Albury City	Steve Chalmers
Balranald Shire	Roy Hetherington
Berrigan Shire	Fred Exton
Corowa Shire	Bob Parr
Conargo Shire	John Trist
Deniliquin Council	Scott Fullerton
Greater Hume Shire	Michael Oliver
Jerilderie Shire	Dennis Gelle
Murray Shire	Greg Murdoch
Tumbarumba Shire	Clive Cawthorne
Urana Shire	Leigh Ashford
Wakool Shire	Simon Pradham
Participating organisations and observers	
ABC Regional Radio	Chris Coleman, Gaye Patterson
Australian Defence Force	Major Ron Harris, Mark Heydon
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Tim Stevens
Corrective Services (Justice Health)	Glenda Fisher
DECC (NPWS)	David Lawrence
Maritime NSW	Scott Kidd
Snowy Hydro	Mark Clayton, Jim Stevenson
Victoria Dept of Human Services	Kate White
Victoria SES (Regional Officers)	Gavin Kelly, Peter Patterson
VKG4	Rick Mathers

7.8.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in July, November and March.

7.8.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.8.2.1 District planning activities

A review of the District Displan was completed and the reviewed document was approved by the DEMC and forwarded to the SEMC

The table below shows the status of District level sub or supporting plans:

PLAN	RESPONSIBILITY for coordinating development of the plan	STATUS
SUPPORTING PLANS		
Murray-Riverina Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area Supporting Plan	Dept. of Primary Industry	Approved
Greater Murray Health Services Functional Area Supporting Plan	Dept. of Health	Approved
Far West Health Services Functional Area Supporting Plan		Approved
South West Transport Services Functional Area Supporting Plan	Dept. Of Transport	Approved
West Region Recovery – Human Services Functional Area Supporting Plan	Dept. Of Community Services	Approved
Murray - Riverina Engineering Services Functional Area Supporting Plan	Dept. Of Commerce	Approved
SUB PLANS		
Murray Region Flood Sub Plan	State Emergency Service	Interim
Hume Dam, Dam Safety Emergency Plan	State Water	Under review
Yarrawonga Dam, Dam Safety Emergency Plan	Goulburn Murray Water	Approved
Torrumbarry Dam Safety Emergency Plan	Goulburn Murray Water	Approved
Mildura Weir Dam Safety Emergency Plan	Goulburn Murray Water	Approved
Murray Blue Green Algal Plan	Dept Water and Energy	Approved
Murray River Crossings Sub Plan	RTA and VICRoads	Approved
Greater Southern Area Health Service Pandemic Influenza Plan	Greater Southern Area Health Service	Interim
Greater Western Area Health Service Pandemic Influenza Plan	Greater Western Area Health Service	Interim

7.8.2.2 Local planning activities

District Cross Border Planning Activities

A review commenced in relation to the structure and content of the cross border annexure of the Murray District Displan.

A cross border Sub Plan has been developed by the RTA and VicRoads for all Murray River Crossings.

Progress has been made in relation to Cross Border Planning with the establishment of the South West NSW and Victoria Control Room Committee, which is examining communications between emergency agencies in both states.

7.8.2.3 Local planning activities

All Local Displans are in place and are being reviewed regularly. There is a general need to review the content and structure of local plans following the instigation of the Emergency Risk Management Projects.

During 2008-2009, the Tumbarumba Local Displan was reviewed. All other plans are current or are planned for review in 2009-2010.

7.8.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 121 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	42
Exercise Management	12
Implementing Emergency Risk Management	10
Managing an Evacuation	11
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	46
<i>Total</i>	<i>121</i>
<i>Also a LEMO/LEOCON Workshop was held in conjunction with Riverina District at Deniliquin</i>	<i>46</i>

7.8.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.8.4.1 District level exercises

The district was planning to hold a Pandemic Exercise in conjunction with the Greater Southern Area Health Service but this was postponed due to changes in staffing at the area health service. This exercise had been carried over from the previous year. An evacuation/recovery exercise is planned for 2009-2010.

7.8.4.2 Local level exercises

Most Local Emergency Management Committees ran exercises based on local analysis. The exercises were a combination of Field Exercises (Balranald and Jerilderie) discussion Exercises and EOC Exercises.

7.8.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

No major operations occurred in the District during 2008-2009. Many staff from the agencies in the District were involved with supporting the Victoria bushfires, especially the Beechworth Fires only 50 kilometres south of Albury.

There were no major fires in the District.

Water shortage issues remained a major concern for the district with meetings being chaired by the Department of Premier and Cabinet with input from all agencies.

The Murray DEMO is member of the Hume Region (Vic) Recovery Committee and has had some involvement during the region's bushfire recovery operations.

7.8.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

Continued support to the South West NSW and Victoria Control Room Committee.

Continued support to the Murray Riverina Recovery Human Services Committee supported by the Department of Community Services with its Functional support groups and other key agencies including Victoria representation.

7.8.7 DEMO activity report

The DEMO has been involved with Subject Matter Advisory Groups reviewing the Evacuation Management, Managing an Emergency Operation and Working in an Emergency Operations Centre Courses.

The DEMO has also been involved in the Victorian Recovery Committee and will seek to expand the cross border recovery links during the 2009-2010 financial year.

7.8.8 Future directions

During 2009-2010, the Murray District has the following objectives:

1. Continuation of the further development of Cross Border links with Victoria, especially in Recovery.
2. To maintain the currency of Local and District Plans

3. Implement treatment options identified in Emergency Risk Management Studies
4. To see the continued development and improvement of Local Emergency Operations Centres
5. The implementation of the Spatial Information Management System (SIMS) project for Local Emergency Operations Centres
6. To continue to monitor the impact of current water shortage issues in the Murray Valley.
7. To look at issues based on population movements and ageing that are having an impact on the ability to safely cover the district in an effective manner.

~

7.9 NORTHERN RIVERS DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair
(Alternate)
(Alternate)
District Emergency Management Officer:
Members:

Lee Shearer APM
Supt Michael Kenny
Supt Bruce Lyons APM
Peter Mair ESM

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Lee Shearer
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Peter Philon
NSW Fire Brigades	Chris Fabri
NSW Police Force	Michael Kenny and/or Bruce Lyons
Rural Fire Service	Bryan Daly
State Emergency Service	Dave Mackey – Clarence Nambucca Region Scott Hanckel – Richmond Tweed Region
Volunteer Rescue Association	Noel Ball
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	John Williams
Energy and Utility Services	Wayne Franklin – Rous Water Richard Wake – Country Energy
Engineering Services	Robert Siebert
Environmental Services	Jon Keats
Health Services	Liz Clarke
Transport Services	Ben Riley
Welfare Services	Mary Mackney
Local Government	
Ballina	John Truman
Byron	Angelo Casagrande (July-February) Karen Mackay (February-June)
Clarence Valley	Kieran McAndrew
Kyogle	Frank Winter
Lismore City	Scott Turner
Richmond Valley	Ken Exley
Tweed	Doreen Harwood
Participating organisations and observers	
ABC Radio	Graeme Stuart
Australian Defence Force	Martin Homes
Australian Lifeguard Service	Stephen Leahy
Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association	Peter Campton
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Julie Byers
Gold Coast City Council	Nik van't Hof
Maritime NSW	Shayne Wilde
North Coast Area Health Service – Public Health Unit	Greg Bell
Roads and Traffic Authority	Anthony Hill
Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol	Peter Stynes
Surf Life Saving NSW	Geoff Horsey
Westpac Rescue Helicopter	Lynton Begg

7.9.1 *Number of meetings held:*

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in October 2008, February and June 2009.

7.9.2 *Significant activities - Planning*

7.9.2.1 *District planning activities*

The Northern Rivers Displan was reviewed and updated by the District Emergency Management Committee. The revised Displan was approved by the Northern Rivers DEMC at its October 2007 meeting.

The District Engineering Services Supporting Plan was reviewed during the reporting period and ABC Radio North Coast updated its Emergency Broadcast Plan.

7.9.2.2 *Local planning activities*

The Byron Shire Displan, Clarence Valley Displan and Kyogle Shire Displan were approved by the relevant Local Emergency Management Committees and endorsed by the Northern Rivers District Emergency Management Committee. Local Sub-Plans and Supporting Plans approved during the reporting period included the Ballina Flood Plan, the Byron Shire Flood plan, the Lismore Airport Emergency Plan, the Tweed Shire Flood Plan and the Gold Coast/Coolangatta Airport Emergency Plan. A number of Bush Fire Management Plans were finalised and reviews of Bush Fire Operational Plans are undertaken annually.

All seven Local Emergency Management Committees in the Northern Rivers District have completed their Emergency Risk Management Studies and are now implementing a reporting structure to identify any new risks and to monitor the identified treatment measures.

7.9.3 *Significant activities - training*

A total of 167 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	73
Introduction to Emergency Risk Management	16
Implementing Emergency Risk Management	1
Managing an Emergency Operation	14
Managing an Evacuation	11
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	52
<i>Total</i>	<i>167</i>

The District Emergency Management Officer Peter Mair completed the Advanced Diploma in Public Safety (Emergency Management) through the Emergency Management Australia Institute and Karen Mackay, Byron Shire Local Emergency Management Officer was accepted into the 2008 program and is currently completing her Advanced Diploma.

A number of people from the Northern Rivers District attended courses conducted by the Emergency Management Australia Institute at Mount Macedon, Victoria and at the Managing an Recovery extension courses conducted in the Hunter Valley in February 2009.

7.9.4 *Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported*

7.9.4.1 *District level exercises*

A district level discussion exercise called *Border Ranges 2008* was conducted in Casino in November 2008 based on a rail-crossing scenario and included background presentations from the Australian Rail Track Corporation and CountryLink.

District level personnel were also involved with *Exercise Ausnami 2009*, a national exercise to test communications links and dissemination of information during a tsunami.

7.9.4.2 Local level exercises

Byron Shire conducted a Local EOC Exercise to test its Emergency Operations Centre Standing Operating Procedures. This exercise highlighted some internal communications needs and issues with the internal layout of the EOC, which are being addressed through the LEMO.

7.9.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

The Ballina LEOCON and DEMO monitored a suspected outbreak of Hendra virus in horses stabled at Ballina Racecourse in July 2008. Initial veterinary testings of a sick horse returned a possible positive reading but this was discounted by subsequent tests.

A severe summer afternoon thunderstorm impacted South East Queensland and particularly Brisbane in November 2008. The State Emergency Service deployed significant resources from the Northern Rivers District to assist Queensland.

Heavy rainfall in the Coffs Harbour area in March 2009 resulted in a Moderate Flood Warning being issued for the Orara River. Moderate to major flooding occurred in the lower Orara River area affecting communities near Grafton.

An East Coast low-pressure system caused severe weather and flooding across the Northern Rivers District during May 2009. Significant beach erosion, damage to coastal and adjacent vegetation and crops, and moderate to major flooding occurred across the entire district. Recovery Committees were established and Recovery Centres opening in Lismore and Grafton to assist the communities.

There were no Section 44 bushfire declarations made during 2008-2009. Rural Fire Service staff and volunteers from the NSW Northern Rivers participated in the NSW response to the Victorian Black Saturday bushfires.

7.9.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

The Local Emergency Management Officers continued to meet for a half day as a collegiate group in April and August. These meetings occur between the District Emergency Management Committee meetings and provide a means of information sharing and support.

7.9.7 DEMO activity report

The DEMO has been involved with the planning and delivery of emergency management training, and is a member of the Subject Matter Advisory Groups reviewing the Emergency Management Arrangements and the Operational Strand courses. The State Emergency Management Committee's Manager for Professional Development conducted a compliance check in the Northern Rivers as part of its Registered Training Organisations registration audit.

The DEMO attends many of the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting held in the seven local government areas as an observer and provides advice and a district wide perspective as required.

A meeting was held in Goondiwindi Queensland in October 2008 between representatives of the Queensland Emergency Management system, NSW border DEMOs and Supt Bruce Lyons representing the NSW LEOCONs. This meeting discussed the differences between each state's emergency management systems and established a working relationship to assist with cross-border events and operations.

The DEMO attends a number of Queensland District Disaster Management Group meetings and the Gold Coast Airport Emergency Committee meetings as an observer to further enhance cross-border contacts and planning.

7.9.8 Future directions

The introduction of strengthened recovery management arrangements in NSW will require a significant level of planning over the next twelve months and will drive a substantial rewrite of the recovery sections in District and Local Displans.

~

7.10 PEEL DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Stephen Bradshaw

District Emergency Management Officer: Tony Byrnes

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Stephen Bradshaw
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Tim Collins
NSW Fire Brigades	Phil Harlock
NSW Police Force	Clinton Pheeney Robert Barnett Greg Martin
Rural Fire Service	Bryan Daly
State Emergency Service	Kath Cain – Namoi Region Steve Martin – North West Region
Volunteer Rescue Association	Col Stewart
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Pam Welsh
Engineering Services	Jack Domis
Environmental Services	Angus Adair
Health Services	Scott Pearce
Transport Services	Mary Devine
Welfare Services	Bob Soley
Local Government	
Armidale Dumaresq/Uralla	David Steller
Glen Innes Severn	Malcolm Donnelly
Gunnedah	Wayne Kerr
Guyra	Ben Harris
Gwydir	David Coulton
Inverell	Greg Moran
Liverpool Plains	Ron Van Katwyck
Moree Plains	David Aber
Narrabri	Paul Keech
Tamworth Regional	Jason Stratford
Tenterfield	Brian Turner
Walcha	Steve McCoy
Participating organisations and observers	
ARTC	Ken Thornton
Australian Defence Force	Martin Holmes
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Maureen Chapman
Roads and Traffic Authority	Peter King

7.10.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met four times during the year, in March, June, September and December.

7.10.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.10.2.1 District planning activities

The District Displan is current and due for review no later than 2011. An audit of all district sub and supporting plans continued during the year.

7.10.2.2 Local planning activities

Emergency Risk Management Studies have been completed in Gunnedah, Gwydir, Inverell, Liverpool Plains, Moree Plains, Tamworth Regional, and Tenterfield areas. Studies have been initiated by Armidale Dumaresq/Uralla, Glen Innes Severn, Guyra, and Walcha areas.

A review has been completed in relation to the Narrabri Emergency Risk Management Study.

No new mitigation strategies have been identified. Emergency Risk management studies are reviewed as required.

7.10.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 126 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	36
Introduction to Emergency Risk Management	11
Managing an Emergency Operation	8
Managing an Emergency Operation - workshop	14
Managing an Evacuation	8
Plan and Manage Recovery Functions and Services (EMAI Extension)	5
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	44
<i>Total</i>	<i>126</i>

7.10.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

All LEMCs conducted or participated in at least one field or tabletop exercise in the report year based on identified risks.

7.10.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

Equine Influenza emergency
Swine Flu emergency - monitoring
Major storms Tamworth and Peel Valley – November 2008

7.10.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

The district has been involved in the Emergency Management for Remote Indigenous Communities pilot program at Toomelah.

7.10.7 DEMO activity report

The DEMO has been involved in the development of the Rapid/Initial Impact Assessment process.

The DEMO assisted in the establishment of storm recovery operations at Tamworth following major storms in November 2009.

The DEMO attended flood recovery operations at Grafton following major flooding in May 2009.

The DEMO participated in the Emergency Management Australia Institute extension course 'Plan and Manage Recovery Functions and Services'.

7.10.8 Future directions

Review all LEMC plans status and EOC capability.

Review local emergency planning to be based on ERM study outcomes.

~

7.11 RIVERINA DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair	Robert May (to 31 December 2008) Mark Murdoch (from 31 December 2008)
(Alternates)	Frank Goodyer Michael Rowan
District Emergency Management Officer:	Owen Plowman
Members:	

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Mark Murdoch (Robert May)
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Eamonn Purcell
NSW Fire Brigades	Gary Galwey / Col Holmes
NSW Police	Frank Goodyer / Michael Rowan
Rural Fire Service	Rob Davies
State Emergency Service	Ray Jasper
Volunteer Rescue Association	Wal Lingen
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Giles Butler
Communication Services	Gary Humphries/Grant Carroll
Engineering Services	Peter Grove/Kevin Ellison
Environmental Services	Craig Bretherton
Health Services	Karen Lenihan
Transport Services	Andrew Proctor
Welfare Services	Wayne Flett
Local Government	
Bland	Ray Gilmartin/Merv Perry
Carrathool	John Millay/Neil Headon
Coolamon	Tim Morris
Griffith	David Tull
Hay	Bill Moore
Junee	Col McCauley
Leeton	Jamie Condie
Lockhart	Ken Hogan
Murrumbidgee	Russell Boyd
Narrandera	Paul Gallagher/Kevin Smith
Temora	Fabio Giacomini
Wagga Wagga	David Walker
Participating organisations and observers	
ABC Radio	Chris Coleman
Australian Defence Force	Cameron Ellis/Anthony Mew
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Time Stevens
Department of Premier and Cabinet	Elizabeth Moon
Goldenfields Water County Council	Alan Moston
Road Traffic Authority	Col Honeyman

7.11.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in March, July and November.

7.11.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.11.2.1 District planning activities

The Riverina District DISPLAN was last amended in November 2006 and will be subject to a full review and rewrite in 2010. A public copy of the District DISPLAN has been placed on the Emergency NSW website.

Current District level sub plans:

- Bland Temora Zone Bushfire Operations Plan,
- Carrathool / Hay Bushfire Operations Plan,
- MIA Zone Bushfire Operations Plan,

- Riverina Zone Bushfire Operations Plan
- Greater Southern Area Health Services Pandemic Influenza Plan
- Bethungra Dam Safety Emergency Plan
- Murrumbidgee Division Flood Plan
- Lachlan Division Flood Plan

Current District level sub supporting plans:

- Murray/Riverina Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area Supporting Plan
- Greater Southern Area Health Services Functional Supporting Plan
- South West Transport Services Functional Supporting Plan
- Western Region Recovery Human Services Functional Area Supporting Plan
- Murray/Riverina Engineering Services Functional Area Supporting Plan

7.11.2.2 Local planning activities

All Local DISPLANs are in place and are being reviewed regularly. As a general rule across the district, Displans are reviewed annually and subject to a full rewrite every five years. Many of the district's Local Displans will be or have been subject to a full rewrite in association the finalisation of their respective Emergency Risk Management Studies.

Emergency Risk Management studies have been undertaken by all LEMCs in the district, although some are yet to be finalised.

Mitigation Strategies for all of the district's Local Government Areas were completed in the previous financial year.

7.11.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 108 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	28
Exercise Management	10
Manage an Emergency Operation	28
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	44
<i>Total</i>	<i>110</i>

Additional training activities conducted in the district included Emergency Management Arrangements briefings to:

- Department of Primary Industry Workshops at Wagga Wagga
- NSW Police Griffith Local Area Command

7.11.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.11.4.1 District level exercises

A District functional exercise, *Exercise Riverina EOC*, was conducted to provide DEMC members with an opportunity to practice decision-making skills and to use an Emergency Operation Centres to coordinate support for a simulated combat agency led operation (SES). The exercise scenario saw a severe storm impact multiple local government areas across the district; special ideas included severe impact to the built, social and economic environments including utilities infrastructure and other community lifelines. Participants fully activated the facilities of the Narrandera EOC for district use and utilised the newly standardised EOC Forms as part of the information management component of the exercise.

7.11.4.2 Local level exercises

The following local level exercises were conducted during the year:

- Griffith Airport emergency discussion exercise
- Wagga Wagga Airport emergency discussion exercise

7.11.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

The DEMC monitored the development of H1N1 Swine Influenza across the region.

7.11.6 DEMO activity report

In addition to the training courses listed above, the DEMO assisted with training and assessment in the Illawarra, Murray and Southern Highlands Emergency Management Districts.

The DEMO as a member of a Subject Matter Advisory Group has taken part in a review of Emergency Operation Centre procedures, Recovery Management and Evacuation Management.

The DEMO is a member of the South West NSW and Victoria Control Room Committee.

7.11.7 Future directions

Four key activities have been identified for the coming financial year:

- Continued support to the introduction and roll-out of the EICU Strategic Information Management System across the district;
- Conduct a district level discussion exercise focussing on the newly introduced enhanced NSW Recovery Arrangements;
- Conduct a joint Murray Riverina emergency management workshop for LEMOs and LEOCONs.
- Boost support to district LEMCs in need of extra assistance.

~

7.12 SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair
(Deputies) Mark Murdoch
Peter Gillam
Maria Rustja
District Emergency Management Officer: John Connell
Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Mark Murdoch
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Brian White
NSW Fire Brigades	Gary Picken
NSW Police Force	Peter Gillam / Shane White
Rural Fire Service	Ken Hall
State Emergency Service	Tony Casey
Volunteer Rescue Association	Debra Scanes
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Anne Muir
Engineering Services	Mike Gomola
Environmental Services	Nigel Sargent
Health Services	Karen Lenihan
Transport Services	Steve Spires
Welfare Services	Rob Cox
Local Government	
Boorowa Council	Neville Mudford
Cootamundra Council	Ken Trethewey
Goulburn-Mulwaree Council	Terry Cooper
Harden Council	Annabell Miller
Tumut Council	Bob Stewart
Upper Lachlan Council	Alan Lawrance
Weddin Council	Bill Twohill
Yass Valley Council	David Rowe

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Young Council	John Walker
Participating organisations and observers	
ACT Emergency Management	Nick Lhuede
Australian Defence Force	Mark Walton
Australian Rail Track Corporation	Geoff Thrower
Country Energy	Julian Besestri
Canberra Region Oil Industry Response Group	Brian O'Connor
CountryLink	TBA
Eraring Energy	Ian Newton
Goldenfields Water County Council	Alan Moston
Jemena	Chris Lamb
NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet	Roz Chivers
Roads and Traffic Authority	Wayne Wilson
Snowy Hydro Limited	Ken Lister
Telstra	Grant Carroll
Transgrid	Garry Smith
South West NSW and Victoria Communications Room Committee	Rick Mathers
South East NSW and ACT Communications Room Committee	Andy McCullough
Workcover NSW	TBA

7.12.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met twice during the year, in March and in September.

7.12.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.12.2.1 District planning activities

The District DISPLAN and the District Emergency Operations Centre Standing Operating Procedures were both approved in 2008 and are current until 2012. They are under continual review, however a full review will be made in 2012.

The District Agriculture and Animal Services Supporting Plan, Engineering Services Supporting Plan and Transport Services Supporting Plan are under review. The Health Services Supporting Plan has been current since 2008.

7.12.2.2 Local planning activities

The status of local DISPLANS are as follows:

LEMC	Year Displan last Approved	Year Displan due for review	Year EOC SOPs last Approved	Year EOC SOPs due for review
Boorowa	2006	2011	2009	2014
Cootamundra	2005	2010	2005	2010
Gundagai	2009	2104	2009	2014
Goulburn Mulwaree	2009	2014	2009	2014
Harden	2008	2013	2008	2013
Tumut	2005	2010	2005	2010
Upper Lachlan	2007	2012	2000	Under review
Weddin	2007	2012	2008	2013
Yass Valley	2009	2014	2009	2014
Young	2008	2012	2008	2012

Emergency Risk Management (ERM) studies initiated or completed:

<i>LEMC</i>	<i>ERM Meetings</i>	<i>ERM Status</i>
Boorowa	5	Echelon facilitating ERM process. Expect to be finalised by December 2009
Cootamundra	N/A	ERM completed by LEMC in 2007. Current until 2011
Gundagai	N/A	A full ERM review will begin in December 2009
Goulburn Mulwaree	N/A	Negotiating with adjoining LGAs regarding a joint ERM study
Harden	5	Echelon facilitating ERM process. Expect to be finalised by December 2009
Tumut	N/A	ERM Completed in 2008. Current until 2013
Upper Lachlan	N/A	A full ERM review planned to begin in December 2009
Weddin	N/A	ERM completed in 2008 as part of Centroc ERM study facilitated by Echelon
Yass Valley	5	Echelon facilitating ERM process. Expect to be finalised by December 2009
Young	5	Echelon facilitating ERM process. Expect to be finalised by December 2009

7.12.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 228 participants completed the following emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Courses held</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	4	79
LEOCON / LEMO Workshop	1	35
Spatial Information System Workshop	1	32
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	4	82
<i>Total</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>228</i>

7.12.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.12.4.1 District level exercises

A district level exercise was not conducted in 2008-2009. The DEMC is still addressing the outcomes of the two major Exercises conducted during 2007-2008 - *Exercise Southern Lights* and *Exercise Pandemonium*.

7.12.4.2 Local level exercises

Emergency Operation Centre Start-up exercises were conducted at Goulburn-Mulwaree, Boorowa and Cootamundra.

An Emergency Exercise was conducted at Young and *Exercise Snowy Lights* was conducted at Tumut.

7.12.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

There were no EOC activations in 2008-2009.

7.12.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

- The Development of a Strategic Plan for Emergency Management for all Districts in Southern NSW.
- Finalisation of all emergency risk management projects.
- A complete review of District and Local DISPLAN (subject to the outcomes of the review of NSW emergency legislation)
- Review District and local emergency operations centre standing operating procedures
- Implementing and exercising the Spatial Information System for emergency management planning and operations.
- Enhancement of strategic partnerships with key industries in the District.

- Promotion of emergency management awareness with local Councils and business communities within the District

7.12.7 DEMO activity report

In addition to day-to-day emergency management duties the DEMO undertook:

- Emergency Management briefings to many agencies and full meetings of Goulburn-Mulwaree and Tumut Councils.
- Developed and implemented an induction program for all newly appointed LEOCONs and LEMOs.
- Assisted in the rollout of the EICU Spatial Information Management System.
- Assisted with State level Swine Flu operations.
- Assisted other Emergency Management Districts with training at Wollongong, Griffith, Albury, Queanbeyan, Deniliquin and Nowra.
- Assisted with NSW Police Incident and Emergency Management lectures and tutorials for Police students at College Goulburn.
- Assisted Rural Fire Service with operational exercise at Queanbeyan October 08.
- Participated in SEMC review of SERM Act April 09.
- Participated in DECC Climate Change Seminar at Queanbeyan October 08.
- Attended LEMC and Local Rescue Committee meetings in all Local Emergency Areas at least twice.
- Member of the SEMC Subject Matter Advisory Group for Manage and Emergency Operation, Work in an Emergency Operations Centre and Evacuation Management Courses.
- Facilitated emergency debriefs.
- Successful recommendation to the SEMC for the purchase of a wireless phone system for state-wide emergency management training, exercises and operations.
- Facilitated a local RFS / emergency management exercise for Goulburn-Mulwaree.
- Represented Southern Highlands District at ACT Joint Operations Planning Group and Emergency Management Committee meetings.
- Assisted Emergency Management Australia Institute as guest speaker at Canberra.
- Provided advice and input into various Emergency Risk Management meetings facilitated by Echelon Australia.
- Facilitated the Rural Service Delivery Model Studies implementation for all local areas in the District.
- Facilitated *Exercise Snowy Lights* at Tumut in June 2009.
- Public education and awareness presentations throughout the District.
- Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Coordinators Working Group

7.12.8 Future directions

- An Emergency Management Strategic Plan will be developed for the five Emergency Management Districts in Southern NSW over the next 12-18 months.
- Emergency Management Workshops will be held to develop emergency management arrangements and operating procedures for the Engineering Functional Area and the Agriculture and Animal Health Functional Area.
- Strengthening of the alliances and working arrangements between the Australian Capital Territory and the Southern Highlands District.
- Formalisation of procedures and arrangements for working with the Media during emergencies.
- Professional development programmes for all LEOCONs and LEMOs.
- The Spatial Information Management System (SIMS) is now in place in all Local Emergency Operations Centres and on all Local Council emergency management laptops and some Functional Area Coordinator laptops as well. Officers from each local area and some Functional Area Coordinators have also received refresher training.
- Develop the strong relationship with the ACT Emergency Services Agency, the ACT Joint Operations Planning Group and the ACT Emergency Management Committees.
- Encourage the development of Business Continuity strategies and planning in Agencies, business and industry throughout the District
- To maintain the currency of Local and District Plans;
- Continued development and improvement of local emergency operations centres
- To continue to monitor the impact of current water shortage issues in the District

- To monitor and include in emergency management planning issues such as population movement, ageing, climate change and rural decline in view of their impact on the resilience, response and recovery capabilities of communities throughout the District
- The inclusion of “trigger points” for emergency management support in Sub Plans
- Implement training and strategies associated with Impact Assessments for emergency situations.
- Increasing the capability government and non-government agencies to provide trained liaison officers for emergency operations
- Workshops to develop the operational capability of Functional Areas within the District

~

7.13 SYDNEY EAST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Catherine Burn
 (Alternate) Michael Fuller
 District Emergency Management Officer: Craig Bowra
 Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Catherine Burn
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Jeff Gilchrist
NSW Fire Brigades	Tom Milburn
NSW Police Force	Michael Fuller
State Emergency Service	Gary Jones
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Philip Gibbs
Engineering Services	Alan O'Brien
Health Services	Ian Rewell
Transport Services	Greg Nott
Welfare Services	Tim Crowley
Local Government	
Council of the City of Sydney	Wayne MacKenzie
Mosman Municipal Council	Colin DeCosta
North Sydney Council	John VanHesden
Leichhardt Council	Peter Gainsford
Waverley Council	Mark Wood
Woollahra Council	Greg Stewart
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Mark Walton

7.13.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in July, November and March.

7.13.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.13.2.1 District planning activities

The review of the Sydney East Displan continued during the year.

Planning activity has been commenced in relation to the Port of Sydney. This planning activity has commenced due to the changing working nature of the Port with less commercial traffic.

7.13.2.2 Local planning activities

The Waverley / Woollahra Displan is current and due for review in 2010.

The City of Sydney Displan is currently being reviewed.

Displan reviews are currently being undertaken by the North Sydney / Mosman and Leichhardt Local Emergency Management Committees.

7.13.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 170 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	87
Exercise Management	17
Managing an Emergency Operation	12
Managing an Evacuation	28
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	26
<i>Total</i>	<i>170</i>

7.13.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.13.4.1 District level exercises

There were no District level exercises conducted during the reporting period, however, members of the DEMC participated in numerous Local level exercises and other District exercises within the Metropolitan area. Additionally, DEMC Members were involved in the Commonwealth *Exercise Ausnami*.

7.13.4.2 Local level exercises

Local level exercises were conducted by:

- Mosman / North Sydney – rail corridor familiarisation
- City of Sydney – Eastern Distributor Exercise
- City of Sydney – Cross City Tunnel Exercise

7.13.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

The Sydney East Emergency Management District members gave assistance in the following events and operations:

- World Youth Day
- Explosion and vessel fire at Rose Bay
- Unit fire in Woollahra where hazardous materials and improvised explosive devices were located.
- Operation Mumbai – Repatriation of Australian Citizens from the terrorism related incidents in India.
- Gas Explosion in Spring Street Bondi Junction
- H1N1 (Swine Flu) Pandemic

7.13.6 DEMO activity report

In addition to the above events, the DEMO participated in the following activities:

- Rapid impact assessment workshop
- Spatial Information Management System implementation across the four LEMCs
- Assisting in a number of tabletop exercises for private industry and government departments
- Attended the Victorian Bushfires in February 2009

7.13.7 Future directions

The DEMC intends to focus on training and exercising to build capability within the agencies.

~

7.14 SYDNEY MID-WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair
(Alternate) Frank Mennilli
Peter Lennon
(Jeff Loy)

District Emergency Management Officer: Stuart Fisher

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Frank Mennilli
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Jeff Gilchrist
NSW Fire Brigades	Ken Murphy (Garry McBain)
NSW Police Force	Peter Lennon (Jeff Loy)
State Emergency Service	Peter Cinque
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Peter Johnson
Engineering Services	Alan O'Brien
Environmental Services	Chris Burt
Health Services	Gaye Hudson
Transport Services	Richard Langereis
Welfare Services	Skevi Panayi
Local Government	
Ashfield	Epeli Naivalu
Auburn	George Stamatakis
Burwood	Khaled Azer
Canada Bay	John Osland (George Nassif)
Canterbury	Bob Bullivant
Marrickville	Walter Petschler
Strathfield	Rob Bourke
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Charles Casuscelli (Martin Holmes)
Sydney Olympic Park Authority	David Young

7.14.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year, in October 08, February 09 and June 09.

7.14.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.14.2.1 District planning activities

The District Displan was reviewed and updated in 2008 with the next review due late 2009 or early 2010

The District Emergency Management Committee initiated in early 2009 a Sub Committee to assist the Sydney Olympic Park Authority develop and implement an Emergency Management Plan for the precinct. Over the next six to twelve months there will be extensive consultation with stakeholders and emergency services to draft the basic plan. The idea is to eventually give ownership of the plan to not only the Sydney Olympic Park Authority but the whole of the Sydney Olympic Park community. It will assist them in their own resilience and more importantly aid in their own recovery in the event of a significant emergency.

7.14.2.2 Local planning activities

The Canterbury LEMC completed its ERM study and updated its Displan in 2009.

The Marrickville LEMC completed its ERM study and updated its Displan in 2009.

The Inner West LEMC is currently finalising its ERM study and updating its Displan.

Auburn LEMC began its ERM study, however, there have been some delays due to staff changes and the Displan is due to be reviewed in 2009-2010.

7.14.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 258 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	157
Exercise Management	13
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	88
<i>Total</i>	258

7.14.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.14.4.1 District level exercises

In September 2009 the district held *Exercise PUCK* at Sydney Olympic Park. This was a multi-agency exercise based around a bus and car accident with multiple casualties. The NSW Fire Brigades, Ambulance Service NSW, State Emergency Service, NSW Police Force, NSW Health, Salvation Army and Sydney Olympic Park Authority participated. The Royal Australian Navy and student nurses played the roles of casualties, with more than 180 participants and exercise staff involved in the exercise.

7.14.4.2 Local level exercises

Inner West and Marrickville LEMC members, as well as emergency services and functional areas, toured Sydney Airport to gain an overview of emergency management plans for on and off airport accidents.

In conjunction with the Department of Lands, the district held a two-day training course and exercise on the new Emergency Management Geographic Information System.

7.14.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

During the reporting period, the district provided support to the World Youth Day, Mumbai Repatriation and Victorian bushfire operations.

The district also supported the H1N1 Pandemic operation by providing support to the State Emergency Operations Centre and participating in twice-weekly teleconferences with Sydney South West Area Health Service during June 2009.

Significant local operations during the reporting period include several unit block fires in which the entire building's residents (up to 100 in each) had to be evacuated and temporary accommodation or housing found. There have been several other large fires and incidents in which the emergency services called on the DEMO for assistance.

7.14.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities, activities or issues for the Emergency Management District include:

- Continued participation in the Department of Lands Spatial Information Management System roll out within the district and local Emergency Operation Centres.
- Enhancement of strategic partnerships with key stakeholder within the district.
- Promotion of emergency management issues and awareness with local governments and business within the district.
- Assisting the Sydney Olympic Park Authority to develop its emergency management plan, with the aim of ensuring the safety of the public during emergencies as well as the authority's resilience and ability to manage its own recovery.

7.14.7 DEMO activity report

In addition to the training described above, the DEMO attended Emergency Management Australia Institute, Mt Macedon, Victoria and the NSW Police Force Academy as a visiting lecturer in emergency management.

During the reporting period, the DEMO:

- Assisted Sydney South West, Georges River, Hunter and Sydney East DEMOs in emergency management training throughout the year
- Gained both certificate IV in training and Assessment with NSW TAFE as well as the Advanced Diploma in Public Safety (Emergency Management) in 2008
- Participated in emergency management working groups for both the World Masters Games to be held in October 2009 and the Sydney 500 motor race to be held in December 2009.
- Participated in the major Sydney Airport exercise as well as field and desktop components of the counter terrorist exercise *Sudden Impact*.
- Participated in the review of the *State Emergency and Rescue Management Act*.
- Attended local and district emergency committee meetings, Department of Community Services disaster meetings, NSW Health area disaster committee meetings, incident debriefs, various major event meetings including the Royal Easter Show, the Big Day Out, the Sydney 500 motor race, the World Masters Games and the DEMO conference.
- Oversaw the Sydney South West Emergency Management District for a period of six months while the substantive DEMO was on leave. This also included attending meetings with that district and the training of an acting DEMO for the last three months of that six-month period.

7.14.8 Future directions

Priorities and specific projects for the forthcoming financial year include:

- Supporting the continued roll out, testing and training within the district of the Strategic Information Management System.
- Continuing work with the Sydney Olympic Park Authority to complete its emergency management plan.
- Continued assistance to local LEMCs who need to complete their Emergency Risk Management study and Displan update.
- Commencement of preparations for the district's major exercise for late 2010.
- Continue work with the Homebush Racing Authority to develop an appropriate emergency management plan and to review and enhance the plan for the 2010 race meeting.
- Discussion and delivery of an exercise that focuses on the district's approach to dealing with an off airport aviation emergency.

~

7.15 SYDNEY NORTH DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Assistant Commissioner Denis Clifford

District Emergency Management Officer: Kevin Blackwell

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Denis Clifford
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Tony Gately
NSW Fire Brigades	Tom Milburn / Tom Cooper
NSW Police	Michael Taylor / Shane White
Rural Fire Service	Mick Beltran
State Emergency Service	Bernard Kates / Mark Darling
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Glenn Douglas
Engineering Services	Alan O'Brien
Environmental Services	Chris McIntosh
Health Services	Louise Barker-Allner
Transport Services	Glen Sheedy
Welfare Services	Bronwen Young
Local Government	
Hornsby/Ku-Ring-Gai	Peter Powell / Ian Taylor
Manly/Warringah/Pittwater	Ted Williams / Ross Picard / Peter Davies
Ryde/Hunters Hill	Martin Sydlowski / David Innes
Willoughby/Lane Cove	Paul Collings / Martin Terescenko
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Michael Houston / Alan Hunter
Energy Australia	Alan Burgess
Environment and Conservation	Chris McIntosh
Integral Energy	Graeme Browne / Mark Bland
Jemena Gas	John Kingsley-Jones
JEMP NSW	Yair Miller
Maritime NSW	Stephen Black
Shell Refining Australia	Brian Mathias / Cliff Bell
Sydney Ports Corporation	Jim Pullin
Sydney Water	David Parsons
Telstra	Garry Hasling

7.15.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met three times during the year in October 2008 and February and June 2009.

7.15.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.15.2.1 District planning activities

The Sydney North District DISPLAN was reviewed in 2006 and is due for a formal review no later than 2011.

7.15.2.2 Local planning activities

DISPLANs for all Local Government areas, with the exception of Willoughby / Lane Cove and Hornsby / Ku-ring-gai were undertaken in 2006. DISPLANs for Willoughby / Lane Cove and Hornsby / Ku-ring-gai DISPLAN were reviewed in 2009.

Emergency Risk Management studies for all Local Government Areas have been conducted by the relevant Local Emergency Management Committees.

7.15.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 270 participants participated in emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	156
Emergency Management Planning	21
Managing an Emergency Operation	39
Managing an Evacuation	15
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	39
Total	270

7.15.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.15.4.1 District level exercises

A District level exercise was not conducted during the year. The next District level exercise is scheduled for June 2010.

7.15.4.2 Local level exercises

The DEMO supported tabletop exercises for Shell (Gore Bay), the Epping to Chatswood Rail Link and M2 Motorway. Support was also provided to multi-agency exercises for Hornsby/Ku-ring-gai, Willoughby/Lane Cove, Ryde/Hunters Hill and Manly/Warringah/Pittwater Local Emergency Management Committees. Also supported was a Tactical Exercise Without Troops (TEWT) exercise at Royal North Shore Hospital.

The DEMO also participated in field exercises for Shell (Gore Bay) and the Epping to Chatswood Rail Link and *Exercise Puck* at Sydney Olympic Park.

7.15.5 DEMO activity report

In addition to the training listed above, the DEMO organised and facilitated Liaison Officer Workshops for Shell (Clyde and Gore Bay) and Jemena (gas and electricity service provider), and assisted NSW Health with the conduct of training days for nursing homes and private hospitals.

In March 2009, the DEMO also assisted in the creation and delivery of an Incident Site Controller's course for the staff at RAAF Richmond and police from Hawkesbury and Penrith Local Area commands. The culmination of this course was a crash exercise conducted at RAAF Richmond.

7.15.6 Future directions

A District level exercise is to be conducted in 2009-2010.

The DEMC will monitor the ongoing planning for the F3 Freeway contra-flow and welfare arrangements for motorists on the F3 Freeway.

The DEMC is liaising with some LEMCs on their CBD Emergency Plans and Transport Diversion Management Plans.

~

7.16 SYDNEY SOUTH WEST DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Carmine Mennilli
 (Alternate) Stuart Smith
 District Emergency Management Officer: Graham Tomkinson
 Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Carmine Mennilli
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Ken Wheeler
NSW Fire Brigades	Tom Milburn Terry Farley
NSW Police Force	Stuart Smith
Rural Fire Service	Michael Beltram
State Emergency Service	Gary Jones
Volunteer Rescue Association	Gary Raymond Cath Draheim
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Anne Oakenful
Communication Services	Megan Quinn
Energy and Utility Services	
Engineering Services	Matthew O'Grady
Environmental Services	Chris Burt
Health Services	Greg Stuart Gaye Hudson
Transport Services	Emad Makram
Welfare Services	Tracey Stokoe Angelo Tsangarides
Local Government	
Bankstown	Rowan Morrison
Camden	Ian Gannell
Campbelltown	John Hely
Fairfield	Deborah Sandars
Liverpool	David Tuxford
Wingecarribee	Peter Bowmer
Wollondilly	Charles Dunlop Brian Statham
Participating organisations and observers	
Sydney Metropolitan Airports	Mario Bayndrian

7.16.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met four times during the year, in February, June, August and November.

7.16.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.16.2.1 District planning activities

While the District Displan remains current until 2010, it has been constantly reviewed to maintain relevance. Work will soon start to totally review the plan so that its currency can be met by 2010. This review will consider the outcomes of the local Emergency Risk Management process, as well as changes within the District, to legislation and to the State Displan.

The Engineering Services Sub-plan is also currently being reviewed.

7.16.2.2 Local planning activities

All LEMC Displans have been reviewed and the Local Emergency Risk Management studies are ongoing, with five reports completed and two being well progressed.

7.16.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 142 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	92
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	50
<i>Total</i>	<i>142</i>

In addition to these numbers, several familiarisation courses have been conducted to meet specific needs. These sessions have not been formally accredited but included Police Incident and Emergency Management Courses, SES Induction Courses, Health Disaster Counselling Courses, Health Care Facilities Emergency Arrangements briefings, involvement in Major Incident Medical Management System (MIMMS) training for Health professionals, Emergency Management Arrangements briefing and Evacuation Considerations and Arrangements Workshop for Scout Leaders in preparation for the 2010 Scout Jamboree.

7.16.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.16.4.1 District level exercises

An Emergotrain exercise was conducted at Bankstown Hospital where an external emergency scenario was used to test the internal response procedures to handle a mass casualty situation.

Exercise Rainbow was conducted by Sydney Water to test the response to a widespread water failure. This exercise was specifically aimed to test Sydney Water's response to the event but interacted with several other agencies and organisations coordinated through the emergency management structure.

The Department of Defence conducted an exercise at Luscombe Airfield, Holsworthy involving the response of NSW State agencies to the crash of a Blackhawk helicopter. This exercise highlighted the need for close liaison between State agencies and Department of Defence, as well as the need for the State agencies to be familiar with the Holsworthy Army base

The District provided support to a major exercise at Sydney Airport.

A Rail Familiarisation Exercise for Emergency Services was held at Liverpool. This exercise provided the opportunity to introduce emergency services organisations to the procedures to be followed when entering and working in the rail corridor and the methods to be able to work in and around the typical rail rolling stock encountered in the metropolitan area.

The District also provided support to *Exercise Sudden Impact*, a National Counter Terrorism exercise conducted at Holsworthy Army Base.

7.16.4.2 Local level exercises

Exercises were conducted at Bankstown, Camden, Liverpool, Wingecarribee and Wollondilly to test the establishment and staffing of Emergency Operation Centres.

Separate exercises were conducted at Camden and Bankstown Airports to test airport emergency plans and Standard Operating Procedures.

Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre, at Campbelltown, conducted an evacuation exercise, which was monitored by the District.

7.16.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

The following activities were either conducted or supported by the District:

- Aircraft crashes at Casula, Luddenham, Bankstown and The Oaks.
- Gas leaks at Camden, Chullora and Summer Hill.
- Evacuation of Rydges Motel, Bass Hill and Bankstown Sports Club/Travelodge Motel.
- Several Bush fires.
- Several storm events.

- Several searches.
- Scaffold Collapse at Bankstown.
- World Youth Day.

7.16.6 DEMO activity report

The DEMO was absent from the District for about six months due to a medical issue. During some of this time, the District was overseen by another DEMO on a caretaker basis and then a person was appointed to act in the position for about three months. During this time, the District maintained progress with current projects but no new initiatives were introduced.

7.16.7 Future directions

In preparation for the review of the State Displan, the District is currently working with Local Committees to bring their respective arrangements up to date so that any variations to be incorporated into the State Displan, particularly in the area of Recovery, can be reflected at District and Local levels within a short timeframe.

Other activities are also in place to try to move the District from 'Reliance to Resilience'.

~

7.17 WESTERN SLOPES DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair:
(Alternate)

Stephen Bradshaw
Stan SINGLE (Dubbo)
Michael CLEARY (Mudgee)
David NOBLE (Walgett)

District Emergency Management Officer:

Stuart Davies

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Service Organisations	
NSW Police Force	Brett Smith
NSW Fire Brigades	Neil Harris
Ambulance	John Stonestreet
State Emergency Service	David Monk
Rural Fire Service	Gordon Hill
Volunteer Rescue Association	Graham Milgate
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services:	Greg Markwick (DPI)
Communication Services:	Mark Rich (Telstra)
Engineering Services:	Chris Evans (Commerce)
Environmental Services:	Carmen Dwyer (DECC)
Health Services:	Chris Druce (GWAHS – Health)
Transport Services:	Sharlie Ovraham (Ministry of Transport)
Welfare Services:	Mark Shervashidze (DOCS)
Local Government	
Coonamble	Don Gamage
Dubbo City	Stewart McLeod
Gilgandra	Myles Humphries
Mid Western Regional	Andrew Drummond
Narromine	Paul Gallagher
Warren	Ashley Wielinga
Warrumbungles	Bob Geraghty
Walgett	Ian Taylor
Wellington	Bryson Rees
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Red Cross	Stephen Cashel
St John Ambulance Australia (NSW)	Geoff Kiehne
Australian Rail and Track Corporation	Paul Dodd

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Defence	Martin Holmes (JOSS – NSW)
Jemena Gas Networks (natural gas)	Jeffrey Hollis
Country Energy	Peter Halliwell
Royal Flying Doctor Service	Roger Petheram
Roads and Traffic Authority	Paul Maloney

7.17.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met four times during the year, in March, June, September and December.

7.17.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.17.2.1 District planning activities

The District Displan is currently under review and rewrite. This process will address Local Emergency Risk Management Project outcomes and operational issues associated with diminishing resource bases in the majority of the local areas.

The District Engineering Functional Area Supporting Plan was endorsed by the DEMC on 5 March 2009. All relevant plans are in place and being maintained.

7.17.2.2 Local planning activities

All nine LEMCs are meeting regularly.

All Local DISPLANs are in place. All Plans are currently under review and being evaluated on relevant Emergency Risk Management (ERM) Project outcomes. Walgett, Coonamble, Warren and Gilgandra plans are currently being rewritten.

Eight LEMCs have completed their Emergency Risk Management studies. The Walgett project is nearing completion.

All LEMCs or LGAs have completed their Mitigation Strategy reports. These are being reviewed and maintained in association with Emergency Risk Management Project outcomes.

Wellington Council have finalised its “Rural Addressing” book for emergency service agencies. This is a worthwhile project being recommended to all other Local Government Areas in the District.

State Emergency Service Local Flood Plans have been completed at Gilgandra and Wellington.

7.17.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 56 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	44
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	12
<i>Total</i>	<i>56</i>

7.17.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.17.4.1 District level exercises

The DEMC and Dubbo LEMC sponsored a large-scale rail crossing / rail-yard rescue exercise called *Exercise SODOR* on 16 June 2009 at Dubbo Rail yard complex. The exercise involved a field medical team being deployed from Dubbo Base Hospital and cooperation from a local freight company. The exercise involved engagement of private company procedures; security protocols; site control; mass casualty / medical treatment and rescue operations evaluation of procedures.

7.17.5 Significant activities – operations conducted or supported

The RFS deployed about 500 fire fighters from across RFS Region West to the Victorian Bushfire event. The VRA deployed members from the District to the Victorian Bushfire Event and they were engaged in fence restoration work.

The Engineering Functional Area Coordinator based at Dubbo was requested by SES to provide support (resource acquisition) to the Bourke storm event (this event was declared a Natural Disaster).

In response to the Swine Influenza event, meetings and planning activities involving the Greater Western Area Health Service, the NSW Police Force and other DEMC members were held to prepare outbreak strategies for the District.

7.17.6 Strategic achievements, initiatives, priorities/activities or issues

Work is nearing completion on the District Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC) located at Dubbo Showground Exhibition Centre. Work is undertaken in association with Dubbo City Council using funds obtained from an EMA - Commonwealth Government grant (grant total \$79,776).

The DEMC supported a proposal put forward by the Greater Western Area Health Service that the LEMC assist private Health Service Facility owners (aged care; hostels; childcare; nursing homes) in their emergency planning.

Health is currently reviewing all private and community owned facility plans, as part of their licence requirements to ensure that plans are realistic. Health is encouraging facility owners to concentrate on “Business Continuity” practices.

The Department of Lands conducted a Spatial Information Management System workshop at Dubbo on 11-12 June 2009, which was attended by 24 people.

7.17.7 DEMO activity report

The DEMO:

- Is a member of the Greater Western Area Health Service, Disaster Management Committee.
- Is the Executive Officer to the NSW Police Force / DEOCON sponsored “Emergency Services Volunteers – Recruitment and Retention” working group.
- Is providing support and acting in the role of Facilitator to LEMCs undergoing “Executive Reviews of ERM Project Reports”. This process will provide LEMCs a foundation for setting a strategic direction for LEMC activities with identified risks and risk treatment actions.
- Is providing increasing levels of assistance to Local Councils to review and rewrite local Displans.
- Is working on completion of the ERM Project for Central Darling Shire LEMC (Far West District). This project is being facilitated by the DEMO, on request of the SEMC. Work is being undertaken to provide opportunity for an ERM project ‘Pilot Study’ undertaken by a DEMO to be evaluated against consultant prepared project reports.
- Was deployed to Lismore to assist with the Far North Coast Flood Recovery operations.
- Has been elected as a member of the SEMC – Training and Advisory Group (TAG).
- Worked in the Police Operations Centre during the World Youth Day event.

The “Rural Service Delivery Model” projects, a risk management project on rescue services within all LGA areas, was completed for the State Rescue Board.

An annual liaison meeting was conducted with Emergency Management Queensland staff, where cross border emergency and rescue management planning issues were discussed.

7.17.8 Future directions

The District will place emphasis on Local EOC exercises, EOC capability, Bushfire Awareness, Emergency Management training, the completion of post ERM Local DISPLANS and rewrite of District Displan.

~

7.18 WESTERN SYDNEY DISTRICT EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Chair Denis Clifford

District Emergency Management Officer: Daniel Kenner

Members:

Organisation	Representatives (and alternates)
Emergency Operations Controller	Denis Clifford
Emergency Service Organisations	
Ambulance Service of NSW	Tony Gately /Ken Wheeler
NSW Fire Brigades	Michael Guymmer/Tom Milburn
NSW Police Force	Anthony McWhirter
Rural Fire Service	Mick Beltran
State Emergency Service	Greg Murphy
Volunteer Rescue Association	Cath Draheim
Functional Areas	
Agriculture and Animal Services	Andrew Docking
Engineering Services	Matthew O'Grady/Rodney Murphy
Environmental Services	Christopher Burt
Health Services	Sue Whitby
Transport Services	David Finlay
Welfare Services	Jane Cleur
Local Government	
Blacktown	Joe Buttita
Blue Mountains	Alan Holley
Hawkesbury	Chris Daley
Holroyd	Stan Antczak
Parramatta	Phil Littlewood
Penrith	Barry Ryan
The Hills	Ray Fabris/Ken Willimot
Participating organisations and observers	
Australian Defence Force	Mark Walton
Integral Energy	Graeme Browne
Jemena	Michael Houterman/David Seinor
RailCorp	Ron Creighton/Bernard Hudson
Shell Australia	Brian Mathias
Telstra	Colin Chong

7.18.1 Number of meetings held:

The District Emergency Management Committee met four times during the year, in September and December 2008, March and June 2009.

7.18.2 Significant activities - Planning

7.18.2.1 District planning activities

The Western Sydney District Displan was reviewed during 2006 and is due for a formal review no later than 2011.

The Western Sydney Area Health Service Supporting Plan (Area HealthPlan) was approved and endorsed in July 2008.

The Sydney South West, Western Sydney and Georges River District Engineering Supporting Plan was submitted for approval/endorsement in May 2009.

7.18.2.2 Local planning activities

Parramatta Local Displan is being reviewed to incorporate the Parramatta CBD Evacuation plans.

Blacktown Local Displan was reviewed during early 2008.

Emergency Risk Management studies for all Local Government Areas were conducted by the relevant Local Emergency Management Committee.

No new Mitigation Strategies have been completed during the reporting period

7.18.3 Significant activities - training

A total of 232 participants completed emergency management training in the district during the year:

<i>Course name</i>	<i>Participants</i>
Emergency Management Arrangements	86
Exercise Management	18
Managing an Emergency Operation	57
Managing an Evacuation	14
Working in an Emergency Operations Centre	57
<i>Total</i>	<i>232</i>

7.18.4 Significant activities – exercises conducted or supported

7.18.4.1 District level exercises

There were no District Level exercises conducted or supported during the reporting period. There is a District Level exercise planned for July 2009 to test the newly established District Emergency Operations Centre.

7.18.4.2 Local level exercises

The DEMO supported/facilitated the following exercises, which involved emergency services and some functional areas:

- Tabletop exercises for Holroyd LEMC (*Exercise Sun Glare*), Blacktown Railway Station, Blacktown WestPoint Shopping Centre and the Hills LEMC
- Functional exercises for Penrith LEMC (*Exercise Connerie 1 and 2*), Parramatta LEMC (*Exercise Bindy 1*), EmergoTrain Exercise at Westmead Hospital (*Exercise Catex*)
- Field exercises for RAAF Richmond, Blacktown Railway Station and Shell Refinery Clyde

7.18.5 DEMO activity report

In addition to the above training and exercises, the DEMO organised and facilitated liaison officer training for Shell (Clyde and Gore Bay), Jemena (gas and electricity service provider) and Sydney West Area Health Senior Executives, Nursing Home managers and Public Health.

The DEMO organised and facilitated training days for Police Local Area Commands (St Marys, Penrith and Rosehill), Penrith Police Radio Supervisors and Senior Communications Officers and Department of Primary Industries.

The DEMO also assisted in the creation and delivery of an Incident Site Control course for the staff of RAAF Richmond and NSW Police from Hawkesbury and Penrith Local Area Commands.

The DEMO facilitated or participated in exercises at Shell (Gore Bay), Epping to Chatswood Rail Link, Sydney Kingsford Smith Airport (*Exercise Graphite*), Willoughby/Lane Cove LEMC and *Exercise Ausnami*.

7.18.6 Future directions

A District level exercise is to be conducted.

The DEMC will monitor the completion of the Parramatta CBD Evacuation planning and Local Displan as well as resulting Transport Management plans.

The DEMC will further the engagement of the major hazard facilities and critical infrastructure within the District in emergency management planning.

~

ANNEX A – SEMC MEMBERS

The SEMC met three times during the reporting period on 11 September 2008, 4 December 2008 and 5 March 2009. A meeting scheduled for 4 June 2009 was postponed due to the majority of members and the secretariat being required to assist with the North Coast Floods.

<i>Member</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>P¹</i>	<i>A</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>U</i>
Commissioner Greg Mullins AFSM	Acting Chair	3	3		
Deputy Commissioner Dave Owens APM	SEOCON	3	2	1	
Mr Mike Willis ASM	Ambulance Service of NSW	3	2	1	
Commissioner Greg Mullins AFSM	NSW Fire Brigades	3	3		
Assistant Commissioner Catherine Burn APM	NSW Police (and D/SEOCON)	3	3		
Commissioner Shane Fitzsimmons AFSM	NSW Rural Fire Service	3	3		
Brigadier Philip McNamara CSC	NSW State Emergency Service	1	1		
Commissioner Murray Kear AFSM	NSW State Emergency Service	2	2		
Mr Gary Raymond APM OAM	Volunteer Rescue Association	3	3		
Ms Renata Brooks	Agriculture and Animal Services	2	0	2	
Dr Nick Austin	Agriculture and Animal Services	1	0	1	
Mr Tony Gates ESM	Communication Services	3	1	1	1
Mr Ralph Grimes	Energy and Utility Services	3	3		
Mr David Wilkins	Engineering Services	3	1	2	
Mr Joe Woodward	Environmental Services	3	2	1	
Mr Greg Rochford PSM	Health Services	3	0	3	
Senior Sergeant Kevin Daley	Public Information Services	3	3		
Mr Greg Nott	Transport Services	3	0	3	
Ms Wendy Graham	Welfare Services	3	2	1	
Mr Paul Clark PSM	Department of Premier and Cabinet	2	2		
Ms Veronica Lee	Department of Premier and Cabinet	1	1		
Mr Michael Fleming	Department of Local Government	3	2		1
Mr Phil Blunden	Treasury	2	2		
Mr Bill Monks	Treasury	1	1		
Dr Derek Mullins	Department of Planning	3	0	3	
Mr Tony Middleton	NSW Maritime	2	0	2	
Mr Shayne Wilde	NSW Maritime	1	1		

¹ P = possible, A = attended, R = apology represented, U = apology unrepresented

ANNEX B – EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

The Emergency Management Districts, as proclaimed in the NSW Government Gazette No. 36, 2 March 2007, are described below.

Central West Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Bathurst Regional Council, Blayney Council, Cabonne Council, Cowra Council, Forbes Council, City of Lithgow Council, Lachlan Council, Oberon Council, Orange City Council and Parkes Council.

Far West Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Bogan Council, Bourke Council, Brewarrina Council, Broken Hill City Council, Central Darling Council, Cobar Council, Wentworth Shire and the Unincorporated Area of NSW.

Georges River Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Council of the City of Botany Bay, Hurstville City Council, Kogarah Municipal Council, Randwick City Council, Rockdale City Council, Sutherland Council and the waters of Botany Bay and Port Hacking.

Hunter-Central Coast Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Cessnock City Council, Dungog Council, Gosford City Council, Lake Macquarie City Council, Maitland City Council, Muswellbrook Council, Newcastle City Council, Port Stephens Council, Singleton Council, Upper Hunter Council, Wyong Council and the waters of Brisbane Water, Port Stephens, and Port Hunter.

Illawarra Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Council of the Municipality of Kiama, Shellharbour City Council, Shoalhaven City Council, Wollongong City Council and the waters of Jervis Bay.

Mid North Coast Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Bellingen Council, Coffs Harbour City Council, Gloucester Council, Greater Taree City Council, Great Lakes Council, Hastings Council, Kempsey Council, Nambucca Council and Lord Howe Island.

Monaro Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Bega Valley Council, Bombala Council, Cooma-Monaro Council, Eurobodalla Council, Palerang Council, Queanbeyan City Council and Snowy River Council.

Murray Emergency Management District comprises the areas of City of Albury Council, Balranald Council, Berrigan Council, Conargo Council, Corowa Council, Deniliquin Council, Greater Hume Council, Jerilderie Council, Murray Council, Tumbarumba Council, Urana Council, and Council of the Shire of Wakool.

Northern Rivers Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Ballina Council, Byron Council, Clarence Valley Council, Kyogle Council, Lismore City Council, Richmond Valley Council and Tweed Council.

Peel Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Armidale Dumaresq Council, Glen Innes Severn Council, Gunnedah Council, Guyra Council, Gwydir Council, Inverell Council, Liverpool Plains Council, Moree Plains Council, Narrabri Council, Tamworth Regional Council, Tenterfield Council, Uralla Council and Walcha Council.

Riverina Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Bland Council, Carrathool Council, Coolamon Council, Griffith City Council, Hay Council, Junee Council, Leeton Council, Lockhart Council, Murrumbidgee Council, Narrandera Council, Temora Council and Wagga Wagga City Council.

Southern Highlands Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Boorowa Council, Cootamundra Council, Goulburn Mulwaree Council, Gundagai Council, Harden Council, Tumut Council, Upper Lachlan Council, Weddin Council, Yass Valley Council and Young Council.

Sydney East Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Council of the City of Sydney, Leichhardt Municipal Council, Mosman Municipal Council, North Sydney Council, Waverley Council, Woollahra Municipal Council and the waters of Port Jackson and Parramatta River up to the Parramatta Weir.

Sydney Mid West Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Auburn Council, Council of the Municipality of Ashfield, Burwood Council, Canterbury City Council, City of Canada Bay Council, Marrickville Council and Strathfield Municipal Council.

Sydney North Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Council of the Shire of Hornsby, Council of the Municipality of Hunters Hill, Ku-ring-gai Council, Lane Cove Municipal Council, Manly Council, Pittwater Council, Ryde City Council, Warringah Council, Willoughby City Council, and the waters of Broken Bay, Pittwater, and the Hawkesbury River upstream to Wisemans Vehicle Ferry.

Sydney South West Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Bankstown City Council, Camden Council, Campbelltown City Council, Fairfield City Council, Liverpool City Council, Wingecarribee Council and Wollondilly Council.

Western Slopes Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Coonamble Council, Dubbo City Council, Gilgandra Council, Mid Western Regional Council, Narromine Council, Walgett Council, Warren Council, Warrumbungle Council and Wellington Council.

Western Sydney Emergency Management District comprises the areas of Council of the Shire of Baulkham Hills, Blacktown City Council, Blue Mountains City Council, Hawkesbury City Council, Holroyd City Council, Parramatta City Council and Penrith City Council.