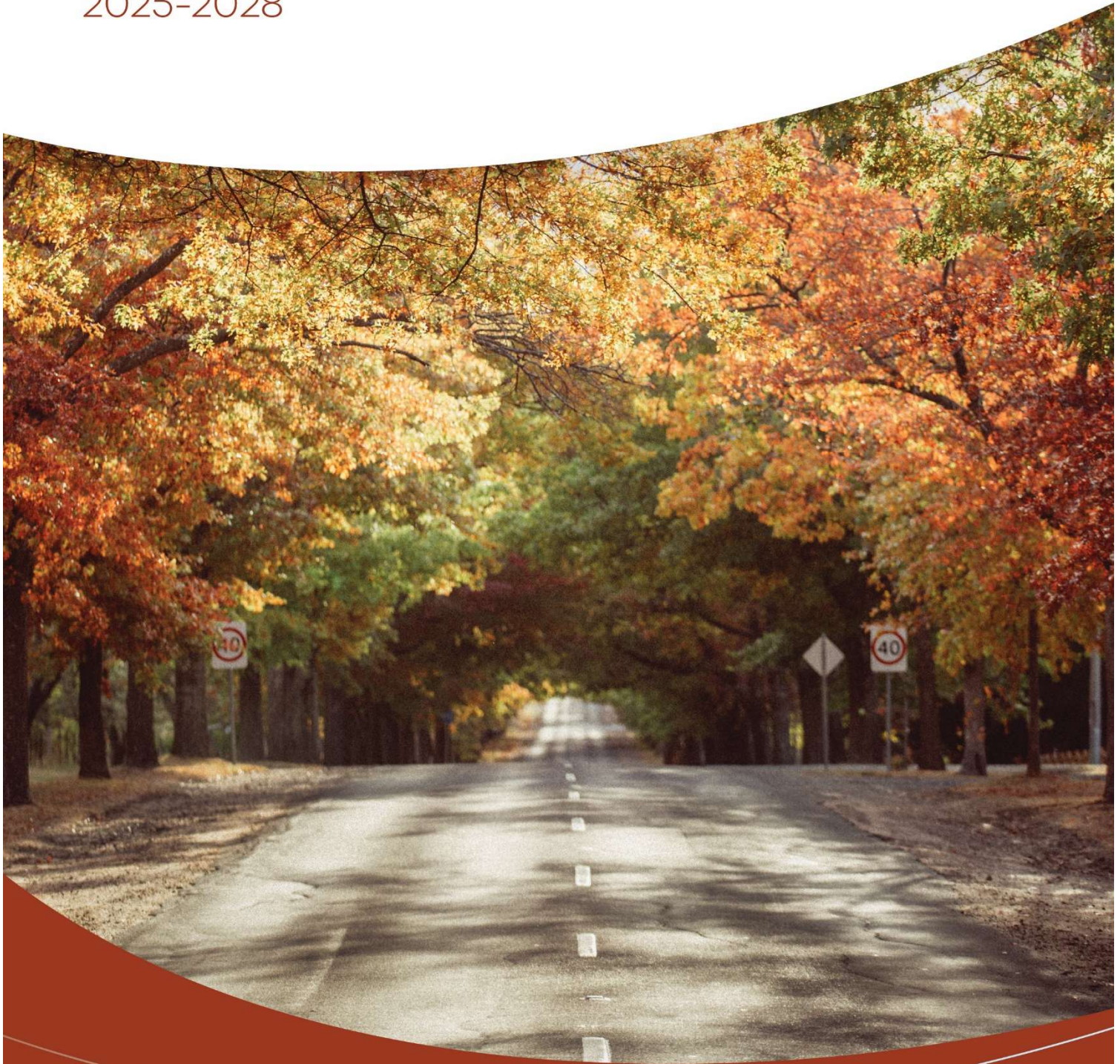


Municipal Fire Management Plan

Macedon Ranges

2025-2028

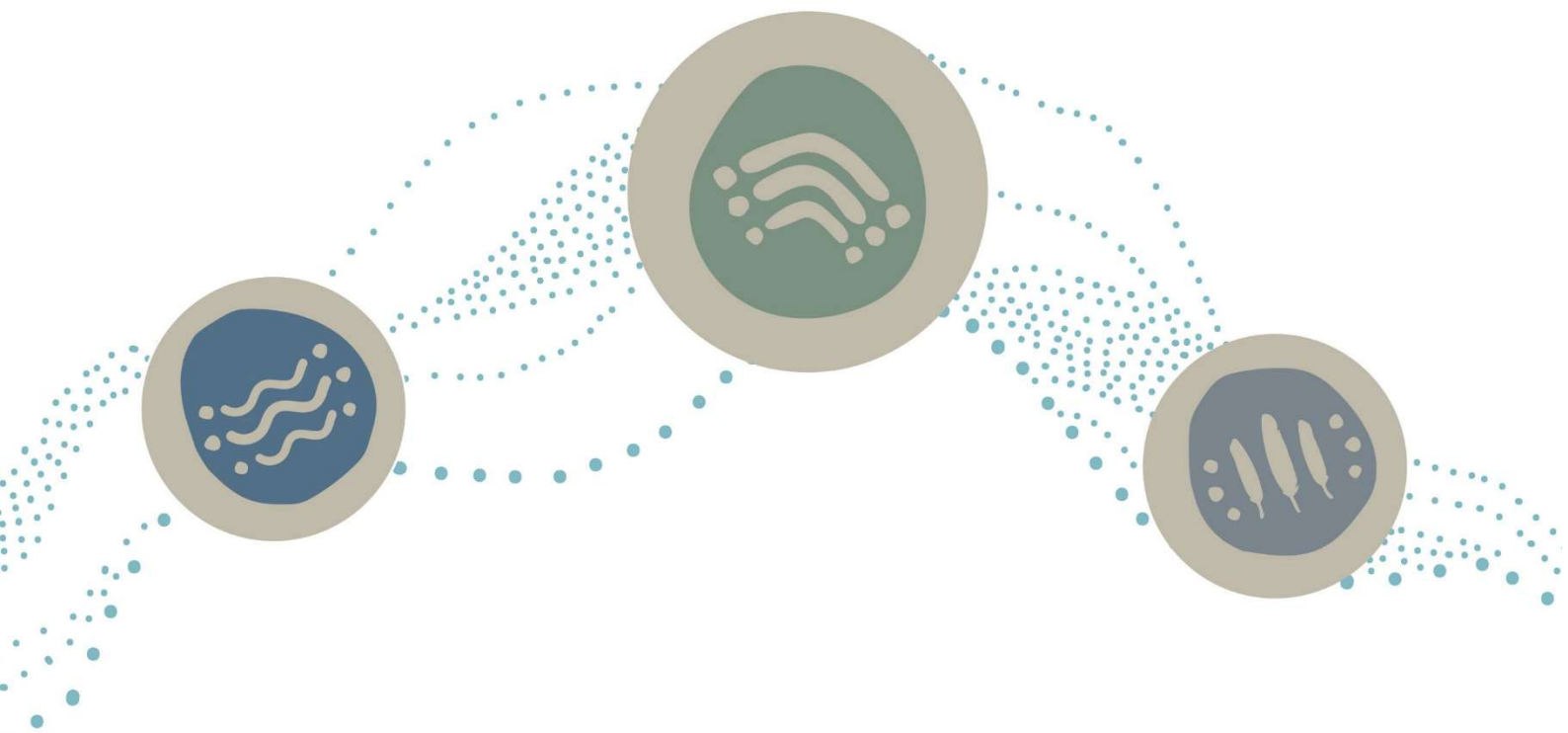


Acknowledgement of Country

Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community. Artwork by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser. Artwork used with permission.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council acknowledges the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land and waterways. Council recognises their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country and pays respect to their Elders past, present and emerging. Council also acknowledges local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander residents of Macedon Ranges for their ongoing contribution to the diverse culture of our community.

Artwork by Taungurung artist Maddi Moser. Artwork used with permission.



Municipal Emergency Management Plan
Statement of Assurance



Part 2: Certificate of Assurance for the

Step 1: name of municipal district Step 2: If a sub-plan, name of sub-plan (e.g. Storm), otherwise delete this step Step 3: Choose type of plan

Plan Preparer: Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee

If a sub-plan has been prepared by an agency on behalf of the MEMPC, make comment of that here.

I certify that the attached Choose plan or sub-plan complies with the requirements of the *Emergency Management Act 2013*, including having regard to any relevant guidelines issued under section 77 of that Act, to the extent outlined in the attached checklist.




<p><i>(For MEMP and MEMP sub-plans)</i></p> <p>On behalf of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee:</p> <p>Insert signature here</p>  <p>Name of Chair SIMON FINLAY, MEMO Chair, Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee</p> <p>Click or tap to enter a date. 10/10/2025</p>	<p><i>(For sub-plans only, if prepared by an agency on behalf of the MEMPC)</i></p> <p>Nominated representative of preparer:</p> <p>Insert signature here</p>  <p>Name of nominated representative of preparer GREG SMART</p> <p>Title and agency MEMPC CHAIR</p> <p>Click or tap to enter a date. CFA GROUP OFFICER 28/08/2025</p>
<p>The Loddon Mallee Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee approves this plan.</p> <p>26/11/2025</p> <p>The REMPC MEMP Assurance Sub-Committee also noted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It was identified that fire plans did not previously go through the assurance committee, but no other compliance processes are known and that this change of process meant that the fire plan is now past the 3-year renewal period.  <p>Steven Field Chair, Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee 9/12/25 Click or tap to enter a date.</p>	

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Foreword

The Macedon Ranges Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee (MFMPSC) is responsible for providing a strategic and integrated approach to fire management within the shire.

Council has an obligation under the Country Fire Authority (CFA) Act 1958 to develop a Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP). The MFMPSC provides advice and recommendations to Council, through the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee in the preparation of the MFMP.

This plan describes how authorities, local government, fire agencies and other relevant organisations can work together to effectively anticipate, respond to and recover from fire events affecting the Macedon Ranges Shire.

This plan is a sub-plan to the Macedon Ranges Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP).

During the development of the Plan, the working group of the Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee undertook a process to explore the fire-related challenges, risks and opportunities within the municipality in order to apply a coordinated approach to managing those risks.

The committee has established the Plan with four focussed themes:

- Good Governance
- Fire Risks
- Structural
- Waste

The Municipal Fire Management Plan takes an integrated approach across agencies and partners to identify and manage fire risks within the municipality. It recognises the shared responsibility between government, agencies, business and community in reducing those risks.



Introduction

The Macedon Ranges Shire is located northwest of Melbourne along the Calder Highway, midway between Melbourne and Bendigo. Fires in the shire have been the cause of significant loss of life and damage to property in the past.

Fire management planning in the Macedon Ranges is undertaken to ensure adequate management of all aspects of fires, from prevention through to response and recovery. It involves the collaboration of agencies and organisations to ensure that communities are well prepared and understand the risk.

The Municipal Fire Management Plan was developed by the Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee (MFMPSC) to reduce the incidence and consequences of fire across the landscape. The Plan takes an all-hazards approach to fire. While there is a focus on bush/grassfire due to the Macedon Ranges location and history of fire events, the plan also outlines strategies and programs to reduce the likelihood and consequence of structure fires - residential, commercial and industrial based.

Victoria has emergency management arrangements that require and encourage agencies to work collaboratively alongside all levels of government, community and business before during and after emergencies.

This Plan

The Municipal Fire Management Plan is prepared and maintained as a sub-plan to the Municipal Emergency Management Plan to ensure that the linkages across fire prevention, preparedness, response and recovery programs are consistent and holistic.

This plan has been developed in line with the:

- Emergency Management Act 2013 which provides the authority under which Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committees (MEMPC) operate
- Ministerial Guidelines for Preparing State, Regional and Municipal Emergency Management Plans
- State Fire Management Planning Guidance to Regional and Municipal Fire Management Planning Committees.

This Plan is risk informed, having regard for the social, economic, built and natural environment aspects of fire, and functions as a guide for participants involved in fire management planning activities. The Plan also contains appropriate reference to other applications of fire, including ecological and cultural.

This Plan does not intend to override or contradict local government or individual agency plans, or legislated responsibilities of any individual agency. It is designed to complement and enhance planning undertaken at a Regional and State level within emergency management arrangements.

The period of this Plan is 3 years.



Municipal Fire Management Plan Vision and Purpose

Vision

Our vision is to reduce the risk of fire to all life, property, environmental, cultural and agricultural assets within the Macedon Ranges Shire for a safer community.

Purpose of the Plan

To guide stakeholders in integrated fire management planning activities, reduce risks to community, and increase the awareness of community regarding their own responsibilities.

Principles

Table 1 The principles of the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee are:

Accountability	In supporting effective committee direction and action including reviewing, monitoring and reporting.
Collaboration	Of agencies in developing and implementing shared and coordinated fire management planning and preparedness activities that reduces risks to the community.
Better understanding	Of fire risks to guide the collective activities and actions of committee members, agencies and community.
Community focus	That supports community resilience and provides communities with the opportunity to actively participate in fire management planning and activities.
Preservation	Of the agricultural, natural and community / private assets that support the community.



Municipal Fire Management Plan Goals and Actions

Through the planning process the Macedon Ranges Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee has established four focussed themes:

1. Good Governance
2. Fire Risks
3. Structural
4. Waste

Under each theme sits an overarching goal and a number of high-level actions.

Good Governance

Goal

Enhance effective oversight, direction and membership of the Committee to achieve its purpose, goals and actions.

Challenge / Opportunity

A change to legislation has meant that Municipal Councils are no longer solely responsible for the municipal fire management committee and the development of fire management plans.

The responsibilities within municipal and regional emergency management planning have also evolved. The principal focus of the amendments is on the efficiency, effectiveness, interoperability and integration, the needs of local communities, promoting community resilience and the importance of collaborative emergency management planning.

The legislation change is seen as an opportunity to reset the way the committee both operates and achieves its objectives.

Actions

1. Review membership of the committee, considering risk profile and challenges associated with resource capacity.

Lead: Chair

2. Develop strong working relationships with the Loddon Mallee Region Strategic Fire Management Planning Committee to support effective fire management planning.

Lead: Chair & MRSC

3. Develop working groups that have appropriate representation and ability to actively plan and lead projects that reduce fire risks.

Lead: Chair and MRSC



Fire Risks (Bush / Grass)

Goal

Strengthen our focus on identified fire risks both on private and public land and continue to look at ways of reducing the risk and consequences of fire impacting properties and township. Educate the community around what is a risk and the importance of being prepared.

Challenge / Opportunity

Reducing the risk and the impact of fire to the community is the priority of the Macedon Ranges Shire's Municipal Fire Management Plan's vision.

The shire has a number of native forested areas and reserves, which includes Cobaw State Forest, Wombat State Forest, Lauriston State Forest, Mount Charlie Flora and Fauna Reserve, Macedon Regional Park, Pyrete State Park and numerous Pine Plantations.

The shire is also home to a number of conservation reserves which are repositories of cultural heritage and strong biodiversity values.

Macedon Ranges footprint has a large bushfire and grassfire risk with an increasing population, including residents with little awareness of what do in the event of fire

Many of the townships within the shire also abut grassland areas, open paddocks and hobby farms, increasing the risk of grass fires impacting townships within those areas.

Actions

Strengthen our focus on identified fire risks both on private and public land and look at ways of reducing the risk and consequences of fire impacting townships and properties.

1. Continue work on the Critical Roads for Managing Fire action Plan, a cross agency plan that guides fuel management and risk mitigation to reduce the spread of fire into townships, and key assets - Ongoing.

Timeframes: To be reviewed annually with the JFMP

Lead: Critical Roads for Managing Fire Sub Committee

2. Increase understanding of fire risk, by leveraging existing tools and developing a common fire hazard and risk profile for the municipality.

VFRR – reviewed annually with a full review facilitated every three years.

Lead: Multi agency

3. Increase level of dialogue with traditional owners to build an understanding of impacts of fire mitigation works on cultural heritage, community and biodiversity values, and explore Traditional Owner risk mitigation strategies and actions.

Lead: MFMPSC and Traditional Owner Groups

4. Investigate opportunities to improve municipal cross boundary relationships including risk awareness, resource sharing and program visibility.

Lead: MRSC and CFA

5. Farm Practices - Establish a framework that will guide education, farming practices, land management, guidelines and enforcement to reduce the likelihood of agricultural related ignition and fires impacting agricultural businesses and livelihoods.

Lead: CFA Community Engagement Co-ordinator (CEC)

6. Public Authorities - increase level of dialogue with agencies within the shire to ensure there is a consistent approach to land treatment, in particular where agency land abuts private land.

Lead: MFMPSC

7. Events Tourism - Tourism in the Macedon Ranges Shire is predicted to grow and currently sees large numbers of visitors throughout the area. Sites such as Hanging Rock and Macedon Regional Park will need to consider how best to manage fire risk. CFA and Victoria Police are notified 2 weeks out of an event on public land within the shire. A calendar of events is also shared with these agencies.

Lead: MFPO / CFA / Tourism

8. Neighbourhood Safer Places - Increase education around NSP's for the Macedon Ranges community.

Lead: MFPO & CFA



Structural

Goal

To reduce the frequency and consequences of single incident structure fires, by identifying those at risk, residential, industrial, commercial and public facilities.

Challenge / Opportunity

Structural fires may involve a range of structures from a single residential structure through to a large industrial building. The impacts of structural fires can include injury, death, loss of property, or consequential economic loss.

Consideration should be given to the history of structural fires across the municipality and across the relevant industry and the consequences or potential consequences of those occurrences (injury, death, economic and property loss statistics).

Consideration should also be given to high-risk premises and assets, including nursing homes and aged care facilities.

Given the rapid growth of urban centres within the shire, attention should be given to ensure that fire-fighting resources, personnel, and infrastructure remains ready to meet the growing and changing urban environment.

Action

Structural Fire Risk is treated in a number of ways to minimize their occurrence and severity. Treatment actions may include:

- building control and regulation
- maintenance of fire-fighting resources
- public awareness and education
- household fire planning
- occupational health and safety regulation
- dangerous goods and hazardous material regulation

Lead: CFA, FRV, Water Authorities and Municipal Building Surveyor

Maintain, Map and Monitor public and private fire-fighting infrastructure including fire plugs and signage, hydrants, standpipes and hose reels in accordance with Section 165 of the Water Act 1989 (2019 amendments)

Lead: CFA

Support CFA to continue the roll out of the smoke alarm installation program for rural and regional Victoria that provides vulnerable residents with free smoke alarms. The program also aims to increase the understanding and awareness of home fire hazards and reduce the number of preventable fire fatalities.

Lead: CFA, Water Authorities and Municipal Building Surveyor

Waste (Management / Illegal dumping of rubbish)

Goal

1. To reduce the incidents and frequency of illegal dumping of rubbish across the shire which has seen an increase in recent years and has an ongoing impact on both the environment and the community
2. To further investigate the disposing of rubbish including chemical waste and batteries at Council's transfer stations

Challenge / Opportunity

Dumping green waste, tyres, chemicals and other flammable items can increase the risk of fires.

Action

The illegal dumping of rubbish is a statewide problem and requires guidance from the Regional Fire Management Planning Committee

Lead: RFMPC

Working with our transfer stations to ensure that chemical waste, batteries etc are stored correctly.

Lead: Waste Management – MRSC

Part 1 Context and Fire Risk



Part One: Context and Fire Risk

Environmental Scan

The Macedon Ranges Shire is located northwest of Melbourne along the Calder Highway, midway between Melbourne and Bendigo.

An estimated 52,132 people were living in the shire in 2022 – over double the number of people living here 25 years ago. Recent estimates are that the population of the shire will increase again by 25.16% to an estimated 65,771 by 2036. The most significant recent growth and future forecast growth is in the southern part of the shire, closest to urban Melbourne.

Gisborne, Riddells Creek, Romsey and Lancefield district are forecast to experience the highest annual growth within the LGA.

Across the 1,747 square kilometre geographic area, approximately 26 square kilometres (or 1.49%) are built up areas. Much of the shire is made of large areas of state forest, including Macedon Regional Park, Wombat State Forest and the Cobaws. This makes the shire susceptible to the potential for both fast moving grass fires and significant bushfires

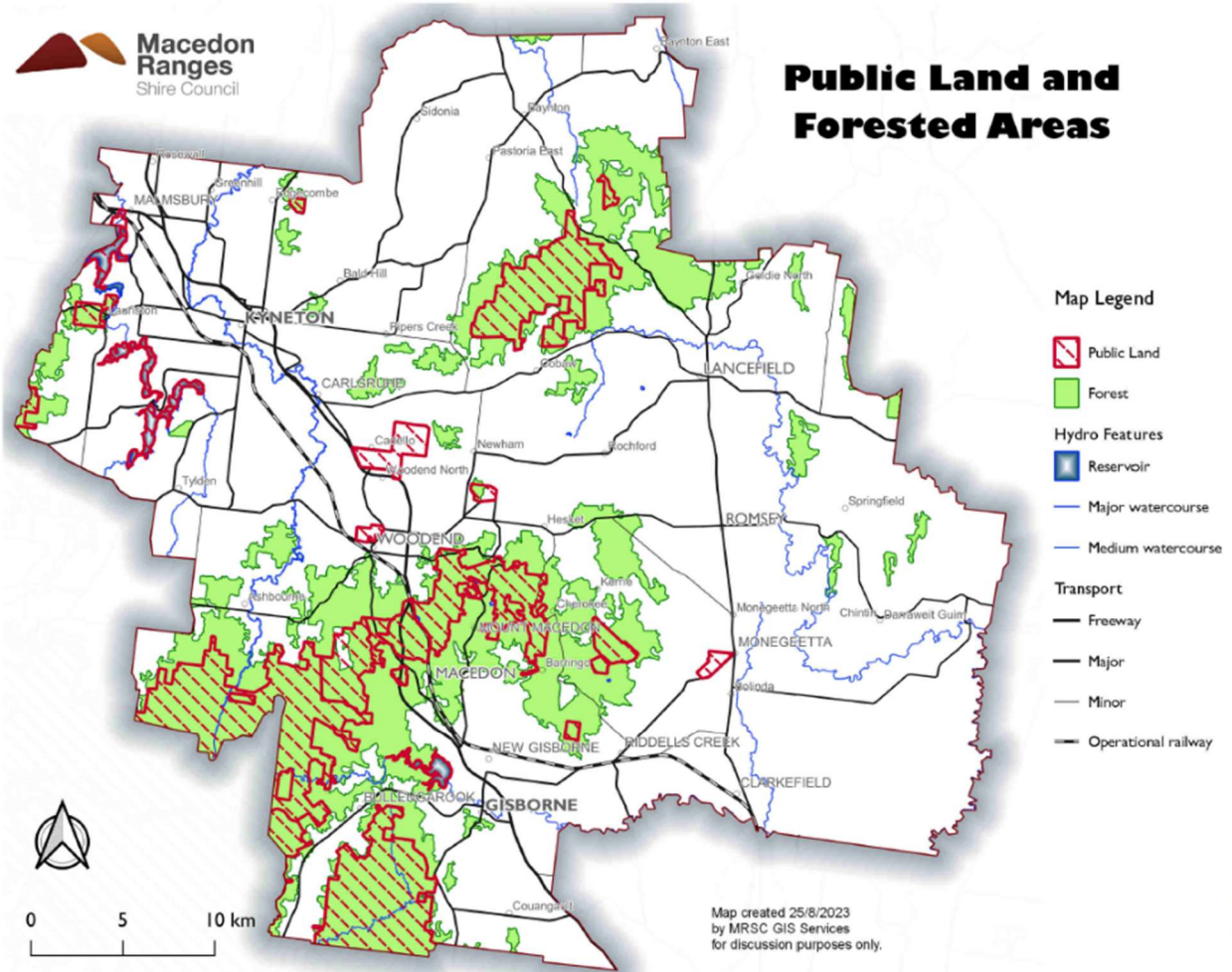
The Macedon Ranges Shire is also home to three major water storages—Lauriston, Upper Coliban, and Malmsbury Reservoirs—managed by Coliban Water. These storages are essential to the region’s water security, supplying raw water to over 130,000+ people across multiple towns including Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Tylden, and Trentham.

Given their importance, these assets must be prioritised in emergency planning. Protection from fire, contamination, and access disruption is vital, and their role in regional resilience should be reflected through strong interagency coordination during preparedness, response, and recovery activities.

The Macedon Ranges attracts a large number of visitors annually to its many festivals and events. The Hanging Rock site sees thousands of visitors explore the culturally significant landmark, one of many cultural heritage sites in the area

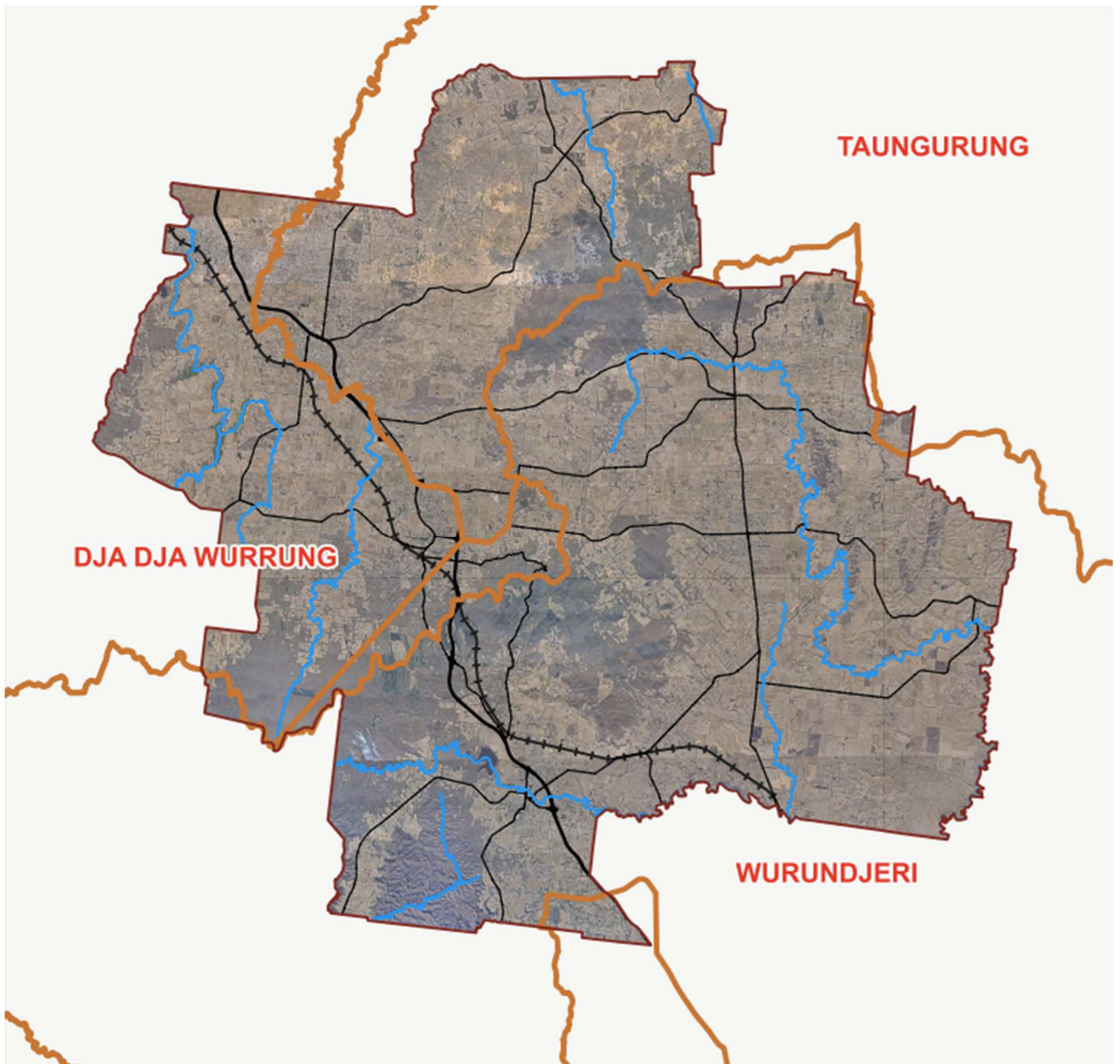
More information is contained within the Macedon Ranges Shire Municipal Emergency Management Plan which can be found on the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website.

Public Land and Forested Areas



Traditional Owners and Custodians of Macedon Ranges

Macedon Ranges is located on the Country of the Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Peoples. These three groups are the Traditional Owners and custodians of the land, and along with the Wathaurung and Boon Wurrung, make up the federation of the Kulin Nation.





Recent Trends and Fire Risk

Trends related to fire risk within the municipality broadly encompass the changing climate, the frequency of extreme weather events, increase of new residents and tree changers, as well as the change in working habits and locations.

Fire in the Macedon Ranges Shire

In order to develop appropriate strategies for fire management in the Macedon Ranges Shire, it is important to understand the risk of fire events, not only within the shire but adjoining shires that can impact on Macedon Ranges. Large fires within the Shire are often associated with extended periods of drought.

Macedon Ranges Shire has a history of wildfires. On February 1, 1983 a wildfire in Mount Macedon destroyed 50 houses and over 6,000 hectares of vegetation. Two weeks later, on 'Ash Wednesday,' another wildfire impacted on the towns of Macedon and Mount Macedon, destroying both townships. Since Ash Wednesday, a number of wildfires have occurred in the shire, but have not had the same devastating effect as Ash Wednesday.

In February 2009, the Black Saturday bushfires impacted the Redesdale area where properties were lost. More recent fires - February 2014 (Gisborne South and Mickleham), October 2015 (Lancefield-Cobaw), and January 2016 (Edgecombe) - have resulted in the loss of nine homes along with significant numbers of stock, outbuildings, fencing and other property.

Macedon Ranges has below average rankings for grass and forest fire likelihood. This reflects the shortest fire season in the Region and the relatively low number of days with a

high Fire Behaviour Index. It is however the primary assumption that on those days, bushfires become difficult to control and damage to property and injury may occur.

Emergency services often express concerns that ‘newcomers’ who relocate from urban areas pose a risk due to a perceived lack of awareness and experience with grass and bushfires. The statistics show a continued population growth, particularly in the main towns, over the coming years.

The shire also has a number of native forested areas and reserves, which includes Cobaw State Forest, Wombat State Forest, Lauriston State Forest, Mount Charlie Flora and Fauna Reserve, Macedon Regional Park, Pyrete State Park and Pine Plantations. Urban townships within the shire also abut forested areas, particularly in the southern part of the Shire. A significant area of forest is also situated on private land throughout the shire.

Macedon Ranges Shire has four key bushfire landscapes. Each landscape has unique characteristics which when combined with weather conditions of the day will determine how fire behaves. (Refer to the table on the following page).

Table 2

Landscape	Fuel hazard level	Topography	Primary driver	Spotting/ember potential
Grass, crop and stubble	Moderate to extreme	flat	Wind/fuel/plume	Low / Moderate
Open Woodlands	High to extreme	Undulating	Fuel/topography	High
Tall (sclerophyll) Forest	High to extreme	Undulating	Fuel/top/plume	High
Urban	Low to high	Flat to undulating	Wind/fuel	Low



People and Wellbeing

Population

An estimated 52,920 people were living in the Shire in 2023. This is 30.29 persons per square km. The population of the Shire is expected to increase to an estimated 75,303 by 2046 (Forecast ID, <http://forecast.id.com.au/macedon-ranges>). The population for the Macedon Ranges Shire is forecast to increase at an average annual change of 1.53%. Gisborne and Romsey district are forecast to experience the highest annual growth within the LGA.

The following is the current Estimated Resident Population (ERP) for the main townships from largest to smallest:

Town	Ward	Est. Resident Population
Gisborne	South	14,905
Kyneton	West	9,917
Woodend	West	8,857
Romsey	East	7,322
Riddells Creek	East	4,863
Macedon & Mount Macedon	South	3,590
Lancefield	East	3,462

Table 3 - Source: SOURCE: [Forecast.ID](http://forecast.id)

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

Approximately 95% of the residents residing in the municipality have English as a first language or speak it 'well' to 'very well' (ABS 2021 Census) and 4.5% of people used a language other than English at home in 2021 which amounts to approximately 2346 individuals.

www.abs.gov.au/statistics

People Living with Disability

In 2021, 2,614 people (or 5.1% of the population) reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability. Localised accommodation facilities and day support services for people living with disability exist within the Shire.

Built

The Macedon Ranges is renowned for its semi-rural lifestyle, beautiful natural landscapes, historic towns and architecture, gourmet food and wine, and vibrant community life

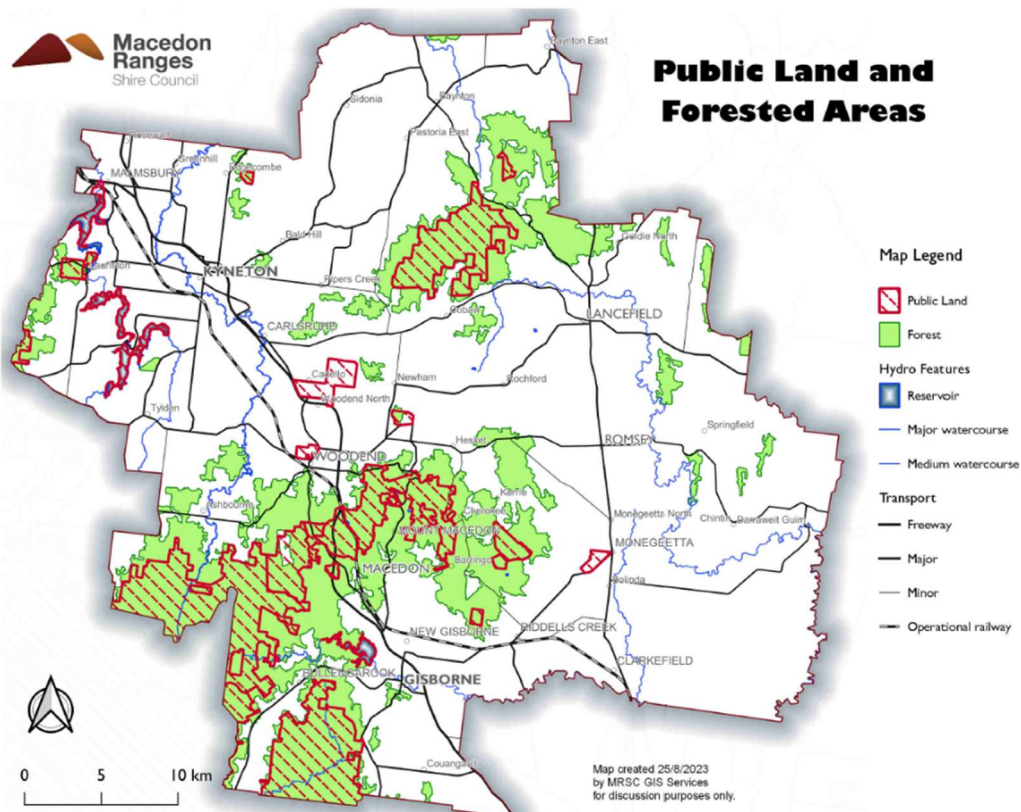
The Shire provides a transport link between Bendigo and Melbourne with the Calder Highway and Vline Rail Corridor. A disruption to either the highway or railway corridor could have significant flow on effects for the region. Several areas of the Macedon Ranges fall under the Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) and may be at significant risk from bushfires. Bushfire prone Area (BPA) covers all of the Shire excluding some parts of the urbanised areas.



Environment and Biodiversity

The topography, range of altitudes and localised climatic patterns of Macedon Ranges results in rich and unique biodiversity values in the form of many different ecosystems, hosting a wide range of native plants and animals, on both public and private land. Within the shire, the terrain varies from grassed plains to the massif of the Macedon Ranges. **The geographic area is 1,747.4 square kilometres.**

The map below shows the forested areas (on public land) within the municipality, noting that these highlight the more bushfire prone areas:





Economy

In the shire we have identified the following groups as key players in the building of the shire's economy

- Equine
- Wine growers
- Apiarist
- Agriculture – broad & hobby

The cost of managing emergencies in Victoria, and nationally, is expected to increase significantly in the future. The total economic cost of natural disasters in Victoria will reach \$3.2 billion a year by 2050, a growth rate of 3.6 percent per year according to the 2017 Building Resilience to Natural Disasters in Our States and Territories report.

Tourism

- Hanging Rock
- Mount Macedon Regional Park
- Autumn Leaves
- Accommodation providers

Tourism in the Macedon Ranges contributes \$273 million direct and \$183 million indirect expenditure each year.

Around 1.6 million people visit the Macedon Ranges each year to experience our dramatic landscapes and gardens, taste our artisan food and produce, drink our cool climate wines, explore the many scenic walks and bike rides and to experience the fresh, clean air.

Our local tourism industry generates nearly 2,500 jobs and helps to sustain the restaurants, cafes, shops, service stations, florists and other local services that we all enjoy and love.



Future Trends and Fire Risk

Longer term trends for fire in the municipality focus on the continuing change to climate, the impact and consequences of increasing severe weather events, changing population, demographics and community need

People

Recent estimates are that the population of the shire will increase again by 24.16% to an estimated 65,771 by 2036 (Forecast ID, forecast.id.com.au/Macedon Ranges).

The most significant recent growth and future forecast growth is in the southern part of the shire, closest to urban Melbourne.

Gisborne, Riddells Creek, Romsey, and Lancefield district are forecast to experience the highest annual growth within the LGA.

Environment

Victoria's climate is becoming hotter and drier. The latest climate projections for Victoria suggest that by the 2050s under a high emissions future scenario, Victoria will have to cope with more extreme heat and longer droughts, as well as increased risks of extreme bushfires, storms and floods.

According to CSIRO analysis, there is high confidence that climate change will result in more incidences of severe bushfire danger.

Victoria has also become drier, especially in the cooler months, and has warmed by just over 1.0°C (2). This warming leads to numerous other changes in our day to day weather patterns.

We are already seeing the impacts of climate change here in the Macedon Ranges, particularly in the form of extreme weather events like storms, floods and fires. Outlined below are the localised changes we are expected to see into the future without major decreases to global emissions

Built

The Macedon Ranges settlement hierarchy is set out in our Statement of Planning Policy (SPP) which nominates towns that have capacity for growth. The SPP provides Protected Settlement Boundaries (PSBs) for these towns that are set in state legislation, with the exception of Gisborne and Romsey. At the time of preparation of the SPP it was recognised that the structure plans for these towns needed to be updated in order to set PSBs.

Structure plans for Gisborne and Romsey have been completed which will set PSPs for these towns. These are adopted by Council as a preferred policy direction but have not yet been implemented into the planning scheme via a formal amendment process.

Economy

Population growth will continue to put pressure on services and infrastructure available in the municipality. The impact of fire on communities is more than financial, but a major fire in the Shire would have a significant economic impact across business, tourism and infrastructure. The cost of managing emergencies in Victoria, and nationally, is expected to increase significantly in the future. The total economic cost of natural disasters in Victoria will reach \$3.2 billion a year by 2050, a growth rate of 3.6 percent per year according to the 2017 Building Resilience to Natural Disasters in Our States and Territories report.

Tourism

Tourism in the Macedon Ranges Shire is predicted to grow and currently sees large numbers of visitors throughout the area. Sites such as Hanging Rock and Mount Macedon Regional Park will need to consider how best to manage fire risk.



Fire in the Municipality

Macedon Ranges Shire will have a higher risk of structure fires owing to the increase in housing and population throughout the shire. The interface with residential and rural areas will increase the vulnerability of communities particularly those interfacing with the forested areas. The Melbourne-Bendigo rail line will have an increase in commuters. It runs through forested areas and may be impacted by fires. The Calder Freeway will increase in both private and commercial transport, with a projected increase in hazardous fuels and materials.

The Loddon Mallee South Regional Growth Plan 2004 is the strategic document guiding the development of region for 30 years. It indicated that the region has outpaced the rest of regional Victoria for economic growth. It identifies significant growth for Gisborne and Kyneton as well as other smaller townships such as Woodend and Riddells Creek.

Nevertheless, the study identifies limitations due to bushfire and flooding risks which both need to be addressed in land-use planning as well as the fire risks identified in this plan

Many people moving into the region are likely to have had more limited exposure to fire experiences than the current populations and are likely to require specific programs to inform and protect them as well as programs to assist them to help themselves.

These and other issues will become apparent as the area develops and which will need to be accommodated in this plan as it is updated from time to time.

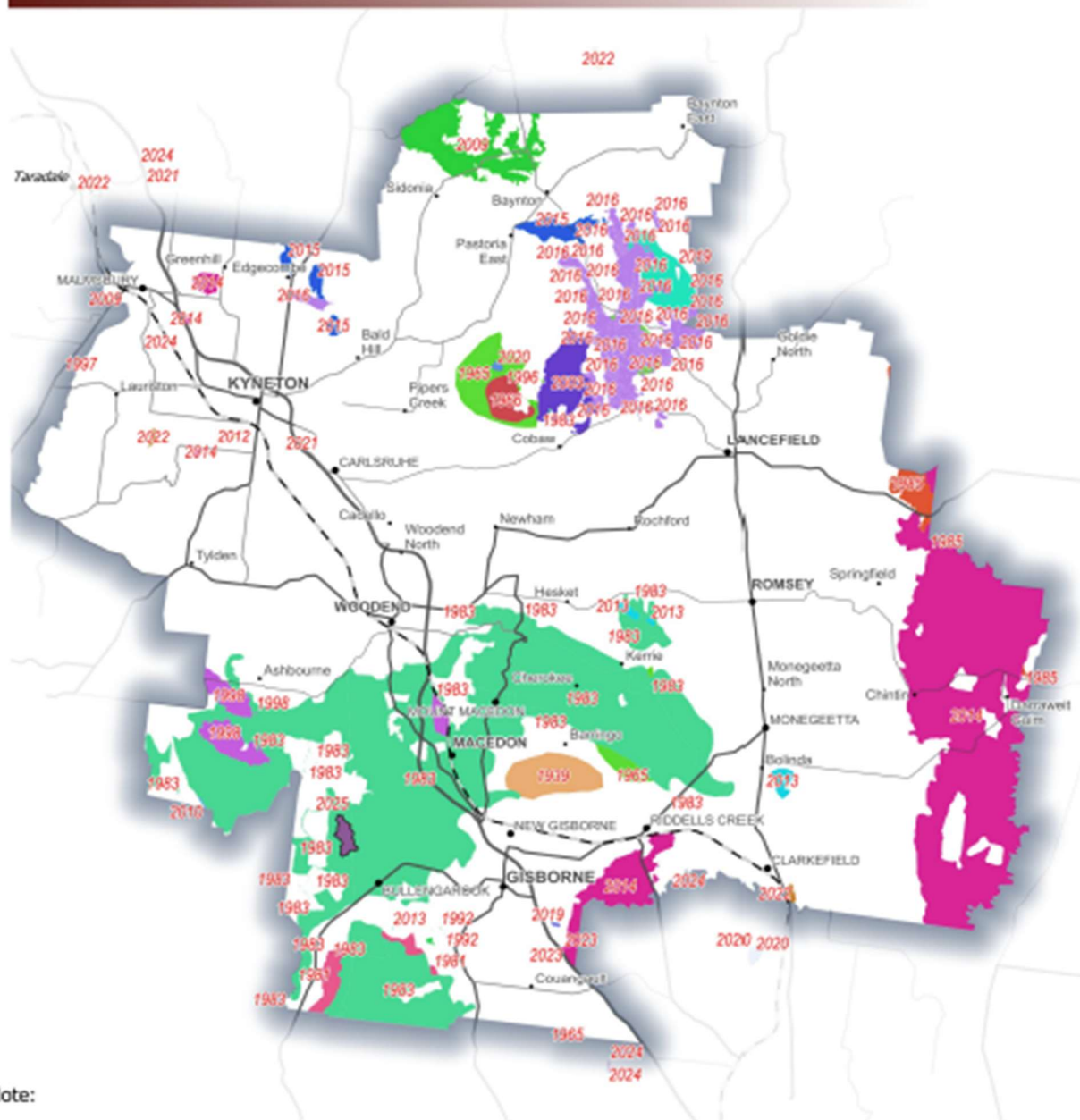
Future changes can also be anticipated in the nature of the services and activities which the community will be involved: industry, commerce, recreation and tourism are typical examples likely to generate specific needs for fire-protection measures which could impact on and involve the participants as well as the associated organisations, businesses and communities.

Owing to the predicted climate change, on average the fire danger period (fire seasons) will become longer and more erratic. The Melbourne synopsis for Macedon Ranges will extend the fire season by up to 6 weeks with the season extending from mid-March to late April by 2050. Other effects are predicted as follows:

- The Melbourne (Macedon Ranges) average annual accumulated FFDI could increase by 8-22% by 2050.
- The number of FFDI days of very high or extreme, when fires are difficult to control will increase across all locations.
- The number of GFDI days of very high or extreme, when fires are difficult to control will increase across all locations.
- The earlier starts of fire seasons may reflect the change in spring rains. Spring rain provides much of the runoff for static water supply from dams and water points. The use of piped and transported water will be more common.
- The region is susceptible to severe and extended drought events which reduce fuel levels in grass and forests and readily available water supply.
- In drought periods heavier forest fuel locations will become more available and more susceptible to plume driven bushfire events.
- Agriculture industry becomes highly susceptible to adverse fire events.
- Rural based volunteers will be heavily impacted economically and socially.

In broad summary, the fire environment is changing as well as the nature of the community itself, its facilities and its activities. The plan will need to adapt to this which goes well beyond the more limited fire issues addressed in this plan. It will need to be both reactive and proactive. This is the challenge ahead.

Fire History 1939 - 2025 Areas Last Burnt



Note:

Burn areas are overlaid with the most recent areas on top.
 'Season' refers to the last year of the summer fire season.
 Areas > 5000 sqm are labelled only due to scale restrictions.
 Map created 14/04/2025 by MRSC GIS Services.

SEASON	1967	1992	2003	2013	2016	2022	2025
1939	1981	1996	2009	2014	2019	2023	
1965	1983	1997	2010	2015	2020	2024	
1966	1985	1998	2012		2021		



Major Fire Risk

Given Macedon Ranges landscape, the following hazards were determined by the committee to be of greatest risk to the community:

The following hazards identified in the Macedon Ranges landscape were determined by the committee to be of the greatest risk to the community:

- Bushfire
- Grassfire
- Structure Fire
- Transport – Roads & Rail
- Agricultural
- Chemical / Industrial / Waste Storage (Transfer Stations)
- Aviation Fires

The descriptions below provide a snapshot of the identified hazards, possible consequences, relevant agencies, mitigation activities and community actions.

Table 4: Bushfire

Hazard	Bushfire
<p>Description</p>	<p>Bushfire is assessed as a significant risk in Victoria’s State-level emergency risk assessment, Emergency Risks in Victoria (published in 2020) Hot, dry and windy weather is ideal conditions for bushfires to ignite and spread.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushfires can start for many reason including: • Accidents, mishandled campfires or barbeques • Arson • Infrastructure incidents: sparks from equipment / vehicles / plant, or rail transport • Extreme weather - lightning
<p>Consequences</p>	<p>Consequences of bushfires can be varied and significant, outcomes can include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human – loss of life, serious injury, respiratory illness • Environmental impacts – loss of vegetation, biodiversity and cultural values • Built – damage to onsite and neighbouring property and infrastructure • Economic – loss of tourism, interruptions to business, assets and livestock
<p>Relevant agencies</p>	<p>Include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DoTP (Department of Transport and Planning) • DEECA(FFMV) (Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action)

Hazard	Bushfire
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA (Country Fire Authority) • FRV (Fire Rescue Victoria) • Victoria Police • Macedon Ranges Shire Council • Water Authorities • Forest Fire Management (FFM)
<p>What is being done</p>	<p>Bushfire mitigation strategies, controls and assessments include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VFRR (Victorian Fire Risk Register) • Land planning controls: Bushfire Management Overlay, Identified Bushfire Prone Areas <p>Plans and programs in use and production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Fuel Management Program • Roadside Slashing program • Township Hazard Reduction program • Critical Roads for Managing Fire • State program “Safer Together” • Total Fire Ban and Fire Danger Period requirements • Agency operational plans / preparation works • CFA Community Safety Programs
<p>What community members can do</p>	<p>Have a responsible, achievable fire plan.</p> <p>Ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for a variety of scenarios

Hazard	Bushfire
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make informed decisions • Have access to up to date information including the VicEmergency App, ABC radio • Maintain their property to a safe standard • Leave early on Catastrophic Fire Danger Days • Follow directions from emergency services

Table 5: Grassfire

Hazard	Grassfire
<p>Description</p>	<p>Grassfires can start easily, spread quickly and are extremely dangerous. Common causes of grassfires can include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hot car exhausts in long grass • discarded cigarettes • rubbish • lightning strikes • malicious activity such as fire bugs • Sparks from power lines, trains, machinery or equipment
<p>Consequences</p>	<p>Grassfires are very hot and can produce huge amounts of radiant heat. Consequences are varied and can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of life • Loss of vegetation and biodiversity • Damage to property / infrastructure • Business interruptions, loss of livestock, assets and tourism
<p>Relevant agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA • Victoria Police • Macedon Ranges Shire Council • Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA(FFMV)) • Forest Fire Management (FFM) • Department of Transport and Planning (DoTP)

Hazard	Grassfire
<p>What is being done</p> <p>What is being done (cont.)</p>	<p>A number of processes, strategies and controls have been put into place. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VFRR • Bushfire Management Strategy 2020 (Loddon Mallee) • Land use planning controls that include: Bushfire Management overlays and identification of Bushfire prone areas. <p>Programs and plans include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint Fuel Management Program (JFMP) • Roadside Slashing program • Township Hazard Reduction Slashing program • CFA Community Education Safety Programs • Agency operational plans, including local CFA plans, Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP Plan) • Evacuation and Traffic Management Guidelines • Total Fire Ban and Fire Danger Period requirements • Victorian Government advertising campaigns • Critical Roads for Managing Fire
<p>What community members can do</p>	<p>Grassfires can start and spread quickly, especially on Extreme or Catastrophic Fire Danger Days.</p> <p>Ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for a variety of scenarios • Make informed decisions

Hazard	Grassfire
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leave early, if safe to do so • Have access to up-to-date information including the VicEmergency App and / or ABC radio • Maintain their property to a safe standard • Leave early on Catastrophic Fire Danger Days • Follow directions from emergency services <p>Further information on how to prepare for a grass fire can be found at cfa.vic.gov.au (Country Fire Authority)</p>

Table 6: Structure Fire

Hazard	Structure Fire
<p>Description</p>	<p>A structure fire is a fire involving the structural components of various types of residential, commercial or industrial buildings.</p> <p>Electrical malfunctions are one of the leading causes of fires in buildings. Faulty wiring, lithium batteries, overloaded circuits and outdated electrical systems are all common culprits.</p>
<p>Consequences</p>	<p>Consequences of structure fires can be varied, and could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of life • Loss of home • Environmental damage • Damage to property / infrastructure • Business interruptions, loss of assets
<p>Relevant agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA – Manager Community Safety, Community Engagement Co-ordinator • Macedon Ranges Shire Council – Municipal Building Surveyor, Planning, Local Laws • CFA Groups / Brigades • FRV
<p>What is being done</p>	<p>Plans and programs in place include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA Community Engagement Education • MRSC Community Engagement • CFA programs including installation of smoke alarms for vulnerable residents

Hazard	Structure Fire
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipal Emergency Management Plan • Municipal Fire Management Plan
<p>What community members can do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of any dangers • Store chemicals and / or other flammable materials in a safe manner • Have functional smoke alarms • Control sources of ignition • Have chimneys inspected and cleaned regularly

Table 7: Transport – Road and Rail

Hazard	Transport – Road and Rail
<p>Description</p>	<p>Road and rail fires can be caused by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic accident • Mechanical failure • Human error • Fatigue • Medical episode • Faulty equipment • Environmental events such as severe storms or lightning • Arson
<p>Consequences</p>	<p>Can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human – loss of life / serious injury • Social – impact on access to public and private transport • Environmental - toxic plumes, run off into waterways • Built form – damage to property and infrastructure • Economic – interruption to business
<p>Relevant agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA • Department of Transport Planning (DoTP) • Victoria Police • Macedon Ranges Shire Council • VicTrack • Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Hazard	Transport – Road and Rail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)
<p>What is being done</p> <p>What is being done (cont.)</p>	<p>There are a number of plans, controls, strategies and assessments in place, these include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Victorian Road Safety Strategy 2021 – 2030 • Bus Safety Act 2009 • Transport Accident Act • DoTP works with the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator to oversee the safety of Victoria’s rail networks • Roadside fuel reduction programs • Driver education programs and advertising campaigns • Road safety Act
<p>What community members can do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TAC provides information for all types of road users • DoTP provides updates on road conditions, current works and road closures • Report dangerous driving to Police • Report littering to the EPA, littering includes cigarette butts and rubbish • Be aware of fire activity by staying up to date with information from the VicEmergency app.

Table 8 Agriculture

Hazard	Agricultural
<p>Description</p>	<p>A portion of land with the Macedon Ranges Shire is made up of agricultural land used for cropping and Animal husbandry. The weather over the summer period can be hot and dry, which creates ideal conditions for fires to start in an agricultural setting.</p> <p>Agricultural fires can start for various reasons including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Machinery incidents such as sparks • Arson • Lightning strikes • Escaped burn offs or stubble burns • Spontaneous combustion (haystack)
<p>Consequences</p>	<p>Consequences can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human – loss of life, serious injury • Environmental – loss of crop, stock and biodiversity • Social – impact on the broader community • Built form – damage to infrastructure, property and machinery • Economic – loss of crop, business interruption
<p>Relevant agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA • Victoria Police • Macedon Ranges Shire Council • Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA(FFMV))

Hazard	Agricultural
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest Fire Management (FFM) • Agriculture Victoria • Victorian Farmers Federation
<p>What is being done</p> <p>What is being done (cont.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agriculture Victoria promotes the importance of fire management plans for all farmers • CFA Community Education Programs • Roadside slashing programs • Private property inspection program • Safe agricultural burning • Safe hay baling and storage advice • Total Fire Ban days, Fire Danger Ratings and Fire Danger Period restrictions • Property Advice Visitation Service (PAVS)
<p>What community members can do</p>	<p>All landholders should have a fire plan that considers family members, employees, animals and equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions of declared Fire Danger Period • Work within the constraints of Total Fire Ban days • Follow CFA guidelines for safe harvesting and hay storage <p>CFA has developed the On the Land: Agricultural Fire Management Guidelines as a day to day and year round resource. This is available at cfa.vic.gov.au</p> <p>Information is available for farmers and landholders prospering for and recovering from fire at agriculture.vic.gov.au</p>

Table 9: Chemical / Industrial / Waste storage (transfer stations)

Hazard	Chemical / Industrial / Waste storage (transfer stations)
Description	Hazardous chemicals, lithium batteries and waste must be stored correctly to keep people and property safe. It must be made clear when you are storing these items with signs and labels.
Consequences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cause or contribute to fire • Injury or death • Explosion • Poisoning • Damage property • Environmental impacts
Relevant agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA • Environment Protection Authority (EPA) • Macedon Ranges Shire Council – Resource Recovery Facilities
What is being done	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Plans at Waste Transfer Stations • Emergency Response Procedures manual – Resource Recovery Facilities • Appropriate signage • EPA Laws & Guidelines can be found at epa.vic.gov.au
What community members can do	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Store chemicals and waste in a safe manner • Label these items correctly

Hazard	Chemical / Industrial / Waste storage (transfer stations)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dispose of any items no longer required in a safe and legal manner• Regularly check storage for any damage or degradation• Report to relevant authorities in the vent of a spill or theft

Table 10: Aviation

Hazard	Aviation
<p>Description</p>	<p>Kyneton airport is located 3.5 kms northwest of the town. The airstrip is managed by the Kyneton Aero club on behalf of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. There are two runways on the airstrip which also houses approximately 35 private hangers that are privately leased.</p> <p>There are additional privately owned and operated airstrips located throughout the Shire.</p>
<p>Consequences</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plane crash landing could spark a grass fire in the right conditions • Fuel / oils stored in hangers could be an explosive • Sparks from machinery / tools could cause fire • Injury or death • Environmental impacts • Damage property
<p>Relevant agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFA • Macedon Ranges Shire Council • Victoria Police • Civil Aviation Safety Authority • Australian Transport Safety Bureau
<p>What is being done</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyneton Airfield Operations Manual can be found at www.mrsc.vic.gov.au • Kyneton Airfield Emergency Management Plan

Hazard	Aviation
<p>What community members can do</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of the location of the airstrip if living or visiting nearby • Have a suitable fire plan

Part 2 Municipal Fire Managment Process



Part Two: Municipal Fire Management Planning

Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee

In 2018 the Emergency Management Legislation Amendment Act amended the Emergency Management Act 2013 (EM Act 2013) to provide greater cohesion through new integrated arrangements for emergency management planning in Victoria at the state, regional and municipal levels.

The principal focus of the amendments is on efficiency and effectiveness, interoperability and integration, the local needs of communities, promoting community resilience and the importance of collaborative emergency management planning.

Section 59 of the Emergency Management Act 2013 provide the authority under which Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committees (MEMPC) operate as a multi-agency collaboration whose members bring organisation, industry and personal expertise to the task of emergency management planning.

Under the new legislation, municipal fire management planning committees are sub-committees of the respective MEMPC.

Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee members work together to achieve a consistent, effective risk-based approach for fire management planning. The MFMPSC has a membership consisting of representatives from key stakeholder organisations in relation to fire management within the shire.

Current representatives of the MFMPSC are:

- Macedon Ranges Shire Council
- Country Fire Authority (CFA) including District, Groups and Regional Support
- Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning (DELWP)
- Parks Victoria
- Victoria Police
- Department of Transport and Planning (DoTP)
- Water Authorities
- Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV)

Other agencies may be invited to attend meetings as required.

Authority

The MFMPSC is responsible for providing a strategic and integrated approach to fire management within the shire that undertakes planning in line with the Emergency Management Act 1986, the Emergency Management Act 2013 and in accordance with the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.

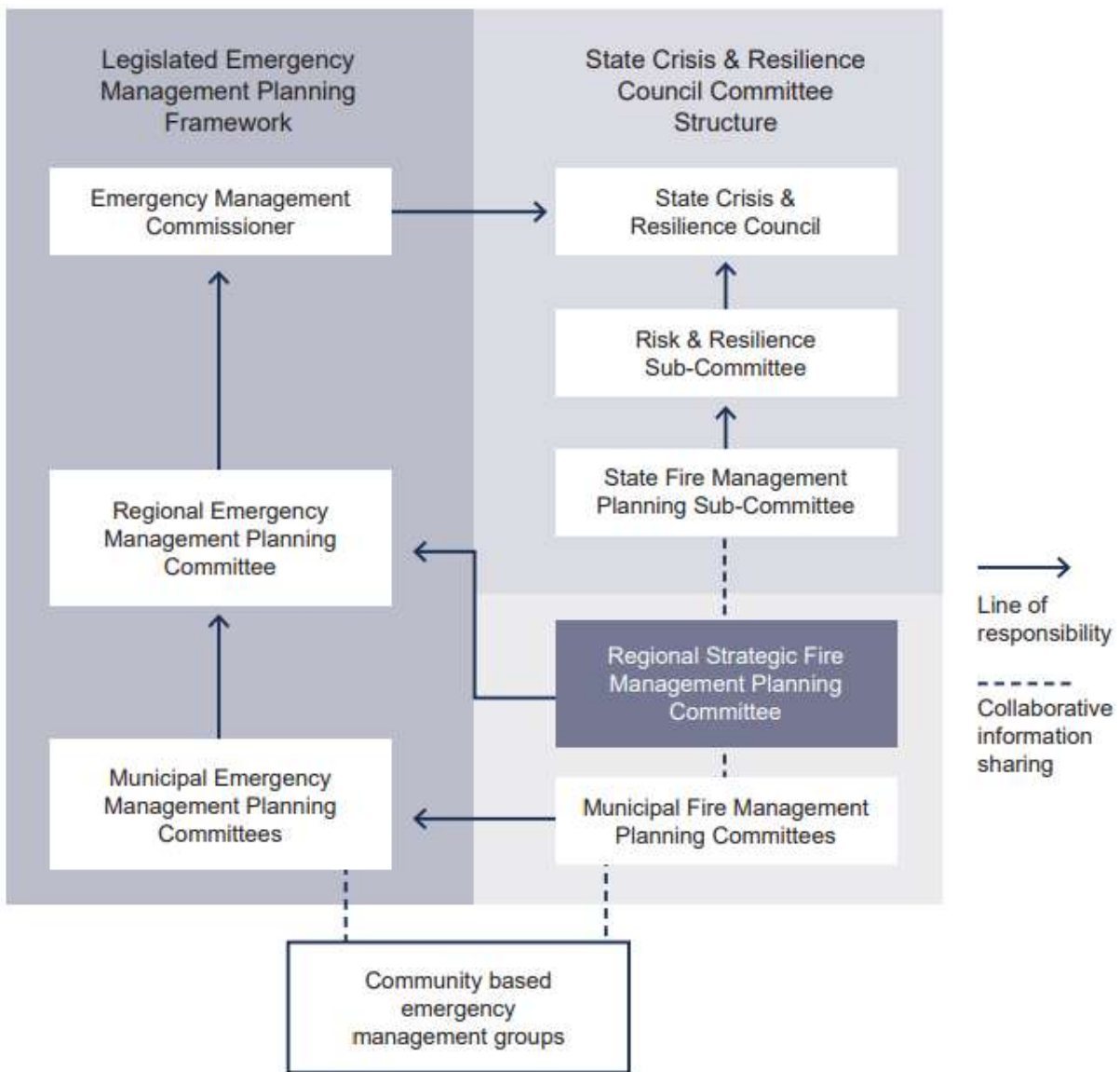


Figure 1 An overview of the State's emergency management and planning committee structure.

Municipal Fire Management Aims and Objectives

Strategic Direction

The Municipal Fire Management Plan is aligned with the state level priorities of reducing the number and the severity of bushfires and structure fires and creating a more fire educated and resilient community.

In developing this plan, the MFMPSC has considered the State and regional priorities, which are:

- Protection and preservation of life, including community warnings
- Educated and informed communities
- Protection of critical infrastructure and community assets that support community resilience
- Protection of residential property as a place of primary residence
- Protection of assets supporting individual livelihoods and economic production that supports individual and community financial sustainability
- Protection of environmental and conservation values that consider the cultural biodiversity and social values of the environment.

Municipal Direction

All organisations that form the Macedon Ranges MFMPSC have committed to developing an integrated approach to fire management within the shire to ensure the best possible protection and outcome for the communities that form the Shire.

In addition, the Macedon Ranges plan also seeks to achieve the following locally identified aims and objectives:

- All those who may be impacted by fire in the Macedon Ranges have the knowledge and confidence to make informed decisions about their fire risk and safety.

- All those who live, work and play in the shire work together to reduce the consequences of fire by understanding and addressing the fire risks in their local environment.
- Collaborative, integrated and effective bushfire and structural fire management occurs in partnership across all key agencies
- Increasing understanding of the realistic fire risks of the shire and better decision making across the whole community by making relevant data and tools available
- To build the capability of individuals, communities, businesses and the environment to prepare, respond and recover from bushfires and structure fires
- Timely and relevant communication with agencies, organisations and communities to support effective fire preparation, response and recovery by all
- Further strengthen the proactive partnerships between all key agencies who can support fire planning, response and recovery in the shire
- Identify and implement actions to improve bushfire and structure fire outcomes for the Macedon Ranges community
- Use fire effectively for ecological purposes.

Community and Fire Planning

Building Resilient Communities

Macedon Ranges Shire Council are currently working with communities in Darraweit Guim, Woodend, Riddells Creek, Lancefield, Romsey, Kyneton and Bullengarook to provide assistance and guidance for community-led 72 hour post emergency event action plans.

The 72 hour plan is designed to ensure communities are resilient in the immediate aftermath of an emergency prior to the arrival of agencies.

More resilient communities:

- Are mindful of the risks that may impact them and their vulnerabilities;
- Use their abilities, experience and resources to prepare for, and manage the consequences of emergencies; and
- Work together to support each other and emergency service organisations before, during and after emergencies.

Support can be made available for groups that may wish to explore developing a community level plan that assists in building community preparedness and resilience to emergencies.

Plan Development Process

The Macedon Ranges Fire Management Planning Committee was supported by a smaller, representative working group that was formed to guide the development process of the Plan.

As part of the development, the working group has reviewed and sought to align with existing legislation, frameworks and procedures including the:

- Guidelines for preparing State, Regional and Municipal Emergency Management Plans
- Guidance to Regional and Municipal Fire Management Planning Committees
- Victorian Preparedness Framework
- Community Resilience Framework for Emergency Management
- Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection Emergency Management Planning
- Assurance Framework for Emergency Management
- National Emergency Risk Management Guidelines
- Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA)

Risk Assessment Process

The Committee and any working groups of this Committee will undertake a continual process to identify and address fire risks within the municipality using data and evidence around emerging risks, discussions and reviews. This will further inform actions undertaken by the Committee and its members.

Plan Assurance and Approval

Under the planning arrangements, the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee is responsible for assuring any of its sub-plans, of which this Plan is one.

This Plan has been prepared in accordance with the EM Act 2013 and State Fire Management Planning Guidance to Regional and Municipal Fire Management Planning Committees.

A Statement of Assurance (Appendix 1) has been prepared and submitted to the Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee (REMPC) for plan approval. This Plan comes into effect when it is published and remains in effect until superseded by an approved and published update.

To ensure the Fire Management Plan provides for a current integrated, coordinated and comprehensive approach to effective fire management planning, it is to be reviewed at least every three years.

Suggested Information source for assurance and approval process:

- Guidelines for preparing State, Regional and Municipal Emergency Management Plans
- Guidance to Regional and Municipal Fire Management Planning Committees
- Victorian Preparedness Framework
- Community Resilience Framework for Emergency Management
- Assurance Framework for Emergency Management National Emergency Risk Management Guidelines
- Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA)

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

This plan will be reviewed every three years to ensure it is current, integrated, coordinated, comprehensive and relevant.

The Action Plan will be periodically updated to reflect the current status of identified risks as well as to reflect emerging risks and any strategies required to address them.

As well as having a standing agenda item at municipal fire management planning meetings, the Committee will periodically report to the Macedon Ranges Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee on the Actions, and the Tasks identified against them.

Additionally, the Macedon Ranges Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee supports Victoria's commitment to a culture of continuous improvement. This approach is outlined in the Emergency Management Victoria 2015 EM-LEARN Framework and is acquitted through:

- Sharing lessons, including positive actions, to sustain and identify areas of improvement
- Encouraging learning from both assurance activities and contemporary good practice
- Recognising that identifying and implementing sustainable solutions takes time, resources and opportunity.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Statement of Assurance

- The Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) has been prepared and endorsed by the MFMPSC and the MEMPC
- The MFMP is consistent with the principles underlying the preparation of emergency management plans

These principles require that the plan:

- prepared in a collaborative manner
- prepared efficiently and effectively
- prepared in a manner that acknowledges and reflects the importance of community emergency management planning.



Appendix 2 – Acronyms

This section contains acronyms that may be used in this Plan.

Acronym	Description
CFA	Country Fire Authority
FRV	Fire Rescue Victoria
DEECA(FFMV)	Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (Forest Fire Management Victoria)
DELWP	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
DoTP	Department of Transport and Planning
EMV	Emergency Management Victoria
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
LGA	Local Government Area
VicPol	Victoria Police
MEMPC	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
MFMPSC	Municipal Fire Management Planning Sub Committee

Appendix 3 – Support Material

Support material	Author
<i>Emergency Management Act 2013</i>	Issued by the Victorian Government
Lessons management framework (EM-LEARN)	Emergency Management Victoria
Guidelines for preparing State, Regional and Municipal Emergency Management Plans	Issued by the minister for Emergency Services
Guidance to Regional and Municipal Fire Management Planning Committees	Emergency Management Victoria
Victorian Preparedness Framework	Emergency Management Victoria
Community Resilience Framework for Emergency Management	Emergency Management Victoria
Assurance Framework for Emergency Management	Emergency Management Victoria
National Emergency Risk Guidelines	Emergency Management Australia
Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA)	State Emergency Service Victoria
Loddon Mallee Regional Management Plan	Emergency Management Victoria

Loddon Mallee Regional Environmental Scan	Emergency Management Victoria
Loddon Mallee Regional Strategic Fire Management Plan	Emergency Management Victoria
Emergency Risks in Victoria	Emergency Management Victoria

Appendix 4 – Sites listed on the Joint Fuel Management Plan

JFMP Year	Treatment Name	LGA	Treatment Type
1	Bullengarook - Bacchus Marsh Rd Carrolls Lane to Coffey Rd	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
1	Woodend- Old Ashbourne Rd	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
1	Clarkefield - Melbourne Lancefield Rd Bolinda Br	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
1	Woodend - Black Forest Dr	MRSC	Mulch
2	Riddells Creek - Sutherlands Rd	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
1	Riddells Creek - Kilmore Rd Western end Between Campbell Rd and Hamilton Rd	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
1	Romsey - Melbourne Lancefield Rd	MRSC	Mulch
1	Kyneton – Calder Freeway from Trio Rd to Burton Ave SW side of freeway	MRSC	Mulch
1	Woodend/Carlsruhe – Romsey Rd – Ave of Hon. – Cobb and Co Rd SE side of f/way	MRSC	Mulch
2	Riddells Creek - Sutherlands Rd	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
2	Woodend - Rail Reserve up side NW Stn	MRSC	Mulch
3	Monegetta - Proving Ground	MRSC	Fuel Reduction
3	Darraweit Guim - Fairfield Lane	MRSC	Fuel Reduction



Appendix 5 - Actions

Item	Action
Review JFMP annually	MFPO to liaise with CFA annually to discuss any sites that need to be added to the JFMP
Roadside Slashing Program	All priority roads aimed to be slashed prior to the FDP All sites to be slashed prior to Christmas
Critical roads for managing fire	Subcommittee / interested parties to meet annually to discuss
Initial Summer Community Engagement	Sessions to be held prior to Christmas
Tourism notification of event details to Emergency services	Set up meeting to discuss a way forward

Attachment 1 – Critical Roads for Managing Fire

The Critical Roads for Managing Fire Plan looks at the road network around the shire and prioritises treatment based on three key principles

Principle 1 — Protection of Townships

This is to ensure that we reduce the risk of a fire running from rural areas into townships.

Principle 2 — Critical Roads for Access and Egress

These are fundamental roads around the shire that are critical for access and egress in all emergencies.

Principle 3 — Critical Roads for Managing Fire

These have been identified as the roads that could assist fire fighters to reduce the rate of spread and intensity of a fire before it reaches townships.

Attachment 2 – Annual Roadside Slashing Program

Under our annual Roadside Slashing Program, Council slashes approximately 1000km of roads. On the majority of roadsides, either a 3 metre or full width slash is achieved. The aim of our program is to prevent a fire starting from a vehicle pulling over onto the roadside and the hot exhaust igniting the long grass. This treatment can also assist in preventing fires starting from vehicle collisions.

