

WALGETT SHIRE COUNCIL
LOCAL DISASTER PLAN

EVACUATION
SUB-PLAN

DRAFT – AUGUST 2012

PURPOSE:

This plan outlines Evacuation details in support of arrangements detailed in the WALGETT Local Disaster Plan (Displan).

SCOPE:

Arrangements detailed in this Plan are available for use by combat agency controllers, LEOCON, and NSW Police.

Arrangements outline within combat agency specific plans (ie SES Flood Plan, State Hazmat Plan, State Storm Plan and RFS Operations Plan) will dictate actions taken by combat agency controllers, LEOCON and NSW Police, when this Plan is activated.

Issues associated with Engineering, Transport and Welfare Functional areas will be undertaken in line with arrangements detailed in the Central West District functional area supporting plans.

AREA CONTROL:

- 1.05 The NSW Police are to control the access and egress from any disaster area designed by the LEOCON or Combat Controller. The Local Government Authority is to assist by supplying road barriers and personnel to man them as required.
- 1.06 Combat Agencies and the LEOCON will close roads until such time as accredited traffic arrangements are in place to control traffic movements.

PART A: EVACUATION:

- 2.01 Evacuation of persons or animals from an area of danger or potential danger is a possible strategy in combating any particular hazard impact.
- 2.02 The controller of the major incident/emergency (Combat Agency Controller, Section 44 Appointee or LEOCON) will determine the need for evacuation.
- 2.03 The Combat Agency Controller, Section 44 Appointee or LEOCON will immediately advise NSW Police when plans for evacuation are being considered.

AUTHORITY

- 2.04 The following table indices which individuals and organisations have authority to order an evacuation of persons or animals and under which circumstances.

DECISION:

Any decisions by the combat agency as to the need for evacuation are to be made in consultation with the LEOCON.

The following table details the persons/ Agencies and their authority to issue evacuation orders.

INDIVIDUAL/ORGANISATION	CIRCUMSTANCES
The Minister, or an "emergency services officer" (as defined) when authorised by the Minister.	During a declared State of Emergency, direct a person to leave premises and move out of an emergency area or part thereof, taking any persons in their care with them, and/or not to enter an emergency area or part thereof. (S37 SERM Act)
A Senior Police Officer (i.e. of or above the rank of Sergeant)	If satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for doing so for the purpose of protecting persons from injury or death

	threatened by an actual or imminent emergency. (S 60L - SERM Act)
A Police officer	In support of the authority of a member of the Fire Brigade acting under the Chief Officer's orders and to assist him or her where the persons are or property is endangered by fire or a hazardous materials incident. (S 25 Fire Brigades Act)
	In support of the authority of an in compliance with directions given by the Chief Co-ordinator, Fire Controllers or other rural fire officers in connection with the prevention, control and suppression of any fire. (S 44 - 45 Rural Fires Act)
INDIVIDUAL/ORGANISATION	CIRCUMSTANCES
Police Officer	As an authorised officer, power to control persons and vehicles in the forest estate and direct persons and vehicles to leave an area if the activities being undertaken or conditions constitute a danger or potential danger to the safety of persons or property. (S 15 - Forestry Act)
A Police officer, and All other members of emergency service organisations	In recognition of the authority of the Director General and emergency officers, provide assistance in connection with flood or storm and tempest operations. (S 21 State Emergency Service Act)
The Fire Brigade officer in charge at a fire or hazardous materials incident	Take such measures as the officer thinks fit to protect life and property and to remove any person, vehicle, vessel or thing which might interfere with the work of the Fire Brigades. (S13: 19 Fire Brigades act)
The Director General, State Emergency Service, or an "Emergency Officer" (as defined) when authorised by the Director General.	Direct a person to leave premises and move out of an emergency area or part thereof, taking any persons in their care with them, and/or not to enter an emergency area or part thereof. (S22 State Emergency Service Act)
Rural Fire Brigade and Group Captains or their deputies in their absence. Fire Control Officers. The Chief Co-ordinator or his Appointee.	Do any act, matter or thing (including evacuation) necessary for or incidental to the protection of life or property from any existing or imminent bush fire danger, except in relation to land or property vested in or under the control of the State Rail Authority, unless SRA

	grants permission (S24, 44-45 Rural Fires Act)
State Emergency Service	Authority is limited to the evacuation of people during flood, storm and tempest, or at the direction of the State Emergency Operations Controller. (S 19; 22 State Emergency Service Act)

INDIVIDUAL/ORGANISATION	CIRCUMSTANCES
Ambulance Service	<p>The Ambulance Service may be directed by the Police Service to assist in the conduct of evacuations, or, during a declared State of Emergency, by any authorised officer as determined under Section 37 of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (as amended).</p> <p>Evacuation of medical facilities such as hospitals or nursing homes will be at the direction of the Medical Controller.</p>
Local Government Authorities	In connection with fire safety related to buildings, the issue of orders to cease the use of premises, evacuate premises, to leave premises or not to enter premises. (S 124 Local Government Act)

WARNING:

2.05 All warnings for evacuation will be issued by the Combat Agency in consultation with the LEOCON.

2.06 The LEOCON and the Combat Agency will immediately notify the General Manager, Walgett Shire Council when an Agency issues or is considering the issue of a warning.

2.07 Warnings are to be issued by the relevant Agency in an appropriate manner using available media and local communication facilities. Door knocks are to be organised in association with NSW Police.

WITHDRAWAL:

2.08 Evacuations will be conducted under the control of the NSW Police Force with the assistance of the NSW Rural Fire Service, State Emergency Services, Fire & Rescue NSW, and Walgett Shire Council Staff as appropriate.

2.09 Evacuees are to be moved using their own transport wherever possible. NSW Police, LEOCON and the relevant Combat Agency Incident Controller will arrange additional suitable land transport to effect the evacuation. A list of local bus companies - operators are contained in **Appendix B1.**

2.10 Sites identified as evacuation points and/or evacuation assembly areas:

Walgett -

Trevillian Park
Walgett High School oval
Walgett Airport
Apex Park

Ginghie and Namoi Villages-

Community Halls

Collarenebri –

Bowling Club car park
Swimming pool

Wolli Mission-

Park in centre of village

Lightning Ridge-

Football oval Kaolin St
Carpark at Swimming Pool, Potch St
Bowling Club car park, Morilla St.

Burren Junction-

Burren Junction Hotel carpark

Carinda-

Swimming Pool

Rowena-

Village store car park

Grawin-

Grawin Golf Course

Evacuees may be able to exit the evacuation area under their own power on foot or by car, or may require transport or other assistance. For this reason door knocks of premises is important to ascertain the needs of individuals in this respect.

Transport Functional Area will organize transport in the form of buses for those that cannot leave the area under their own power. These buses will be procured under hire from local bus operators

Evacuees unable to travel normally due to medical conditions will be transferred by Ambulance, either to the Evacuation Centres or the health service facilities(hospital), subject to determination by Ambulance Officers.

Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service will provide assistance with medical assessments and treatment for evacuees registered at the Evacuation Centres.

In the event the evacuee requires hospitalization and the hospital itself has been (or is being) evacuated, the patient will be subject to transfer to a hospital elsewhere. This decision will be made by Western NSW Local Health District and may require the use of air ambulance or RFDS.

Identified vulnerable locations and communities as detailed in the DISPLAN (ie aged care facility) will be dealt with on a case by case basis as determined by the Combat Agency in consultation with the facility manager; LEOCON; Department of Family and Community Services and Western NSW Local Health District.

Companion Animals: Where the needs of companion animals cannot be met by the owners, the Department of Primary Industries will provide such resources and amenities as are available for this. Companion animals will not be accommodated at evacuation centres

SHELTERS:

2.11 Evacuees are to be directed to proceed to the most appropriate assembly area detailed in 2.10, where they are to be registered and if appropriate transported to an evacuation centre. These centres will be established by the LEOCON in consultation with Department of Family and Community Services.

2.12 In the event that Walgett Shire township or villages need to be completely evacuated due to flooding or other incident or emergency, including infrastructure failure, these evacuation destinations will be used as a general guide for the implementation of operational plans:

- a. Walgett to be evacuated to Dubbo or Moree dependent on incident or emergency and available transport routes.
- b. Goodooga (Located in Brewarrina Shire) to be evacuated to Lightning Ridge (alternative Dubbo).
- c. Villages to be evacuated to Walgett (alternatives include Dubbo, Lightning Ridge, Coonamble, Narrabri or Moree).

Flood specific evacuation guidance material is listed in the Walgett Shire Flood Plan.

2.13 If the evacuation involves movement of people from one Local Government Area to another Local Government Area the DEOCON must be advised.

2.14 Evacuated areas are to be patrolled by the Police, (provided it is safe to do so), to provide security and stop entry/re-entry until the area is declared safe for re-occupation.

RETURN:

2.15 The Combat Agency, or LEOCON is to be responsible for the return of evacuees to their normal or alternate place of residence once it is safe to do so.

2.16 Formal engineering assessments may be required to ensure the safety of structures and infrastructure within the evacuated area, prior to the formal approval for the return of evacuees to that area.

2.17 At the request of the Combat Agency or LEOCON, the Department of Family & Community Services (Disaster Recovery Service) will coordinate and manage this phase of the evacuation operation.

PART C: FLOOD EVACUATIONS

3.01 The State Emergency Service Walgett Flood Plan details specific flood operational planning information.

3.02 Information listed below needs to be considered for evacuations effecting towns and villages within the Walgett Shire area.

WALGETT:

3.03 The town of Walgett is surrounded on the north, west and south sides by a levee bank, which has reconstructed in 2002. Walgett Shire Council has advised in 2003 that the new construction has caused concern as to the worthiness of the levee to protect the town in a major flood.

3.04 Flood height predictions and height determinations within the town indicate that a partial inundation will occur if the levee bank is compromised.

3.05 The Combat Agency, State Emergency Service has maps pertaining to the affected areas within the town.

3.06 Evacuations arrangements will be:

a Sick and elderly taken to the Walgett Hospital

b People from inundated areas taken to the Walgett Race Course

c Animals from inundated areas taken to the Walgett Race Course

3.07 If the decision is made to evacuate effected people from Walgett the following actions will be undertaken for transportation to Dubbo or any other selected receivable centre:

a Rotary winged aircraft transportation from Walgett Race Course to Walgett Airport

b Fixed wing transportation from Walgett Airport to the selected receivable centre

or subject to suitable conditions:

a Rotary winged transportation to predetermination location on the Walgett to Gongolgon Road

b Coach transport from predetermination location on the Walgett to Gongolgon Road to selected receivable centre.

3.08 Transport logistics will be coordinated by the combat agency controller in association with the LEOCON and/or DEOCON.

3.09 Transport logistics will be arranged under arrangements detailed in the Far West district Displan and relevant state level functional area surrounding plans

GONGOLGON

3.10 If the decision is made to evacuate effected people from Gongolgon, the following actions will be undertaken for transportation to Nyngan.

a Rotary winged aircraft transportation to predetermination location on the Gongolgon to Coolabah Road

b Coach transport from predetermination location on the Gongolgon to Coolabah Road to Nyngan.

3.11 Special consideration needs to be given to the following facilities in the Gongolgon area:

a Yetta Dhinnakkal Correctional Centre

b Orana Haven Rehabilitation Centre

Due to the special needs associated with these facilities evacuations will be undertaken in line the facility specific evacuation plan.

3.12 Transport logistics will be coordinated by the combat agency controller in association with the LEOCON and/or DEOCON.

3.13 Transport logistics will be arranged under arrangements detailed in the Far West district Displan and relevant state level functional area surrounding plans.

GOODOOGA and WEILMORINGLE

3.14 These villages become isolated during floods, however due to their locations they are not subject to a risk of inundation.

3.15 State Emergency Service will attend to resupply and logistic support to both communities in line with their operational flood plans.

3.16 Medical retrieval and resupply will require rotary wing aircraft support as the airport is approximately 9 kilometres from Goodooga and becomes isolated because of the Bokhara and Birrie Rivers

LOGISTICS (TRANSPORT SUPPORT)

3.17 Transport logistics will be coordinated by the combat agency controller in association with the LEOCON and/or DEOCON.

3.18 Transport logistics will be arranged under arrangements detailed in the Far West district Displan and relevant state level functional area surrounding plans.

APPENDIX A
EVACUATION CENTRES

Name and Address	Contact	Phone Number	Details and Facilities
Walgett RSL Club Hall Fox Street, Walgett	Paul Clarke		Toilets on site Capacity 250 approx Kitchen available at club
Lightning Ridge Bowling Club Morilla Street Lightning Ridge			Capacity 250 approx Toilets on site Kitchen available at club
Collarenebri Town Hall Earl Street Collarenebri	General Manager Walgett Shire Council		Capacity 250 approx Toilets on site Kitchen limited on site
			Capacity Toilets Kitchen
			Capacity

			Toilets, Kitchen Capacity Kitchen
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Name and Address	Contact	Phone Number	Details and Facilities
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			Capacity Toilets Kitchen
			Capacity Toilets Kitchen
			Capacity Toilets Kitchen
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			Toilets Kitchen
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