

APPENDIX E - FLOOD WARNING SYSTEMS

Storm and Flood Warning

Storm and Flood Warning products and Flood Class Levels can be found on the BoM website. Warning Products include Severe Thunderstorm Warnings, Severe Weather Warnings, Flood Watches and Flood Warnings.

Flood Bulletins

VICSES distributes flood emergency information to the media through “Flood Bulletins”. Flood Bulletins provide BoM Flood Warning information as well as information regarding possible flood consequences and safety advice, not contained in BoM Flood Warning products. VICSES uses the title Flood Bulletin to ensure emphasis is placed upon BoM Flood Warning product titles.

The relevant VICSES Region Headquarters or the established ICC will normally be responsible for drafting, authorizing and issuing issue Flood Bulletins, using the One Source, One Message system.

Flood Bulletins should refer to the warning title within the Bulletin header, for example Flood Bulletin for Major Flood Warning on Yarra River.

Flood Bulletins should follow the following structure

- What is the current flood situation;
- What is the predicted flood situation;
- What are the likely flood consequences;
- What should the community do in response to flood warnings;
- Where to seek further information and
- Who to call if emergency assistance is required.

It is important that the description of the predicted flood situation is consistent with and reflects the relevant BoM Flood Warning.

Flood Bulletins should be focused on specific gauge (or in the absence of gauges, catchment) reference areas, that is the area in which flood consequences specifically relate to the relevant flood gauge.

Flood Bulletins should be prepared and issued after receipt of each Flood Watch and Flood Warning from the BoM, or after Severe Weather or Thunderstorm Warnings indicating potential for severe flash flooding.

To ensure flood bulletins are released in a timely manner, standardised flood bulletins may be drafted based on different scenarios, prior to events occurring. The standardised flood bulletins can then be adapted to the specifics of the event occurring or predicted to occur.

Local Flood Warning System Arrangements

No local arrangements are in place in Cardinia Shire.