Appendix 1D

Exercise scenario guide

This template is designed to help develop the locally relevant scenario. You should work with the combat agency to ensure the scenario is plausible and relevant to the local area. This is an opportunity to highlight any special local risks.

The guide supports the facilitator guide (appendix 4) and slide deck (appendix 5). Suggested wording is in black, which you may choose to use or amend. Delete or update guidance text in purple once complete.

# Scenario planning guide – severe storm

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|  | Storyline | Trigger questions |
| General idea | It’s early November (or around Christmas to explore issues during holiday season). TOWN has had seasonal rainfall, with a blustery storm two weeks ago. The past week has been hot and humid, with storms in the area, but not affecting the town. It's Friday in a normal working week (or school holiday period) (insert a local event or activity if relevant). The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has forecast unsettled weather for today and the next three days.Sunset is at TIME and sunrise tomorrow at TIME. | N/A |
| Special idea 1 – warning | At 1.37pm, the BoM issues a severe thunderstorm warning for giant hail, rain and damaging winds with gusts exceeding 90km/h likely to affect TOWN between 5 and 6pm. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for? What if:* A group of storm chasers calls the SES to say that they are in town and are planning to help by reporting in any damage they see if the storm strikes.
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| Special idea 2 – impact and immediate response | The storm strikes TOWN around 5.30pm, largely as forecast, with hail, rain and blustery winds. There appears to be extensive damage. Road names are blocked by fallen trees or debris, power is out in suburbs or areas, with reports of powerlines down in the area and the SES has already received numbers of calls. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The President of the local Progress Association rings the Council to offer their hall for temporary accommodation.
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| Special idea 3 – aftermath and impact assessment | Power is unlikely to be restored for at least 48 hours.Number of homes have significant hail damage and are uninhabitable.Number of homes have fallen trees or branches in their yard, many of these are large and will require sawing up to move. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The local football club captain turns up at the SES unit offering his team’s services to help with the clean-up.
* A Facebook page is established asking for people to make donations for the homeless families. The page suggests sending donations to a local address, which is an unoccupied shed in the industrial estate.
* A Facebook page is established asking for arborists to volunteer to remove or make-safe damaged trees. The local landscaper and arborist complains to council that their livelihood is being undercut.
* A local company rings the police and offers to supply 50 5kW generators.
* Further rain falls two days later.
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| Special idea 4 – recovery  | It’s three weeks after the storm. Continuing unsettled weather has hampered temporary repairs, but the SES has declared that all homes damaged by the storm (number) have been made safe or their residents placed in temporary accommodation (number can’t return home until it’s repaired). It is likely that tarpaulins and other temporary repairs will need to be maintained (tie-down ropes tightened, minor leaks fixed) for some months until permanent repairs are completed.Debris has been progressively moved onto footpaths or verges.The EOC is planning to close tomorrow. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The Men’s Shed rings the Council offering to maintain temporary repairs.
* The local volleyball competition teams approach their local councillor asking how they can help.
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# Scenario planning guide – major flooding

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|  | Storyline | Trigger questions |
| General idea | It’s early November (or around Christmas to explore issues during holiday season). TOWN has had higher than average seasonal rainfall, with a blustery storm two weeks ago. The past week has been hot and humid, with storms in the area, but not affecting the town. It's Friday in a normal working week (or school holiday period) (insert a local event or activity if relevant). The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has forecast unsettled weather for today and rain for the next three days. A Flood Watch has been issued. | N/A |
| Special idea 1 – warning | Following heavier rainfall than initially predicted the BoM issues a flood warning for major flooding from Monday morning. Insert details of locally relevant flood threat with sufficient warning time to take protective actions including sandbagging, moving stock, raising equipment and evacuating as required by the flood plan. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for? What if:* A group of storm chasers calls the SES to say that they are in town and are planning to help by reporting in any damage they see if a storm strikes.
* A nearby angling club calls the police station to offer to drive their small boats as rescue craft.
* The local football club asks the SES if they can help fill sandbags.
* A local landscaper sets up a sandbagging machine at location and he, with a bunch of his mates, starts filling and piling up sandbags, then asks SES to take them “somewhere useful”.
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| Special idea 2 – impact and immediate response | Floodwaters rise as forecast, peaking just above the major flood level (or as decided, but at least major) at time.Work with the SES to create a story that is consistent with the local flood plan and includes evacuations, temporary accommodation for displaced residents and animals, damage to homes and rural properties, damage to bridges and potentially isolation.  | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* Police receive reports of “people in boats motoring through town”.
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| Special idea 3 – aftermath and impact assessment | Work with the SES to create a story that is consistent with the local flood plan and includes:Number of homes uninhabitable and need to be stripped.Number of people needing temporary accommodation.Number of animals trapped or on islands or knee deep in mud.Kilometres of fence damaged or destroyed. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The local football club captain turns up at the SES unit offering his team’s services to help with the clean-up.
* A Facebook page is established asking for people to make donations for the homeless families. The page suggests sending donations to a local address, which is an unoccupied shed in the industrial estate.
* A TikTok video calling for “the new mud army” to assemble at the Council Chambers goes viral and dozens of high-school children arrive wanting to help.
* A semi-trailer loaded with hay arrives at the Council Chambers and the driver wants to know where it’s needed.
* The President of the local Progress Association rings the Council to offer their hall for temporary accommodation.
* A local hardware supplier calls the SES to offer clean up equipment (shovels, brooms, PPE) and wants to know where to deliver it.
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| Special idea 4 – recovery  | Work with the SES to set a realistic timeframe for their response work to be finished. Consider long term resupply if locally relevant. It’s three weeks after the flood. Continuing unsettled weather has hampered immediate clean-up work, but the SES has declared that all homes damaged by the flooding (number) have been made safe or their residents placed in temporary accommodation (number can’t return home until it’s repaired). Debris has been progressively moved onto footpaths or verges.Insert locally relevant rural impacts.The EOC is planning to close tomorrow. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The Men’s Shed rings the Council offering to make temporary repairs so people can move back home.
* The local volleyball competition teams approach their local councillor asking how they can help.
* BlazeAid calls the Council with an offer to oversee a group of up to fifty people to repair fences, if Council will provide a camping location and support with utilities and amenities.
* A fishing club offers to do resupply with their tinnies.
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# Scenario planning guide – severe bushfire

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|  | Storyline | Trigger questions |
| General idea | It’s early MONTH (or around Christmas to explore issues during holiday season). TOWN has had a hotter than average spring, with below average rainfall. The past week has been hot and dry. It's Friday morning in a normal working week (or school holiday period) (insert a local event or activity if relevant). The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has forecast heatwave conditions for the coming four days. A fire at location is not under control and a “watch and act” warning is in force. | N/A |
| Special idea 1 – warning | Work with the RFS to build a locally relevant bushfire threat with sufficient warning time to take protective actions including clearing gutters and other property protection measures, moving stock, and relocating to safer areas.It's late Friday and the RFS issues a catastrophic fire weather warning and TOBAN for the following day. The fire at LOCATION, has been upgraded to an Emergency Warning for AREA(S)  | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for? What if:* A group of a dozen men in town for a bachelor’s party arrive at the local RFS asking what they can do to help.
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| Special idea 2 – impact and immediate response | Work with the RFS to create a story that is locally plausible and includes evacuations, temporary accommodation for displaced residents and animals, damage to homes and rural properties, habitat destruction, damage to bridges and potentially isolation.  | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* A local farmers group rings to say they are heading out to protect sheds at LOCATION (in the fire path).
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| Special idea 3 – aftermath and impact assessment | Work with the RFS to create a story that is consistent with local plans and includes:Number of homes and other structures destroyed.Number of people needing temporary accommodation.Number of animals (farm, domestic and native) killed or severely burned.Kilometres of fence damaged or destroyed | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The local football club captain turns up at the RFS shed offering his team’s services to help with the clean-up.
* A Facebook page is established asking for people to make donations for the homeless families. The page suggests sending donations to a local address, which is an unoccupied shed in the industrial estate.
* A TikTok video calling for “the native animal army” to assemble at the Council Chambers goes viral and dozens of high-school children arrive wanting to help.
* A semi-trailer loaded with hay arrives at the Council Chambers and the diver wants to know where it’s needed.
* The President of the local Progress Association rings the Council to offer their hall for temporary accommodation.
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| Special idea 4 – recovery  | Work with the RFS to set a realistic timeframe for their response work to be finished. It’s ten days after the fire was put out by a rainstorm and the RFS has declared that all homes damaged by the fire (number) have been made safe and residents whose homes were destroyed are in temporary accommodation. Residents are now allowed to return to the affected area.Debris from destroyed structures remains in place while it is surveyed for asbestos and other hazards.Insert locally relevant rural impacts.The EOC is planning to close tomorrow. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The Men’s Shed rings the Council offering to help with debris removal.
* The local volleyball competition teams approach their local councillor asking how they can help.
* BlazeAid calls the Council with an offer to oversee a group of up to sixty people to repair fences, if Council will provide a camping location and support with utilities and amenities.
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# Scenario planning guide – coastal pollution

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|  | Storyline | Trigger questions |
| General idea | It’s early MONTH (suggest peak holiday season). TOWN has had average weather. The past week has been warm and dry. It's Friday morning in a normal working week (or school holiday period) (insert a local event or activity if relevant). The Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) has forecast warm conditions for the weekend, with a cold front and associated rain expected on Monday. | N/A |
| Special idea 1 – warning | Work with NSW Maritime (or the relevant port) to build a locally relevant oil spill threat with sufficient warning time to take protective actions including shoreline surveys and booming. A suitable scenario would give 24-48 hours’ notice of fuel oil coming ashore and affecting beaches, boat ramps (or similar infrastructure). It's late Friday and the news is carrying stories of a shipping accident offshore, where a freighter has collided with a fishing vessel, which has sunk. There are reports of a large oil spill offshore that may affect LOCATION. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for? What if:* The local game fishing club rings the police station asking what they can do to help.
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| Special idea 2 – impact and immediate response | Work with NSW Maritime (or the relevant port) to create a story that is locally plausible and includes shoreline impact, oiled wildlife, damage to coastal infrastructure (such as boat ramps and jetties), and habitat destruction.  | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* A local oyster farmers group rings the local Maritime office to say they are heading out to lay booms at LOCATION (in the oil spill path).
* A local indigenous group contacts Maritime to point out culturally significant coastline and wants help so they can protect it.
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| Special idea 3 – aftermath and impact assessment | Work with NSW Maritime (or the relevant port) to create a story that is consistent with local plans and includes:Area of shoreline affected.Number and species of oiled wildlife affected.Impact on local fishing/aquacultureImpact on tourism | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* The local football club captain turns up at the shoreline operating base offering his team’s services to help with the clean-up.
* A large group of tourists from the local holiday park have banded together to help. A representative has called the police to offer their services.
* The Men’s Shed rings the Council offering to help with removing oil from the beach or looking after oiled wildlife.
* A Facebook page is established asking for people to make donations for cleaning and rehabilitating oiled wildlife. The page suggests sending donations to a local private address.
* A TikTok video calling for “the native animal army” to assemble at the Council Chambers goes viral and dozens of high-school children arrive wanting to help with the wildlife response.
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| Special idea 4 – recovery  | Work with NSW Maritime (or the relevant port) to set a realistic timeframe for their response work to be finished. It’s months after the oil came ashore and the response is focussing on beach cleanup as oil continues to appear on locally important beach.Oiled wildlife are being cared for at LOCATIONInsert locally relevant fishing/aquaculture and tourism impacts.The EOC is planning to close with Maritime operating a smaller operations centre to oversee ongoing beach cleanup. | Where can spontaneous volunteers help?Where might they come from?Who coordinates their activities?How do we manage risk?What can we plan for?What if:* A previously unknown group “friends of the penguins” calls the Council with an offer to oversee a group of up to sixty people to patrol and clean the beach, if Council will provide a camping location and support with utilities and amenities.
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