Fire Situation Update
Total Area of Upper Murray fire – approx 305,755ha

Conditions have been milder allowing crews to work on containment lines along the west side of the fire, as weather conditions permit.

Back-burning is occurring in the Wabba Wilderness, between Berringama and Dartmouth Dam along the Beetoomba Spur Track, Gibb Range Track, Glamour Hill Track to secure the western flank of the fire.

As a result of this back-burning, increased smoke will be visible in nearby areas.

Weather

Today
Dry and sunny. Areas of smoke haze. Light winds tending north-easterly.
- Corryong – 35 C
- Tallangatta – 32 C
- Dartmouth – 30 C

Wednesday 15th January
Inland trough progresses slowly eastwards across Victoria. Afternoon showers and thunderstorms developing over central areas and the east ranges. Local heavy falls and flash flooding possible with storms.
- Corryong – 17 / 33 C
- Tallangatta – 18 / 28 C
- Dartmouth – 18 / 28 C

Outlook
On Thursday, the inland trough will clear eastern Victoria with showers and thunderstorms becoming more widespread and contracting over eastern districts. On Friday, thunderstorms are possible in the east. The inland trough reforms over Victoria during the weekend, maintaining predominantly southerly winds across the state. Warm and humid conditions over inland areas will bring continuing risk of storms to central and eastern districts.
Murray Valley Highway Re-opened - With Conditions

The Murray Valley Highway between Bullioh and Corryong is open 24/7, but with restricted access.

For access past the Traffic Management Point, residents must provide photo ID and proof of residency for access to Corryong. All other access routes in the area are closed. Re-opening of roads to communities is a priority.

Roads and Access

Current Information on road closures available 13 11 70 or the Vic Traffic website: traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au

Current Park Closures

As a result of the fire ALL Parks and State Forests are closed to the public until further notice.

For information on forest access and roads visit www.parks.vic.gov.au

Traffic Management Points as at 8.00am today

Tintaldra – Murray River Rd / Cudgewa Ko
Corryong - Murray Valley Hwy / Sugarloaf Rd
Corryong – Murray Valley Hwy / Mongans Lane
Bullioh - Murray Valley Hwy / Granya Rd
Mitta Mitta - Omeo Hwy at Mitta Mitta Township
Shelley – Murray Valley Hwy / Shelley Walwa Rd
Walwa – Murray River Rd / Jingellic Rd
Walwa – Murray River Rd / Harvey St
Colac Colac – Benambra-Corryong Rd / Murray Valley Hwy
Cudgewa – Cudgewa Valley Rd / Briggs Gap Rd
Burrowye – Murray River Rd / Guys Forest Rd

Animal Welfare

Livestock

Farmers in need of fodder or agistment should call the VFF on 1300 882 833 to register for assistance.

For urgent animal welfare and needs for pets, horses and livestock including food and water contact 1800 226 226 or visit http://agriculture.vic.gov.au for more information.

Contact the Towong Shire for assistance with livestock disposal 02 6071 5100.

Wildlife

It is expected that wildlife will be coming onto private property as they seek shelter from fire and search out food and water. If you see wildlife resting in your garden, keep people and pets away and allow it to rest and recover. Noise should also be kept to a minimum.

Injured wildlife - please report it to the Wodonga Incident Control Centre 02 6043 4600 which will be redirected to the Wildlife Coordinator.

Health Impacts

Corryong Health Services are available for health related concerns - 02 6076 3290

Call NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 606 024 or see your doctor if you are unwell.

In an emergency, call Triple Zero (000)

Mental Health

It is normal to have strong emotional or physical reactions following a distressing event. There is always help available through your doctor and local mental health professionals. You can call the following for support at any time:

- Lifeline - 131 114
- Beyond Blue - 1300 224 636
- Mens Line - 1300 789 978
- Kid’s Help Line - 1800 55 1800
- Parent Line - 13 22 89

Family Violence

There is an increased risk of family violence after an emergency. Help is available. https://www.vic.gov.au/family-violence-support or call 1800 737732 (1800 RESPECT)
Essential Services Update

**Communications**
Information on NBN outages can be found at https://downdetector.com.au/status/nbnco/map/
Information on Telstra outages can be found at https://www.telstra.com.au/coverage-networks/our-coverage

**Power supply**
For details - www.energy.vic.gov.au

**Emergency Water Relief Program**
Bushfire affected residents can seek emergency water. South East Water are facilitating this program for the North East fires. Call 131851, and press 9.

For further details: https://mysupport.southeastwater.com.au/articles/FAQ/Emergency-water-relief-program-for-bushfire-affected-residents

Community Support
Support is available through the Towong Shire Council hotline 02 6071 5180

Police Assistance Line on 131 444. Or you can make an online report at www.police.vic.gov.au. If you wish to report a scam or fraud, visit www.cyber.gov.au/

Report suspicious behaviour to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

**Bushfire Case Support Program**
The Victorian Bushfires Case Support Program has been launched and is available for people affected by the bushfires in East Gippsland and North East Victoria, as a single point of contact linking local residents to vital support – such as information and advice, mental health support or financial counselling.
Resident can access service via 1800 560 760.

**Financial Assistance**
DHHS staff are working from relief centres, including Corryong, providing financial and emergency accommodation assistance to people evacuating impacted areas.

People who cannot get to a relief centre can call the hotline 1800 961 054.

Stay Informed
- www.emergency.vic.gov.au
- VicEmergency Hotline - freecall 1800 226 226
- VicEmergency app
- Facebook or Twitter #vicfires

Local radio
ABC Radio is the Emergency Broadcaster
- Albury-Wodonga & Wangaratta 106.5FM
- Bright 89.7FM
- Corryong 99.7FM
- Myrtleford 91.7FM
NOTE TO RESIDENTS:

Safety on Returning to Home
Even though roads are opening and residents are returning home, there may be local risks and safety issues still present on your property.

Be aware of dangers associated with asbestos, fallen powerlines, fallen or damaged trees, and unstable structures on fire-affected properties.

Safety hazards that may arise after fires include:

- LP gas tanks and cylinders that may have been damaged by fire and heat
- Decomposing livestock and wildlife that may present biohazards
- Unstable structures such as free-standing chimneys, fire damaged retaining walls or underground water tanks, concrete septic tanks and pits which may be at risk of collapse
- Asbestos which has crumbled due to exposure to extreme heat.

For further details of hazards to look out for and who to contact for advice: https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/news/2020-01/hidden-hazards-pose-fire-clean-risk

Personal Fire Plans
Residents should still be enacting their personal fire plans and remain vigilant for changes in current fire activity, by staying informed and monitoring for warnings.