

NEMA - Crisis and Disaster Response - Submission

Background

In August 2023, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) published a paper, '*Alternative Commonwealth Capabilities for Crisis Response*' with its purpose of eliciting feedback on longer-term, structural changes to Commonwealth capacities that may be required to support state, territory and locally-led crisis response efforts in the context of the broader strategic landscape, including the impacts of climate change and other regional contingencies.

With Australia more likely to see an increase in the frequency and severity of natural hazards, with the risk of cascading natural disasters (such as cyclones causing floods or fuel loads caused by floods in one year increasing the severity of fires in subsequent years) affecting Australia's economy, environment, supply chains and infrastructure. While states and territories are primarily responsible for incidents within their jurisdiction, they can request assistance from the Commonwealth Government to bolster their response and recovery efforts.

About us

Sierra Fire Rescue Medical has consistently delivered exceptional services for events and industrial settings since 2015. We prioritise building strong partnerships with our clients and tailoring our solutions to their unique needs and legislative obligations.

Employing a significant number of Country Fire Authority (CFA) Volunteers, as well as experienced first aid practitioners, remote communications specialists and individuals with significant remote wilderness experience, Sierra FRM personnel have the training and qualifications to assist with multifaceted frontline crisis response.

While Sierra FRM's primary focus is fire, rescue and medical, our staff come from a wide variety of professions such as trades, IT, logistics, industrial relations, and the medical industry.

How can Sierra Fire Rescue Medical contribute to the National Emergency Response?

Bushland Preparation:

- Track Management
- Fire Break Clearing
- Assets & Infrastructure Preparation (Comms Towers, Water Facilities etc.)

Wildfire and Bushfire Response Teams

Employing a large number of CFA responders, Sierra FRM personnel have the necessary training and qualifications to assist in wildfire and bushfire frontline response. Sierra FRM can provide personnel in the form of:

- Vehicle-based crews (working with local fire crews)
- Foot-based arduous crews
- Asset Protection crews
- Evacuation crews

Post-Fire Cleanup and Make Safe

- Track clearing
- Hazardous tree removal
- Post-fire structure and property integrity (rapid assessment teams)

Temporary Radio Communications (Non-Government)

Working with several government agencies implementing mobile radio systems, Sierra FRM has the infrastructure, knowledge and mobile assets to facilitate temporary radio communications for coordinated emergency response.

Sierra FRM's mobile communication resources include but are not limited to:

- DMR Deployable Radio system for use by non-government personnel. Radio resources within Government agencies can be limited and subject to data privacy and asset security rules that can prohibit civilians from using them. Sierra FRM can provide high-quality DMR radios, enabling the assets to interconnect to government systems if required (approval required).
- Location tracking and text messaging for critical alerts
- Dispatch and coordination system to work in conjunction with the local ICC.
- Asset tracking
- Reliable communication (radio networks) for residents to receive alerts and information following a major incident.
- Mobile internet provisions
- Mobile solar and generator power for remote deployment sites (trailers and drop cases)
- 24/7 tech support for all field and dispatch centres.

Flood Cleanup

- Track clearing
- Hazardous tree removal
- Post-flood structure and property integrity (rapid assessment teams)

Land Search & Rescue

Working in remote and wilderness terrains, Sierra FRM personnel have extensive experience navigating and traversing technical terrain in inclinent conditions.

Having experience in land search and rescue, Sierra FRM personnel have worked with emergency services in both a search capacity as well as a logistics and personnel coordination capacity.

Road Crash & Technical Rescue

- Sierra FRM's highly trained personnel can assist with road crash and technical rescue during natural disasters and other times of overload, providing a rescue response to work with the local resources.
- Qualified road crash rescue personnel
- Qualified industrial and confined spaces rescue personnel
- Qualified Rope Rescue personnel

First Aid / Medical Centers

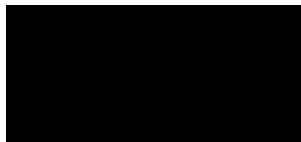
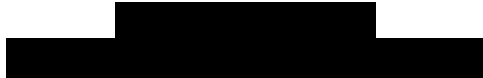
- Deployable Triage Centers
- Intermediate First Aid centres
- Roving First Aid crews in affected areas
- Staging area First Aid
- Ability to work with the Local Ambulance crews to help Relieve pressure with low acuity jobs (subject to MOU with state ambulance services)

volunteer Coordination & Management

- Working with the DivCom / ICC to coordinate and manage other non-government personnel and volunteers during rescue, clean up and make safe.
- Logistics and asset management

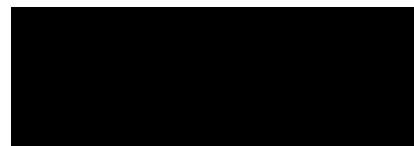
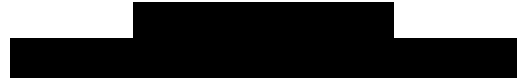
Kind Regards

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