

CAWE Communiqué

February 2020

Introduction

Welcome to the *CAWE Communiqué* designed to provide stakeholders with updates from the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) on Animal Welfare in Emergencies. The *CAWE Communiqué* will be distributed quarterly following the DPIRD Committee for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (CAWE) meetings and will be made available on the DPIRD webpage.

February edition items

- Peak Natural Hazard Season 19/20
- Community Disaster Resilience Strategy
- Consultation Closed: Local Animal Welfare in Emergencies Plan: Guide and Template
- Animal Welfare in Emergencies webpage update

Peak Natural Hazard Season 19/20

The Peak Natural Hazard Season for 2019 - 2020 has seen DPIRD provide support to a number of incident and emergency response for a range of hazards including Fire, Heatwave, Cyclone, Storm, Flood & COVID19 preparedness. The State Support Plan – Animal Welfare in Emergencies has not been formally activated this season however, DPIRD staff have provided support to the incident management and local communities through:

- Dissemination of public information via social media
- Attending incident support meetings
- Distributing updates to the CAWE members
- Providing advice and support to local response
- Assisting in the connection of services to owners and carers

The ongoing season has been challenging, however there have been positive displays of collaboration and inclusion of animal welfare considerations for many of the emergency responses.

At the conclusion of the season, DPIRD will liaise with the CAWE to review the response to the season and identify any learnings to be taken on board in time for the 2020 – 2021 Peak Natural Hazard Season.

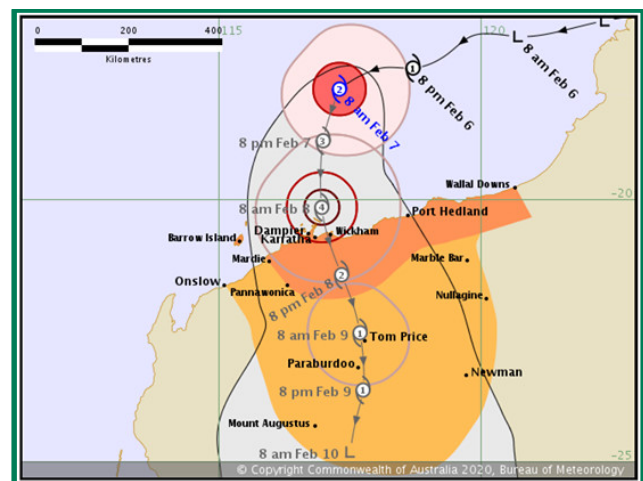


Image courtesy of [Bureau of Meteorology](https://www.bom.gov.au/)

Community Disaster Resilience Strategy

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The Recovery and Committee Engagement subcommittee of the SEMC has commenced a project to develop a Community Disaster Resilience Strategy for WA. The aim of the Strategy is to reduce the impact of disasters by increasing community resilience.

There is evidence that community strengths such as networks, collaboration, social capital and communication are important characteristics of resilience. Understanding and managing vulnerabilities is also an

important consideration, such as the important work of CAWE and the State Support Plan. Investment in resilience occurs before, during and after emergencies.

The project will involve engagement across the State now to draw on the experience, initiatives and ideas of community stakeholders including local governments and their communities, as well as stakeholder groups from social services, business and industry, and volunteering sectors.

The outcomes from this work will inform a strategy and implementation plan with clear and measurable outcomes.

Consultation Closed: Local Animal Welfare in Emergencies Plan: Guide and Template

The *Local Animal Welfare in Emergencies Plan: Guide and Template* was developed from the inaugural WA Local Government Animal Welfare in Emergencies Workshops held in August 2019. The Guide and Template has been prepared to assist Local Governments to develop a Local Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (Local PAWE).

CAWE members and Local Governments were invited to provide comment on the Guide and Template and consultation closed 18 February 2020.

DPIRD and WALGA will review the consultation and finalise the Guide and Template in the coming months to be published to the DPIRD webpage. It will be available as a tool, Local Governments will be able to develop their own plans as best

Important disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

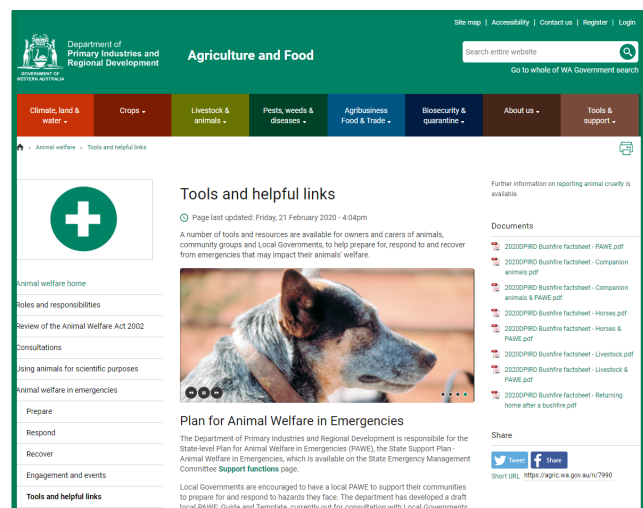
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suits their needs, and are not required to adhere to the Guide and Template

Animal Welfare in Emergencies Webpage Update

DPIRD continues to update its publically available content for animal welfare in emergencies. The latest page Tools and helpful links now houses the following

- information on Plans for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE)
- Factsheets for animals in natural hazards event
 - Bushfire factsheets for Companion animals, horses and livestock
 - Returning home after a fire
 - Bushfire – Pause for your PAWE
- A number of links to other organisations and resources that may be helpful for owners and carers of animals

The screenshot shows the DPIRD website page for 'Tools and helpful links'. The page header includes the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development logo and navigation links. The main content area features a green cross icon, a 'Tools and helpful links' title, and a list of documents including '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - PAWE.pdf', '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Companion animals.pdf', '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Companion animals & PAWE.pdf', '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Horses.pdf', '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Horses & PAWE.pdf', '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Livestock.pdf', '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Livestock & PAWE.pdf', and '2020DPIRD Bushfire factsheet - Returning home after a bushfire.pdf'. There is also a section for 'Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies' and a 'Share' button.

Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/animalwelfare/tools-and-helpful-links>

Contact

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