

Mr Vincent Monterola AFSM  
**Chief Executive Officer**  
**EMERGENCY SERVICES ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT**

In accordance with section 7(2) of the State Emergency Service Act 1987, I have pleasure in submitting the report of the activities of the State Emergency Service for the financial year ended 30 June 2003, with a request that it be forwarded to the Minister.

Brian F. Lancaster ESM  
**Director**  
**STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE**

September 2003

## FOREWORD

**HON PATRICK CONLON MP**  
**MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES**



During 2002-03 the State Emergency Service continued to deliver to the community an efficient and effective service attending 5491 tasks totalling 86,248 operational hours.

Significant storms in June made it a very busy month for the SES and I was pleased to be able to witness first hand the efforts of the SES volunteers at Glenelg where your efforts were greatly appreciated by the community in a time of dire stress. I thank all of those involved that night for your commitment to the community and your very skilful management of that difficult situation.

I know that throughout the State many of you have been involved in similarly distressing situations and I thank you for your preparedness to come out to assist your neighbours and apply many of the skills you have developed over years of training.

Throughout the year the SES has continued to provide support to the Police and other Emergency Services including the CFS who called upon SES expertise in the logistics of deploying fire-fighting contingents made up of CFS and MFS personnel to Victoria during their horrific bushfire season.

The Government has been able to further recognise the important role of SES volunteers by providing extra funds for the provision of three training officers to be located at Murray Bridge, Adelaide and Port Augusta. These training officers will play an important role in assisting units to manage training programs.

In addition I was pleased to support a request from the SES Volunteers Association who combined with the VFBA to ask me to provide funding to print stickers to recognise the important contribution made by employers of emergency services volunteers. I believe this initiative will enable the community to support the employers that support our emergency services.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the families of the SES volunteers for the support they provide and for the sacrifices they make to benefit the rest of the community. The Government understands that you are often the ones who miss out while your children, partners, Mums and Dads attend an incident and they couldn't do it without your support.

Finally I commend all SES personnel for their dedication, expertise and commitment to providing a service that is vital to the community and highly valued by the Government. Thank you for everything that you do.

## DIRECTOR'S REVIEW



BRIAN LANCASTER  
*Director*

The year under review has, once again, seen the State Emergency Service as a very active and identifiable emergency service contributing to the magnificent public safety service provided by all Emergency Services to the community of South Australia.

The SES, as a division of the Emergency Services Administration Unit (ESAU) for administrative purposes, is autonomous in maintaining its operational identity and statutory responsibilities.

During 2002-03, the operational volunteers, comprising the sixty six local SES Units of the Service responded to 5491 callouts. This was a total of 1517 more callouts than the total of 3974 reported in the last year.

It is worth noting that the actual amount of operational hours provided by the volunteers, in undertaking the 5491 callouts was 86 248 hours. This amounts to 15 599 hours more than reported last year.

It should be remembered that those hours relate to operational issues only and do not reflect the many more hours taken in training, administration and equipment and vehicle maintenance.

The majority of tasks undertaken were wind and storm 2661 and flooding 403. These two particular tasks accounted for 55.8% of the total reported activities.

Other main operational tasks included road crash rescue which amounted to 630, a decrease of 25 over 2001-02 and assist in fire operations 104. The SES was, again, very active in providing assistance to the South Australia Police in many and varied tasks.

For the second year, the SES provided a permanent staff officer to undertake the role of logistician in Victoria, in support of the SACFS during serious fires in that State.

The Service has completed its fourth year of the planned ten year vehicle replacement program. This has been as a direct result of funding received from the Emergency Services Fund. A high level of funding to individual SES Units together with personal protective equipment and other equipment has been maintained.

Financial information provided in this Report refers only to the SES component of ESAU's financial reporting and has not been separately audited by the Auditor-General.

In November 2002, a new position of Co-ordinator - Volunteer Marine Rescue was established within the State Headquarters and is accountable to the Director. This position will provide greater coordination between the volunteer marine rescue organisations and the SES Marine Rescue Units.

The State Emergency Service continues to meet its state-wide responsibilities for disaster management training and planning. These responsibilities have been met in a very professional manner.

The Service has, once again, seen an increase in registered membership rising from the 6468 reported in 2001-02 to 6808, an increase of 340, or 5.26% over last year's figures.

During the year under review, two Members were honoured in the Australia Day Honors List and one Member was honoured in the Queen's birthday Honors List with the award of the Emergency Services Medal (ESM).

During the year twenty three Members were awarded the Australian National Medal and/or clasp for effective and diligent service to the community of South Australia.

September 2003

Brian F Lancaster, ESM, LFAIES, JP  
**Director**  
**STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE**

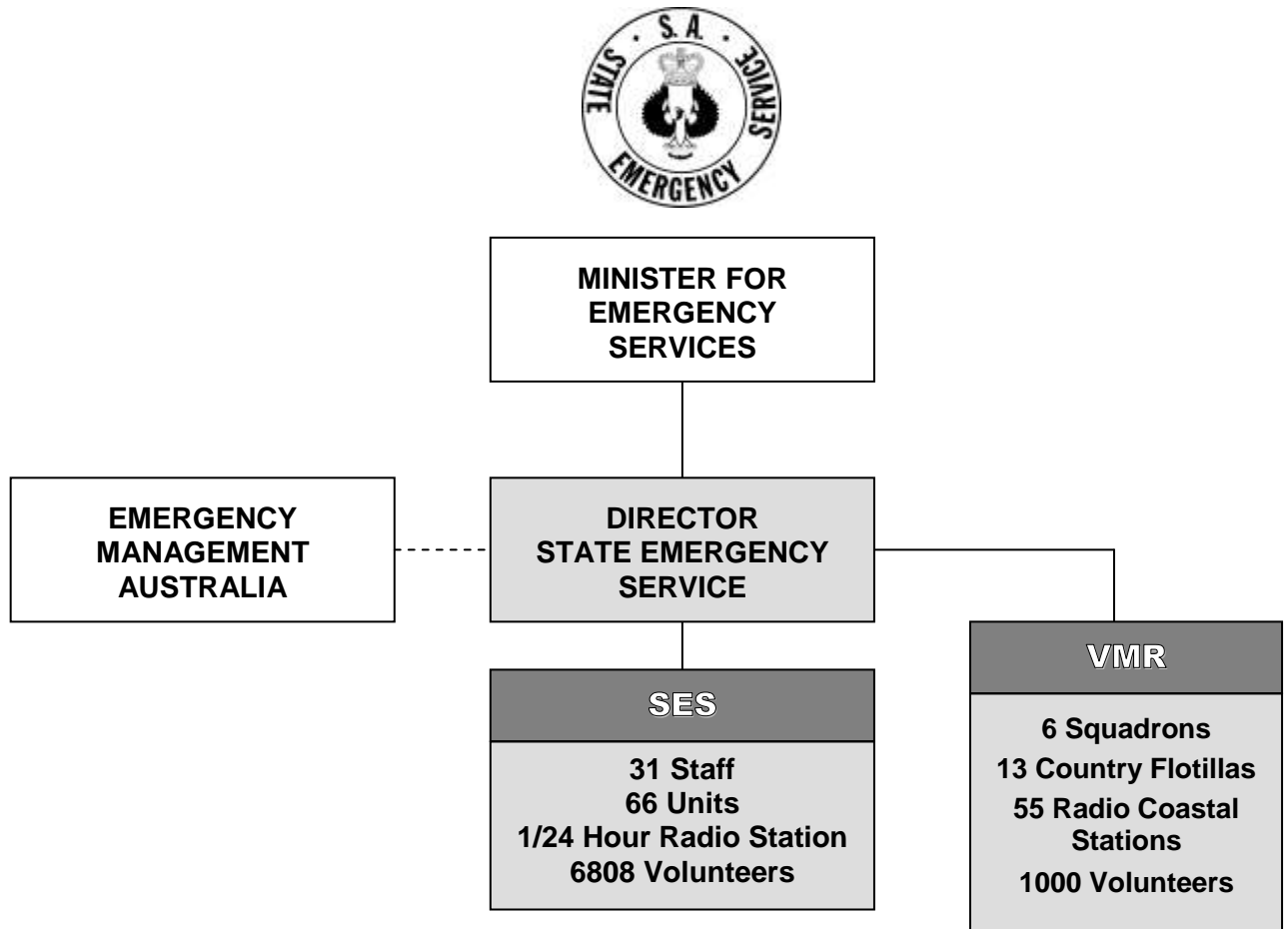
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# STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

## OPERATIONAL REPORTING CHART



## VISION

- *A safe and prepared community*

## MISSION STATEMENT

- To provide an effective rescue service for the community of South Australia by State Emergency Service Units rendering immediate assistance during emergencies and disasters.
- To provide management and support to the State Disaster Organisation by ensuring an effective and coordinated response capability at all levels and to maintain efficient measures for the delivery of disaster recovery programs for the community of South Australia.
- To assist the community to cope with natural, or other, emergencies.

## VALUES

<b>Service</b>	We are committed to serving and protecting the communities in which we live.
<b>Integrity</b>	We promote honesty, trust, mutual respect and ethical behaviour.
<b>Volunteer Ethic</b>	Our peoples' commitment and willingness to give without expecting reward.
<b>Teamwork</b>	Our Service is enhanced by the strength of our teamwork and a unified sense of purpose. We value people as our most important resource.
<b>Accountability</b>	We are accountable for the resources we receive as a public emergency service.
<b>Learning</b>	We value and promote learning opportunities by sharing knowledge and skills, and learning from others.

## BACKGROUND

The State Emergency Service (SES) is a volunteer emergency service established to render immediate assistance during emergencies and disasters, and to assist the community to be prepared and to cope with emergency situations.

The *State Emergency Service Act 1987*, formalises the Service's identity.

The role of the Service falls into three main categories:

- Local Incident Role (day to day);
- Disaster role;
- Disaster Management Planning and Training.

The SES cooperates closely with the other statutory emergency services to counter the effect of emergencies in South Australia. It attracts the combined support of State and Commonwealth as well as commerce, industry, community groups and the general public.

Recent years have seen a greater involvement by SES Units in the mitigation of the effects of storm and flood. The State Disaster Plan reflects that and the SES has storm and flood relief as one of its responsibilities under that Plan.

Although the SES is an operational emergency service, the State Headquarters and Regional Managers have a significant State Disaster and Disaster Management role in addition to those operational matters directly related to SES Units. The State Emergency Service's involvement in disaster management matters is further enhanced by the conduct of Introduction to Disaster Management and other disaster management courses.

The State Emergency Service Headquarters is located at:

Level 7  
60 Waymouth Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5000  
Telephone: (08) 8463 4171  
Facsimile: (08) 8410 3115  
Website: [www.sessa.asn.au](http://www.sessa.asn.au)



## **SES INFRASTRUCTURE**

The SES Consists of:

### **Volunteer Units**

The 66 Volunteer Units provide an emergency response service, particularly in flood and storm effect mitigation procedures, but also in all spheres of rescue work. SES Units support the activities of all other emergency services. The organization is trained as a specialist Rescue Service. It is one of the fourteen Functional Services identified in the State Disaster Plan.

The volunteer members of the Service continue to enjoy the respect of members of other emergency services and the community. Morale is high and members show great pride and loyalty in their Service. In 2002-03, the SES performed 5491 tasks which involved 86 248 operational hours. This represents a 28% increase in taskings and an 18% increase in hours worked over the previous year. The hours do not include any time involved in training, maintenance or administration, or the time spent by permanent SES personnel in supporting their volunteers in all of those activities. The number of incidents and volunteer operational hours is shown, later in this report.

### **Permanent Officers**

A major role of the permanent officers, particularly the Director, the Disaster Management Training, and Planning Officers and the nine Regional Managers, relates to disaster management matters. These include planning, training, exercise preparation and conduct and administration.

At State level, Headquarters personnel are involved in State Disaster Committee matters including the administration, and operational management of the State Emergency Operations Centre, the provision of training courses and involvement in the writing and conduct of exercises. The SES is responsible to the State Disaster Committee for the coordination of all disaster management training in South Australia.

The Director is a member of, and the Executive Officer to, the State Disaster Committee. In this role, the Director accompanies the Chairman, State Disaster Committee and the Chief Executive Officer, Emergency Services Administrative Unit, to meetings of the Australian Emergency Management Committee (AEMC), the peak emergency management body in Australia. As Executive Officer to the State Disaster Committee, the Director is the nexus between the Commonwealth and the State on disaster management matters.

## **STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS**

### **Disaster Planning and Management**

Disaster Management and special Contingency Plans have been prepared, reviewed and validated.

- The State and Divisional Emergency Operations Centres have been maintained in a state of readiness and assessments have been undertaken of the effectiveness of such Centres;
- Links between and within the Functional Services have been developed, fostered and coordinated;
- Community awareness programs have been developed and promoted.

### **Emergency Responses**

- The capability of the SES to deal with emergency situations has been maintained and improved;
- Accredited SES rescue Units are strategically deployed in both metropolitan and country areas of South Australia;
- Emergency response services and the need for community preparation and involvement before and during emergencies have been promoted.

### **Key Principles**

The further development of the SES continues to be based on the following key principles:

- the involvement of trained volunteer members in deployment during emergency or disaster situations;
- the provision of adequate disaster management education and information programs to the South Australian community;
- the development of disaster management plans at Divisional and local levels, together with other special or contingency plans;
- the development of disaster management planning, resources, training and operational capacity at Local, Divisional and State levels involving permanent and experienced volunteer members.

### **Standards of Emergency Response**

Standards of Emergency Response for SES Units have been prepared in order to:

- Ensure that the community is adequately protected from the dangers arising from certain emergency situations;
- Determine shortfalls in personnel, equipment and training within the SES, needed to fulfil its obligations under the SES Act & Regulations;
- Determine minimum standards for response to the various tasks undertaken by SES Units in protecting and supporting their communities during such emergencies;

- Establish the basis for future development of the Service in meeting its responsibilities to the community;
- Determine strategies for the most cost-effective utilisation of resources.

The SES Standards of Emergency Response address the question of the need and location for local volunteer units, as well as identifying 'best practice' parameters within which those Units are required to operate.

The Standards have been distributed to all SES Units through their respective Regional Managers and are currently utilised as a guide to resourcing Units and training members.

## **SES FUNCTIONS**

### **Statutory Role**

Under the *State Emergency Service Act 1987*, the functions of the SES are:

- to assist the Commissioner of Police in dealing with any emergency;
- to assist the State Co-ordinator, in accordance with the State Disaster Plan, in carrying out counter-disaster operations under the State Disaster Act, 1980;
- to assist the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service and the Country Fire Service Board in dealing with emergencies in accordance with the Acts under which those authorities are established;
- to deal with an emergency where no other body or person has lawful authority to assume command of operations for dealing with the emergency;
- to deal with an emergency until such time as any other body or person that has lawful authority to assume command of operations for dealing with the emergency has assumed command;
- to respond to emergency calls and, where appropriate, provide assistance in any situation of need whether or not the situation constitutes an emergency; and
- to carry out such other functions as may be assigned to the Service by this Act or any other Act or by the Minister.

### **Disaster Role**

In addition to the above functions, the SES, as one of the fourteen Functional Services identified in the State Disaster Plan, has certain roles under that Plan in a declared State of Disaster or major emergency incident.

SES is to provide reconnaissance, search and rescue and immediate sustenance within the disaster area, and to provide a mitigation response to storm damage and floods. The four areas of responsibility are:

Reconnaissance: To carry out reconnaissance in conjunction with Police immediately after a disaster or emergency, to establish the nature and extent of the disaster and to report to the State Co-ordinator on matters which require attention.

Search and Rescue:	To provide search and rescue parties whose tasks are the rescue of trapped and injured casualties, first aid, disposition and direction of casualties, liaison with the other Functional Services, and continuing reconnaissance as required.
Welfare:	To provide interim warmth and sustenance to disaster victims before their arrival at Welfare Centres.
Storm and Flood:	To warn of floods and temporarily repair damage caused by storms and floods.

## ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

### Executive

<b>Director</b>	Brian Fred LANCASTER, ESM, LFAIES, JP
<b>Deputy Director</b>	Nathaniel James COOKE, RFD, MAIES
<b>Executive Personal Assistant</b>	Tamara HOUGHTON

### Managers

<b>Manager, Communications Services</b>	Richard Edward COOMBE, BA (Acc)
<b>Manager, SES Rescue Training</b>	Stuart Millar MACLEOD, MAIES
<b>Manager, Training and Development</b>	April COOPER, Dip T(Further Education)
<b>State Disaster Management Training Officer</b>	Allan Leslie McDOUGALL, ESM, RFD, B Sc, Dip Ed, MAIES
<b>State Disaster Management Planning Officer</b>	Robert Donald STEVENSON, B Ed, MAIES
<b>State Disaster Management Education Officer</b>	Noel George HODGES, OAM, FAIES, JP
<b>Volunteer Marine Rescue Coordinator</b>	Alan Forsyth CORMACK

## SES ADMINISTRATION

The Director is responsible for managing the State Emergency Service (SES) and for disaster management matters.

As State Controller (SES) under the State Disaster Plan, the Director assumes full operational control of the SES and its participating organizations as listed in the State Disaster Plan, when major emergencies or disasters are declared or, at other times, when the Plan is implemented.

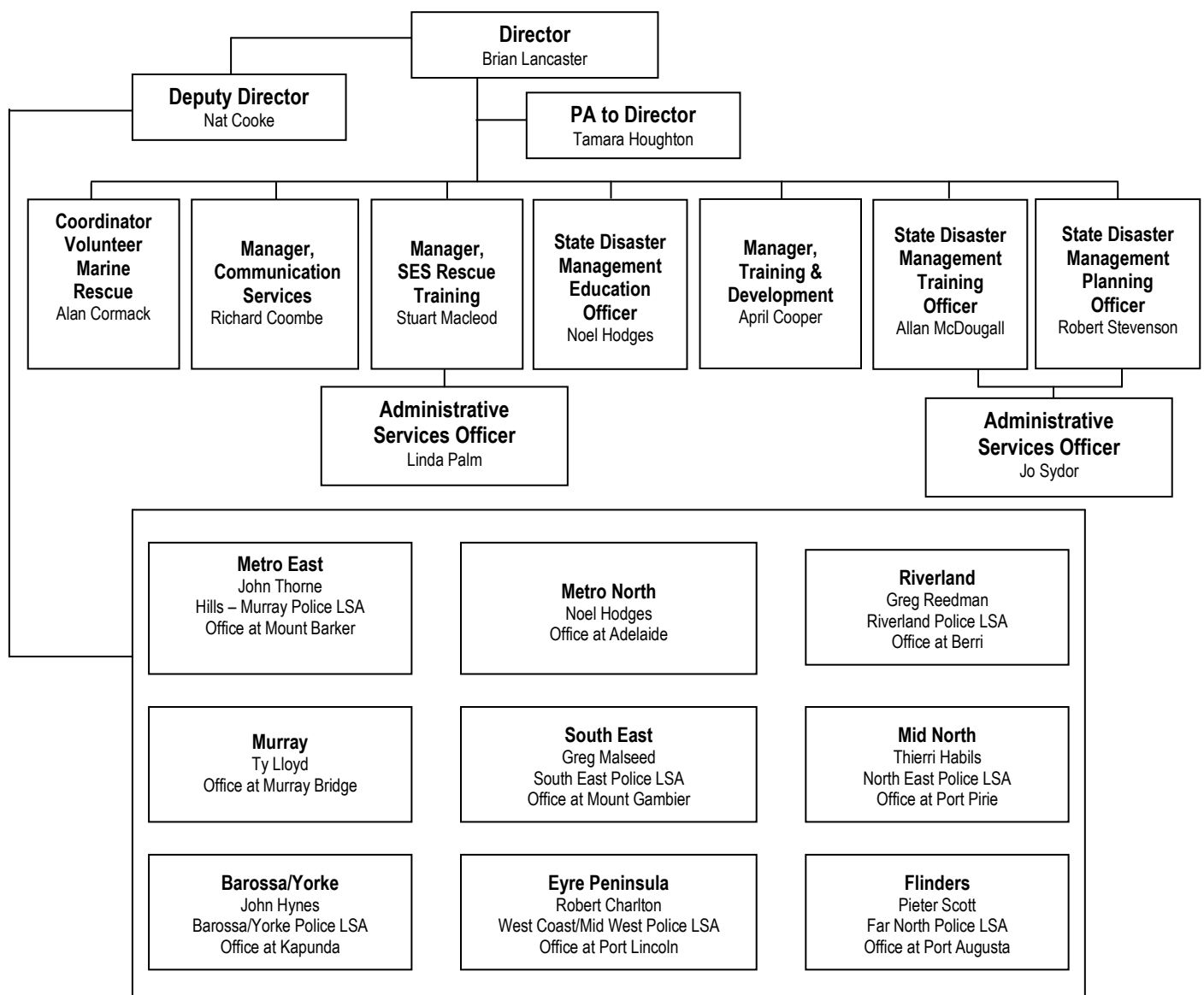
The Deputy Director is responsible for the day-to-day management matters and is directly responsible for the nine Regional Managers. In a declared major emergency or disaster, the Deputy Director assumes the role of Deputy State Controller (SES) and acts for the State Controller (SES) in his, or her, absence.

There are eight Headquarters staff, and including SEOC and divisional personnel, a total staff of 31 equating to 29 Full Time Equivalents.

## ORGANISATION OF THE SES

State Headquarters: Level 7, 60 Waymouth Street ADELAIDE SA 5000

Divisional Headquarters: In country Police Local Service Areas (as shown):



## STRENGTH OF THE SES

The number of operational SES Units stands at 66, including the State Headquarters Unit, which provides operational support at State Headquarters, and in the SEOC. All Units are registered under the *State Emergency Service Act 1987*. The membership of the SES has increased slightly over 2002-03. As at 30 June 2003, the SES comprised:

Staff	Volunteers	Registered Units
31 (29 FTE)	6808	66 1 - 24 Hour Radio Station

The ratio of staff to volunteer members is 1:220. Volunteer membership has increased 5.26% from 2001-02.

## FINANCE

The SES has been funded from monies collected through the Community Emergency Services Levy Fund. See Statement of Financial Performance on page 73.

The Emergency Services Funding Act, 1998 provides for collection of a levy on fixed and mobile property in place of the charging of contributions from insurance companies, local Government authorities and State Government. The SES had not been a recipient of contributions from insurance companies but now benefits directly from the Fund. The change represents a fairer distribution of the cost to the community for providing emergency services.

## COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT FUNDING

The Commonwealth Government provides a Staff Salaries Subsidy Program as part of the State Support Package. In addition to that program, South Australia obtains benefits from the Commonwealth through:

- limited funding to assist the State Disaster Committee;
- nominations to training activities at the Emergency Management Australia Institute (the costs of which are met by Emergency Management Australia) and the conduct of extension disaster management training courses in South Australia; and
- the provision of public information material, including training manuals, pamphlets, brochures etc, which are distributed by SES.

## SALARIES SUBSIDY PROGRAM

The Commonwealth, through Emergency Management Australia, (EMA) continued to subsidise the State government salaries of the nine Regional Managers and the State Emergency Management Training and Planning Officers.

The Commonwealth subsidy received for these eleven positions in 2001/2002 was at the rate of \$38 000 per position, a total of \$418 000.

## **SPONSORSHIP/DONATIONS**

The SES gratefully acknowledges the many sponsors and donors who have supported the Service through cash or material donations throughout the year.

## **FRAUD**

The State Emergency Service has had two incidents of fraud committed within the Service. These have involved misappropriation of funds in two SES Units. A Police investigation was put in place in each instance and currently appropriate action is pending.



## SES OPERATIONS



NAT COOKE  
Deputy Director

### GOAL

To provide an effective rescue service for the community of South Australia.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

SES Units, depending on geographic location and assessed community risks, provide a wide range of rescue and support services. These services include:

- road crash rescue
- land search
- animal rescue
- vertical rescue of all forms (cliffs, caves and structures)
- storm damage and flood mitigation
- marine search and rescue (rivers, lakes and sea)
- general and disaster rescue

### INCIDENT STATISTICS

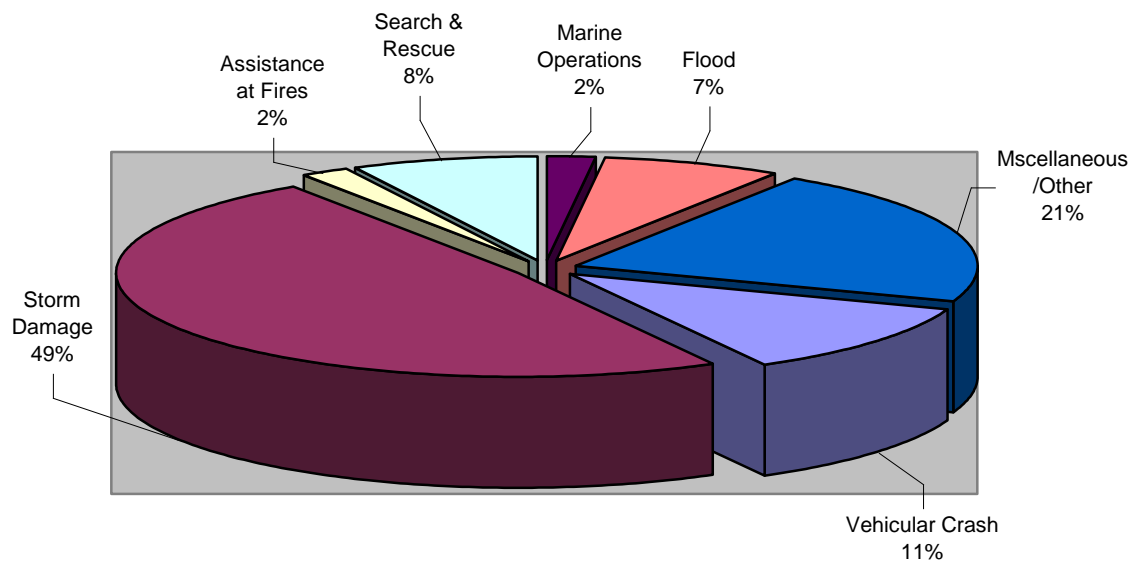
A breakdown of major activities for the last six years is as follows:

	1997-98	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Vehicular Crash	457	583	553	580	655	630
Storm Damage	1943	1289	1490	1332	1487	2661
Assistance at Fires	61	87	67	333	75	104
Search & Rescue	233	186	213	125	143	418
Marine Operations	95	110	89	84	86	100
Flood	350	395	535	433	270	403
Miscellaneous/Other	1087	1579	1645	1328	1258	1175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4226</b>	<b>4229</b>	<b>4592</b>	<b>4215</b>	<b>3974</b>	<b>5491</b>

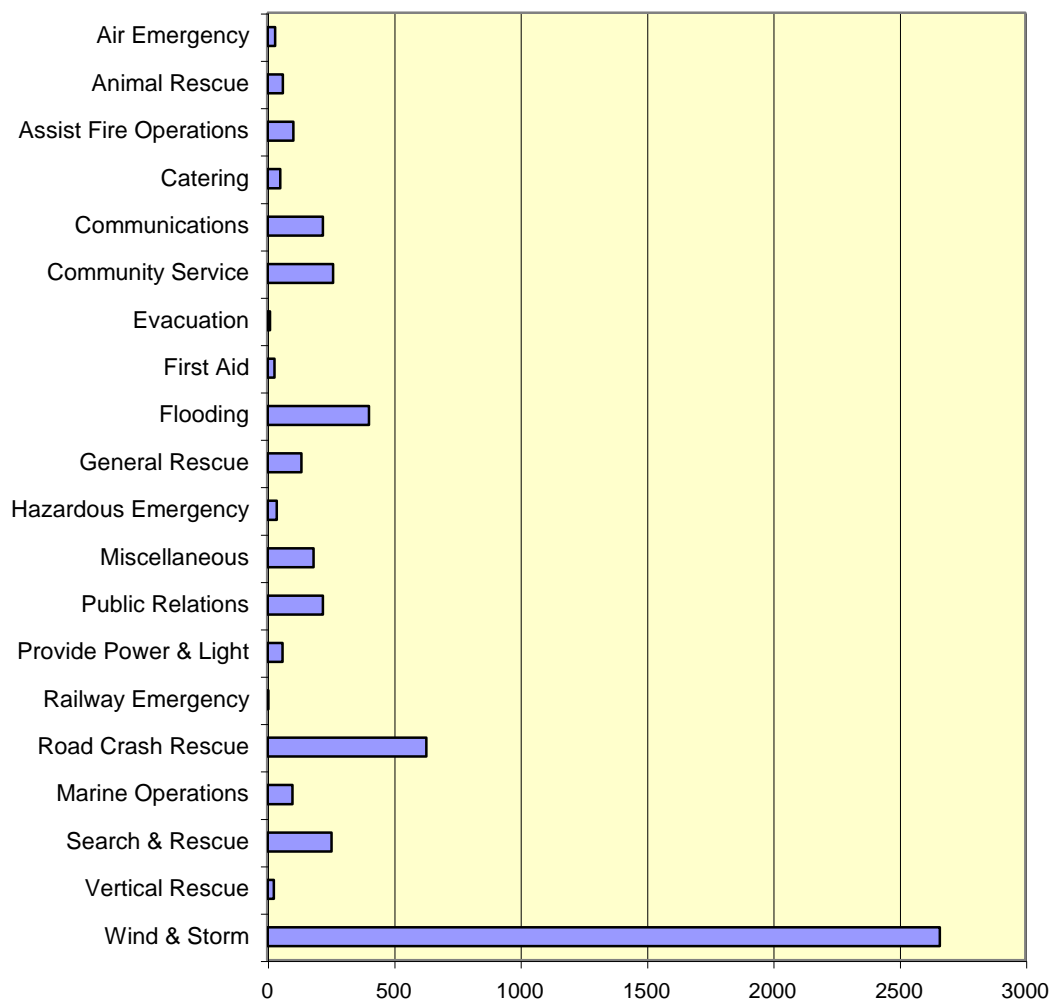
**NOTE:** "Miscellaneous" includes such incidents as aircraft emergencies, provision of first aid, animal rescues, assistance in evacuations, provision of power and lighting, assistance at HAZCHEM incidents, provision of emergency feeding, provision of communications and assistance to Police such as crowd control at major functions.



## INCIDENTS FOR 2002-03



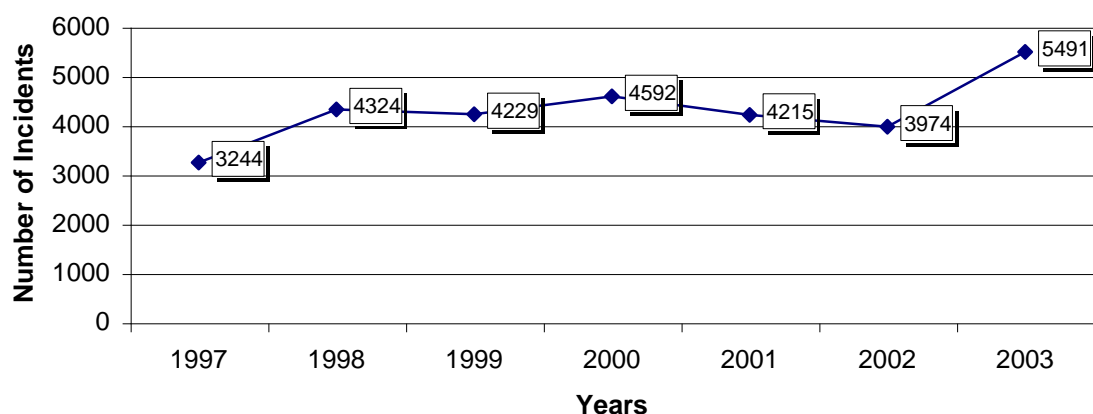
## TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSES BY CATEGORIES



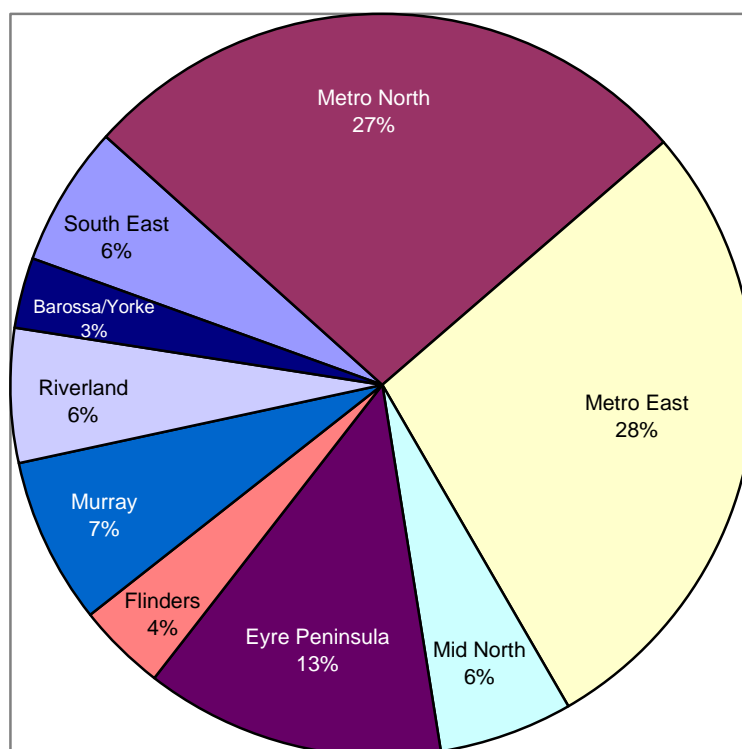
## OPERATIONAL RESPONSE COMPARISON

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03
Air Emergency	78	54	32	32	32
Animal Rescue	39	43	39	55	62
Assist Fire Operations	87	67	333	75	104
Catering	85	67	101	62	52
Communications	142	333	271	154	220
Community Service	505	512	267	298	261
Evacuation	7	8	7	13	11
First Aid	27	17	33	51	29
Flooding	395	535	433	270	403
General Rescue	100	102	108	112	136
Hazardous Emergency	38	33	41	28	38
Miscellaneous	100	143	132	171	184
Public Relations	350	251	203	210	220
Provide Power & Light	74	55	67	54	61
Railway Emergency	1	8	8	3	5
Road Crash Rescue	583	553	580	655	630
Marine Operations	110	89	84	86	100
Search and Rescue	186	213	125	143	255
Vertical Rescue	33	19	19	15	27
Wind & Storm	1289	1490	1332	1487	2661
<b>Total</b>	<b>4229</b>	<b>4592</b>	<b>4215</b>	<b>3974</b>	<b>5491</b>

## CHART OF INCIDENTS 1997 - 2003



## DIVISIONAL OPERATIONS RESPONSE 2002-03



## SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

Significant operations undertaken by the SES during this reporting period include:

- A response to over 680 storm/flood taskings between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> June 2003. Gale force winds, severe thunderstorms and high tides were predicted by the Bureau of Meteorology the day before the event occurred, enabling SES Units to be placed on 'alert' and Control Centres to be appropriately staffed.

In addition to the 11 metropolitan Units located in Adelaide, Units from Murray Bridge, Kapunda, South Coast (Pt Elliot), Adelaide Hills and Kingscote (KI) were involved in storm/flood damage operations. Over 250 SES volunteers worked in shifts throughout the nights to help people save their homes and property.

- Assistance to residents in the vicinity of the Patawalonga Lake at Glenelg. In the early hours of Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2003, SES Units were deployed to major flooding of the Patawalonga Lake at Glenelg. The cause of the flooding was the apparent failure of the sensors on the Patawalonga weir gates and back up alarm system.

The first Units arriving were confronted with two-metre-deep water across Adelphi Terrace, Glenelg flowing into homes on the eastern side of the Patawalonga. Some 17 SES crews from various metropolitan Units together with Police and other Emergency Service personnel assisted occupants of flooding houses to evacuate, where necessary, and clean up their properties. Whilst the Glenelg operation was in progress, SES Units were also busy attending to storm damage taskings in other parts of the metropolitan area as a result of severe weather conditions presenting throughout the day.

- It is worth noting that during this financial year, the SES responded to the highest number of incidents on record.

## CALL TAKING

The State Emergency Service is a 24 hour Emergency Service Organisation.

Arrangements have been made with the Country Fire Service for its Operations Centre Officers to receive operational calls and deploy SES Units State-wide from its Centre which is manned 24 hours per day.

## STATE DUTY OFFICER

A system of rostered State Duty Officers is maintained by the SES. Should a situation arise whereby too many calls are received and cannot be handled by the CFS operators, the State Duty Officer will assume control and deploy the State Headquarters Unit to the SES Control Centre. This will also apply if one particular task is of such a size, nature or complexity, that more than one SES Unit is deployed and coordination by the State Duty Officer is required. This system is working well.

## SUMMARY OF UNIT RESPONSES - YEAR END 30/06/2003

ADELAIDE HILLS ( <i>formerly Mt Barker</i> )	101	MINTABIE	9
ANDAMOOKA	28	MOUNT GAMBIER & DISTRICT	199
BARMERA	57	MURRAY BRIDGE & DISTRICT	115
BERRI	89	NOARLUNGA	478
BLANCHTOWN	16	NORTHERN DISTRICTS	664
BOOLEROO CENTRE	54	NULLARBOR	6
BORDERTOWN	30	NUNDROO	4
BURRA	26	ONKAPARINGA	70
BUTE	9	PORT AUGUSTA	125
CAMPBELLTOWN	120	PORT BROUGHTON	38
CEDUNA	12	PORT LINCOLN	133
CLARE	45	PORT PIRIE	115
CLEVE	16	PROSPECT	172
COCKBURN	0	QUORN	12
COOBER PEDY	18	RENMARK-PARINGA	84
CUMMINS	41	RIVERLAND HEADQUARTERS	0
DOG SEARCH & RESCUE	68	ROXBY DOWNS	20
EASTERN SUBURBS	172	SADDLEWORTH & DISTRICT	7
ENFIELD	267	SNOWTOWN	22
HALLETT	11	SOUTH COAST	72
HAWKER & DISTRICT	1	SPALDING	12
KANGAROO ISLAND	13	STATE HEADQUARTERS	27
KAPUNDA	73	STRATHALBYN	98
KEITH	34	STREAKY BAY	8
KIMBA	19	STURT ( <i>formerly Happy Valley</i> )	257
KINGSTON SE	23	TEA TREE GULLY	205
LAURA	22	TUMBY BAY	119
LEIGH CREEK	5	WAROOKA	34
LOXTON	62	WATTLE RANGE	46
MAITLAND	23	WESTERN ADELAIDE	187
MARLA	0	WHYALLA	359
MENINGIE	44	WUDINNA	1
METRO SOUTH	255	WILSDEN 25 HR RADIO STN	2
		YANKALILLA	37
<b>TOTAL RESPONSES</b>	<b>5491</b>		

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

Continuous improvement in resources, training and systems for the State Emergency Service to provide the most effective response to, and management and coordination of, emergency incidents in the community.

## **CO-LOCATION OF SES AND CFS STATE HEADQUARTERS**

### **GOAL**

To maximise the delivery of emergency services to the community.

### **PRIORITISED STRATEGY**

Since 1996-97, the decision was taken to consider the feasibility to co-locate the State Headquarters of the State Emergency Service and the Country Fire Service so as to maximise the delivery of services to the community and to combine corporate services.

ESAU was established with effect from 1 July 1999 and the headquarters of the two Services are co-located at 60 Waymouth Street. This co-location is working very well with enhanced interaction between Service personnel.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

An enhanced service to the community, and the State of South Australia.

## **BUILDING PROGRAM**

### **GOAL**

To provide a supply and maintenance program for all SES Unit buildings to allow a standard of building to deliver a 30 year life span. This will be applied to repairs and regular maintenance to lift the buildings to an acceptable quality for safety of personnel and storage of valuable equipment.

### **PRIORITISED STRATEGY**

To work in cooperation with the other Emergency Service Organisations to maximise efficiencies by collocation of facilities where appropriate and feasible.

To develop a building and maintenance program to provide facilities that meet the operational needs of the SES.

## ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

The SES completed major building works with new facilities at Renmark and Blanchetown and commenced work on new SES Unit Headquarters at Coober Pedy and Pt Broughton. A variety of minor works projects were completed providing additional facilities or upgrading existing buildings at Pt Augusta, Noarlunga, Whyalla, Northern Districts, Barmera and Meningie.

## FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Considerable work needs to be undertaken to bring the existing facilities across the State up to a consistent standard. This process is being managed in consultation with the volunteers and other stakeholders to prioritise the major building works and extend the life of existing buildings by minor works. Where new facilities are planned consideration is given to co-locate facilities with other Emergency Service Organisations where economies can be achieved.

## COMMUNICATION FUNCTION



**RICHARD COOMBE**  
*Manager, Communications  
Services*

## GOAL

To provide modern communications equipment and systems to deal with emergency situations.

## PRIORITISED STRATEGY

Use modern communication technology to provide the service with equipment and systems to enable its volunteers to respond and coordinate emergency situations. This involves the use of a variety systems including fixed and mobile phones, pagers, the Government Radio Network and other long range radio networks.

## ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

This year saw the completion of the Government Radio Network (GRN) that provides a trunked radio network to the majority of SES units. In areas that coverage is not provided by GRN alternative communications systems are used eg HF in the States Far North.

The GRN paging was completed with the majority of units having access to a paging system that provides a greater coverage than commercially available systems.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

A review of current training materials and the development of new training resources will be conducted to maximise the opportunities of modern communication technology.

The development of consistent communications protocols to enhance the support to rescue responses.

The provision of a central call and dispatch system for the whole of the State to provide a quick and efficient process to meet the emergency need of the community.

## **VEHICLE PROGRAM**

### **GOAL**

To provide SES Units with vehicles and vessels that provide a timely, safe and reliable response to any emergency that may affect the communities they serve.

### **PRIORITISED STRATEGY**

To manage the replacement program in order to provide modern rescue vehicles by replacing vehicles which are reaching the end of their useful life in the first instance. To maximise the return on capital by managing the fleet through relocating vehicles in accordance with usage patterns and the SES Standards of Emergency Response criteria.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR**

This year new Light and Standard Rescue Vehicles were provided for Barmera, Burra, Loxton, South Coast, Kimba, Bute, Sturt and Western Adelaide SES Units and the relocation of a 12 month old vehicle to Kangaroo Island. Fast response vehicles were provided for Blanchetown, Warooka and the Dog Search and Rescue Unit. A new river rescue boat was provided for Blanchetown.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

To continue the replacement program with at least 8 rescue trucks being commissioned to replace the aging fleet and the development of a strategy for the replacement of Fast Response Vehicles. The continued replacement of Special vehicles and boats based on the emergency response needs of communities.



## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT PROGRAM



The personal protective equipment [PPE] program in financial year 2002/2003 provided equipment for centralised issue to a total value of \$300,000 to SES volunteers across the State.

The program provides for the centralised purchase and distribution of items of protective clothing and equipment essential to the safety of SES personnel operating in the field in a wide range of hazardous tasks.

Close liaison has been maintained with SES Units and Regions to ensure that the equipment acquired and issued meets operational requirements.

## THE SES STAFF WORKFORCE

### GOAL

To implement Human Resource Management strategies which address all personnel and industrial relations matters and results in employees being treated fairly and equitably.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

To ensure that the organisation of the State Emergency Service meets contemporary standards to fulfil the roles and responsibilities of SES under the *State Emergency Services Act*.

	ONGOING			CONTRACT			TOTAL		
Stream	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
ASO1									
ASO2		13	13					13	13
ASO3		1	1					1	1
ASO4									
ASO5	2		2				2		2
ASO6	3	1	4				3	1	4
MAS2	1		1				1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>				<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>21</b>
EXA				1		1	1		1
<b>TOTAL</b>				<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>
OPS5	9		9				9		9
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9</b>		<b>9</b>				<b>9</b>		<b>9</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>31</b>



### **Proportion of Female Staff in SES**

As at 30 June 2003, fifteen of the 31 staff employed by SES are female.

### **Leave Management**

	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>
Average number of sick leave days taken per FTE	2.3 (536.75 hours)	5.11 (1035.5 hours)
Average number of family carer leave days taken per FTE	.06 (15 hours)	.06 (15 hours)

The State Emergency Service is covered by the Emergency Services Administration Unit's policies on voluntary flexible working arrangements.

State Headquarters and Regional Management Staff make use of flexible working arrangements in order to meet the requirement of SES volunteers who are usually only available outside of normal working hours.

Two full-time administrative officer (ASO-2) positions are filled through job share arrangements between four members of staff.

### **FUTURE DIRECTION**

Consideration of the structure and classification of staff in the SES may be considered in the next reporting period.

## **SES ROAD CRASH RESCUE OPERATIONS**

### **GOAL**

To provide an effective road crash rescue service for the community of South Australia.

### **PRIORITISED STRATEGY**

Road crash rescue operational responses continue as one of the primary rescue roles of the State emergency Service.

All 52 of the rural SES Rescue Units are committed to the road crash rescue role, and are listed in the multi-agency Road Crash Rescue Resource Directory. Whilst two country Units are designated as 'second response' units, the remainder are the 'primary response' agencies for their areas.

The 13 SES Rescue Units located within the Adelaide Metropolitan Area have no official road crash rescue response role. These Units do however, provide 'first aid' rescue services at a number of incidents which they come across in the course of their duties. With the arrival of the designated Metropolitan Fire Service rescue responses, SES Units hand over the incident and provide support if required.

The response to road crash rescue operations in the 2002-03 year comprised 630 incidents. This constitutes 11.5 % of total SES operations for the year.

### **FUTURE DIRECTION**

SES personnel are trained for road crash rescue operations through the annual SES State Training Program. They are equipped and organised in accordance with the criteria laid down by the Emergency Services Coordination Committee, and in compliance with SES Standards of Emergency Response.

## **STATE DISASTER STORE**

### **GOAL**

To provide a stockpile of supplies of essential equipment for the SES or other emergency services in time of disaster.

### **PRIORITISED STRATEGY**

The State Emergency Service maintains small stockpiles of disaster equipment at various locations throughout South Australia.

The primary stock holding is at the SES State Store at Regency Park. Lesser holdings are maintained at Port Augusta, Murray Bridge and Barmera.

Equipment in these holding areas consists of sandbags, plastic salvage sheeting, disaster casualty bags and folding stretchers.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

The SES State Store will be maintained at Regency Park as a 'stand alone' facility, until the final outcomes of the ESAU joint storage facility project are determined.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES COORDINATION COMMITTEE**

The SES is represented on the Emergency Services Coordination Committee, which comprises senior managers of the Emergency Services and SAPOL.

This Committee continued to provide advice to the respective Chief Executive Officers on the range of matters common to Police and Emergency Services, with an emphasis on the elimination of overlap and duplication of resources and roles, and to common operational issues and resource sharing.

Memoranda of Understanding have been developed by the Committee in relation to an Emergency Service Coordination Charter, management of major incidents and road crash rescue.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICE ROAD CRASH RESCUE WORKING PARTY**

The Road Crash Rescue Working Party is a working group under the Emergency Services Coordination Committee, and has been in operation for 16 years since the institution of the cooperative response system in August 1987.

The working party comprises senior Service representatives from:

- State Emergency Service SA
- SA Country Fire Service
- SA Metropolitan Fire Service
- SA Ambulance Service
- SA Police

Regular Working Party meetings have been conducted throughout the year, with the primary project being the full update and amendment of the Road Crash Rescue Resource Directory. The directory update has been completed and the new issue will be effected early in 2003-04.

## **PRIORITISED STRATEGIES**

- Establish procedures for the coordination of rescue services within the guidelines established by the Emergency Services Coordination Committee.

- Ensure that the Rescue Resource Directory is current and amended from time to time as required.
- Promote and recommend to the Emergency Services Coordination Committee compatibility and standards for equipment within the emergency services.
- Refer proposed future purchases of equipment for information of the Emergency Services Coordination Committee to ensure that unnecessary duplication is avoided wherever practicable.
- Identify areas where rescue resources should be provided and recommend to the Emergency Services Coordination Committee accordingly. These include the possibility of common equipment purchases, for all Emergency Service Organisations.



## TRAINING



APRIL COOPER  
*Manager, Training &  
Development*



STUART MACLEOD  
*Manager, SES  
Rescue Training*

### GOALS

The capability of SES Units to deal with emergency situations has been maintained and enhanced.

Accredited SES Units are strategically deployed in both metropolitan and country areas of South Australia.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

- Training has been provided to SES volunteers and staff to enable them to operate safely and efficiently in accordance with appropriate training and competency standards.
- Accredited SES Units have been maintained at operational readiness through the provision of skills and management training.
- All SES Units have been trained in Rescue, Land Search, Storm Damage Operations and SA GRN Radio Procedures.
- Leadership and workplace management training has been provided for volunteers and staff.
- Specialist training has been provided for Units to enable them to respond to "technical" rescue situations such as structural collapse and vertical rescue.
- Nationally accredited training and assessment has been provided to trainers and assessors to further implementation of the new training and assessment framework.

**Table 1 SES Training Activities Conducted 2002-03**

<i>ActivityTypes</i>	<i>State Training Program</i>	<i>Local &amp; Regional Activities</i>	<i>Total Personnel Trained</i>
Advanced Rescue Courses	3	8	168
Advanced Rescue Shoring Courses	2		58
Air Observer Courses	1		9
Basic Communication Courses	1	1	35
Basic Rescue Courses	1	21	170
Chainsaw Operations Courses	1	1	18
Chainsaw Safety Courses	3		62
Conflict Resolution Courses		1	12
GRN Radio Operations Courses		2	6
Land Search Operations Courses	3	2	98
Land Search Team Leader Courses	1		8

**Table 1 SES Training Activities Conducted 2002-03 (continued)**

<i>Activity Types</i>	<i>State Training Program</i>	<i>Local &amp; Regional Activities</i>	<i>Total Personnel Trained</i>
Leadership Courses (SES/CFS)		2	24
Map Reading & Navigation Courses	6	3	72
Pump Operations Courses	1	1	52
Reconnaissance Courses	1		15
Road Crash Rescue Courses	6	3	125
Storm Damage Operations Courses	1	1	31
Tetra Line Gun Courses		1	13
Train Small Groups Courses	5		60
Training Development Workshops	12		184
Urban Search and Rescue Category One Courses	4		83
Vertical Rescue Courses	4	1	32
Vertical Rescue Instructors Workshops	1		18
Workplace Assessor Courses	4		48
Totals	61	48	1401

**Table 2 – Comparison of Training Activities Conducted 2001-02 Against 2002-03 Totals**

<i>Activity Types</i>	<i>Activities Conducted</i>		<i>Personnel Trained</i>	
	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2002-03</b>
Advanced Rescue Courses	6	11	64	168
Advanced Rescue Shoring Courses		2		58
Air Observer Courses	1	1	10	9
Basic Communications Courses	1	2	9	35
Basic Rescue Courses	30	22	296	170
Catering Courses	1		9	
Chainsaw Operations Courses	1	2	15	18
Chainsaw Safety Courses	7	3	161	62
Conflict Resolution Courses		1		12
GRN Radio Operations Courses	3	2	50	6
Introduction to Change Course		1		25
Land Search Operations Courses	6	5	127	98
Land Search Team Leader Courses	2	1	16	8
Leadership Courses [SES/CFS]	3	2	39	24
Map Reading & Navigation Courses	6	9	88	72
Occupational Health & Safety Workshops	2		28	
Pump Operations Courses	1	2	12	52
Reconnaissance Courses	1	1	23	15
Rescue Boat Instructors Course	1		5	
Road Crash Rescue Courses	6	9	108	125
Storm Damage Operations Courses	9	2	111	31
Tetra Line Throwing Gun Courses		1		13
Train Small Groups Course	8	5	81	60
Training Development Workshops	2	12	37	184
Urban Search & Rescue Category 1 Courses	1	4	27	83
Vertical Rescue Instructors Workshops		1		18
Vertical Rescue Courses	7	5	61	32
Workplace Assessor Courses		4		48
Totals	105	110	1377	1426

**Table 3 – Summary of Training Activities 2002-03**

Activities planned in State Training Program 2002-03	95
State Training Program activities actually conducted	61
Local and Regional training activities actually conducted	48
Activities conducted in the Adelaide Metropolitan Area	43
Activities conducted in regional South Australia	66
Total personnel nominated for all activities	1786
Total personnel who actually attended activities	1580
Total personnel who attained "trained" status	1401

**Table 4 – Summary of Activities  
by SES Regions 2002-03**

Metro East	19
Metro North	24
Barossa/Yorke	8
Murray	11
Mid North	8
Riverland	6
South East	11
Flinders	8
Eyre Peninsula	14
	109

## **ROAD CRASH RESCUE COMPETITIONS**

The SES State Road Crash Rescue Challenge was held at Port Elliot in February 2003, bringing together SES operational road crash rescue teams to further practise and refine their skills in a competition environment. The activity was an excellent learning opportunity for SES crews, allowing them to enhance their already proven skills and to work with members of other road crash units.

The team from the Laura SES Unit proved strongest on the day, and subsequently represented SES SA at the National Road Crash Rescue Competition in Toowoomba in May 2003. The national competition involved 16 teams from fire and emergency services across Australia, both career and volunteer. This provided yet another excellent learning environment for SES volunteers, and the Laura team was placed 11<sup>th</sup> out of the 16 participating teams.

## **DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TRAINING FRAMEWORK**

During 2002-2003 the development of the new training framework continued. The new training framework will include such features as: implementation of training policies and procedures, further implementation of competency based training and assessment, implementation of the Public Safety Training Package, registering as a training organisation, review and development of training resource kits, and review, development and implementation of a training/assessment record keeping system.

After wide consultation with volunteers and staff through a number of meetings, workshops and training surveys to identify, clarify and prioritise the training needs and issues in SES, the draft training policies and procedures were presented to every Unit across the State through Regional Roadshows. In May 2003 the final version of The Learning and Development Manual was distributed to each Unit.

The Learning and Development Manual is the one-stop shop for the learning, training and development policies and procedures that outline the practices which relate to training and assessment, and provides sound guidance for learners, assessors, trainers and training managers at Local, Regional and State levels. It is the foundation of the new training and assessment framework.

A number of Subject Matter Advisory Groups (SMAGs) have been formed and are working on the technical information required for the Training Resource Kits. The following SMAGs are now operating: Communications, General Rescue, Road Crash Rescue, and Volunteer Marine Rescue. The State Training and Development Team are working with the SMAGs to write the Training Resource Kits.

Another cornerstone of a quality training framework is its trainers and assessors. Volunteers continue to participate in Nationally accredited competencies to gain their trainer and workplace assessor qualifications. The Volunteers have given up their own time to gain the necessary knowledge and skills to become part of the new training system. They are applauded for their tenacity and investment of time to this vital aspect of training and assessment. There were 60 personnel trained in Train Small Groups and 48 trained in Workplace Assessor courses. Trainers and assessors will provide consistent and standardised training and assessment to volunteers across the State.

The State Training and Development Team continues to use communication strategies to inform volunteers and staff about training at an organisational level, the latest developments in the new training framework and training generally, and results of training at all levels. Sharing information empowers trainers in the field. The strategies include *Learning Matters* Newsletter, articles in *Frontline* (Volunteer Association Magazine), Regional meetings and other written communiqués.

A new Code of Practice has been developed to communicate to all SES Volunteers and Staff the information about the conduct of training and assessment, the advice and support services available that will assist them to identify and achieve competency.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

SES will continue to develop and implement the new training framework. 2003-04 will see the implementation of the new training policies and procedures by volunteers and staff, the transition from the old training system to the new training framework, the further development and implementation of training resource kits, registering as a training organisation, continued development of trainers and assessors across the State.

The State Training and Development Team will be hosting the first State Training Conference in October 2003. The purpose of the Conference is to provide opportunity for Volunteers and Staff to participate in discussions and information sharing about the new training framework, how SES will achieve best training practice and maintain quality assurance and to celebrate the achievements of trainers and assessors.

The new training framework is being developed and will be incrementally implemented to ensure standardised assessment and training, portability of skills, skills recognition, equity and diversity, continuity of training pathways, consistency of approach to training is achieved.



The implementation of the new training framework will improve skill levels, help meet the Standards of Emergency Response, improve operational capabilities and give volunteers and staff recognition in a national training system.

The development of the proposed SA Fire and Emergency Services Commission will provide further opportunities for collaboration with the other Emergency Service Organisations to develop strategies for planning, coordinating, delivering, assessing and reviewing common competency standards.



## CATERING

### GOAL

To provide an adequate mass feeding service to community emergency response agencies.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The State Emergency Service has identified several strategic locations throughout the State to provide and deliver meals and sustenance to communities at evacuation points during major emergencies and disaster events and to provide emergency catering to other emergency services including SES personnel.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

To provide continued training in catering and food handling practices to allow the SES to perform the catering services and the improvement of catering equipment and facilities to address the standards of emergency response.

## AIR OBSERVERS

### GOAL

To provide personnel at strategic locations for Air Observer and Dropmaster activities to meet our obligation for the provision of agreed services to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

To continue the required training and exercise regime as defined by AusSAR under existing agreement.

This includes scheduled practice and the provision of training to SES personnel as Air Observers and Dropmasters.

To provide a safe working environment for such activities with safe and reliable aircraft and aircraft charter services.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

Changes within AusSAR and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority have cut back the delivery of Dropmaster services at many locations across Australia. Whilst the Port Lincoln and Mount Gambier SES Units have provided this service in the past, the only Dropmaster services in South Australia will be provided from SA Police STAR Group and SES in Adelaide.

Port Lincoln, Port Augusta, Mount Gambier and Adelaide SES Units will provide all Air Observer services for South Australia from 2003-04 onwards. Negotiations with AusSAR have established a Commonwealth training budget, through which SES trainers will train all South Australian Air Observers.

Negotiations are ongoing with SA Police STAR Group for the total takeover of all Dropmaster services for South Australia by SES during 2003-04.



## **OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE**

The last financial year has been a year of review of OHS&W programs resulting from one major accident occurring from an electrocution / electrical burn. The investigation outcomes instigated an OHS&W training day with the Mid North Division. The day was a success with a greater understanding and knowledge of OHS&W and the implementation and maintenance of OHS&W programs.

Several reviews that are currently in progress are:

- Policy / procedure review is currently about 70% completed with gaps being identified as part of the review process against the injury statistics with the introduction of new procedures currently in draft and the proper consultative processes.
- The new updated version of Hazard Incident Reporting System (HIRS) is currently being trialed and evaluated against set government criteria and the organisation's expectations. The new reporting system is an improvement on the previous HIRS system and regular meetings being held to monitor the Emergency Services requirements in partnership with OCPE and Planet Software.
- A specification is currently being developed for a purpose built training database and the compliance with the relevant OHS&W requirements.
- The involvement of the elected Health & Safety Representatives is currently under review. It has been suggested that tele-conferencing be established to enhance the State OH&S Committee and provide the representatives with a consultation and communication process that will be more effective than the current system.
- Together with the previous review, the OHS&W committee decided that the terms of reference needs to reflect the size, membership and make up of the Committee. The terms of reference now includes the standardisation of the correct protocols with the introduction of tele-conferencing.
- Currently a review of the efficient use of resources is being considered to monitor and maintain the testing and tagging of electrical equipment. The Committee agreed to further explore the purchase of electrical testing equipment and training of selected volunteers who are prepared to undertake the testing and tagging program for SES.

## **STRESS PREVENTION & MANAGEMENT (SPAM)**

SES volunteers participated in 6 critical incident stress debriefings, 1 critical incident stress diffusion and 3 pre-incident training sessions. Overall, 64 people were present with a total of 172.5 hours of professional services being provided in individual follow-up after emergency incidents.

Volunteer Peer Supporters are continuing studies to attain Certificates 3 and 4 Community Services Critical Incident Stress Management/Peer Support

## **WORKERS COMPENSATION**

During the 2002-03 financial year SES claim numbers reduced by 18% as compared to 22 in 2001-02 financial year. The financial cost of new claims reduced by 42% as

compared to 2001-02 financial year. The gross financial costs of all claims increased by \$39,382 a 12% increase in costs as compared to 2001-02 financial year.

The average cost of new claims for 2002-03 financial year was \$1,510 as compared to 2001-02 financial year \$2,167. A 30% reduction in the average cost of new claims was achieved.

## MECHANISMS OF INJURY

The most frequent cause (mechanism) of injury was **being hit by moving objects**, representing 33% of all new injuries sustained during the 2002-03 financial year. In 2001-02 financial year the most frequent cause (mechanism) of injury was **being hit by moving objects**, representing 33% of new claims. Three claims were a result of being hit by moving objects one claim by moving dust, one claim by a hammer and the other claim twine/rope/wire cable. Two claims were a result of being hit by falling objects, by a falling tree branch and bricks and the other from an animal bite.

The most expensive cause (mechanism) of injury in 2002-03 financial year was **falls, trips and slips** falling on the same level using sporting equipment comprising 25% of expenditure for new claims. By comparison, in 2001-02 financial year **being hit by moving objects**, was the most expensive cause (mechanism) of injury.

**Table 1 – OH&S Legislative Requirements**

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01
Number of Notifiable occurrences pursuant to Health Safety and Welfare Act Regulations, Division 6.6	1	0	2
Number of notifiable injuries pursuant to Health Safety and Welfare Regulations, Division 6.6	1	0	2
Number of notices served pursuant to Health Safety and Welfare Act, section 35, section 39, section 40	0	0	1

**Table 2 – Injury Management Legislative Requirements**

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01
Total number of employees who participated in a rehabilitation program	5	4	1
Total number of employees rehabilitated and reassigned to alternative duties	0	1	0
Total number of employees rehabilitated back to their original work	4	0	0

**Table 3 – WorkCover Action Limits**

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01
The number of open claims as at 30 <sup>th</sup> June	6	6	8
Percentage of workers compensation expenditure over gross annual remuneration	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable

**Table 4 – Number of Claims**

	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01
The number of new workers compensation claims in the financial year	18	22	22
The number of fatalities	0	0	0
The number of lost time injuries (LTI)	2	6	4
The number of medical treatment only (MTO) injuries during the reporting period	16	16	18
Total number of whole working days lost	118	352	408

**Table 5 – Cost of Workers Compensation**

	<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2000-01</b>
Cost of new claims for the financial year	\$27,176	\$47,677	\$98,659
Cost of all claims excluding lump sum payments	\$318,933	\$329,342	\$276,975
Amount paid for lump sum payments s42 of the WRC Act	\$15,649	\$0.00	\$0.00
Amount paid for lump sum payments s43, of the WRC Act	\$34,123	\$0.00	\$0.00
Amount paid for lump sum payments s44 of the WRC Act	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total amount recovered from external sources s54 of the WRC Act	\$0.00	\$1,288	\$0.00
Budget allocation for workers compensation	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

**Table 6 – Trends**

	<b>2002-03</b>	<b>2001-02</b>	<b>2000-01</b>
Injury frequency rate (calculated from Australian Standard AS1885) for new lost time injury/disease for each million hours worked	Unable to calculate	Unable to calculate	Unable to calculate
Most frequent cause (mechanism )of injury  <b>2002/2003 - Being Hit by Moving Objects</b> <b>2001/2002 - Being Hit by Moving Objects</b> 2000/2001 - Contusion with intact skin surfaces and crushing injury excluded	6 33% of new claims	7 32% of new claims	8 47% of new claims
Most expensive cause (mechanism )of injury <b>2002/2003 - Falls Trips and Slips</b> <b>2001/2002 - Being Hit by Moving Objects</b> 2000/2001 - Internal injury of chest, abdomen and pelvis	\$20,376 75% Of new claim costs	\$23,933 50% of new claim costs	\$90,26980 85% of new claim costs

**Table 7 – Meeting the Organisation's Strategic Targets**

	<b>2002-03</b>
10% reduction in new claim numbers for the financial year 2002-03 compared to financial year 2001-02	18% reduction
10% reduction in new claim financial costs for the financial year 2002-03 compared to financial year 2001-02	42% reduction
10% reduction in gross financial costs for the financial year 2002-03 compared to financial year 2001-02	12% increase
Gap analysis conducted between the PSSl requirements and the agency's current compliance. Action plans to be developed to address gaps	Not Applicable
Quarterly ESAU statistics provided to Health Safety and Welfare Committee. Trend analysis included	100% met
DAIS Workplace Services notification provided within 24 hours of all immediately notifiable injuries	100% met

## DISASTER MANAGEMENT FUNCTION

The SES is an integral part of the State's overall disaster management system. The permanent officers of the SES, in addition to dealing with all matters related to the Service, also provide the executive support for disaster management planning and for other State Disaster Organisation activities. This includes the preparation and exercising of disaster management plans.

The Director is Executive Officer to, and a member of, the State Disaster committee. The SES Regional Managers perform the same role on the Divisional Counter Disaster Committees.

## DISASTER MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

### GOAL

Emergency response services and the need for community preparation and involvement before and during emergencies have been promoted.

Disaster Management and other special contingency plans have been prepared, reviewed and validated.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The SES has continued to foster the participation of all organisations and personnel involved in emergencies to ensure that all aspects of disaster management preparedness are fully coordinated.

The SES involvement with the State Disaster Committee includes assistance in the preparation of exercises and consultation with regard to the State Disaster Act and Plan.

As Executive Officer to the State Disaster Committee, the Director accompanies the Chairman and the CEO of the Emergency Services Administrative Unit to meetings of the Australian Emergency Management Committee. In addition, he represents the Committee on other National Committees including the National Airports Emergency Planning Committee.

### PLANS

#### Divisional Plans

SES Regional Managers have been active in the development of Divisional Plans. Exercises have been conducted in most Police Local Service Areas and plans amended or refined. All plans are reviewed and amended as necessary, normally, on an annual basis.

The State Disaster Committee, as part of its functions under the *State Disaster Act*, has developed and distributed a State Disaster Committee Handbook describing the administrative responsibilities of persons appointed under the State Disaster Act and covering the appointment and duties of Local Service Area Commanders and SES Regional Managers. This Handbook is currently in the process of being re-written.

### **Local Plans**

There is no legislative authority for Local Government to prepare incident or disaster management plans, whereas it is possible for Officers in Charge of Police Districts to be instructed to do so.

SES Regional Managers have been involved in the maintenance of 19 Local Government area plans and 83 Police District Plans. These plans relate to the Local Service Area Counter Disaster Plans.

### **Contingency Plans**

There continues to be a great demand on the SES to be involved in special contingency planning.

The Director represents the SES on the Adelaide Airport Emergency committee and is a member of the National Airports Emergency Planning Committee.

Currently, State and Regional Managers are involved in the preparation of various Industrial Plans and have been called on to advise on Hospital Disaster Plans and Regional Airport Plans.

## **AUSTRALIAN EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (AEMC)**

The AEMC is the peak counter disaster/emergency management policy body in Australia. Chaired by the Director General, EMA, its membership comprises the Chairman of each State and Territory State Disaster Committee, or equivalent. South Australian representatives are Mr Barry Grear, Chairman State Disaster Committee and Mr Barry Apsey, Chief Executive Officer, Emergency Services Administrative Unit.

The Director, SES, as Executive Officer to the State Disaster Committee accompanies the SA representatives to meetings of the AEMC.

The AEMC meets regularly and a meeting of Executive Officers may be conducted as required.



## **OVERSEAS TRAVEL 2002-03**

There was no overseas travel undertaken by the members of the State Emergency Service in the reporting period.

## **STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (SEOC)**

### **GOAL**

To maintain the State and Divisional Emergency Operations Centres in a state of readiness and to undertake assessments of the effectiveness of such centres.

Links between and within the Functional Services have been developed, fostered and coordinated.

### **PRIORITISED STRATEGY**

During the year the SEOC has functioned from a temporary site at Thebarton Police Barracks. The operational readiness of the SEOC is maintained by SAPOL Emergency and Major Events Section (EMES) personnel, supported by:

- The State Emergency Management Training Officer, and
- The State Emergency Management Planning Officer

The SEOC is the site from which, during declared states of emergency or disaster, all Functional Services of the State Disaster Plan are coordinated. In such circumstances, the SEOC is the operational headquarters of the State Coordinator, who is the Commissioner of Police.

### **FUTURE DIRECTION**

It is proposed that the SEOC will relocate to the second floor of the Police Communications Centre, 20 Carrington Street Adelaide by the end of September 2003.

It is planned that the SEOC will be equipped with a level of technology appropriate to enable it to interface with its operational environment.

An emphasis will be made on familiarisation training to ensure SEOC personnel are operationally ready for the 2003-04 fire season.

## STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING OFFICER



ALLAN MCDUGALL  
*Disaster Management  
Training Officer*

### GOAL

To provide adequate emergency management education and information programmes to the South Australian community.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The duties of the officer include a requirement to be available to the public and to organisations requiring information and training concerning the measures that are in place to deal with disasters and major emergency incidents. This includes State Government agencies, Local Government, educational institutions and private industry.

During the past year, emergency management training and advice concerning risk management have been provided to industry, community organisations, medical institutions, tertiary institutions and secondary school students.

Additional responsibilities of the officer include membership of the following committees:

- Central Exercise Writing Team (CEWT)
- Emergency Management Sector Working group (EMSWG) - a national committee for Emergency Management training.
- National plan to combat pollution of the sea by oil and other noxious and hazardous substances Committee

### FUTURE DIRECTION

Further implementation of flexible delivery of both familiarisation and competency-based courses is planned.

A strategy to improve the readiness of Divisional Emergency Operations Centre personnel has been developed and will be implemented throughout the State.

## STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT TRAINING ACTIVITIES

During the past year, some of the training activities undertaken have included:

- Participation in the national Foot and Mouth disease “Exercise Minotaur”
- Disaster medicine training for hospital personnel
- The State Disaster Organisation’s “Exercise Team Spirit” prior to the 2002-03 bushfire season
- Five Disaster Exercise Management Courses – at Port Lincoln , Mount Gambier and Adelaide
- Two Disaster Management courses for Police Superintendents
- An Emergency Coordination Centre Course conducted, in Adelaide, in conjunction with Emergency Management Australia
- An “Introduction to Disaster Management /Risk Management” course for volunteers
- Participation in the 2002 Australian Earthquake Engineering Society. Earthquake Seminar at the University of Adelaide
- Emergency Coordination Centre Training for SA Metropolitan Fire Service personnel, Christies Beach Divisional Coordination Centre and PIRSA staff
- Risk management training for Transport SA and ArtLab



## STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLANNING OFFICER



ROBERT STEVENSON  
*Disaster Management  
Planning Officer*

### GOAL

The provision of emergency management planning functions in support of the State Disaster Functional Services and the preparation of special emergency management contingency plans.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

In accordance with the planning provisions detailed in the State Disaster Act, this officer has, in consultation and collaboration with the State Disaster Plan Functional Services, contributed to the review process and further development of their Disaster Plans. In addition, support to the Divisional Disaster Committees in emergency management planning has ensured that the major emergency/disaster response and recovery arrangements are in place to deal with this level of emergency.

The State Emergency Management Planning Officer –represents the State Disaster Committee on the following committees:

- Department of Human Services Emergency Management Group
- Emergency Services & Major Events Co-ordination Committee
- SEOC Re-location Working Party
- SA Counter Terrorism Plan Project Team
- Catering Functional Service Working Party

### COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT (CERM) PROJECT

The Community Emergency Risk Management (CERM) Project is designed to provide a process whereby Local and State Governments can work collaboratively to assist councils in carrying out their community safety responsibilities.

The first (CERM) pilot has been implemented in the Riverland Disaster Management Region, i.e. the collective areas of the Berri Barmera Council and the District Councils of Renmark Paringa and Loxton Waikerie. The interview / information collection phase of this project has been completed, with results currently being analysed.

Consultation with the Burnside, Mitcham and Onkaparinga Councils in relation to the establishment of a combined CERM project with a joint strategy was held early in the year. Whilst this combined Councils project has not proceeded, Mitcham Council is progressing with the implementation of a CERM project.

A further pilot CERM project is also being implemented in the Nepabunna Aboriginal Community in northern SA.

All CERM projects are currently being managed by Disaster Management Services under the direction of the State Disaster Committee and with the support of the Local Government Association.

## **STATE EMERGENCY RISK MANAGEMENT (SERM) PROJECT**

The State Emergency Risk Management (SERM) project, designed to establish a framework for the management of disaster level risk and involving the identification of hazard custodians, has progressed slowly this year, due in large part, to the need to await the recommendations of both the Dawkins and Newland Reviews.

## **STATE DISASTER WEBSITE**

The development of the State Disaster Website has continued throughout the year. This one stop, 24 hr online information portal will focus on informing and educating both the SA community and Emergency Services professionals on the principals and concepts of disaster management and the disaster management arrangements in South Australia. It is envisaged that the launch of this important service will take place in the latter part of 2003.

## **EXERCISE MINOTAUR**

Exercise Minotaur was a national Foot and Mouth Disease simulation exercise conducted from 9<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2002.

It was a “desk top” exercise in that it did not involve real life actions to combat the disease such as actual quarantining of properties or the implementation of livestock standstills.

### **Background**

In 2001 the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) agreed to hold a major national exercise to test Australia's whole of government framework response and recovery in the face of a major disease outbreak to be a test of decision making in an unexpected or crisis situation.

Exercise Minotaur was preceded in SA by Exercise Purple Dawn 1 on May 1<sup>st</sup> 2002 and Exercise Purple Dawn 2 in three phases on July 25<sup>th</sup>, Aug 1<sup>st</sup> and Aug 8<sup>th</sup> 2002. The overall aim of the Purple Dawn Exercise Series was to confirm that the disaster management coordination and logistic support arrangements are in place to deal with the initial response to a possible outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, either in SA or elsewhere in Australia and to identify both short and long term social and economic recovery issues.

Disaster Management Services provided a large commitment to the planning and conduct of both the Exercise Purple Dawn series and Exercise Minotaur.

In the planning phase, Disaster Management Services worked closely with Primary Industries and Resources South Australia (PIRSA), the Department of Premier and Cabinet, the Emergency Management Council and the State Disaster Functional Services.

During Exercise Minotaur, Disaster Management Services organised the full activation of the State Emergency Operations Centre and also the activation of selected Functional Services State Control Centres. It also facilitated debriefing sessions following both the Purple Dawn series of exercises and Exercise Minotaur.

In addition, it also provided executive support to the special State High Level Group, established to ensure that the State Disaster arrangements are in place for a response to an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease.

## **FUTURE DIRECTIONS**

The following projects have been identified as key future directions:

- Re-location of the State Emergency Operations Centre
- Implementation and completion of CERM Pilot programs
- Implementations of recommendations of the Newland Review
- Design and implementation of the State Counter Terrorism Plan
- Review of the State Disaster Handbook
- Review of the SEOC Operations Manual

### **Re-location of the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC)**

The new State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC) is to be located on the second floor of the Police Communications Centre in Carrington Street. It is envisaged that relocation to this new, upgraded facility will occur in September 2003.

### **Implementation and Completion of the CERM Pilot Programs**

The Riverland CERM project will be completed in the latter part of 2003. Both the Mitcham and Nepabunna CERM projects will be fully implemented in the next twelve-month period.

There is a strong likelihood that at least one other Local Government Council will join with the State Government in conducting a CERM Pilot project in the next 12 months.

### **Implementation and Recommendations of the Newland Review**

Once the SA Government hands down the final version and recommendations of the Newland Review of the State Disaster Act 1980 and associated state disaster arrangements, it is likely that this office will play an important part in the implementation of many of the Review recommendations.

### **Design and Implementation of the State Counter Terrorism Plan**

There is a strong likelihood that this office will be involved in the design and implementation of the State Counter Terrorism Plan. This will involve adapting the National Counter Terrorism Plan for SA and ensuring that all Functional Services under the State Disaster Plan, have policies and procedures in place to ensure they are properly prepared to respond to a terrorist act within the state.

### **Review of the State Disaster Handbook**

Once the recommendations of the Newland Review are released, it will be possible to update the State Disaster Handbook to reflect the needs of the new State Disaster / Emergency Management body.

### **Review of the SEOC Operations Manual**

Once the relocation of the SEOC is complete and the recommendations of the Newland Review are released, it will be possible to update the State Emergency Operations Centre Operations Manual. This will be done in conjunction with the updating of the State Disaster Handbook.

## VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE



ALAN CORMACK  
*Volunteer Marine  
Rescue Coordinator*

Within the Gulf waters and around the coastline of South Australia recreational boating is a major leisure pastime of many people. Latest figures indicate that over 50,000 vessels are registered in SA with the majority of registered vessels [approximately 94%] being used for recreational purposes, namely fishing and skiing.

Recreational and fishing vessels that encounter difficulties at sea or on inland rivers & lakes, sometimes endangering life and property are able to seek immediate rescue assistance and first aid by calling one of the Volunteer Marine Rescue organisations'.

The accredited Volunteer Marine Rescue organisations that provide a marine rescue service and who are recipients of an annual funding grant from the Minister for Emergency Services to assist in the provision of this service are:

- South Australia Sea Rescue Squadron Inc.
- Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Inc.
- Victor Harbor-Goolwa Sea Rescue Squadron Inc.
- Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol Inc.
- Air Sea Rescue – Cowell Squadron Inc
- Air Sea Rescue – Whyalla Squadron Inc.

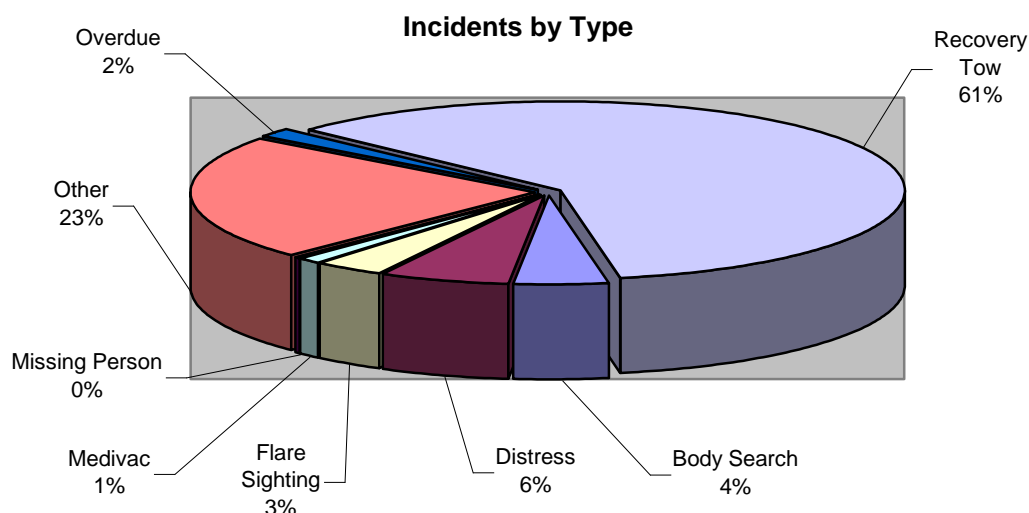
These organisations are independent, incorporated bodies and are affiliated with the VMR Association – VMR SA Association Inc.

The State Emergency Service has thirteen Units providing a volunteer marine rescue service to specific coastal areas and also have SES Units located strategically on the inland waters of the River Murray & Lakes area. In addition to responding to vessels in distress, the SES provide a response capability in medivac situations from houseboats navigating the River Murray.

### OPERATIONAL REPORT

Volunteer Marine Rescue organisations with combined membership exceeding 1000 active and associate members, responded to over 500 incidents in the reporting period and this represented approximately 50,000 operational hours of duty. All of the organisations have a commitment to deliver extensive training for members to maintain the skills required to carry out rescue duty, which is often carried out in harsh and rough sea conditions and in the hours of darkness. In addition to the large amount of hours committed in training Squadron members, a significant contribution to the general boating safety is accomplished by conducting training to the general boating public in a series of lectures and practical exercises.





In addition to actual on-water rescue operations the Volunteer Marine Organisations collectively support fifty-five [55] Limited Marine Coastal Radio Stations [many installed in private member homes] that are positioned along the 3000 km coastline of SA to monitor the marine distress radio frequencies. The total time in radio monitoring would exceed many thousands of hours annually and is a wonderful and generous commitment by those VMR radio members.

## MANAGEMENT & COMMUNICATION

The volunteer groups have representation on the marine rescue management and coordination committees and contribute to the development of policies and protocols of volunteer marine rescue services. The committees are:

- State Marine Rescue Committee
- State Marine Communications Management Committee
- SA Volunteer Marine Rescue Consultative Committee

In this period a new position of Coordinator – Volunteer Marine Rescue was established, within the State Emergency Service, to work with the volunteer marine rescue organisations to facilitate the coordinated development, implementation and on-going management of policies and standards to ensure an effective and cost efficient marine rescue capability in accordance with State and National Rescue Plans and Conventions.

The Squadrons receive financial support through a grant from the Community Emergency Services Levy with these funds being expended in the operational area to maintain the operational capability of each VMR organisation. The Rescue Vessel Replacement Scheme continues to operate, and in this year funds were provided to the SA Sea Rescue Squadron at West Beach to purchase a new rescue vessel, and as a carryover from the previous financial year the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol also purchased a new 7.4 metre dedicated rescue vessel, for operational use on Yorke Peninsula in areas from Balgowan to Pondalowie Bay.

The State Marine Rescue Committee, which receives executive support from the VMR Coordinator, continues to function with the primary responsibility of establishing procedures and policy for marine rescue, and for the improved utilisation of facilities and resource deployment.

A state-wide operational audit of all volunteer marine rescue resources was conducted in this period, which provided information to formulate a number of recommendations to enhance/improve the operational efficiency of VMR service delivery. Other key initiatives this year included the establishment of the State Marine Rescue Communications Committee with representation from each VMR group, to act as an advisory body on marine communications and to have responsibility for the coordination of the development, coverage, integrity and maintenance of the marine rescue radio network.



*New Rescue Vessel – Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol*

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2002-03

Notable achievements in the 2003-03 year included:

- Approval by the Government to provide comprehensive civil liability protection to the Volunteer Marine Rescue organisations under the Government's Insurance and Risk Management arrangements administered by SAICORP.
- Establishment of the Copper Coast Marine Rescue Flotilla to be associated with the SA Sea Rescue Squadron.
- Completion of the VMR Training Standard and issued to all Squadron as a code of practice to underpin the education and training of volunteer rescue personnel to a high standard.
- Completion of the Marine Incident Report database to enable all incidents to be centrally recorded to enable analysis to be conducted.
- This will assist in future planning and the development of specific strategies to reduce the risks of incident occurrence and to adopt a risk management approach to have a sharper focus on prevention.

## GOALS

- Development of a standard specification in the offshore rescue vessel category.
- Review of the VMR Strategic Plan and development of a VMR Manual of General Policy & Instructions.
- Development of an annual joint VMR Training and Exercise program.
- Completion of the accreditation process and issue of VMR Registration for organisations and rescue vessels.
- Coordination for the further development of the VHF Repeater marine coastal radio network.
- Development of a statewide VMR Asset Register and database.
- Completion of the Govt. civil liability coverage arrangement and review the provision of general insurance for VMR property and buildings under the SAICORP Risk cover.

The services provided to all the VMR organisations by the VMR Coordinator are undertaken on an equitable and consistent basis to both metropolitan and regional groups.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

As a requirement of the *Freedom of Information Act 1991*, Section 9, it is advised that no requests for access to documents pursuant to the *Freedom of information Act* were received in the reporting year.

## **CONSULTANCIES**

No consultancies were undertaken by the SES during the reporting period.

## **SA SES VOLUNTEER ASSOCIATION**

The South Australian State Emergency Service Volunteer Association has had an extremely busy and productive year. The aim of the Association is to protect the interests of the SES volunteer.

This year, the Members have had to work hard to have a say and to be heard in many areas, including the Dawkins Review.

The Association has also commissioned its first promotional vehicle. The Nissan Urvan has been painted and sign written to provide an eye catching recruitment and promotion message to the community. Inside it has all that is needed to manage a productive static display and recruitment campaign.

The approval and funding of three training officers has been a continuing hard fought campaign for the Association. Negotiations with the Minister, and support from the Director, have seen the funding for these crucial positions come to fruition.

The Association has full representation from all Regions in the State and an active committee that provides information and concerns to the executive team and Chairman. These concerns have been heard by the Director and Government with beneficial results for all parties.

## AWARDS - RECIPIENTS 2002-03

In the Australia Day List and the Queen's Birthday Honours List, 2003 the Emergency Services Medal (ESM) awarded for distinguished service was awarded to three members of the State Emergency Service, one permanent staff and two volunteers.

### EMERGENCY SERVICE MEDAL (ESM)

	<b>SURNAME</b>	<b>GIVEN NAME</b>
1	DARLING	James
2	SHEILS	Andy
3	McDOUGALL	Allan Leslie

### NATIONAL MEDAL & CLASPS

The National Medal is available to those members of the Service who have completed 15 years of diligent and effective qualifying service. Clasps to the Medal are awarded for each additional 10 years of Service. During 2002-03 such awards were made, as listed hereunder:

	<b>SURNAME</b>	<b>GIVEN NAME</b>	<b>AWARD</b>
1	AINSWORTH	Christopher James	National Medal
2	BERKHUIZEN	Nita Marion	First Clasp
3	BRISTOW	Robert Edward	National Medal
4	CHAMBERLAIN	Debra Susan	National Medal
5	CORMACK	Alan Forsyth	Second Clasp
6	COULSON	Maxwell John	National Medal
7	EDSON	Vaughan William	National Medal
8	FLEET	Adrian Paul	National Medal
9	FUSS	Trevor Ronald	National Medal
10	GILGEN	Raeleen Leslie	National Medal
11	GOGLER	Gregory Philip	First Clasp
12	HODGES	Noel George	Third Clasp
13	HYNES	John Patrick	First Clasp
14	KILPATRICK	David Curran	National Medal
15	LANCASTER	Diana May	First Clasp
16	LLOYD	David Merlyn	Second Clasp
17	MALSEED	Gregory John	First Clasp
18	MURRIE	Andrew Thomas	National Medal
19	NOACK	William Anthony	Second Clasp
20	RAPISARDA	Salvatore	National Medal
21	SANDERS	Roger Hugh Ramsey	Second Clasp
22	WEBER	Gordon George	National Medal
23	WHITMARSH	Desmond Robert	First Clasp

## MERITORIOUS SERVICE CERTIFICATES

### 10 Year

	<b>SURNAME</b>	<b>GIVEN NAME</b>	<b>UNIT</b>
1	BOTT	Timothy William	Barmera
2	BEAMES	Desmond Walter	Clare
3	DUTSCHKE	Peter Brian	Maitland
4	DUTSCHKE	Graham	Maitland
5	EGLINGTON	Ian Thomas	Maitland
6	FOSSEY	Joy Ann	SHQ
7	LLOYD	Jane	Clare
8	GODFREY	Wayne Stuart	Kapunda
9	GRIFFIN	Barbara	Clare
10	HICKS	Warren Anthony	Metro South
11	HISSEY	Darryl Wayne	Kapunda
12	Longbottom	Hugh Donald	Maitland
13	LARSEN	Axel	Saddleworth
14	GIBSON	Julie Elizabeth	Clare
15	NOACK	Kathleen Marie	Kapunda
16	NOBLE	Jan	Clare
17	RICHARDSON	Peter John	Saddleworth
18	TILBROOK	Christopher Gifford	Clare
19	TUNKS	Gavin John	Pt Augusta
20	VONDERBORCH	Ursula	Noarlunga
21	WURST	Andrew Mark	Saddleworth
22	WILLIAMS	David John	Saddleworth
23	WILLIAMS	Raymond David	Berri

### 20 Year

	<b>SURNAME</b>	<b>GIVEN NAME</b>	<b>UNIT</b>
1	MORCOM	David John	Keith
2	OOSTERBROEK	Andrew James	Berri
3	RAWNSLEY	Peter Dean	Whyalla
4	SANDERCOCK	Colin Rex	Maitland
5	SCHULZ	Lyall Grant	Maitland
6	SKINNER	William Valentine	Whyalla
7	WILSON	Lindsay Robert	Kapunda
8	WILSON	Louise Anne	Kapunda
9	WARD	Michael Leslie	Clare

## **CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION**

Certificates of appreciation were presented to employees of volunteers, businesses and organizations, and individuals for support to the SES this financial year.

1. EDS Australia
2. Australian Commonwealth Government Bookshop
3. Blackwood Hire Centre
4. Alexander McFarlane
5. Holden Limited (Elizabeth)
6. VIDA's Corporate and Club Clothing Agencies
7. Cheap as Chips (Munno Para)
8. Cunningham's Warehouse Sales
9. Central Districts Football Club Inc
10. Rocca Bros Auto Parts and Accessories (Regency Park)

## WEST COAST DIVISION - EYRE PENINSULA

☐ Ceduna      ☐ Cleve      ☐ Cummins  
☐ Kimba      ☐ Nullarbor      ☐ Nundroo  
☐ Port Lincoln      ☐ Streaky Bay      ☐ Tumby Bay  
☐ Whyalla      ☐ Wudinna      ☐ Eyre HQ



ROBERT CHARLTON  
Regional Manager  
West Coast Division

### STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE

The 2002-03 year has been a busy one for SES Volunteers throughout the Eyre Peninsula. This work was again accomplished by a small group of dedicated people who give up their time to volunteer to assist the unfortunate. Unit taskings ranged from Road Accident Rescue, Storm Damage, Major Searches, Marine Rescues, Air Observing, Flooding, Vertical Rescue, Public Relations and support to organizations eg Tunarama, Oyster Fest. Also assisted other statutory organisations eg Police, Fire Services, SA Ambulance.

### TRAINING

Was carried out in the following skills - Basic Rescue, Air Observers, Road Crash, Leadership, Advanced Rescue, Vertical Rescue, Train Small Groups, Workplace Assessor, Leadership, Chainsaw and Storm Damage.

### MAJOR INCIDENTS - SES INVOLVMENT

Port Lincoln, Cummins, Tumby Bay and Whyalla Units were involved in three major searches in the Port Lincoln area. Tumby Bay and Port Lincoln Units assisted in a Helicopter Medivac at Sir Joseph Banks Group. Tumby Bay, Cummins & Port Lincoln Units were involved with a Vertical Rescue at Whalers Way. Ceduna, Whyalla, Port Lincoln, Tumby Bay & Cummins Units were involved in providing a rescue service at Ceduna & Lyndhurst for the Solar Eclipse.

### INCIDENTS

Ceduna	3	Cleve	16	Cummins	41
Kimba	19	Nullarbor	6	Nundroo	4
Port Lincoln	133	Streaky Bay	8	Tumby Bay	119
Whyalla	359	Wudinna	1		

## **EQUIPMENT**

The following Unit vehicles have been upgraded:

- Kimba – New 4x4 Light Rescue Truck
- Whyalla – 4x4 Utility transferred from Kimba
- Cummins – New Tandem Trailer

## **FUTURE EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Rescue Boat for Tumby Bay and Streaky Bay SES Units.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Ceduna	46	Cleve	14	Cummins	19
Kimba	12	Nullarbor	26	Nundroo	18
Port Lincoln	63	Streaky Bay	25	Tumby Bay	33
Whyalla	52	Wudinna	12		

## **DISASTER PLANNING**

West Coast Division and Mid West Division Disaster Committees are meeting quarterly. All Plans are amended annually.

An introduction to Disaster Management and Exercise Management course was held in Port Lincoln in February. This was well attended by a number of agencies.

Airport exercises were conducted at Cleve, Kimba and Cowell to test local emergency plans.

Oil Pollution training and exercises were held at Ceduna and Port Lincoln.

West Coast Divisional Emergency Operations Centre (DEOC) was activated for Exercise Team Spirit to test equipment and procedures.



## BAROSSA/YORKE DIVISION

☐ Clare

☐ Maitland

☐ Warooka

☐ Saddleworth

☐ Kapunda



JOHN HYNES  
*Regional Manager  
Barossa/Yorke Division*

### GOALS

- Local Service Area Disaster Plans have been reviewed and amended.
- The capability of the SES Units to deal with emergency situations has been maintained and improved.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGIES

- The Barossa Yorke Disaster Committee meets quarterly. Has been well supported by the Functional Services and provides a forum to discuss Emergency/Disaster matters.
- State Emergency Service Units within the Region have responded to:
  - 152 incidents
  - Travelled 21 314 km
  - Requiring 4143.45 hrs
- Units' ability to respond to emergencies has been improved with the rollout of the state-wide pager system, particularly with the trialing of centralised callout procedures.
- All Units have been actively engaged in obtaining the requirements of the Standards Of Emergency Response as identified for their area. An audit will be commenced in Financial Year 2003/04 to check compliance.

### FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Maintain the present level of training throughout the Region with emphasis on the maintenance of present skill levels.
- Identify and implement processes/procedures to minimise the increased workload placed on Regional Headquarters and Units with the numerous audits now required.
- Establish the Disaster Emergency Operations Centre at the old Courthouse at Kapunda.

## FLINDERS DIVISION

❑ *Andamooka*      ❑ *Coober Pedy*      ❑ *Hawker*  
❑ *Leigh Creek*      ❑ *Marla*      ❑ *Mintabie*  
❑ *Port Augusta*      ❑ *Quorn*      ❑ *Roxby Downs*



PIETER SCOTT  
*Regional Manager  
Flinders Division*

### GOALS

- The Units in the Flinders Region have received some new equipment through the Emergency Services Levy Program. This enables greater responses to emergencies.
- The GRN system is being used to full effect in the Region, Units are very pleased with the performance of the system.
- Members have attended training courses and workshops over the last year thereby increasing the Units' ability to respond to various tasks and maintain a high degree of professionalism but in order to better support Divisional and Local level training, more members need to attend programmed activities.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGIES

- Flinders Region State Emergency Service Units have responded to 201 tasks this year which is an increase from last year.
- Hawker SES is slowly rebuilding. It is anticipated that it should be able to operate in Land Searches, Road Crash Rescue and Horse Search Team Searches by March 2004.
- The Coober Pedy building project has been approved with work commencing in 2003.
- Recruitment of volunteers to enhance the Service and provide service to communities is ongoing. Concentration of recruiting to be at Hawker, Leigh Creek and Quorn. The newly appointed Volunteer Support Officer will concentrate on these areas.

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

- The Far North Division Counter Disaster Committee conducts meetings quarterly with representatives from most agencies attending on a regular basis.
- An exercise is being planned to test plans in relation to loss of critical infrastructure due to an incident in another Region.
- There will also be DEOC training and exercises to enable agencies to work in and know the operational procedures for the DEOC.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

- A meeting has been held in Alice Springs with Northern Territory Emergency Services Regional Manager with regards to SA/NT Plan. A meeting will need to be held every 6 months to discuss the Plan with participants from South Australia, Northern Territory Emergency Services and other stake holders (DEHAA) etc.
- Emphasis will be placed on increasing the training level of Units in the Region this year to enable them to meet the Standards of Emergency Response.
- Units will be given support to ensure they manage their finances within allocated budgets and maintain a satisfactory level of service to their communities.

## MID NORTH DIVISION

- |  |                                   |                                     |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Booleroo Centre | <input type="checkbox"/> Burra    | <input type="checkbox"/> Bute       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cockburn        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hallett  | <input type="checkbox"/> Laura      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Port Broughton  | <input type="checkbox"/> Spalding | <input type="checkbox"/> Port Pirie |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Snowtown        |                                   |                                     |



GERRY HABILS  
*Regional Manager  
Mid North Division*

### GOALS

- An effective rescue service for the community within the Mid North Region of South Australia has been maintained by volunteer State Emergency Service Units rendering immediate assistance during all types of emergencies.
- The provision of management and executive support to the North East Disaster Committee has ensured an effective and coordinated response capability is in place at all levels, including the maintenance of efficient measures for the delivery of disaster programs for the community within the North East Disaster Division.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGIES

- SES Units in the Region have responded to 308 incidents in 2002/2003.
- Volunteer Support Officer operating from the Mid North Regional office at least 2 days per week is continuing and successful.
- The North East Disaster Committee meets on a quarterly basis.
- The Regional Headquarters is readily accessible to volunteers and the general public and is in the process of an upgrade to acquire more room.
- The Laura SES Unit actively competed in the National Road Crash Rescue 2003 Competitions held in Toowoomba, Qld.
- The Barrier Highway Emergency Management Committee continues to meet to maintain and practise arrangements between SA & NSW for emergency response to the remote areas of the Region.
- Local Police District Response Plans development and amendments are ongoing within the North East Division.
- The North East Disaster Plan has been amended.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

- Prioritising Unit and regional training activities with the focus towards meeting the standards for emergency response is ongoing.
- Full time volunteer support for SES/CFS volunteers working well throughout this region.
- Appointment of a regional training support position to be located in the Port Augusta Regional Office in 2003.

- Additional regional admin/finance support staff is an urgent requirement.
- Continue to work towards the provision of 'Best Practice' Road Crash Rescue response throughout the Region and the State.
- Development of Emergency Management Strategies upon completion of Review is a matter of priority.

## ADELAIDE HILLS DIVISION - METRO EAST

❑ *Adelaide Hills*    ❑ *Eastern Suburbs*    ❑ *Noarlunga*  
❑ *Onkaparinga*    ❑ *Western Adelaide*    ❑ *Metro South*  
❑ *Sturt*    ❑ *State Headquarters*



JOHN THORNE  
*Regional Manager  
Metro East Division*

The efficiency of the State Emergency Service in this Region has been enhanced by the high quality of training conducted during this financial year. Training courses have been conducted at various locations during the year and have included the following courses at Regional level; Shoring workshops, Land Search Operations-Team Leader, Map Reading and Navigation, and Leadership at various locations throughout the State. Other courses such as Basic and Advanced Rescue have been conducted at Unit level.

The volunteers both in training and during operational duties have displayed a high standard of professionalism and efficiency. This was very evident at public events such as the Clipsal 500 event and the Royal Adelaide Show. The care and maintenance of vehicles and equipment is also of a very high standard in preparation for response to any emergency that may arise.

A number of SES volunteers acted as casualties during a Hazardous Chemical exercise at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The exercise was conducted to practise the Hospital Staff in preparation for such an event occurring and large numbers of casualties arriving at the hospital requiring decontamination and treatment. The exercise achieved the objectives that were set.

Operationally the Region has been very active with personnel responding to a range of activities including; Storms, Flooding, Searches for missing people, and support to the CFS during bushfires. Response to major flooding in the Glenelg area required the attendance of Units from across the Metropolitan area, in conjunction with the Metropolitan Fire Service, Police, Ambulance Service, Local Government, and the Salvation Army. The Co-operation and coordination across services was excellent.

### FUTURE DIRECTION

Recruiting is an ongoing function within the Region with the assistance of the Volunteer Management Branch providing the appropriate resources to assist the Units.

Arrangements have been put in place for the coordination of Basic Rescue training for the Region, in order that new recruits are trained to a level that will enable them to respond with other members at an early stage after entering the service. New members therefore gain valuable experience that will assist them to further their training in other areas.

Training programs for other skills have been organised for the forthcoming year, and will be included in the State Training Program.

## **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

- Lectures to various Community groups, such as schools and neighbourhood watch groups have provided information to assist people with the knowledge of what actions will take place and where they can get assistance in times of emergency.
- The Hills Murray Disaster Plan has been reviewed and appropriately amended to provide an efficient response to any emergency or disaster that may occur. The plan was partially activated several times during the fire danger season. The Disaster Plan for the Royal Adelaide Showgrounds was reviewed in preparation for the annual Show.
- Several Emergency Management Exercises were conducted during the year, including both a Discussion and an Operational exercise at the Royal Adelaide Hospital, and a hypothetical exercise at the Festival Centre.
- Advice and assistance is being provided to the Scout Association in preparation for the Jamboree 2004, to be conducted at the Woodhouse site in the Adelaide Hills during January 2004. This and other major public events are constantly being monitored and assisted by the Emergency Services Major Event Coordination Committee.
- A Community Emergency Risk Management program is proposed for the Mitcham Council area. The Mitcham Council is very enthusiastic about the program and is supporting it through the Council staff with assistance from Disaster Management Services and the SES Regional Manager.

## SOUTH EAST DIVISION

- ❑ *Bordertown*
- ❑ *Keith*
- ❑ *Kingston SE*
- ❑ *Wattle Range*
- ❑ *Mount Gambier*
- ❑ *South East HQ*



GREG MALSEED  
*Regional Manager  
South East Division*

During the 2002/2003 fiscal year the South East State Emergency Service Regional Headquarters has been extremely busy.

### GOALS

#### Emergency Management

Within the South East Region we are very fortunate to have a dedicated group of Disaster Management personnel who remain keen to promote community protection strategies and efficient operational response.

During the year, the Committee monitored extreme weather conditions and numerous potentially dangerous bushfires, but fortunately none had disastrous consequences. Members also discussed topics such as:- burial sites for destroyed stock, Marine Rescue capabilities, submission for a Schools Project Officer, SARS, politically based violence, burn-off issues, review of Legislation, South East earthquakes, radiation sites, public awareness matters etc.

#### SES

The SES volunteers are to be congratulated for their tireless efforts and contribution in assisting their respective communities during crisis situations. The majority of their volunteer workload was Road Crash Rescue with 157 crashes attended. Other taskings included Storm/Flood mitigation and repairs, Search and General Rescues, Vertical Rescue, Hazardous Incidents and assisting other Services (particularly at bushfires). Total operational hours were approximately 4,900. In addition, 310 hours were given for general community service work. Training and exercises are not included within these figures.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGIES

The prioritised strategies for Emergency Management within the South East include:-

- Encouragement of community safety and survival strategies.
- Fostering relationships with all broad-based organizations to ensure preparedness and Emergency Management operations are fully coordinated. This is of particular importance for the Lifeline organisations throughout the area of responsibility.



- Progressing Information Technology (real time photography and plotting, website development, computerised mapping etc.) for the benefit of emergency management staff and likewise the whole community.
- Promoting and encouraging the South East Relief Trust to the community.
- Investigating the consequences of a serious earthquake, as it has been learnt from past history that this Region is susceptible. This matter has become more pertinent as the South East has recently experienced three very deep earthquakes, which are quite rare on the Australian continent.
- Progressing Risk Management principles for the recognized major hazards within the South East.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

Future emphasis for the South East SES over the next twelve months include the following strategies:-

- Promotion of SES volunteerism in the eyes of the general community. The emphasis on this direction from last year was enhanced by attendance at field days, shows, mail drops, media campaigning etc. It is intended that this strategy continue with increased vigour.
- Promotion of training and Occupational Health and Safety opportunities for the volunteers. With the release of the 2003/2004 Training and Development Program, it is quite apparent that this Region will be extremely active in enhancing volunteer skills to meet the Standards of Emergency Response.
- Recruitment and retention programs for the volunteers and cadets.
- Continue to foster good working relationships with Volunteer Support Officer (VSO) in enabling him to effectively carry out his role.
- Easing of administrative workload on volunteers. In the past the workload on volunteers have been steadily increasing. This needs to be addressed because of the detrimental effect on the volunteers and their retention rate.

To enable these future directions to be progressed effectively, it is important that more resources and personnel be made available within the South East to create a safer and more prepared community.

In finalising, I wish to recognise the support that my office has received during the year especially from Disaster Management Services (ESAU) personnel, SES volunteers and the Headquarters' dedicated staff.

## RIVERLAND DIVISION

❑ *Barmera*

❑ *Berri*

❑ *Blanchetown*

❑ *Loxton*

❑ *Renmark*

❑ *Riverland Div. HQ*



GREG REEDMAN  
*Regional Manager  
Riverland Division*

### GOALS

#### Emergency Management

Emergency Management and special contingency plans have been prepared, reviewed and validated.

The Divisional Emergency Operations Centre has been maintained in a state of readiness and assessments have been undertaken of the effectiveness of the centre.

Links between and within the Functional Services have been developed, fostered and co-ordinated.

Community awareness programs have been developed and promoted.

#### Emergency Response

The capability of the SES to deal with emergency situations has been maintained and improved;

Emergency response services and the need for community preparation and involvement before and during emergencies have been promoted.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGIES

#### Emergency Management

A comprehensive review and rewrite of the Divisional Disaster Plan has been completed, implemented and evaluated.

One major exercise has been conducted this year. Exercise 'Powder Puff', an agency presentation exercise involving all Emergency Service agencies along with St John, Riverland Regional Health Services, SA Water, Department of Water Resources and Family and Youth Services. This exercise explored joint organisational response to a major chemical spillage into the River Murray, requiring mutual activation and cooperation between agencies.

The most significant findings from the exercise were

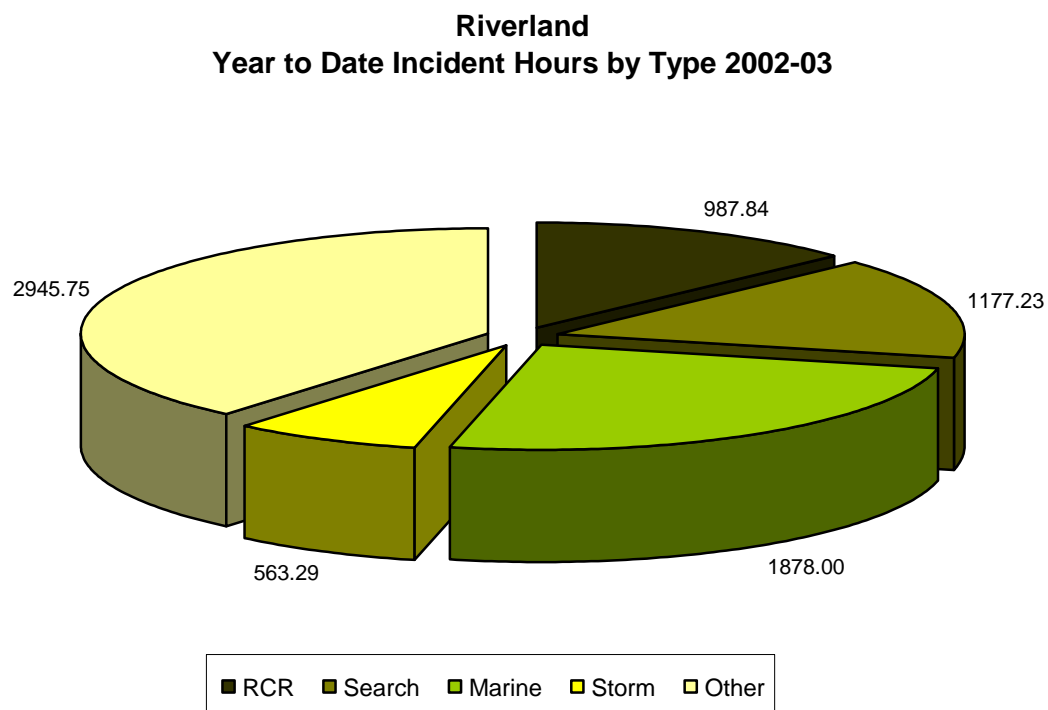
1. Highlighting of the inability of the "response" agencies to mitigate and prevent the escalation of the original incident.
2. The very long recovery phase which would eventuate.
3. The very significant logistical problems which all agencies would face with such a long drawn out incident
4. The potentially devastating impact upon the economy of the whole state.
5. The consequential long term health and environmental consequences.
6. The need for very speedy decision making.

Significant upgrading of the Divisional Emergency Operations Centre has been completed. Training of Functional Service Coordinators has been progressed with a specific training course conducted under the auspice of SAPOL.

A pilot Community Emergency Risk Management project entitled 'Our Community, Our Risk, Our Management' is being conducted with the local governments of Berri Barmera, Loxton Waikerie, and Renmark Paringa. The project is well advanced and is intended to engage the communities of the Riverland in the development of an action plan to address the risks facing the Riverland population and infrastructure.

### **Emergency Response**

The volunteer members of the service continued to provide an exceptional range of rescue services to their communities totalling 7552 operational hours.



## MURRAY DIVISION

❑ Kangaroo Island

❑ Meningie

❑ Murray Bridge

❑ Strathalbyn

❑ South Coast

❑ Yankalilla



Ty LLOYD  
Regional Manager  
Murray Division

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

The implementation of safer industrial work practices and the acknowledgement of disaster management by major industrial owners, has evidenced a change in response to risk assessment. This renewed vigour has, by and large, been caused through insurance premiums being calculated on the outcome of risk assessments.

Currently the Divisional Disaster Committee has the task of revisiting the structure of such committees in the area. This research is largely focused on a needs analysis and based on anecdotal evidence which encompasses the over arching State Disaster Plan. Through the advent of progressive change, boundaries pertaining to emergency management services conflict with the boundaries of South Australian Police Local Service Areas. The resultant of the current structure gives cause to unclear distinction of mandates between the Divisional and Local plans. One significant reason at the Divisional level is attendance by heads of departments, has diminished due to the changes in management strategies. Rural areas such as Murray Bridge are now being managed centrally from the CBD in Adelaide by government and non- government departments.

### EMERGENCY RESPONSES

Increasing incidents of land and water searches and other tasks requiring SES involvement is understandable, given the rapid increase of population in the Southern areas. This gives testimony for the continued need for the augmentation of education to people within the community, for example: “dangers of remote areas eg Deep Creek Conservation Park”. This area is very alluring to tourists and local residents alike, however not being given the correct information about the area, can cause day trippers and bush walkers to enter into a situation of danger without them knowing of what may lie ahead. The Murray division recently completed a two-day workshop at the Deep Creek area to explore all the needs required to offer assistance to those at risk.

The rollout of new response vehicles has continued with Kangaroo Island and South Coast units both receiving new vehicles. Strathalbyn is to receive the next new light rescue vehicle. At the time of writing several units will receive a newly designed Storm Damage trailers.

Tasking to “Storm Damage” to homes and buildings within the division plays a major role. Upon inspection of the buildings, damage caused by wind and rain is inevitable in some cases because of the state of disrepair of the buildings. This is attributed to the ageing properties within the Division and continued high winds.

The State SES communications rollout, continues to take place. With inception of the state Communications Subject Matter Advisory Group (SMAG), the Division is well represented to effectively contribute to the recognised training modules which members will be invited to partake in. Similarly Road Crash has a newly formed SMAG providing the option for expert knowledge to be disseminated to members.

Units in the Region responded to 379 tasks which involved 5460 operational hours.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

SES Members within the Region have continued in a positive and progressive manner to secure qualifications in accredited training. “Train Small Groups” and “Workplace Assessor” are two of the qualifications currently being completed.

The Murray division recently established a group of Air observers available for air observing during searches conducted at the request of AusSar. This certification is an example of nationally accredited training offered to members.

Members look forward to continued personal and combined training and development. This has been a developed focus for the last 12 months by members who have a quest for professional excellence.

## METRO NORTH DIVISION

- ❑ *Enfield*
- ❑ *Prospect*
- ❑ *Tea Tree Gully*
- ❑ *Campbelltown*
- ❑ *Dog Squad*
- ❑ *Northern Districts*



NOEL HODGES  
*Regional Manager  
Metro North Division*

### GOAL

SES volunteers in Metro North Division have maintained a strong capability to support the community in any emergency situation. Several incidents were of an extreme nature requiring extra commitment and skill.

During operations SES units have been strategically deployed to various locations in the metropolitan area with continuing support to SAPOL at crime scenes and special investigational operations.

SES units have continued to promote a community safety program highlighting mitigation and survival strategies.

### PRIORITISED STRATEGY

The Units in this Division have responded to 1496 incidents during 2002/2003. Their ability to respond promptly has been enhanced by the continued issue to them of new rescue vehicles under the Vehicle Replacement Program.

Approximately twenty training accreditation courses or workshops were conducted during the twelve months with special attention being given to improving skills and gaining general knowledge on disaster management.

The development of a Forum of organisations and authorities continues within the Holden Hill and Elizabeth Local Service Areas. Members meet on a bi-monthly basis.

Exercises have been conducted at Parafield Airport and for a flood related event.

The Disaster Management Services Public Education Officer undertook thirty presentations on the State Disaster Plan, including a number to schools. In addition, as at 30 June 2003, fifty thousand one hundred and fifty-nine brochures/posters were supplied at various locations including schools, libraries, public displays, local government offices etc throughout the State.

The highlight of the year has been, in association with the Royal Society for the Blind, the development of the brochures and material from Emergency Management Australia - four types of publications for the sight impaired namely – Audio, Braille, E-text and Large Print.

In conjunction with the Bureau of Meteorology, flood workshops have been conducted with local government authorities to promote operational safety awareness and mitigation strategies to reduce flood losses in the future.

The Disaster Management Services Public Education Officer continues to use the working model of a floodplain which is used at shopping centres, displays and conferences. It demonstrates why buildings should not be permitted to be constructed in floodplains.

## **FUTURE DIRECTION**

Increase membership with more trained and accredited members of SES and increase community safety in matters of major emergency/disaster planning and mitigation strategies.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

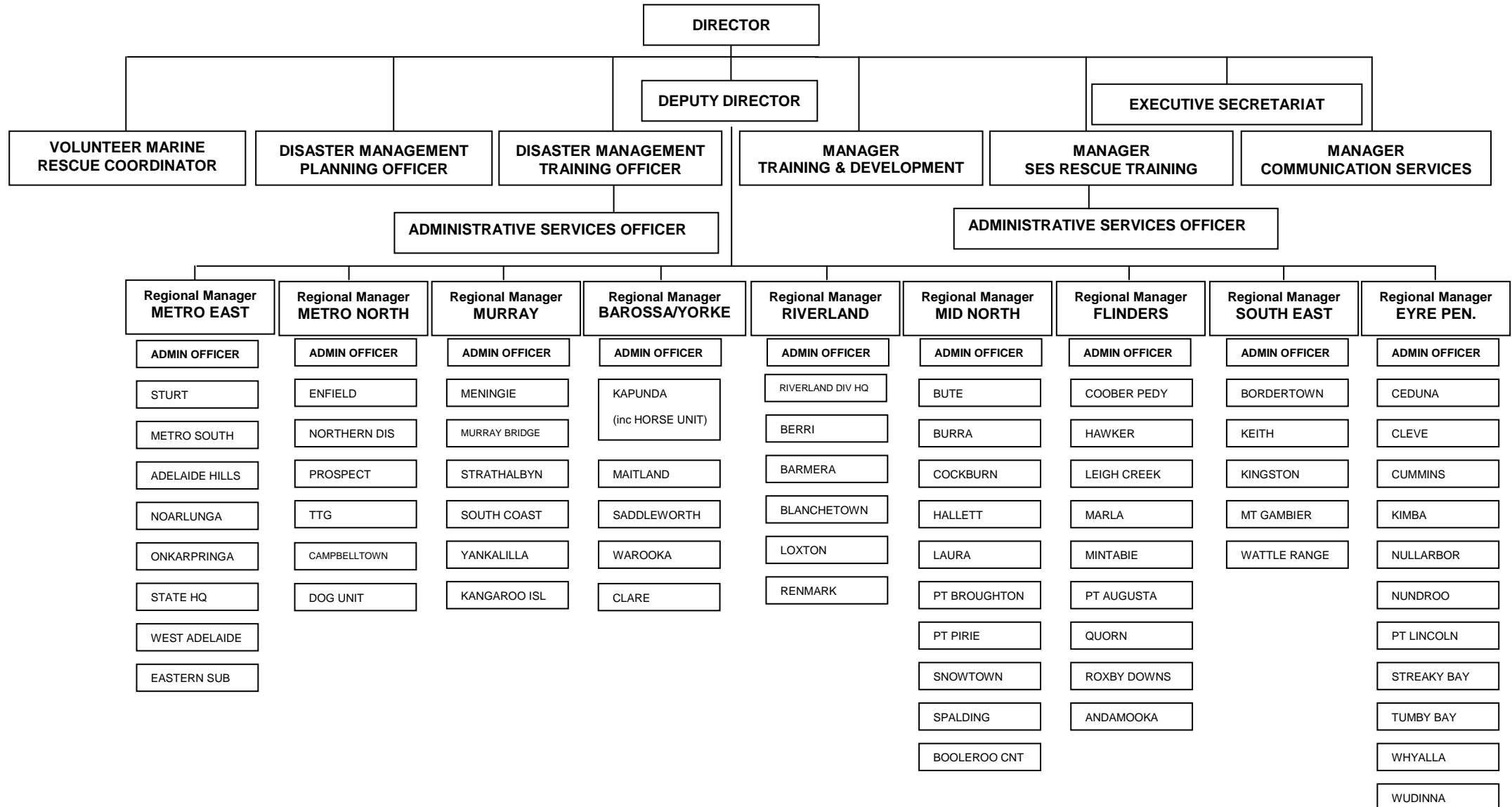
YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2003

ABN 520 569 703 07 (SES STATE HQ)

	2003 \$'000
<b>REVENUES FROM GOVERNMENT</b>	
Contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund (Operating & Capital)	9,387
Volunteer Marine Rescue	12
Special Grant to Introduce Emergency Risk Management	0
Commonwealth Grants	545
<b>Total Revenues from Government</b>	<b>9,944</b>
<b>REVENUES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>	
Net Revenues from Disposal of Non-Current Assets	-93
Interest on Investments	32
Fundraising Revenue by SES Units	649
GRN Installation	0
Donations to SES	17
Sundry Revenue	-49
<b>Total Revenues from Ordinary Activities</b>	<b>557</b>
<b>EXPENSES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES</b>	
Employee Entitlements	2,047
Communication and information	438
Vehicle Leasing	213
Vehicle Maintenance	430
Minor Plant Purchases	246
Property Management	494
Training	218
Travel and Accommodation	119
Personal Protective Equipment and Uniforms	471
Professional Fees	45
Entertainment and Catering	67
Insurance	18
Printing and Stationery	106
Office and Miscellaneous	171
Minister's Grant Program to Introduce Emergency Risk Management	19
Depreciation	831
Marketing, Publications and Promotions	12
Operational Costs	395
ESAU Administration	1,095
Government Radio Network	1,612
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>9,048</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS (OPERATING)</b>	<b>1,453</b>
<b>NET SURPLUS - OPERATING (EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION))</b>	<b>2,284</b>
<b>CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2,239</b>
<b>NET RESULT (EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION)</b>	<b>45</b>



# STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE CHART



## VOLUNTEER MARINE RESCUE CHART

