

Victorian Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

Fact Sheet 2: Damage assessment for essential public assets

Introduction

Victoria's Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) scheme is available to Delivery Agencies including local councils, Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) and state agencies, to relieve some of the financial burden that may be experienced following a disaster, in accordance with the Australian Government's Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

The purpose of this fact sheet is to provide a quick reference guide to:

- the collection of evidence of damage following an eligible disaster event; and
- the timeframes that apply to the presentation of suitable evidence under the DRFA.

Post-disaster damage

Post-disaster damage must be supported by photographic evidence, including details of latitude, longitude and date taken. It is recommended that this evidence is collected up to six months after, but no later than 12 months following the eligible disaster.

Pre-disaster condition

Pre-disaster condition must be supported by either:

- Photographic evidence including details of latitude, longitude and date taken. It is recommended that the latest available data be adopted, preferably data that is not older than two years before the eligible disaster. Photographic evidence of up to four years' for local councils and two years for state agencies prior to the event, may be accepted provided the required information¹ is shown.
- Photographic evidence from databases such as Google Maps or Nearmap may also be used provided the required information¹ is shown.
- Pre-Disaster Asset Condition Assessment Report – conducted or verified by a suitably qualified professional with the appropriate level of expertise and experience, which confirms that the damage is a result of the eligible disaster.

¹ The required information is outlined in *Guideline 2: Damage Assessment for Essential Public Assets*

Damage assessment

The evidence requirements for each category of disaster assistance are summarised below.

Emergency works

- No pre-disaster photo comparison is required.
- It is necessary to provide representative post-disaster damage photos with metadata intact detailing latitude, longitude and date taken.
- Post-disaster photos to be representative of damage to each asset and of a quantity to be appropriate to the area of damage sustained and the value of works undertaken.

Essential public assets reconstruction works and immediate reconstruction works

- Pre-disaster photo comparisons are mandatory (where available) to confirm damage is a direct result of an eligible event.
- Only pre-disaster photo comparisons that show a 'step change' in the condition of the asset from the pre-disaster condition to post-disaster condition should be included.
- All pre-disaster and post-disaster photographs must have metadata intact detailing latitude, longitude and date taken.

Reconstruction works closeout

- All photos presented in the Immediate Reconstruction Claim or Essential Public Asset Restoration Works Claim should have corresponding post-completion photos.
- Post-completion photos should be captured at a scale and orientation that reflects their corresponding post-disaster photo to enable a visual comparison between post-disaster damage and works completion.
- All post-completion photographs must have metadata intact detailing latitude, longitude and date taken.

Further information

For further information, refer to the Victorian DRFA Guideline 2: Damage assessment for essential public assets.

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Standard forms and templates

Item	Description	Form/Doc ID
1	Victorian DRFA Fact Sheet 2 – Damage assessment for essential public assets	FS-2
2	Victorian DRFA Guidelines 2 – Damage assessment for essential public assets	GL-2
3	Emergency works photo report	GL-2 App B
4	Reconstruction photo report	GL-2 App C
5	Reconstruction works closeout photo report	GL-2 App D
6	Pre-disaster asset condition assessment report template	GL-2 App E