

Incorporating Bushfire Impacts into Road Design



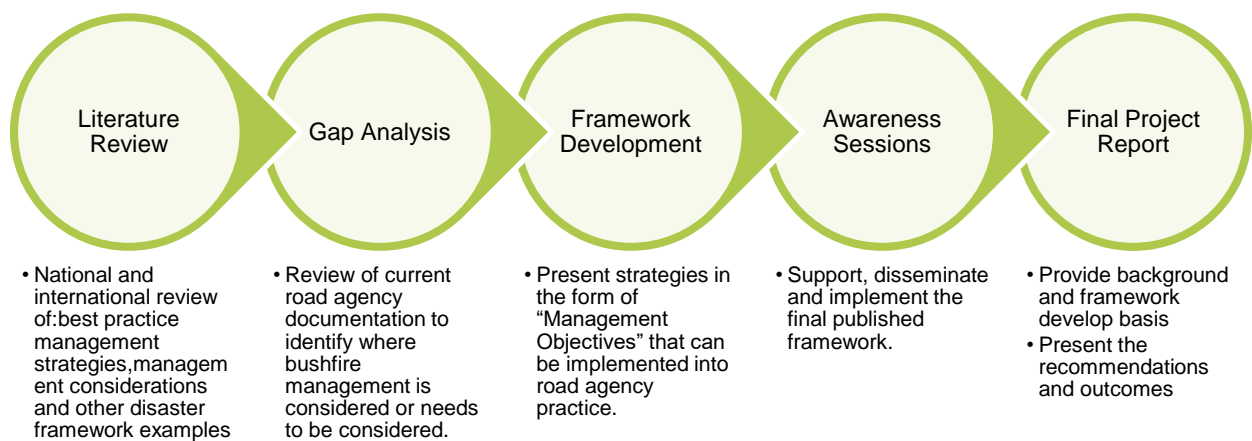
Development of a framework to assist road agencies with managing the potential risk to road infrastructure caused by the impacts of bushfires.

This project, a joint initiative being undertaken by the National Assets Centre of Excellence (NACOE) through TMR, and the Western Australian Road Research and Innovation Program (WARRIP), through Main Roads WA, aims to develop a fit-for-purpose framework which imbeds the consideration of bushfire prevention, preparedness, response and recovery into the planning, design, construction and maintenance of transport infrastructure in high bushfire risk areas on the Main Roads WA and TMR network.

Background

Unprecedented bushfires across Australia have highlighted the fact that roads and associated infrastructure are critical enablers of bushfire prevention, preparation, response and recovery activities. However, these bushfires have also highlighted the vulnerability of road infrastructure and the travelling public during and after a bushfire. Severe bushfires have the potential to produce numerous economic, social and environmental impacts, which can range from short-term inconveniences to long-term life-changing effects.

Approach



OUTCOMES

The flow diagram on page 2 outlines the main components of the framework and how to use it to select bushfire management strategies within the road life cycle.



NEXT STEPS

Integration of the framework strategies into Main Roads WA practices to effectively minimise bushfire risk to the road asset and maximise the safe and efficient operation of the transport network service levels in bushfire-prone areas.





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