

BOGONG HIGH PLAINS ROAD LANDSLIDE

Friday 25th November, 2022

No. 3

Distribution list

- Falls Creek Village – for information
- AGL for displaced residents
- Mt Beauty residents – for Information
- Howmans Gap Tourist Information
- Falls Creek School
- Omeo residents – for information
- Kiewa Valley - residents

A community meeting was held on Wednesday 16th November 2022.

About 200 people registered via Zoom, approximately 120 in person. There were connectivity issues for those on line.

Questions on notice were:

1. When can community access their properties to obtain personal items for business needs etc. Some displaced community members were told AGL staff? They would be back to collect items.
2. What is the current project plan and strategy from Dept of Transport (DoT) to have the road accessible and works conducted?
3. Lack of communication and awareness of displaced personal and business impacts.

Key Messages

This is a very large and complex active landslide with significant risk to public safety and both public and privately owned infrastructure assets.

Agencies have worked together on implementing a range of short-term access options around the landslide while developing long-term plans to remediate the site and restore full access as quickly as possible.

We are working to gain a comprehensive understanding of the social and economic impacts on Falls Creek and adjoining communities, the regional tourist economy impacts and what is required for a whole of government response to support community and stakeholders.

Community safety must always be our priority.

It is estimated single-lane access to Bogong High Plains Road may be restored February/March 2023. Updates on the potential timing for restored access will be provided as work at the site continues to remove an estimated 35,000 cubic metres of landslip fill.

- 500 cubic metres (m³) has been removed so far.
- 20,000 m³ will be removed off mountain, and
- 10,000 m³ will be temporarily stockpiled awaiting access back through the landslide area to remove off mountain.

The landslide mass continues to move down towards the road at approximately 75cm to 1 metre per week.

What has happened?

There has been a very large landslide on Bogong High Plains (BHP) Road above Bogong Village. The landslide is believed to have been caused by heavy rainfall in the area.

The landslide has going to severely restricted access from Mt Beauty to the areas of Bogong Village, Falls Creek and Howman's Gap for a number of months.

Alternative access to Falls Creek from South and North is available via:

- Omeo Highway and
- Bogong High Plains Rd on the Omeo side of Falls Creek, however this will add significant travel time to any planned trip. Ongoing maintenance of this road is occurring.

ROAD CLOSURES:

<https://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au/incidents/4978546>

Please check the VicTraffic website for current road closure information for this landslide.

A number of Variable Message Boards advising of the road closure are in place throughout the Hume Region.

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Emergency Services Access

To provide emergency services and essential workers access to the impacted communities, Emergency Service Vehicle and walking tracks have been constructed to allow access to Bogong Village, Falls Creek and Howman's Gap from Mt Beauty.

These tracks are now available for 4WD emergency & essential service vehicles and authorised personnel from

- Emergency Services agencies
- AGL - to manage power
- DoT to manage the landslide
- Alpine Shire Council
- DELWP
- Parks Victoria (PV)
- Telstra
- Ausnet Services and
- Falls Creek Resort Management Board.

The track alignment is on a narrow side-cut with no room for passing. Temporary traffic lights also control emergency services on this narrow track.

Ongoing works to maintain the track will continue to ensure this emergency access route is maintained for emergency services and essential workers only.

Poor weather, including snow, tree down over tracks etc or other reasons may close access at any time. There is no guarantee of access. Traffic plans are being regularly updated for emergency & essential workers.

Both Emergency Services Access tracks are not available for community use.

Traffic Management:

There are two fully operational traffic management points (roadblocks) in place. The message on the variable message boards (VMBs) at the Mount Beauty roundabout has changed to 'ROAD CLOSED IN 3KM, NO ACCESS TO FALLS CREEK'. Based on community feedback, other VMB messaging has changed to 'NO ACCESS TO FALLS CK BEYOND MOUNT BEAUTY'.

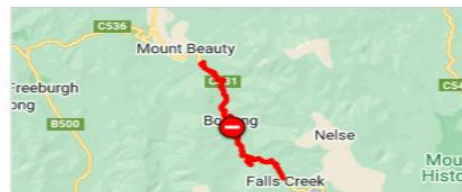
Bogong High Plains Road (C531)

From: Big Hill Road, Mount Beauty
To: Bogong High Plains Road, Falls Creek

 Road Closed - Debris

Bogong High Plains Road CLOSED between Cranky Charlie and Falls Creek due to landslide at Bogong Village

Started: 02/11/2022 9:22am
Updated at: 02/11/2022 9:24am



What is happening?

- Clean up of the landslide site is being managed by DoT.
- A fleet of machinery is on site to remove landslide material along with associated plant and equipment.
- A heavy-duty track has recently been constructed to access the crest of the landslide. This will enable large geotechnical equipment to drill large boreholes and install monitoring equipment to confirm the cause of the landslide and gather the information required to confirm current estimates, designs and plans to open a single lane of access and remediate the site.

Restoration timeframes

There is a significant amount of work to be done to remove the spoil from the landslide site and to restore access.

Until further Geotechnical testing has been completed and the landslide mass is reduced, it is difficult to estimate with certainty the timing of establishing single lane access.

It is estimated single lane access to Bogong High Plains Road may be restored by February/March 2023.

Progress updates will be provided on a weekly basis to affected communities via this newsletter.

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Key Agencies

- DoT
- DELWP
- Parks (PV)
- VICSES
- Alpine Shire
- Falls Creek Resort Management Board
- AGL

Bogong Village access for residents.

Permission has been granted for Bogong Village residents to access their homes for essential items only (eg. prescriptions, medications) via the emergency services track under strict entry conditions and will be fully supervised.

Alpine Shire

- The link below to Disaster Recovery Payments is available for Alpine Shire and Falls Creek Residents effected by the recent floods and Landslip. There is an eligibility criteria and services Australia can help with this process.

<https://www.vic.gov.au/financial-help-2022-victorian-floods>

- Would like to thank all those who attended the community meeting in person and online. The Incident Control team and agencies apologise for technical issues that could not be resolved on the night. Alpine Shire in partnership with leading agencies intend holding another meeting to keep community updated in the next 6-8 weeks. Watch this newsletter for details.
- Continues to work with the displaced community from Bogong Village and is working collaboratively supporting the Falls Creek Resort Management.
- Is currently in the process of updating their website to include on their Home page an information tab for community to access all relevant information and community newsletters etc.

Falls Creek Primary School

The Department of Education and Training (DET) is continuing to support the learning of all students enrolled at Falls Creek Primary School. Most school families have relocated to Mount Beauty. Falls Creek Primary School staff have also temporarily relocated to Mount Beauty Primary School.

Other children whose families have remained at Falls Creek are able to participate in a learning program at the Falls Creek Child Care Centre under the supervision of a qualified primary school teacher.

Students and staff of The Outdoor School in Bogong have also relocated to Mount Beauty with outdoor education programs continuing to run to the fullest extent possible.

The DET regularly reviews the above arrangements, in consultation with emergency services. Falls Creek Primary School and The Outdoor School will fully reopen as soon as it is possible to do so. *Therese Carroll DET Manager, Operations & Emergency Management*

Mental Health and Family Violence

Nurse-on-Call on **1300 60 60 24** registered nurse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week from anywhere in Victoria.

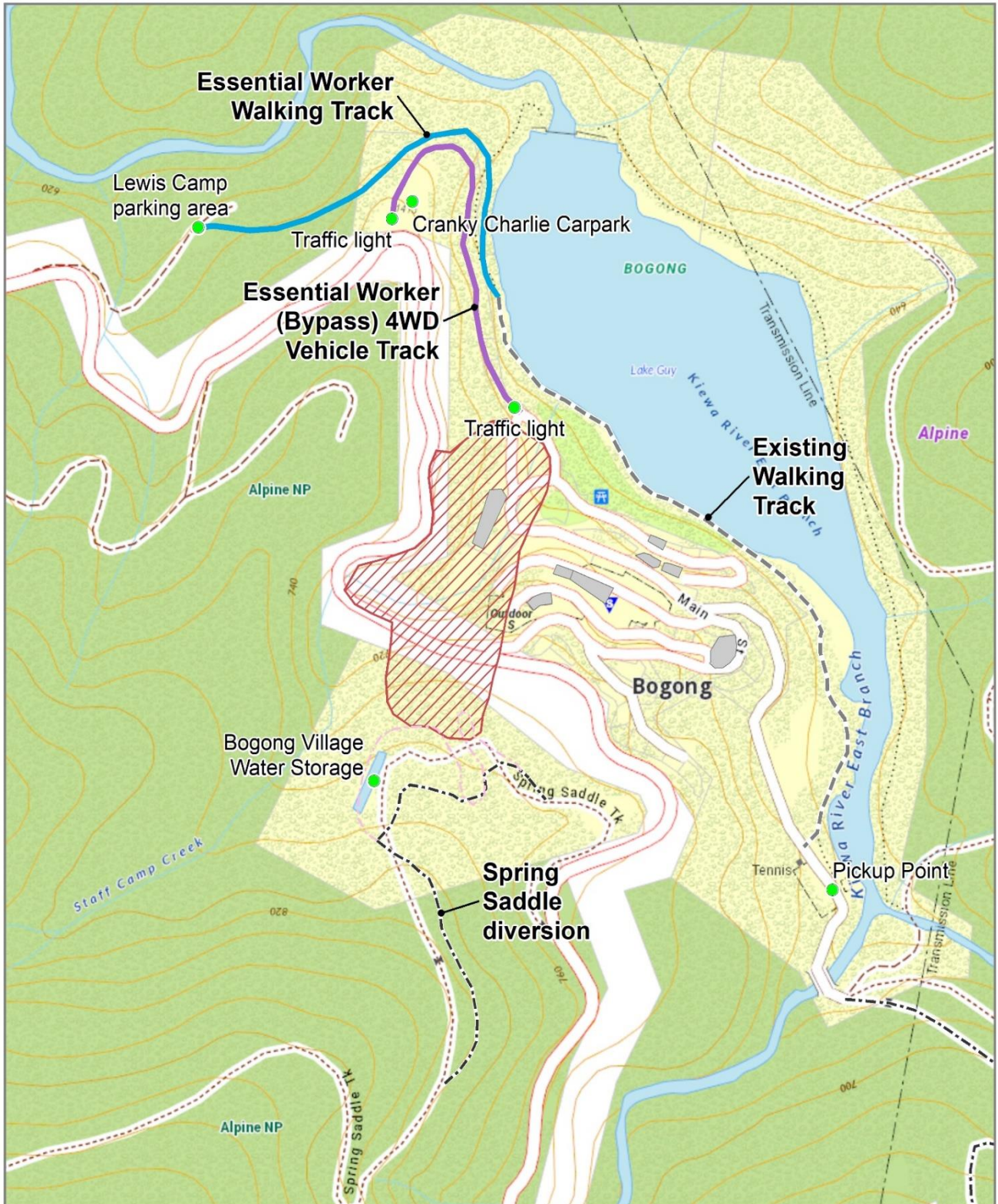
It is normal to have emotional or physical reactions following a distressing event. There is always help available through your doctor or local mental health professionals.

Lifeline	131 114
Beyond Blue	1300 224 636
Mens Line	1300 789 978
Kid's Help Line	1800 55 1800
Mental Health Hub	1300 375 330

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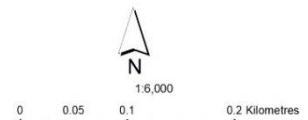
Bogong Sitemap 2022

Public Information Map A4



Legend

 Exclusion Zone



Disclaimer:
This map is a snapshot generated from Victorian Government data. The State of Victoria does not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for error, loss or damage which may arise from reliance upon it. All persons accessing this information should make appropriate enquiries to assess the currency of the data.

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