2020 WINTER–SPRING HIGH-FLOW RELEASES INTO THE SNOWY RIVER BELOW JINDABYNE DAM

Snowy River increased flows: 2020 Safety Management Plan

April 2020
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Introduction

The NSW Government has been working with the Victorian and Australian governments, Snowy Hydro Limited and the community to implement a program of environmental water releases to improve the health of the Snowy River below Jindabyne Dam. The NSW Government is responsible for determining the annual release strategy of these environmental flows, which collectively are called the Snowy River increased flows (SRIFs).

The lack of high-flow events in the Snowy River since 1967 has made the river channel contract and sediment build up in the riverbed. Sediment is delivered to the Snowy River via many of the smaller tributaries in local storm events. This sediment deposits as a result of local velocity reducing as the tributary flows enter the larger channel of the Snowy River and the tributary sediment load is deposited in the main stem.

The build-up of sediment in the Snowy riverbed has been recognised as one of the key limitations for the recovery of the health of the river, as it reduces the quality of the river habitat and/or smothers plants and animals directly. To address the effects of river regulation, environmental water releases occur every day of the year, but we plan events of greater magnitude for the winter and spring periods so as to better reflect the natural hydrology of the mixed rainfall/snowmelt rivers of the Snowy Mountains and to encourage scour and lateral deposition of the sediment.

This year, the New South Wales, Victorian and Australian governments have committed approximately 91.5 megalitres (ML) to be released from storage for the 2020–21 water year. This volume includes four high-flow releases from Jindabyne Dam, with two during winter (June to August) and two during spring (September to November). These high-flow releases are designed to more closely mimic the natural characteristics of the Snowy River, including snowmelt and ‘freshes’ that occurred before the construction of the Snowy Mountains Scheme. Addressing this issue of re-introducing ‘flushing flows’ is seen as a first-order environmental objective in the early stages of the long-term watering strategy.

The four high-flow events for winter–spring 2020 will be similar to last year as there was no ‘flushing flow’ event above 5,000 ML/day in 2019 due to the continuing drought. Similarly, this year there will be four secondary events, in which water is only released from the cone valves of the dam (Figure 1) and not over the spillway as happens in a ‘flushing flow’ of over 5,000 ML/day.

Any high inflows to Jindabyne Dam during this period are more likely to result in unplanned flows over the spillway and into the Snowy River than would otherwise be the case.

Objectives of this safety plan

In making these larger flow releases from Jindabyne Dam, we need a management plan to address the potential safety concerns. This document highlights potential safety issues associated with ‘dry weather’ (unexpected) river rises from increased dam releases.

Clause 15.7 of Schedule 3 of the Snowy Water Licence requires the development of a safety management plan that addresses the legal obligations (if any) of both the Ministerial Corporation and Snowy Hydro Limited for public safety, damage to third-party property, as well as workplace health and safety in connection with the release of ‘flushing flows’.

Flushing flows are defined in clause 15.3 of the licence to be a daily release targeted by Snowy Hydro Limited from Jindabyne Dam that exceeds 5,000 ML/day. This is the flow rate above which spillway releases are required. The department’s Safety Management Plan was first developed in October 2011 to meet that requirement.

While this year’s winter–spring planned high-flow events do not include any flows that exceed 5,000 ML/day and there are therefore no defined ‘flushing flows’ planned during this period, the department has decided it is in the public interest to again issue a safety management plan for this year’s events.
This revised plan is based on the previous high-flow event plans between 2011 and 2019. The plan attempts to identify and address anticipated risks to the public, third-party property, as well as the department’s and Snowy Hydro employees from the high-flow events. The objectives of the plan are to ensure that these risks are appropriately minimised by:

- maintaining stakeholder relationships where there is an interest in public safety along the Snowy River
- complying with statutory requirements
- promoting public awareness of potential risks from the variable river heights in the Snowy River from below Jindabyne Dam to the Dalgety Uplands
- promoting public awareness of potential risks from the collection of river debris.

**Policy and legislation**

The release of the Snowy River increased flows (SRIFs), and in particular the flushing flow, is governed by the following key acts and agreements:

- Snowy Water Inquiry Outcomes Implementation Deed 2002 (SWIOID)
- *Snowy Hydro Corporatisation Act 1997.*

**Stakeholders**

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has taken reasonable steps to identify stakeholders likely to be affected by the releases, or who may be able to assist in ensuring the safety of staff, the public and property during the releases.

The department recognises that effective management of the risks that could arise from the releases requires the support and coordination of many stakeholders, including:

- landholders along the Snowy River
- local businesses within the Snowy region
- members of the general public
- recreational fishing groups
- community interest groups
- recreational campers and tourists
- Snowy Monaro Regional Council
- NSW State Emergency Service
- Local Land Services
- National Parks and Wildlife Service
- Livestock, Health and Pest Authority
- NSW Roads and Maritime Services
- Snowy Hydro Limited
- Australian Government (Department of Environment and Energy)
- Victorian Government (Department of Land, Water, and Planning; Victorian Environmental Water Holder; and the East Gippsland Catchment Management Authority)
- Snowy Advisory Committee.

Effective working relationships with stakeholders must be maintained to ensure the winter–spring high-flow events occur safely.
2020 winter–spring ‘high-flow’ environmental releases

The 2020–21 release strategy uses the natural flow-scaling approach to deliver four secondary flood pulse events with flow peaks of up to 4,500 ML/d using the cone valves (Figure 1). A spillway release is formally defined as a ‘flushing flow’ and may occur in any year that the annual allocation volume exceeds 100 gigalitres (GL). **Note:** there will be no designated ‘flushing flow’ this year—all four high-flow events will only involve water released from the cone valves.

![Figure 1: Four high-flow events will occur during winter and spring 2020. There will be no spring ‘flushing flow’ via the spillway this year (A) of Jindabyne Dam. All four secondary class events will be released from the cone valves (B).](image)

The 2020–21 daily flow release strategy (Figure 2) has a number of key components. These are briefly described below:

- **Four secondary class flood pulse releases (A, B, C, and D) delivered via the Jindabyne Dam cone valves.** These four events have eight-hour peak flow rates ranging from 1,500 ML–4,500 ML/d (equivalent to 17.4 to 52.1 m³/s). These releases will require a higher level of active management by Snowy Hydro Limited to generate the eight-hour peaks and to obtain the overall daily target.

- **Higher flow rates over winter and spring (Figure 3), which is characteristic of the pre-regulation flow regime.** The flow regime for the 2020–21 water year includes a number of flow peaks in this period, reflecting the winter rainfall/runoff patterns typical of a mixed rainfall and snowmelt river system characteristic of the Snowy Mountains.
Low flow periods in summer and autumn, with a minimum release rate of 57 ML/day in late summer, which reflects the natural low flow period.

A high degree of daily flow variability with complex multi-peak hydrographs that are typical of rivers in the Snowy Mountains.

It is statistically likely that substantial natural tributary inflows will occur below the junction with the Delegate River and contribute substantially to the flow regime and ecosystem processes occurring in the lower reaches of the Snowy River and its estuary.

Figure 2. Snowy River below Jindabyne mean daily discharge pattern for 2020–21 (blue), with four (A, B, C & D) eight-hourly flow peaks (dashed lines)

Note 1: The high-flow events in Figure 2 are expressed as an equivalent flow rate. For example, the ‘high flow’ on Thursday 3 September will average 4,500 ML/day (52.1 m³/s) for eight hours with a total volume release for the day of 2,810 ML.

Note 2: The peak flow rate will occur for eight hours so as to (i) mimic the flashy hydrology of the Snowy and to (ii) promote habitat improvement. These will occur from 8 am to 4 pm.

Note 3: The release dates for the high-flow events could change as they are weather-dependent.
Key water release dates

Table 1. Release schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 29 June 2020</td>
<td>equivalent peak flow 3,500 ML/d for eight hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 27 July 2020</td>
<td>equivalent peak flow 3,500 ML/d for eight hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 3 September 2020</td>
<td>equivalent peak flow 4,500 ML/d for eight hours (largest flow)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28 October 2020</td>
<td>equivalent peak flow 1,500 ML/d for eight hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

While there is no designated ‘flushing flow’ this year, the 3 September high-flow event will attain a peak discharge of 4,500 ML/day and will be contained within the historical bed and banks of the river. It will be released from Jindabyne Dam and will primarily affect the river reach between Jindabyne Gorge and the junction with the Delegate River. These reaches are in a rain shadow (that is, the mountains block rainfall), so natural flow events from rainfall are uncommon. As the flow travels down the Snowy River, the peak flow will naturally attenuate (reduce) and, subject to any further tributary inflows along the Snowy River, downstream increases in river levels will occur more slowly and to a lesser extent.

As the Snowy River joins with its various tributaries further downstream, the effect of this flow release is more likely to be within the bounds of flows that occur under normal conditions from time to time.

This release will improve the habitat condition of the Snowy River through mobilisation of riverbed sediments and scouring of accumulated sand, silt, mud and algae. Regular high-flow events will be...
released on an ongoing basis to rejuvenate and improve riverbed condition and to meet other ecological objectives over the longer term.

**Travel times**

Travel times can vary significantly from one flow event to another and can be influenced by rainfall patterns, existing catchment conditions, depth of flow and channel storage effects. If the ground is already wet, travel times often reduce. Travel times also reduce as flow increases in the natural channel due to the declining influence of within-channel vegetation and obstructions.

In the event of floods, large volumes of water extending outside the main channel have a dampening effect on peak flows and slow the travel time. However, the planned environmental releases are not of this magnitude.

The best estimates are often based on similar historical events. The 2020 releases are expected to have similar travel times compared to last year’s high-flow events. Travel times of the 2020 release between key locations along the Snowy River are provided in Table 2.

Flow at Dalgety is expected to start increasing about seven to nine hours after leaving Jindabyne Dam, reaching Burnt Hut Crossing about 20 hours later (about 30 hours total), and reaching Willis about 30 hours after passing Burnt Hut (about 57 hours total travel time from Jindabyne Dam).

*Figure 4. The Snowy River catchment and the location of hydrometric stations in NSW that are used to estimate water travel times of the 2020 largest high-flow event on 3 September 2020*
Table 2. Approximate travel times for the October 2019 high flow event for the Snowy River are expected to be similar to the October 2018 event.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reach</th>
<th>Distance (km)</th>
<th>Travel time (hours) for initial rise in flow rate</th>
<th>Travel time (hours) for peak of event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lake Jindabyne to Dalgety</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Jindabyne to Burnt Hut</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lake Jindabyne to Willis (NSW–Vic. border)</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Risk management

Risk management is a key component of this plan and plays a significant role in the way the department effectively manages public safety. The department’s approach to risk management involves ensuring that it meets its statutory obligations, including work health and safety requirements, as well as appropriate risk identification and mitigation. To satisfy these requirements, the department has prepared and will implement, with Snowy Hydro Limited, a suite of policies and procedures.

Before release

To help in this process and the coordination of communication activities, a Snowy River Working Group, led by the department, was first established in 2011. The group consisted of representatives from key local organisations (refer to Appendix 1 for more details). We met in the lead-up to previous releases and the group has provided guidance on the identification, analysis, control and monitoring of potential risks. The group has not been formalised in 2020; however, contact will be made with key stakeholders to assess current circumstances and risks.

The assessment of potential risks is summarised in Table 3. We have identified a range of risks. We have also assessed the significance of the potential consequences for each associated risk, as well as the probability of that risk being realised. Strategies to reduce or remove the risk are in the final column.

The group will not be convened before the planned high-flow releases this year because the identified risks and mitigation options are already well established for events of this size. We will contact key stakeholders directly as the need arises.

One of the main strategies to address many of these risks is effective and timely communication with stakeholders. The ‘Direct action table’ from the plan is attached here (Appendix 1). This plan outlines the key activities and responsibilities for action for the upcoming winter–spring 2020 environmental releases to ensure that target groups are well prepared and appropriate wider publicity is provided.

During release

The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is the lead agency for operational management of the high-flow releases and will provide focused operational oversight during this winter and spring period. In the days leading up to the high-flow releases, the department will closely monitor weather forecasts and flows in the Snowy River and the tributaries downstream of Jindabyne Dam.

During the event, we will monitor information constantly through liaison with the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) and Snowy Hydro Limited (SHL), particularly if forecasts indicate that rain is likely. Approximate river flows can be forecast by the BoM up to several days in advance. If natural flows combined with Jindabyne Dam releases are likely to cause inconvenience or flooding to
downstream communities, the department will direct SHL to modify or cease releases from the
dam.

We will seek advice from SHL daily about storage levels and inflows to Jindabyne Dam. In addition
to a flood mitigation directive from the department, SHL will cease releases if:

a) directed to by NSW Police or the State Emergency Service
b) there is a watercraft or person in the plunge pool
c) a watercraft or person has entered the area of Lake Jindabyne between the buoy line and
the spillway.

**Identifying, analysing and controlling risks**

Releasing high flows creates potential risks to public safety, third-party property and work health
and safety.

The details in this list were identified in 2014 and were reviewed and updated in 2019.

**Table 3. Risks and actions to mitigate them**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Associated risk</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Strategies to reduce or remove risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rapid rise in water level</td>
<td>Snowy River below Jindabyne Dam</td>
<td>The community being ‘caught out’ by the higher degree of flow variability over winter and spring</td>
<td>Serious—potential damage to owner’s assets and injuries to individuals accessing the river during the event</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Regular, but targeted communication to community over winter and spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(typically up to five occasions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>during winter and spring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of releases up to and</td>
<td>Snowy River below Jindabyne Dam</td>
<td>Increases in tributary inflows downstream of Jindabyne Dam combining with releases to cause flooding</td>
<td>Potentially serious—depending on magnitude of increases in downstream tributary inflows</td>
<td>Moderate to high</td>
<td>Regular monitoring of flows and close liaison between the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE), the BoM and Snowy Hydro Limited (SHL). SHL will cease releases if requested to do so by DPIE, the State Emergency Service (SES) or NSW Police. The BoM to undertake forecast modelling. Releases will be cut back if required to minimise the risk of targeted flows being exceeded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Associated risk</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Probability</td>
<td>Strategies to reduce or remove risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campsites and picnic areas</td>
<td>Various, including: The Barry Way Scotchies Yard Willis Halfway Flat Pinch River Running Waters</td>
<td>Risks to holiday makers/travellers, campers and the general public using these areas</td>
<td>Serious—potential damage to owner’s assets (camping gear, vehicles, etc.) and injuries to individuals accessing the sites during the event</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Information materials, such as FAQs and ‘Rising River Alerts’ will be made publicly available via the web, and emailed directly to downstream landholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property access</td>
<td>Eight river crossings</td>
<td>Eight river crossings will be inundated and will be inoperable during the event(s)</td>
<td>Low—loss of vehicular access</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Information materials, such as FAQs and ‘Rising River Alerts’ will be made publicly available via the web, and emailed directly to downstream landholders. Property owners were previously identified and contacted individually. These owners will be emailed to prepare for potential risks. Additionally, the public will be informed via ‘Rising River Alerts’ issued to all relevant local media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge</td>
<td>Buckley’s Crossing, Dalgety</td>
<td>Bridge subject to gathering of debris, such as tree branches/logs. This issue has significantly reduced since much of the instream woody debris (that is, dead willows) are no longer apparent in the river above Dalgety.</td>
<td>Minor—As the bridge existed before the construction of Jindabyne Dam and there have subsequently been larger flows during this time, it is expected that the bridge will cope with the flow.</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>The Dalgety Bridge is a combination of steel and timber and is inspected every two years by the NSW Roads and Maritime Services (RMS). RMS to be contacted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Category: Buildings x 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Associated risk</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Strategies to reduce or remove risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Various infrastructure located within 50 metres of the inundation zone has the potential to be inundated</td>
<td>Minor—Potential damage to property, stock and equipment. Although the infrastructure is close to the river, most items are located on the high bank and are unlikely to be inundated. Only a few small sheds were inundated during the 2011 event.</td>
<td>Low to moderate</td>
<td>Building owners were previously identified and contacted individually. These land owners will receive notification via email and be advised to prepare for potential risks. Additionally, the public will be informed via ‘Rising River Alerts’ issued to all relevant local media. Regular monitoring of the flows to ensure that operational limits are not exceeded.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Category: Pumps x 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Associated risk</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Strategies to reduce or remove risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Various, including Snowy Monaro Regional Council</td>
<td>Pumps to be inundated by flows. Possibility of pump components being washed away.</td>
<td>Moderate—The pumps themselves should be able to withstand the flow; however, the associated pipes, brackets and valves may be at risk of damage.</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>Pump owners were previously identified and contacted individually. These owners will receive notification via email and be advised to prepare for potential risks by either securing pumps or removing associated motors, pipes, etc. Additionally, the public will be informed via ‘Rising River Alerts’ issued to all relevant local media.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Category: Dam wall

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Associated risk</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
<th>Probability</th>
<th>Strategies to reduce or remove risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jindabyne Dam wall</td>
<td>Someone going over spillway or someone going into plunge pool</td>
<td>Serious—potential risk to persons</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>The area around the dam wall will be fenced off by SHL. Buoy line around spillway in the storage; SHL will cease releases if a person or watercraft enters the plunge pool or if a person or watercraft enters the area of Lake Jindabyne between the buoy line and the spillway.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Associated risk</td>
<td>Consequences</td>
<td>Probability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injury to Snowy Hydro Limited employees in making the releases</td>
<td>Various sites below Jindabyne Dam wall</td>
<td>Minor to serious—potential risk to persons</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Snowy Hydro Limited is required to have work health and safety procedures in place for its employees and worksites and is required to comply with them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Injury to DPIE staff monitoring releases.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Minor to serious—potential risk to persons</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>DPIE is required to have work, health and safety procedures in place for its staff and worksites and is required to comply with them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risks to landholders’ property, equipment and own wellbeing.</td>
<td>Landholders</td>
<td>Minor—potential damage to property, stock and equipment if located within 50 metres of the expected inundation zone.</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Provision of timely email notification of intended flow release and updates of any significant flow revision to previously identified landholders. Additionally, the public will be informed via ‘Rising River Alerts’ issued to all relevant local media.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sections of the quarry are likely to be inundated.</td>
<td>Quarry x 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Owner previously advised to prepare for potential risks by removing equipment and materials. Owner may need to consider works to limit flooding of quarry.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risk of accidents if care is not taken.</td>
<td>Public Roads</td>
<td>Serious—potential risks to persons and vehicles.</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Snowy Hydro has developed a Lake and Dam Site Safety Plan that addresses work, health and safety issues within the immediate area of Lake Jindabyne. The area around the dam wall will be fenced off by SHL.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Enquiries and emergency contacts

**Table 4. Contacts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contact</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police/Ambulance</td>
<td>000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Emergency Service</td>
<td>132 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RMS Transport Management Centre Incident Reporting Line</td>
<td>131 700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Snowy Monaro Regional Council</td>
<td>1300 345 345</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Current as at March 2020)

## Future strategies

We expect a higher spring flow rate and the associated flushing flow event will continue to occur on an annual basis (other than drought-affected years). The NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is committed to improving all aspects of its risk management for the flows. This continuous improvement involves identifying and adapting current strategies, detecting gaps within those strategies and determining the right objectives. We will continue to measure the effectiveness of the strategy against performance indicators that reflect the intended outcomes.
## Appendix 1

### Direct actions for high-flow events

**Table 5. Actions and responsibilities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action item</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide FAQs</td>
<td>NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE)</td>
<td>These will be made publicly available via the web and emailed directly to downstream landholders on contact list.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updates about landholder contact list to DPIE</td>
<td>All</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Notify Jindabyne Chamber of Commerce of the high-flow events.</td>
<td>DPIE</td>
<td>Email Jindabyne Chamber of Commerce details of planned high-flow events. (Chamber previously advised they do not require direct briefing and prefer emails).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advise local police and State Emergency Services—SES—via email of the planned flows and seek comment on any issues they perceive.</td>
<td>DPIE</td>
<td>Act on any issues identified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact landholders along the Snowy River and key stakeholders advising of the timing and magnitude of the flows</td>
<td>DPIE</td>
<td>DPIE to email downstream landholders and key stakeholders (as identified on the department’s contact list) approximately three to four weeks before first high-flow event, then on an ongoing basis, as required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Make available 2020 Snowy River high-flows FAQs (via email and link to the department’s website) to Jindabyne Visitors Information Centre and relevant SES offices for display.</td>
<td>DPIE</td>
<td>DPIE to prepare FAQs in PDF format for stakeholders—further copies will be emailed to external contacts as required.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Issue a total of six separate media releases/notices including five rising river alerts approximately seven days before the respective high-flow release to inform the affected communities. Tweets regarding each of the rising river alerts will also be issued, as well as a tweet the day immediately before each respective high-flow event. Media outlets to be targeted: Snowy Shire Council—e-news, Shire Wire, Snowy Magazine, Jindabyne Summit Sun, Monaro Post, XL FM, Snow FM, ABC Radio South East. | DPIE                                                                          | Media release providing overview of the high-flow water releases to be issued in March—April 2020, and then ‘Rising river alerts’ to be issued on the following dates:  
1. 22 June 2020  
2. 20 July 2020  
3. 24 August 2020  
4. 21 October 2020 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action item</th>
<th>Responsibility</th>
<th>Comment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Release the Public Safety Management Plan—to be placed on DPIE website.</td>
<td>DPIE</td>
<td>Updated Public Safety Management Plan uploaded to DPIE website—late March/early April 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Update DPIE website (Snowy River page) to ensure it contains the latest information on the environmental releases.</td>
<td>DPIE</td>
<td>Snowy River website landing page to be updated with relevant materials to coincide with the issuing of the ‘Overview’ media release.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>