



Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Assessment Summary

The Triple Bottom Line Assessment is required to be published in accordance with Part 4, section 23 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2016

20/459 - ACT Bushfire and Flood Recovery Plan 2020

Summary of impacts:

- Research demonstrates the costs of environmental remediation rise exponentially in the absence of immediate to medium-term recovery action. A range of environmental impacts and risks have been identified in the Rapid Risk Assessment Report undertaken immediately after the fire and storm events of 2020. A number of impacts were identified as needing mitigation, restoration and conservation works including catchment instability, impacts on water quality, stream habitat and in-stream fauna. Weed and pest vertebrate incursions can occur post major disturbances such as fire and flood and control measures will address issues in the short and long-term.
- Canberrans and the Ngunnawal community have a strong affinity with nature. Over 600,000 people visit Namadgi National Park and Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve annually. The wellbeing benefits of having exceptional drinking water and access to nature are significant. The environmental integrity and quality of the Park is important to the Canberra community.
- Adaptive management, remediation and ongoing protection will have a net benefit on the Park's intrinsic environmental values. Proposed repair and mitigation work include those to improve bank stability, reduce erosion and improve water quality; control feral animals and weeds and help protect threatened species and ecological communities and maintain the integrity of alpine bogs and fens through stream stabilisation and the removal of feral herbivores. Not responding to these matters in the environment post fire and floods can lead to a decline in the environmental condition of the Parks and the loss of iconic and critically endangered species including the corroboree frog and various alpine orchids.

Level of impact	Positive	Negative	Neutral
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Social		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Neutral	Gender Equality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This initiative does not target or discriminate against a specific cohort based on gender.
Positive	Health (Community and mental health)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal will have a positive impact on the wellbeing of Canberra's communities. Evidence supports the importance of nature to health including mental health. The absence of access to nature will have potential negative impacts on the health and wellbeing of Canberrans.
Positive	Access to services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposed recovery works will facilitate improved access to nature and Namadgi National Park.

Positive	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal supports close engagement with the Traditional Custodians – the Nggunawal people, to participate, through decisions and the recovery works.
Positive	Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Using a ‘build back better’ approach, this proposal will explore opportunities to provide greater access to nature for people with disabilities.

Economic		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	ACT Government Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal outlines proposed funding required to undertake bushfire and flood recovery works over a three year program. The proposal outlines funding sources and funding sought from Government to support the recovery of bushfire impacted assets and the environment. Failure to provide ongoing funding will likely incur significant future costs associated with in-action and further environmental degradation.
Positive	Productivity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal will contribute to increased productivity through industry, small business and the employment sector and engagement in works. The proposal will yield net benefits for industry through investment in bridges, signage, and day use of infrastructure. Small businesses, such as trail builders and fencing contractors will also benefit from increased work.
Positive	Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works will be undertaken in consultation with designers and pre-fabricators to ensure innovative designs and options are considered in the context of climate change and emerging trends in the visitor market. A ‘build back better’ approach will be taken.
Positive	Employment and labour force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above - productivity
Positive	Small business impact	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See above - productivity
Positive	Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employment opportunities will build skills in asset repair and trail re-construction.
Positive	Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The recovery and associated climate discussion provides a mechanism to educate the community on the value of nature in providing services for the community e.g. clean water.
Positive	Investment and Economic Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal will provide ongoing opportunities for trail building companies.
Positive	Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal will not adversely impact procurement services or policies.

Environmental		
Level of impact	Impact	Summary
Positive	Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal will benefit biodiversity through environmental remediation and ongoing monitoring to detect and respond to further impacts.
Positive	Landscape changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a positive and net benefit to the landscape particularly in areas affected by anthropogenic disturbances e.g. fire road and culverts. Bank stabilisation and in-stream channel works will encourage regrowth and avoid excessive sediment and nutrients entering waterways. Critical works in alpine bogs and fens will also secure future water supply and quality through protecting vegetation and sphagnum.
Positive	Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal will benefit post settlement and indigenous heritage. In line with relevant legislation, heritage artefacts and impacts will be assessed, and remedial works undertaken in consultation with Registered Aboriginal Organisation, the Ngunnawal community and heritage consultants to register and further protect significant cultural values.
Positive	Environmental Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal will help mitigate future adverse impacts on the environment especially those from weeds and feral animals. The proposal will have a net positive impact on protecting wildlife and ecosystems subject to national and international obligations and agreements including EPBC listed species and those protected under international agreements including the Ramsar Convention and JAMBA /CAMBA.
Positive	Climate Change mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental protection and remediation will be considered in construction, materials and park rehabilitation to benefit reduction on emissions and longer-term sustainability.
Positive	Climate Change adaptation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Climate change and adaptation principles within the ACT Bushfire and Flood Recovery Plan will support social and environmental resilience.
Positive	Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal will help support the ACT maintaining good quality drinking water through catchment stabilisation and re-vegetation through natural and assisted natural processes.
Positive	Visual quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposal will have a net benefit on the visual amenity of the environment.