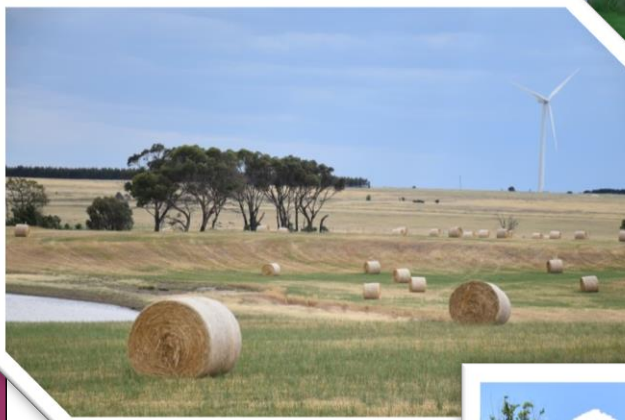


Safer and more resilient Pyrenees Communities – Snake Valley Pilot Project





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Pyrenees Shire Council acknowledges the people past and present of the Wathaurong people, who are the traditional owner of the land on which Snake Valley has grown today. We pay our respects to the elders and people of this tribe.

Aims and Objectives

The aim of this project was to focus on resilience within the Snake Valley Community. This was to be achieved through a Community led team with incentive to embrace information, philosophies to support the community in emergency situations and foremost create a collaborative, engaged and supportive approach with its community.

The goals highlighted by the steering committee to the project were:

- . Respectful
- . Forward Thinking
- . Inclusiveness
- . Striving for Excellence
- . Responsible
- . Measurable
- . Achievable

Acknowledgements

Snake Valley Pilot Project was funded by the Safer Together Program. Safer Together is Victorian Government's approach to reduce the risk of bushfire in Victoria that combines stronger community partnerships with the latest science and technology to more effectively target our actions.

My name is Gillian Matthews and I was appointed the Project Officer for the Community Resilience Project – Snake Valley. I would like to acknowledge the members of the Steering Group for their enthusiasm, proposals, initiative towards the project, its community, Community Groups, authorities for their collaborative approach to the project.

Summary

The Report highlights the need to enhance community resilience and awareness to emergency risks, inclusion and collaboration of the community in all adversity.

The project explored Community Resilience by engaging a Steering committee to explore the needs of its community. A brainstorming evening was held and from this meeting, it was evident that fragmentation was evident in the community from a lack of cohesion, cyber safe issues which has a serious detrimental effect. Volunteerism was also apparent due to lack of succession for activities/events and groups in the town.

The results from the initial meeting showed that resilience within the community was paramount for the town to flourish. Building blocks to create a solid foundation for the community in relation to emergency processes, engagement, inclusion and volunteerism. The network of communication with the community through the project will be:-

(Appendix 1)

- Extending the invitation to other groups and community members to be part of the project
- Community Workshops - Monthly meetings with the community will commence in February 2019 to June 2019 to brainstorm how to better engage with the community, encourage inclusion, community awareness and preparation for emergency events.
- Social media, noticeboard, newsletter and surveys

The workshops held over past 6 months involved the following agencies:-

- Department of Environment, Land Water & Planning (DELWP)- Forestry Management spoke to the group regarding controlled Fuel Management Programs in Snake Valley and surrounding areas
- Department of Health & Human Services discussed the Vulnerable Persons Register process
- Department of Environment, Land Water & Planning (DELWP) - Regional Forest Agreement Modernisation Program spoke to the group regarding the Forest Reform Agreement.
- VicPol – to speak to the group about Cyber Safety in communities and organise a presentation to the community.

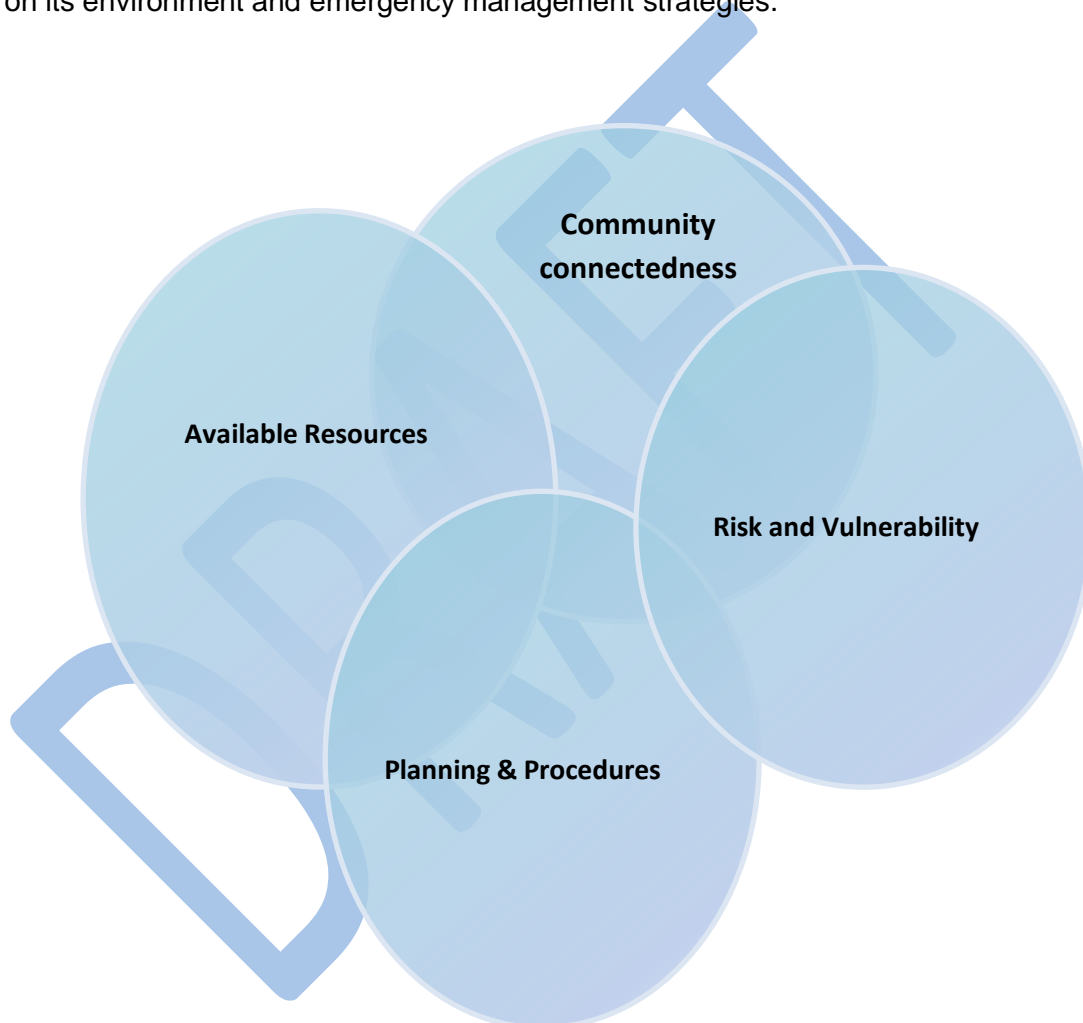
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Introduction

October 2018, Pyrenees Shire Council obtained funding from the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning to conduct a project under the Safer Together – Community First program for a “Safer and more Resilient Pyrenees Community – Snake Valley Pilot Program.” The aim of the project is to enhance Community Resilience for Snake Valley and the surrounding area.

This project aims to support the Community of Snake Valley to engage with its community, build on its environment and emergency management strategies.



The Town

Snake Valley is a town in central Western Victoria located in the municipality of the Pyrenees Shire Council. The town is located 27 km from Ballarat and 153 km west of Melbourne CBD.

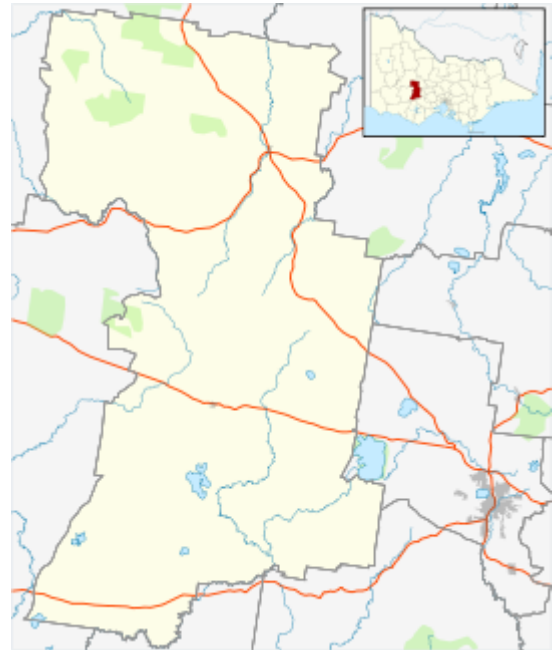
Snake Valley and surrounding towns have a population of 742, according to the 2016 Census (ABS). The town is attractive to people moving there due to its proximity to Ballarat and Beaufort for employment, environment and lifestyle.

Cultural history – The Traditional Owners of Snake Valley and the surrounding Snake Valley/Carngham district is the Carringum balug clan of the Wathaurong people. The nearby town of Carngham therefore appears to be the name of the Aboriginal clan who originally lived in the area. They called Snake Valley itself *Nimbuck* or *Nimluck*

Snake Valley has churches of five Christian denominations, although not all of them are being used as places of worship. St Brigid's Catholic Church, located on Linton-Carngham Road, and has been identified as a Place of Safe Assembly in Snake Valley.

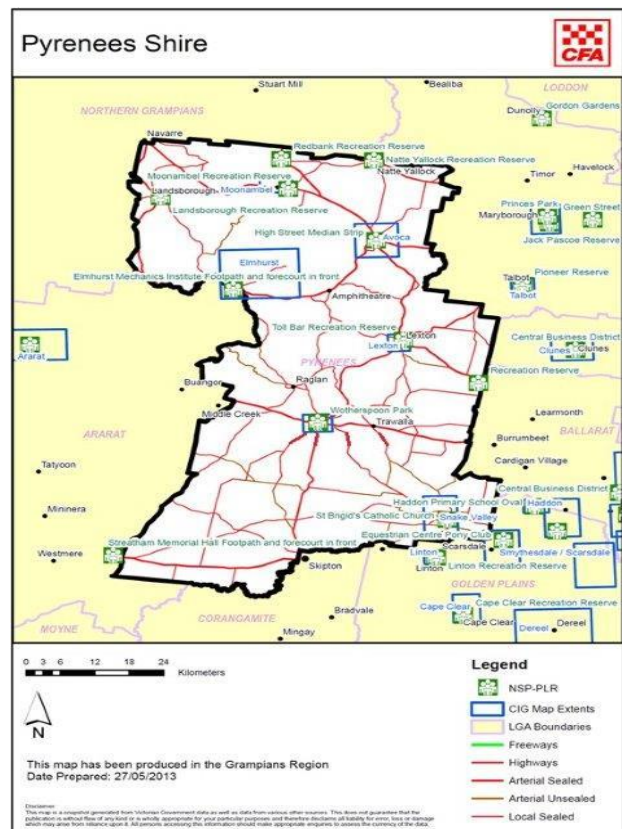
Snake Valley has football, netball and cricket teams as well as an irregular 12 hole golf course.

Woody Yaloak Primary School provides the first level of education to the town. Secondary students must travel to other places such as Ballarat or Beaufort for education.



Snake Valley has a large number of active Community groups and organisations that service the town and surrounding areas:

- Carngham Cemetery Trust
- Carngham Recreation Reserve, (CRR)
- Mag Dam Reserve Committee
- Pyrenees Shire Council
- Snake Valley & District Historical Society)
- Snake Valley Astronomical Association
- Snake Valley-Carngham Branch Friends of the RSL
- Snake Valley CFA Auxiliary & Community Fireguard (CFA)
- Snake Valley CERT (Community Emergency Response),
- Snake Valley & District CFA
- Snake Valley Landcare
- Snake Valley Playgroup
- St. Brigid's Catholic Church
- Snake Valley Uniting Church
- Snake Valley Anglican Church



- Snake Valley Golf Course
- Snake Valley Football & Netball Club
- Snake Valley Cricket Club
- Snake Valley General Store & Post Office
- The Royal Hotel, Snake Valley
- Woody Yaloak Primary School, parents and Friends Group

Snake Valley has a weekly bus service from Ballarat which runs on Mondays and Fridays. The main means of transport is private vehicle.

Method

Methods for measuring and enhancing community Resilience for the Snake Valley Project are:

Emergency Happens Bag – Bags were given out to the children at Woody Yalock Primary School. The bag consisted of Preparedness in Emergencies via Emergency Happens, a program that commenced in 2015, CFA Prepare – Act – Survive, Are your Ready brochure, colour crayons, pictures and Community Group contact list. The bag has information listed on it for each individual to consider packing when leaving in an emergency.

As a joint venture the Pyrenees Future for Snake Valley (Township Framework Plan 2018) and the Community Resilience Project combined resources to send information out to the community. A meeting was held at the Woody Yaloak School to hand out the Emergencies Happens bags as an information sessions about the emergencies.

A Community Survey – The survey relating to demographics, location, lifestyle, volunteerism, engagement and emergency preparedness was mailed to all residents in the Snake Valley and surrounding areas. (Postcode 3351) 600 surveys were sent out and we received 58 replies. Online replies comprised 1 out of the 58 responses. People could return their completed surveys to the Snake Valley Shop or post them back in the reply paid envelopes. It was a good result and on compiling the information, relevant information for Council, Community groups, development proposals for the town and a guide to peoples' sense of their own safety if an emergency happened. I have also attached the outcomes of the survey. (See appendix 3 & 4)

Facebook – Creation of the Snake Valley Network Group Facebook page under the administration of community members. The Facebook page intention is to engage the community with a page that will provide information about the town's activities, events and ensure the content is controlled, friendly and safe.

Newsletter – Creation of a Newsletter to the community 4 times a year. Seasonal based information about the town's activities, emergency preparedness and information, sporting and general information.

Capital Action Plan – Previously the Snake Valley Progress Network Association collated information from the community, businesses and groups and liaised with Pyrenees Shire on future builds and projects that would enhance their town and surrounds. This group is no longer operating and we now need to seek a representative or a group of people from the area as a point of contact with the Shire. This document is a foundation to assist the Shire with infrastructure/build/improvements to Snake Valley and ensure the community has a voice. It is encouraged to keep this process active and seek a liaison officer/group to be the contact.

Community Events –
(Appendix 5)

Bushfire Simulation in the Snake Valley – 20 March 2019
Easter Egg Hunt – 21 April 2019
Cyber Safe meeting June 2019

Consultation and Outcomes

The initial consultation with members of the Snake Valley community consisted of people from different community organisations, Woody Yalook Primary School, Pyrenees Shire, Ward Councillor Tanya Kehoe, Snake Valley CFA, Snake Valley Hall Committee and community members.

The initial meeting of the Steering Group was to brainstorm the Safer Together Victoria's Community Resilience characters and how it related to the Snake Valley Community:

- Dynamic and Diverse Local Economy
- Sustainable Built and Natural Environment
- Connected Inclusive and Empowered
- Culturally Rich and Vibrant
- Safe and Well
- Democratic and Engaged
- Reflective and Aware

See Appendix 1 & 2 – Outcomes of initial meeting

A series of Workshop meetings were held from February to June 2019.

2nd Meeting – 5 February 2019 at the Snake Valley Hall

- Invited Patricia Young from Department of Environment, Land Water and Planning to discuss the procedures of engagement for Notification of Burns in the Midlands District. Patricia brought along maps of the area and intended areas for the next planned burns. Patricia also advised the group about the Phoenix Model that is used by the Department to determine activities of burns, topography and climate change aspects and the behaviour of fires. The group was extremely interested in the model and would like to have a community night for the public to have an understanding of fire behaviour. A further meeting to discuss the planning of a public meeting/get-together has been organised between the authorities to plan a date and agenda. The suggested month for the Community Meeting was March 2019.
- The group decided to send out a survey to the community for their feedback about their community. The survey was prepared and ready to be sent out on the 13 February 2019 with a three week return period. The survey covered engagement, volunteerism, personal emergency planning and suggestions. *(see Appendix 3)*
- As a major event, the group would like to have an Easter Egg Hunt at Easter, 21 April. This event was launched last year and was a great success and they feel it would, with additional activities, attract more community participation.
- Organisational Booklet - Another initiative was an organisational booklet for the town. A Template was sent to local organisations to complete, include photos and return to the group.
- Creation of a Facebook Page for the community – Snake Valley Network Group Administered by members of the community.

3rd Meeting – 5 March 2019 – Snake Valley Hall

- Invited David Tepper from Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS) to talk to the group about Vulnerable People in Emergencies Policy.

Community Get Together – Interactive Bushfire simulation through Phoenix Modelling on Wednesday 20 March 2019 at the Snake Valley Hall – 6.00 p.m.

The event started with a BBQ at 6.00 pm. and the information night commenced at 6.30pm. Organisations invited to the meeting included Pyrenees Shire, CFA, Department of Environment, Land Water & Planning (DELWP) Forestry Management, VicPol, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) to be there to respond to the simulated display of the behaviour of a fire. The information session is to assist the community to understand how fire can behave, readiness/preparation for their safety, the roles of each organisation in an instance of a fire in their area.

4th Meeting - 2 April 2019 – Snake Valley Hall

This meeting we invited Kris Hendrickx – Engagement coordinator – Regional Forest Agreement Modernisation Program Grampians and Barwon South West Regions to speak on the topic of Forest Reform Project. Every 20 years the State reviews its forestry Agreement for the Federal Government and this gives the community the opportunity to have their say on the future management of state forests.

5th Meeting – 4 June 2019 – Snake Valley Hall

This meeting we have invited Des Hudson from VicPol – Ballarat Police Youth Resource Officer to speak to the steering group on the presentation of an event on cyber safety that can effect a community. From this meeting we would like to set a date in the June for a community meeting.

Update on projects and how they are engaging the community.

6th Meeting – 4 July 2019 – Snake Valley Hall

Dinner meeting at the Snake Valley Hotel – conclusion and outcome of the project initiatives and future planning for the Town

Conclusion

This report highlights the complexity of inclusion, engagement, preparedness in emergencies and information to the broader community to make them resilient. Its intention is to embrace community ideas, their strengths, future opportunities that will make Snake Valley a great place to live, work and play.

The challenges that have been highlighted through this project did reflect cyber safety, emergency preparedness and communication in a fire zone area and community engagement. Embracing and encouraging the community to be more involved and have their say.

As the Community Resilience Project Officer, I observed the complexity of a vastly growing town and its needs. Snake Valley has limited resources and being close to major towns, the majority of people work outside of Snake Valley and potentially their activities are also outreached. This may be a contributing factor of lack of cohesion within the community and willingness for connectedness.



This steering group has been proactive in providing and engaging the community through emergency practices, having a better understanding of agencies fundamentals and how it relates to its community. Their ability to work together with businesses and the community groups to provide events, establish social media platforms has been fantastic to keep the community well informed.



Within the 6 months the group has actively created and presented the following projects:


- Community Event - Community Get-together – Fire Safety, preparedness, recovery process – 20 March 2019
- Community Event - Eggestremely Eggcellent Easter Games – Community – 21 April 2019
- Community Event - Cyber Safety Information – June (in progress)
- Newsletter – quarterly edition (seasonal)
- Facebook Page – Snake Valley Network Group
- Community Directory (in progress)
- Community Survey

I am privileged to have worked with a dedicated group of people who are passionate about their community and strive to continue to build engagement, improvements and emergency strategies for its future.

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Action	Potential Risk	Support Agencies	Timeframe	Funding and resource documents
<p>Public Information</p> 	<p>Information Sessions for Emergency Preparedness topics such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have you prepared your property for emergencies • Leaving Early – when and where to go and what to pack • Caring for your pets • Having adequate insurance in place • Knowing your location in readiness to assist authorities • Safety messages through Schools that are in a fire prone area • Having an Open Day in the Town promoting emergency preparation • CFA – Your Guide to Survival www.cfa.vic.gov.au 	<p>CFA SES Red Cross Council DHHS DELWP VicPol</p>	<p>Annually</p>	<p>CFA SES Grants Other Grants DHHS</p>
	<p>Documentation available to the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome kit information for residents including emergency preparedness 	<p>CFA Community Council</p>		
<p>Communications</p> 	<p>To keep in communication with the emergency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vic Emergency hotline 1800 226 226 https://emergency.vic.gov.au/: • Local Radio Station: ABC 774 • Local messages from your local CFA Facebook and sms messages • www.cfa.vic.gov.au • Know your neighbour and contact details • Police • Interpreter 13 14 50 	<p>All</p>		

Action	Potential Risk	Support Agencies	Timeframe	Funding and resource documents
<p>Community</p> 	<p>Preparedness ideas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information guide for use of machinery during high fire risk periods Get to know your neighbours and support each other Community Safer Place information on display 	<p>Council Community DELWP CFA</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote Community Clean up days 	<p>CFA Community Council</p>		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure signage is clear and visible - roads maintenance checked for safe travelling in your township and surrounds 	<p>Community Council VicRoads</p>		
<p>Projects</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Event - Community Get-together – Fire Behaviour and the Phoenix Modelling – Pilot Program 	<p>VicPol CFA Council DHHS DELWP Community</p>	<p>Annually or determined by each Agency</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of a Newsletter for the Town – quarterly editions 	<p>Community</p>	<p>Quarterly</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Event – Easter Egg Hunt on 21 April 2019 	<p>Community</p>	<p>Annually</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Session - Department of Health & Human Services outlining the criteria of the vulnerable people register in emergency preparedness 	<p>DHHS</p>		

Action	Potential Risk	Support Agencies	Timeframe	Funding and resource documents
Projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information Session - Forest Fire Management Victoria regarding Notification of Burns in Snake Valley and surrounds 	DELWP	Seasonal	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-creation of a Community Facebook Page called: Snake Valley Network Group 	Community	Ongoing	
	Engagement with the Community- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage volunteerism Open Day for the community to showcase Snake Valley facilities and groups Survey of the Community for demographics, community cohesiveness and involvement with Community Groups Provision of facilities/infrastructure to support the production of the Newsletter on a quarterly edition 	Community		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Linear Park Development - Facility for all ages to be constructed in Snake Valley 	Council Community		Pyrenees Futures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History Walking Linear path – inclusion with the Mag Dam Reserve 	Council Community		Pyrenees Futures
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Event – Cyber Safety for its community 	VicPol Community Council		

Appendix

Appendix 1 – Snake Valley Community Resilience Project Outcomes

SNAKE VALLEY – COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROJECT OUTCOMES – Steering Committee on 20/11/2018

PRINCIPLES:

- . Respectful
- . Forward Thinking
- . Inclusiveness
- . Striving for Excellence
- . Responsible
- . Measurable
- . Achievable

DYNAMIC AND DIVERSE LOCAL ECONOMY:

STRENGTHS:

- . Location – (Commute for work / cost saving)
- . Internet Accessibility - (Online Shopping)
(Local Post Office)
- . Communication for logistical issues
- . New Residents / New Skills
- . Word of Mouth / Proactive people who communicate
- . Due to its location there is a diversity vocation background which adds to the fabric of the
Community
- . Dark Sky Promotion

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Employment close by
- . Expand Business / General Store
- . Delivery Option – Food – Medical
- . More Public Transport
- . Social Media
- . Join other Communities - (Not Isolated)
- . Utilise other Communities
- . Advertise e.g. Hotel & General Store -At Carngham Corner with support of Council
- . Air tasker? Non-Monetary – Bendigo

CHALLENGES: - (THINK REGIONALLY /COLLABORATIVELY (MALDON?))

- . Time Management (Last minute / supplies / weekly shop)
- . Off Main Road
- . People enjoy their own company
- . Digital age / resources – Phones, IPad

SUSTAINABLE BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT:

STRENGTHS:

- . Code Red Facility
- . Communication Opportunities (Flexi buzz / Vic Emergency)
- . Telecommunication Service
- . Amenities are available
- . Trees
- . Golf Club
- . Dark Sky
- . Risk Management
- . Mag Dam – Disrepair
- . State Parks
- . Dawsons Dam
- . Recreation Reserve

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Accessible evacuation routes

CHALLENGES:

- . Bushfire Zone
- . Communication – (where are they evacuated too?)

CONNECTED INCLUSIVE AND EMPOWERED:

STRENGTHS:

- . Founding Families welcoming / accepting new comers
- . Fantastic facilities and people in the town
- . Unique opportunities in Snake Valley – Dark Sky
- . Close to larger regional centres
- . Newsletter / Town publication to connect people

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Have a New Residents Welcoming and Information Day:
 - What Snake Valley has to offer?
 - Representatives of all groups to attend and inform
 - Opportunities to volunteer without being over committed
 - New opportunities to identify and encourage
 - To build confidence in community members

CHALLENGES:

- . Integrating new people to become active community members
- . Volunteers who are exhausted through over contribution

CULTURALLY RICH AND VIBRANT:

STRENGTHS:

- . Historical Society
- . Mining History
- . Tree Changers
- . Weekenders
- . People moving from Ballarat
- . Outdoor Activities
- . Migrant populations
- . Reconciliation Action Plan

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Culturally significant event
- . Events aimed to attract different cultures
- . Map availability?
- . Public knowledge around
- . Public Space – “Where to Go”

CHALLENGES:

- . Part time community
- . Same people who live here to be left alone
- . Bringing people together
- . Finding Community Project Co-ordinators

SAFE AND WELL:

STRENGTHS:

- . Local CFA Brigade
- . School as a hub – Provides a safe and secure environment
- . A lot of groups and people involved

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Whole of town – all group events
- . To connect with and support each other
- . To build on and support what is already here;
 - Recruitment
 - Shared Resources
 - Local Town / Publication
- . To use the CAP process to support town / activities
- . Roving volunteers – pool – one off
- . PCC – mowing service
- . More scoping off programs – volunteers?
- . Fee for service, safety and mental health

CHALLENGES:

- . Cyber Safety – Bullying Issues – Huge impact – very personal, some negative experiences
- . High Risk fire areas

- . New residents not knowing what groups are there
- . Same people volunteering - Attracting people to come on board
- . Engaging the weekenders / transient community (or those who like their privacy)
- . Older members of the community on the fringe – social isolation
- . News / Publication

DEMOCRATIC AND ENGAGED:

STRENGTHS:

- . Lot of Groups
- . Council Support
- . Community support for each other – within groups
- . Attractive to young families
- . Affordable and close to facilities

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Groups to come together and combine strengths
- . Better advertising of events
- . Events billboard in town
- . Is “Community Group” and old concept?
- . What are other ways a community can “be involved”
- . Regular strategic events
- . Rethinking volunteerism – “one off”, “Corporate”
- . Benefits for volunteer including Youth – Fun?
- . Town survey

CHALLENGES:

- . Engaging younger people
- . Providing interests
- . Getting the community to support events
- . Encourage involvement with groups
- . Breaking down barriers – engaging those who don’t care
- . Cultural challenges
- . Digital age

REFLECTIVE AND AWARE:

STRENGTHS:

- . Lots of new people
- . Lots of Community Groups and Social Resources
- . Has experienced and survived social and physical challenges

OPPORTUNITIES:

- . Get new people more involved
- . To be better prepared
- . Community events that champion local groups, create awareness for public
- . New Residents Day

- . Support what CFA already does?
- . Events – Multifaceted – All communication groups
- . Supporting volunteer recruitment drives
- . Supporting single incident

CHALLENGES:

- . Does community know where to access resources?
- . Engaging new people
- . Reactive rather than proactive community
- . A transient community
- . Complacency – ‘out of sight out of mind’
- . Void of immediate support for smaller impact events
- . Lack of ongoing support – (Mental Health)
People Moved On

DRAFT

Rundown of Community Resilience Project conducted by Pyrenees Shire Council over 2017-18.

Enhances our understanding of levels of resilience and factors that shape resilience in the diverse communities of the Pyrenees Shire.

Used Emergency Management Victoria's Community Resilience Framework to explore community resilience.

21 recommendations made to be implemented over the next three years to sustain community resilience building into the future.

Connected, Inclusive and empowered



Connected, inclusive and empowered... There are strong and growing links between the community and its organisations, community members, sharing, working together and learning together.



Culturally rich and vibrant... Diversity is celebrated and the community has a range of cultural arts and cultural activities accessible by all.



Sustainable built and natural environment... A high level of community awareness to all available services and natural and cultural assets.



Safe and well... A community's property and personal safety and a safe plan to the Community Wellbeing Strategy.



Recommendation 5: Enhance volunteer capacity of wider PSC and within the Shire.

"New people coming into town, enriching and willing to have input into the community if allowed." (Member from Southern end of the Shire)

Report: Survey for volunteer capacity conducted over the period 2017-2018



Reflective and aware... A community can access the resources it could do all about to set a new trajectory and reflect upon their experiences in order to learn from past setbacks and triumphs.



Dynamic and diverse local economy... There are a number of existing opportunities and a momentum to work together.



Democratic and engaged... A community is able to participate in decision-making and community activities.

"Small town syndrome, education, for towns to be more accepting & open minded if people are different to them (ie LGBTI 'safe' community)" - Member from Northern end of the Shire



Safe and Well
Recommendation 7: Scope capacity for PSC to develop a Community Safety and Environment Strategy.

"The environment, it's beautiful here." - Member from Northern end of the Shire



Sustainable built and natural environment

Reflective and aware



Recommendation 16: Community education (including personal awareness) and resource promotion to residents via website, community newsletters, resource centres and local community events.

Recommendation 18: Link actions in the Access, Equity and Diversity Strategy and Climate Change Adaptation plans and 'Pyrenees Futures' to the potential to enhance local economies through industry development and/or tourism.

"Tourism is farming has meant that more people now need to obtain paid employment and therefore are too busy with these commitments to support community events and organisations." - Member from Northern end of the Shire

Dynamic and diverse local economy

Democratic and engaged

"More Shire presence in Avoca" - Member from Northern end of the Shire



Recommendation 20: Scoping of opportunities to ensure broader community inclusion in the CAP process.

This publication was produced with funding provided by the Australian Government in partnership with the State and Territory under the National Resilient Community Agreement for Natural Disaster Bushfire Emergency Management and Recovery. The views and opinions expressed in this publication are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the Australian Government.



Appendix 3 – Survey to the Community

Survey

Safer and more Resilient Pyrenees Communities - Snake Valley Pilot Project

This Survey has been created to help with the community led project to enhance community resilience in the Snake Valley Township and surrounding areas. This project is funded by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) up to the 31 July 2019. My name is Gillian Matthews and I have been appointed the Community Resilience Officer who is assisting the Community and facilitating projects with the community to increase awareness, engagement, planning and resilience in the future.

1. Email address *



2. To win one of the two prizes (car fire hydrant and a fire safe blanket) for returning this survey please place your name and contact details below

3. What age groups are in your household?
Check all that apply.

- 1 - 9
- 10 - 15
- 16 - 25
- 26 - 35
- 36 - 45
- 46 - 55
- 56 - 65
- 66 - 75
- 76 and over

4. What attracted you to live in Snake Valley?
Check all that apply.

- Lifestyle/ Social Connection
- Work
- Environment
- Family
- Cost of Living

5. Where is your Primary Residence located?
Check all that apply.

- Township
- Rural Living
- Farming

6. What organisations are you aware of that are in or service Snake Valley?
Check all that apply.

- CFA
- Snake Valley Hall (COM)
- Snake Valley & District Historical Society
- Churches
- Snake Valley Recreation Reserve (COM)
- Snake Valley Astronomical Association
- Careingham Football, Netball and Cricket Club
- Snake Valley Golf Club
- Snake Valley Landcare Group
- Woody Yalook Primary School
- Snake Valley Playgroup
- Snake Valley News - Facebook
- Pyrenees Mobile Library
- Pyrenees Social Support Group (Over 85 Elder Support)
- Pyrenees Shire Maternal & Children's Health Service
- CERT (Community Emergency Response Team)
- Mag Dam Reserve - Committee of Management (COM)
- Public Transport (Bus Service)
- Friends of the R.S.L Snake Valley & District
- Snake Valley Cemetery Trust
- Other

7. Would you like to become more involved with your Community and if so in what aspects?
Check all that apply.

- Yes
- No
- How? Place your comment on next question

8. Would you like to become more involved with your Community and if so in what aspects
How?

9. What initiatives would you like to see in the future for Snake Valley?

10. Would you like to get involved as a volunteer in your community for more Community Events in Snake Valley? What ideas would you suggest?

11. Do you think that the attractions/facilities in Snake Valley are well advertised?
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Could be better
- Other

12. Would you like information sent to you about:
Check all that apply.

- Businesses in your local area
- Emergency information
- Volunteer opportunities
- Local Community Groups
- Other

13. Would you consider volunteering for the following?
Check all that apply.

- Community Organisation's
- One off event
- Help out a neighbour
- Other

14. What sources of communication do you rely on to obtain information?
Check all that apply.

- Social Media
- Websites
- Community Knowledge/contact
- Phone Tree (contact with neighbours in your street or surrounds)
- Public Notice Board
- Australia Post

15. Do you support your local businesses in your town?
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

16. Do you have any concerns about your community in relation to the following and why?
Check all that apply.

- Fire
- Location
- Accessibility
- Services
- Why? Please make comments on the question below

17. Do you have any concerns about your community in relation to the following and why?

18. Are you Fire Ready and do you have your emergency plan in place?
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No
- In planning stage

19. Do you require information to prepare your property in case of an emergency?
Mark only one oval.

- Yes
- No

20. If yes, please specify what information you need

Appendix 4 – Results of Survey

Survey Response – Snake Valley Resilience Project

Part of the Resilience Project, it was decided to send out a survey to find out what the community think about Snake Valley. Surveys were sent to Snake Valley and surrounds with the postcode 3351 asking a variety of questions relating to demographics, likes and dislikes of the area, volunteerism, businesses and emergency awareness.

600 surveys were sent out and responses were required by 8 March 2019. This gave the community 3 weeks to respond. We received 58 responses outlining their feelings about their town. This is a good result and people have made valuable suggestions/builds for the town.

Demographics

From the survey majority of the people responding were in the age bracket of 66-75 years (39.3%), then 56-65 years (23%) and then 36-55 years. It was good to see families responded and many of the suggestions were youth build/service related.

Attractions of living in Snake Valley

The survey highlighted the attractions of living in Snake Valley:

- Environment (57.1%)
- Lifestyle/Social Connection (50%)
- Cost of Living (37.5%)
- Family (26.8%)
- Work (3.6%)

Organisations

Most people are aware of the community groups and organisation in Snake Valley. Based on the average age group that responded to the survey (66-75) Social Activity Group was the lowest organisation selected.

This may be a tool for the Agencies and its community to promote more Age care facilities/activities and assistance with the process to encourage more involvement.

Community Involvement

The survey indicated that the respondents are not interested in getting involved with the community.

The results were:

No: 51%

Yes: 36.6%

The older age groups indicated they have been involved in the community for a long time with many organisation and they need a rest. It was indicated that they would still like to be included.

Some responses like the quiet life and do not want to be involved.

Yes response the community involvement they would like to get involved with:

- Skate Park Planning

- Community Garden
- Events and Engagements
- Volunteer work with Environment

Initiative for the future of Snake Valley

The Responses to the initiative for the future of Snake Valley ranged from:

- More retired activities
- Having a Community Centre
- Main Gas Supply
- Skate Park
- BBQ Facilities & Children's play centre
- Markets/Whole town Garage Sales
- Tidying up properties
- Clean up days for the whole area
- Facilities for young people
- Peace and quiet
- Better roads
- The Shire doesn't maintain the town enough
- Walking/riding tracks to link the township
- To be better recognised by the Pyrenees Shire/support
- Sealing of Road to the Snake Valley Tip
- Removal of Gorse along waterways

Volunteerism

I received 27 responses to volunteerism and what ideas:

- Craft Groups
- Rally in the Valley
- Sunday Markets
- Environment – keep Snake Valley clean
- The Easter Egg hunt/community market
- Tree Planting
- Will consider volunteering in the future

Advertisement

The question rose about attractions and facilities being well advertised in Snake Valley was very clear that major of the responses feel that advertisement is very poor and could be better. Some of the comments related to having signage on the major roads to direct people to come to Snake Valley (advertisement board highlighting all the local business and attractions) Reason: that Snake Valley is off the main roads.

Information

I asked the question if people need further information about Businesses in the area, Emergency and Volunteering.

Responses received highlighted that they would like to get information regarding:

- Emergency (58.5%)
- Local Community Groups (53.7%)
- Businesses (43.9%)
- Volunteer opportunities (41.5%)

This may be an opportunity for Emergency Services, local Community Groups and businesses in the area to consider promoting all year round utilizing local noticeboards, social media, brochure drops, schools etc.

I am seeking approval from all contacts to send out their details for Community Groups so I can email or send this information to the people who responded.

Under privacy provisions, I am unable give the contact details to organisations but I can forward any information you would like to send then via the Project.

Volunteerism

Response to the question about volunteering to the community, responders were happy to be involved in a one off event, community organisation and helping a neighbour.

Sending out information relating to community groups and organisers for events in the town may instigate more involvement of people in the community.

Communication

Communication people general use was social media. Hardcopy information on Noticeboards and Australia Post rated second and community contact/knowledge rated third. It is evident that all information needs to be presented in both platforms and again the older community rely on hardcopy, not all are computer savvy.

Businesses

It was evident that the community of Snake Valley support their local businesses.

Concerns about the location of the town

Concerns raised about the town were:

Fire:	(75%)	Definitions Fire (F) – Services (S) – Accessibility (A)
Services:	(27.8%)	
Accessibility	(13.0%)	

Reasons why:

- Bushfire/grass fire prone (F)
- Services based 25 minutes away (S)
- Too much rubbish and cars/fire hazard on properties (F)
- Blackspot Area (S)
- Maintenance of properties not adhered to (F)
- Better access from Laurence Drive for safety of pedestrians having a walking and riding trail (A)
- Not clear on plans of strategies of the town (FSA)
- Not fully aware of services in the town (S)
- High Risk (F)
- Low Volunteerism (S)

Response to fire ready and emergency plan in place

From 55 responses, 81.8% are fire ready, 16.4% in planning stage and 1.8% are not ready.

Information to prepare property in case of emergency

From 55 responses, 89.1% do not require information and 10.

Appendix 5 – Events



COMMUNITY GET-TOGETHER

Come along and see Interactive Bushfire simulation through Phoenix Modelling

A real fire computer model of a fire happening in your backyard and how it could behave in Snake Valley

When: Wednesday, 20 March 2019
Where: Snake Valley Hall, 875 Linton-Carngham Road, Snake Valley
Time: 6.00 pm.—8.30p.m

Information regarding preparedness, an incident, who will respond and recovery from an Event
Sausage sizzle from 6.00 p.m and commencing at 6.30p.m

FOREST FIRE MANAGEMENT VICTORIA
CERN
CFA
PHOENIX
SAFER TOGETHER
VICTORIA State Government



**Snake Valley's
Eggstremely Eggcellent Easter Games**

**Easter Sunday
April 21st 9am-11am
@ Carngham Recreation Reserve**

- Breakfast and Drinks available*
 - Bacon and Egg Sandwiches
 - Sausages in Bread
 - Pancakes
- Kids Games and Activities
- Fancy Dress Competition
- Easter Egg Hunt

Proudly hosted by the Carngham Recreation Reserve Committee. Supported by the Snake Valley CFA, CERT, Community Hall and local volunteers

* All events are FREE to participate in. Food and drink is available for purchase on the day. Further enquiries please contact Sonia 0425 784 625