



East Wimmera Health Service

Cultivating Healthy Communities

‘Charlton, a muddy great big mess’

Kathy Huett

Chief Executive Officer

Overview

- Media Training Experience
- Flood Event
- Media

EWHS Location



Birchip



Charlton



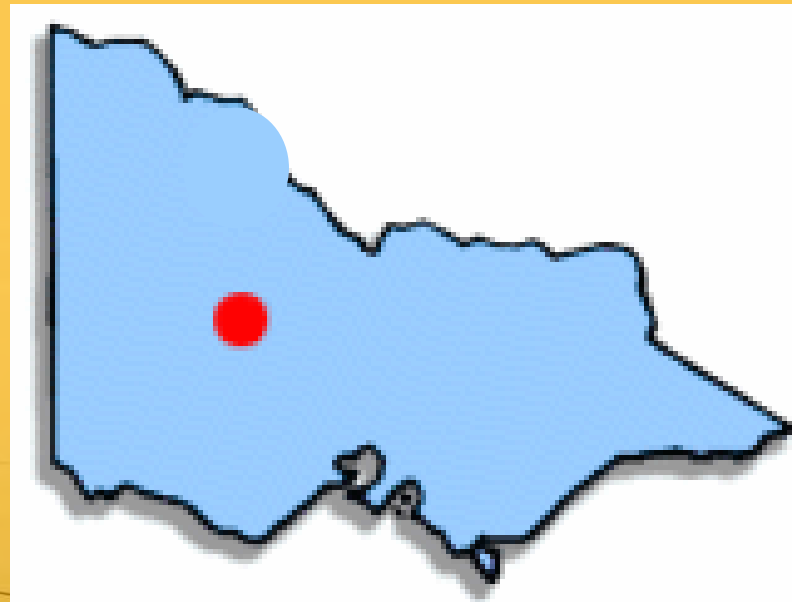
Donald



St Arnaud



Wycheproof



September 2010

- Advice re Flood
- Do we Evacuate or Not
- Outcomes – Lessons learned



January 2011 - Flood Severity

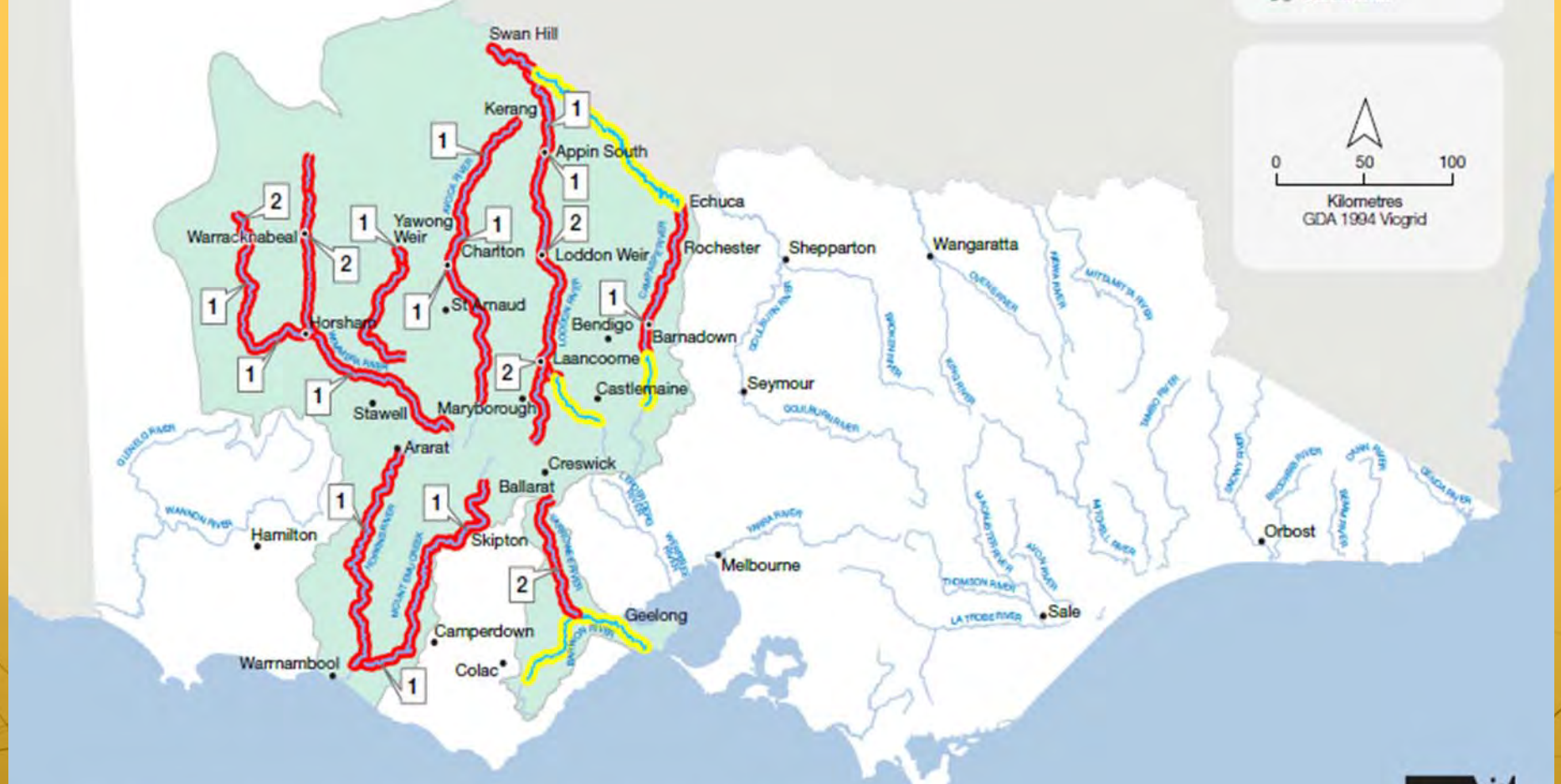
- January 2011 - wettest January on record in Victoria
- Combination of extreme rainfall & saturated conditions
- Extreme Temperatures- mid to high 30's & humid

Record-breaking Victorian Floods – January 2011

Legend

- 1 Largest flood on record
- 2 Second largest flood on record
- Major flooding
- Moderate flooding
- Watercourse
- Catchments

0 50 100
Kilometres
GDA 1994 Viogrid



Disclaimer: Base layer information on this map has been sourced from Filmap 100k topographic map series. Information on flood magnitude was provided by DSE Floodplain Management Unit. This material may be of assistance to you but 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.



January 2011

- Notification of flood level
- Review in comparison to
2010



January 2011

- Decision to evacuate
- Aged care residents – 15
- Ambulant residents
- Non – ambulant residents
- Modes of transport



January 2011

- Water entering Health Service by 1700 hours
- Closure of Health Service



Source: The Charlton Community
Newsletter Feb 2011

The township of Charlton underwater

January 2011



Impact of other Campuses

- Power Source
 - ❖ Lack of power
 - ❖ Generator and diesel
- Emergency communication
- Staff access to home & work
- GP coverage
- Isolation



Impact on township of Charlton

- 98% business & 70% homes sustained damage
- Over 300 vehicles damaged
- Damage to Health Service
- 90% Health Service Staff had homes and/or businesses flooded



Emergency Medical Facility ("MASH" Tent)



Emergency Field Clinic

Emergency Medical Facility ("MASH" Tent)



Temporary Health Facility



New Health Service Site



Media

- Nominated spokesperson
- Know your situation
- Honesty
- Consistency in response
- Credibility
- Availability
- Community responsibility

Media

Smart use of the media
can assist you in relaying
your message

Thank you

Kathy Huett

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