



# SEVERE WEATHER AND CYCLONE PLAN



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**Version 6**  
**17 November 2020**

Any alterations to this Plan must be approved by the:  
Manager Aviation Operations

The current copy of this Plan is held on SharePoint

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**DOCUMENT CONTROL**

Reference No	Version	Status	Sponsor	Author
9020MKY	6	Approved	Manager Aviation Operations	Manager Aviation Operations

Amendments	Date	By whom
<b>Version 1</b> - NQA Full document control procedures applied	03 November 2014	Manager Aviation Operations
<b>Version 2</b> - Updated MAPL Logo, removed Tiger Airways, removed Aromas, inclusion of Cyclone information from Mackay Regional Council Local Disaster Management Group.	03 November 2015	Manager Aviation Operations
<b>Version 3</b> -NQA Full document control procedures applied	07 July 2016	Aviation Administration Officer
<b>Version 4</b> – Full Review of document inclusive of document control process as per Company procedures	18 July 2017	Aviation Administration Officer
<b>Version 5</b> –Full Review of document inclusive of document control process as per Company procedures	08 November 2018	Aviation Administration Officer
<b>Version 6</b> -Full Review of document inclusive of document control process. Removed Annexure A relating to Mackay Regional Council Trigger and Action Documents.	17 November 2020	Manager Aviation Operations

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Disaster Management Act 2003 S13(1) defines a disaster as a serious disruption in a community, caused by the impact of an event, that requires a significant coordinated response by the State and other entities to help the community recover from the disruption. Disasters that may affect Mackay Airport include:

- Tropical cyclones
- Gale force winds
- Storms
- Storm surges
- Earthquake
- Tsunamis
- Volcanic ash
- Tornados

The Mackay Airport Severe Weather and Cyclone Plan has been prepared to counter potential danger and damage that may occur as a result of a disaster.

Post disaster where airport infrastructure suffers significant damage impacting on airport operations, the Aerodrome Emergency Committee (AEC) would be convened to manage a disaster recovery program as per the Mackay Airport 'Airport Emergency Plan' (AEP).

## 2. Cyclone State Advise, Notification and Action

STAGE	ACTIVITY	WIND SPEED	NOTIFICATION	COMMENTS/ACTION
Stage 1	<b>CYCLONE WATCH</b> - Initiated by Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) by announcement of a Cyclone affecting the region.	Gale Force Winds (above 75km/h) (41kt) 24 - 48 hrs away	Advice via SMS by Mackay Airport	<b>Cyclone watch:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NQA team members to ensure company procedures are followed as per SOPs and review company procedures</li> <li>• Tenants review Severe Weather and Cyclone Plan and company procedures</li> <li>• Secure or remove non-essential equipment from open areas</li> <li>• Check emergency stores equipment (fuel, generators, radio's etc.)</li> </ul>
Stage 2	<b>CYCLONE WARNING</b> - Initiated by BOM by announcement of a Cyclone affecting the region.	Gale Force Winds (above 75km/h) (41kt) 24 hrs away	Advice via SMS by Mackay Airport	<b>Cyclone Warning:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee is convened</li> <li>• Complete initial preparation</li> <li>• Implement company procedures</li> <li>• Complete removing / securing non-essential equipment</li> <li>• Remove / secure light aircraft</li> <li>• Continue to monitor cyclone activity via BOM website / MRC Emergency Dashboard/media etc.</li> </ul>
Stage 3	<b>CYCLONE WARNING CURRENT</b> – BOM Monitoring System	Gale Force Winds (above 100 km/h) (54kt) 6 -12 hrs away	Advice via SMS by Mackay Airport	<b>Cyclone Warning Current:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commence partial shutdown of facilities, documents computers etc.</li> <li>• Consider sending non-essential staff home. Light aircraft relocated / stored /securely tied down</li> <li>• Consider flood precautions / sandbagging etc.</li> <li>• Continue to monitor cyclone activity via BOM website / media etc.</li> </ul>
Stage 4	<b>CYCLONE WARNING CURRENT</b> – BOM Monitoring System	Gale Force Winds (above 100 km/h) (54kt) at airport are 3 - 6 hrs away	Advice via SMS by Mackay Airport	<b>Cyclone Warning Current:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stage shut down of airport facilities, including terminal, airport ground lighting etc.</li> <li>• ATC, ARFF, Airlines will cease operations as soon as possible after declaration of Stage 4</li> <li>• Airport tenants expected to complete their own shut down of their own operations in a similar timeframe</li> <li>• After consultation with ATC, and upon departure of last aircraft, Mackay Airport Manager Aviation Operations will issue a NOTAM advising of non-availability of airport facilities (from time/date)</li> <li>• All staff should have departed from airport. Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee is stood-down.</li> </ul>
Stage 5	<b>CYCLONE WARNING CURRENT</b>	Gale Force Winds (above 100 km/h) (54kt) have commenced	Nil Advice by Mackay Airport	<b>Cyclone Warning Current:</b> <b>ALL AIRPORT OPERATIONS HAVE CEASED</b>
Stage 6	<b>CYCLONE WARNING CURRENT</b>	Gale Force Winds (above 100 km/h) (54kt) have passed	Nil Advice by Mackay Airport	<b>Cyclone Warning Current:</b> <b>ALL AIRPORT OPERATIONS REMAIN CEASED</b> ALL CLEAR NOT YET ANNOUNCED – STAGE 5 MAY BE RE-DECLARED
Stage 7	<b>CYCLONE WARNING MAY STILL EXIST</b>	Gale Force Winds have passed Mackay, though a Cyclone warning may still exist	Nil Advice by Mackay Airport	<b>CYCLONE WARNING MAY STILL EXIST</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyclone Committee to reconvene</li> <li>• Commence call-in of essential staff to return Airport to normal operational status</li> <li>• NOTAM to be lifted by Mackay Airport Manager Aviation Operations</li> <li>• Timing to be determined by Airport Cyclone Committee and through the Chair</li> </ul>

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STAGE	ACTIVITY	WIND SPEED	NOTIFICATION	COMMENTS/ACTION
Stage 8	Cyclone Warning cancelled	Declaration of All Clear by District Disaster Manager	Advice via SMS by Mackay Airport Declaration of all clear	<b>Cyclone Warning Cancelled</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff returning to Airport to re-commence operations</li> <li>• Tenants clean-up operations commence</li> <li>• Tenants to liaise with Mackay Airport Infrastructure Maintenance Team regarding loss of services and damage to facilities</li> </ul> <b>NOTE: Following a severe cyclone Stage 8 may extend to several days as clean up continues</b>

### 3. TROPICAL CYCLONE WARNING SYSTEM

Tropical Cyclone Advises are issued by the BOMs Tropical Cyclone Warning Centre and broadcast by **radio and television stations also Mackay Regional Council Emergency Dashboard**  
<http://disaster.mackay.qld.gov.au/>

Information is also available directly from BOM by:

Method	Details	Contact Details
Telephone	Cyclone Advice	1300 659 210
Internet	All Weather and Warnings	<a href="http://www.bom.gov.au">www.bom.gov.au</a>
Social Media	Twitter	<a href="https://twitter.com/BOM_Qld">https://twitter.com/BOM_Qld</a>
	Facebook	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/bureauofmeteorology">https://www.facebook.com/bureauofmeteorology</a>

### 4. TROPICAL CYCLONE FORECAST THREAT AND TRACK MAPS

The Bureau of Meteorology provides a Tropical Cyclone Forecast Threat and Track Map displaying the forecast positions of each tropical cyclone up to 24 hours and is available on BOM's web page at <http://www.bom.gov.au/cyclone/>.

### 5. TROPICAL CYCLONE CATEGORY SYSTEM

Category	Max. Wind Gust	Typical Effects
1	90 – 125km/h (48 – 67kt)	Tropical Cyclone: Negligible house damage, damage to some crops, trees, caravans and craft may drag moorings
2	125 – 164km/h (67 – 89kt)	Tropical Cyclone: Minor house damage, significant damage to signs, trees and caravans, heavy damage to some crops, risk of power failure, small craft may break moorings
3	165 – 224km/h (90 – 120kt)	Severe Tropical Cyclone: Some roof and structural damage, power failure likely
4	225 – 279km/h (121 – 150kt)	Severe Tropical Cyclone: Significant roofing loss and structural damage, blown away, dangerous airborne debris, widespread power failures
5	< 280km/h (> 151kt)	Severe Tropical Cyclone: Extremely dangerous with widespread destruction

## WIND SPEED CONVERSIONS

Km/h	Kt
10	5
20	11
30	16
40	22
50	27
60	32
70	38
80	43
90	49
100	54
110	59
120	65
130	70
140	76
150	81
160	86
170	92
180	97
190	103
200	108
210	113
220	119
230	124
240	130
250	135
260	140
270	146
280	151

kt	km/h
10	19
20	37
30	56
40	74
50	93
60	111
70	130
80	148
90	167
100	185
110	204
120	222
130	241
140	259
150	278
160	296
170	315
180	333
190	352
200	370
210	389
220	407
230	426
240	444
250	463
260	482
270	500
280	519

## 6. SEVERE WEATHER AND CYCLONE COMMITTEE

6.1 The Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee is convened at:



- Stage 2 Cyclone Warning, and/or
- As determined by BOM weather warnings for severe weather and disasters including storms, storm surges, earthquake, tsunamis, volcanic ash and tornados.

#### 6.2 Chair of the Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee in succession is:

- Head of Aviation
- Manager Aviation Operations

#### 6.3 Membership of the Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee is:

- Airport Incident Management Team:
  - Head of Aviation
  - Manager Aviation Operations
  - Manager Infrastructure, Maintenance
  - Team Leader Airside Safety
  - Terminal Operations Coordinator
  - Infrastructure Maintenance Supervisor
  - Technical Services Coordinator
- Cairns Airport remote support may include:
  - Head of Corporate Services
  - Aerodrome Operations & Emergency Manager
  - Manager ICT
  - Manager Terminals & Security
  - Corporate Affairs Manager
  - Airside Infrastructure Manager

#### 6.4 The core members of the Mackay Airport Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee comprise of:

- Mackay Airport staff
- Bureau of Meteorology (advice received via phone or email)
- Airservices Australia
  - Air Traffic Control
  - Infrastructure Support Services
- Aviation Rescue and Fire Fighting
- Swissport
- Oznorth Services
- Security Contractor
- General Aviation Representatives
- CQ Rescue
- Secure Park
- Catercare
- Revolution Electrical
- Virgin Australia Technician

#### 6.5 Note

6.5.1 The Chair of the Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee will advise any change to the operational status of the Airport to the Chief Executive Officer and Head of Corporate Services.

6.5.2 The Manager Aviation Operations (or if unavailable the Chair of the Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee) will advise any change to the operational status of the Airport to:

Mackay Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG)	
Local Disaster Coordinator	Jason Devitt / Andrew Neil
Telephone	07 4965 9007
Mobile	0418 782 870 / 0436 680 951
Email	<a href="mailto:emteam@mackay.qld.gov.au">emteam@mackay.qld.gov.au</a>
Mackay District Disaster Management Group	
Telephone	0418 391 669

6.5.3 Manager Aviation Operations (or if unavailable) the Chair of the Severe Weather and Cyclone Committee will log on to the BOM website in preparation for the meeting.