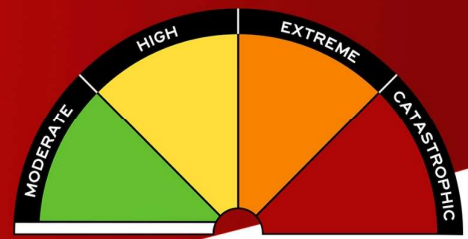


# Resort Closure on Catastrophic Days

MT BAW BAW ALPINE RESORT FACT SHEET



The Mount Baw Baw Alpine Resort has adopted a Bushfire Emergency Management Plan (EMP) that is a Sub-plan of the Southern Alpine Resorts Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP). In accordance with the Bushfire EMP, **on Catastrophic fire danger days**, as they are declared by the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in the West & South Gippsland fire weather district, **the Resort will be closed**. The Resort may also close on Extreme fire danger days. Resort Management will make that decision in consultation with Control Agencies and the Alpine Resorts Victoria CEO.

## How will I find out if a Catastrophic fire danger day has been declared?

- A Catastrophic rating day will be called no later than 1pm the day before, however can also be called a number of days in advance.
- Fire danger ratings are published on the CFA, Bureau of Meteorology and VicEmergency websites. Fire danger ratings are also available through the VicEmergency app or by calling the Victorian Bushfire Information Line (VBIL) on 1800 226 226.
- A static Fire Danger Rating sign is located at Resort entry. Resort staff update ratings and information panels daily.
- News media and community announcements will also let you know if a Catastrophic fire danger rating day has been called.
- A Resort Closure Notice will be distributed to Baw Baw Village properties, and posted around the Village, at Resort Entry and the walking trail from the Baw Baw National Park.
- Resort Management will issue a Resort Update to stakeholders and relevant agencies via email outlining closures, fire risk and any weather warnings.

## What should I do on a Catastrophic fire danger day?

- The CFA advise – for your survival, **leave bushfire risk areas**.
- On a **Catastrophic fire danger day the resort will be closed and anyone present on resort will be advised to leave**. We recommend no-one, including permanent residents, should remain at the closed Resort. People should have left the resort by 6pm the day before a Catastrophic day is declared and each person should return to your point of origin or a safe alternative off mountain location.
- Although Control Agencies (Police, DEECA, CFA, SES) and the Resort can't force you to leave, it is our position to always prioritise personal safety over asset protection, and we will strongly recommend you leave. Whilst we advise you to leave, you have control over your actions and we will not forcibly remove you if you choose to remain. Given the remote location of the resort and the possibility of regional access roads being impassable, emergency services are unlikely to be able to respond to an on-resort emergency call out in a timely manner and there will be no local support available from Resort Management.
- The *Alpine Resort (Management) Regulations 2020* set out the penalties associated with unauthorised entry to the resort during a closure, fines may be incurred.



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## What services operate at the resort on a Catastrophic fire danger day or during a planned closure?

- All Resort staff will leave the Resort the evening before a Catastrophic fire danger or planned closure day.
- No resort facilities, services or activities will be open or available.
- All event, access, works and camping permits will be cancelled.
- All accommodation and activity bookings will be cancelled. Contact Guest Services regarding rebooking and refunds.
- The Mt Baw Baw Tourist Road will be closed under VicRoads (Regional Roads Victoria) authority between Resort Entry and the Baw Baw Village. Other regional access roads may also be closed.
- It is likely that during a planned closure, utilities (power, gas and water) will become unavailable. Communication systems (mobile phones, radio and internet services) may also be inoperable during a power outage. Water will not be available during a power outage.
- The Resort does not have a Neighbourhood Safe Place and where you have no alternative place to go, staff will direct departing persons to Evacuation and Relief Centres off mountain if required.
- Resort Management and Guest Services will operate remotely during a resort closure.

## Where can I get further Information?

- The Vic Emergency App and website [www.vicemergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.vicemergency.vic.gov.au) is a valuable source of ratings, warnings, incidents and information.
- The Country Fire Authority website <https://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/total-fire-bans-fire-danger-ratings/west-and-south-gippsland-fire-district> This is the most direct source of information regarding Fire Ratings.
- Bureau of Meteorology website [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) is a valuable source of weather observations, forecasts and warnings.
- VicRoads VicTraffic website <https://traffic.vicroads.vic.gov.au/> for the latest road closure and road information.
- Resort website [www.mtbawbaw.com.au](http://www.mtbawbaw.com.au), our social media accounts or Guest Information Centre (03) 5165 1136.

## What happens after a Catastrophic fire danger period has passed?

Once a Catastrophic fire danger rating is withdrawn and it has been determined it is safe to return to the Resort - agencies and information outlets will be updated on the changed situation. Resort facilities, services and access will be re-opened.

## Bushfire Emergency Management Plan

If you have information relating to a **fire emergency, please call 000.**

The Resort's all hours Guest Services number is 0407 562 020.

It is an offence to light, kindle or maintain a fire in the open air in an alpine resort at any time of the year without a permit.

The resort's **Emergency Meeting Point** is located at the northern end of Car Park 1. In an emergency or evacuation go to this point and await instructions from the Emergency/Evacuation Coordinator.

