

# Media Release

Thursday, 9 April 2020 | Media contact: Paula Strong 0436 402 370

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## Recovery work continues on fire affected areas in East Gippsland

Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) recovery teams are continuing to assist with fencing recovery works, track clearing and hazardous tree removal as a result of the recent bushfires across East Gippsland.

FFMVic Gippsland Recovery Manager, Peter West, said: “This is a very difficult time and communities across the region have had much to deal with for months now.

“We want to reassure the community that our crews are continuing with bushfire recovery efforts, both safely out in the field and remotely, to ensure these priority programs continue.

“All our activity will continue to comply with DHHS requirements and prioritise the safety of the Victorian community as well as our staff.

“Staff have so far completed 204 successful fencing funding applications covering 475 kilometres of boundary fencing adjoining public land impacted by fires.

“Many landowners that have had fencing affected by the bushfires have still not taken up the opportunity for funding, so I encourage people to contact us so that we can undertake an assessment.

“Hazardous tree removal is also continuing with approximately 5,200 kilometres of roads and tracks having been cleared so far. Salvaged timber is being made available for firewood collection in designated areas.

“Emergency stabilisation works on around 3,120 roads and tracks have been completed in and around forest areas with around 2,000 kilometres still to be completed,” said Mr West.

For assessments related to boundary fencing impacted by fires that adjoins public land – or for any other queries - please call 136 186.

To find out about other assistance available to landowners please visit: [www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-victoria](http://www.vic.gov.au/bushfire-recovery-victoria) or call 1800 560 760.