

Australian Library and Information Association



ALIA DISASTER MANAGEMENT FOR LIBRARIES

Part Two – Disaster Plan Template 2nd edition 2019











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Heather Brown and Christine Ianna



Glossary of terms

Below are some definitions of commonly used terms in library disaster management.

Business continuity 'is the planned activity performed by an organisation to ensure that its critical business functions continue to be available. A typical business continuity plan will include:

• a list of essential business requirements

- identified risks and assessment on their impact on the business; and
- a strategy to respond to, manage and recover from an incident.'

(National Archives of Australia. Business continuity and disaster planning).

The **Command structure** is the hierarchy and chain of command that helps to clarify, organise and coordinate responsibilities, disaster response actions and the flow of communication across the organisation. It is commonly used in larger libraries.

A **Crisis Management Team** is the team of staff that is formed to manage a significant disaster event and it may have a **Crisis Management Team Leader** as its coordinator.

Digital collections are of two types. The first type comprises those that are 'born digital' and for which there is no analogue equivalent, while the second type comprises digitised or 'turned digital' materials that are copies or surrogates that have been created by converting analogue materials to digital format. (Digital Preservation Coalition).

A **Disaster Team Leader** has the prime responsibility for coordinating all stages of collections disaster management: prevention, preparation, response and recovery. During and after a disaster they lead the specialist operations of response and recovery, guiding a **Disaster Team**. There may be specialist Team Leaders for digital and physical collections. The Disaster Team Leader may report to a coordinator such as a **Crisis Management Team Leader**.

Disaster management is the broad term used to cover the overall organisation, planning and application of measures in preparing, preventing, responding to and recovering from disasters. (Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience).

Disaster Plan: a collections disaster plan provides a set of procedures and protocols 'to be followed by an organisation to prevent or minimise the risk of a disaster occurring, and to describe actions to be taken should a disaster occur.' Usually a collections disaster plan covers all the above sub stages of prevention, preparation, response and recovery. A collections disaster plan can also variously be referred to by other similar terms such as a Disaster Preparedness Plan or a Counter Disaster Plan. (National Library of Australia, Library Preservation Glossary).

Disaster preparedness describes the steps taken in advance to prepare for a disaster and involves developing the disaster plan, identifying key personnel and supplies, and training which builds resilience. (Heritage Collections Council. Be Prepared).

Disaster prevention: this usually involves assessment of risks and developing strategies to reduce the likelihood or consequence of disasters affecting collections. (Heritage Collections Council. Be Prepared).

Disaster response: this stage happens during a disaster event and involves steps to minimise the consequences - such as protecting or moving collections. (Heritage Collections Council. Be Prepared).

Disaster recovery: this stage involves steps taken to minimise the disruption and return services to as near as 'normal' as possible. (Heritage Collections Council. Be Prepared).

The **Disaster Team** is a core group of people who can respond to a disaster, each person with one or more defined roles. Organisations with an integrated disaster plan may need two specialist Disaster Teams for digital and physical collections.

An **integrated disaster plan** is a collections disaster plan that covers both digital and physical collections in a framework that explicitly interconnects disaster management across the physical and digital domains. (Brown).

Master files/copies (sometimes referred to as preservation master files or archival master files) are 'copies created to high capture standards and... could take the place of the original record if the original was destroyed, damaged, or not retained. ... masters generally do not undergo significant processing or editing.' 'Both physical format and digital preservation masters are managed and maintained in a secure storage environment and are retained over the long term.' (National Archives of Australia).

Physical collections include paper-based analogue items such as books, journals and newspapers, manuscripts, diaries, maps, posters and plans, as well as photographs, microforms, audio visual materials and physical carriers of digital materials such as compact disks (CDs). (Adcock).

Resilience is 'the ability of individuals, communities or countries to anticipate, withstand and recover from adversity – be it a natural disaster or crisis.' (Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience). Resilience is supported by disaster preparedness and especially through training.

Risk assessment in the context of disasters is 'a qualitative or quantitative approach to determine the nature and extent of disaster risk by analysing potential hazards and evaluating existing conditions of exposure and vulnerability that together could harm people, property, services, livelihoods and the environment on which they depend.' (Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience).

Risk management is 'the systematic application of management policies, procedures and practices to the tasks of identifying, analysing, evaluating, treating and monitoring risk.' (Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience).

Surrogate copies are reproductions of the information content of an original item in another medium, usually one which is more durable.

Vital records are 'those records that are essential for the ongoing business of an agency, and without which the agency could not continue to function effectively.' (New South Wales State Archives and Records. Glossary of Recordkeeping Terms).

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List of figures, checklists, charts & tables

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List of icons





Preparation



Respond







Emergency

ALIA Disaster Management for Libraries

Part Two — Disaster Plan Template

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This **Disaster Plan Template** has been flexibly designed for your library or cultural institution to develop its own collections Disaster Plan. It is to be used in conjunction with Part one the **Guide** which provides an overview and context for the Disaster Plan. The template is based on a medium to large sized library but can be tailored to meet the needs of smaller libraries, or other collecting organisations. A list of disaster training **Scenarios** is provided on the ALIA website.

1.2 Integrated approach

The **Disaster Plan Template** has been designed to provide the option of a 'one stop shop' approach to managing disasters across all the formats that are held in 21st century libraries. It integrates and aligns the disaster management of all collections - physical and digital. However, it has also been designed flexibly so that you can readily expand, trim or 'deconstruct' it to focus separately on digital or physical formats according to the needs and preferences of your library.

2. Writing your plan

As discussed in Part one, the disaster management of library collections involves planning, assessing and reducing risks and establishing strategies to respond and recover.

The four key stages of disaster management: Prevention, Preparation, Response and Recovery are represented in the *Guide*, Figure 1 which is replicated below for ease of reference.



Figure 1: Disaster management - key stages

2.1 How to go about it

To assist in writing your plan we have developed a number of checklists and tables.

Checklist 1 below underpins the whole plan. Go through it slowly and systematically, breaking it into smaller stages or steps.

Checklist 1: The Foundation

	Preparation	Yes \checkmark or No \times	
1	Read the ALIA Disaster Planning for Libraries Part One - Guide for an overview and context		
2	Source and review any existing plans in your organisation		
3	3 Discuss the scope of the plan with colleagues and decide whether it will cover both physical and digital collections		
4 ≻	Look at Table 6: Generic contents list for an integrated disaster plan		
	Gather information to inform the plan		
5	Collect any available information on incidents or disasters that may have impacted on your physical and digital collections in the past. This information is important for incorporating known risks and responses into your plan		
6	6 Check section 6.1 in the <i>Guide</i> for examples of risks and ways of mitigating them		
7 >	7 > See the Guide Table 3 Example of basic collection risk framework		
8	Collate or prepare detailed site and floor plans for on and off site storage areas and identify key fire fighting resources, locations of utility cut-off points, including mains water tap, gas & electrical cut-off switches, control points for air conditioning etc.		

Checklist continued next page

Checklist continued from previous page

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9 >	See the Guide Table 5 Useful features of site plans, infrastructure and access	
10	Identify your key emergency contacts in the library, parent organisation and outside contacts and identify who has access and necessary keys and codes	
11 >	See Table 7 Library Emergency Contacts	
12	Review the Guide section 3 Linking with and understanding the wider context to develop your checklist of relevant documents and organisations that need to be referenced in your plan	
13	Use the Guide section 5 Collection Priorities . Discuss collection management arrangements and priorities with key staff	
14 >	See Guide Table 2 Salvage priorities examples	
15 >	See also Table 10 Salvage Priority list Example	
16	Identify backups , surrogates and 'master copies' and their locations for physical and digital collections	
17 >	See Table 11 Mapping backups, surrogates and master copies	
18	Consider and confirm immediate actions to be undertaken	
19 >	See Chart A Emergency Immediate Actions	
20	Clarify and develop a Command Structure if needed	
21 >	See Chart B Example of a Command Structure chart for a large library	
	Bringing it all together	Yes \checkmark or No \times
22	Create a Contents list for your plan by modifying the Checklist 1: Generic contents list for an integrated disaster plan	
23	Identify Disaster Team Leaders, members of the Disaster Teams (and a Coordinator such as a Crisis Team Leader, if needed)	
24 >	See Guide section 6.2.6 and Table 9 Examples of Disaster Team roles	
25	Start building up your library's list of emergency equipment	
26 >	Check Table 12 List of Emergency equipment and supplies	
27	Complete the sections of the Disaster Plan Template in stages, adding what you have already gathered, and using the examples from the <i>Template</i> , adapting them to your library's needs and cutting and pasting them into your plan	
28	Review your plan against features in the Guide, Table 4 , Useful features of a Disaster Plan	
29	Create your own 'what if' scenarios to test how the plan would work in practice and refine the plan. Refer to the disaster training Scenarios on the ALIA website	
30	Start training your staff especially Disaster Team Leaders and Disaster Teams	
	Endorsement	Yes √ or No ×
31	Discuss the draft plan with key colleagues and senior managers	
32	Get the plan endorsed by senior managers and referenced in your organisation's risk management and business continuity plans	
	Revise and update	Yes \checkmark or No \times
33	Revise and update your plan at least once a year or when loans, refurbishment or significant repairs are underway, and after a disaster incident.	



Preparation - Contents List

When you have worked your way through Checklist 1 you will have a large part of your plan completed. You can use the information that you have collated in completing Checklist 1 to populate your Disaster Plan, using the Contents list provided in the table below.

3.1 Contents list

The Contents list below provides generic list of contents for an integrated Disaster Plan covering physical and digital collections. This model list was developed as part of a research project (Brown, 2018) and adapted from the State Library of Queensland's *Counter Disaster Planning Template* (2016). This contents list can be flexibly tailored and/or trimmed to the needs of your own organisation.

Торіс	Scope (of an integrated plan)	
Title page		
Document Circulation	Register of copies (physical & digital locations)	
	Include ICT/digital stakeholders	
Related Documents	Emergency procedures that focus on safety of people	
	Business Continuity Plan	
	Risk Management Plan	
	Information Communications Technology (ICT) Plan and related ICT documentation	
	Records Management Plan	
Document Control	Version date	
Endorsement	Endorsement from senior manager	
Emergency Immediate Actions Chart	Near front for immediate access	

Table 6: Generic contents list for an integrated disaster plan

	Contents		
1	Executive Summary	Integrated - covers digital and physical	
2	Introduction	Integrated - covers digital and physical	
3	Scope	Integrated - covers digital and physical	
4	Key plans and charts:	Site and floor plans including offsite locations	
	Site plans, Command Structure,	Command Structure	
	Emergency contacts etc.	Emergency Immediate Actions Chart (repeated as required)	
		Emergency contacts (Library, parent and broader)	
		Business Continuity Plan	
A		Authorisations and Access (physical and digital)	
		Disaster scale impact - physical and digital	
5	Prevention	Brief introduction to scope e.g. covers digital and physical	
	5.1 Risk Assessment	Covers digital and physical	

Table continued next page

5.2 Risk Monitoring Covers digital and physical and prioritised risks across all collections		d prioritised risks across all				
		5.2.1	Salvage priority list physical coll	ections and items		
		5.2.2	Salvage priority list digital resou	Salvage priority list digital resources		
		5.2.3	List of surrogate backups and master copies			
6	V → Prepara	lion	Brief integrated introduction – e.g. covers digital and physicc			
	6.1 Currency		Digital	Physical		
	6.2 Emergency E	quipment	Internal - digital	Internal - physical		
	and supplies		External - digital	External - physical		
	6.3 Personnel		Digital Disaster Team Leader and specialist Digital Disaster Team	Physical Disaster Team Leader and specialist Physical Disaster Team		
			Examples of Disaster Team roles	Examples of Disaster Team roles		
	6.4 Training		Digital Disaster Team Leader and specialist Digital Disaster Team	Physical Disaster Team Leader and specialist Physical Disaster Team		
7	Respond	ł	Brief introduction – e.g. covers o	digital and physical		
	7.1 Immediate R	esponse	Based on risk, scale, type of disaster and materials			
			Digital	Physical		
	7.2 Salvage		Digital – data recovery	Physical retrieval, sorting and salvage		
	7.3 Records		Disaster incident record			
	7.0 Records		Collection salvage and movement record			
			Collection salvage and movem	Brief introduction – e.g. covers digital and physical		
8		у		digital and physical		
8		у		digital and physical Physical Recovery		
8		у	Brief introduction – e.g. covers o	Physical Recovery		
	Recover	, 	Brief introduction – e.g. covers of Digital Recovery	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical		
9	References	, 	Brief introduction – e.g. covers Digital Recovery Resources referred to in plan e. Useful additional resources for comparison of the second se	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical disaster management		
9 10	References Additional resource	, 	Brief introduction – e.g. covers Digital Recovery Resources referred to in plan e. Useful additional resources for a information/contacts Contents of specialised attached	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical disaster management ments relating to digital and		
9 10	References Additional resource	, 	Brief introduction – e.g. covers Digital Recovery Resources referred to in plan e. Useful additional resources for a information/contacts Contents of specialised attache physical collections e.g.	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical disaster management ments relating to digital and (repeated if needed)		
9 10	References Additional resour	rces	Brief introduction – e.g. covers Digital Recovery Resources referred to in plan e. Useful additional resources for a information/contacts Contents of specialised attacht physical collections e.g. Emergency immediate actions	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical disaster management ments relating to digital and (repeated if needed) ment		
9 10	References Additional resource	rces	Brief introduction – e.g. covers Digital Recovery Resources referred to in plan e. Useful additional resources for a information/contacts Contents of specialised attache physical collections e.g. Emergency immediate actions Emergency supplies and equip Retrieval, sorting and salvage p	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical disaster management ments relating to digital and (repeated if needed) ment procedures for physical		
9 10	References Additional resour	rces	Brief introduction – e.g. covers Digital Recovery Resources referred to in plan e. Useful additional resources for a information/contacts Contents of specialised attaching physical collections e.g. Emergency immediate actions Emergency supplies and equip Retrieval, sorting and salvage procedures for a collections Salvage/recovery procedures for a contents	Physical Recovery g. digital and physical disaster management ments relating to digital and (repeated if needed) ment procedures for physical		



Preparation - plan documentation

An essential step in developing your Disaster Plan is collecting existing documentation as described in the **Guide section 6.2**.

Additional information about a number of features is provided below. You can adapt this information, including the tables and charts, to populate your Disaster Plan.

4.1 Emergency contacts

An easy to locate up to date list of emergency contacts is essential.

Below is a table of common contacts at the library level, parent organisation level and external providers which you can adapt for your Disaster Plan. Remember it is critical that personal details of individuals are kept confidential.

Table 7: Library emergency contacts

Library emergency contacts (Confidential)		
Role	Name	Phones Work business hours BH Mobile Landline Home after hours AH Mobile Landline
Security (may be parent organisation)		
Disaster Team Leader Physical collections		
Disaster Team Leader Digital collections		
Disaster Team members Physical collections	1	
	2 etc.	
Disaster Team members Digital collections	1	
	2 etc.	
Facilities Manager (may be parent organisation)		
Media and Communications (may be parent organisation)		
Crisis Management Team Leader		
Crisis Management Team	etc.	
CEO/Director		

Parent organisation e.g. Council emergency contacts (Confidential)

		Phones
Role	Name	Work business hours BH Home after hours AH
Security		
Facilities Manager		
Media and Communications		
Other		

Broader contacts		
Emergency Services		
Role	Name	Phones
Fire		
Police		
Ambulance		
Other		

External contactors/ suppliers/vendors *

* Begin by consulting with other libraries or organisations in your networks for their suggestions about useful local contractors, suppliers and vendors

Role	Details	Phones
Commercial disaster recovery providers	e.g. freeze drying services	
ICT commercial services	Assisting with: backups, external storage (e.g. cloud)	
and vendors	catalogue and digital resources)	
	ICT forensic and data recovery services	
Photographic and micrographic laboratories	Assisting with: rewashing and drying of films	
Cleaning	Wet and dry vacuums	
Drying	Dehumidifiers hire	
Drying	Industrial fans hire	
Freezing facilities	Freezer facilities hire	
	Generators hire	
Power	Uninterruptable Power Supply UPS hire	
	Pallet hire	
Moving and stacking	Pallet movers hire	
	Trolleys hire	
Transport companies	Assisting with: Secure, climate controlled transport of physical items requiring further treatment	
Water removal	Pump	
	Moisture meter	
Other	Ladders hire	
	Scaffold hire etc.	

/////

4.2 Authorisations

It is helpful to document who has access to areas, access codes and keys, and who has authorisation to turn off utility cut-off points and equipment, who can undertake controlled shut down of the server, access ICT remotely etc. Discuss this with your colleagues – especially the Crisis Management Team Leader, Disaster Team Leaders and the Facilities Manager. Below is a table which you can adapt for your Disaster Plan.

Table 8: Authorisations and Access

Role	Approved Access role and contact no.	Authorisation and conditions
Fire equipment/fire panel	Fire Service XXX	Access to whole building – notify Chief Fire warden
Police	Police XXX	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Ambulance	Ambulance XXX	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Water cut-off points, leaks	Plumber - contractor call 12345675	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Electricity cut-off points	Electrician - contractor call 12345676	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Gas cut-off points	Gas - contractor call 12345677	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Air conditioning	Air conditioning - contractor call 12345678	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Building/facilities maintenance	Building/facilities maintenance contractor - contractor call 12345679	Access to whole building – notify Facilities Manager
Keys Collection storage, rare books, local history, offsite storage, display cases, server room	 Security Emergency services Facilities Manager Disaster Team Leaders – physical and digital Crisis Management Team To call - see Emergency contacts list 	Access to keys and whole building Access documented
Controlled access areas onsite and offsite storage Digital access e.g. controlled shut down of server, remote access, access to backups including cloud, external services	 Security Facilities Manager Disaster teams - digital and physical Crisis Management team To call - see Emergency contacts list Disaster Team Leader - digital Disaster team - digital To Call - see Emergency contacts list 	Access to controlled access areas onsite and offsite storage Access documented Access documented

4.3 Emergency Immediate Actions

For Emergency Immediate Actions steps are described in the Guide section 6.3.1. Below is an example of a chart that you can adapt and incorporate in your plan and distribute around the library.



Chart A: Emergency immediate actions chart (Adapted with permission from Artlab Australia)

5. Preparation - Personnel: Command structure, Disaster Team Leaders, Disaster Teams

5.1 Command structure

Command structures are more common in larger libraries. The Guide describes their role in helping to co-ordinate responsibilities, response actions and the flow of communication. (section 6.2.5).

If a Command structure is useful for your library, you can adapt the chart below which includes options for digital and physical disaster teams.



Chart B: Example of a Command Structure chart for a large library

5.2 Disaster Team Leaders and Disaster Teams

You will need to appoint and train suitable Disaster Team Leaders and Disaster Teams. You may need separate specialist roles and teams for physical and digital collections – as appropriate for your library and the scope of your Disaster Plan.

These roles are broadly described in the Guide section 6.2.6.

The contact details of these staff members will be included in the Emergency Contacts list.

5.2.1 Disaster Team Roles

The Disaster Team members will have specific roles. It is important that the members are prepared to assist, and are physically and mentally able to undertake the roles required. They also need to be familiar with the roles they may be required to carry out. The need for regular training is discussed in the **Guide section 6.2.10**.

The Disaster Team roles and responsibilities can depend upon how many people are available in your organisation. In smaller organisations, individuals may have multiple responsibilities. Below in **Table 9** are some typical Disaster Team roles. Remember to include backup roles as you prepare your team. You can include details of these roles in your Plan under Personnel.

Table 9: Examples of Disaster Team roles

Role title	Description	P = Ph	embers hysical Digital
	Leads and guides the whole operation of response and recovery.	Р	D
Disaster Team Leader (physical and digital)	There may be separate roles for a Physical and Digital Team Leader.		
	May report to a leader e.g. Crisis Management Team Leader		
Salvage staff - digital and physical	Undertake salvage e.g. recovery of water damaged physical collection items or access and reinstall backup copies of digital collections	Ρ	D
Record keeper(s) - digital and physical	Record keepers document damage to physical and digital collections including taking photographs. They record major decisions as well as movement of collections	Ρ	D
Finance officer	Authorises purchase of supplies and equipment	Coverir	ng P & D
Broadcast/mass media coordinator	May require two separate roles depending on scale of disaster and staff skill sets	Coverir	ng P & D
	Liaises with the broadcast/mass media		
Social media coordinator	Keeps the social media up to date	Coverir	ng P & D
	Equipment and supplies		
Logistics	Transport, accommodation	Coverir	ng P & D
	Food and beverages		
	Additional human resources – staff and volunteers		
Health safety and	Ensure that disaster responders remain physically safe and mentally positive, through encouragement and acknowledgement.	Coverir	ng P & D
well being	Monitor risk of hazards such as manual handling, dirt and mould. Ensure rest breaks are taken and arrange for health and safety issues to be addressed in debriefing.	Coveni	



6.1 Salvage priority list(s)

As described in **section 5** of the **Guide**, before a disaster occurs, it is important to identify the high priorities to compile a **Salvage Priority List**. The priorities will be significant collections, as well as the tools that provide access to these collections. Many libraries list collections at 'category' level (e.g. the rare books collection) rather than recording individual items.

Use **Table 10** below to create one or more tailored salvage priority lists for your library. You can then add your lists to your Disaster Plan.

Table 10: Salvage Priority List example

		Salvage priority lis	st	
Priority	Physical format	Digital format	Location - physical	Location - digital
Local history collection	Books, paper	Photographs – digital	Ground floor local history room	Stored on server in basement
	Maps	Maps – digital		
	Photographs – analogue	Archived web pages		
	Microforms	Film/video – digital		
	AV (films, videos, analogue sound recordings)	Sound – digital		
	Memorabilia, realia			
Rare books collection	Books, journals paper-based items		Ground floor local history room	
In-house indexes, local databases and finding aids		Digital		Stored on server in basement
Library catalogue		Digital		Stored on server in basement

6.2 Surrogate copies, backups and locations

As highlighted in the **Guide**, a Disaster Plan provides an opportunity to centrally 'map' storage locations, surrogate copies, higher quality 'master copies' and backup arrangements. This can be particularly useful for a large library that has many formats and versions of surrogate copies.

You can adapt the list in **Table 11** below to map your library's collection backups, surrogates and master copies, as appropriate and add it to your plan.

	Bac	kups, surrogate	s and master c	opies	
Priority	Location of original	Surrogate type A – master or highest quality copy	Surrogate type B – lower quality copy	Location of surrogates	Location of backups
Local history photographs	Ground floor local history room	Digitised uncompressed	Digitised compressed (access copy)	All digital surrogate types A & B are stored on server in basement	All digital surrogate types A & B are backed up in cloud storage commercial provider X
Local history newspapers (hard copy)	Ground floor local history room	Master microfilm	Duplicate master stored onsite	Basement on site	Masters stored at offsite cold store
Oral history interviews	Server Basement	Digitised uncompressed	Digitised compressed (access copy)	All digital surrogate types A & B are stored on server in basement	All digital surrogate types A & B are backed up in cloud storage commercial provider X
In-house indexes, local databases and finding aids	Server Basement	Not applicable NA	NA	NA	Cloud storage commercial provider X
Library catalogue	Server Basement	NA	NA	All digital surrogate types A & B are stored on server in basement	Cloud storage commercial provider Y

6.3 Prioritising collections by type of damage and format

As noted in the **Guide**, prioritising disaster response and recovery is complex and dynamic and will be influenced by the scale of disaster, type of damage (e.g. fire, mould) and format type. Different formats have different 'lead in' times in which you can successfully salvage.

There are a number of useful resources that will help in both prioritising and in undertaking the salvage.

These include the following:

- American Institute for Conservation. (AIC). (2012). Emergency Response and Salvage Wheel.
- Heritage Collections Council. (2000). Be prepared: guidelines for small museums for writing a disaster preparedness plan. Attachment 4.
- Powerhouse Museum Conservation Department. (2017). All is not lost: the collection recovery book.
- State Library of Queensland. (SLQ). (2016). Counter disaster planning template. Attachment 16.
- University of Melbourne. (2018), reCollections; caring for collections across Australia. (includes freezing, drying and salvage techniques for different types of materials).

You can incorporate these in your Disaster Plan - for example in the Attachments.

Full details of these resources are provided in the References.

Preparation - Emergency equipment and supplies

As the **Guide** discusses, a key part of preparation is having on hand equipment and supplies to assist your organisation to respond quickly and effectively to minimise the damage caused by smaller scale disasters.

The emergency supplies can be as basic or complex as your organisation can afford and accommodate.

Larger organisations may have several disaster kits or 'wheelie' bins located throughout the building and at offsite locations. This reduces the need to move kits from floor to floor and across locations, and minimises critical response times. Your risk assessment and discussions with colleagues will help you decide about the best kind of kit for your library, what should go into it, how many are needed and where they should be located.

Ensure that:

- the location of disaster kits and emergency supplies are recorded on your site plans
- disaster kits are checked and replenished following a disaster and annually in conjunction with the update of your Disaster Plan.

The following list of supplies and equipment is a guide only. Suggestions for priority items are in red. You can add quantities to the column on the right hand side. Tailor it to your own library's needs and add your list to the Attachments in your Disaster Plan.

Table 12: List of emergency equipment and supplies

	Emergency equipment and supplies	
	Suggestions for priority items are in red	
Category	Equipment/ Supplies	How many
	Mobile phones, chargers	
Communication	See Stationery - Radio	
	Tarpaulin	
Coverings – exterior	Builder's film	
e.g. roof	Polythene sheeting	
	Polythene/plastic sheeting	
Covering collections	Packing tape	
	Cloths and towels	
	Paper towels	
	Brooms, dustpans	
Cleaning materials a	Buckets	
Cleaning materials & equipment	Mops	
	Bin liners	
	Rubbish bins	
Disaster kit/bin	Large tub or bin to store disaster supplies	
	Cloths	
	Cotton towels	
	Paper towels	
	Stacks of blotting paper	
	Butcher's paper	
	Pegs	
Drying, interleaving and cleaning materials	Clothes line	
	String	
	Nylon net (for padding out three-dimensional objects)	
	Spun polyester (e.g. Remay®) for separating and carrying fragile objects	
	Weights	
	Pedestal fans	

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Environmental monitoring equipment	Especially equipment for monitoring relative humidity (RH)	
	UPS	
ICT auto art	External drives (temporary)	
ICT support		
	Self-adhesive labels	
	Paper	
	Waterproof pens and pencils	
	Scissors & Tape	
	Camera	
Stationery and documentation	Emergency tape	
equipment	Writing pads	
	Zip lock bags	
	Clipboards	
	Tags	
	Portable tables	
	Extension leads	
	Torch	
	Spare batteries	
	Miner's lamp	
Mobile work space	Basic tool kit – screwdrivers, hammer, spanners, pliers, nails and screws	
	Craft knife	
	Polythene sheets	
	Plastic crates	
	Freezer bags	
Storege & transmost	Archive boxes	
Storage & transport	Trolleys and sack trucks	

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	Bottled water	
	Energy bars	
Survival kit	First aid kit	
	Whistles	
	Safety goggles	
	Dust masks and filters	
	Disposable gloves	
	Leather / other robust protective gloves	
Work health and safety	Protection suits	
	Rubber boots	
	Hand sanitiser	
	Floodsax®	
	Sandbags	
Other	Wet and dry vacuums	
	Vacuum micro attachments	
	Additional pedestal fans	



8.1 Salvage procedures

Section 6.3 above provides information about resources that can take you through a range of procedures for salvaging and freezing different types of collection materials which are largely physical.

You can incorporate these into your Disaster plan as Attachments. It is recommended that you also seek the advice of a conservator who can discuss the techniques with your staff and can also assist with training your Disaster Team.

An integrated Disaster Plan will include salvage and recovery procedures for digital collections. Your ICT staff can document these so they can also be added as Attachments.

Salvaging collections also requires record keeping and this is discussed in **section 9** below.

8.2 Scale of disaster – impact on responses

As described in the **Guide**, the scale of disaster can vary from a small leak to a major loss of data and impacts on the type of disaster response. Some libraries find it useful to distinguish between the impact and types of responses required in their Disaster Plan. **Table 13** below provides information on how the scale of disaster might impact on physical and digital collections in a medium to large library and can be adapted to your own situation, as appropriate.

 Table 13: Scale of Disaster impacting on responses in physical and digital collections – adapted by State Library of Queensland (draft internal document) from

 Colorado State University Libraries Disaster Plan

1

Staff / Services External Involvement/ Example	ResolutionMater spillDisaster RecoveryNoTeam LeaderWater spillPhysicalMinimal number of staff required lessthan 4hrs to rectify	Disaster TeamPossibleSmall power issue e.g.Leader DigitalSupplierscable pulledStaff specialists with skillset to fix the issueService failure that may require a restart (e.g.	Disaster Team Leader PhysicalYesSmall mould outbreakLeader Physical Requires response/Department DepartmentSmall mould outbreakrecovery by 1-3 physical disaster team membersUp to 1 week to remediate collectionImport to the second	Disaster TeamPossibleServer failureLeader DigitalSuppliersServer environmentalDigital Disaster TeamSuppliersServer environmentalwith specialist skillsetsspecified parametersno fix the issueform the issueadown services to protectCritical servicesserversservers
Interruption to library operations	īc	Minimal, usually affecting a small areas or use of a service.	Minimal, isolation of affected area/ collection may be in place for less than 1 day	Minimal services affected Or Limited number of people affected
Collections (Physical &/or Diaital) affected	Physical: Incidental damage only to only few items	Digital: interruption to non- critical service or critical services for short time (<2hrs)	Physical: Up to 100 items	Digitat: Interruption to non- critical service or critical services for short time requiring an interim solution Failure of non-critical hardware that only
Event type	Event is a minor unforeseen situation calling for immediate action		Event limited to a situation affecting an isolated area of the collections or digital services for a short period	
SCALE	INCIDENT		SMALL DISASTER	
	LEVEL 1		LEVEL 2	

	Accidental water sprinkler activation requires moving materials out of the immediate area and closure of stack areas for mop-up	Loss of power supplying critical service e.g. Storage Area Network, or servers Unsuccessful generator test resulting in UPS shutdown Core hardware failure Air conditioning failure
Example	Accidental water sprinkler activation requires moving mate out of the immediate area and closure of st areas for mop-up	Loss of power supplying critical service e.g. Storage Area Network, or servers Unsuccessful generatol test resulting in UPS shutdown Core hardware failure Air conditioning failure
External Involvement	Yes Department	Yes Department Suppliers
Staff / Services Involvement/ Resolution	Disaster Team Leader Physical Requires response/ recovery by up to 10 Physical Disaster team members	Disaster Team Leader Digital & Digital Disaster Team members Critical services affected may take more than 2hrs to restore, or longer as required Digital Disaster Team with specialist skillsets to fix the issue
Interruption to library operations	Interrupted services or operations are resumed within 5 working days with zone closure likely	Sudden power loss affecting ICT services with expected return of service greater than 1 hr Critical environmental parameters exceeded with expected restoration of environmental parameters greater than 10 minutes Failure of core/ essential hardware
Collections (Physical &/or Digital) affected	Physical: Up to 500 items	Digital: Potential for loss of digital data
Event type	Event limited to situation affecting whole floor or portion of floor of collections or digital services for a short period	
SCALE	MEDIUM DISASTER	
	LEVEL 3	

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	SCALE	Event type	Collections (Physical &/or Digital) affected	Interruption to library operations	Staff / Services Involvement/ Resolution	External Involvement	Example
LEVEL 4	MAJOR/ LARGE SCALE or WIDE- AREA DISASTER	Wide-area disaster involving the entire institution and/ or across multiple locations there is a sudden loss of power to server room with unknown restoration time	Physical: Major portion of collections in repositories damaged/ impacted Digital: Major loss of digital data	Situation lasts over 48 hrs Collections requiring extensive salvage and may not be accessible for more than 40 working days Major data loss Loss of critical ICT infrastructure	Disaster Team Leader Physical Facilities Manager Requires response/ recovery by more than 10 Physical Disaster Team members Disaster Team Leader Digital Disaster Team Leader Digital Disaster Team vith specialist skillsets to fix the issue	Yes Crisis Management Team & Team Leader Director CEO & Minister Department Yes Crisis Management Leader Leader Leader Director CEO & Minister Director CEO & Minister Department	Extensive building damage and infrastructure damage e.g. cyclone Extensive building And infrastructure damage e.g. cyclone Extensive damage to infrastructure or loss of server room (e.g. catastrophic failure of hardware)



In the initial phases of an event, the situation will be changing rapidly. A simple form can be used to keep track of what happens as the disaster situation is unfolding and will provide an invaluable record of the event.

Additionally as the event passes, it is important to document what has occurred, the damage to facilities and collections etc. This is particularly relevant if insurance will be claimed. Some insurers require their assessors be onsite for the initial assessment before you may receive approval for repairs to occur. Photographic and video evidence may be used to facilitate approvals. This should be clarified with the insurers beforehand, as part of the preparation stage.

Below is a table of a disaster Incident record.

Table 14: Disaster incident record (Adapted from ALIA Disaster Planning for Libraries, 2010, p. 20 and StateLibrary of Queensland Counter Disaster Planning Template. Incident report form, 2016).

Date and time of incident			
Location of incident			
Name of person reporting incident			
Contact details			
Disaster Team Leader advice	Type of disaster:		
	 Air-conditioning failure Chemical spills Fire/smoke Insects/rodents Pollutants Power failure Vandalism Water Other: please specify 		
Summary of damage to collections	Physical Digital		
Damage to facilities/infrastructure			
Brief description of incident			
Emergency Services advice			
Disaster Team Leader advice	Priorities & Actions		
Communications	Priorities & Actions		

An example of a more specific record of collection salvage actions and movement is provided below.

Table 15: Collection salvage and movement record

Collection category or item(s)	Number	Damage	Salvage action	Location
Maps collection	M 1-232	Wet on surface	Air dry	Library Office
Local history books bottom shelf (50)	994	Waterlogged	Freeze	Freezer truck
Microfilm masters	Mf 1033	Wet	Rewash	Sent to commercial processor
Photographs	P 10150	Wet on surface	Rinse and air dry	Library Office

You can modify these tables to suit your own library and include them in your Disaster Plan in the section on Response.

10. A final step

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If you have worked your way through the Guide and Template, you should now have most of your Disaster Plan completed.

As a final step, return to Checklist 1 and review the last steps of training, 'what if' scenarios, and the stages of Endorsement and Revision.

Your library should now be better equipped to safeguard its collections in the event of a disaster.

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Additional Australian Resources

Australian Institute for the Conservation for Cultural Material (AICCM)

AICCM provides a range of disaster management resources covering disaster planning, response, fire flood and mould as well as links to help you find a conservator. https://aiccm.org.au/disaster

Australian War Memorial

Useful conservation fact sheets on water and fire damage. https://www.awm.gov.au/about/our-work/projects/conservation

Blue Shield Australia (BSA)

Blue Shield Australia is a national committee of Blue Shield International, one of a network of committees who are committed to the protection of cultural heritage, tangible and intangible, in the event of armed conflict or natural- or human-made disasters. BSA runs an annual May Day program promoting disaster preparedness. blueshieldaustralia.org.au

DISACT

Example of a partnership between cultural institutions for the protection of public collections in the ACT region – sample Memorandum of Understanding for collaborative working. www.anbg.gov.au/disact/

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National Archives of Australia

Resources on business continuity and disaster management including a disaster preparedness manual and guides on recovering fire and flood damaged records.

http://www.naa.gov.au/information-management/managing-information-and-records/protecting/businesscontinuity/index.aspx

National Library of Australia

Example of a collection disaster plan. https://www.nla.gov.au/policy-and-planning/collection-disaster-plan

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Information on how to salvage water-damaged and soiled records, torn or fragmented records and heat-affected or charred records. https://www.forgov.qld.gov.au/recover-and-salvage-your-records-after-disaster

Q-Dis Queensland Disaster Information Network

An online Facebook forum for sharing information on disaster preparedness and planning for Galleries, Libraries, Archives, Museums, Records, Heritage and Keeping Places in Queensland. https://www.facebook.com/QDisForum/

State Library of New South Wales

Resources in drying a wet book and smoke and odour removal. https://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/research-and-collections-building-our-collections-caring-librarys-collections/ collection-care

State Library of Queensland

Provides a range of resources on salvaging damaged collections. https://www.slq.qld.gov.au/how-do-i/preserve-my-collection/salvaging-damaged-collections

State Library of Victoria

Conservation guides include dealing with mould and pests. https://www.slv.vic.gov.au/help/conservation-guides

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alia.org.au/information-and-resources/disaster-planning blueshieldaustralia.org.au/