

# BULLS CIVIL DEFENCE

## COMMUNITY RESPONSE PLAN

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES TOGETHER - 2025



The Bulls Community Response Group was organised by the Rangitikei District Council.

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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This Plan has been prepared to provide a Civil Defence Community Response Plan for the Bulls Community in the event that the community is required to respond to any civil defence emergency or take action in advance of any civil defence emergency to prevent potentially devastating effects,

**When an emergency occurs, this Plan will be activated** by the community in response to the event. Other agencies will respond to the event by activating their own plans and coordinating their activities with other agencies to manage the impact on the community.

This Plan has been prepared with the aim of providing an effective, planned civil defence emergency response that links the community and the civil defence organisations in Rangitikei.

In preparation of surviving a civil defence emergency the community should undertake to be personally prepared with survival kits of water, food, lighting, heating, radios, spare batteries and medical supplies (visit [www.getthru.govt.nz](http://www.getthru.govt.nz) for more detail on survival information).

## 2. PLAN PURPOSE

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The purpose of this Plan is to identify hazards that may impact on the Bulls Community, and to provide a plan whereby the community within is able to respond and remain self reliant for at least three days without any outside assistance if an emergency occurs.



## 4. GEOGRAPHICAL MAP

For the purpose of this Plan, the geographic area of coverage for the Bulls.



## 5. SIGNIFICANT THREATS TO BULLS

Hazards which pose a significant threat to the Bulls Community may include:

- Flooding
- Cyclones
- Earthquake
- Influenza pandemic
- CBRE – SH1/rail – Chemical Biological Radiology Explosive

## 6. ALERT AND WARNING SYSTEMS

The Rangitikei District Council is a member of the Horizons Regional Council Civil Defence Emergency Management Group and receives warning of adverse natural events from Central Government, the Meteorological Service, the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences and from other agencies.

Warning systems in place for Bulls are as follows:

### National Warnings:

These will be received by Council and Police/Fire/Ambulance Communication Centres and disseminated to regional and local emergency responders. National Warnings come from the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and from different agencies who are contracted by NEMA, For example:

- The Metservice issues severe weather warnings and watches for storms, cyclones, snow, thunderstorms and wind
- The Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences provide earthquake and volcanic bulletins
- The Ministry of Health and District Health boards provide public health warnings
- MAF disseminate alerts and warnings for animal disease outbreaks
- The National Emergency Management Agency provide tsunami warnings and advisories

### Natural Warnings:

For some natural events there are no pre-warnings, for example an earthquake. But an earthquake can be a natural sign that an eruption may follow. This natural warning should be heeded by the public.

### Local Warnings:

All television and radio networks will provide public information. Public should listen to the radio, refer to the back of the phone book and follow instructions.



## 7. EMERGENCY RESPONSE GUIDELINES

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Incidents of emergencies are categorised into five levels reflecting the intensity of scope of the event that has occurred.

The broad headings of the levels of response are:

1. Local incident, declaration not required, emergency is dealt with by the Emergency Services
2. Local incident, declaration not required, but some external support is necessary.
3. Imminent state of local emergency is being considered and is of local significance
4. Imminent state of local emergency that is regionally significant
5. Imminent or state of National emergency.

## 8. DECLARATIONS

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Only the following persons may declare a state of Civil Defence Emergency within the Rangitikei District Council:

1. The Mayor of the Rangitikei District
2. An elected member of the Rangitikei District Council authorised to act on behalf of the Mayor, of if the Mayor is absent
3. The Rangitikei District Council Civil Defence Controller

When a civil defence emergency is declared, the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 is invoked which gives Emergency Services and Police additional powers over and above their respective acts.

The lead agency in the event of any emergency response is the agency that has the legislative or agreed authority for control of the incident or emergency.

**Fire and Emergency New Zealand** - control and suppression of fires and other specialist functions.

**New Zealand Police** - maintain law and order, exercise additional powers as required during the state of emergency.

**Ministry of Health** - control the outbreak of infectious diseases.

### **THE CIVIL DEFENCE CONTROLLER HAS ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY OVER ALL PERSONNEL**

All instructions given by the Emergency Services and the  
Police must be followed without exception.





## 10. COMMUNITY RESPONSE GROUP

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The overall responsibility of the Bulls Community Response Group is to liaise with police and emergency services to initiate and assist in response to a civil defence emergency.

### Protection under the CDEM Act

The CDEM Act (Section 110) provides protection from liability for controllers, local authority staff, contractors and volunteers, in a state of emergency. Any person performing their functions, duties or powers under the CEDM Act is protected from liability for loss or damage caused by their actions or omissions due to a state of emergency. Despite Section 110, no person is exempted from liability for an act or omission that constitutes bad faith or gross negligence.

### Re-imburement for costs

Fair and reasonable costs incurred by the community during the emergency will be re-imbursed by Council. Those costs associated with the caring of people evacuated from their homes or adversely affected by the event, or any actions taken to protect life should be collated by the Bulls Community Civil Defence Group and forwarded to the Emergency Management Officer at the Rangitikei District Council.

The Bulls Community Response Group responsibilities prior, during and after an emergency are listed below.

#### Prior to an emergency:

- Inform the community that communication pathways have been established (ie telephone tree) to disseminate civil defence warnings.
- Ensure that people are prepared through a community education campaign.
- Test the plan as required and participate in exercises.
- Ensure that the community is informed about the Community Response Plan.
- Create, update and maintain a telephone tree.
- Meet at least annually to review the Plan.
- Provide basic First Aid/Civil Defence training.

#### During an emergency:

- The Chief Fire Officer or his/her delegate will activate the Bulls Community Civil Defence Response Plan by #####
- Ensure that warning information is disseminated to the community as quickly and efficiently as possible
- Liaise with the emergency services if at all possible to get an overview of what is happening and what is required
- Relay information back to the Rangitikei District Council civil defence if possible;
- Provide a situation report (casualties, damage, other threats) for the community and request assistance if required.
- If required set up a Civil Defence Centre
- Provide assistance to the emergency services to help evacuate the affected community

After an emergency has occurred the main avenue for the collection of information will be from local sources and those persons identified in this Plan. The early collection of information is very important as it will assist in determining the scale of the response that is required.

#### After an emergency:

- Work in support of any recovery efforts in the Bulls community.
- Hold a de-brief of the group's response to see if there needs to be any improvements or there are things that worked really well that should be continued
- Arrange to get the plan updated with any improvements or new ideas that have come about as a result of the emergency

There is also the commitment of the Rangitikei District Council to provide the following in support of the Bulls Community Response Group:

- To maintain and ensure that early response warnings are being received by the Rangitikei District Council
- Ensure that vital information of any threat is forwarded to the Bulls Community Response Group without delay, where communication is possible
- Provide advice and guidance to local communities developing and testing their plans
- Provide opportunities for training and exercising as requested by the Bulls Response Group



## 12. PLAN ACTIVATION

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This Plan may be activated by the following:

- local Incident Controller
- local emergency services personnel – Chief Fire Officer or his/her delegate
- the Bulls Community Response Group Chair in isolation only if contact cannot be made with either the Local Incident Controller or Chief Fire Officer

There may be situations when an event has not occurred but the local community is concerned about the impact of a potential threat and this Plan can be activated. For example an cyclone may cause the activation of this Plan.

This Plan is also designed to be activated when there is limited or no contact with the Rangitikei District Council and it outlines the process the community will go through to work together to support themselves in an emergency.

The community may also be asked to activate the Plan as part of a local, regional or national exercise to test its capability.

## 13. EMERGENCY CENTRES

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A Civil Defence Centre / Welfare Centre may be established for any event if it is required. The designated Civil Defence Centre for BULLS is Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre. This will always be Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre regardless of event size.

The Community Response Group should, when possible, inform the Rangitikei District Council when it is contemplating setting up a Civil Defence Centre. In the absence of any means to contact the Rangitikei District Council the Response Group can set up a Civil Defence Centre to receive evacuated persons from within the Bulls area.



## 14. COMMUNICATION

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Communication is the critical component of this Community Response Plan. People within the community must be alerted to an impending emergency or be contacted after an emergency or an event has occurred. Communication must also be made outside the community to relay the situation and/or request any assistance if required.

**This Plan must also be communicated to the community.**

### **Communication within and between communities:**

Communication typically relies on the following communication pathways:

- Telephone
- Cell phone
- E-mail
- Radio Networks
- Pagers
- Radio telephone
- Face to face (neighbours calling on neighbours)
- Camp ground information to campers (announcement/signage)
- Social Media

During emergencies there are often disruptions to these telecommunications pathways (i.e. with loss of power, cell phone towers and poor satellite coverage) and the following alternatives have been identified if traditional communication pathways have become interrupted to communicate with those outside the community:

- VHF radios or satellite phones. (Held by Council)
- Alternative communication within the community when the normal means of communication has been disrupted, ie face to face contact, whistles, alarms, loud speakers.

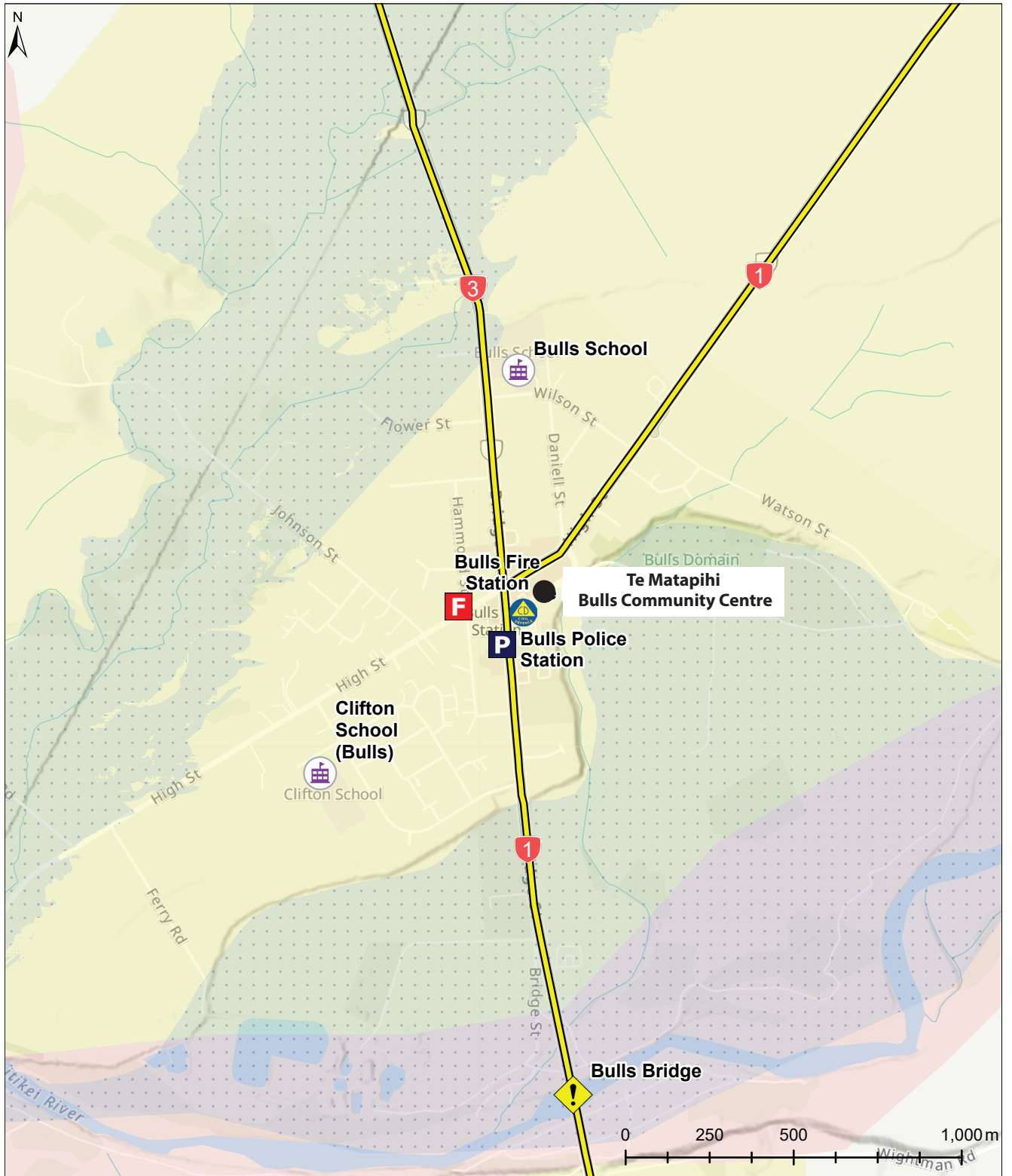
### **Communication of this Plan to the community**

This Plan needs to be communicated to the wider community if it is to be effective and representative of the entire community. The following have been identified as means of communicating this plan to the wider community:

- Presentation at community meetings
- Stands at community events
- Notice or articles in community newsletters
- Training exercises
- Plan available at the Library
- Abridged Plan delivered to all households and on the Rangitikei District Council website



# APPENDIX 1: HAZARD MAP



- |                       |                            |                        |  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|--|
| <b>F</b> Fire Station | <b>P</b> Police Station    | Indicative Flood Zones | High & Moderate susceptibility to liquefaction |
| Risk Point            | School                     | Evacuation Centre      | Low susceptibility to liquefaction             |
| Evacuation Centre     | State Highway - Risk Point |                        |  |

## APPENDIX 2: HAZARDS

Significant threats to Bulls include but are not limited to:

Threat	Probability	Impact to Bulls
Flooding	High	Road access denied Cause land-slips Most areas in Bulls are affected Community cut-off from outside Community may have to be self-sustainable
Storms	High	Can be life-threatening Cause of panic & fear - in particular to elderly Loss of power affecting water pumps & appliances Telephones not working properly Damage to property or homes Community may have to be self-sustainable
Earthquake	High	Can be life-threatening Damage to property or homes Road access could be denied Community may have to be self-sustainable
Pandemic	High	People may not be able to leave their homes Services may be disrupted Food supply may diminish and supplies hard to source Pressure on local health services Community may have to be self-sustainable
Animal disease	Low	Restriction on movement of people and stock Services may be disrupted Community may have to be self-sustainable Cause of panic & fear
Chemical spillage	Medium	People may not be able to leave their homes Services may be disrupted Food supply may diminish and supplies hard to obtain Community may have to be self-sustainable
Volcanic eruption	Low	Water supplies affected Road access denied Dust in the air Health risks People may not be able to leave their homes Services may be disrupted Food supply may diminish and supplies hard to source Community may have to be self-sustainable Loss of power affecting water pumps & appliances Telephones not working properly

Hazard identification determines which hazards threaten areas of the community and the probability identifies how likely it is that the disaster will occur.



## APPENDIX 3: WARNINGS FOR NEW ZEALAND

The following table outlines risks and the monitoring agency responsible for issuing warnings:

Particular Risk or Hazard	Monitoring Agency	Comment
Severe Weather Outlook Watch or Warnings Storms Flooding Wind	Meteorological Service of New Zealand (Met Service). <a href="http://www.metconnect.co.nz">www.metconnect.co.nz</a>	National Weather Services (NWS), A division of the Met Service collects and analyses meteorological data from around New Zealand and the world, from which the many different types of weather forecasts are made. The NWS is responsible for the safeguarding of New Zealand lives and property through the issuing of Severe Weather Watches and Warnings.
Earthquake	Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences	Monitored by the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences who are responsible for alert bulletins issued to MCDEM and CDEM Groups.
Volcanic Eruption	Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences	Monitored by the Institute of Geological and Nuclear Sciences who are responsible for alert bulletins issued to MCDEM and CDEM Groups.
Public Health Warnings	Ministry of Health and District Health Boards	Develop and disseminate alerts and warnings to CDEM Groups and the general public.
Flood Warnings for major rivers	Rangitikei Regional Council	Develop and disseminate river flood warnings to the public, emergency responders and pre-arranged landowners.
Animal Disease Outbreaks	Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry	Dissemination alerts and warnings to CDEM Groups and public.

## APPENDIX 4: PLAN ACTIVATION PROCESS

The Bulls Community Response Group is responsible for the activation of this Plan in the lead up to an event that is known to be likely to occur due to advance warning, or as a result of a sudden event. The community may also be asked to activate the Plan as part of a local, regional or national exercise to test its capability.

### Initial actions

Where advance warning of an event is received by Civil Defence or the responsible agency then the following should be notified:

1. Response Group member – Chief Fire Officer, or in his/her absence the highest ranking officer
2. Chief Fire Officer will notify the Police and Ambulance that the Bulls Community Civil Defence Plan has been activated.

### ONCE THE CHIEF FIRE OFFICER RECEIVES ADVICE OF THE EVENT, HE/SHE WILL:

#### DO THIS

- Activate telephone tree and other notification processes

The Bulls Community Response Group will set up the Civil Defence Centre at the Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre to;

- Provide shelter, warmth and information to those affected by the emergency

### WHERE AN UNEXPECTED SUDDEN EVENT OCCURS:

#### REMEMBER

The person in charge of the lead agency or the community should activate this plan if required or at all possible – Chief Fire Office.

## APPENDIX 5: EVACUATION PROCESS

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Civil Defence warnings to the Bulls community will be by the following methods

- Warnings via radio
- PA systems on emergency services vehicles
- Local procedures – car horns, telephone trees, door to door knocking.

### **IF YOU RECEIVE A WARNING!**

**Do this:**

- Listen to your local radio station and follow instructions
- Refer to this plan as a guide on what to do
- Activate your pre-determined telephone tree to warn others
- Prepare to activate your household emergency plan

**STAY AT HOME UNLESS YOU ARE TOLD TO EVACUATE, AVOID UNNECESSARY TRAVEL**

### **IF YOU ARE ADVISED TO EVACUATE THEN...**

**Do this:**

Assemble with your emergency survival kit at Te Matapihi - Bulls Community Centre

**THE CIVIL DEFENCE CONTROLLER HAS ABSOLUTE AUTHORITY OVER ALL PERSONNEL.**

**All instructions given by the Emergency Services and the Police must be followed without exception.**

## APPENDIX 6: **PRIORITY CONTACTS**

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**FIRE**

All emergencies

Dial 111

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**POLICE**

All emergencies

Dial 111

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**AMBULANCE**

All emergencies

Dial 111

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**MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

All emergencies

Dial 111

Stewart Street Surgery

06-327 8884

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**RANGITĪKEI DISTRICT  
COUNCIL**

Call Centre

0800 422 522

Civil Defence Emergency

0800 422 522

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# APPENDIX 7: LOCAL RESOURCES

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**MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

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**BUS AND COACH  
TRANSPORT**

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**AMBULANCE**

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**LOCAL RADIO STATIONS**

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**GENERATORS**

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**RADIO COMMS**

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**COOL STORAGE**

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**RURAL HALLS**

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**TRADES**

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**ELECTRICIAN**

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**PLUMBER**

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**CONTRACTORS**

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## APPENDIX 8: CIVIL DEFENCE CENTRE INFORMATION

TE MATAPIHI - BULLS COMMUNITY CENTRE DESIGNATED CIVIL DEFENCE CENTRE / WELFARE CENTRE	
Location	
Access	
Coordinator	
Centre Phone Number	
To open as a welfare centre contact	
Cater facilities	
Toilet facilities	
Parking	
Building capacity	
Alternative power supply	
Water supply	
Resources available	
Welfare kit on site?	
Notes	





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[www.rangitikei.govt.nz](http://www.rangitikei.govt.nz)

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*Making this place home.*