

Port Hills Action Plan Progress Update

January 2019

Fire and Emergency New Zealand continues to build on the progress made to date on the Port Hills Action Plan. Since the last update in July 2018, a significant amount of work has been done, and this means two-thirds of all actions points in the plan have been completed.

Since July 2018, progress has been made in a number of areas, including:

- All five regions have conducted another round of successful regional exercises (including urban and rural personnel) and multi-agency exercises. Awareness of processes and capability development continue to be key focuses.
- Operational reviews of significant fires during 2018 at Himatangi, Porangahau and Lake Hawea found all incidents had effective, integrated command and control.
- International wildfire deployments to the United States and Canada were undertaken and included leaders from across the organisation.

In December 2018, it was decided that the Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) will remain the multi-agency emergency management system for New Zealand. This decision will enable us to complete the outstanding 15 actions in the Port Hills Action Plan, which were on hold or delayed pending this decision. We will continue to be engaged in the inter-agency work updating CIMS to version three.

Fire and Emergency will now identify the most appropriate Incident Command System (ICS) for the work we undertake. This programme of work will include:

- Review, update, develop and implement the ICS changes for Fire and Emergency personnel
- Map out how we remain interoperable in multi-agency incidents, plug into CIMS and the CIMS incident levels.

