



# South Alive

## Community Response Plan



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
**SOUTHLAND**  
Te Rākau Whakamarumaru Murihiku



## South Alive Community Response Plan 2023

If you would like to become part of the South Alive Community Response Group or have any questions, please email [ems@cdsouthland.nz](mailto:ems@cdsouthland.nz)

### Community Response Planning

The more prepared a community is, the more likely it is that the community will be able to look after themselves and others. This Plan contains a short demographic description of the South Invercargill area, information about key hazards and risks, information about Community Emergency Hubs where the community can gather, and important contact information to help the community respond effectively. Members of the South Alive Community Response Group have developed the information contained in this plan and will be Emergency Management Southland's first points of community contact in an emergency.

### Community Response Groups into Recovery

Community Response Groups will be vital during the recovery of a community. They will be able to act as a connection between the community and the recovery team. They will have key local knowledge and understand the effects of decisions on the local community and will be able to identify areas of most importance to the community and suggest ways to work towards the communities' end goals. The process around community recovery will be described in greater depth in the Southland Recovery Plan which can be found on our website.

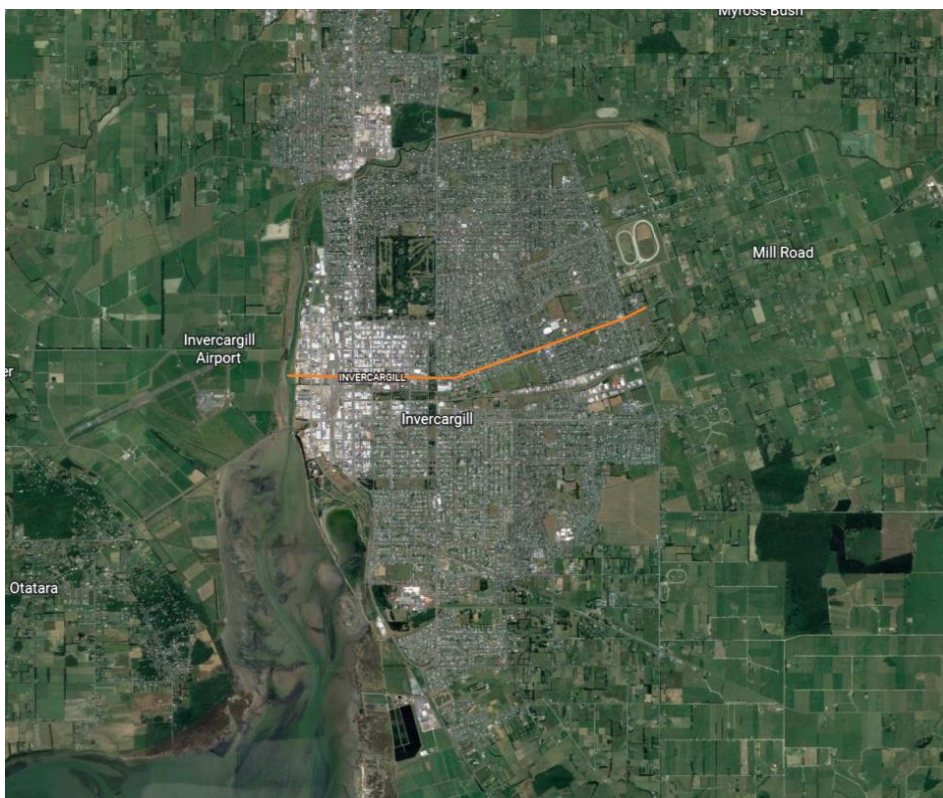


Fig 1: Aerial of Invercargill City

## Demographic details

- Invercargill (Waihōpai) is the southernmost and westernmost city in New Zealand, and one of the southernmost cities in the world. The city was founded in the 1850's and is dubbed the "city of water and light", referring to long summer daylight hours, the frequent appearances of the Aurora Australis, and the cities position beside the Waihopai river estuary.
- Invercargill is bordered by farmland and coastline and is in close proximity to conservation land and marine reserves, including Fiordland National Park, the Catlins coastal region, and Stewart Island/Rakiura.
- Invercargill sits 26km north of Bluff, 82km south of Lumsden, and 63km southwest of Gore.
- The broad geographic area for this plan covers the South Invercargill area bordered to the south and west with the Invercargill City Council boundary, to the west with the Invercargill estuary, and to the north with SH1/Tay Street. This is not to limit the area but to give an indication of the extent of the geographic district. Flexibility needs to be maintained considering that a specific disaster may render existing geographical boundaries irrelevant.
- Tourism for Southland is significant due to proximity to Fiordland and Stewart Island. Travellers must travel through Invercargill to reach Stewart Island either by plane from Invercargill airport or ferry from Bluff. Invercargill is also a popular tourist destination due to Burt Munro and is now recognised as New Zealand's "Classic Motoring Capital", due to Transport World and Motorcycle Mecca which attracts international interest. Bluff Oyster Festival also attracts thousands of people when it is held in May each year.
- Within the defined South Invercargill boundary, there are three colleges which cater for children in Years 7-13. There are four primary schools for Years 1-6 and one Kura Kaupapa Māori for children in Years 1-13.
- There are multiple early childhood learning centres in South Invercargill along with at-home childcare options.
- There is high deprivation seen in South Invercargill which the deprivation index last measured at 7.96. Decile 1 represents areas with the least deprived scores and decile 10 represents the most deprived areas. EHINZ state that people who live in a more deprived area are more susceptible to environmental risks and have less capacity to cope with effects from these risks and have fewer resources to protect themselves.
- South Invercargill is a diverse community with people from many different ethnicities. Consideration needs to be given to cultural, religious, and language needs.

## Identified potential vulnerable sub communities

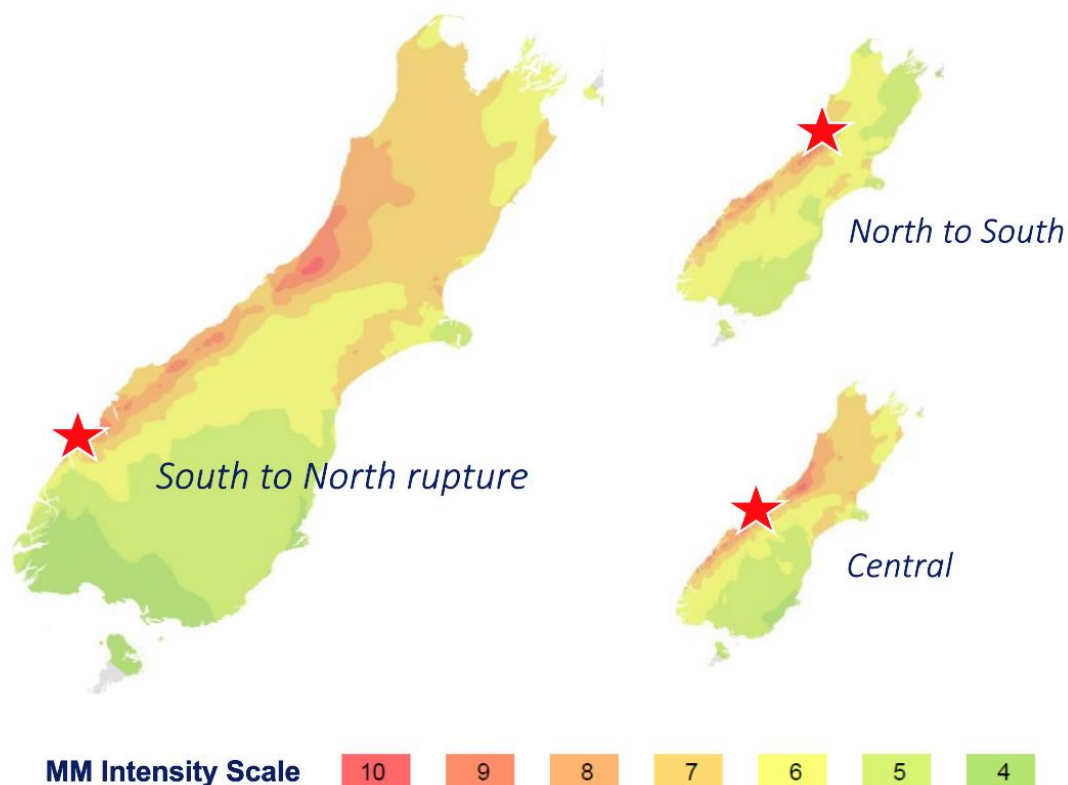
- Education providers.
- Home based childcare providers.
- Elderly in the community.
- People with disabilities.
- People with high-risk medical conditions – the DHB can source this information if needed.

## Hazard and Risk information

Potential hazards and risks for the South Invercargill area include:

### Earthquake

- The Fiordland region has frequent earthquakes and like much of the South Island, Invercargill would be affected during an Alpine Fault earthquake. Scientists have said there is a 75% chance of it happening in the next 50 years along with an 82% chance it will be magnitude 8 or larger. The most likely impacts for the area would be loss of lifelines causing isolation, damaged buildings, damaged roads, likely loss of communications, water supply, sewage and power. It could cause changes to the natural environment creating slips and affecting roading and possibly affecting waterways and underground water sources. Additionally, recent research on the Nevis Fault (running between Wanaka and Garston) indicates that it can produce large earthquakes (magnitude 7 range).



Images: Conrad Zorn. Based on Brendon Bradley et al. (2016)

Fig 2: Estimated ground movement intensity based on a Magnitude 8 Alpine Fault earthquake

### Weather

- Situated close to the Southern Ocean, Invercargill can experience extreme wind events. Future projections for climate change indicate that the occurrence of extreme wind events may alter, with the strength of extreme winds expected to increase over the South Island potentially causing damage to infrastructure.



- Storm damage can impact on infrastructure and roading, limiting access to townships. If the storm is severe enough, power can be lost to communities for days or longer for more remote areas.
- Southland is expected to become wetter, particularly in winter and spring. Seasonal projections show winter rainfall increasing by 7 to 22 percent in Invercargill by 2090.

### Flooding

- Invercargill has experienced flooding in the past. Investment in flood protection, including the development of flood banks has provided Invercargill with increased protection, however an extreme event could put low lying areas of Invercargill at risk.
- King tides combined with heavy rain fall and strong winds can affect areas close to the coast and New River Estuary.
- Flooding affecting areas outside Invercargill City could affect the supply of goods by road which may impact on the supply of goods for local community.

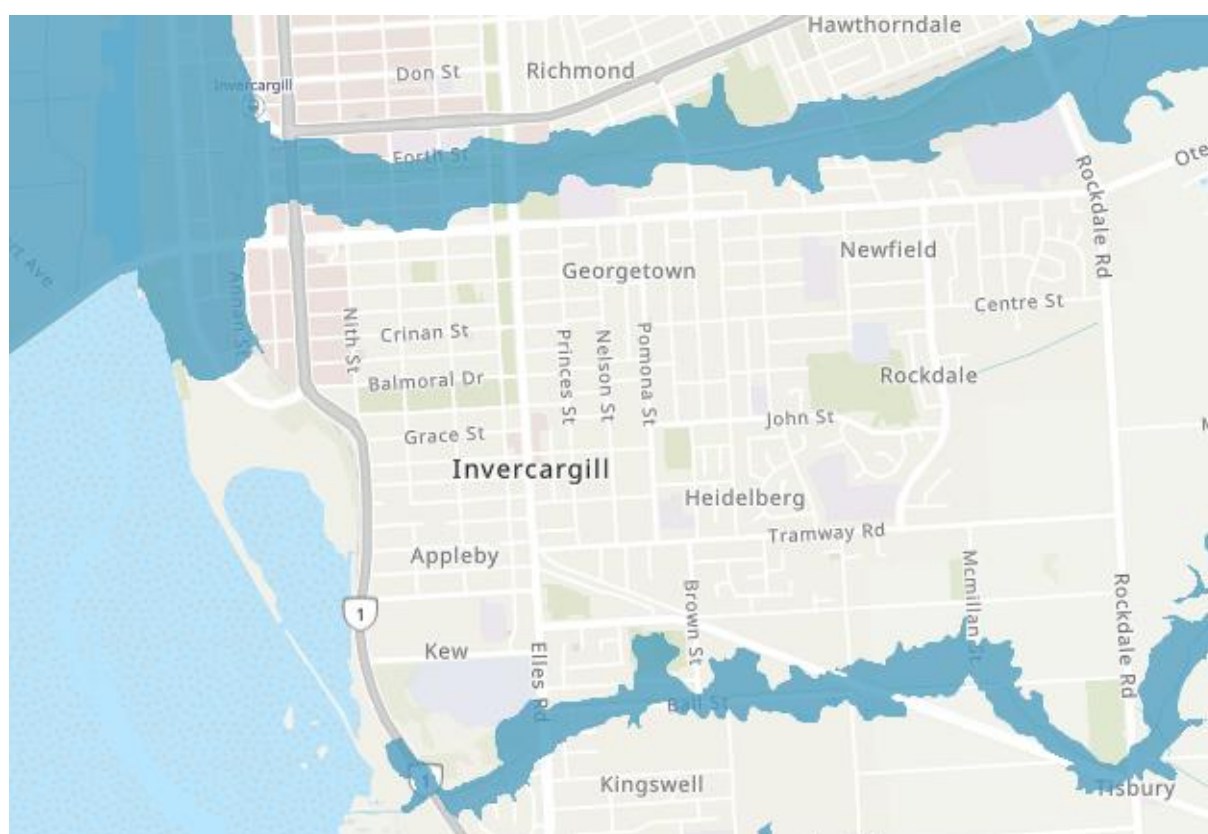


Fig 3: South Invercargill Potential Floodable Area

### Weather

- Heavy snow fall could impact on the ability of tourists to travel and the delivery of essential goods to the region.
- The geography and landscape of the Athol and Garston area can intensify the tunnelling effect of high winds and pose a significant hazard to those travelling and to buildings.
- Heavy Rain can result in flooding and can trigger landslides.
- The Athol and Garston area is a drought-prone area based on climate and soil type. This will affect the area with the demand for water to service the town, as well as local farming industry.



## Power

- A short-term power outage can disrupt people's lives. We are increasingly reliant on power for everyday needs for home and business. A long-term power disruption can be extremely challenging for communities.

## Tsunami

- Most Tsunami are generated by large magnitude, shallow earthquakes under the sea floor, they can also be caused by land or submarine landslides and offshore volcanoes.
- Local tsunami can be generated by an earthquake on the Puysegur Trench southwest of the South Island which may affect Invercargill. It is likely a tsunami from this area could hit the coast within an hour and half. This has the potential to inundate the Invercargill Estuary and low-lying areas of Invercargill.
- Regional Tsunami has a travel time of one to three hours to New Zealand from areas along the Hikurangi or Kermadec Trenches.
- Distant source tsunami would have a travel time of greater than 3 hours. This includes more remote sources such as Peru or Chile which could take 12 - 14 hours to reach Invercargill.

In the event of an emergency, communities may need to support themselves for up to **10 days** before assistance arrive. Think about what you need to support yourself both at home and away from home if you need to evacuate.



## Community Emergency Hubs

Community Emergency Hubs provide pre-identified places where the community can gather in the event of an emergency. Not all Hubs will be suitable during an emergency, and it is up to the community to decide at the time. It is possible that a new venue will need to be found, but the concept of a location where the community gather is vital during a response as people seek immediate support, shelter, comfort and information.

Each pre-determined location will be provided with a hub guide and be able to access advice from Emergency Management Southland if they require further information or support.

In the South Invercargill area, Community Emergency Hub locations identified by the community are:

- The Pod at South Alive (262 Ness Street)

Don't forget, if you are opening a hub it might pay to think about bringing some basics, such as:

- Water
- Tea, coffee, milk
- Food
- Toilet paper
- First aid kits
- Blankets
- Torches
- Lighters
- BBQ
- Lighting
- Generators

## Key identified local resources

### Building supplies

Organisation	Phone	Other details
PlaceMakers	03 211 0366	
Mitre 10	03 219 9000	
Bunnings Trade	03 948 3300	
Carters	03 211 0255	
E H Ball ITM	03 218 3787	

### Water Supply and Plumbing

Organisation	Phone	Other details
Laser Plumbing	03 214 3338	
Baxter & Neilson Plumbers	03 218 2403	
Karl Boniface Plumbing	03 215 7175	
Phoenix Services	03 214 4157	027 435 5388

### Electrical Services

Organisation	Phone	Other details
Phoenix Services	03 214 4157	027 435 5388
Aotea Electric	03 214 7707	
Laser Electrical	03 218 1897	

### Invercargill City Council

Organisation	Phone	
Transfer Station	03 218 7938	
Water Supply	03 211 1777	
Roading	03 211 1777	

### Medical Centres

Organisation	Phone	Other details
Southland Hospital	03 218 1949	
Invercargill After Hours Doctor	03 218 8821	
South City Health Centre	03 218 4043	
WellSouth	03 214 6436	



### Additional resources

Organisation	Phone	Other details
New World Elles Road	03 218 6811	
Countdown Tay Street	03 211 3100	
PAK'nSAVE	03 214 4864	
Night 'n Day Elles Road	03 218 8395	
The Pantry- Bulk Food Store	03 214 5200	admin@thepantry.co.nz

## Community Response Group Contact lists

### Emergency Management Southland

Duty Advisor		03 211 5411	ems@cdsouthland.nz
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### Key local emergency service contacts

#### For urgent matters please dial 111

Police	Simon Ballantyne		
Police	Invercargill	03 211 0400	
Fire	Deane Chalmers		
St John			

### Community Emergency Hub key holders

Claire McDonagh		
Courtney Ellison		

All South Alive Staff and Trustees have key code access. A key code can be obtained by contacting the office on 03 218 6882 or [info@southalive.org.nz](mailto:info@southalive.org.nz) or contacting the above key holders.

## Community Response Group Members

Courtney Ellison			
Jamie Porter			
Noel Peterson			
Beryl Wilcox			
Carl Heenan			
Rex Williams			
Nathan Surendran			
Enoch Surendran			
Sue Wood			
Will Pinkney			
Nicola Taylor			
Jacinta Kingipotiki			



[www.cdsouthland.nz](http://www.cdsouthland.nz)



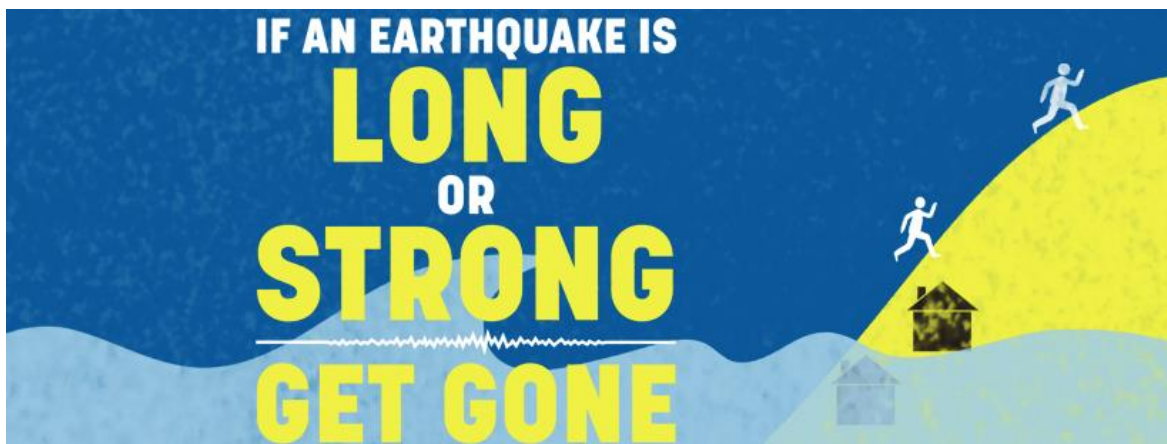
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[@southlandcdem](https://www.instagram.com/southlandcdem)



[ems@cdsouthland.nz](mailto:ems@cdsouthland.nz)



## **Southland has NO Civil Defence sirens**

Please take note of natural warning signs as your first and best warning for any emergency. Fire Brigade sirens are not used to warn of Civil Defence emergencies