

A new outlook for your career

Hydrologist - Hazard Preparedness and Response Victoria

APS Level 6

Job reference number	60016878
Classification	APS Level 6
Group	Community Services
Program	Decision Support Services
Location	Melbourne
Status	Ongoing / Non-ongoing - Day Worker
Working hours	Both full time and part time will be considered
Working arrangements	Flexible working arrangements, including work from home, are available subject to operational requirements
Relocation Assistance	This position is located in Melbourne. Relocation assistance will not be provided. If you choose to apply for this position and are successful, relocation to the work location will be at your own expense.
Salary range	\$99,734 - \$111,701 per annum, plus an additional 15.4% superannuation
Closing date	11:30pm AEDT Wednesday 4 November 2026
Applicants	Australian Citizenship
Contact officer	Contact name: Ben Howes Position title: Senior Hydrologist Phone: 03 9669 4221 Email: ben.howes@bom.gov.au
Last updated	16 October 2026

About the bureau

We are Australia's weather, climate, water, oceans and space weather agency. Our work touches the lives of all Australians every day.

Our products and services include observations, forecasts, warnings, analysis and advice. They cover Australia's atmosphere, water, oceans and space environments.

The bureau operates under the authority of the *Meteorology Act 1955* and the *Water Act 2007*. We also fulfill Australia's international obligations under the Convention of the World Meteorological Organization and related international meteorological treaties and agreements.

Read the [Bureau of Meteorology Strategy 2022–27](#) to find out more about our organisation and the work we do for all Australians.

Working at the bureau

The bureau represents a dynamic and exciting opportunity. At the bureau you will:

- do meaningful work that brings real benefits to the Australian community, businesses and government.
- work with dedicated experts and professionals who constantly seek to improve the services we provide to our customers.
- work in excellent workplaces in a variety of great locations. You'll have access to the latest technology in a diverse, safe and inclusive environment for everyone.
- experience our commitment to learning, growth, training and clear career pathways. You'll receive competitive salary and benefits.

Position overview

Australia is regularly affected by severe weather events. These events are growing in frequency and severity, leading to increased impacts for the Australian community.

The focus of the Hazard Preparedness and Response (HPR) program is to build resilience within the Australian emergency management sector. As part of the Decision Support Services (DSS) Program, we work closely with emergency management partners to support preparation for, response to, and recovery from disasters and emergencies. We provide specialist advice through knowledge sharing, collaborative action and the development of strong relationships built on mutual trust and respect.

As Hydrologist in the HPR South team you will connect seamlessly with your colleagues in the Decision Support Services Community Engagement and Community Information teams, as well as the National Production, Environmental Prediction and Business Solutions teams. Reporting to the Manager of Hazard Preparedness and Response Victoria, you will be a key contact for our critical sector partners, focussing on supporting Emergency Service agencies in Victoria. The role will also involve providing assistance to counterpart agencies in other states and territories. You will be supported by the Manager of Hazard Preparedness and Response Victoria and other hydrologists to ensure a seamless transition into the role.

The role is responsible for continuous improvement activities, delivering and sharing Bureau products and information with Emergency Management partners. You are a key contributor to the provision of clearly communicated expert advice, interpreting impacts, timing, uncertainty and risks

by connecting climate, weather and water information to customer's decisions to help them effectively mitigate risks. Collaborating across the Bureau's Community Services and Business Solutions Group teams, you will work with our partner agencies to ensure hazard information of value and impact is expressed in our products and customer services, and within the local and national weather narrative.

You will have a sound background in science, while an understanding of hydrology would be highly desirable. You will demonstrate a curiosity and willingness to learn how climate, ocean, weather, and flood impacts on the emergency management sector.

The successful candidate will be committed to supporting the Bureau and our partners outside the scope of standard working hours during severe weather events or peak periods. During such periods, you will contribute to support the needs of our customers and emergency management partners – as such, the successful candidate may be able or required to carry out their duties remotely, with limited supervision.

Role responsibilities

The responsibilities of the role include but are not limited to:

1. Work within a high performing team to contribute to zero lives lost through natural hazards by partnering closely with emergency management agencies across the country.
2. Support the development of new and improved total flood warning systems in Victoria, in partnership with state and local governments, emergency agencies and responders and specialist consultants. Support the maintenance and review of the flood service level specifications in Victoria. With reasonable autonomy liaise with external partners and customers to identify and prioritise service levels changes that meet their planning and response requirements and community needs while optimising operational resources to deliver the service.
3. Support as required other flood service transformation projects in Victoria.
4. Develop relationships with partners and stakeholders in the Emergency Management and first responder communities in Victoria, with a focus on Total Flood Warning System's partners. Support partner engagement activities to capture their requirements for planning, preparation, response and recovery. Support consultative forums and provide briefings to technical and non-technical audiences.
5. Maintain situational awareness of the weather, with particular focus on weather events that may lead to flood impacts.
6. Assist emergency managers with the provision of clearly communicated expert advice, interpreting impacts, timing, uncertainty and risks by connecting water, climate and weather information to customer's decisions to help effectively mitigate their risks.
7. Work closely with your peers and demonstrate a high level of cooperation and innovation across CSG. Contribute to the ongoing delivery of flood warning service development and advice to emergency partners during flood operations using exemplary communication skills.
8. Prioritise your development opportunities and competencies, necessary to deliver the Bureau's Decision Support Service.
9. During severe weather events, you will be committed to supporting the Bureau and our partners outside the scope of standard working hours. This could include fulfilling operational flood forecasting and warning and decision support roles as required.
10. Commitment to APS Values and Code of Conduct and understanding of the Bureau's diversity and inclusion statement of commitment and the Bureau way.

11. Comply with all Bureau work, health and safety policies and procedures, and take reasonable care for your own health and safety and that of employees, contractors and visitors who may be affected by your conduct.

Selection criteria

The bureau encourages applications from all suitably qualified candidates. Applications will be considered based on alignment with selection criteria, which have been matched to the [APS work level standards](#) and [Integrated Leadership System \(ILS\)](#) for APS Level 6 positions.

Written responses to each criterion may not be required, but the criteria may be used for shortlisting, interview and self-assessment.

1. Supports strategic direction

- Understands the work environment and initiates and develops team goals that align with customer needs;
- Harnesses information and opportunities by listening, negotiating and liaising with internal and external stakeholders to ensure positive outcomes.

2. Achieves results

- Proven capacity to operate both independently, using initiative and self-direction, and as a team member to share knowledge and produce consistently high-quality work;
- Takes responsibility for managing work to achieve results and is responsive to changes in requirements and remains positive and flexible during change and uncertainty.

3. Supports productive working relationships

- Demonstrated ability to build and sustain collaborative relationships with internal and external stakeholders to influence and achieve results; with diverse community groups, research organisations and government agencies;
- Anticipates and is responsive to internal and external client needs.

4. Displays personal drive and integrity

- Able to demonstrate self-awareness and a commitment to personal development;
- Demonstrates unwavering professionalism, resilience and personal courage;
- Commits energy and drive to see that goals are achieved. Shows agility and adaptability and takes personal accountability for delivering outcomes;
- Continuously evaluates work processes, seeking out new and innovative ways to deliver outcomes.

5. Communicates with influence

- Confidently presents messages in a clear, concise and articulate manner; adapting style and message to meet customer needs;
- Approaches negotiations with a clear understanding of key issues, understands the desired outcomes, and anticipates the needs of customers and partners.

6. Relevant skills and service delivery expertise

- Previous experience working in hydrology; specific experience in flood forecasting and warning is desirable.
- Previous knowledge and experience in meteorology and/or climatology is desirable.
- Previous experience working in or with the Emergency Management Sector or in an equivalent technical or specialist Communications environment is desirable.

Qualifications & experience

A degree or diploma of an Australian educational institution, or a comparable overseas qualification, which is appropriate to the duties; OR other comparable qualifications, which are appropriate to the duties.

Merit pool

The selection process will establish a merit pool that may be used to fill similar positions within 18 months.

How to apply

Use of AI in Your Application

Any use of AI must align with the [APSC Principles for Candidate Use of AI in Recruitment](#).

You are expected to:

- Be transparent, authentic and truthful
- Use AI to support, not substitute your own experience or capabilities
- Act ethically and fairly
- Protect privacy and personal data

For further information, refer to the APSC principles.

Applications can be lodged through [the Bureau of Meteorology Careers](#).

Your application will consist of resume, contact details for two referees and a '800-word pitch' that considers:

- position overview
- job responsibilities
- selection criteria

- relevant sections of the Integrated Leadership System (ILS) and APS work level standards.

The bureau is an equal opportunities employer. We will support applicants with disability through our [RecruitAbility Program](#) and will provide reasonable adjustments such as access, equipment and other practical support at relevant stages of the recruitment process.

The bureau drives its reconciliation efforts through its business activities, services, programs and stakeholders, whilst ensuring we have a deeper understanding of our organisational context and influence. Our [Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2025 - 2027](#) outlines the delivery of these activities, and the ways we will hold ourselves to account for them.

We recognise the need for our workforce to reflect the community we serve and provide an inclusive environment that respects and values diversity and is described in our [Diversity and Inclusion commitment](#).

The bureau offers flexible working options, reasonable workplace adjustments and an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Should you have any questions or experience any difficulties with applying online, please contact us via email on BOMCareers@bom.gov.au.

Integrity in the bureau

Integrity is deeply important to our work in the public service. It underpins the trust of the Australian public, who rely on us to serve their interests and deliver the best outcomes. It's a great privilege to serve the public, and with this privilege comes a responsibility to act with the highest standards of integrity.

Everyone has a role when it comes to integrity, as individual integrity informs the bureau's pro-integrity culture. Integrity directly aligns with our Strategy in our values and behaviours to act with trust, honesty and reliability.

Employee behaviours and conduct

The Australian community expects the highest standards of behaviour from its public servants. These standards of behaviour are detailed in Section 13 of the PS Act and are referred to as the Code.

The Code requires that bureau employees at all times behave in a way that upholds the APS Values, the APS Employment Principles, and the integrity and good reputation of the bureau and the APS (PS Act, s 13(11)).

The Code forms the legal basis for the bureau taking disciplinary action against an employee. Section 15(1) of the PS Act sets out the sanctions that can be imposed when employees are found to have breached the Code.

To find out more about the employment conditions at the bureau, please refer to the Bureau of Meteorology [Current Enterprise Agreement](#).

The bureau acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of Country throughout Australia and acknowledges their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We recognise the continuation of cultural and weather knowledge practices of First Nations people.
