

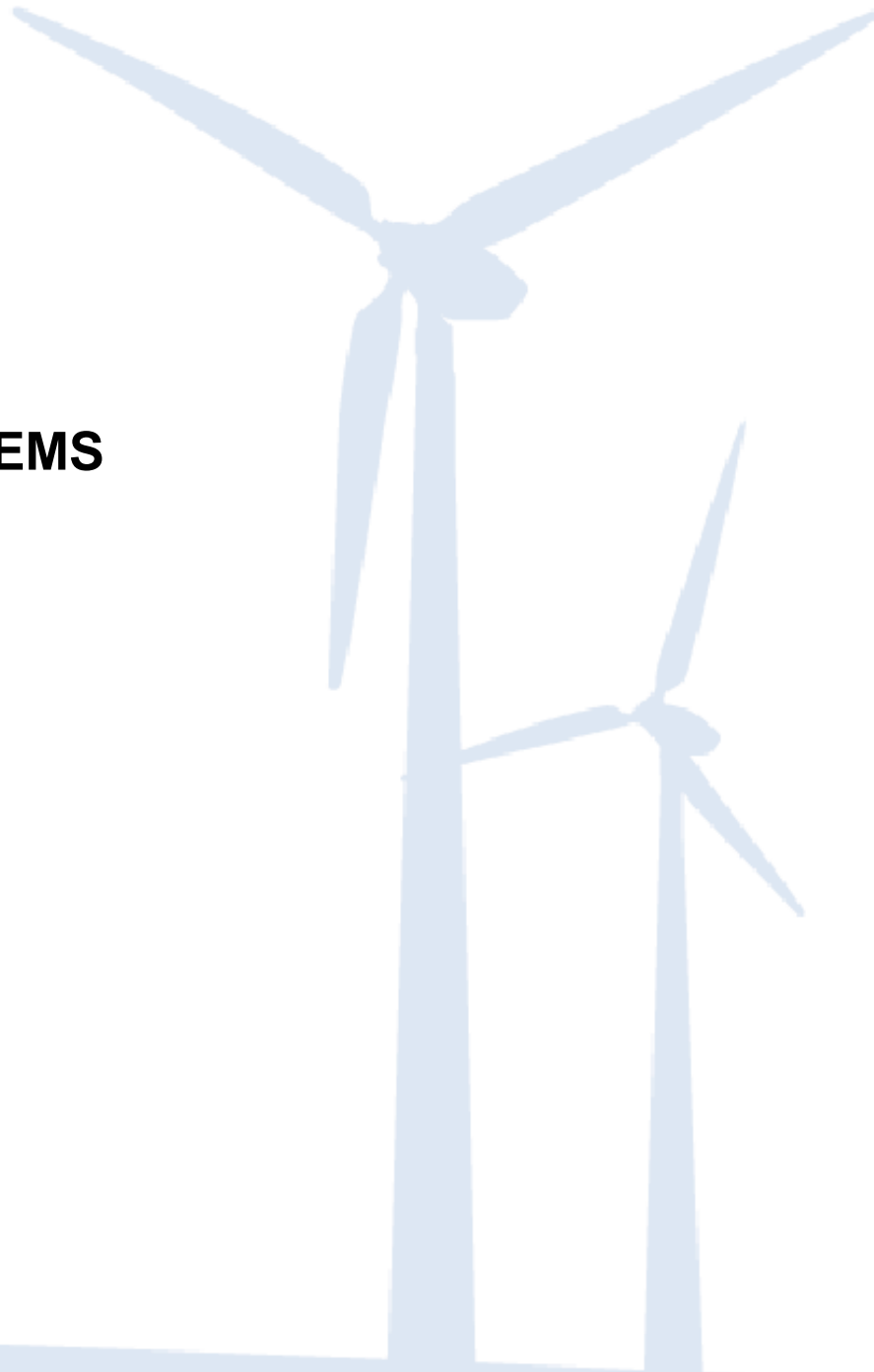


18 JULY 2024

Shire of Esperance

23 JULY 2024

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS



16. URGENT BUSINESS APPROVED BY DECISION

Item: 16.1

Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee

Author/s	Chantelle Hoffrichter	Executive Assistant
Authorisor/s	Shane Burge	Chief Executive Officer

File Ref: D24/20042

Attachments

- A¹. Minutes - Bush Fire Advisory Committee - July 2024
- B¹. DRAFT Hazard Reduction Notice 2024/2024

Committee Recommendation

That Council

1. **Accept the unconfirmed Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes held on 15 July 2024**
2. **Endorse the DRAFT Hazard Reduction Notice 2024/2025**

Voting Requirement	Simple Majority
---------------------------	-----------------

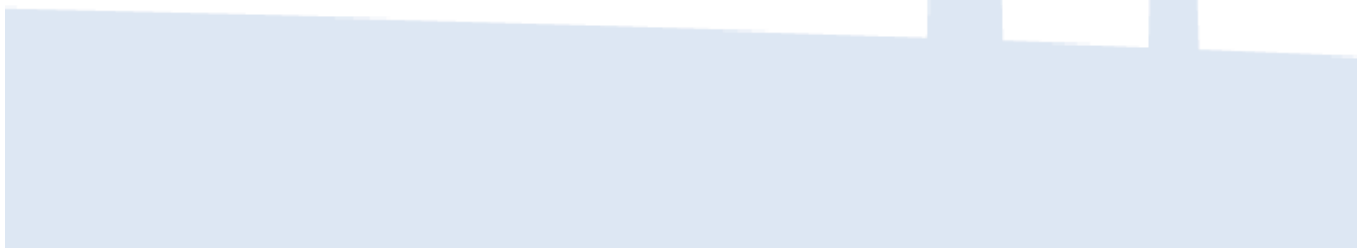


Shire of Esperance

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MONDAY 15 JULY 2024

MINUTES



DISCLAIMER

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Esperance for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings. The Shire of Esperance disclaims any liability for any loss whatsoever and howsoever caused arising out of reliance by any person or legal entity on any such act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during Council or Committee meetings. Any person or legal entity who acts or fails to act in reliance upon any statement, act or omission made in a Council or Committee meeting does so at that person's or legal entity's own risk.

In particular and without derogating in any way from the broad disclaimer above, in any discussion regarding any planning application or application for a licence, any statement or intimation of approval made by a member or officer of the Shire of Esperance during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the Shire of Esperance. The Shire of Esperance warns that anyone who has any application lodged with the Shire of Esperance must obtain and should only rely on written confirmation of the outcome of the application, and any conditions attaching to the decision made by the Shire of Esperance in respect of the application.

ETHICAL DECISION MAKING AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Council is committed to a code of conduct and all decisions are based on an honest assessment of the issue, ethical decision-making and personal integrity. Councillors and staff adhere to the statutory requirements to declare financial, proximity and impartiality interests and once declared follow the legislation as required.

Table of Contents / Index

ITEM NO.	ITEM HEADING	PAGE
1.	OFFICIAL OPENING	5
2.	ATTENDANCE	5
3.	APOLOGIES & NOTIFICATION OF GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE	6
4.	DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS	6
4.1	Declarations of Financial Interests – Local Government Act Section 5.60a	6
4.2	Declarations of Proximity Interests – Local Government Act Section 5.60b	6
4.3	Declarations of Impartiality Interests – Admin Regulations Section 34c	6
5.	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	6
6.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES	6
7.	REPORTS	6
7.1	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – Mr Phil Longmire	6
7.2	DFES District Officer – Mr Stephen Peterson	7
7.3	DBCA Esperance Officer – Mr Justin Black	7
7.4	Community Emergency Services – Mr Ashley Peczka	7
7.5	Association of Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades – Mr Danny Sanderson	7
8.	HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT	8
8.1	Incident & Safety Report	8
9.	ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS	8
9.1	Election of Chief & Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers	8
9.2	Election of Senior Fire Control Officers	8
9.3	Election of Deputy Senior Fire Control Officers	9
9.4	Confirmation of Fire Weather Officers for 2024/25 Season	9
9.5	Confirmation of Brigade Fire Control Officers for 2024/25 Season	10
9.6	Confirmation of Brigade Permit Issuing Officers 2024/25 Season	10
10.	GENERAL BUSINESS	10
10.1	Group Welfare Check in	10
10.2	Boxing Day Debrief	10
10.3	Bush Fire Brigade Local Laws	10
10.4	Mitigation	11
10.5	AFDRS	11
10.6	Role of Fire Control Officers	11
10.7	Training Schedule	11
10.8	Fire Hazard Reduction Notice	11
10.9	Vehicle Servicing Schedule	12

Bush Fire Advisory Committee: Minutes
15 July 2024

Page 4

10.10 Terms of Reference	12
10.11 FireMapper	12
10. CLOSURE	12

SHIRE OF ESPERANCE

MINUTES

**BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON
15 July 2024
COMMENCING AT 6:00 PM**

1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member declared the meeting open at 6:00pm.

Vale – Harry Stead (Coomalbidgup BFB) 2003-2023

In honour of Harry Stead, everyone observed a minute's silence in respect for the fallen family member, friend and colleague

2. ATTENDANCE

Everyone welcomed Mrs Claudia Magana, who started with the Shire in November 2023 as the Bushfire Risk Mitigation Coordinator.

Members

Cr W Graham	Shire of Esperance (Chairperson)
Pres. R Chambers	Shire of Esperance (Deputy)
Mr P Longmire	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr A Perks	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr T Carmody	Cascade Bush Fire Brigade
Mr K Scott	Coomalbidgup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr K Jeitz	Coomalbidgup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr M Scott	Coomalbidgup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr D Sanderson	Grass Patch Bush Fire Brigade/Bush Fire Volunteer Assoc.
Mr R Longbottom	Grass Patch Bush Fire Brigade
Mr G Harris	Grass Patch Bush Fire Brigade
Mr J Durdin	Quarry Rd Bush Fire Brigade
Mr L Palmer	Quarry Rd Bush Fire Brigade
Mr C Scott	Six Mile Hill Bush Fire Brigade
Mr P Rowe	Six Mile Hill Bush Fire Brigade
Mr S Brennan	Six Mile Hill Bush Fire Brigade
Mr N Ruddenklau	Condungup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr B South	Beaumont Bush Fire Brigade
Mr S Schlink	Howick Bush Fire Brigade
Mr K Lawrence	Pink Lake Bush Fire Brigade
Mr A Waters	Pink Lake Bush Fire Brigade
Mr C Hines	Mt Merivale Bush Fire Brigade
Mr B King	Mt Merivale Bush Fire Brigade
Mr N Norwood	Scaddan Bush Fire Brigade
Mr A Reichstein	Neridup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr H Davies	Gibson Bush Fire Brigade
Mrs S Prosser	Esperance Emergency Support Unit
Mr P Pratt	Esperance Emergency Support Unit

Bush Fire Advisory Committee: Minutes
15 July 2024

Page 6

Ex Officio

Mr A Peczka	Community Emergency Services Manager
Ms Z Sheffield-van Mierlo	Manager Ranger and Emergency Services
Mrs C Magana	Bushfire Mitigation Coordinator
Mr J Black	DBCA Esperance District Manager
Mr S Peterson	District Officer for Department of Fire and Emergency Services

Guests

3. APOLOGIES & NOTIFICATION OF GRANTED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr W Carmody	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Mr L Mickel	Beaumont Bush Fire Brigade
Mrs K Naylor	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions
Mr P Harkness	Emergency Support Unit
Mr P Lubarda	Dalyup Bush Fire Brigade
Mr C Hallam	Grass Patch Bush Fire Brigade
Mr M Ietto	Grass Patch Bush Fire Brigade

4. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

- 4.1 Declarations of Financial Interests – Local Government Act Section 5.60a**
- 4.2 Declarations of Proximity Interests – Local Government Act Section 5.60b**
- 4.3 Declarations of Impartiality Interests – Admin Regulations Section 34c**

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Moved: Mr Longbottom
Seconded: Mr South

BFA0724-105

That the Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting of the 3 October 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Nil

7. REPORTS

7.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – Mr Phil Longmire

- Thanked everyone who put in the time and effort in supporting one of the largest volunteer brigade regions in WA.
- Acknowledged the tragedy of Harry Stead.
- Explained that the goal of the Bush Fire Brigades is to continue to improve all components to deal with not only fires, but safe operating environments due to the weather conditions and safer working environments with improved training and equipment.

- Thanked Tjaltjraak for being proactive with planned mitigation burns for the coming season

7.2 DFES District Officer – Mr Stephen Peterson

- Star Link- The mobile star link devices which are to be fitted to the Mt Beaumont and Cascade 4x4's and the four Esperance light tankers is still progressing. Currently still in the procurement process and it is still expected that they will be installed prior to the fire season.
- Townsite Mitigation- The budget for the 2023/24 financial year was \$70,000. Mr Peterson was able to secure an extra \$32,000 taking the financial year spend to \$102,000. For the 2024/25 financial year Mr Peterson has applied for \$100,000 and has been allocated \$80,000. He will seek extra funding early in 2025.
- AWS Warning Levels- Have fully changed to the new national system with the removal "All Clear" messaging now referred to "De-escalating"
- Read out the following letter from crews that came across to assist at the Boxing Day incident:
"On behalf of the crews that came across to assist on Ned's Corner, we'd like to express our deepest sympathy for the families, friends and crewmates for the loss of Harry. It was an honour and a privilege to assist in providing some relief and respite for the local crews at such a difficult time. Words are always inadequate in the context of loss and grief, so we were very glad to be able to offer practical assistance. We hope that you get the time, space, care and comfort within your community that is no doubt needed in the coming months. We and many others in the broader firefighting community are always happy to come back if more help is needed down the track.
Sincerely,
Denmark, Plantagenet, Katanning, Albany, Gairdner, Cranbrook and Gnowangerup crews."

7.3 DBCA Esperance Officer – Mr Justin Black

- Esperance district is soon to receive an additional Firefighting appliance and a light vehicle
- Currently advertising for a Fire Operations Officer, a Field Firefighter and Conversation Employee
- Completed 223km of slashing in 2023/24 period, valued at \$210,000.
- Responded to 16 fires within DBCA tenure and assisted DFES/LG with 13 fires
- Carried out 200Ha of Prescribed Burning in 2023/24
- Planning to conduct prescribe burning over 10,000Ha of UCL and 3,500Ha of DBCA tenure for 2024/25 period
- Planning to carry out 60km of firebreak slashing for 2024/25 period and the possibility in purchasing a spray unit to provide additional life to slashed firebreaks.

7.4 Community Emergency Services – Mr Ashley Peczka

- The Shire received \$353,700 for our 2023/24 MAF program. 47/52 MAF treatment was completed and spent up to 92% of allocated funding.
- CTIS retrofitted to the Condingup 4.4B.
- WAERN radio servicing is around the corner Mr Peczka asked everyone to start reporting any faults.
- Cell-Fi's units in appliances will be switched to be locked into 4G mode.
- Addressed weight times with PPE/PPC orders.
- Provided an overview of expenditure to the 2023/24 ESL budget.
- Provided updates to Condingup and Grass Patch BFB shed builds.
- Provided overview to the 2024/25 ESL operating grant fund & capital grant submissions.
- Provided overview of forecast fleet replacement program.

7.5 Association of Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades – Mr Danny Sanderson

- Mr Sanderson highlighted to the committee the work that is carried by the association behind the scenes

Bush Fire Advisory Committee: Minutes
15 July 2024

Page 8

- Association has not been able to employ staff. They still rely on volunteers to run it and the assistance from WA Farmers where they share office space.
- Some areas are still needing additional assistance from the association in regards to capital grants, etc.
- Association AGM to be held at the WAFES conference on Friday, 7 September starting at 4pm

8. **HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT**

8.1 **Incident & Safety Report**

- Gibson Fire Shed break in
- Condingup Bush Fire Brigade Ridgeland Road shed break in – minor equipment missing
- Boxing Day incident
- Heat damage to appliance reflective stripping from mitigation burns

9. **ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS**

9.1 **Election of Chief & Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers**

Chairperson Cr Graham, declared all positions vacant at 6:40pm and acted as Returning Officer to carry out the election of Office Bearers:

- **Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Phil Longmire
Nominated by: Brett South
Seconded: Craig Scott
- **Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Will Carmody
Nominated by: Craig Scott
Seconded: Nigel Norwood
- **Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Adrian Perks
Nominated by: Tom Carmody
Seconded: Phil Longmire

9.2 **Election of Senior Fire Control Officers**

- **West Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Tom Carmody
Nominated by: Mark Scott
Seconded: Kirk Jeitz
- **West Coast Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Kinglsey Scott
Nominated by: Kirk Jeitz
Seconded: Peter Rowe
- **North Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Chris Hallam
Nominated by: Phil Longmire
Seconded: Graham Harris
- **East Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Simon Schlink
Nominated by: Phil Longmire
Seconded: Brett South

- **East Coast Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Adrian Perks
Nominated by: Brett South
Seconded: Tom Carmody
- **Urban Rural Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Peter Rowe
Nominated by: Laurie Palmer
Seconded: Craig Scott

9.3 Election of Deputy Senior Fire Control Officers

- **West Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Will Carmody
Nominated by: Phil Longmire
Seconded: Kirk Jeitz
- **West Coast Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Mark Scott
Nominated by: Tom Carmody
Seconded: Adrian Perks
- **North Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Perrin Guest
Nominated by: Dan Sanderson
Seconded: Nigel Norwood
- **East Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Lyndon Mickel
Nominated by: Simon Schlink
Seconded: Nic Ruddenklau
- **East Coast Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Nic Ruddenklau
Nominated by: Phil Longmire
Seconded: Brett South
- **Urban Rural Zone**
Nominated/Elected: Mr Andrew Waters
Nominated by: Peter Rowe
Seconded: Laurie Palmer

9.4 Confirmation of Fire Weather Officers for 2024/25 Season

Fire Weather Officer	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Deputy Fire Weather Officers	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (East)
	Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (West)
	Senior Fire Control Officer – Urban/Rural
	Community Emergency Services Manager

MOTION

Moved: Mr Peter Rowe
Seconded: Mr Brett South

BFA0724-106

Committee Decision

The Committee moves that members within the above position roles, be elected as Fire Weather Officers and Deputy Fire Weather Officers for the 2024/25 Season.

CARRIED

Bush Fire Advisory Committee: Minutes
15 July 2024

Page 10

9.5 Confirmation of Brigade Fire Control Officers for 2024/25 Season

Thanks to Jason Allan (Salmon Gums), Dave Mills (Gibson) and Craig Hines (Mt Merivale) for their service as Fire Control Officers. Thanks to Dave Vandenberghe for his service as Scaddan BFB Captain, standing down from the role.

Committee Decision/Motion

The Committee endorses the current Fire Control Officer list and that the Community Emergency Services Manager follows up with brigades that were not present to confirm their listings.

9.6 Confirmation of Brigade Permit Issuing Officers 2024/25 Season

Committee Decision/Motion

The Committee endorses the current Permit Issuing Officer list and that the Community Emergency Services Manager follows up with brigades that were not present to confirm their listings.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

MOTION

Moved: Mr Ashley Peczka

Seconded: Mr Peter Rowe

BFA0724-107

Committee Decision

That the meeting proceed behind closed doors for items 10.1 and 10.2 due to sensitives relating to the Boxing Day Incident.

CARRIED

The meeting went behind closed doors at 6:56pm.

10.1 Group Welfare Check in

10.2 Boxing Day Debrief

MOTION

Moved: Mr Ashley Peczka

Seconded: Mr Phil Longmire

BFA0724-108

Committee Decision

That the meeting come from Behind Closed Doors

CARRIED

The meeting resumed from behind closed doors at 7:20pm.

10.3 Bush Fire Brigade Local Laws

Ms Zoe Sheffield-van Mierlo advised that the Local Law has been through the public consultation period with comments received by Danny Sanderson. Comments have also been received by Acting Commissioner of DFES on behalf of Minister for Emergency Services, and Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries on behalf of Minister for Local Government. Consideration of comments to commence.

Proposal to form sub-group to consult with Committee on matters raised in public and Ministerial comments. Committee members to express interest in participation. Danny Sanderson and Phil Longmire expressed interest in involvement.

10.4 Mitigation

Mrs Claudia Magana provided an overview to the Shire's 2024/25 Mitigation Activity Fund (MAF) Program.

10.5 AFDRS

Mr Phil Longmire advised the committee he is still working through the idea of Ground observers with DFES to assist with ground-truthing fuel loads by a network of cameras. This will aid in adjusting fuel load figures when it comes to calculating the day's fire danger rating. Currently the system is pre-set at 4.5tn/Ha, but if we want to reduce it post-harvest requires Ground observers to feed back into the system. There are positives in doing this, but there will be a knock-on effect that would occur in other areas.

Mr Phil Longmire was still comfortable with the 50FBI figure for Harvest bans. He thanked the professionalism of FCO as most Harvest Bans come online between FBI figure of 40-50, as local conditions were deteriorating.

10.6 Role of Fire Control Officers

Certificate of appointments for Fire Control Officers must be returned as soon as they are received to assist the governance team in carrying out the process to confirm your role as a Fire Control Officer.

If a Fire Control Officer is in charge of an incident, they are making the decisions to extinguish the fire, they are responsible for filling out an incident report. Reports need to be completed online or sent to the Shire in an appropriate timeframe. If there are brigades coming across to assist, the brigade captain is to submit an attendance report so we can confirm who was on the fire ground.

A generic letter will be sent out to serving Fire Control Officers that are not showing any formal qualifications against their training records. As per the council policy it is a requirement for FCO's to obtain their qualifications within the first 12 months and to sit a refresher training every 5 years of consecutive service. If selected FCO's can please read the letter and provide the appropriate information back to the Shire.

10.7 Training Schedule

Mr Ash Peczka asked the committee apart from the standard courses of Bushfire Safety Awareness, Fire Fighting Skills, Ground Controller and Fire Control Officer. Are there any other courses that members would like to see?

Mr Phil Longmire requested for Firemapper training.

Mr Tom Carmody asked whether there were plans for various training courses in Perth like level 1 IC. Mr Steve Petersen advised a Level 1 Incident Controller course has a PUA reference and the course is still under review to better cater for rural volunteers.

10.8 Fire Hazard Reduction Notice

Mr Ash Peczka advised the committee of the following amendments to the notice;

- Removal of 2tn/ha wording to be keep in a parkland cleared state within townsites
- Clarity to bare earth breaks around gas cylinders, are for those cylinders that are isolated from a structure. Not for those attached to side of their house.

MOTION

Moved: Mr Peter Rowe

Seconded: Mr Craig Scott

BFA0724-109

Committee Decision

The Committee moves;

- 1. To support the Draft 2024/25 Fire Hazard Reduction Notice, and**
- 2. To endorse the following Restricted and Prohibited Burning Times**
Rural Zone:
Restricted Burning Period – 18 September 2024 to 12 November 2024
Prohibited Burning Period – 13 November 2024 to 31 January 2025
Restricted Burning Period – 1 February 2025 to 31 March 2025
Urban Rural Zone
Restricted Burning Period – 18 September 2024 to 12 November 2024
Prohibited Burning Period – 13 November to 9 March 2025
Restricted Burning Period – 10 March 2025 to 30 April 2025

CARRIED
F10 - A0

10.9 Vehicle Servicing Schedule

Mr Ash Peczka presented the upcoming BFB vehicle servicing schedule and reminded the members if there are any known issues with the appliance to let the service provider know so the appropriate parts can be ordered in advance.

10.10 Terms of Reference

Ms Zoe Sheffield-van Mierlo reminded everyone about the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Terms of Reference that require the Committee to meet twice a year, in April and September, and that there is a need to hold the AGM in April so that the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice can be endorsed by the Committee prior to the Notice going to Council for endorsement. Holding the AGM in July has resulted in time constraints to include the Notice and BFAC minutes as an item for the July Ordinary Council Meeting. It was acknowledged that April and May are a difficult time for the Committee to meet given seeding season is underway.

Phil Longmire requested that the Terms of Reference are addressed at the next BFAC.

10.11 FireMapper

Mr Ash Peczka asked the rural brigades trialling the FireMapper this season, if there was a need to purchase additional licence groups?

Mt Beaumont and Cascade brigades showed interest in acquiring a licence each.

10. CLOSURE

The Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 8:25pm.

The next meeting of the Bush Fire Advisory is scheduled for Tuesday 10 September 2024, commencing at 6pm in the Council Chambers.

These Minutes were confirmed at a meeting held on _____

Signed _____

Presiding Member at the meeting at which the Minutes were confirmed.

Dated _____



FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE 2024/2025



FIRST & FINAL NOTICE

First and Final Notice has been served to all landowner/occupiers within the Shire of Esperance, who have the legal responsibilities to prepare their properties to reduce the risk of outbreak and spread of fires.

THESE ARE YOUR LEGAL REQUIREMENTS.

Please read carefully & retain for future reference.

Pursuant to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954*, this Notice sets out the actions that you must take to prepare your property for the fire season. As a measure for preventing the spread or extension of a bush fire which may occur, all owners and occupiers of the land within the Shire's district are required before **9 October 2024** to clear firebreaks or to take measures in accordance with this Notice and maintain those firebreaks and measures in accordance with this Notice up to and including the **31 March 2025**.

REQUEST FOR VARIATION

Request for a variation to this Notice is to be considered if any of the listed requirements to reduce your fire hazard is impractical on your property due to site specific topography, environmental sensitive area's and/or specific development conditions.

Landowner/occupiers can apply in writing to the Shire for a variation before **24 September** of each year for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative locations or take alternative measures to prevent the outbreak or spread of a bush fire. The Shire may approve variations for either a 1 year or a 3 year period. Variation forms can be found via the [Shire website](#).

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER!

ZONE	RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD	PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD	RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD
RURAL	18 Sept - 12 Nov 2024	13 Nov - 31 Jan 2025	1 Feb - 31 Mar 2025
URBAN - RURAL	18 Sept - 12 Nov 2024	13 Nov - 9 Mar 2025	10 Mar - 30 Apr 2025



NOTE

Depending on seasonal conditions, above timeframes may be changed or extended as permitted under the Bush Fires Act 1954. Any changes will be published either by local newsletter, public notice board, SMS, Shire's social media and/or website.

FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE 2024/2025

FOR ALL FIRES & LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES - DIAL 000



TOWN SITE: RESIDENTIAL, INDUSTRIAL & COMMERCIAL AREAS

Applies to all land zoned within the town sites of Bandy Creek, Cascade, Castletown, Chadwick, Condingup, Coomalbidgup, Esperance, Gibson, Grass Patch, Nulsen, Salmon Gums, Scaddan, Sinclair and West Beach you must;

- a. Where the area of land is 2,000m² or less,
 - i. Reduce fire fuel from the whole of land such that fuel loads are maintained in a parkland cleared state. Isolated trees and managed shrubs may generally be retained.
- b. Where the area of land exceeds 2,000m²,
 - i. Establish and maintain an Asset Protection Zone around all habitable buildings;
 - ii. Grassed areas (dry or reticulated) to be maintained to a maximum height of 100mm; and
 - iii. A 4 metre wide bare earth firebreak or a 4 metre wide mulched/slash firebreak shall be constructed and maintained inside all external boundaries where practicable. 4 metre wide bare earth firebreak is required to be located around fuel storage tanks, sheds, and gas cylinders (isolated from structures).
- c. Where a Bushfire Management Plan which relates to the property that has been approved by Council, clear firebreaks and take measures in accordance with that Bushfire Management Plan.
- d. Where the land has been cleared for the purpose of development and the land remains vacant, the land must be maintained in either a cleared, slashed or mulched state.



REGULATED ACTIVITIES

The Shire's Fire Control Officer is of the opinion that harvesting machines, headers, stubble mulchers, hay bailers and track raking/chaining, other than clover harvesters, are likely to cause a bushfire, or would be conducive to the spread of a bush fire, during the prohibited and restricted burning times.

Pursuant to Regulation 38A(1) Bush Fires Regulation 1954, the Shire of Esperance hereby prohibits the following:

- a. The use of harvesting machines, headers, stubble mulchers hay bailers and track raking/chaining, other than clover harvesters, in the paddock being harvested/ mulched/raked or adjacent to the entrance of the paddock being harvested/mulched/raked, there are sufficient mobile fire fighting units, or;
- b. A minimum of 1000lt mobile fire fighting water must be available per harvest operations or minimum 400lt per other operations in same the paddock, and;
- c. The use of harvesting machinery or headers on Christmas Day and New Years Day every year, and;
- d. The use of Stubble Slashing /Mulching between 23 December and 2 January (inclusive) every year.



Scan the QR code or visit esperance.wa.gov.au/bushfire-information for more information, including the [Definitions & Guidance Note](#).

Contact Esperance Rangers from Monday to Friday between 7:30am - 4.30pm
on (08) 9083 1533 or via email at rangers@esperance.wa.gov.au

FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE 2024/2025

FOR ALL FIRES & LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES - DIAL 000



RURAL RESIDENTIAL & RURAL SMALL HOLDINGS

Applies to all land zoned Rural Residential & Rural Smallholdings situated within the localities of Bandy Creek, Chadwick, Gibson, Monjingup, Myrup, Pink Lake, Shark Lake and Windabout you must;

- a. Clear either a 4 metre wide bare earth firebreak or a 4 metre wide mulched/slashed firebreak immediately inside all external boundaries. Firebreaks shall have a 5 metre vertical clearance so it provides unrestricted access to emergency service vehicles; or,
- b. Where established trees are located along fence lines, clear either a 4 metre wide bare earth firebreak or a 4 metre wide mulched/slashed firebreak within 5 metres of the external fence line and reduce the fire fuel between the firebreak and external fence line; and,
- c. Parkland clearing must be carried out in all open paddocks and along the boundary of the property. Clearing means the removal of all dead vegetation and flammable material (excluding approved crops, pasture areas and living trees/shrubs);
- d. Unmanaged pasture and grasslands must be maintained to height no greater than 100 millimetres, except for when a paddock is being utilised for feed or agistment, maintain a 2 metre slashed break inside all fence lines;
- e. A 4 metre wide bare earth firebreak shall be located around fuel storage tanks, sheds, gas cylinders (isolated from structures) and within 6 metres of haystacks. Haystacks cannot be situated on the external boundary;
- f. Establish and maintain a Low Fuel Zone (parkland cleared) 1 metre wide, around Power infrastructure e.g. Metre Box, and Underground Power Domes;
- g. Driveways must be cleared to a minimum of 4 metres wide and 5 metres in height, that can provide unrestricted access to emergency service vehicles;
- h. Properties to establish & maintain an Asset Protection Zone* around all habitable buildings and,
- i. Where a Bushfire Management Plan which relates to the property has been adopted by Council, clear firebreaks and take measures in accordance with that Bushfire Management Plan as an alternative to the standard requirement listed in this Notice.

RURAL AREAS

Applies to all land zoned as Rural, you must;

- a. Except for areas set aside for conservation purposes, all uncleared land must install and maintain a 6 metre wide and 5 metre vertical clearance bare earth firebreak or mulched / slashed firebreak immediately inside all external boundaries. Firebreaks are to provide unrestricted access to emergency service vehicles; and,
- b. Where the property is partially cleared, 6 metre wide and 5 metre vertical clearance bare earth firebreak or mulched/slashed firebreak are required where the uncleared land abuts the external boundary.

Visit mybushfireplan.wa.gov.au or scan the QR code to download the My Bushfire Plan App. Access your bushfire plan anytime, even without an internet connection.



FIRE HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE 2024/2025

FOR ALL FIRES & LIFE THREATENING EMERGENCIES - DIAL 000



TOTAL FIRE BAN

A Total Fire Ban is declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) on a days of extreme weather; *where a fire is most likely to spread rapidly or if there are already widespread fires and fire fighting resources are too stretched to fight any more.*

The lighting of open-air fires or any other activity in the open air that is likely to cause a fire is banned.

Penalties

By ignoring the conditions of a Total Fire Ban, you may receive an infringement of \$1,000. WA Police, Shire Rangers, DBCA Rangers, DFES Staff and Fire Control Officers are permitted to enforce Total Fire Ban requirements.

WHAT IS NOT PERMITTED DURING A TOTAL FIRE BAN

- Light, maintain or use a fire i.e. Camp Fires, and Fire Pits.
- Wood fired and Charcoal BBQ's, Webbers and Ovens
- Burning of garden/green waste.
- Incinerators
- Hot works in the open air or near bush, crops & stubble i.e. Grinding, welding, gas cutting, etc.
- The use of Motor Bikes, Quad Bikes, Dune Buggy's and 4WD Vehicles on overgrown/4WD tracks.
- The use of earthmoving equipment, slashers, mowers near bush, crops, pasture & stubble. (Unless exempt)



For more information scan the QR code or visit
esperance.wa.gov.au/bushfire-information

WHAT IS PERMITTED DURING A TOTAL FIRE BAN

- The use of Electric or Gas BBQ's and Webbers
- Harvest and Agricultural activities are permitted, until a Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban is declared by the Shire of Esperance.

PERMITS TO BURN

Permits to Burn are required during the Restricted Burning Times and can only be obtained from your nearest Fire Control Officer. A list of Fire Control Officers is available page on the Shire's website.

A Permit to Burn must be obtained before any burning takes place. The permit holder must comply with all conditions of the permit and be in possession of the permit throughout the duration of the burn.

Please note: Restricted Burning Times maybe extended due to seasonal conditions - refer to the Shires webpage prior to your planned burn.

DFES Communications Centre (9395 9209) are to be advised whenever the holder of a permit commences burning; and/or whenever a person is carrying out burning activities during the Restricted & Unrestricted Burning Times.

**Asset Protection Zone: A low fuel area immediately surrounding a building*

17. MATTERS BEHIND CLOSED DOORS