



Shire of
Nannup
rest • connect • grow

Minutes

Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting

Tuesday 29 March 2022

5:30pm

Shire of Nannup Council Chambers
15 Adam Street

1. DECLARATION OF OPENING / ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS / ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Councillor Brown declared the Bushfire Advisory Committee (BFAC) meeting open at 5:30pm.

Councillor Brown acknowledged the traditional custodians of the land, the Wardandi and Bibbulmun people; paying respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

2. ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES

2.1 Attendance

- (CB) Cheryl Brown – Shire of Nannup Councillor (CR)
- (PT) Patricia Fraser – Shire of Nannup Councillor (CR)
- (RM) Robin Mellema – Chief Bushfire Control Officer (CBFCO)
- (MS) Mark Scott– Deputy Chief Deputy Bushfire Control Officer (DBFCO)
- (JP) John Patman – Deputy Chief Deputy Bushfire Control Officer (DBFCO)
- (AM) Andrew McNab – Scott River Fire Control Officer (FCO)
- (CC) Carey Curtis – Nannup Brook Fire Control Officer (FCO)
- (PT) Peter Thomas – District Officer Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES)
- (GH) Greg Hodgson – Manager Fire Protection Forest Productions Commission (FPC)
- (AR) Alison Raper – Acting District Fire Coordinator Department of Biosecurity Conservation & Attractions (DBCA)
- (LF) Leigh Fletcher – Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)
- (RE) Roz Edwards – Shire of Nannup Ranger.

2.2 Apologies

- Ed Hatherly – Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions Blackwood (DBCA)
- Peter Hastie – Carlotta Fire Control Officer (FCO)
- Steve Mulvaney – Darradup Fire control Officer (FCO)
- Mike Vasey – North Nannup Fire control Officer (FCO)
- Stephen Mills – Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions Donnelly (DBCA)
- Kellie Jenkins – Deputy Chief Executive Officer Shire of Nannup (DCEO)

3 PETITIONS/DEPUTATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Nil.

4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Motion

"The Minutes of the Shire of Nannup Bushfire Advisory Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers on 22 November 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record".

Moved: Mark Scott

Seconded: John Patman

CARRIED

5 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES

- 5.1 Cundinup Shed Build – Leigh Fletcher stated the shed construction stage was at 95% completion with the internal fit out remaining, completion expected before June 2022.
- 5.2 SMS Broadcast Telstra Integrated Messaging System (TIMS) – Leigh Fletcher stated that the system is in operation and have experienced no issues with the system to date and will look to expand its use and build on the platform and integrate other service messaging that may be advantageous to the community.
- 5.3 Fuel Hazard Reduction Firebreak Notice review – Roz Edwards stated that the Shire is nearing the end of the fire season and fire inspections. A review of the Notice will be carried out over the next couple of months and will be seeking legal advice on the written notice which is in its early stages. Robin Mellema questioned why the Shire is seeking legal advice on the Firebreak Notice, Roz Edwards responded that currently no incidents have occurred and stated that as raised at previous meetings it is a powerful document and other surrounding Councils are using their legal team to review the Notice. Also for clarity from a legal perspective as to what we can and can not enforce.
- 5.4 Volunteer I.D Cards – Volunteers have been issued with I.D cards, any volunteers yet to receive an I.D card can contact Leigh Fletcher. Robin Mellema asked if the cards are going to be changed from a paper format to a different style of presentation on the card. Roz Edwards replied a plastic card style may be an option that the Shire could look into. Robin mentioned that he would recommend that, Mark Scott mentioned that it would be a more practical and professional approach. Mark Scott also mentioned DFES I.D cards can be applied for. Leigh Fletcher will follow up on the Issue of the DFES cards. Mark Scott stated that the issuing of DFES I.D cards would remove difficulty and allow for volunteer access at incidents. Councillor Brown asked if the I.D cards were for Fire Control Officers (FCO) or are they for all volunteers. Roz Edwards replied that the I.D cards issued by the Shire are for Fire Control Officers. Carey Curtis asked, is it possible to be stored on a phone. Roz Edwards replied that it should be quiet easy to get a credit card style print, something we can look into. Councillor Brown replied, could a solution be a photograph of the I.D card on your phone, would that be acceptable. Cary Curtis mentioned that the wallet app or a storage space on a phone would be more suitable than a photo. Roz Edwards asked if there was any feedback on the legal wording within the card or is the issue just the size

and style. Mark Scott mentioned that he was happy with the legal wording on the cards, it was more the bulkiness as it doesn't fit in a wallet and does not look very professional. Robin Mellema stated that he feels there's no issue with the legal wording within the I.D cards.

- 5.5 Councillor representation on BFAC – Councillor Brown mentioned that before the official start of the meeting that she is one of the two councillor representatives on the BFAC committee and will be chairing the meeting and Councillor Fraser is the other appointed representative, apologies for missing the November meeting due to a clerical error.
- 5.6 Appointment of Peerabeelup fire control Officer (FCO) – Leigh Fletcher to follow up on the appointment of the Peerabeelup Fire Control Officer for the May BFAC. (Pending Training)

6 REPORTS

6.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Robin Mellema welcomed all to BFAC and thanked all the Fire Control Officers for supporting us with the supply of units and personnel for the various fires that we've had locally and also for providing backup and assistance for areas outside of our district. He mentioned that there has been incidents and times when the Shire have relied on outside resources for support and that this provides relief and bolsters relationships. For the Shire volunteers to be able to reciprocate with external incidents this year has been fantastic, thanks again. Robin Mellema mentioned that he was talking to a brigade member who stated there was a High Season Vehicle (HSV) in the Nannup Brook Shed. Leigh Fletcher confirmed a Light Tanker HSV was on that premises.

6.2 Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Mark Scott said thank you to everyone and a personal thank you to personnel that helped with a fire at Mark Scott's property. Mark had received positive and negative feedback with regard to Harvest Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB) this year and has tried to explain to people who felt negative towards the Bans. Mark Scott mentioned that he had briefly spoken to Peter Thomas with regards to the increasing number of call outs to car fires experienced in the Shire, this is concerning because the safety equipment available to our volunteers is not suitable and it exposes our volunteers to hazardous conditions. The other concerning point is there is no protocol in place for turning out to car fires and managing an incident with personnel entrapment, injury or loss of life and the potential mental and emotional impact on crew members.

6.3 Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

John Patman – Nothing to report.

6.4 Fire Control Officer Reports

6.4.1 Balingup Road - Mark Scott

Nothing further to report.

6.4.2 Carlotta - Peter Hastie

Nil

6.4.3 Cundinup – Gerald Brown

Gerald mentioned the Cundinup Bushfire Brigade shed build and its current progress. He mentioned the involvement of the brigade in several fires since the last. Mark Tomas and I were deployed as Lower South West (LSW) task force to the Yallingup fire on 9 December 2021. Members then attended a small fire on Vasse Hwy 10kms north of Nannup, members also attended the Brazier fire and a number of crew attended the fire at Mark Scott's property.

6.4.4 Darradup – Steve Mulvaney

Nil

6.4.5 East Nannup – Vic Lorkiewicz

Nil

6.4.6 Nannup Brook – Carey Curtis

Carey Curtis mentioned that the Nannup Brook brigade responded to the same fires as Cundinup Bushfire brigade as well as the Hester Cascades incident in Bridgetown. Crew members that attended the Hester Cascades fire were exposed to the hazardous conditions from the Timber Treatment Plant which required the immediate decontamination of crew uniforms and the brigade appliance. The brigade is currently receiving some upgrades to improve performance and practicality. Confirmation of the High Season Vehicle (HSV) located and Nannup Brook.

6.4.7 North Nannup – Mike Vasey

Nil

6.4.8 Peerabeelup – Brett Fowler

Pending endorsement/training.

6.4.9 Scott River – Andrew McNab

Andrew McNab mentioned that the brigade involvement was based on phone communication with DFES and DBCA with the recent Yeagarup fires. No incidents attended.

6.4.10 Forest Products Commission (FPC) Greg Hodgson

Report Attached - Mark Scott mentioned that due to the announcement to cease harvesting in the hardwood industry, I understand that many controlled burns were partly funded by FPC as silviculture burns after harvesting in the jarrah forest. Do- you have a figure value that will not be funded to DBCA to carry out those burns and whether it is going to lead to a significant cut of hardwood burns in the area. Greg Hodgson replied, I'm not sure, it's a good question, a lot of the DBCA burning has been funded by FPC and we fund a certain amount of plantation protection burns that double as community protection burns as well. I don't see that arrangement changing under the new arrangement but certainly with the redrawing of the forest management plan that DBCA are in the midst of, those issues with who's going to fund the additional vegetation burns remains to be decided. Alison Raper added, when the announcement was originally made we got together from

Fire Management Services and Sustainable Forest Management group and identified that as a key risk. The information currently sits with the DBCA Director.

6.4.11 Community Emergency Services – Leigh Fletcher

Report Attached - Peter Thomas advised that COVID restrictions on brigade face to face training has been relaxed and the training calendar and opportunities for volunteers will be available in the very near future.

6.4.12 Department of Fire & Emergency Services – Peter Thomas

Report Attached

6.4.13 Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions – Alison Raper

Report Attached

7 STANDING ITEMS

- 7.1 Emergency Services Levy (ESL) 2021/22 Expenditure – March Year to Date (YTD) \$102,934.23
- 7.2 Resolution tracker operational and updated.
- 7.3 2020/21 Mitigation Activity Fund (MAF) acquitted, 2022 Round 2 application accepted.

8 GENERAL BUSINESS

- 8.1 COVID19 – Update (Restricted Access/Vaccinations) – Continued.
- 8.2 Fire Activity within the Shire – Confirmed in reports.
- 8.3 Harvest Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB) within the Shire – Leigh mentioned in reference to Mark Scott's comments, that there had been some confusion and questions as to the implementation of the Harvest Vehicle Movement Bans (HVMB) throughout the year, seeking any other feedback. Andrew McNab commented that Scott River Blue gum Plantation operations and the importance of early notification for Bans. Leigh noted and replied that most plantation operations have their own fire management plans and guidelines alike FPC, we just need to be aware that we are on the same page, I can understand where Andrew is coming from as Scott River is a different environment compared to other parts of the Shire. Robin Mellema stated that in conjunction with Leigh Fletcher to make decisions about the Bans, we make sure that the Fire Danger Index (FDI) is 35 or above as often as possible, there were two occasions this season that due to resources and active incidents it was decided to leave the ban in place for an extended period. The process involves checking available information and calculations and liaising with neighbouring Councils. The decisions are made with the best information available at that particular time, we try to exercise this as soon as practicable and we consult with Andrew McNab and the data from the nearby Witchcliffe Weather Station to minimise the impact. Unfortunately, there will be times where the bans do not suit everyone's day to day, however we do operate inside the guidelines when implementing Bans. Councillor Brown

suggested some publication for the reasoning and calculation for the Harvest Vehicle Movement Ban prior to the Fire Season. Mark Scott replied that it wouldn't hurt to give some insight. Mark mentioned that he fully supports the Bans, as the Ban in late December 2021 with temperatures peaking at 43 degrees he had 3 people contact him to enquire about the use of chainsaws. Councillor Brown proposed that the Shire could promote the Bans prior to the season that could be aimed at the general public. Leigh Fletcher replied that an educational circular could be looked into by the Shire prior to the high threat period.

- 8.4** Cundinup Shed Build – Confirmed in reports.
- 8.5** SMS Broadcast Platform – Confirmed in reports.
- 8.6** Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Operational Procedures review – Confirmed in reports.
- 8.7** Nannup Airstrip update – Leigh mentioned that the Shire and the Department of Biodiversity Conservation & Attractions (DBCA) have agreed to fund the procurement and installation of a bore and pump direct to the existing water tank for the Nannup Air Strip to support aerial operations within the Shire, this will also free the Shire water cart to assist with other operations.
- 8.8** Shire 2021/22 Training Calendar- Leigh Fletcher to confirm the new calendar.
- 8.9** Carlotta Car Fire response – Robin Mellema mentioned that the Shire request that DFES automatically assign Volunteer fire and Rescue (VFRS) to the Communications Centre (Comcen) Group call with car related incidents due to the hazardous nature and the incompatible safety equipment carried by Bush Fire Brigades. The brigades have the capacity to concentrate and target exposures that may be impacted. Peter Thomas to follow up, a formal process is to be completed with a letter of support from Leigh Fletcher. The involvement of the brigades will still be required offering a support role to Fire and Rescue Services.
- 8.10** Gerald Brown asked, on behalf of the Cundinup VBFB the following as a question on notice for discussion at tonight's BFAC meeting:

What policy or process is in place to ensure all fire brigades have equal and fair access to fee for service opportunities such as fire mitigation activities on behalf of the Shire of Nannup.

Does the process include the following;

- Full communication with the brigade in which the works are to be conducted (including scope of work, contact person responsible for ongoing fire management, fire management plan and permit details provided to local FCO.
- Sufficient notification in advance to ensure all brigades have the time to consider and plan for works required.
- Information on the fee allocated for the service during advance communication and how this is determined.
- Preference provided to the brigade in which the works are to be conducted.

The Cundinup Brigade does not resent the involvement of the other brigades in the work, however the lack of advance notice in order for the Cundinup Brigade to take up the

opportunity to do this work in their area, and circumstances relating to timing of the burn-off is of great concern to our brigade members.

Gerald Brown mentioned the mitigation treatment (Burn Off) on Cundinup South Road that was part of the Shires Mitigation Program for November 2021. Gerald stated he had only received information regarding the burn off 3 days prior to the ignition date. Gerald Brown had concerns with the lateness of the burn and the lack of resources available to manage the fire. Robin Mellema proposed that the matter be addressed by the Shire. Leigh Fletcher noted all questions and will reply to Gerald Brown in a timely manner after consultation with Shire management.

- 8.11** Mark Scott mentioned feedback and general knowledge regarding the fire at his property, that Western Power have refused any responsibility for the pole top fire. Their response was that they had recently inspected the poles and carried out due diligence and accept no responsibility. Mark Scott noted to property owners to be aware. Mark Scott mentioned the value of having the Black Hawk Helitanks respond to the incident on his property.
- 8.12** Councillor Brown proposed a survey to reflect the impact of video conference meetings and difficulties that may be experienced. Leigh Fletcher mentioned that a couple of people had expressed concerns with connectivity. Robin Mellema mentioned that Fire Control Officers and other Agencies may benefit from a combination type scenario to alleviate travel. Leigh to follow up.

9 PROPOSED DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 3 May 2022 commencing at 5:30pm

10 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 7:15pm

Nannup – Bushfire Advisory Meeting

February 2022

Forest Products Commission Report

- FPC has escaped any significant impact from the recent fires across the Southwest, Upper Gt Southern and Southcoast where it has assets with LG's. FPC staff however were very active in many of these fires helping out volunteers and DBCA resources.
- The most recent fire in Vasse Plantation (Treeton area) has burnt approx 80ha of standing pine and that will need to be salvaged over coming months before re-establishment in 2023.
- FPC establishment in the Blackwood valley will be close to 650ha this year across, *Maidment's, Lewana, Ferndale, Folly and Balingup* and these plans and preparation are now underway.
- Weather conditions over summer and the HVMB's were effectively communicated across those FPC operations through the daily notification processes and staff. It was appreciated that notification of any VMB the day before enabled FPC to liaise with contractors in advance and work around those periods when the Bans were put in place across many LG,s.
- While VMB's did impact FPC operations at times during our peak operational period and while the timber demand is currently extremely strong, FPC experienced no opposition from its contractors and customers who appreciate the fire risk to the broader WA timber industry.
- With the WA Governments announcement to cease Native logging at the end of the current Forest Management plan (end 2023) there have and will be significant implications for FPC's business. FPC will be keen to see how the proposed changes impact its operational structures and its capacity to support DBCA and Local government in fire management.
- The significant State funds allocated for the softwood expansion to help offset the impact of the NF closure decision are now being targeted primarily against those hardwood (*Bluegum*) plantations coming out of contract in the Boddington, West Arthur, Boyup Brook, Cranbrook and Bridgetown Greenbushes shires where companies are continuing to exit.
- Opportunities still exist for many landowners to also consider integrating their own private pine woodlots with the industry recently releasing a reasonably attractive project for landowners to establish, maintain and sell their own plantation asset with direct support from the Sawmill customer & FPC (*Free seedlings*). The associated carbon credits from the wood are also considered within the "Decision making module" that has been release by the SW Timber Hub.
- FPC is now working closely with DFES Policy & Training and FIFWA members to revise *the Guidelines to Plantation Fire Protection* that are due out later in 2022. A working group has also been established by DFES to develop the new *Plantation Fire Fighter* training module

that supports the Guidelines and provides local volunteers the opportunity to gain some additional skills in Fire suppression in plantations.

- FPCs *Guidelines Plantation Operational Restrictions (FPC147 attached)* for its staff and contractors has been reviewed recently to accommodate some new machines acquired by the industry to reduce the fire risk. Some contractors are replacing track machines with rubber tyred machines to complete those operations in higher risk sites during the summer months.

Note: Should CESO's, FCO's need to liaise on some of these issues please contact myself, I'm keen to get to get along to any meetings-training whenever possible/available.

Regards

Greg Hodgson

Manager Fire Protection

Forest Products Commission

Level 2, 61 Victoria Street, Bunbury WA 6230 Phone: (08) 9725 5246 | Mobile: 0429 206600

| Email: greg.hodgson@fpc.wa.gov.au

Web: www.fpc.wa.gov.au | www.facebook.com/fpcwa | www.twitter.com/fpcwa



Perth hills and South West softwood plantations					
Fire danger index (JFDI)	0-60	61-100	101-140	141+	LGA harvest and vehicle movement ban
High risk operations (all steel tracked machines, harvesters, excavators, bull dozers, and chainsaws)					
Low site fire hazard					
High site fire hazard					
Extreme site fire hazard	No machine operations to occur on these sites from December 15th to March 15th without Strategic Asset and Fire Managers approval				
Medium risk operations (rubber tyred/tracked machines including; graders, skidders, harvesters, forwarders, front end loaders, infield chippers on cleared site)					
Low site fire hazard					
High site fire hazard					
Extreme site fire hazard					
Low risk operations (graders, light vehicles and trucks on formed roads and spraying activities)					
Low site fire hazard					
High site fire hazard					
Extreme site fire hazard					

Key

Contractors must meet the following requirements prior to commencing work:

- No restrictions
- Operator within phone/radio contact with Supervisor (Supervisor in phone contact with DBCA Duty Officer and FPC).
- Minimum of 1 light unit per machine
- Minimum of 2 light units on site
- Compulsory grab tank (min 400L) attached to forwarder or other approved machine-based suppression capacity on site located within 100m of active machine.
- Minimum of 1 manned (2 operators available) heavy duty fire tank unit, minimum of 1 light unit per machine to be stationed on site, and remain and inspect the site for 1 hour after machine stops work.
- Minimum of grab tank (forwarder) or other approved machine based suppression capacity and a minimum of 1 light unit and heavy duty to be stationed on site and remain and inspect the site for 1 hour after machine stops work.
- Cease operations and inspect the site for 1 hour after machine stops work.
- Exception - Loading and transporting logs from a cleared break or landing is permitted providing Operator within phone/radio contact with DBCA Duty Officer and FPC Supervisor. Minimum of 2 manned light units to be stationed on site and to remain and inspect the site for 15 minutes after machine stops work.
- Exception - Rubber tyred vehicles travelling along formed roads. Does not include machinery conducting road maintenance.



These restrictions are a guideline only. Senior Operational Manager or Fire Duty Officer may consider further restrictions if conditions change.

Silviculture Operations:

Tracked machines working on cleared sites for establishment purposes may be assessed as Medium Risk Operations subject to approval from the Manager Silviculture and Manager Fire Protection.

Note: These guidelines do not apply to fire suppression activities.

Definitions

Low site fire hazard - Ground prepared for establishment (windrowed, heaping crusher rolled, mounded)

High site fire hazard - Heavy fuel loadings (including all standing plantations with dry needle bed)

Extreme site fire hazard - Steep slopes > 14 degrees and containing exposed rock and with heavy fuel loads (includes cured harvesting debris / red tops)

On site - located so as to support any potential ignition point within five minutes

Heavy duty manned (2 operators) - 4-wheel drive truck with 2,700 litre water tank and pump rate 1,200 litres per minute. Trucks must have capacity to deliver min 100m hose lay response with appropriate nozzle.

Light unit/Fast Attack - 4WD vehicle or attached trailer with 400 litres of water and 5 hp pump, rake and/or shovel

BFAC Report February 28th 2022

Recommendation to BFAC for Council endorsement:

- Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Operational Procedures 2021 Review

Work Health & Safety

- On the 5th Feb 2022 Nannup volunteer crews were deployed to the Hester Cascades incident. Two volunteers were confirmed to have been exposed to the HAZMAT incident, resulting in 1 volunteer experiencing symptoms due to the exposure. Reported to DFES, volunteer self-monitoring.
- On the 6th Feb 2022 an incident/accident was reported resulting in personnel injury to a volunteer. LGIS is aware of the incident and the Shire is finalising the paperwork for processing (Claim).
- COVID19 – Restrictions remain in place as per State Public Health Directive. Restricted access to Emergency Services Sites remains in places.

LSW/SW Bushfire Activity:

- Recent incidents in the LSW and SW over the last couple of months have been very busy, they also proven to have been taxing on the states depleted local volunteer workforce, with several (4) fires escalating to a level 3 increasing the pressure and strain on resources throughout the State. The efforts of all Volunteers, Staff and other support agencies is to be commended for their commitment.

Extension of the Prohibited Burning Season 2022:

- The Shire of Nannup in accordance with Section 17 of the Bush Fires Act 1654 will be extending the prohibited burning season for a period of 2 weeks effective as of the 1st of March 2022 until the 14th March 2022.
- Please note that the prohibited period in all areas south of Stewart road within the Shire will end on the 1st March and will transition into the restricted period.
- At the end of the extended period the Shire of Nannup will review and take into consideration current seasonal conditions to determine the requirement for further extensions.

Brigades & Appliance Requirements:

- Cundinup BFB shed Build commenced.
- Cundinup fire appliance to be included in the 2021/22 Capital/Operational LGGS application.
- The servicing and maintenance program of all Shire fire appliances will proceed post the 2022 fire season and will be conducted by JP Repairs. Any appliance issues from now leading in to this period should be reported ASAP.

2020/21 Mitigation works:

- 1st 50% \$101,225.00 has been allocated to the Shire MAFGP2122 round 2
- Contractor consultation for mechanical treatments – Tender Stage
- Planned burns – Local Brigades with assistance from neighboring crews if required will commence once preferable conditions present.
- Rob Brogan and Mike Vasey will be coordinating contractors and crews for their relevant treatments.

Training: 2022/23

DFES have currently ceased all face to face training. Nannup, Busselton and Augusta Margaret River are looking to consolidate and jointly coordinate courses listed below. However to conduct these course online would be extremely difficult and would not deliver clearly the core material intended. Currently exploring options.

- 3 x BFSA Nannup SES, BSN Ambergate, AMR Witchcliffe
- 3 x FFS AMR ROSA BROOK, Nannup SES, BSN Admin
- 1 x ABFF/CL Nannup SES
- 1 x SC AMR Wallcliffe
- 1 x IC L1 BSN Admin
- 1 x GC BSN Ambergate

Donnelly River Meet and Greet

- DFES, the Shire of Nannup and DBCA to plan in the coming months a strategic burn creating an asset protection zone for Donnelley River Community.

TIMS SMS Platform: Operational.

AFDRS Rollout: In progress, expected June - July 2022.



Shire of Nannup BFAC Meeting

DFES LSW Region Report – 29th March 2022

- **Training**

After the lifting of the Covid Restrictions on training courses are now available on Eacademy and questions please pass by your CESM.

- **Incident Response**

It has been a very busy last few months with major incidents in the following local governments Augusta Margaret River, Busselton, Donnybrook Balingup, Manjimup, Nannup and Bridgetown. Volunteers, staff and support agencies have all worked amazingly together during these challenging times. It was a first for the state to see 4 level 3 fires occurring at the same time. This put incredible strain on our resources state-wide but with great commitment and resolve from volunteers and staff we got through reasonably well.

- **DFES Staff**

The LSW region is facing several staff changes. Area Officer Leeuwin Paul Dennison started Monday the 28th, District Officer Nelson (Manjimup) is currently vacant and awaiting a new appointment, 2 Bushfire Mitigation officers are due to start next month and a new Volunteer Management Support Officer Ruth Jackson started with the region on Monday the 21st Feb.

- **Zone Response**

The Blackwood Valley Zone response will be extended to the 21st of April to cover Easter. It looks like the Rotary Aircraft in Busselton will be extended to the 21st. With the fixed-wing at Manjimup possibly staying on until the 14th of April.

- **Vehicle Fires**

After discussions with Mark Scott and Robin Mellema, I would like to confirm that you can request the DFES Communications Centre for VFRS to attend and support any vehicle fires within the LG area. It is also important for BFB crews to maintain a safe distance from vehicle fires and keep out of the smoke. There are many hazards associated with these fires and inhalation of the smoke could cause long-term health issues. Another option to support response activities is to have the VFRS as an automatic turnout to all vehicle fires within the LG area, the control of the response will still fall with the BFB but the VFRS could support fire fighting efforts at these types of incidents.

Peter Thomas

District Officer Capes - LSW

CESO

From: Alison Raper <alison.raper@dbca.wa.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 29 March 2022 7:49 AM
To: CESO
Cc: Stephen Mills
Subject: BFAC Report Donnelly District March 2022
Attachments: Warren_Achievements_Dec_2022.pdf

Hi Leigh

Find below report for tonight's meeting.

Planning has just commenced for the 2022/23 burn program with a few new additions within the Nannup Shire. This will be finalised by mid-May and should be able to present at the next BFAC meeting.

Burns completed partially or within the Shire have been.

- DON_002 - Barlee – graphite / Wishart and Leeuwin roads.
- DON_105 - Carey – Vasse highway / 7 Day Road and Carey Road
- DON_124 – Yanmah – Sears Road

Planned Autumn program is.

- DON_108 – Jasper / Black Point
-
- DON_118 – Iffley (Coronation Road)
- DON_109 – Donnelly Huts , removed from the program as this was within Fire 018 Flybrook

We have had 33 fires within the Donnelly district.

4 being within the Nannup Shire, which includes the northern extent of Fire 018 Flybrook.

Flybrook bushfire area is currently 8382ha, 1945ha within Nannup Shire. Monitoring of the area is ongoing, and a rehabilitation plan is being prepared. We had valuable contribution from several hut owners that assisted in the protection of the Donnelly River Huts.

East Nannup and Carlotta were amongst the brigades that contributed to the suppression of the incident. Thank you to all brigade members and volunteers who assisted at the Flybrook incident.

Kind regards,

Ali

Alison Raper
Acting District Fire Coordinator
Parks and Wildlife Service | Donnelly District
Ph:97717948 Mob:0429401128
Monday - Thursday

Ngaala kaaditj Noongar moort keyen kaadak nidja boodja.

We acknowledge the Noongar people as the Traditional Owners of this land.