



City of Busselton

Geographe Bay

Engineering and Works Services Standards and Specifications

Section 5 Appendix A

Bushfire Protection and Prevention Facilities Rural and Special Rural Areas

Revision No	Date	Section Amended	Prepared	Reviewed
A	December 2009	All	Community Infrastructure	Infrastructure Development

Fire Hazard Assessment Plan

1. Outline

This Plan addresses the planning of fire protection generally in the City of Busselton.

2. Aim of Plan

The aim of this Fire Prevention Plan is to reduce the occurrence and minimise the impact of bush fires on the Busselton Community and adjacent localities in the neighbouring Cities of Augusta Margaret River and Nannup, thereby reducing the threat to life, property and the environment. The aim of this Bush Fire Prevention Plan (FPP) is to document fire prevention requirements for the whole City according to Zoning.

Zonings - (Rated According to Hazard and Risk Factors):

- Zone 1 The area of the City to the west of Caves Road, taking in the Leeuwin - Naturaliste Ridge National Park, Town-sites and settlements of Smiths Beach, Yallingup, Eagle Bay, Dunsborough/Quindalup Beach, all adjacent subdivisions and rural land to the west and north of the road. (WITHOUT FUEL MODIFICATION ADJACENT TO RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT THIS AREA IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE AN EXTREME BUSH FIRE HAZARD AND RISK RATING).
- Zone 2 The area of residential and farming land between Caves Road and Bussell Highway including the communities of Carburnup River, Vasse, all adjacent subdivisions, vineyards reserves and plantations. (DEVELOPED FARMLAND AND VINEYARDS WITHIN THIS ZONE ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE A LOW HAZARD AND RISK RATING. HOWEVER, ALL PLANTATIONS AND BUSHLAND WITHIN THIS ZONE, WHERE FUEL LEVELS HAVE NOT BEEN MODIFIED ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE AN EXTREME HAZARD/RISK RATING).
- Zone 3 The general farming area between Bussell Highway and the State Forest (Sunkland), to the Capel and Nannup City boundary including the Busselton Town Site and adjacent subdivisions and the settlement at Ludlow. (DEVELOPED FARMLAND AND VINEYARDS WITHIN THIS ZONE ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE A LOW HAZARD AND RISK RATING. HOWEVER, ALL BUSHLAND AND PLANTATIONS WITHIN THIS ZONE WHERE FUEL LEVELS HAVE NOT BEEN MODIFIED ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE AN EXTREME RATING).
- Zone 4 Urban areas of Dunsborough, Busselton and immediate surrounding semi-rural residential areas, such as Vasse/Sussex/Quindalup etc. (DUE TO URBAN DEVELOPMENT THIS ZONE IS CONSIDERED TO HAVE A MEDIUM TO LOW HAZARD AND RISK RATING, ALTHOUGH THERE MAY BE SOME EXCEPTIONS IN URBAN AREAS/SUBURBS ADJACENT TO SOME NATURE RESERVES/REGIONAL PARKS WHICH ARE CONSIDERED TO HAVE AN EXTREME HAZARD/RISK RATING).

Note:

In accordance with WAPC/FESA Policy Document 3.7 and Guidelines dated December 2001, Zones 1, 2 and 3 are considered by Council to be Bush fire Prone Areas in accordance with the Building Code of Australia Standard 3959.

The terminology "Fuel Modification" relates to places where hazardous native vegetation has been cleared, parkland cleared or pastured thereby reducing the calculated, or perceived, bush fire hazard rating and associated risk to life and property.

3. Objectives of Plan

- 3.1 The plan will define the areas where values are located, such as urban areas, rural residential subdivisions, farms, vineyards, town sites, national parks, plantations, crops, industrial assets etc.

Townsites/Localities and Ratings According to Estimated Risk Factors:

- *Ludlow and Tuart Forest National Park (Medium Risk);*
- *Yallingup Town (Extreme Risk);*
- *Busselton Town/Vasse/Sussex (Low to Medium Risk);*
- *Dunsborough Town, Dunsborough Lakes and Quindalup Beach (Low to Medium Risk);*
- *Adjacent subdivisions – North and West of Caves Road (Extreme to High Risk);*
- *Yallingup Rural Subdivision east of Caves Road (High Risk);*
- *Wonnerup (Medium Risk);*
- *Eagle Bay (Extreme Risk);*
- *Carbunup River (High Risk); and*
- *Leeuwin Naturaliste National Park private land and adjacent subdivisions west of Caves Road (The whole of this National Park is considered to be a Extreme Risk Area).*

- 3.2 Define the rank fire hazards, such as fuel types and loading on properties within the City as well as the flammability of fuels.
- 3.3 Nominate individuals and organizations responsible for fire prevention and associated works within the area of this plan. Local Government for land vested in them, CALM (State Forest and National Parks and Wildlife Reserves), BFS (DOLA UCL), other government agencies as necessary and private property owners for freehold land.
- 3.4 Propose fire prevention (management) strategies for all land; with due regard for life, property and the environment.
- 3.5 Provide a detailed works program outlining all works associated with fire prevention and management. *(This program will contain details of the individual or organisation responsible for the completion of the work, such as, firebreak construction and maintenance, hazard reduction program, inspections and public education.)* The date by which the work has to be completed, the individual or organization responsible for ensuring the work is completed satisfactorily and the expected cost of the work.
- 3.6 Define an assessment procedure, which will evaluate the effectiveness and impact of proposed, as well as existing; fire prevention and management work and strategies.

Section 5 – Appendix A

- 3.7 Provide guidelines and minimum standards for all fire prevention work. Including the minimum standards for fire breaks and low fuel areas, building standards, plantation compartment and fire break standards, equipment levels during harvesting or burn off operations. Minimum standards and related reference documents are included in documents within Appendix 7.3 to this plan, or are available from the City Office on request.
- 3.8 Provide a reporting process to Council and the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO) as to the state of bush fire preparedness by 01 December annually - through the Bush Fire Advisory (Executive) Sub-Committee.