

SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP

BUSHFIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

General Meeting of the Jerramungup Bush Fire Advisory Committee held on Tuesday 22nd September 2015 in the Council Chambers, Jerramungup, commencing at 7:35pm.

1. OPENING

The Chief declared the meeting open at 7.35pm

2. PRESENT

David Edwards	Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Trevor Ross	Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer
John Tonkin	DFES
Charmaine Solomon	Deputy Chief Executive Officer
Ashley Peczka	Community Emergency Services Officer
Steve Wadsworth	Shire Ranger
Steve Tomasini	Bremer Bay Brigade
Anthony Armstrong	Jerramungup VES
Rohan Murdoch	Boxwood Brigade
Alex Jones	Gairdner Brigade
Malcolm Turner	Needilup Brigade
Cr Bill Bailey	Councillor Representative
Mark Tapscott	Needilup Brigade
Brendon Tapscott	Needilup Brigade
Martin Brooks	Jacup Brigade
Kalan Bailey	Jacup Brigade
Brad Bailey	Jacup Brigade
Mick Lester	Jacup Brigade

3. APOLOGIES

Darrell Crowley	Gairdner Brigade
Peter Wisewould	Jacup Brigade
Peter Masters	DPaW

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee AGM meeting held on 28th April 2015 be confirmed as a true and accurate record of proceedings.

**Moved Anthony Armstrong / Seconded Rohan Murdoch
That the Minutes of the Bushfire Advisory Committee AGM
meeting held on 28th April 2015 be confirmed as a true and
accurate record of proceedings.**

Note: Record Rohan Murdoch as attending the AGM meeting.

Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

5.1 Bushfire & FCO Courses

David Edwards thanked Ashley Peczka and John Tonkin for coordinating the courses conducted this year there was a reasonable turn out we will organise to run another one next year.

David Edwards reminded members to ensure that new guys coming into the district need to the Intro Bushfire Course.

5.2 Fire Control Information Notice

The Fire Control Information Notice has been gazetted with the amendments made by BFAC and Council, this applies for the 2015-16 fire season.

David Edwards reminded the Committee of the changes implemented into the Fire Control Information Notice for 2015-16.

5.3 Burn Prescription for Plantations

Burn Prescriptions for Plantations now apply within the Shire of Jerramungup 12 months of the year.

This requirement was incorporated into the Shire's Fire Control Information Notice 2015-16.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Association of Volunteer Bush Fire Brigades – CBH grant funding

Charmaine Solomon advised that following items submitted were approved through the CBH grants:

- 1 x VBFB Uniden UHF 8010NB & Antenna/Uniden 3.5w handheld UHF & convertor \$554.90
- Gairdner VBFB Engel MT45F 40 ltr fridge
- Boxwood VBFB Engel MT45F 40 ltr fridge
- Needilup VBFB Engel MT45F 40 ltr fridge

6.2 Western Power

Charmaine Solomon advised that the 2015 Western Power Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade Grant submitted for Needilup, Jacup, Boxwood and Gairdner were unsuccessful.

This year Western Power received applications for Grants exceeding \$340,000 in funding. This year the money went towards providing essential life-saving apparatus, water tanks and training equipment to the successful Brigades.

John Tonkin advised of the Royalties for Regions funding currently available for bushfire brigades they need to register through a volunteer portal to be eligible for a \$2000 fuel card.

Charmaine Solomon will register brigade details.

7. REPORTS

7.1 DPaW Report

Report attached to the minutes.

7.2 DFES Report

Report attached to the minutes.

7.3 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer Report

Report attached to the minutes.

7.4 Community Emergency Services Officer Report

Report attached to the minutes.

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

9.1 DFES Permit Books

David Edwards requested that all FCO's return their old permit books so they can be reissued with the new version from DFES.

9.2 Restrictions on Permits

David Edwards read out the restrictions that were put in place earlier this year and asked for Committees comments as to whether restrictions should remain in place:

- No burning between 7am and 4pm
- A 3 metre wide bare earth firebreak is required around all stubble burning
- A separate fire unit is required other than the one doing the burning
- Can only burn on one location on anyone day
- Landowners are to contact neighbouring property owners to advise of burn
- The landowner is to contact the Shire of Jerramungup (9835 1022) to notify of burn and FCO that wrote permit
- Permits **can't** be validated for a Sunday or Public Holiday.
- You must have permit with you at all times while burning
- Permits can only be validated once they are put over the Bushfire Sked
- Permits can only be written for a period of 2 weeks
- Track raking is allowed under permit with a fire unit in the paddock

It was agreed to assess each permit and apply restrictions on an individual basis. David Edwards will amend the restrictions to be applied in the restricted period from the 1st October and email out to FCO's.

9.3 **Dropbox – Permit Register**

The Committee discussed all FCO's being able to access the permit register to view during the restricted season. David Edwards will look into setting up dropbox.

9.4 **Point Henry Fire Management Strategy**

Ashley Peczka updated the Committee on recent inspections in Point Henry to comply with the Point Henry Fire Management Strategy.

The Point Henry Fire Management Strategy was adopted by Council on the 15th October 2014; "**existing landowners**" in the Point Henry Peninsula are required to phase in the following requirements over a five year period;

- (i) Compliant access/driveway; landowners must comply by **31st October 2016**
- (ii) Turnarounds for heavy firefighting vehicles; landowners must comply by **31st October 2017**
- (iii) 20,000L dedicated water supply; landowners must comply by **31st October 2018**
- (iv) 20m Building Protection Zone (BPZ); landowners must comply by **31st October 2019**

The Shire is currently compiling a spreadsheet with the information gathered from the inspections. The Shire will be issuing compliant properties with a reflective red and white diagonal sign which will identify that the property meets Shire requirements.

Steve Tomasini requested that the Bremer Brigade be provided with a copy of the spreadsheet.

9.5 **Water Bomber Training**

Anthony Armstrong advised the Committee of the upcoming water bomber training in November:

- Water bomber training 1st November at the Bremer Bay airstrip from 9.00am.
- Water bomber training 1st November at the Jerramungup airstrip from 11.00am.
- Bushfire Ready Campaign 1st October in Bremer Bay.
- Women & Community Bushfire Workshop, 21st October in Bremer Bay.

Charmaine Solomon will advertise the dates locally, David Edwards suggested Committee members encourage women within the district to attend the water bombing course.

9.6 Seasonal workman

Brad Bailey queried if there was a half day course being organised for the seasonal workers.

David Edwards will look into doing a burn for the seasonal workers.

9.7 Training courses for 2016

The following training courses identified for the end of August 2016 are:

COURSE	SUGGESTED DATE	LOCATION
Intro to FF / Bush Fire Fighting	Tuesday 16 th August	Gairdner Hall
Fire Control Officer	Thursday 18 th August	Jerramungup CRC

Ground Controller course to be decided closer to the date.

9.8 Shire of Jerramungup Fire Control Officers 2015-16

The following FCO's were endorsed by the Committee.

**Moved Trevor Ross / Seconded Martin Brooks
That Council endorse the following Shire of Jerramungup
FCO's for 2015 -16;**



SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP

2015/16 FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS RADIO & CONTACT DETIALS

NAME	POSITION	BRIGADE	CONTACT#	RADIO CALL SIGN
Dave Edwards	CBFCO		0429 100 007	Jerry Chief
Trevor Ross	DCBFCO		0427 355 023	Jacup 1
Alex Jones	DCBFCO		0429 361 034	Gairdner 2
Rohan Murdoch	FCO/Capt.	Boxwood Hill BFB	0448 166 065	Boxwood 1
Anthony Thomas	FCO	Boxwood Hill BFB	0429 366 021	Boxwood 2
Phil Wishart	FCO	Boxwood Hill BFB	0429 366 012	Boxwood 3
Daniel Smart	FCO	Boxwood Hill BFB	0427 366 058	Boxwood 4
Steve Tomasini	FCO/Fire Capt.	Bremer Bay VFES	0427 374 340	Bremer 1
Wes Thomas	FCO/Deputy Capt.	Bremer Bay VFES	0429 374 065	Bremer 2
Stacey Francis	FCO	Bremer Bay VFES	0437 611 759	Bremer 3
Peter Buckenara	FCO	Bremer Bay VFES	0429 371 003	Bremer 4
John Iffla	O.I.C	Bremer Bay VFES	0427 374 298	Bremer 5
Alex Jones	FCO/Capt.	Gairdner BFB	0429 361 034	Gairdner 1
Damon Parker	FCO	Gairdner BFB	0418 935 241	Gairdner 2
Bruce Hill	FCO	Gairdner BFB	0427 371 025	Gairdner 3
Trevor Ross	FCO/Capt.	Jacup BFB	0427 355 023	Jacup 1
Michael Lester	FCO	Jacup BFB	0429 374 268	Jacup 2
Brad Bailey	FCO	Jacup BFB	0427 291 078	Jacup 3
Peter Wisewould	FCO	Jacup BFB	0427 356 086	Jacup 4
Martin Brooks	FCO	Jacup BFB	0418 755 635	Jacup 5
Anthony Armstrong	O.I.C/FCO/Capt.	Jerramungup VFES	0427 651 561	Jerry 1
Paul Hislop	FCO	Jerramungup VFES	0427 354 037	Jerry 2
Kim Parsons	FCO	Jerramungup VFES	0428 351 128	Jerry 3
Wayne Barrett	FCO	Jerramungup VFES	0427 351 187	Jerry 4
Mark Tapscott	FCO/Capt	Needilup BFB	0427 352 030	Needilup 1
Quentin Brown	FCO/FWO	Needilup BFB	0427 352 062	Needilup 2
Ray Trevaskis	FCO	Needilup BFB	0429 352 022	Needilup 3
Ronnie Pocock	FCO	Needilup BFB	0429 353 005	Needilup 4
Grantly Morton	Ranger (Jacup)	DPaW	0408 095 259	Fitzgerald 3
Ash Peczka	CESO	Jerramungup Shire	0438 498 221	Jerry CFM
Stephen Wadsworth	Shire Ranger	Jerramungup Shire	0429 351 022	Shire Ranger

Carried

9.9 Campfire Policy

The Committee held discussions on introducing a campfire policy for the Shire and possibly applying it to bushfire prone areas. The Committee resolved to discuss it further at the AGM in 2016.

Charmaine Solomon to provide a draft policy on campfires for consideration.

9.10 Location for shed in Jacup

David Edwards requested the Shire find a suitable location for a fire shed to be built in Jacup. The Shire is unable to apply for a capital grant to build a shed in Jacup unless the Shire owns the land.

Charmaine Solomon to investigate costs associated with formally subdividing a portion of Lot 301 South Coast Highway which the Shire is currently leasing.

9.11 Prescribed Burn in Bremer Bay

Charmaine Solomon queried when the prescribed burn will be happening in Bremer Bay this year.

Steve Tomasini advised that the bush is too green at the moment to burn, the prescribed burn will need to be scheduled for next year.

9.12 FCO Bag

Ashley Peczka has prepared kit bags for FCO's, the bag includes the following;

- Incident/Attendance Report Form
- Permit Book
- Incident Diary
- District map book
- FCO Information book

The bags remain the property of the Shire of Jerramungup and are available to collect from the Shire Office.

10. CLOSURE

The Chief declared the meeting closed at 10.40pm.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Parks and Wildlife
Regional and Fire Management Services, South Coast Region,
Albany District, Ravensthorpe Work Centre

Your ref: Parks & Wildlife BFAC Report
Our ref: September 2015
Enquiries: Peter Masters
Phone: 98381967
Email: peter.masters@dpaw.wa.gov.au

Ash Peczka
Community Emergency Services Officer
Parks and Wildlife, BFAC Report, Shire of Jerramungup, 22 September 2015

Fire Management Services

- ❖ 0 bushfire was reported within the Shire of Jerramungup, on Department of Parks and Wildlife (P&W) managed estate.
- ❖ 2015 spring prescriptions are nearing approval process, for the Albany District, but there are no burns planned for the Shire of Jerramungup, until next autumn.
ALB_004 Telegraph Track, Aircraft Burn FRNP 25,580 ha, aerial ignition took place along with ground edging along Telegraph Track
ALB_024 Point Ann, FRNP 845 ha, was completed; some additional edge building/strengthening should take place next autumn.
ALB_009 UCL Burn Doubtful Islands area 135 ha Hand Burn has been carried over to 2016.
- ❖ ALB_004 aircraft burn was successful, may be some additional work next autumn.
- ❖ Summer bushfire FAO roster is currently being finalised for the 2015_16 bushfire season.
- ❖ The South Coast Duty officer bushfire, phone contact will commence mid-October.
- ❖ Winter 24/7 phone contact for Parks and Wildlife Officer on 98424500, has commenced between fire seasons as PPOC.
- ❖ Water bombing equipment is currently being serviced and checked and will be returned to the various airports shortly.
- ❖ The Southern fire line between Drummond Track and Cuiss road has been upgraded using a contract dozer was completed as planned.
- ❖ Roadside verge slashing within the park, was completed as planned.

Other Departmental, current operational works.

- ❖ Herbicide spraying of strategic fire breaks within the shire, to spray out mallee regrowth, has commenced for this spraying season.
- ❖ The new FRNP Advisory Committee, met in late August to discuss issues within the FRNP.
- ❖ The next round of aerial cat baiting will commence on the 14TH of September 2015, and will cover the whole FRNP and Ravensthorpe range cells, using the new *Eradicat*® baits, and ground baiting is still ongoing with around 1,500 baits being laid each quarter by hand.
- ❖ Twertup Filed Study Centre rebuilding program is continuing with the ceilings currently being installed.

Staff Changes

- ❖ The 2 dieback/ranger positions are now permanent, and the recently interviewed applicants should be in place by mid-October.
- ❖ Deon Grantham, Gairdner.
- ❖ Malcolm Grant Hopetoun.

Yours sincerely.

Peter Masters

Peter Masters
Senior Operations Officer
Parks and Wildlife, Ravensthorpe Work Centre
1 October 2015



Department of
Parks and Wildlife



Parks and Wildlife, Ravensthorpe Work Centre
PO Box 307, Ravensthorpe, Western Australia 6346
Phone: (08) [98381967] Mobile [0488919598] Fax (08) [98381965] Email: peter.masters@dpaw.wa.gov.au
www.dpaw.wa.gov.au



**DFES COUNTRY OPERATIONS REPORT TO SHIRE OF JERRAMUNGUP
BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF 22ND SEPTEMBER 2015.**

Fellow Fire Fighters,

The following report has been compiled in order to draw Brigade members' attention to some issues which may be of interest.

TRAINING.

Volunteer Fire Fighter Training

Since I last met with most of you, we have delivered 2 x Intro to Bushfire Training Courses, 1 x FCO Course and 1x Ground Controller Course for the Shire BFBs. Thank you to all who attended the courses and assisted in their arrangement.

COMMUNITY FIRE SAFETY.

Monthly Theme

Please find attached to this report a community safety flyer which details the Community Engagement 2015-16 "Are You Ready" Bush fire Campaign.

A Women & Community Bushfire Workshop has been arranged at the Bremer Bay CRC on Wednesday the 21st October. Please refer to the attached flyer for additional information.

Ms Sarah Matthews, our Great Southern Community Engagement Officer is always keen to assist the Shire and its Bush Fire Brigades with any community safety issues.

OPERATIONS

Fire Appliance Deluge System Fitment

DFES intends to fit deluge systems and other bush fire safety systems to Bush Fire Brigade trucks over the next few years. The fitment will depend upon the residual operational life of each truck. It is not planned to fit the deluge systems to Light Tankers.

I shall keep you apprised of developments, including timings, as more information comes to hand.

South West Native Title Settlement

Please find attached an excerpt from the South West Native Title Fact Sheets. Amongst other things, the Land Access Licence may give access to UCL and UMR to undertake customary activities including the lighting of camp fires and ceremonial fires. However, such activities will be "*restricted by all other statutory systems that govern.*" To that end, the provisions of the Bush Fires Act will apply.

Safety Messages

Situational Awareness (SA) is defined as the ability to gain knowledge and understanding of the current situation which promotes timely, relevant, and accurate assessment of available resources, fire conditions, and other operations within the sector / appliance / fire fighter space, in order to facilitate informed, situation specific decision making.

SA is also an informational perspective and skill that fosters an ability to determine quickly the context and relevance of events that are unfolding.

One Foot on the Black. Remember that the closer you are to the burnt fire edge, the safer you are.

If In Doubt, Stay Out. If you go out to a bushfire, particularly where it is in the bush, please do not:

- Go into the bush if you do not know exactly where the fire is.
- Follow a track into a fire if you do not know where the track leads.

Please stay safe.

Regards,

Tonks

JOHN TONKIN
AREA OFFICER – ALBANY WEST
GREAT SOUTHERN REGION

Att.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



File No: 00478
2 September 2015

DFES General Circular No: 109/2015

2015-16 'ARE YOU READY' BUSHFIRE CAMPAIGN

In the lead up to the 2015-16 bushfire season for the south west of the State, the 'Are You Ready?' campaign will be launched encouraging the community to prepare themselves, their families and properties for bushfires.

The campaign calls upon everyone in the community to play their part in preparing for bushfires. The campaign also promotes the theme of a 'shared responsibility' between Government, agencies, communities and individuals.

The campaign will begin on 1 October 2015 with the 'Are You Ready?' Bushfire Action Month. Running throughout October as part of the campaign, the month will raise awareness of the importance of the community preparing for the upcoming bushfire season. An array of media and community engagement activities will be undertaken to promote key messages, including ABC radio bushfire awareness day and a series of articles in the West Australian.

Career and volunteer fire brigades are encouraged to support Bushfire Action Month by organising local community events, such as community information sessions or street meets. The Community Engagement Toolbox, available on the DFES Intranet and Volunteer Portal has some great examples of ways to engage with the community. Local community engagement officers will also be available to assist with planning community activities.

Volunteer fire brigades are encouraged to support this campaign by generating positive media coverage on the importance of preparing for bushfires. A media kit will be available to download from the Volunteer Portal that will provide tips and ideas on generating media coverage.

In mid-October the 'Are You Ready?' advertisement campaign will begin, led by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet in partnership with DFES, the Department of Parks and Wildlife and Western Power. DFES actively supports this advertisement, and strongly encourages staff and volunteers to promote www.areyouready.wa.gov.au across your networks.

Thank you in advance for your invaluable support and ongoing work to help your community get ready for the bushfire season.

HANNAH TAGORE
DIRECTOR MEDIA AND
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

SUELLEN FLINT
DIRECTOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.

Women & Community Bushfire Workshop

In partnership with Bremer Bay Community Resource Centre

**ARE YOU
BUSHFIRE
READY?**

areyouready.wa.gov.au

A chance to get together and talk about bushfire safety
and preparedness

Time: 9.30 am-12.30

Wednesday 21st October 2015

Bremer Bay Town Hall – CRC

(Daycare available –phone 0419 183 802 for bookings)

With regional Department of Fire & Emergency staff
and your local Community Emergency Services Officer





Land Access

The Regional Corporation Land Access Licence will allow access to certain Crown lands for customary activities (e.g. traditional gathering of flora, cultural activities, the passing down of bush skills to the next generation). Further, amended water by-laws regarding Noongar customary activities in public drinking water source areas will also give Noongars the capacity to undertake certain particular traditional activities in those areas.

Why is this significant to the Noongar people?

Access to bush land and water sources in Noongar country is of fundamental importance to Noongar people because of their spiritual relationship to the land and the desire to carry out traditional practices validly and pass on knowledge to future generations. The issue of valid access to Crown lands was a key factor in obtaining support in the Noongar community for the agreement with the Government.

What is the purpose of the Land Access Licence?

The Land Access Licence will give registered members of the Regional Corporations a right to access **Unallocated Crown Land and Unmanaged Reserves** in the relevant Indigenous Land Use Agreement (ILUA) area to undertake customary activities.

The areas involved are in addition to the land which will be held by the Noongar Boodja Trust or the estate of the Department of Parks and Wildlife.

How will the Land Access Licence be authorised?

A license will be issued under the Land Administration Act which defines which activities can take place and on which conditions (including indemnification of the Government against unplanned actions on the land)

What will the Land Access Licence allow?

Noongar people will be able to do the following things in specific areas of Unallocated Crown Land and Unmanaged Reserves under the legal protection of a Land Administration Act Licence:

- o Visit and care for sites and country;
- o Gather, prepare, and consume bush tucker and bush medicine;
- o Conduct ceremonies and cultural activities;
- o Camp on country;
- o **Light camp and ceremonial fires; and**
- o Have meetings on country.



Government of Western Australia
Department of the Premier and Cabinet

The Noongar Regional Corporations will assist Noongars in identifying areas where the Access Licence applies. Both the Land Access License and the terms of access to Water Catchment Areas are restricted by all other statutory systems that govern, for example, the use of firearms, the lighting of fires, protection of public drinking water, and so on.

What are the changes to access to Water Catchment Areas?

The Metropolitan Water Supply Sewerage and Drainage Amendments By-Laws 2014, and the Country Areas Water Supply Amendments By-Laws 2014 set out arrangements for access to water catchment areas to undertake certain limited customary activities. The by-law changes will allow Noongar people to visit and maintain sites and to teach and learn on country.

EXCERPT FROM INDIGENOUS LAND USE AGREEMENT TEMPLATE

4. GENERAL CONDITIONS

4.1 Comply With Laws etc.

The Management Body must:

- (a) comply with and observe, all Laws relevant to and all lawful orders, notices and the requirements of any Governmental Agency having jurisdiction or authority in respect of one or more of:
 - (i) the Reserve;
 - (ii) the care, control and management of the Reserve;

PLEASE CONTACT the *South West Settlement Implementation Unit* If you need further information:
Email: southwestSettlement@dpc.wa.gov.au Phone: (08) 6552 6191 Fax: (08) 6552 5339
Postal Address: Land, Approvals and Native Title Unit, Locked Bag 3001, West Perth WA 6872

2015 BEFAC CBFCO Report

Welcome back for another bushfire season, it only seems like yesterday we stopped doing roll calls and here we are ready to start again. Welcome to Ashley Peczka as our CESO and thanks for his efforts in organising our recent training. Nurrunga communication are in the district this week checking and repairing any radios needing work so hopefully all radios are where they should be and working.

The Boxwood and Needilup Fire sheds are now up and running and thanks to St Johns in Gairdner for the use of their old shed for the Gairdner truck. Jacup truck is the only piece of bushfire equipment within the shire without a more permanent home. This poses a problem if we wish to get funding through DEFES as they require any dwelling they supply funding for must be on shire owned land, so we need to find a solution to this problem.

The shire permit register is ongoing, for the autumn period I chose to record and make sure all permits were registered at the shire. I think I will continue with that process for the spring restricted period and if all goes well in the autumn as well. The only time it becomes an issue is if I'm not around but I will make sure other arrangements are made in these situations.

A reminder of changes to the fire break notice that you may have forgotten, plantation burning now requires a burn prescription all times of the year but only a permit in the restricted period. Your number 1 fire unit is required to be self-propelled and a 600lt capacity up from 400lt. There are other changes to fire units in the case of multiple headers but that is all in the fire break notice.

The 2016 restricted burning period promises to have its challenges, I think we will see even more stubble and stubble row burning to issue permits for so I will be asking you all to keep me posted on conditions so we can place appropriate restrictions in place if needed as we did this year. I honestly believe because we were prepared to make those decisions this year meant we didn't have any controlled burns causing us any problems.

All in all I think our shire has a great bushfire network and look forward to working closely with you all this season.

CESO - BFAC Report

Training:

Total of 4 training courses were held within the Shire.

Tuesday 25th August – Intro to Bushfire course held at Boxwood Hill;

- 10x Nominations / 4x attended / 2x sick or work commitments / 4x non-attendance

Wednesday 26th August – Intro to Bushfire course held at Jerramungup;

- 8x Nominations / 8x attended / 2x non-attendance / 2x late registrations

Monday 31st August – Fire Control Officer course held at Jerramungup;

- 16x Nominations / 16x attended / 1x sick / 1x late registrations

Monday 31st August – Ground Controller course held at Jerramungup;

- 16x Nominations / 22x attended / 1x sick / 1x late withdrawal / 6x late registrations (carried over from FCO)

Unfortunately the timeframe to receive course nomination forms have somewhat been annoying, with majority of close dates being extended to get numbers for courses to go ahead. It would be greatly appreciated in the future if nomination forms can be received in a timely manner.

Qualifications:

It has been raised by one of the brigades that there is a discrepancy in members training records from 2 different reports obtain from DFES. With the resignation of the current DFES Great Southern Training Coordinator, Dave Edwards has asked me to make up records to be held and updated at the shire office. Once the appointment is made for the new training coordinator I'll spend a day with that person to obtain the relevant details.

WAERN Radios:

There was an issue back in June were there was a lot of interference observed all day long on WAERN Ch:222 with breaks of around 10-30 seconds in between the interference. This was only affecting Ch:222 at Jacup and not the linked Ch:121 in Bremer Bay. Intereference has mainly been observed through weather patterns when there has been a strong 'high' reported in the Bight. Once reported to DFES Comms, contractors were dispatched from Albany who also observed the interference and have installed a patch on the UHF link (even though Ch:222 and Ch:121 are VHF based channels the link between the 2 repeater sites is a UHF link) since then no other interference have been observed on Ch:222.

Looking at dates towards the end of the month to have all WAERN radios within the shire serviced and to update records as to who holds WAERN radios and other relevant details, as there has been no details updated since the initial install.

Ladies Workshop

There will be a ladies fire workshop/fire safety day to be held in Bremer Bay on Wednesday 21st October at the CRC/Town Hall.

Are you Ready? – Bushfire Campaign:

We are looking at doing a 'Are you Bushfire Ready' campaign launch in Bremer Bay for Sunday 11 October, details are yet to be confirmed, but at this stage we are looking at having it by Max Wellstead place as a neutral location between Bremer bay and Point Henry.

DFES Great Southern Directory:

Thank you to those brigades that have gotten back to me with their updated contact details. For the remaining brigades that have not yet had their AGM and it's highly likely that their executive group is not going to change can you please let me know of those details so I can forward them on. Need to know details by the end of the month at the very latest to have the correct brigade contacts in the upcoming directory.

UCL/UMR Agreement:

There was a MOU between Dept. of Lands, DFES and DPaW where Dept. of Lands had the money to give to DFES for mitigation works on UCL/UMR areas within gazetted town sites and DPaW was responsible for areas outside of those gazetted town sites. That agreement between the 3 parties for mitigation works to be carried out on UCL/UMR areas had expired at June 30 and DFES Commissioner was not showing any intentions in resigning that agreement for various reasons. As of today there has been no mitigation works, state wide within these areas since the expiration of that agreement. Last week there was an allocation of \$400,000 made available state wide for mitigation works based upon priority levels which submissions need to be in by 7th October. Next week I'll be looking at our UCL/UMR areas and making submissions on what priority works are required within the shire.

Turn outs:

Can all Turn outs, especially ones not received via 000 please be reported back to the CBFCO or myself straight away. Also can please make contact with CBFCO or myself when you do turn out to and from the incident for the following reasons;

- For safety so we know where you are and when you have returned.
- If it's going to be a long duration incident we can either organise welfare to get out to you or to get another brigade to come out to relief you after 3-4 hours
- For the incident to be recorded at DFES and incident number can be created to cover those members and equipment turning out to the incident.
- More incidents we properly log with DFES better the argument, in receiving more ESL funding to properly fund the operational requirements of our brigades.
- So the CBFCO can properly account for where our resources are if a 000 call is received, we can despatch crews in a timely matter without the delay in having to make extra phone calls because you are already committed to a job that we have no knowledge about.

Fire Reports:

Can ALL fire reports whether they are support or primary reports please be faxed to Shire Office straight away after the incident would be greatly appreciated, so I can record the details at the Shire Office and upload incident details onto the DFES Incident Reporting Systems. I do have a back log of incidents that goes back 2-3 years that are yet to be cleared off the system and I will be making calls to the relevant FCO to obtain details clear out any outstanding reports.