SHIRE OF
MANJIMUP



17 April 2024

Minutes

Bush Fire Advisory Committee

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Shire of Manjimup
Bush Fire Advisory Committee
Minutes of Meeting 17 April 2024

Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held in the Manjimup Emergency Services Collocation Building, located at 46 Bath Street Manjimup on Wednesday 17 April 2024.

1. Declaration of Opening the Meeting

The Chairman, Cr Cliff Winfield, declared the meeting open at 6.58pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY
The Shire of Manjimup respectfully acknowledges the Noongar people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands in which we work throughout the region and we pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

Add to Action List: Chair requested Admin send a card to Todd Ridley from BFAC Members

2. Attendance / Apologies

2.1 Attendance

Members - Voting

Cr Cliff Winfield	Shire of Manjimup – Councillor (Chair)
Stephen Burch	Senior Ranger (CESM Proxy)
Remo Pessotto	Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
Eric Beckett	Coastal Zone (Northcliffe)
Keith Scott	Pemberton West Zone (Springfield)
Shane Otway	Pemberton North Zone (Pemberton Rural)
Thomas Muir	Manjimup East Zone (Perup, Dunreath & Mordalup)
Bradley Wren	Manjimup West Zone (Yanmah & Glenoran)
Frank Shaw	Manjimup North West Zone (Ringbarkers)
Josh Kanny	Manjimup Central East Zone (Balbarrup, Dingup & Diamond)
Peter Parker	Manjimup South West Zone (Seven Day Road)
Bill Rice	Manjimup South East Zone (Quinninup, Quinninup Town, Upper Warren & Smith Brook)

Members Non Voting & Invited Guests

Nicole Favero	Shire of Manjimup – Ranger & Emergency Services
Cr Donelle Buegge	Shire President - Councillor (proxy)
Max Connor	Manjimup East Zone (proxy)
Jeff Bennett	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Stephen Mills	Department of Biodiversity, Conservation & Attractions
Jason Giadresco	Shire of Manjimup – Director Development & Regulation
Lee Shuard	Dunreath BFB
Juanita Phillips	Perup BFB
Greg Phillips	Perup BFB
Dani Beckett	Northcliffe BFB

2.2 Apologies

Todd Ridley	Shire of Manjimup - Community Emergency Services Officer
Colin Griffiths	Coastal Zone (proxy)
Chris Sousa	Department of Fire & Emergency Services
Mark Muir	Mordalup BFB
Geraldine Muir	Mordalup BFB
Adrian Wayne	Manjimup South East Zone (proxy)

3. Declaration of Financial Interest – Nil

4. Review of BFAC Terms of Reference & Membership & Contact Details

Nominations for the Bush Fire Advisory Committee 2023-2025 Membership appointments 2 year term from October 2023 to October 2025 were accepted at Council Meeting dated 23 October 2023, Resolution 29285.

5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the General Meeting held Wednesday 12 July 2023.

RECOMMENDATION/BFAC DECISION 2024/01

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held Wednesday, 12 July 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record."
Moved: Remo Pessotto, CBFCO
Seconded: Frank Shaw, Manjimup North West Zone

CARRIED: 12/0

6. Council's Response to Minutes of the General Meeting held Wednesday 12 July 2023.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION:

MOVED: Skoss, K SECONDED: Buegge, D

29219

That Council:

1. Receive and note the unconfirmed minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting held Wednesday 12 July 2023 as contained in Attachment: 9.16.4 (1);

2. Approve the increase to the honorarium payment for Chief Bush Fire Control Officer from $3,000 to $4,000 for the 2023/2024 Budget year;

3. Approve the increase to the honorarium payment for Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer from $2,500 to $3,500 for the 2023/2024 Budget year; and

4. Approve the increase to the Volunteer Training Officers Honorarium Payment Budget by $500.00 for the 2023/2024 Budget year.

CARRIED: 11/0

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

7.1 Action List

Action & Meeting Date	Action	Update	Status	Person Responsible
25/05/2016	**Northcliffe Shed** Construct a new facility for brigade	• Shire of Manjimup successful in obtaining grant. • DFES proposal to co-locate 2015. • Brigade met to discuss, in favour of co-location. • DFES submitted proposal, awaiting response. • Council approved DFES proposal. • $30,000 in proposed Council budget for site works, budget adopted 10th August 2017. • DFES Funding available December 2017 • Construct building in the 2017 / 2018 year, once DFES funding is available. • Shire of Manjimup and DFES signed funding agreement July 2018 • BFB shed side construction underway. • Work currently ceased, waiting on paperwork from builder, then should recommence. • Purchase Orders have been issued and approved and the issue with builder now resolved. Funding arrangements with DFES resolved as well with a top up to complete the rebuild of Fire and Rescue station to become the Co-Location building. Northcliffe BFB building hoping to get to pretty quickly. • Building to commence soon December 2019 • June 2020, 90% completion of the Bushfire Brigade shed. Stage two construction underway. • 90% of stage two complete. Shire to meet with BFB and FRS to discuss final completion of works. • Met with BFB and FRS on the completion of works. • Builder to be back on site to complete the list of works required from 6 December 2021. **22/03/23:** Backup Water Pump and double headed hydrant to be installed, hoses and taps requested, getting plumber is issue and an effective pump to back up. Charging plug and bump stops to be installed. **12/07/23:** Electrician engaged for charging plugs. Double hydrant received awaiting availability from plumber. **17/04/24:** Ongoing. Eric Beckett Coastal Zone advised vehicle battery chargers still sitting on chairs, charger cables still running on floor, twin hydrant, electric refill pump and pump shed not completed. Ongoing.	In progress	Todd Ridley

29/08/2018	**Link all Radio Repeaters** Channels 251, 292, 142, 293 and 252 be linked together	• T Ridley wrote to DFES in October • LSW ROAC moved motion for State to respond (28th March 2019). • Survey received from DFES re the Mid Band Network July 2019. • Survey completed by BFAC and returned to LSW DFES. • Karri Valley Blackspot issue. • Awaiting a response from DFES and Karri Valley Blackspot issue. • 252, 293 and 142 digital links installed. • Trial system throughout the fire season. • Report for Meeting. • Write to DFES regarding issues with trial period. **07/12/22:** Correspondence sent to DFES on the 3 November 2021. Still no response. **22/03/23:** Still awaiting response from DFES, Todd will lodge a ICT request every time a fault occurs. **12/07/23:** Still no response from DFES. Shire administration to write to DFES. **17/04/24:** Shire administration emailed DFES, no reply. Ongoing.	In progress	Todd Ridley
22/07/2020	**Mobile Phone Reception** West Manjimup Letters tabled from Seven Day Rd & Yanmah BFB	• Todd to forward letter to CEO • Contact made with TELSTRA. DCBFCO in contact and working through issues. • Ongoing. Complaints received from Ringbarkers Captain in regard to coverage in the area. • Brad Wren – another call to Deborah, SW Manager Telstra two weeks ago who advised that the Tech actually was in town last year and to now go back to individual complaints to an email address that she was going to provide but hasn't yet. • Would like to look at going to the Ombudsman and advise Brigades to make individual complaints. • Todd to discuss with the CEO and convey the above information. **05/10/22:** Brad Tabled Interim Report from Telstra **22/03/23:** Brad Wren advised that Kevin was in district two months ago to look into it and was going to get back, but still nothing heard. **12/07/23:** Brad advised had another conversation with Deb and she advised Michael Hutchinson working with the Shire. Still ongoing. **17/04/24:** This is now progressing through both LEMC and Council level so complete. Shire President Donelle Buegge also advised that this is going through Rick Wilson from a Federal Level as well, there is also a Task Force Review and WALGA Review.	Completed	Todd Ridley

03/23 **22/03/2023**	**Shire of Manjimup Bush Fire Brigade Local Laws**	**22/03/23:** Recommendation that Council accept and proceed with the legal requirements of the Local government Act 1995 in implementation. **BFAC DECISION 2023/04** **12/07/23:** Presented at Council meeting ……..**COUNCIL RESOLUTION 29098**, Advised Ministers and went to advertising as per agenda item, now waiting on Ministers comments and then it goes to Joint Standing Committee. **17/04/24:** Joint Standing Committee commented and amendments were required in regard to Appointment of Members. Draft being submitted to Council at meeting 11 April 2024.	In progress	Todd Ridley
04/23 **22/03/2023**	**Brigade/Shire owned Slip On Units**	**22/03/23:** In Item 10.3 BFAC recommendation for CESM to inspect all Brigade/Shire owned slip on units and report to BFAC in July. **BFAC DECISION 2023/05** **12/07/23:** Commenced work, designed new *Form 5.3.24 Appliance – Brigade Owned Slip-ons and Fast Fill Trailers – Report* and currently still compiling these together with photos for report which will present at next BFAC meeting. **17/04/24:** Work in progress.	In progress	Todd Ridley
06/23 **12/07/2023**	**Pemberton North Zone – FCO succession plan**	**12/07/23:** CESM to arrange a meeting with Brigade and Chief's to discuss and work out a succession plan regarding FCO's for Pemberton North Zone **17/04/24:** Work in progress.	In progress	Todd Ridley
07/23 **12/07/2023**	**Australian Fire Danger Rating System – BFAC Submission**	**12/07/23:** Shire administration, on behalf of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee, write to the Australian Fire Danger Rating System and the Department of Fire and Emergency Services Rural Fire Division with concerns raised on the new Fire Danger Ratings and the impact during the fire season with an invitation to attend a BFAC Meeting to address these concerns. **17/04/24:** Invitation sent and Agnes Kristina from DFES attended the FCO and Captains Meeting October 2023 providing an overview and answering any questions received.	Completed	Todd Ridley
08/23 **12/07/2023**	**Number of Days a Permit is Valid**	**12/07/23:** Shire Administration to send a Memo to FCO's advising that unless extenuating circumstances, they can only write a permit suitable for the burn. **17/04/24:** This was addressed at FCO & Captains Meeting and CESM will email prior to Restricted opening. Completed	Completed	Todd Ridley
09/23 **12/07/2023**	**Crewing of Appliances**	**12/07/23:** **1.** That Shire administration, on behalf of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee, write to all Bush Fire Brigades with ESL appliances and request they provide the following information: a. The number of trained members with the appropriate class of Drivers Licence; and	In progress	Todd Ridley

		b. If their Brigade has the means to crew their allocated appliance outside of the Brigade area but within Shire Boundaries. **2.** That Shire Administration report back to BFAC on the findings of that request and supply the Chief's with a list of trained members with truck drivers licences. **17/04/24:** Only received lists from Northcliffe, Mordalup, Walpole and Springfield. May need to go back to the Brigades, nothing further raised at meeting, ongoing.		
10/23 **12/07/2023**	**FCO & Captain's Meeting**	**12/07/23:** Shire Administration to set date and book venue for FCO & Captain Meeting in October then send invite. **17/04/24:** The FCO and Captains Meeting was held in October 2023 at the Pemberton Golf Club which was well attended and received with the presentation of Long Service Medals.	Completed	Todd Ridley
11/23 **12/07/2023**	**Contingency Plan for Chief & Deputy CBFCO's**	**12/07/23:** Shire Administration to add this to FCO & Captain Meeting as an Agenda Item to address if there is a contingency plan for the Chief's or if there is a need to reintroduce Senior FCO or Chief in Training for succession planning. **17/04/24:** This was part of the FCO and Captains Meeting presentation that was held in October 2023 with no clear direction received from members. Ongoing.	Ongoing	Todd Ridley

8. Correspondence – *(copies can be available on request)*

8.1 Incoming

- 26.07.24 DFES – Chris Sousa – Northcliffe Brigade's Registration Documents that was forwarded to Brigade.
- 20.09.23 Mordalup BFB - Crew of Appliances BFAC Request for Information – Response.
- 21.09.23 Springfield BFB - Crew of Appliances BFAC Request for Information – Response.
- 04.10.23 Walpole BFB - Crew of Appliances BFAC Request for Information – Response.
- 01.11.23 Northcliffe BFB – Crew of Appliances BFAC Request for Information – Response.
- 03.04.24 Mark & Geraldine Muir – Apologies for Invitation to Attend BFAC for Long Service Award Presentation – Unable to attend.

8.2 Outgoing

- 16.08.23 Shire of Manjimup to BFAC Members & Brigades – Unconfirmed Minutes from Meeting July 2023.
- 13.09.23 Shire of Manjimup to Brigades – Crew of Appliances BFAC Request for Information.
- 13.09.23 Shire of Manjimup to BFAC Members DFES - Australian Fire Danger Rating System – Survey Results
- 28.03.23 Shire of Manjimup to BFAC Members – BFAC Agenda, Previous Minutes.
- 28.03.23 Shire of Manjimup to Councillors – Notification of BFAC Meeting to be held on 17.04.24.
- 28.03.23 Shire of Manjimup to Lee Shuard, Juanita Phillips, Max Connor, Mark & Geraldine Muir and Elizabeth Blee – Invitation to Attend BFAC for Long Service Award Presentation

9. Members Reports

9.1 Chief Bush Fire Control Officer – Remo Pessotto

Report was tabled, see Item 9.1 Attachment

9.2 CESM and Training Coordinator – Nicole Favero (Admin) & Stephen Burch (proxy)

Report was tabled, see Item 9.2 Attachment

9.3 Department Fire and Emergency Services – Chris Sousa (apologies)

Report was tabled, see Item 9.3 Attachment

9.4 DBCA Parks and Wildlife Services – Jeffrey Bennett

Report was tabled, see Item 9.4 Attachment

Jeff gave a slide show presentation on Fires during the season together with an SDI and forecast overview. Clarification was also provided that the new positions at DBCA will be full time with 3-4 in the Warren Region.

9.5 Zone Delegate Reports

9.5.1. Manjimup West Zone - Brad Wren

- Completed a reduction burn back of Yanmah Fire Shed 27.10.23.
- Harvester fire in Deadman Gully Road with machine destroyed on 7.11.23.
- Had crew attend and assist with mop up at Northcliffe fire 22.12.23.
- Fire at the abattoirs on Christmas Day.
- Fire at Deanmill on Boxing Day.
- Crew attended Nannup fire 17.01.24.
- Power pole fire at Kilrain property 09.02.24.
- Grass fire at Walnut Farm 23.02.24.
- Town fire at O'Connor Street on Easter Monday.
- Have possession of the new roller door and materials for the Yanmah Shed to fill in the Breezeway, just have to complete the installation.
- It's been great that Glenoran BFB members have been helping out and getting involved as well.

The above written report was received at the meeting.

9.5.2. Manjimup Central East Zone – Josh Kanny

- Between the three Brigades they have attended 16 fires, most power line, a couple of lighting strikes.
- Captain of Balbarrup, Di Rose would like the allocation of radio locations for Balbarrup BFB to be looked at.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

9.5.3. Manjimup South East Zone - Bill Rice

- Agree with keeping Prohibited closed with the risk getting into bush that is very dry.
- Quinninup helped out at the Northcliffe fires.
- There has been ownership changes to land holdings in the area, so there could be a few membership changes.
- Shed – there is still painting to complete around the door frames.
- Completed training on the light unit just before Easter.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

9.5.4. Manjimup North West Zone - Frank Shaw

- Ringbarkers attended fires similar to Yanmah.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

9.5.5. Coastal Zone – Eric Beckett

- Northcliffe BFB appreciates all the help received from other Brigades, they have 99 members but only a handful turn up, thank you.

- Fire Danger Rating signs for Northcliffe, the one sign we had has not been replaced, a second sign on Northcliffe / Pemberton Road would be an advantage as more traffic enters Northcliffe from this direction.
- Request for second high band radio for Northcliffe Light tanker as the vehicle is commonly used as the command vehicle, communicating with fire crews on the fire ground and communicating with control point / shire CBFCO proves to be difficult, as we are told not to use scan on WAERN high band radios.
- Northcliffe new Fire shed still not completed, vehicle battery chargers still sitting on chairs, charger cables still running on floor, twin hydrant, electric refill pump and pump shed not completed.
- Northcliffe 4.4 fire truck has had the engine fault light on for some time now with no signs of being repaired, if vehicle fault worsens likelihood of vehicle going into limp mode or breaking down completely on the fire ground is very concerning.
- Request for bushfire training be held in Northcliffe to train new members as there are at least 14 people waiting for the training.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting, then followed up with email.

Nicole Favero advised that the Fire Danger Rating Sign was not installed at the beginning of the season as no one to make changes. CESM has recently been advised that Northcliffe VFRS is prepared to take this on and as close to end of season this will be actioned for the coming season. CESM is currently in the process of working out Training dates.

Josh Kanny Manjimup Central East Zone added that may need to look at the Manjimup Communications Plan to add on a UHF and also there is a new online Bush Fire Safety Awareness course option just come through.

Remo Pessotto CBFCO advised still needs a mid band radio.

Brad Wren Manjimup West Zone advised that training is usually focused on in winter months but cannot see a problem with holding one in Northcliffe.

Add to Action List: Chair requested Admin to follow up on the Northcliffe 4.4 engine light issue and report back to Brigade.

9.5.6. Pemberton West Zone – Keith Scott

- Keith introduced himself, been involved for many years at Rosa Brook BFB and now living at St Hilda's in Pemberton.
- AGM had a very large turn out.
- There was a change of Captain half way through the year.
- Attended three fires.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

9.5.7. Manjimup South West Zone – Peter Parker

- Attended recent small fire at a pump shed, fire at Northcliffe and also been on deployment to Dalyellup, Serpentine and Mount Holland.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

9.5.8. Pemberton North Zone – Shane Otway
Report was tabled, see Item 9.5.8 Attachment

9.5.9. Manjimup East Zone – Thomas Muir

- With no Hazard Reduction burns there's concerns it will be trouble moving forward.
- Bridgetown and Boyup Brook is now in restricted.
- The 252 repeater has now been shifted to Perth and is heaps better now, not sure how it will go under pressure though.
- Read the SOPs in General Business and while going to make things harder for them, he also agrees with them.

The above report was received verbally at the meeting.

Brad Wren Manjimup West Zone advised that while Bridgetown and Boyup Brook may be open, they are only permitting 3 permits at one time in the Shire for agricultural purposes only.

9.5.10. Walpole Zone – Vacant – No Report

10. General Business

10.1 SOP BFB 3.11 - Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement – Draft

Report was tabled, see combined Item 10.1, 10.2 & 10.3 Attachment.

This provided an overview on the new proposed *SOP BFB 3.11 Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement*, the intent is to give guidelines and legislative clarity to the engagement of persons on the fireground that are not 'Registered' and 'Trained' as Bush Fire Brigade Members. The proposed SOP takes a risk-based approach to spontaneous volunteers on the fireground.

Discussion followed with all in agreeance that this is a very useful and important addition.

RECOMMENDATION/BFAC DECISION 2024/02

"That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee authorise and accept the new Safe Operation Procedures *SOP BFB 3.11 – Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement*."
Moved: Thomas Muir, Manjimup East Zone
Seconded: Bradley Wren, Manjimup West Zone
CARRIED:12/0

10.2 SOP BFB 3.3 - Riding on Fire Appliances – Amendment

Report was tabled, see combined Item 10.1, 10.2 & 10.3 Attachment.

When originally adopted by BFAC the SOP didn't recognise firefighters riding on the back of private vehicles, only ESL supplied fire appliances. The intent of the amendment is to give guidance on the riding of private vehicles on the fireground. The amendment is highlighted in red within the SOP.

RECOMMENDATION/BFAC DECISION 2024/03

"That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee authorise and accept the amended Safe Operation Procedures *SOP BFB 3.3 – Riding on Fire Appliances*."

Moved: **Thomas Muir, Manjimup East Zone**
Seconded: **Bradley Wren, Manjimup West Zone**

CARRIED:12/0

10.3 SOP BFB 3.5 - Personal Protective Clothing – Amendment

Report was tabled, see combined Item 10.1, 10.2 & 10.3 Attachment.

The replacement of the wording "At Hoc Volunteers" is replaced with "Spontaneous Volunteers". This wording change is to bring the SOP in line with the wording used in the proposed *SOP BFB 3.11 – Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement*.

RECOMMENDATION/BFAC DECISION 2024/04

"That the Bush Fire Advisory Committee authorise and accept the amended Safe Operation Procedures *SOP BFB 3.5 – Personal Protective Clothing*."

Moved: **Thomas Muir, Manjimup East Zone**
Seconded: **Bradley Wren, Manjimup West Zone**

CARRIED:12/0

10.4 General Matters from Members without Notice

10.4.1. Prohibited / Restricted Burning Periods

Discussion held on extending the Prohibited Burning Period again, which has already been extended several times. A query received from Northcliffe Councillor Wendy Eiby regarding community concerns of opening on the Anzac long weekend with all the campers expected in the area and Northcliffe not having the water to fight fires. The BFAC members consensus was to extend the Prohibited until 10 May 2024 due to the high SDI and lack of rainfall forecast.

10.5 Long Service Medal Presentations

The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, on behalf of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee and the Shire of Manjimup, presented Long Service Medals providing an overview of our long standing recipients service history, together with our thanks. Recipients are as follows:

Maxwell Conner – 55 Years
Mark Muir – 40 Years (unable to attend)
Lee Shuard – 30 Years
Geraldine Muir – 25 Year (unable to attend)
Elizabeth Blee – 20 Years (not in attendance)
Nita Phillips – 15 Years

11. Next Meeting

Next Meeting to be held 24 July 2024.

12. Declaration of Close of Meeting

Chairperson Cr Cliff Winfield closed the meeting at 8.32 pm.

Remo Pessotto - CBFCO

Report for BFAC Meeting held on 17 APRIL 2024

No of Fires

54 Fires up to now, Power poles, trees and branches falling over powerlines Lighting strikes, reignitions from early burns and a number of machinery fires.

Regulation Burning Times – Period we are in

- The prohibited for both Zone 6 and 8 has again been extended, now up to the 26 April 2024. If there is no rain to bring the ground moisture profile up we will re-evaluate then.

No of Permits Issued

- Nil

Weather Conditions

It is still very dry with no moisture, high soil dryness index and no rain forecast

Brigade Business / Issues

- Nil

Brigade Deployments

- Manjimup Shire has recently deployed appliances and volunteer crew to help out other Shires.

Vehicle Maintenance / Issues

- Have had a number of repairs to appliances to complete due to the high number of fires attending.

Communications

- Still having problems, mobile phone signal very bad at times while having a conversation it drops out, phone has to be dialled up 2-3 times to try to get through to finish off the conversation very frustrating and annoying.

General Business

- ROAC – Brad Wren attended this last week and there were a few items to be noted:
    - Telstra – This was discussed again.
    - DFES – requesting more PAFTACS at incidents.
    - Water Bombers finish in Manjimup 17 April.
    - LATS will finish next week.

Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting
Community Emergency Services Manager Report
17 April 2024

General Matters

Sheds Maintenance

- Mordalup Shed has a new solar system capable of charging the new 4.4 Appliance and power for the shed.
- Yanmah has received the building materials to enclose the through way. Waiting on the brigade to complete the works.

Appliance Maintenance

- The upgrade of AVLs are in place on the appliances that needed 4-5G connections.
- Several appliances have minor damage reports as a result of an extended fire response. The damages are not affecting the operation of the vehicles and we are waiting on the break of the season to have them fixed.

Training

Training Calendar is now in the planning stage with Bushfire Safety Awareness and a Bush Firefighting Skills courses to be run over the winter months. All members that have requested training will be contacted when we have locked in the dates.

Emergency Services Levy

2023/2024 ESL Operational Budget and Capital

The 2023/2024 Operational Budget current expenditure is showing in the table below.

2023/2024 Operational Budget Expenditure	
Activity: ESL - Clothing and Accessories	$62,000
Activity: ESL - Insurance	$113,244
Activity: ESL - Maintenance Land and Buildings	$29,000
Activity: ESL - Maintenance Plant and Equipment	$2,500
Activity: ESL - Maintenance Vehicles/Trailers/Boats	$45,000
Activity: ESL - Other Goods and Services	$13,000
Activity: ESL - Purchase Plant and Equip <$1,200	$8,000
Activity: ESL - Utilities, Rates and Taxes	$8,000
Total Expenditure to date	**$280,744**

The 2023/2024 Small Capital items of four trailers have been purchased and are currently being fitted out as fast fill trailers.

2024/2025 ESL Operational Budget and Capital

The 2024/25 Operational Budget, Small Capital and Capital applications were submitted on 31 March 2024 and we are still awaiting approvals. Capital items requested in this budget are as follows:

Dunreath	2.4 Broadacre	TBA
Diamond	2.4 Broadacre	TBA
CBFCO	New laptop for the CBFCO	TBA
Northcliffe	CCT system for the Northcliffe BFB shed	TBA
Quinninup Town	CCT system for the Quinninup BFB shed	TBA
Ringbarkers	Enclose the patio area at the Ringbarkers shed	TBA

Mitigation Activity Fund (Grant) Bush Fire Mitigation

Bush fire mitigation works are 90% completed for the 2023-2024 season with 42 MAF (State Funded) treatments at a value of $233,920. Constraints are in the Planned Burning area, the current season making it difficult to complete many of our planned burns.

The 2024-2025 MAF application will be submitted shortly, currently the application look vary similar to this years.

Government of Western Australia
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

DFES
Department of Fire & Emergency Services

Shire of Manjimup BFAC
DFES Report – 17 April 2024

Operations

The DFES Lower South West Region has been fortunate this fire season with only 2 Level two incidents being experienced, being the Tattenham bush fire and Helms (Jalbarragup) bush fire. Much of the focus this year was on preparatory actions rather than reactive response. This includes the activation of the Regional Operation Centre on high threat days and the prepositioning of additional crews in high-risk areas as required.

There was an increase in Total Fire Bans across the Region throughout the summer period due to the high temperatures, strong winds and the low fuel moisture experienced. I commend all those who actively prepared for and monitored situations that resulted in no major incidents occurring.

Thanks to the crews and CESM for their assistance with the fires on the 1 April in the Manjimup townsite.

The Region has once again been assisting with state deployments in the Kimberley, Goldfields-Midlands and South West Regions. Thanks to those who have supported these protracted incidents.

Training and Exercises

The 2024 DFES Regional Training Calendar has been disseminated to the Shire via the CESM for brigade's information. Nominations to these courses is via the eAcademy portal.

Community Engagement

The LSW Region was successful in getting a grant for Virtual Reality headsets to get members of the public to understand their decision to stay in situ during a bush fire. This was a direct response to the bush fires in the Donnybrook area 2023 where residents stayed to protect their property but were unprepared for the experience. The aim is for DFES to develop its own program for the headsets and the Region is currently seeking feedback from volunteers and the general public on a VR program from South Australia. If you or your Brigade wish to be part of the trial, please contact Linda Ashton at the DFES Regional Office.

The DFES Conference is on the 6-7 September 2024 in Perth. Volunteers can nominate direct to attend, with nominations opening on the 1 May 2024. Information can be found at https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/awards-and-events/wafes-conference/conference-registrations I would encourage any new or aspiring members of the Bush Fire Brigades to put their names forward to attend.

Chris Sousa
District Officer Nelson
0447 362 006

Department of **Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**

GOVERNMENT OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Warren Region
Update for Manjimup BFAC meeting Wednesday 17 April 2024

Prescribed Burning

Nil prescribed burning since last meeting. Planning for autumn burning is well under way. Due to very dry conditions, we will wait for some reasonable rainfall before autumn burning commences.

Prescribed burns targeted for autumn 2024 burn ignitions that are in the Warren Region: See attached updated map.

Bushfire

The Delta PFT was activated during the Level 2 Tattenham Road Bushfire in Donnelly District during December 2023. The fire started in private property and quickly spread into adjacent Dombakup state forest. The fire was initially controlled by the Shire of Manjimup and then handed over to DBCA. The fire burnt a total of 2,600 hectares including private property, state forest and the softwood plantation. The fire was controlled with the support of local brigades, DFES, local and wider regional DBCA fire crews and machine contractors.

Due to the ongoing and extremely dry conditions, DBCA has regularly monitored and patrolled recent fire grounds with a particular focus on Fires 8 and 13 in the Lake Muir Nature Reserve where the risk of reignitions from smouldering organic soils remains a risk.

So far this fire season we have attended to 30 fires totalling around 14,900 hectares.

12,670 hectares contributed to lightning.

Thanks to all the brigade members who helped in combatting those fires.

The water bomber contract in Manjimup will end today, the 17th April. Aircraft support is available from Busselton and Bunbury up to end of April.

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Government Announcement

The Government announced more than $30 million boost for regional bushfire management over the next 4 years.

- 34 additional bushfire management personnel (24 Conservation Employees, 10 staff).
- Funding for Albany based firefighting bulldozer and prime mover.
- Funding for 1 front end loader.
- Funding for 8 new trucks.

Walpole Airstrip

During a recent water bomber activation out of the Walpole Airstrip, water bombers were stood down due to the presence of kangaroos on the strip. This poses a serious safety hazard for pilots and aircraft. Currently there is no grant application for the regional airstrips program, but it could be a project to fence off the area in the future.

Regards,

Jeff Bennett

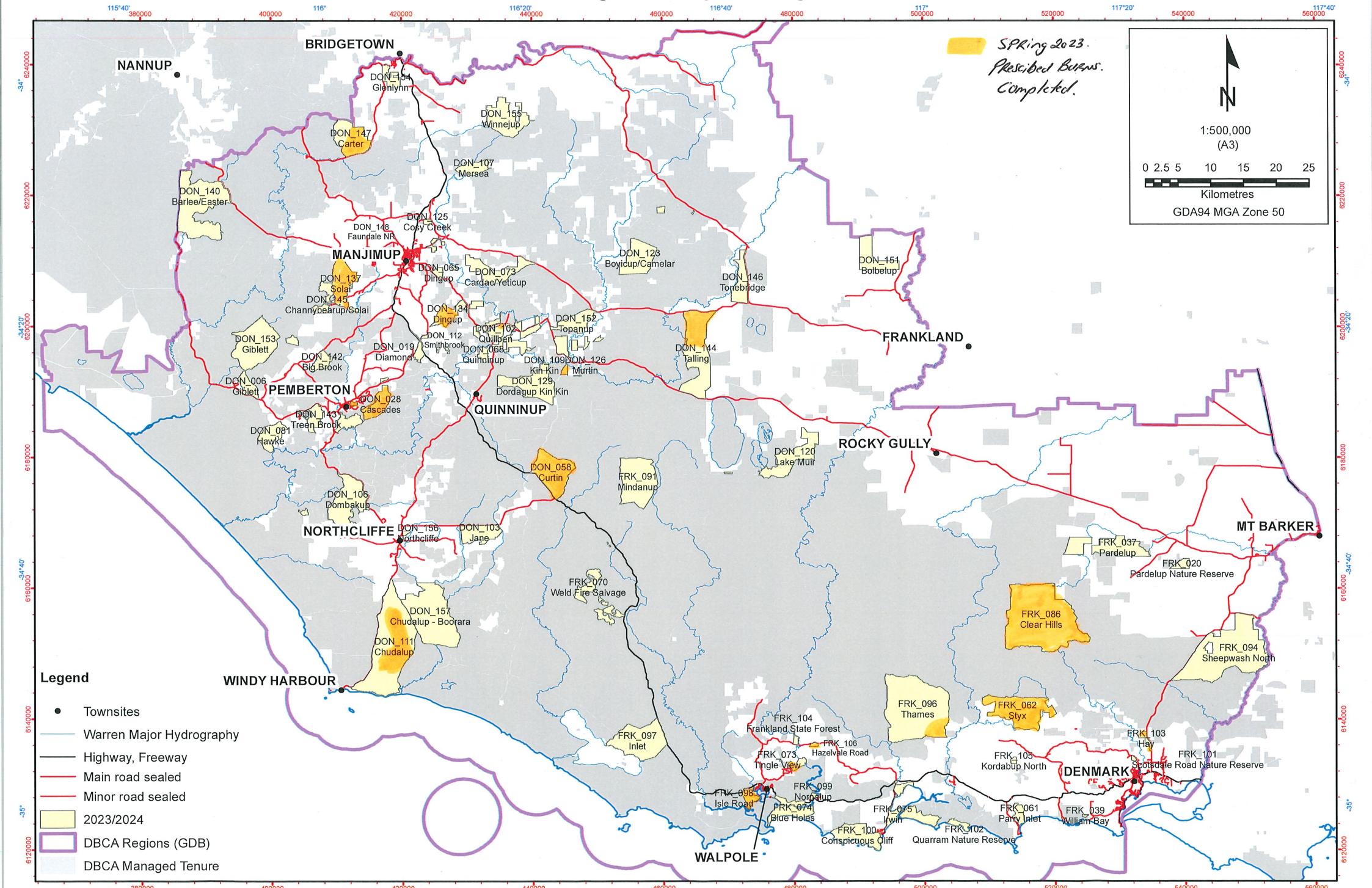
Regional Leader Fire Management

Warren Region

Manjimup

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Warren Region Burn Options Program 2023/2024



Graticule shown at 20 minutes intervals
Grid shown at 20000 metre intervals

Roads and tracks on land managed by DBCA may contain unmarked hazards and their surface condition is variable. Exercise caution and drive to conditions on all roads. The Dept. of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions does not guarantee that this map is without flaw of any kind and disclaims all liability for any errors, loss or other consequence which may arise from relying on any information depicted.

Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions

PEMBERTON NORTH ZONE
DELEGATES REPORT 2024

This fire season Pemberton Rural BFB tended to a dozen incidents within the shire and calls for assistance from other Shires.

4 Nov 2023 - Verge fire inside Hollow Butt hanging over HT line on Fox road, Pemberton.

4 Nov – Verge fire in hollow buts and old stumps at Pemberton North and Golf Links Road in the Greenlands subdivision.

12 Nov - Reignition of verge fire from old stump hole which burnt into the Greenlands subdivision.

22 Nov - Reignition of burn pile on farm on Farrs Road near Hundred Year Forest and subsequent property fire.

23 Nov - Reignition of old burn pile and subsequent property fire in Browns Road subdivision.

10 Dec – Mower started fire on property in Greenlands subdivision on Golf Links Road.

20-23 Dec – Tattenham Road fire Northcliffe.

26 Dec – Powerline fires at Stirling Road and Thomsons hill, Pemberton.

16 Jan 2024 - Tree over powerline fire on Stirling Road, Pemberton.

17 Jan – Assist Nannup crews by sending 2.4 HD and crew.

2-3 Mar - Attend powerline fire on Hillbrook Road, Northcliffe.

10 Mar – Assist Dalyelup crews by sending 2.4HD and crew.

Our response crew is in good spirits and equipment is in good working order.

Shane Otway
Captain – Pemberton Rural

17/04/2024

ITEM 10.1, 10.2 & 10.3 ATTACHMENT

Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) Report

REPORT:	**(Safe Operating Procedures 3.3, 3.5 and 3.11)**
OFFICER:	(Todd Ridley)
DATE:	27 March 2024

BACKGROUND:
From time to time the Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) is required to either review or implement Safe Operating Procedures (SOP) to give guidance and legislative clarity to Fire Control Officers and Brigade Members. The Shire of Manjimup through BFAC has a number of SOP's, this report is seeking BFAC to review or consider the three SOP's as below:

- *SOP BFB 3.3 – Riding on Firefighting Appliances* – Amendment
- *SOP BFB 3.5 – Personal Protective Clothing* – Amendment
- *SOP BFB 3.11 – Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement* – New

COMMENT (Includes Options):
SOP BFB 3.3 – Riding on Firefighting Appliances requires review. When originally adopted by BFAC the SOP don't recognise firefighters riding on the back of private vehicles only ESL supplied fire appliances. The intent of the amendment is to give guidance on the riding of private vehicles on the fireground. The amendment is highlighted in red within the SOP.

SOP BFB 3.5 – Personal Protective Clothing requires review. The replacement of the wording "At Hoc Volunteers" is replaced with "Spontaneous Volunteers". This wording change is to bring the SOP in line with the wording used in the proposed *SOP BFB 3.11 – Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement*.

SOP BFB 3.11 – Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement new. The proposed SOP intent is to give guidelines and legislative clarity to the engagement of persons on the fireground that are not Registered and Trained as Bush Fire Brigade Members. The proposed SOP takes a risk-based approach to spontaneous volunteers on the fireground.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT:
- *Bush Fires Act 1954.*
- *WA Work Health and Safety Act 2020.*
- *Shire of Manjimup Bush Fire Brigade Operational Procedures 2022 – 2027.*
- *Fire Operational Guideline 3.0 Crew Safety and Operational Responsibility at Bushfires and Safe Operating Procedures BFB's Appendices.*

POLICY / STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS:
Shire of Manjimup Bush Fire Brigade Operational Procedures 2022 – 2027.

ORGANISATIONAL RISK MANAGEMENT:
Governance and Guidance of Bush Fire Brigades is a Local Government responsibility. Not having modern Policies and Procedures leaves both the Shire of Manjimup, the Community and Bush Fire Brigades at risk.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL:
Nil

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:
"Recommendation that the Bush Fire Advisory Committee authorise and accept the Safe Operating Procedures as listed below;

- *SOP BFB 3.3 – Riding on Firefighting Appliance* – Amendment
- *SOP BFB 3.5 – Personal Protective Clothing* – Amendment
- *SOP BFB 3.11 – Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement* – New

ATTACHMENTS:
(Enter details)

Title: Safe Operating Procedure SOP BFB			No 3.11
Spontaneous Volunteers Engagement **Issue Date: March 2024** **Last Reviewed:** **Next Review Date: October 2024**		**Authorised By: BFAC** **Page 1 of 1**	SHIRE OF MANJIMUP

DO NOT use this machine/equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation

Description of Work:	From time to time an Incident Controller, Fire Control Officer or Officer in Charge will be in the situation where a *Spontaneous Volunteer* will be engaged / or on an active fire ground under the control of a Shire of Manjimup Bush Fire Brigade. This SOP is a general guide for the engagement of *Spontaneous Volunteers*. If at any stage there is a question of safety or they are not required, then a *Spontaneous Volunteer* needs to be asked to leave the fire ground. This SOP applies to the landowner, however they may have legal rights in some circumstances to put the fire out.

Potential Hazards: Compliance with the *Work Health and Safety Act 2020 and the Bush Fires Act 1954.* Potential for distress, injury, death of a *Spontaneous Volunteer* or damage to their equipment.

Personal Protective Clothing (PPC) Required *(Check the box for required PPC)*:

Gloves	Face Masks	Eye Protection	Mask	Appropriate Footwear	Hearing Protection	Protective Clothing
☐	☐	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒

Safe Work Procedure Checklist:

This SOP only relates to members of the public that are not registered as a Volunteer with the Shire of Manjimup. At all times the following should be implemented when engaging a *Spontaneous Volunteer* (the person/s).

- It needs to be clearly communicated to the person/s that they are subject to the directions of the Officer in Charge (OIC) and are working within the structure set by the OIC.
- A clear record of the person/s attendance and end of shift needs to be kept by the OIC and supplied to the Shire of Manjimup.
- The person/s should be assigned a general task and briefed on any hazards.
- The person/s should not be deployed to high-risk activities (i.e. working in a forested area or direct attack activities).
- The person/s should not operate or work on any Shire of Manjimup owned appliance.
- At all-times the person/s is to be supervised and the OIC is to clearly communicate to the person/s, whom they are being supervised by.
- The person/s are provided appropriate information to ensure activities are carried out safely.
- The person/s is wearing the clothing as prescribed in *SOP 3.5 Personal Protective Clothing*.

DRAFT

Title: Safe Operating Procedure SOP BFB			No 3.3
Riding on Firefighting Appliance **Issue Date:** October 2022 **Last Reviewed:** March 2024 **Next Review Date:** October 2024		**Authorised By:** BFAC **Page 1 of 1**	SHIRE OF MANJIMUP

DO NOT use this machine/equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation

Description of Work:	At bushfires, deaths and injuries have occurred to personnel traveling on the back of firefighting appliances. To ensure the ongoing safety of firefighters attending bushfires, the following is to be observed.

Potential Hazards:

Falls, damage to limbs or back, unsafe area in the event of a vehicle accident.

Personal Protective Clothing (PPC) Required *(Check the box for required PPC)*:

Gloves	Face Masks	Eye Protection	Mask	Appropriate Footwear	Hearing Protection	Protective Clothing
☒	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	☒

Safe Work Procedure Checklist:

1. Operation:
   - Appliances are not to carry more than its designated seating capacity.
   - Riding on the back of appliances is ***only to occur*** under the following circumstances:
     a. When the appliance is directly involved in firefighting operations and moving at a safe working speed.
     b. Where the appliance has been specifically designed to do so.

     Riding on the back of appliances while traveling between sectors / divisions or refilling with water is not to occur. Firefighters are to be seated in the cabin wearing a seat beat.
2. Private Vehicles
   - At no time are firefighters or spontaneous volunteers to be riding on the back of a private vehicle.
   - At no time are firefighters or spontaneous volunteers to be riding on the back of a trailer unit.

AMENDED

Title: Safe Operating Procedure SOP BFB			No 3.5
Personal Protective Clothing **Issue Date:** October 2022 **Last Reviewed:** March 2023 **Next Review Date:** October 2024		**Authorised By:** BFAC **Page 1 of 1**	SHIRE OF MANJIMUP

DO NOT use this machine/equipment unless you have been trained in its safe use and operation

Description of Work:	To ensure a minimum standard of protective clothing is worn at all times on any fire ground.
Potential Hazards: Burns, falls, eye injury, head injury.	

Personal Protective Clothing (PPC) Required *(Check the box for required PPC)*:

Gloves	Face Masks	Eye Protection	Mask	Appropriate Footwear	Hearing Protection	Protective Clothing
☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒

Safe Work Procedure Checklist:

Personal Protective Clothing will be issued in accordance with the *Shire of Manjimup's Bush Fire Brigade Operational Procedures 2022 – 2027*.

Whilst on the fire ground and actively firefighting, the below must be worn:

Shire of Manjimup Registered Trained Brigade Members.

- Helmet (White - Firefighter) (Yellow - Fire Control Officer or Captain)
- Firefighting Goggles.
- Firefighting Jacket.
- Firefighting pants.
- Firefighting boots.
- Firefighting mask (recommended).
- Firefighting Gloves.

Spontaneous Volunteers

- Cotton / woollen long trousers.
- Long sleeve shirt.
- Enclosed boots.
- It is the responsibility of the Incident Controller or Officer in Charge of the fire ground to make sure all personnel under his / her direction meets the minimum requirements for PPC.

AMENDED