

Shire of Plantagenet
Chief Bushfire Control Officer – Norm Handasyde
Report
BFAC Meeting 8-05-2024.

Season overview!

- This season we have had 60 + Fire Incidents to deal with some quite challenging but mostly small and quick to deal with.
- Many thanks to all our volunteers You all have done an awesome job again this season.
- Once again Narrikup and Kendenup have had some challenging issues to deal with, help from other brigades is certainly fantastic in these times.
- With a long dry summer, we have been concerned with burning permits during this season, so we adjusted the FDI limit back to 24 to lower the risk. But I think permit holders and FCO's have done a fairly good job, well done.
- It has been wonderful to have the wine industry communicating via what's-app etc informing of grape harvest progress etc.
- Thanks for all that helped with the Green Range fire – Albany Shire
- Also, for volunteers that have helped further away.
- Moving one Fire Truck from Kendenup to Narpyn Brigade again has worked well, and a High Season Light Duty Land Cruiser unit placed at Kendenup.

Workshop 2023-24

- 1/ Permits and guidelines – Len Handasyde
- 2/ Permits need to cross out the words Very & Severe on the front and back page.
- 3/ FCO Responsibilities – Iain Mackie
- 4/ Permit Register – Iain Mackie
- 5/ Nominations for Brigade AGM's – Mike Barnes
- 6/ Succession Planning
- 7/ Total Fire Ban VS Harvest and Vehicle Ban – Deb Pyle
- 8/ Members Training Records
- 9/ Incident Reports
- 10/ Employee Supported Volunteering FAQ

Regional Operational Advisory Committee – 24-04-2024 below item raised.

- **Limp mode** on Fire Trucks – Rob Lynn a working progress
- **R2R Resource Grants** wanting shires to work collaboratively.
- **Telstra Towers** – Stand alone, no feedback from Telstra, and not likely.
- **Pole top Fires monitoring** – ongoing
- **Presentation Lithium-Ion batteries** - Scooters are well known to start fires – use water, if you can drop it into water, it will eventually kill it.
- **Powers of your Weather Chief** – **Weather Chief can allow burning on days considered above an FDI 24+** (On some days the weather may have calmed down by 4pm to a safe level for burning and ONLY your Weather CHIEF can give you the go ahead to burn.) Could be a handy help for those that have a large burning program etc.
- Funding for New Fire Sheds at Rocky Gully and Woogenellup??
- **DBCA – Albany have secured funding for their own Dozer and Low loader. Good news!!**

Events coming up.

Fire fighter Training.

Workshop – Sept - October

Other Training available – See Mike or DFES Online Portal for locations / upcoming.

Thanks to all volunteers for your input into this organisation.

Chiefs: Iain and Bryce, Len and Graeme,

Base Radio operators Mietta, Ron and Jacqui

Brigade Captains, FCO's, Brigade weather Officers.

Mike Barnes and Shire of Plantagenet Councillors: Len and Jon, CEO and Kevin Hemmings,

Thanks for the great support from DBCA, DFES, Plantation Companies

Norm Handasyde - Chief Bushfire Control Officer - Shire of Plantagenet – 08/05/2024