

REPORT 201124

25 incidents since 1/7/24.

23 of these were active incidents, with the other 2 being false, or active fire not found.

The 23 active burns were all from poorly contained fires, burns which escaped due to poor planning when ignited, burns ignited by conducting "risky" activities without any fire fighting equipment on site, or lack of care checking previous burns.

Hence brigades have been busy on callouts, particularly lately, when people are very very busy on their own seasonal work.

The risky activity includes such things as whipper snippers etc in dry conditions with no fire equipment on site at all.

We are also seeing fires heavy fuel load heaps such as bluegums and trees burnt and not pushed out with machinery. I'm currently having conversations with other shires how this is addressed in their shire to see if we can improve on protocol for landholders doing heavy fuel burns.

Education and information to the public has been initiated through the shire to prompt people into thinking more of the possibility of fire ignition and/or fire containment, although we have had incidents since some of this has been put in place.

Reviews are done on all fires to ascertain whether there needs to be shire ranger intervention, cost recovery or education.

Although accidents do occur, it is very frustrating the amount of hours tied up in some people's flippancy and hence callouts.

Debriefs are also happening for the more major events which has been very helpful in improving response, communication, and utilising resources as best as possible.

Education of the local shire residents is something of major importance and I think we will all continue to try and aid that process.

Training has been continuing or been done. Please contact Mike to do refresher course especially the turnover procedure.