



SHIRE OF  
**DANDARAGAN**

# **FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE**

## **2022/2023**

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD  
REDUCTION NOTICE 2022/23**

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**Your legal responsibilities  
and fire safety information**

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*Restricted Burning Period - Burning under a Permit  
from a Fire Control Officer*

**All Zones**  
**19th September to 31st October**  
**and 1st March to 1st April**

*See page 18 for the list of Local Bush Fire Control Officers*

*Prohibited Burning Period*

**1st November to 28th February**  
**STRICTLY NO BURNING!\***

*\*Unless the fire complies with the Shire of Dandaragan Camping and Cooking Fire Policy. Please see page 4 for further information.*

2022				2023							
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug

Permit required
  No Burning

Permits are subject to various conditions including no burning on public holidays, unless approved by the **Chief Bush Fire Control Officer**. Prior to any burning you are required to notify your Neighbours, Permitting Officer and one of the two following options:

- 1) **Shire of Dandaragan** on **9652 0800**.
- 2) **EmergencyWA Burn Registry** on **9395 9209** - prompt you would like to register your burn, they will ask for your address, contact number and duration of the burn. This will help prevent false alarm calls to 000

If the burn is to be carried out on any land that is adjoining or adjacent to land that is managed or controlled by the **Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions**, their office is to be notified by telephoning **9688 6000**.

Besides being responsible for the safety of your own property, if a fire escapes from your property you may be liable to pay compensation for any damage caused outside of your property - this could be very costly.

**CAMP FIRES AND COOKING, GARDEN REFUSE, FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD VARIATIONS AND MAINTENANCE.**

The Shire has introduced a Camping and Cooking Fire Policy that permits you to have a camp or cooking fire at your place of residence subject to the conditions specified in the Policy.

The policy is available on the Shire website or scan the QR Code on page 15 to view the policy. Camping and cooking fires are prohibited when the fire danger rating is high or above or a total fire ban is in place.



- No solid fuel fires OTHER THAN CAMPING OR COOKING FIRES AT YOUR PLACE OF RESIDENCE are permitted between **1st November** and **1st April**.
- Only gas or electric barbecues are permitted during TOTAL FIRE BANS or when the fire danger rating is above high.
- No burning of garden refuse between **1st September** and **1st April**, unless a permit to burn has been obtained from a **Bush Fire Control Officer** (restricted times only). During unrestricted times always contact your neighbours and the **Shire of Dandaragan (08) 9652 0800** before you light.
- It is free to dispose of green waste at the **Shire of Dandaragan** waste facilities.
- Fire break & fuel hazard reduction to be installed and maintained from **1st November** to **30th April** annually in accordance with the notice.

*(More information on page 13).*

## **Bush Fires Act 1954 (as amended).**

### **NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND/OR OCCUPIERS OF LAND IN THE SHIRE OF DANDARAGAN**

Notice is hereby given to landowners/occupiers within the Shire of Dandaragan that fire breaks must be installed by **1st November 2022** and maintained clear of inflammable material up to and including **30th April 2023** as per the requirements in relation to Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954. Shire Rangers conduct ground and aerial inspections of properties throughout this period.

An Authorised Officer may deem further mitigation necessary if the regulations in this notice do not satisfactorily remove or reduce a fire hazard.

**Fire prevention saves lives and reduces damage to property, livestock and crops. Reducing fire hazards is the responsibility of each and every one of us. It is not difficult, but to be effective, everyone has to help. Following the simple guidelines in this brochure you may help to protect your family, property and the community from the devastation of fire.**

**FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD  
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### **ALTERNATIVE ALIGNMENTS & VARIATIONS TO FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD NOTICES**

If it is impractical to have a fire break immediately inside a boundary, for environmental or any other reason(s), you are required to apply to the Shire of Dandaragan in writing, before 1st October to obtain permission for fire breaks to be installed in an alternative position or for alternative measures to be put in place. Approval is granted for a period of 3 years, after which the landowner must re-apply for a variation to the fire break notice. Fire break variation forms can be downloaded from the Shire of Dandaragan website.

#### **Fire break variations are to include:**

- 1** Applicant's details.
- 2** Property details.
- 3** Rationale to support a variation.
- 4** Alternative prevention strategies proposed.
- 5** A sketch of the property with existing fire breaks and the proposed alternative.

# URBAN/RESIDENTIAL LAND, FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

*(All gazetted town sites)*

## **Bush Fires Act, 1954 (as amended).**

Clear and maintain all inflammable materials on the property so it does not exceed 5 centimetres in height from **1st November 2022 to 30th April 2023.**

FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD  
REDUCTION NOTICE 2022/23

### NON - COMPLIANT



### COMPLIANT



# RURAL RESIDENTIAL LAND, FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

*(Rural development, properties up to 20 hectares)*

This category relates to all lots in all industrial estates and the subdivisions of **Jurien Bay Heights, Alta Mare, Marine Fields, Koorringal Vale** and **Hill River Heights**.

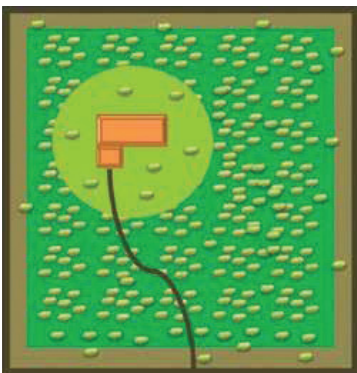
- 1 Clear and maintain a 3 metre wide fire break with a vertical clearance of 4 metres high, clear of any obstructions (no hanging tree limbs or objects) inside, or as close as practicable, all external boundaries of the land to allow for the unobstructed movement of Fire Appliances.

In rural residential land subject to erosion, fire breaks can be slashed, however they must be maintained to a height less than 10cm.

- 2 On heavily vegetated or grassed blocks a further 5 metre low fuel zone is required in addition to the 3 metre fire break. Fuel is defined as any material such as grass, leaf litter, twigs, bark, logs, even live vegetation, that can be ignited and sustain a fire.
- 3 Fuel loads must be less than 2 tonnes per hectare.
- 4 Clear and maintain a 20 metre Building Protection Zone around all habitable buildings.

## EXAMPLE OF RURAL RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY

Not to scale.



- 3m Fire break
- 5m Low Fuel Zone
- 20m Building Protection Zone
- House

*(See definitions on page 11 & 12).*

# RURAL LAND, FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

*(All properties above 20 hectares)*

## **Bush Fires Act, 1954 (as amended).**

- 1** Clear a fire break consisting of mineral earth, to a width of no less than 3 metres, as close as practicable, inside the external boundaries of the property.
- 2** Fire breaks must be maintained to provide a vertical clearance of a minimum 4 metres so as to allow adequate access for fire appliances.
- 3** Clear and maintain a 5 metre mineral earth fire break immediately surrounding all fuel and chemical storage areas.
- 4** Clear and maintain a 2 metre mineral earth cleared area around all stationary pumps and motors.
- 5** Areas cleared and piled for burning require a 20 metre mineral earth fire break.
- 6** Clear and maintain a 3 metre mineral earth fire break around all hay stacks and hay sheds.
- 7** Clear and maintain a 20 metre Building Protection Zone around all habitable buildings.

*(See definitions page 11 & 12, for more info).*

**NON - COMPLIANT**



**COMPLIANT**





# PLANTATIONS, FIRE BREAK & FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

**Bush Fires Act, 1954 (as amended).**

## **Tree plantations of more than 3 hectares but less than 10 hectares**

Clear and maintain a 10 meter wide mineral earth fire break with a vertical clearance of 4 meter high, clear of all inflammable material immediately surrounding the plantation (adjacent areas of the same property subject to provisions as for rural areas).

## **Plantations larger than 10 hectares**

Plantations established after 30 November 1984 that exceed 3 hectares in total area shall have a 10 metre wide fire break completely surrounding the perimeter of planted trees. Each compartment of a plantation is limited to an area of less than 30 hectares in size. Each 30 hectare compartment shall have a 10 metre wide fire break surrounding the planted trees. Furthermore all plantations shall comply with requirements contained in the Department of Fire and Emergency Services guidelines or standards for Plantation Fire Protection.

## PLANTATION



## DEFINITIONS - FIRE BREAKS

**ACT** - Bush Fires Act 1954 (as amended).

**AUTHORISED OFFICER** - an officer appointed as a Shire of Dandaragan Fire Control Officer.

**FIRE BREAK** - a strip or area of trafficable ground, which is at least 3 metres wide with a minimum height clearance of 4 metres, which is maintained totally clear of all material. Any living or dead trees, scrub or any other material encroaching within the minimum height of the fire break must be pruned or removed. A fire break must be continuous around all boundaries.

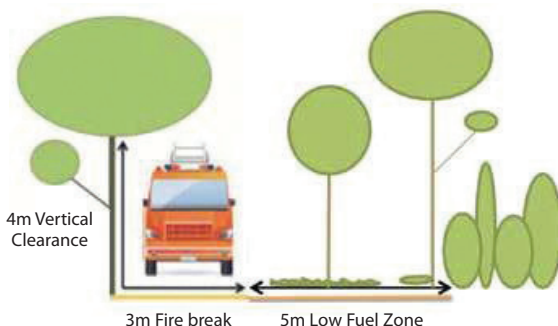
**TRAFFICABLE** - capable of being driven on from one point to another by a 4x4 vehicle on a clear surface, without any obstruction that may endanger fire fighters and their resources.

**VERTICAL CLEARANCE** - a continuous vertical uninterrupted line at a right angle to the horizontal line of the fire break to a minimum height of 4 metres from the ground.

**MINERAL EARTH** - a mineral earth fire break refers to the area being completely clear of everything but soil (bare earth).

**LOW FUEL ZONE** - an area with low fuel. Fuel is defined as any material such as grass, leaf litter, twigs, bark, logs, including live vegetation, that can be ignited and sustain a fire. In the Low Fuel Zone, fuel loads must be less than 2 tonnes per hectare.

### EXAMPLE OF A LOW FUEL ZONE



## DEFINITIONS - BUILDING PROTECTION ZONES

**BUILDING PROTECTION ZONE** - the area within a distance of 20 metres from a dwelling (as defined in the Residential Design Codes of WA and in AS 3959) that has a reduced bush fire fuel load, measured from the external walls within the boundaries of the lot on which the dwelling is situated.

A Building Protection Zone for habitable buildings must extend a minimum of 20 metres out from any external walls of the building, attached structures, or adjacent structures, within 6 metres of the habitable building.

On sloping ground the Building Protection Zone distance shall increase at least 1 metre for every degree in slope on the sides of the habitable building that are exposed to down slope natural vegetation.

Building Protection Zones must consist of non-flammable managed vegetation, reticulated lawns and gardens and other non-flammable features.

All grass in Building Protection Zones must be maintained to or under 5cm in height.

Fuel loads within Building Protection Zones must be maintained at 2 tonnes per hectare or under.

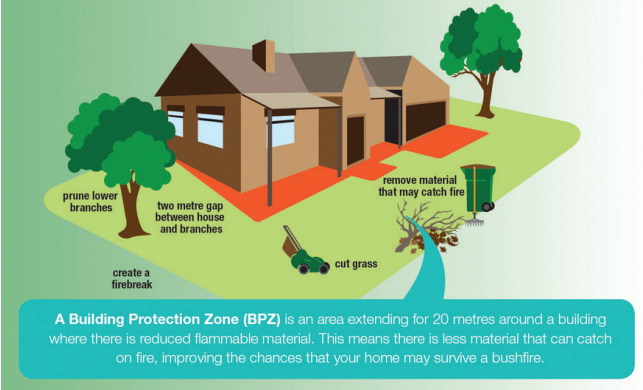
Wood piles and inflammable materials must be stored a safe distance from habitable buildings.

There must be no tree crowns or branches hanging over habitable buildings.

Trees are to be low pruned (or under pruned) to at least a height of 2 metres from the ground.

No tree, or shrub over 2 metres high is to be within 2 metres of a habitable building.

# DEFINITIONS - BUILDING PROTECTION ZONES



**HABITABLE BUILDINGS** - a dwelling, work place, place of gathering or assembly, and includes any building used for storage or display of goods or produce for sale by wholesale in accordance with classes 1-9 of the Building Code of Australia. The term habitable building includes attached and adjacent structures like garages, carports, verandahs or similar roofed structure(s) that are attached to, or within, 6 metres of the dwelling or primary building.

**INFLAMMABLE MATERIAL** - a substance which is easily set on fire.

DEFINITIONS

## EXAMPLE OF AN EFFECTIVE BUILDING PROTECTION ZONE



# HARVESTING OPERATIONS

## Harvest/movement of vehicles, hot works and use of combustion engine bans

A ban on harvesting and the movement of vehicles (except for the watering or movement of stock) is likely to be imposed when the predicted weather conditions are classified by the Bureau of Meteorology as high or above, or when local conditions warrants bans to be applied.

All such bans are at the discretion of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer/Fire Weather Officer.

### **There are a number of conditions that harvesting operators need to comply with. They are as follows:**

- 1** No harvesting operations are permitted on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.
- 2** An approved fire fighting appliance is required to be present in any paddock being harvested whilst crop harvesting, straw raking and bailing operations are being carried out during restricted and prohibited periods. The fire fighting unit must be in a state of readiness and have a minimum of 400 litres of water on board. It is recommended that fire fighting units are not mounted on trailers as additional risks are present when towing trailers on a fire ground.

The vehicle should also be equipped with UHF radio and carry appropriate personal protective clothing/equipment. UHF Channel 11 is reserved for all fire fighting operations throughout the Shire.

- 3** *Section 27 of the Bush Fires Act 1954*

Prohibition on use of tractors or engines except under certain conditions.

During any period of restricted or prohibited burning, a person shall not operate any agricultural or earth moving vehicles, unless it is carrying an approved fire extinguisher, as described under Section 3 of the Bush Fires Regulations 1954.

## HARVESTING



4 Section 3 of the Bush Fires Regulations 1954.

Fire extinguisher - a device which comprises

(a) a container filled with at least 7.5 litres of water; and

(b) a pump capable of discharging that water, and which is in a sound and efficient condition.

- 5 It is mandatory for all operators of harvesters to be registered on the Shire of Dandaragan Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban SMS Notification service. This service is provided free to any person wishing to be registered. Council has implemented a system of being able to advise farmers/businesses of the imposing of harvest and movement of vehicle bans via a mobile phone.

If a ban has been imposed, all persons registered will be sent a text message advising of details. All bans will still be broadcast on ABC radio.

Radio is still the primary means of notifying farmers of bans. As mobile phone coverage can drop out, text messages should not be relied upon to be received in a timely manner. If a person wishes to register their mobile phone number with the Shire for this service, a nomination form is available via the Shire of Dandaragan website in the Bush Fire tab.

Once you have completed the form please return to the Emergency Management Coordinator at the Jurien Bay Shire Administration Centre, or by emailing to: **[council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au](mailto:council@dandaragan.wa.gov.au)**.

## HARVESTING



# INFRINGEMENT PENALTIES

## Unlawful Lighting of Fires

### Section 32 of the Bush Fires Act

Offences for lighting or attempting to light a fire likely to injure	<b>MAXIMUM PENALTY</b> Imprisonment for 20 years.
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### Bush Fires Act, 1954 (as amended)

S.24B(3)(a) Failure to produce a permit to burn	<b>\$100.00</b>
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S.33(3) Failure to clear and maintain a fire break as per the Fire break and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice	<b>\$250.00</b>
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S.25 Offence relating to lighting a fire in the open	<b>\$250.00</b>
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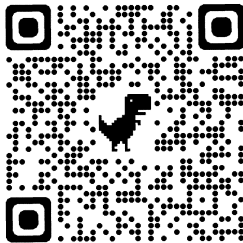
S.28(1) Failure of occupier to extinguish a bushfire	<b>\$250.00</b>
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### Bush Fires Regulations, 1954

R.15B Failure to comply with condition of a Permit	<b>MAXIMUM PENALTY</b> First offence <b>\$4,500</b> Second offence <b>\$10,000</b>
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DEFINITIONS

For further information visit [www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au](http://www.dandaragan.wa.gov.au) or scan below



For more information, or any queries please contact the Shire of Dandaragan 9652 0800

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### SHIRE STAFF

Shire of Dandaragan ..... (08) 9652 0800

### SENIOR RANGER

24/7 (**Emergencies Only**) ..... 0409 720 413

Assistant Ranger ..... 0400 130 127

### EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

24/7 (**Emergencies Only**) ..... 0428 114 221

## LOCAL CONTRACTORS

*for Fire break maintenance and installations.*

**Alta Mare Only**

### COOKIES COASTAL EARTHWORKS

Phone ..... 0418 903 925 or 0408 433 888

**Entire Shire**

### DWC TREES - DAVE WATSON

Phone ..... 0409 240 288

**Entire Shire**

### DIRECT CONTRACTING

Phone ..... 0438 566 579 or 0418 934 287

**Entire Shire**

### JURIEN BAY FIRE BREAKS

Phone ..... 0409 438 531 or 0419 959 690

**Entire Shire**

### JURIEN BAY KART CLUB

Phone ..... 0427 381 106 or 0427 853 502

**Jurien Bay and surrounding areas**

### JURIEN TRENCHING & EXCAVATIONS

Phone ..... 0429 681 011

**Jurien Bay and surrounding areas**

### PETER POPPLEWELL

Phone ..... 9651 4446 or 0427 007 212

*Whether engaging a contractor or carrying out works yourself, it is the property owner who is responsible for ensuring that all works/variations are carried out or applied for before the due date.*



## FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

### CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER

Richard Brown ..... 0428 513 028

### DEPUTY CHIEF BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICER

Andrew Kenny .....9652 9110 or 0428 529 110

## BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

### DANDARAGAN

Douglas Wasley .....9651 4032 or 0427 414 787

Raymond Glasfurd ..... 0427 512 016

Richard Brown ..... 0428 513 028

Grant Creagh..... 9651 4137

John Glasfurd..... 0427 990 072

Hugh Roberts .....9651 2030 or 0428 962 030

Matthew Leeds ..... 0419 912 390

Robert Wedge.....9651 2036 or 0427 770 819

Richard Allen .....9651 4156 or 0448 038 486

Lachlan Brown..... 0427 684 507

Campbell Hurst ..... 0428 592 966

Lincoln Brown..... 0418 507 304

### BADGINGARRA

Josh Barnes..... 0429 203 936

Gary Peacock .....9952 5030 or 0428 529 030

David Wilson ..... 0429 652 900

Andrew Kenny .....9652 9110 or 0428 529 110

Geoffrey Felber..... 0488 034 101

### HILL RIVER

Aubrey Panizza..... 9652 4030

Dale Park..... 0427 953 171

James Raffan ..... 0428 523 006

### JURIEN BAY

Cameron Rosenthal ..... 0427 002 532

Gary Olsen ..... 0409 906 253

Adam Peacock..... 0438 994 491

Peter Scharf ..... 0449 735 722

Emergency Management Coordinator ..... 0428 114 221

Shane Elliss ..... 0417 489 416

### CERVANTES

Peter Ivey..... 0429 652 755

Shaun Turbett..... 0418 965 273

# FIRE WEATHER OFFICERS

## NORTH EAST ZONE - Andrew Kenny

The North East portion of the Shire bordered by the Brand Highway, Mungedar Road and Northwest Road.

## SOUTH EAST ZONE - Hugh Roberts

The South East portion of the Shire bordered by the Brand Highway, Mungedar Road and Northwest Road.

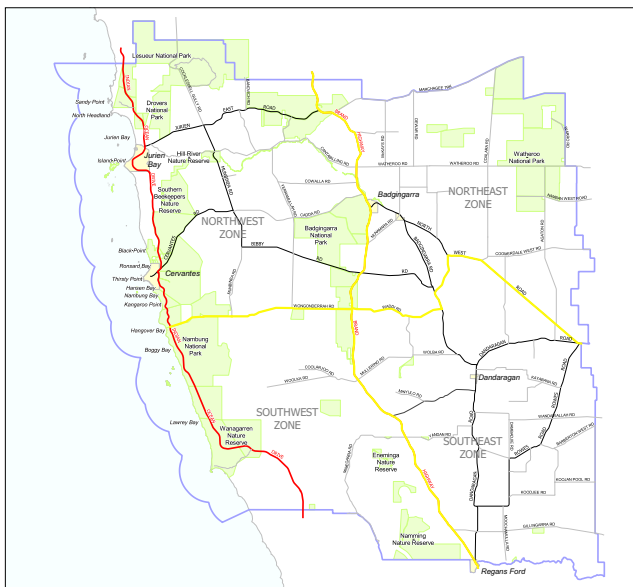
## NORTH WEST ZONE - Aubrey Panizza

The North West portion of the Shire bordered by the Brand Highway and Wongonderrah Road.

## SOUTH WEST ZONE - Aubrey Panizza

The South West portion of the Shire bordered by the Brand Highway and Wongonderrah Road.

## HARVEST & VEHICLE MOVEMENT BAN FIRE WEATHER ZONES



CONTACT INFORMATION

# AUSTRALIAN FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM

## What is the Australian Fire Danger Rating System?

The Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) Program is redesigning the forecasting of fire danger in Australia. It aims to improve public safety, reduce the impacts of bushfires and better support the community with nationally consistent ratings and messaging. The AFDRS will be implemented on

**1 September 2022** across Australia.

## How is the AFDRS different from our current system?

The current Fire Danger Rating System is largely based on 60-year-old science applied on a large scale. New technology and research have greatly improved our ability to more accurately predict fire behaviour and the potential threat to the community.

The AFDRS will have four levels with action-oriented messages to encourage people to take action. The ratings and high-level messages are:

- 1 Moderate:** Plan and prepare.
- 2 High:** Be ready to act.
- 3 Extreme:** Take action now to protect life and property.
- 4 Catastrophic:** For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas.



Name/Colour	Fire Behaviour Index Range	Suppression difficulty
<b>MODERATE</b> (Green)	12-23	Most bushfires in this category. Fires typically suppressed with direct, parallel or indirect attack.
<b>HIGH</b> (Yellow)	24-49	Initial attack success critical to prevent large fire development. Defensive suppression strategies.
<b>EXTREME</b> (Orange)	50-99	Defensive suppression strategies. High levels of threat to life/property. Safety of firefighters and community paramount.
<b>CATASTROPHIC</b> (Red)	100+	Unsafe for firefighters and community. Without initial attack success, likelihood of very large fire development is very high. High probability of loss of life and property.

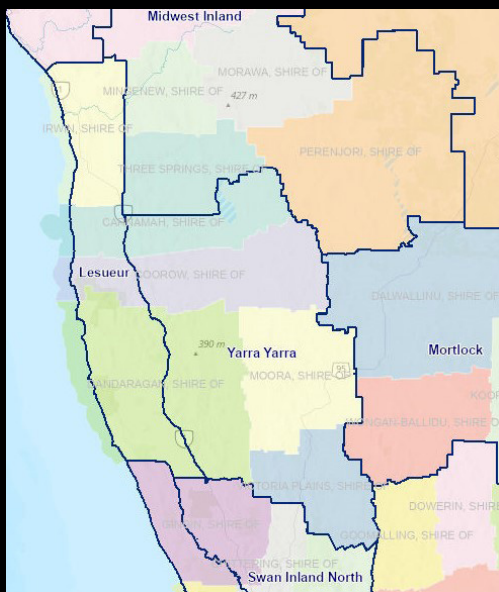
## Burning under a Permit

Under the current system, burning during the restricted burning period is not permitted under a burn permit when the fire danger forecast reaches 'Very High' or above. Following detailed analysis work and understanding of the new science behind the AFDRS, the new 'High' rating has been identified as the most appropriate upper-level threshold for authorisation of burn permits under s.18 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, notwithstanding the requirements on a permit holder as set out in:

1. Section 38(17) of the Bush Fires Act 1954; and / or
2. Regulation.15B(7) of the Bush Fires Regulations 1954.

This is based on national recognition that planned burning is generally not recommended at the High rating (FBI 24 – 49) due to the potential that fire line intensity, spotting activity and rapidly spreading fires will pose a serious risk of burn escapes. A Fire Weather Officer will still be able to authorise the use of a permit at a rating of 'High' and above (i.e. an FBI of 24 or more) during the restricted burning period s.38(17).

# WA Fire Weather Districts



FOR ALL  
**FIRES**

# DIAL 000

For more information, or any queries relating to this guide please contact



**(08) 9652 0800** or

visit **dandaragan.wa.gov.au**

