

CBFCO Report

Prepared by Nick Caffell for the Tammin Bush Fire Brigade BFAC and AGM, 21 September 2026.

Good evening, everyone, and thank you for attending the Tammin Bush Fire Brigade BFAC and AGM. This report provides an overview of the brigade's key activities, achievements and operational matters during my time as CBFCO, including member training, fireground communications, equipment and resources, and the significant incidents attended over the past season. I would also like to acknowledge the commitment of our volunteers and supporting agencies. Their cooperation continues to strengthen bushfire preparedness and response across the Tammin community.

I would also like to thank Tammin shire staff, Council, CEO Andrew and Works Manager Mike for all the time and resources they have committed to supporting the Tammin Bush Fire Brigade including training staff and deploying machinery.

I would also like to sincerely thank former CBFCOs Gavin, David and Hayden for their guidance and support. Their experience and assistance have been greatly appreciated. I extend my full support to Brad and Ash as they step into their new positions and wish them every success in their roles.

- Training, Tammin BFB members up to 56 as of last LG report. We have been involved in training members in Bushfire safety Awareness, Firefighting skills advanced driver training and Ground support training over the last 2 years since I've been involved. Approx 30 people trained
- Weather stations, With the help of Ceri Coetzer we have installed 2 tank monitors and utilized existing weather stations to help coordinate and call harvest and vehicle movement bans. Strongly suggest we continue using this resource for implementing harvest and vehicle movement bans as it is quantifiable and traceable to a time and relatively easy to monitor.
- Fire Appliance, Tammin BFB has had Business cases submitted for the past 5 fire seasons with no commitment yet for a permanent resource.

We were delivered a high season appliance last year that has served us well and remains to be stored at the shire depot.

- Fires in the shire, we had 9 reported fires in the fire period last season with 2 major fires of mention. One early November on a harvest ban day caused by a falling tree that burnt considerable crop and threatened the townsite. Very scary situation for everyone involved and required shutting of the great eastern hwy and the rail line. Thanks to all that attended in all capacity.

The other major fire burnt from a harvester west of the shire and threatened homes and property also on a nasty day. Thanks to our shire staff who manned our shire water truck on both occasions, as well as numerous other callouts during the season.

- PPC, all volunteers have access to required PPC and it is the responsibility of the BFB members to have the correct PPC at a fire.
- Waern Radios, we finally have access to vehicle mounted radios in Nick, Brad Corey and Shane's vehicles as well as some hand held units at the shire office.
- Starlink mobile, we have spoken about communications at fire grounds at length during my time as CBFCO and a starlink device is now installed in the CESM vehicle to aid comms during fires and training.
- Tammin VFES, although still active the vfes service is in need of support to be maintained not for this meeting but will need to be followed up.

In closing, I am proud of the progress made by the Tammin Bush Fire Brigade and grateful for the commitment of everyone who has contributed. With continued training, cooperation and support, I am confident the brigade will remain well prepared to protect our community. Thank you all for your ongoing service and support.

Nick Caffell