

CESM Council Report - July 2022

PREVENTION

1. Fire Management

- Over the coming months, lands that are managed by the Shire of Tammin will be assessed for mitigation purposes with the intention of applying for funding for the second round of 2022 later in the year.
 - Development of a generic Letter for all landowners that have a very high or above risk rating on their property, actioning risks that are not Local Government's lands, includes sending a letter/email to farmers/residents/businesses informing them of their risk, although they are not obligated to carry out any works to mitigate the risk.

PREPAREDNESS

1. Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment

- Provision of PPC is an ongoing program, Due to the Shire having re-establishing a bush fire brigade, ESL funding is now available and PPE will be ordered throughout the year for those that are listed on the Bush Fire Brigade List through the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES).
 - A current stockpile is at the Shire of Tammin Depot that is available for collection, a date is to be organised with the brigade members to try on the PPC for sizing purposes.
 - PPC is only available to those that are registered with the Bush Fire Brigade, and that have also completed the introductory training.
- Shire Vehicles (Grader/Loader) have been given PPE, should they be requested to respond to an incident.

2. Volunteer Training

- 39 volunteers attended the Bushfire Safety Awareness training course in February and March 2022, this is the first course that volunteers are required to undertake for the Local Government to comply with the WHS Act 2020.
 - A second course is also recommended, although after speaking with the BFAC committee it was decided that this course will be undertaken in 2023, as to not push volunteers through training too fast and potentially causing a loss of interest.

RESPONSE

1. Bush Fire Season

- There were very few fires within the Tammin Shire during the 2021/22 Bushfire Season.
 - There was a fire that started in the Shire of Kellerberrin and ran in to the Shire of Tammin caused by a harvester. This was a large and fast moving fire that was dealt with in a timely manner and those that attended the fire acted swiftly and brought it under control quickly.
 - A major support to this incident was the Aerial support that was received during the fire with 2 fixed wing water bombers that were based in Northam arriving quickly assisting ground crews
- The Goldfields/Midlands DFES region may be contacting Chief Bush Fire Control Officers towards the Bushfire Season again for support in receiving 2 water bombers again for the Season, it was initially announced as a once off due to the amount of fuel loadings around, although they were used quite extensively during their 6-8 weeks they were based in Northam.

ADMINISTRATION

1. Local Government Grant Scheme

- The Shire of Tammin's LGGS application was submitted on 25th March, aside from the standard operating grant, the following was also applied for;

- Application for Facility
 - Application for 4000L, 4x4 Appliance (4.4 Broadacre)
- At this time, the Shire has not yet been informed of the outcome of the application with most capital grant application outcomes being informed of sometime in August.

2. General

- LEMA reviewed on a quarterly basis, and updated as required.
- The Shire of Tammin's Bushfire Management Arrangements, (BMA) inclusive of response plans, are currently being developed with the intention to have the plan circulated to the BFAC committee in August for review and allowing comments to be brought to the next BFAC meeting scheduled for September.
- The Shire of Tammin do not currently have any Bushfire Policies or Procedures (accompanies the BMA these are also being looked in to at the moment.
 - They outline training recommendations for volunteers and have a list of Local Government Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's) for attendance at a fire. The intent is to keep the document as simple as possible as to not worry volunteers with training requirements.

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. General

- BFAC meeting was held Wednesday 5th April 2022.
 - Nothing of significance was raised by the committee, primarily discussion was focussed on the large scale incidents that occurred in during the season.
 - The Shire of Tammin's Bushfire Preparedness Procedures were also discussed, a new document for primary use by Shire staff in the event of an emergency incident, with the document outlining what LG Staff should be doing, depending on the threat level of the incident.

CESM POSITION

Due to the CESM position being shared by three Local Governments only a limited amount of time is spent undertaking the work for each of them respectively.

- Every Monday in Quairading,
- Every Tuesday in Tammin,
- Every Wednesday Cunderdin,
- Every Second Thursday in Northam DFES Regional Office for Training and Weather report updates.
 - None of the above days are set in stone and may be changed as required, by either the Local Government or CESM.
- Remaining days will primarily be based in Quairading Undertaking work for any of the Local Governments that may not have been completed during the week.