



Shire of Lake Grace

Fire Management Notice 2022/2023

FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE IS HEREBY SERVED TO ALL LAND OWNERS OR OCCUPIERS IN THE SHIRE OF LAKE GRACE

This Notice is a legal document, issued under section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, and the mitigation measures stipulated in the Notice are required by law.

You must prepare your property for the fire season by installing and maintaining firebreaks and reducing fuel loads on your property to the standards specified in this Notice (issued under section 33 of the Bush Fire Act 1954 (the Act)).

The fire mitigation measures listed in the Notice must be in place by 1 November 2022 and be maintained up to 30 April 2023 (inclusive).

REPORT ALL FIRES - CALL 000

Alerts & Warnings: www.emergency.wa.gov.au

Shire Harvest Ban Info Line: (08) 9487 7191

The Shire of Lake Grace reserves the right to change any condition listed in this notice without notice. Any amendments will be displayed on the Shire of Lake Grace website at www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au

SECTION 33 NOTICE

Notice to all Owners and Occupiers of land in the Shire of Lake Grace.

Pursuant to s.33 of the Act, you are hereby required to take the following fire mitigation measures on your land, which are to be in place by **1 November 2022** and be maintained until **30 April 2023** (inclusive).

1. **All Land up to and including 5,000sqm - Mainly Towns**
Maintain an Asset Protection Zone per section 3.
 - a. Maintain all grass on the land to a height no greater than 5cm.
 - b. Trim trees and shrubs, and remove dead and dying flammable material within 1.5 metres around all buildings.
 - c. Ensure no tree crowns overhang a building.
 - d. Ensure the roofs, gutters and walls of all buildings on the land are free of flammable matter.
 - e. Maintain the whole of the property in a low fuel state, less than 8 tonnes per hectare.
2. **All Land greater than 5,000sqm - Rural Land**
Maintain an Asset Protection Zone per section 3.
 - a. Create a firebreak 3m wide with 4m vertical clearance situated immediately (or as close as practicable) inside all external boundaries of the property AND around all structures;
 - b. Where land is in crop or pasture and adjoins the railway reserve , install a firebreak of not less than 3m wide encircling the crop or paddock;
 - c. Where buildings, haystacks, fuel ramps, fuel tanks and stored fuel drums are situated on land, firebreaks must be installed at least 10m wide, completely encircling these items, no greater than 30m from the items.
 - d. On land immediately surrounding an air strip, a firebreak not less than 6m wide must be cleared;
 - e. Air strips used as the motor start up, refueling and maintenance area are to be completely cleared of all combustible materials for a radius of 18m;
 - f. Where vegetation has been bulldozed or prepared in a similar manner for clearing by burning (whether or not it is intended to burn the bush), a firebreak of not less than 13 metres wide is to be prepared inside the external boundaries of that land.; and
 - g. An operational mobile firefighting unit, containing a recommended 1200L and minimum of 600L of water, is to be on standby and available for inspection.

3. ASSET PROTECTION ZONE FOR BUILDINGS

An Asset Protection Zone (APZ) is an area directly surrounding a building that is managed to reduce the bushfire hazard to an acceptable level.

- a. APZs consist of managed vegetation, reticulated lawns and gardens and other non-flammable features.
- b. APZs are required for all habitable buildings, whether located on rural properties or within a town site.
- c. Habitable buildings should be surrounded by an APZ of 20m measured from the outside of the building (or to the boundary of the property where 20 metres can not be achieved).

For more information regarding APZs visit the Shire of Lake Grace website at www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au

4. PLANTATIONS

Plantation operators must comply with the standards contained in DFES *Guidelines for Plantation Fire*

Protection, available from the Shire of Lake Grace website at www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au

By CEO Shire of Lake Grace

VARIATION TO REQUIREMENTS

If you are not able to comply with the requirements of this Notice, you may apply to the Shire for a Variation to Requirements, by no later than 15 October. You will be required to provide details of alternative fire mitigation measures that you plan to implement. For more information visit the Shire of Lake Grace website.

Prohibited Burning Times

1 November 2022 to 31 January 2023

During the Prohibited Burning Period you must not start a fire in the open air. The penalty \$10,000 or 12 months' imprisonment or both.

Restricted Burning Times - *Permits Required*

19 September 2022 to 31 October 2022

1 February 2023 - 30 April 2023

THESE DATES MAY CHANGE

The dates for Prohibited and Restricted burning times are subject to change depending on prevailing weather conditions. Any date changes will be published on the Shire of Lake Grace website at www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au.

Agricultural Operations

- During the prohibited and restricted burning times, all harvesting machinery must carry a fire extinguisher.
- During harvesting operations, a fully operational fire fighting unit with a recommended water capacity of 1200L and a minimum of 600L, plumbed to a fire fighting pump and hose is to be located in the paddock being harvested. Vehicle GVM to be adhered to.
- See also Total Fire Bans and Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban information for permitted agricultural activities during the times when bans are in place.

A Permit to Set Fire to the Bush (permit to burn), must be obtained if you intend to light a fire during the restricted burning period.

When issued with a permit to burn, you must obey all of the conditions listed on the permit.

All permits to burn are automatically revoked on days where the fire danger is forecast to be 'High', 'Extreme' or 'Catastrophic'. (See Australian Fire Danger Rating System for changes)

The Shire of Lake Grace may revoke any or all permits already issued if it considers that there is a danger that any fire lit could escape from the land. (under s.46 of the Act)

If a fire has already been lit, the Shire of Lake Grace may direct that the fire be extinguished if there is a danger of the fire escaping. To obtain a permit to burn, contact the Fire Control Officer for your area (listed within this brochure, or visit the Shires website at www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au).

Permits to Burn Clover or Prohibited Plants

Permits to burn subterranean clover and prohibited plants can only be issued by authorised officers and an application needs to be submitted for review.

Changes This Year—2022

Subject to the implementation of the Australian Fire Danger Rating System nationally in September 2022, there will be changes to how permits and Harvest Bans operate. These will be communicated when they are finalised.

HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS (HVMB)

The Fire and Emergency Services (FES) Minister may declare a Total Fire Ban (TFB) if weather conditions are likely to cause fires to spread rapidly or if widespread fires are already burning and state firefighting resources are stretched.

A TFB prohibits the lighting of any fires in the open air and other activities that may start a fire.

The ban includes all open air fires for the purpose of cooking or camping. It also includes incinerators, welding, grinding, soldering or gas cutting.

It also prohibits the use of equipment powered by internal combustion engines in any area where there is bush, crops, pasture or stubble. Such equipment includes chainsaws, welders, cars, tractors, excavators, motorbikes etc.

Farmers can still harvest their crop and feed or water stock in a paddock during a TFB, unless a Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban has been declared by the Shire of Lake Grace.

A TFB is declared the evening before the day it is to take effect. You should check the Emergency WA website:

www.emergency.wa.gov.au after 6pm to see if a ban has been declared for the next day or call the TFB hotline on 1800 709 355.

Some activities can be carried out by industry, business and public authorities during a TFB as long as certain conditions are complied with. For more information please visit the DFES website at: <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/totalfirebans/pages/whatisatfb.aspx> .

Penalties may apply:

If you ignore a Total Fire Ban, you may receive an infringement notice of \$1,000, and if it's a serious breach, you may receive a penalty of \$25,000 and/or be jailed for 12 months.

HARVEST & VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS

The Shire of Lake Grace may impose a Harvest & Vehicle Movement Ban (HVMB) for its district, or areas within its district, during the prohibited or restricted burning times if a Bush Fire Control Officer determines that the use of any engines, vehicles, plant or machinery is likely to cause or spread a bush fire.

The Shire may use any or all of the following methods to notify the community of a HVMB:

- a recorded message on the HVMB Hotline 9487 7191;
- SMS to subscribing mobile phones (please contact the Shire of on 9890 2500 to subscribe to this service);
- broadcast the ban on ABC radio;
- by Facebook update; or
- on its website

Please note that it is your responsibility to check if a HVMB is in place before undertaking any activity that may be subject to the Ban.

Activities Permitted During HVMB

Vehicles and equipment may be driven on gazetted roads and laneways, provided it has a trafficable surface, is at least 4 metres wide, cleared of all inflammable materials with overhanging vegetation pruned so as not to come into contact with the vehicle.

You can still carry out the following agricultural activities during a HVMB, if you are accompanied by a mobile firefighting unit (carrying a minimum of 600 litres of water):

- water carting for stock and domestic purposes;
- travel to, from and within piggeries and feed lots;
- all necessary carting of livestock; and
- any other activity permitted by the local government.

For more information, visit the Shire of Lake Grace website at www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au .

A penalty of up to \$5,000 may apply for breaches of a HVMB.

Christmas Day

A Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is imposed on Christmas Day each year.

Plantations:

The Shire of Lake Grace has adopted the Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection developed by the Department of Fire & Emergency Services which established the minimum fire break and fire equipment standards, subject to the following provisions:

Plantations: any area of planted trees for commercial purposes exceeding 3 hectares within townsites of exceeding 10 hectares in rural area.

Boundary Fire Breaks: (15 metres) a 15 metre firebreaks is required on all boundaries of plantations. 8 metres must be clear of all inflammable material on the ground and will have an 8 metre vertical clearance. The remaining 7 metres must be maintained in a low fuel condition (i.e. closely mown grazed or sprayed).

Compartment Fire Breaks: in accordance with Guideline standards subject to fire break being clear of all inflammable material.

Vehicle Access: all fire breaks to be maintained in a trafficable condition strictly in accordance with the Guidelines.

Fire Equipment Standards: where no brigade firefighting equipment or community based plantation fire equipment is located in a brigade area, plantation growers are required to provide the minimum equipment levels in accordance with the Plantation Fire Protection Guidelines.

A copy of the Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection can be obtained by contacting the Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES) or the Shire Office during normal office hours.

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. The AFDRS is a project of national significance being developed collaboratively by each state and territory, and the Commonwealth government. 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.

What are Fire Danger Ratings?

Fire Danger Ratings describe the potential level of danger should a bushfire start. They provide people with information so that they can take action to protect themselves and others from the potentially dangerous impacts of bushfires. Ratings are calculated using a combination of weather forecasting and vegetation information. They do not indicate the chance of a fire occurring.

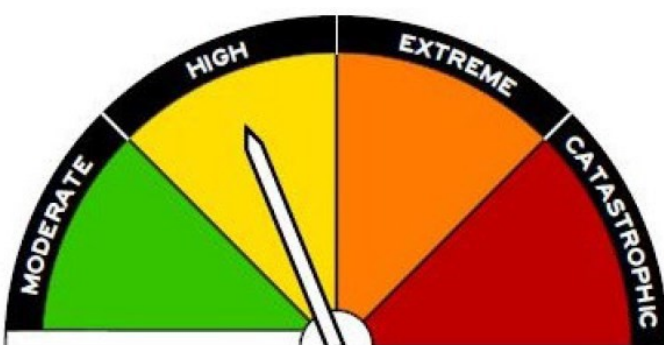
Fire break and rates notices

Changes to legislation and new thresholds for restricted activities will not be finalised in time for information to be released with 2022 fire break and rates notices. Local governments are advised that thresholds are being finalised and the outcomes will be communicated as soon as practical.

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 and understanding of the new science, it is anticipated that the new threshold will be the 'High' rating. Confirmation to follow when available.



FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

CBFCO	David Roberts (Rocket)	M: 0428 744 014
DCBFCO	Brad Watson	M: 0427 906 441
Senior FCO - West	Kevin Naisbitt	M: 0427 649 043
Senior FCO - Central	Peter Walker	M: 0427 719 044
Senior FCO - East	Hugh Roberts (Doc)	M: 0429 995 614

Zone 1 - Lake Grace North

Brad Watson (DCBFCO)	M: 0427 906 441
Doug Dunham	M: 0427 653 054
Evan Wyatt	M: 0417 914 442
Greg Carruthers	M: 0427 651 172
Ross Chappell	M: 0428 654 058

Zone 2 - Lake Grace South

Scott Strevett	M: 0429 651 637
Kevin Naisbitt (Snr FCO - West)	M: 0427 649 043

Zone 3 - Newdegate North

Bill Lloyd	M: 0428 711 533
Tim Lloyd	M: 0427 712 057
Ian Lloyd	M: 0427 611 676
Ron Shalders	M: 0428 747 031
Craig Shalders	M: 0427 716 061
Peter Walker (Senior FCO—Central)	M: 0427 719 044
Aaron Guelfi	M: 0427 865 702
Gary Guelfi	M: 0427 742 014
Dean Rintoul	M: 0447 192 689

Zone 4 - Newdegate South

Wes Hall	M: 0429 720 018
Geoff Richardson	M: 0427 719 014
David Tonkin	M: 0427 978 005
Cal Tonkin	M: 0428 866 626

Zone 5 - Varley/ Lake King

Steven Davies	M: 0427 747 035
Jorg Brinkmann	M: 0428 744 061
Ben Hyde	M: 0428 752 042
Craig Newman	M: 0429 871 625

John Zurnamer	M: 0488 751 222
Jason Sugg	M: 0429 744 022
Hugh Roberts (Senior FCO—East)	M: 0429 955 614

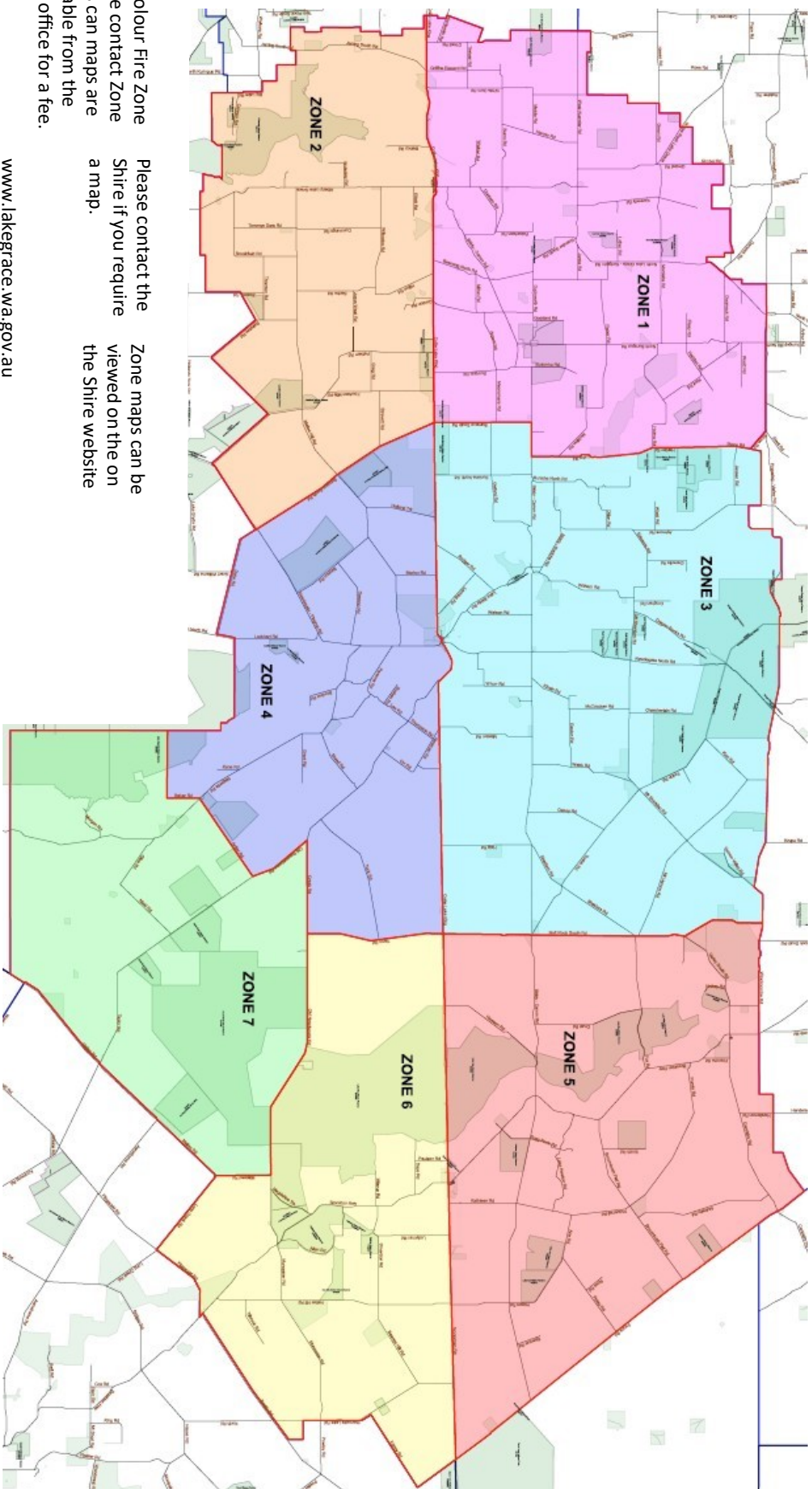
Zone 6 - Mt Madden

David Roberts (CBFCO)	M: 0428 744 014
Lindsay Brownley	M: 0428 380 038
Anthony Teale	M: 0427 389 057

Zone 7 - Dunn Rock

Tyson De Landgraft	M: 0477 915 361
Rhys De Landgraft	M: 0417 389 041
Amanda Giles	M: 0429 468 756

Shire of Lake Grace CESM



Full colour Fire Zone
 maps can be viewed on the
 Shire website for a fee.

Please contact the
 Shire if you require
 a map.

Zone maps can be
 viewed on the
 Shire website

www.lakegrace.wa.gov.au