

MINUTES

LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

2 OCTOBER 2024

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Kenneth Parker
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



SHIRE OF WAGIN

Minutes for the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held in the Council Chambers, Wagin on Wednesday 2 October 2024.

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1. OFFICIAL OPENING

The Presiding Member opened the meeting at 6 pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE / APOLOGIES

2.1 ATTENDANCE

Cr Phil Blight
Jo Spadaccini

Dr Kenneth Parker
Robyn Flett
Peter Cumming
Xavier White
Brett Dew
Jack Stallard
Cam Forrest
John Paul Collins
Bryn Becker
Donna George

Shire President
District Emergency Services Officer - Dept
of Communities – via teams
Chief Executive Officer
Homecare Manager – via teams
Bushfire Volunteer
Chief Bushfire Control Officer
Western Power
Vice-Captain – VFRS
Captain – VFRS
DPIRD
Bushfire FCO
Community Liaison Officer

2.2 APOLOGIES

Mitchel Davies

Charlotte Powis
Craig Smith
Michael Phillips

Lyn Lucas
Wade Brockway
Ian McDougall
Sgt Neil Bohnen
Steve Angwin

Dept. Biodiversity, Conservation &
Attractions
District Emergency Management Advisor
Superintendent – DFES Narrogin
Regional Coordinator Wheatbelt – Dept of
Communities
SES Captain
Bushfire Captain – Lime Lake
Bushfire Captain – Wedgecarrup
WAPOL
Bushfire FCO

3. DISCLOSURE OF FINANCIAL AND OTHER INTERESTS



4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

4.1 MINUTES FROM THE LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD 10 APRIL 2024

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

Moved: P Blight

Seconded: J Stallard

That the minutes of the Local Emergency Management Committee Meeting held on 10 April 2024 and circulated to all Councillors and Committee Members, be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Carried 10/0

5. STATUS REPORT – APRIL 2024

Date	Description	Responsible Person	Action	Status	Comments
9/08/2022	St John Ambulance	A Howell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Replacement Ambulance arrival date unclear Fundraising for ambulance ongoing with need for additional \$30,000 Training courses planned to provide ambulance driver training to both WAPOL and DFES to alleviate crew shortages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short on volunteers Currently 2nd busiest volunteer run sub centre in Wheatbelt 	
20/06/2023		A Randall	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Van arrived 2 weeks ago. Organising an unveiling Critically low for numbers 2nd busiest in the wheatbelt Attending callouts, not transfers 		
10/04/2024		R Willey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New van in operation with Stryker stretcher. We have some new members 2 have upskilled to top level 		
9/08/2022	WAPOL	S Bickers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One new staff member starting soon who will also attend land search training providing additional resources locally. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining staff levels at one down 	
20/06/2023		Inspector R Alexander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Great Southern 3-4% vacancy rate 		

10/04/2024		B Menshelyi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theft from retail is an issue. • Home security needs to be raised / improved • Great Southern 3-4% position vacancy rate • Theft from retail is an issue • Personal home security needs to be raised/improved • Staffing levels very low • Additional 3 Officers being sought plus an Officer in Charge position • Crime Stats lower than previous years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Renovations complete 	Financial incentives have recently been significantly increased to support officers moving to regional areas. Crime stats for Wagin attached for reference.
9/08/2022	VFRS	T Cook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stations renovations are on track with improvements providing crews with more health and wellbeing options onsite • Wagin crew received a nomination for the WAFES and are through to finals 		WAFES – Western Australian Fire and Emergency Services Awards, with winners announced 10 Sept
10/04/2024	Wagin VFRS	C Forrest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Station Renovations are complete • Crew numbers are good after hours – day crews are low • Identifying a high level of drug impact in traffic incidents attended. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Renovations complete. 	
9/08/2022	SES	L Lucas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent bad weather has resulted in a number of call outs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Volunteers will attend SWORD 	SWORD – State-wide Operational Response Division

20/06/2023		L Elms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ready for winter / lots of resources • Some minor incidences. • Attended eastern states floods. • Awaiting rescue unit / ute • Membership – 28 • New super – Craig Smith • Plans for – building space. • Flood boat funding query TBA 	training which focuses on logistics	<p>Experience gained in attending the eastern state floods will assist volunteers in training other members.</p> <p>Plans are in place to build a new SES shed in Wagin for training and storage.</p>
9/08/2022	BFB	R Goldsmith	Nothing to report at this time		
9/08/2022	DPIRD	JP Collins & J Thomas	Advised they will email information through to staff to attach		Refer to item 9.1.1 for further information
02/10/2024		JP Collins	Provided a report on DPIRD projects underway.		Report attached.
29/07/2022	Shire of Wagin	D George	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update to LEMA – as per email details sent out to members • New Staff member – Ian McCabe as Acting DCEO and is to step up to Acting CEO Oct 2022 • NBN installed at Rec Centre – complete. 		Current funding applications for installation of three access points for emergency water:
20/06/2023			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allen – Genie at Shire to check it works • Local law – BFB's active 23rd • IT disaster planning 1st draft • Bushfire Risk Management Officer 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airport • Tanker trailer – mobile • Pump connection to weir

10/04/2024			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Asbestos incident – EHO / worksafe / consultant – Complete New Shire CEO – Dr Ken Parker New Shire DCEO – John Fathers Shire emergency Generator test run scheduled for Friday April 12. EFP set up for emergency activation. 		LEMA is available on Shire of Wagin website.
02/10/2024		D George	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Generator Test run worked well – IT and electrical onsite as precaution, developed run sheet for use by any staff member during emergency activation. 		
9/08/2022	Wagin Homecare	R Flett	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency plans in place 		See attached document
20/06/2023			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As presented. Vulnerable persons list 		
08/04/2024			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Homecare has moved to the Wagin town Hall 		
02/10/2024			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff working on the above projects and items mentioned in previous minutes. 		
9/08/2022	Wagin District Hospital	F Htun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fully staffed at the moment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff coping well with COVID protocol requirements 	
20/06/2023	DFES	S Vogel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training season getting prepared New Regional officer – Paul Blechynden Report provided – attached 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 	

10/04/2024		G Stevens	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35% increase in Bushfires this season 		DFES Report attached.
02/10/2024		P Leiper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently covering the role for Paul Blechynden Training is available – Pre-Season Preparedness workshops in Narrogin, Corrigin and Lake Grace. 		
20/06/2023	Dept of Communities	J Spadaccini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency relief and support unit LEM plan New template on the cards – LEMP Various locations of experience with centres open over state and east 	•	
10/04/2024		M Phillips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dept is currently reviewing the Local Emergency Response Service Plan. 		
02/10/2024		J Spadaccini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training is upcoming and will be offered to all LEMC members, likely to be in Wagin as it is central and an ideal venue for evacuation purposes. As the venue is so well placed for evacuation needs – it is probable that nearby towns requiring 		

			<p>evacuation will be sent here (assuming safe). This may mean additional supplies could be stored here for the purpose.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Funding opportunities may support upgrades around the precinct as it is so suitable. 	
02/10/2024	Western Power	Brett Dew	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Currently planning their firebreak requirements around assets. Advised in an emergency they could connect a generator to run the sports precinct, if the emergency didn't negate access to Wagin from Perth. When dealing with fallen power lines & fire – no direct water or mist. Wait till WP onsite to ensure volunteer safety. Previous item – updating pole tops – WP have a helicopter spraying the old ones with silicone to better protect from ignition points. 	<p>Generator connection would be required if the upgrade works planned by the LG was not complete.</p> <p>Question asked – when a dropped line is live, how far must we stay back. Answer – 8 mtrs – and even once its off be aware there may be a generator connection. Leave it till WP are onsite and can ensure safe.</p>



6. CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

- 6.1 1st Quarter update from Dept of Communities – see attached.
- 6.2 DPIRD report attached
- 6.3 DFES report attached

7. GENERAL BUSINESS

7.1 NEXT MEETING DATE

TBA

8. CLOSURE

With no further business, the Presiding Member closed the meeting at 6.50pm



Emergency Relief and Support

Emergency evacuation centre training

- The emergency evacuation centre training is being enhanced and revised to boost the knowledge and confidence of Communities district teams, local government and other partnering agencies to work within an emergency evacuation centre.
- This dynamic, interactive three-hour training enables participants to design and set up an evacuation centre, while navigating a variety of scenarios staff may encounter in such settings.
- Participants will include a cross section of Communities staff and local government agencies to foster collaboration and relationship building.
- Whenever possible, training will be held in designated evacuation centres to provide hands-on experience.

The ERS team will be in contact to arrange a training schedule and identifying dates and locations.

Planning and Preparedness

- The ERS Directorate are keen to work with Local Governments and partners in preparations and exercising. If you are running any exercises or events that would be of value and appropriate for ERS to attend, please let your ERS Regional Coordinator know.

The ERS Directorate can support the local government by reviewing your emergency kits ensuring that appropriate items and resources are available.

Update of the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans (LERSP)

- The ERS Directorate are currently reviewing the Local Emergency Relief and Support Plans (LERSP).
- The LERSP details the operational management and coordination of ERS under the Western Australian (WA) Local Emergency Management Arrangements (LEMAs).
- It is planned to have the LERSP tabled on the agenda for the 2nd Quarter LEMC meetings for 2024.

The ERS team will be in contact to request feedback and information to complete the LERSP for your region.

State-wide audit evacuation centres

- The ERS Directorate is completing audits of the State's nominated evacuation centres.

State-wide audit evacuation centres

- The audits are to identify hazard-specific risks relevant to the region and to identify opportunities for local governments to upgrade facilities to mitigate these risks.
- The Directorate would like to engage with local governments (LGs) and WALGA to discuss opportunities through the Disaster Ready Fund grants for 2025 to improve these facilities and mitigate risks in emergency events.

Discussions are encouraged with your region if you are planning any new evacuations centres or upgrades to existing ones.

Recovery Activities Update

Communities 2023/24 High Threat Season Activations

The ERS Directorate would like to acknowledge and thank all our local and state partners for the assistance and support provided over the 2023-24 season.

Since October 2023, there has been a total of 40 events supported by Communities including:

- Activation under the AUSRECEPLAN– Israel and Gaza repatriation
- Pre-planning undertaken for 3 high threat weather events, that didn't result in activation.
- 457 people were supported during events through our client management system
- 1 active and declared recovery event (under Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements) - Mariginiup Fire.
- just prior to Christmas 2023, there were 6 activations supported by Communities over just 2 days (20-22 December).

Our team looks forward to working with you all over the coming months as we prepare for the 2024-25 season.

Communities Recovery Activities

Kimberley Floods Recovery Program

- The Kimberley Flood Recovery Team continues to support impacted residents, through the Hub.
- In addition, to supporting impacted residents with their claims and eligibility requirements is also extended to practical, personal and wellbeing supports.
- At present there are five projects supporting Fitzroy Valley individuals and communities, in varying capacities, and we are reviewing the scope for future project requirements.
- We are currently working with the Housing Team and the Hub, to ensure residents understand their rights and obligations as they begin their journey from their temporary accommodation units to their home.

Mariginiup Fires Recovery Program

- Communities is supporting the City of Wanneroo to deliver the psychosocial wellbeing and financial support elements of the recovery program.
- Communities has engaged several psychologists to support impacted resident referrals and has delivered a financial assistance package aimed at supporting the replacement of essential household items damaged in the fires.
- Communities is currently supporting the City with site visits to damaged properties to commence the clean-up program to ensure residents have access to support services if required.

Communities Recovery Activities

- [Mariginiup Bushfire Recovery Information.pdf](#)

Bunbury Storms Recovery Program

- As of 15 July, Communities are supporting 9 people in supported accommodation.
- Communities have begun providing return home packages which include food boxes and prepaid cards for individuals transitioning home.
- Communities have finalised psychological services and beginning to triage requests via the approved providers.
- Communities have finalised category 3 and 4 financial assistance and will begin a targeted outreach of known impacted people.
- Communities Disaster Response Hotline remains open for support in the absence of HUBS. Communities' officers are engaging regularly with impacted individuals via this hotline.
- Communities is finalising a procurement process with Red Cross for the recovery training program being delivered to the city.

Disaster Ready Fund

Several LGs in Western Australia (WA) submitted applications for the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) in 2024 to support the improvement of their facilities used as evacuation centres.

The ERS Directorate had the opportunity to review LGs applications for the Disaster Ready Fund (DRF) provided to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) for 2024 and assessed that the projects would contribute to the State's ability to provide emergency accommodation for evacuating communities. All applications were considered suitable to progress for further consideration in the DRF process.

LEMC & DEMC report – July 2024

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DPIRD’s role in emergency management

- DPIRD is the Hazard Management Agency (HMA) for animal and plant pests and disease incursions. Refer to the [State Hazard Plan: Animal and Plant Biosecurity](#) for information on DPIRD’s legislated roles and responsibilities.
- DPIRD is the executor of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies. This includes livestock, horses, and companion animals. Refer to the [State Support Plan: Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#) for information on DPIRD’s legislated roles and responsibilities.
- DPIRD may from time to time provide support to other agencies where requested. This includes administering some components of the [Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements WA](#).

Responses – declared incidents

DPIRD is currently managing 6 level 1 and 2 incidents in relation to plant pests/diseases and aquatic pests/diseases. Nil animal pest/disease incidents.

Pest or disease (level)	Status	Affected areas	Required actions
African Black Sugar Ant (2)	A pest of national significance, and all known infestations are under eradication	Maddington, Welshpool, Fremantle, Wattleup, Forrestdale, Hazelmere, Maida Vale, Jandakot, Balcatta, Kenwick, Narrogin	<p>Refer to information, including how to identify the pest, on the African black sugar ant page of DPIRD’s website.</p> <p>Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the MyPestGuide App or contacting 08 9368 3080.</p>

Browsing ant (2)	A national eradication program is underway to tackle the Perth, Darwin and Brisbane infestations.	Perth Airport, Belmont, Kewdale, Welshpool. Infestations also are also present in Darwin and Brisbane.	Refer to information, including how to identify the pest, on the Browsing ant of DPIRD's website. If you suspect a sighting, do not move ants on goods or vehicles. They are often moved in shipping containers, soil, mulch, fertiliser, and other plant material. Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the MyPestGuide App or contacting 08 9368 3080.
Polyphagous shot hole borer (PSHB) (2)	DPIRD's largest biosecurity response currently. An extensive eradication program is currently underway and covers much of the Perth metro area.	25 LGAs are affected by PSHB. Refer to the quarantine area notice on the PSHB page of our website for the full list.	A quarantine area notice (QAN) is in place for 25 LGAs. The movement of wood and plant material outside of the quarantine is prohibited. PSHB poses a significant risk to our urban tree canopy. It is important that impacted LGAs stay up to date with the latest information. Refer to our PSHB page for detailed information. Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the MyPestGuide App or contacting 08 9368 3080.
Red dwarf honeybee (RDHB) (2)	A pest of national significance. DPIRD is working to eradicate the pest.	Burrup Peninsula (Karratha)	Learn how to spot colonies on our red dwarf honeybee page . A quarantine area notice (QAN) is in place for the Burrup Peninsula to support eradication. Bee keepers with hives, equipment, or those who have collected swarms are not permitted to move them outside the quarantine area. Members of the public and workers in the area are encouraged to report sightings. Those working in ports or dealing with imported goods are encouraged to report sightings. Report any suspected infestations to our Pest and Disease Information Service (PaDIS) via the MyPestGuide App or contacting 08 9368 3080.

Carpet sea squirt (2)	<p>An invasive marine pest that can overgrow native species and increase biofouling of commercial and recreational vessels.</p> <p>In early 2024, eradication of this pest was determined to be no longer feasible. DPIRD will continue to actively manage the pest, with the aim to minimise spread through WA.</p>	<p>Australian Marine Complex – common user facility</p> <p>Quarantine area notice revoked on 15/03/2024.</p>	<p>Learn about the pest, and how to prevent the spread, on our carpet sea squirt page.</p> <p>Boaters, fishers, and divers can assist in stopping the spread of marine pests and diseases by keeping boats, trailers, wetsuits, and equipment clean.</p>
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National alerts and investigations

Responses to outbreaks of H7 high pathogenicity avian influenza is currently underway in Victoria, New South Wales, and the ACT. Note that this is not the H5 strain that are currently causing concern globally. DPIRD is monitoring the situation and undertaking preparedness activities. DPIRD is also providing personnel and resources to support jurisdictions with confirmed outbreaks. Poultry producers and owners are encouraged to view our [avian influenza page](#) for information on preparedness and detection.

Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFAWA)

The **Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFAWA)** provides a range of measures designed to help those within disaster affected communities. Full details are available on the [DPIRD website](#), [current rounds page](#), and [DFES recovery funding](#). Below are active DRFAWA grants:

Grant	Eligible LGA	Description
AGRN1044 Ex TC Ellie - Environment Heritage and Culture Flexible Grants Category D	Shires of Broome, Derby-West Kimberley, Halls Creek, Wyndham-East Kimberly	<p>To provide funding for projects that are focused on recovering environments, heritage, and cultural assets that were impacted by the floods associated with ex-tropical cyclone Ellie.</p> <p>Submissions close 31/12/24.</p>

AGRN1113 Tropical Low and Associated Flooding in WA (21-27 January 2024) Category B	Shires of East Pilbara, Laverton, Leonora, Meekatharra, Menzies, Sandstone, Wiluna	Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy. Submissions close 12/09/2024
AGRN1118 TC Lincoln and Associated Flooding in WA (19-25 Feb 2024) - Category B	Shires of Carnarvon and Halls Creek	Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy. Submissions close 02/10/2024
AGRN1120 - Storms & Assoc Flooding (7 March 2024 Onwards) - Category B	Shires of Coolgardie, Dunda, Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Laverton, Leonora, Menzies, Ngaanyatjaraku, Wiluna	Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy. Submissions close 30/09/2024
AGRN1123 Tropical Low and Associated Flooding in the Shire of East Pilbara (4-11 March 2024) - Category B	Shire of East Pilbara	Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy. Submissions close 30/09/2024
AGRN1124 Storm and Tornado in the City of Bunbury in WA (10 May 2024) - Category B	City of Bunbury	Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy. Submissions close 16/11/2024

AGRN1130 - Storm in the South West Region of WA (1-2 June 2024)	City of Bunbury and Shire of Dardanup	<p>Assistance for primary producers – to support producers who need assistance due to damage from an eligible disaster. Covers professional advice, freight subsidy, interest rate subsidy, and fencing subsidy.</p> <p>Submissions close 20/12/2024</p>
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Other preparedness/recovery activities

- DPIRD continues to develop their training pathway to build inhouse training capabilities.
- DPIRD's Incident and Emergency Management Branch continues to monitor the Avian Influenza outbreaks in the Eastern States. Preparedness activities have begun including planning with our Animal Biosecurity and Welfare teams, and procurement of necessary equipment as a precaution.

Animal Welfare in Emergencies

DPIRD is the executor of the State Support Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (AWiE). Please note the following important notices regarding AWiE for district and local representatives:

- **Local governments are encouraged to have a Plan for Animal Welfare in Emergencies (PAWE) in place. It is an important part of all-hazard planning as research has shown that animals will influence people's decision-making and behaviour during emergencies.** Refer to the [animal welfare](#) section of our website for resources, support, and contacts. Local governments can reach out to our Incident and Emergency Management Branch if they require advice and support for the development of their PAWE (contact iemb@dpird.wa.gov.au).
- DPIRD's Incident and Emergency Management Branch is undertaking preparedness and response activities where activated under the [State Support Plan - Animal Welfare in Emergencies](#).

Training

DPIRD Internal opportunities

DPIRD is in the process of developing its emergency management training pathway. Stay tuned for information on courses as they become available.

Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) Awareness

An in house facilitated course which covers the principles, processes, and applications of the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS). The AIIMS system is the framework used by most emergency management agencies. Register for a session via [Progi](#) or contact iem.learninganddevelopment@dpiird.wa.gov.au. Please note due to licensing requirements this is only available to DPIRD staff.

Progi modules – we recommend completing the below Progi eLearning modules:

- Introduction to Western Australian Emergency Management Arrangements
- District and Local Emergency Management Committee Representation
- Animal Welfare in Emergencies (AWiE)
- Overview of DPIRD National Biosecurity Emergency Management Responsibilities
- Overview WA Impact Statement and Recovery Arrangement

Further information

If you would like further information on training opportunities, or have any suggestions please contact iem.learninganddevelopment@dpiird.wa.gov.au.

External opportunities

Animal Health Australia (AHA) and Plant Health Australia (PHA) online training:

Free online programs are available to staff through the [AHA](#) and [PHA](#) websites. Staff are encouraged to complete these courses relating to the preparedness, arrangements, and biosecurity for emergency animal diseases or plant pests and diseases.

Feedback

Continuous improvement is a key principle of the [State Emergency Management Arrangements](#). If you have any feedback regarding to content of this report, or anything else relating to your role as DEMC/LEMC representative, please complete below and send this back to the sender of this report.

Include your feedback here

Important Disclaimer

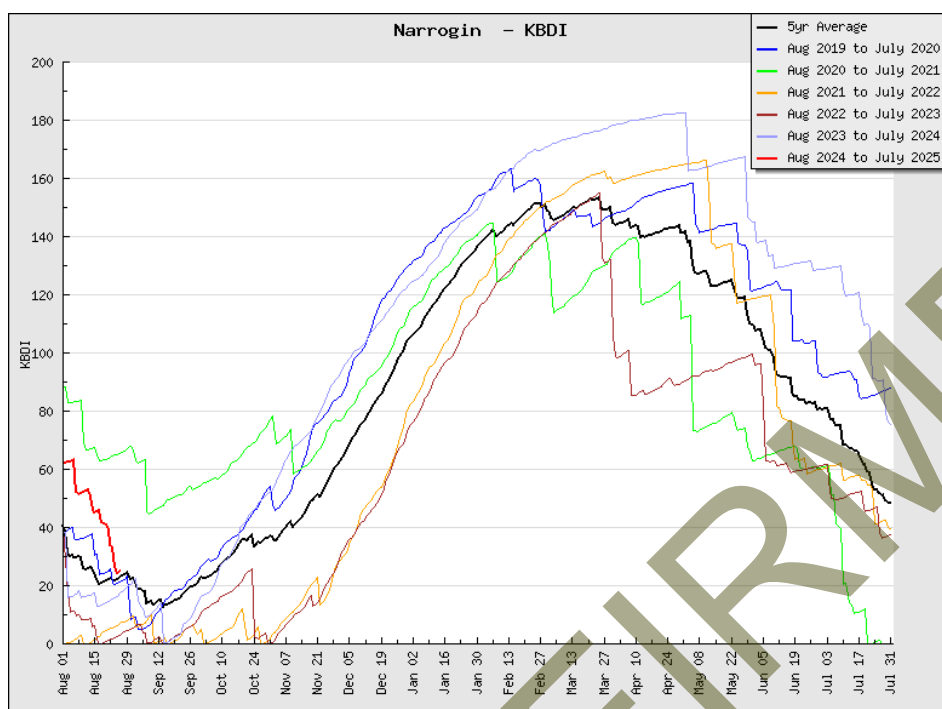
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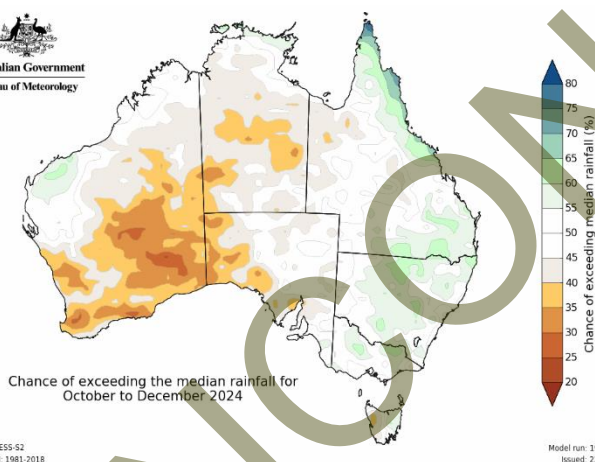


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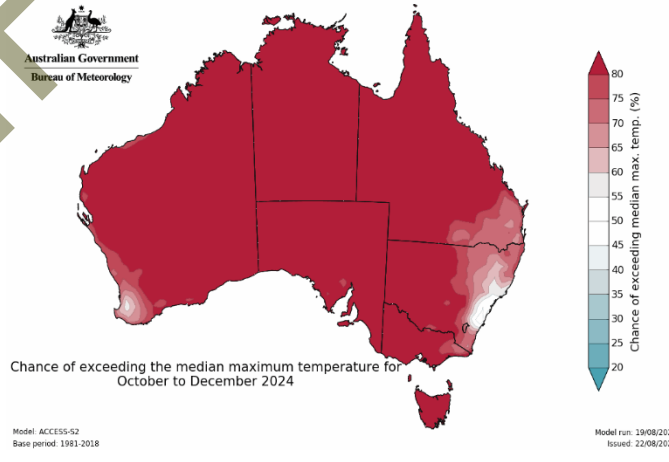
BUSHFIRE SEASON OUTLOOK & PREPARATION



The region is unseasonally dry with significant rainfall not occurring till later in the season, currently ahead of 5 year average with forecast warmer than average temps and average to below average rainfall Oct- Dec 2024



Model: ACCESS-G2
Base period: 1981-2018



Model run: 19/08/2024
Issued: 22/08/2024

National seasonal expectations overview due out 8 October 2024 via <https://www.afac.com.au/auxiliary/publications/seasonal-outlook>

Based on this preliminary information being well prepared for Bushfire Season is key and we would encourage all agencies to test plans and be prepared. <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/bushfire>

Key Preparedness Measures and Messages

Three areas of focus we have as an agency in preparation:

Safety – There was a tragic incident resulting in loss of life in Esperance and in our own region several injuries last season. The importance of regular high quality training, suitable PPE and safe operational practise to keep all responders safe is significant. The release of online Rural Fire Awareness for Farmer Response has been helpful in preparing seasonal farm workers,

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- **Communication** – Timely and accurate information from reporting all fires to 000 and good information within the first 15 minutes then every hour there after are key to making sure we have the resources to suppress the incidents in a timely manner (see attached PAFTACS sheet). To that end we will be running pre-season briefings in October. <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/> continues to be a reliable source of truth and information.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Good preparation for the impending season is key and we are:
 - Through our Bushfire Risk Mitigation Co-ordinator, Blake, managing our UCL and UMR parcels within the gazetted town boundaries.
 - Reviewing risk and deploying SOSF High Season vehicles where incident numbers, risk, training and engagement are suitable for suppression resources
 - Continuing the Grain Harvest Strategy of forward basing fixed wing aircraft in Narrogin over the Harvest period.
 - Engaging stakeholders around testing their plans and preparedness activities.

Further Information

Australian Warning System (AWS)

As of 15 July 2024, Western Australia has adopted the Australian Warning System (AWS) for bushfire, cyclone, flood and storm warnings.

The AWS is a national approach to emergency information that aims to deliver consistent warnings to Australian communities, so people know what they need to do to stay safe in an emergency, no matter where they are.

Consistent warning levels, colours and hazard icons supported by a clear and concise action statement will make warnings easier to understand.



Cyclone represents the most significant change find out more here:

<https://dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/warning-systems/australian-warning-system>



Wagin LEMC Report - 2nd October 2024

Attached is a gazetted map of the **Wagin VFRS Fire District**. The VFRS are responsible for fire in that area, outside of that space they can be requested. Like at the Macco Feeds fire earlier in the year requesting additional capability early is easily done. A Section 13 to transfer control of the incident can be done at the request of a Local Government but this takes time to be approved and implemented and is not instant.

Bushfire Fundamentals has been developed to support those who undertake duties in supporting Incident Management Teams at bushfires. It is targeted at personnel working at incidents such as utility companies, St John, contractors, WA Police and Department of Defence. The course provides an overview of bushfire characteristics and behaviour, bushfire safety and survival, the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) and the role of WA fire agencies in bushfire response. Course Access For people who are not DFES staff or volunteers, please use the following link to access the course: <https://eacademy.dfes.wa.gov.au/?client=externaltenant>
Attached is an information sheet for LEMC members.

Staffing update: Paul Leiper from the Pilbara will be continuing with the A/District Officer Narrogin role from the 09 SEPT 2024 and is available on the same email of DONarrogin@dfes.wa.gov.au or his mobile will be 0427 580 481. Paul Blechynden is due to return from leave in April 2025.

DFES Preseasonal forums running this week and next week to enhance collaboration coming into the southern bushfire season

Many thanks,

Paul Leiper
A/District Officer Narrogin
0427 580 481
DONarrogin@dfes.wa.gov.au



Health and Safety Representative Tip

Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking Primary Duty of Care

The *Work Health and Safety Act 2020 (WA)* describes the Primary Duty of Care held by a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU).

A PCBU must ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable the health and safety of:

- workers engaged, or caused to be engaged by the person
- workers whose activities in carrying out work are influenced or directed by the person

A PCBU must ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, that the health and safety of others is not put at risk from work carried out as part of the conduct of the business or undertaking

A PCBU must also ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable:

- the provision and maintenance of a work environment without risks to health and safety
- the provision and maintenance of safe plant and structures
- the provision and maintenance of safe systems of work
- the safe use, handling and storage of plant, structures and substances
- the provision of adequate facilities for the welfare of workers in carrying out work, including ensuring access to the facilities
- the provision of any information, training, instruction or supervision that is necessary to protect all persons from risks to health and safety from work carried out
- the health of workers and the workplace conditions are monitored to prevent illness or injury of workers arising from the conduct of the business or undertaking

OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

(Checklist for first arriving Firefighters)

The checklist below is a list of operational **considerations** for the first arriving fire crew when giving the first SITREP to COMCEN (first **15 minutes** then every 1 hour afterwards). COMCEN can get you Incident Weather also.

P

POSITION AND PROPERTY THREATENED

- Assess the situation – where is it? Nearest cross road?
- Exposures at risk/critical infrastructure? House? Shed? Tower?

A

AREA

- Size of fire (Length x Width) – estimate only

F

FUEL DENSITY AND TYPE

- What is burning? And estimate how fast it is moving (ROS)

T

TIME TO CONTROL

- Establish IMT (Who is IC, what Sectors?)
- Decide on strategies to extinguish/ make safe
- Delegating key functions – get help from others
- How many hours to get it contained? Roughly?

A

ASSISTANCE REQUIRED

- Traffic Management & Road closures?
- Regional Manager to assist? What do you need help with?
- Additional resources (**ask early as it takes time to arrive**)?

C

COMMUNICATIONS AND CONTROL POINT

- Radio frequencies/Communications plan
- Location of control point
- Media and public advice/warnings – 1800 718 288

S

SURFACE WIND STRENGTH AND DIRECTION

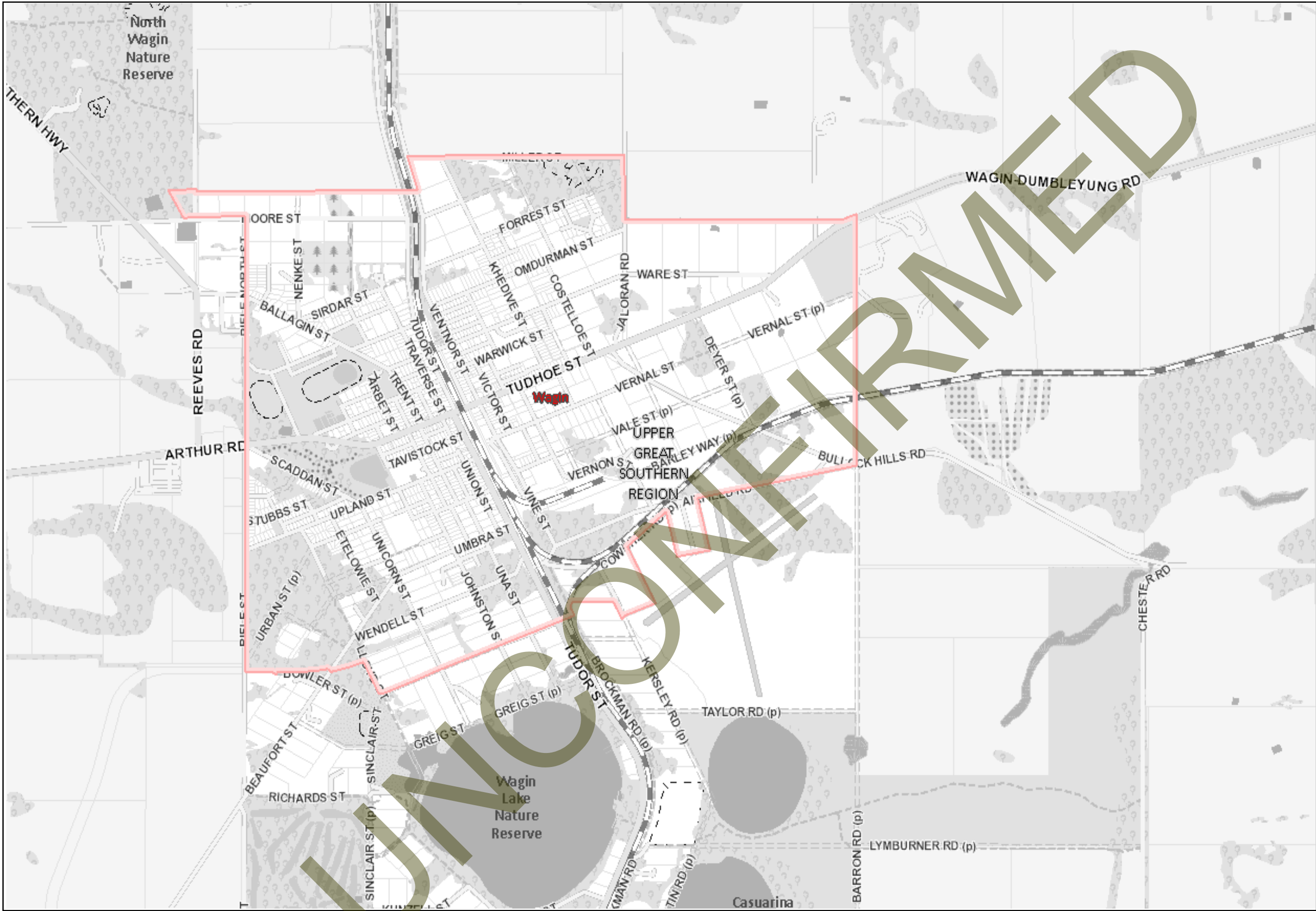
- Send SITREP
- Safety is first priority

COMCEN: 1800 198 140

UGS RDC 1800 865 103

DFES Communication Centre (ComCen) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 000 to report bushfire • Provide an incident update / situation report (see below) • Request Incident Weather Forecast • Request DFES assistance / to attend. • Contact WA Police, Main Roads, Western Power 	1800 198 140 Email: dfescomcen@dfes.wa.gov.au
DFES Regional Duty Coordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request water bombers • Request DFES assistance / to attend. • Request DFES to meet machinery costs before engaging contractors 	1800 865 103
DFES Public Information <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue Community Warning (Advice, Watch & Act, Emergency Warning) • Update or change an existing Community Warning 	1800 718 288 Email: statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au
Telephone Warning System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sends alerts to home phones & mobiles. • Must be used for Emergency Warnings 	1300 566 588

Wagin VFRS Gazetted Fire District



Legend

Fire Shape
Rural Urban Interface
Restricted Access Permit
Bushfire Warning Areas
Emergency Warning
Watch and Act
Fire Edge
Active Edge
Predicted Edge
Operational Lines
Complete
Planned
Control Line
Back Burn
Machine Cut Track
Retardant Line
Sectional Road Closure
Active
Planned
Full Closure
Partial Closure
Road Closure
Vehicle Control Point
Fire Direction
Fire Origin
Spot Fire
Control Point
Control Centre
Divisional Command
Sector Command
Staging Area
Assembly Area
Base Camp
First Aid
Ambulance Location
Helipad
Helibase
Hydrant
Repeater Location
Hot Spots By Age
0 - 12 Hrs
12 - 24 Hrs
24 - 36 Hrs
>36 Hrs
USAR RDA
Total Damage
Severe Damage
Moderate Damage
Slight Damage
No Damage
Damage Not Stated
Hazardous Tree Assessment
Assessed
Non-hazardous
Hazardous tree
Hazardous tree, Machine assistance required
Assessed and felled
Not Assessed/Tree Assessment Required
Fuel Age (YSLB)
<1 Yr
1 Yr
2 Yr
3 Yr
4 Yr
5 Yr
6 Yr
7 Yr
8 Yr
9 Yr
10+ Yr
1: 14,535
(A3)

0.6 0 0.29 0.6 Kilometers

GCS_GDA_1994

Map created: 27-08-2024 01:33 PM Map created by: A/DO Leiper



This map is a user generated static output from an Internet mapping site and is for reference only. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable.

THIS MAP IS NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION

Notes

August 2024

Course Information

Online Bushfire Fundamentals

Background

Bushfire Fundamentals has been developed to support those who undertake duties in supporting Incident Management Teams at bushfires. It is targeted at personnel working at incidents such as utility companies, St John, contractors, WA Police and Department of Defence. The course provides an overview of bushfire characteristics and behavior, bushfire safety and survival, the Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System (AIIMS) and the role of WA fire agencies in bushfire response.

Course Access

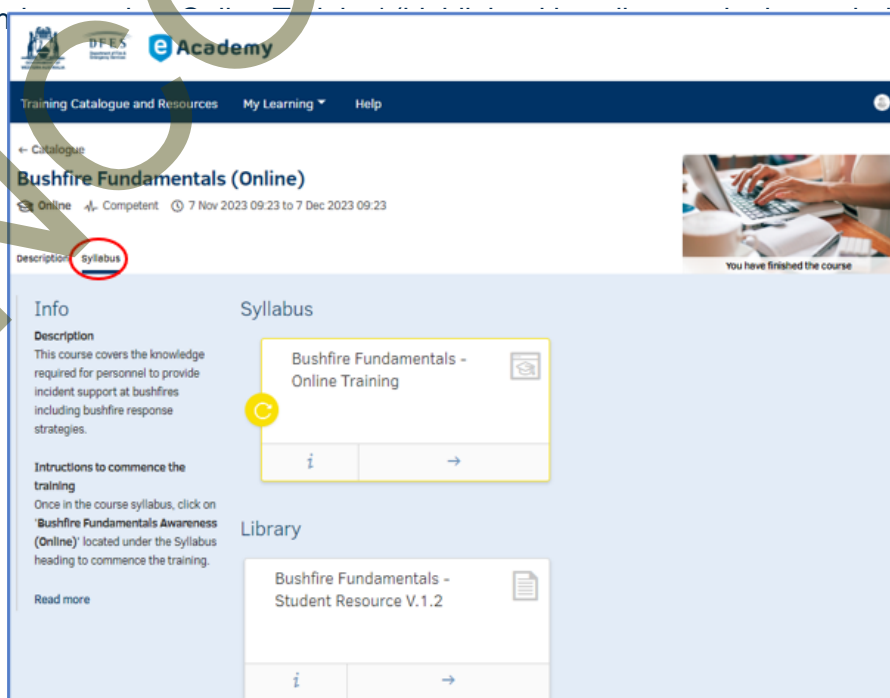
For people who are not DFES staff or volunteers, please use the following link to access the course: <https://eacademy.dfes.wa.gov.au/?client=externaltenant>

Accounts will only be active for 30 days. After this if you wish to access the course again you will need to contact eacademyhelp@dfes.wa.gov.au to request your account be reactivated.

The course may be accessed on a computer, tablet, or smart phone. However, for the best experience it is recommended a computer or tablet is used. Please ensure your device settings allow pop-ups.

If you experience any issues viewing the course on your tablet or mobile device, we suggest downloading Google Chrome from the App Store and select it as your preferred browser.


To access the online course, start by clicking on the 'Syllabus tab' (circled in red on the image below) then click on 'Bushfire Fundamentals' (circled in red on the image below).

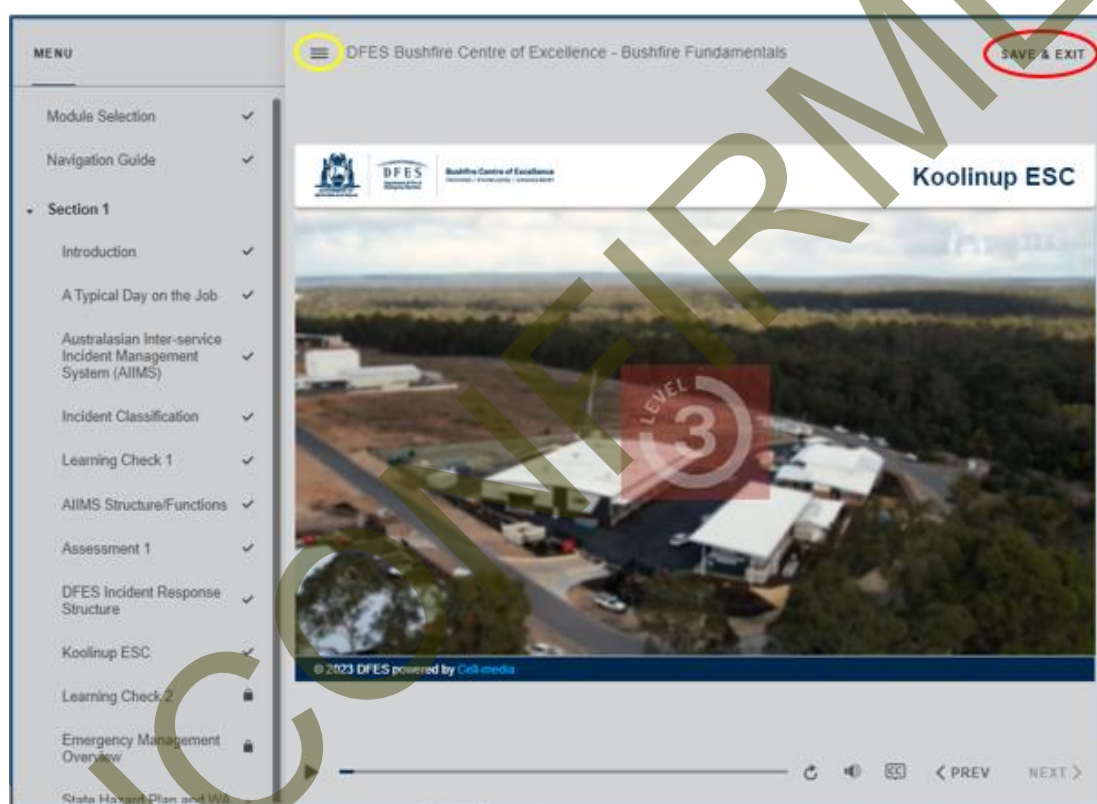


Learning Tips

The online course duration is approximately 2-3 hours. It may be completed in multiple sessions. To ensure your progress is saved, click the 'save and exit' button in the top right-hand corner of the screen when leaving the course (circled in red on the image below).

Always click 'resume' whenever you return to the course. If you select 'start', the course will reset, and you must start from the beginning.

Click on the  icon (circled in yellow on the image below) to open the navigation menu. The navigation menu displays completed tasks with a 'tick' and uncompleted tasks with a 'lock' icon. You can revisit completed items by clicking on them within this menu.



A copy of the **Bushfire Fundamentals Student Resource** is available to download in the 'Library' section located in the 'Syllabus' tab under the online course. It is advisable to download this before starting, to use as a reference tool.

Course Completion

Once you have finished the course, a confirmation email will be sent to you. Please keep the email as evidence that you have completed the course.

Contact

If you have any questions about this course or wish to provide feedback, please email bcoetraining@dfes.wa.gov.au or phone the Bushfire Centre of Excellence on 08 9540 7100.