

**Notice to all landowners and occupiers  
within the Shire of Kojonup**

**Pursuant to section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954***



**2023/2024 FIRE BREAK ORDER**

By order of the Shire of Kojonup (Shire) Council  
20 June 2023  
Grant Thompson, Chief Executive Officer

**BUSH FIRE BAN PHONE LINE: 9831 0145**  
**EMERGENCY SMS LIST: SHIRE 9831 2400**  
**BUSH FIRE EMERGENCY: 9831 1580 / 000**

**Please Note: The Shire of Kojonup is now part  
of the Stirling West Fire Weather District**

**PROHIBITED BURNING TIME**

**5 November – 14 February**

Permits may be issued between 5 Nov – 15 Dec for protective burning only. Between 13 Dec – 14 Feb no fires may be lit without the express permission of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer. The Shire Council has authority to extend this date and you should consult with your local Fire Control Officer or ring the hotline on 9831 0145.

**RESTRICTED BURNING TIME**

**1 October – 4 November & 15 February – 13 April**

Permits are required for all fires lit during these Restricted Burning times and must be obtained from your local Fire Control Officer who will explain the conditions under which fires may be lit.

Permits will not be issued for town site burning between 15 Feb – 13 Apr. Please note restricted burning times may be extended by the CBFCO, you should consult with your local Fire Control Officer or ring the hotline on 9831 0145.

**NON-RESTRICTED BURNING TIME**

**14 April – 30 September**

Landholders must still take necessary precautions to keep their fires under control and on their own properties.

**SPRAYING REMINDER**

Chemical spraying of firebreaks on land within a gazetted townsite is to be completed to the Shire's satisfaction by the 15 September.

**FIREBREAK INSPECTION WARNING**

**2 November** – All firebreaks and fire hazard reduction measures to be completed on land within the gazetted townsite.

**3 November** – Council will commence its annual firebreak inspection of all land within the gazetted townsites.

**14 December** – All protective burning and firebreak precautions to be completed on land outside the gazetted townsite.

**15 December** – Council will commence its aerial inspection process of all land outside the gazetted townsite.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

## BURNING RULES

1. Patrolling of all fires is the responsibility of the landowner or occupier for as long as the fire poses a risk. These include clearing fires as well as protective burning.
2. All adjoining landowners must be notified on the morning of the intended burn whether clearing grass or protective burning is carried out.
3. No fire to be lit before 1300 hours (1pm). As from the 1<sup>st</sup> April, lighting times may be at the discretion of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.
4. For all grass, stubble and chaff fires, no trees or heaps of logs are to be burning within 40 metres of the outside of the perimeter break.
5. All stubble/grass burns conducted within the restricted burning period must have a 3-metre-wide perimeter break cleared of all flammable material.
6. All other conditions on a WRITTEN PERMIT to burn must be complied with.

### **NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE MAY LEAD TO PROSECUTION**

The above rules are to be observed in all cases unless your Fire Control Officer gives special approval to any alternative provisions.

## TO REPORT A FIRE

**Contact either Zulu or Fire Control Officer in the first instance or dial 9831 1580/000.**

Provide the following information:

- Your name and contact number
- Fire location (information such as landmarks, road names, your location and the direction of smoke and estimated distance is helpful in establishing fire location)
- If it is a private property, supply the property owner's name if known
- Provide details of site access if known

## RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

VHF Channel 41	Mid Band Channel
UHF Channel 11	Upon arrival at firesite
Channel 234 or 229	WAERN

## Do you require a Permit to Burn?

If so, the person who takes out the permit is solely responsible for all conditions agreed to on the permit.

Any damage or injuries that are caused due to negligence, are the permit holder's responsibility and may result in penalties being lodged.

There have been too many fires caused by permit burns in the Great Southern. Please take care and ensure all burns are monitored until they are extinguished.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

## BURNING RULES

Pursuant to the powers contained in Section 33 of the *Bush Fire Act 1954 (Act)*, you are hereby required to have firebreaks clear of all flammable material, in the position, of the width, and for the period as specified.

### 1. Urban Land (Land within a gazetted townsite)

During the period from the 2<sup>nd</sup> November to 31<sup>st</sup> May inclusive, you shall have the following firebreaks:

- On all land, regardless of size or how the land is zoned, an Asset Protection Zone (APZ) of 20 metres surrounding all buildings must be established. An APZ is a reduced fuel load zone. Living standing trees, remnant vegetation, maintained gardens and lawns are exempt from an APZ.
- On all land that is 4,000 square metres or less, all remaining flammable material is to be reduced to a height of less than 50mm.
- On all land in excess of 4,000 square metres, clear a 3.0 m wide firebreak immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and maintain all remaining flammable material on the land to a height of less than 150mm.
- Woodpiles are permitted on any land providing a 3.0 m wide firebreak is installed and maintained immediately surrounding the woodpile.
- Where chemical spraying is the method chosen as the means by which firebreaks are constructed, this is to be completed to the Shire's satisfaction by 15<sup>th</sup> September. Firebreaks must be maintained throughout the dates of this notice. If not, the Shire will do the work at the landowner's expense.
- The Chief Executive Officer may instigate a Fire Notice on any property with specifications listed to reduce any potential hazard as he deems applicable.

### 2. Rural Land (land outside a gazetted townsite)

Homesteads, Buildings, Haystacks, Bulk Fuel, Drums and Liquid Petroleum.

During the period from 14<sup>th</sup> December to the 31<sup>st</sup> May inclusive you shall have firebreaks at least 20 metres wide, if provided by burning, cultivating or spraying, or 60 metres wide if provided by being closely grazed or mowed to the satisfaction of the Shire. The firebreaks are to be in such positions as are necessary to completely surround the perimeter of any homestead building (excluding isolated non-flammable buildings), fuel installation (including drums), haystacks (but only haystacks within 60 metres of any building) or group of such structures or installations. In each case, the outer 3 metres of the firebreak area must be totally free of any inflammable material and where mowing is the method used; all residue of the mowing process must be removed from the area.

### 3. Plantation/Tree Farmland

**Plantation/Tree Farms** – An area exceeding three hectares planted for commercial purposes

- Firebreaks shall be 15 metres wide on the boundaries of all plantations, tree farms, or such other locations as may be agreed to by the Council.
- Firebreaks shall be constructed around plantation compartments of approximately 50 hectares.
- A 50 metre perimeter firebreak around all buildings and fuel storage areas, cleared of all flammable material is required.

### 4. Wind Turbine Firebreaks

The fire break requirements for all wind turbines in the Shire of Kojonup is in accordance with the individual Bush Fire Management Plan, as approved at the time of development approval, unless expressly amended by the Council.



Non-Compliant Firebreak



Compliant Firebreak



Compliant APZ

## URBAN/RURAL/PLANTATION LAND

**Firebreak** – (3 metre requirements) – a firebreak is defined as an area three metres wide cleared of all flammable materials by ways of ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, burning or otherwise clearing the earth.

**Planting Compartment** – An individual area of approx 50 hectares surrounded by firebreaks cleared of all flammable material ten metres wide and five metres vertically. Internal firebreaks must be maintained in a trafficable condition and, if needed, trees on both sides of the firebreak are to be progressively pruned to allow unrestricted access to maintenance and fire fighting equipment to maintain an effective width of firebreak.

### Powerlines

If a main power line failure occurs when a Movement of Vehicle Ban is in operation, report to the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

Western Power has a minimum requirement of ten metres clearance either side of the outside power pole. Generally, the clearance distanced from the powerline should be no less than the expected mature height of the trees planted in the outside row. However, in all instances where power lines are crossing land where it is proposed that plantations be planted, the owner should consult with Western Power, 131351 for advice.

### Boundary Firebreaks

Boundary firebreaks are not compulsory within the Shire of Kojonup Rural Area.

### Exemptions

If it is considered impractical for any reason to clear firebreaks on the land as required by this notice, you may apply to Council or its duly authorised officer no later than 60 days prior to the date by which firebreaks are required as per this notice for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or take alternative action to abate fire hazards on the land. If Council or its duly authorised officer does not grant permission, you shall comply with the requirements of this notice.

### Firebreak Inspection

In following the method adopted by Council to inspect the firebreaks required in this notice, it is not necessary for Council to notify you or give you any prior warning that legal action may proceed for failing to comply with the requirements of this notice.

**Penalties: An infringement of \$250. A Penalty of up to \$5,000. A person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not to pay the cost of performing the work directed in this notice if it is not carried out by the required date.**

### As per the *Bush Fires Act 1954*,

- Occupier of land to extinguish bush fire occurring on own land
  - (1) Where a bush fire is burning on any land —
    - (a) at any time in any year during the restricted burning times; or
    - (b) during the prohibited burning times;

and the bush fire is not part of the burning operations being carried on upon the land in accordance with the provisions of the *Act*, the occupier of the land shall forthwith, upon becoming aware of the bush fire, whether he has lit or caused the same to be lit or not, take all possible measures at his own expense to extinguish the fire.

(1B) Where he requires assistance for the purpose he shall if practicable, without leaving the fire unattended, inform or cause to be informed the nearest available bush fire control officer, or bush fire brigade officer, of the existence and locality of the fire.

(2) For the purposes of this section, a fire lit before the commencement of a period of prohibited burning times relating to the district where the fire is situated, and which is still burning at the commencement of those prohibited burning times, is to be regarded as being a bush fire which is not part of the burning operation being carried on upon the land in accordance with the provisions of this *Act*.

**Penalties: An infringement of \$250. A Penalty of up to \$10,000.**

### Harvesting

It is compulsory that an engine powered pumping unit and not less than 600 litres of water must be in attendance during grain harvesting operations. Trailed units must have the towing vehicle attached at all times. The fire fighting unit must be located in or immediately adjacent to the paddock being harvested at all times.

**Penalties: An infringement of \$250. A Penalty of up to \$5,000.**

### Swathers, Balers and Track Chainers

These are subject to the same conditions as Harvesting i.e. an engine powered pumping unit and not less than 600 litres of water be in attendance during operations from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec onwards (excluding canola swathing).

### Oxyacetylene, Arc Welders, Friction Cutting Equipment etc.

These are subject to the same conditions, whilst used in the open, as swathers and balers and, in addition, the work site must be adequately cleared of flammable material before the use of the above equipment

## DEFINITIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS

<b>FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS AND BRIGADES 2023/2024</b>				
<b>BRIGADE</b>			<b>PHONE</b>	<b>MOBILE</b>
<b>BOILUP</b>				
Bevan Bignell	Bravo 1	FCO	-----	0427 625 312
Ben Johnston	Bravo 2	LT	-----	0429 328 082
<b>BOSCABEL</b>				
Glen Woodhams	Boscabel 1	FCO	9832 8074	0427 328 005
Craig Ivey	Boscabel 2	LT	-----	0428 720 065
Kim Bellotti	Boscabel 3	LT	-----	0427 331 001
Andrew Greenup	Boscabel 4	LT	-----	0429 471 193
<b>CHANGERUP</b>				
Paul Norrish	Charlie 1	FCO	9832 1017	0428 919 609
Maurice Shilcock	Charlie 2	LT	9833 1280	0438 911 045
Murray Magini	Charlie 3	LT	9863 1191	0429 198 701
<b>CTP</b>				
Owen Bignell	CTP 1	FCO	-----	0429 311 383
Peter Kowald	CTP 2	LT	-----	0427 095 720
Neal O'Halloran	CTP 3	LT	-----	0429 371 363
Daniel Ladyman	CTP 4	LT	-----	0429 001 981
<b>JINGALUP</b>				
Joe Young	Jingalup 1	FCO	-----	0427 336 253
Tom Mathwin	Jingalup 2	LT	-----	0429 892 299
Chris Wright	Jingalup 3	LT	-----	0428 336 298
<b>KOJONUP</b>				
James Eyres	Keelo 1	FCO	-----	0429 883 348
Matt Bilney	Keelo 2	LT	-----	0439 745 639
Jason Thorn	Keelo 3	LT		0488 310 808
Myles Reid	Tango 1	TWN		0409 523 008
<b>LUMEAH</b>				
James Heggaton	Leema 1	FCO	-----	0419 711 203
Justin Brown	Leema 2	LT	-----	0447 429 994
Lachie Thorn	Leema 3	LT	-----	0408 943 070
<b>MOBRUP</b>				
Warren Parker	Mobrup 1	FCO	-----	0427 337 552
David Nunn	Mobrup 2	Lt	-----	0400 924 559
Digby Stretch	Mobrup 3	LT	-----	0428 540 521
<b>MURADUP</b>				
Nathan Leitch	Mike 1	FCO	-----	0427 112 608
Kent Stone	Mike 2	LT	-----	0447 455 238
Matt Hardingham	Mrdup 2.4	T-FCO	9832 1074	0429 832 107
<b>ORCHID VALLEY</b>				
Griffin Chomley	OV 1	FCO	-----	0428 323 005
Colin Ednie-Brown	OV 2	LT	9832 3071	0429 323 071
Tony Davis	OV 3	LT	-----	0427 231 891
<b>QUALEUP</b>				
Shannon Binns	Qualeup 1	FCO		0428 173 990
David Forrester	Qualeup 2	LT	9832 3070	0427 323 070
Ben Webb	Qualeup 3	LT	9832 3025	0427 987 273
Fred House	Qualeup 4	LT		0455 625 776
<b>RYANS BROOK</b>				
Stuart Tohl	Romeo 1	FCO	9834 2225	0447 342 225
Jonson Clifton	Romeo 2	LT	-----	0427 342 210
Mitchell Blakers	Romeo 3	LT		0458 033 066
<b>SECRETARY</b>				
Denise Berryman	Mike 4	Sec	9832 1041	9832 1041

### BRIGADE CONTACT DETAILS

<b>ZULU CONTACTS</b>			
Name	Position	Call Sign	Contact Details
Tony Fisher	Chief FCO / Fire Weather Officer	Zulu 1	Mb: 0428 311 504
Ross Fryer-Smith	Deputy FCO / Deputy Fire Weather Officer	Zulu 2	Mb: 0429 342 202
Nick Trethowan	Senior FCO	Zulu 3	Mb: 0429 341 035
Ben Blewett	Senior FCO	Zulu 4	Mb: 0427 250 226
<b>SECRETARY</b>			
Denise Berryman	Secretary	Mike 4	Ph 9832 1041 Fax 9832 1041 mberryman@bordernet.com.au
<b>SHIRE CONTACT DETAILS</b>			
Shire Office			9831 2400
Works Depot Office			9831 2900
After Hours Emergency Contact			0427 989 187
Manager Regulatory Services – Robert Jehu			0448 313 235
Works Manager – Craig McVee			0427 427 854
Harvest/Movement ban phone line			9831 0145
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACTS</b>			
Ambulance			000
Hospital			9831 2222
Police			9831 2555 or 000
Kojonup Fire & Rescue Service			000
Bush Fire Emergency			000
<b>RADIO COMMUNICATIONS</b>			
VHF Channel 41		Mid Band Channel	
UHF Channel 11		Upon arrival at firesite	
Channel 234 or 229		WAERN	

### ZULU & SHIRE CONTACT DETAILS