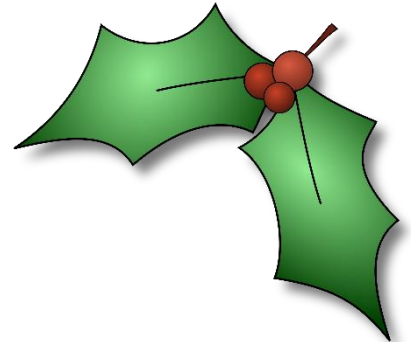




Newsletter

for Fire Management Area Committees

Issue 007 | December 2018



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Season's greetings

On behalf of the SFMC we would like to thank all FMAC members for their diligent contribution during 2018.

We understand that you are all busy people, and taking the time to attend meetings and forums often conflicts with work demands. Please be assured that this commitment is genuinely valued, along with your contribution to developing Fire Protection Plans (FPPs) and prioritising mitigation activities for your areas.

It was great to see so many old and new faces at the FMAC Forums held around the State in September. These forums provided a great opportunity for members to meet with the new Bushfire Protection Planning Project Officer, Adrian Pyrke.

Adrian will be touching base with all FMACs in 2019 to conduct training in the new bushfire risk assessment process. The new process will ensure we have a consistent framework for developing FPPs. We have identified training dates and venues at the back of this newsletter to ensure you have plenty of notice to attend. You can attend any of the FMAC Risk Training dates around the State prior to your FMAC specific Risk Assessment Workshops where you will start to develop FPPs for your area.

Thanks again for your contribution during 2018, hopefully after all the rain over the weekend we will have a bushfire free Christmas.

Happy holidays.

Ian Sauer and Deb Pope
on behalf of SFMC members

Latest News from SFMC

The SFMC last met in Burnie on 6 December. Prior to the meeting the SFMC hosted the final network event for 2018. Over 35 people attended ‘What happens before, during and after a fuel reduction burn’ conducted by the North West Bushfire Risk Unit team. Thanks to Stu King, David Fulford, Leon Murray and Clint Heyworth, for all their hard work in making the event so successful.

New Members

Mr Bruce Byatt AFSM was appointed as **Deputy Chief Officer** of **Tasmania Fire Service** in August and will now sit on SFMC.

Bruce brings with him a wealth of experience from senior positions he has held at Fire and Rescue Services across Australia including Victoria, Northern Territory and Queensland.

Mr Jye Hill was appointed as the new **Forest Industries Association of Tasmania (FIAT) representative** in November. Jye has over 12 years’ experience in the forest industry and is also currently the Chair of the Southern FMAC.

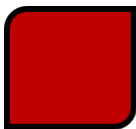
We welcome both Bruce and Jye to the SFMC.

Meeting Snapshot

- The SFMC Annual Report for 2017-18 was tabled and accepted. The report is now available on the [SFMC website](#)
- 49 Fire Permit Officer appointments were approved.
- King Island FMAC - Rod McGarvie’s resignation was accepted and Nick Cooper was approved as the new Chair.
- New FMAC representatives for TasNetworks and TasWater were tabled.

New SFMC Strategic Direction Framework

SFMC approved the new Strategic Directions Framework. The Framework will guide SFMC for the next five years. The key areas SFMC will focus on include:



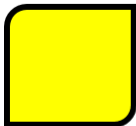
Research and Innovation

Support and promote bushfire research and innovation



Policy

Provide evidence based public policy advice and information



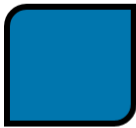
Community Capacity and Awareness

Build community capacity and awareness to support bushfire resilient communities



Communication and Collaboration

Build and support public and private sector partnerships and collaboration



Vegetation Fire Management Planning

Enable strategic, effective and collaborative vegetation fire management planning



Governance

Facilitate efficient and effective governance and resource management

Project Updates

Bushfire Protection Plan Project

Project aim: to provide a consistent framework, tools, education and support for FMACs to undertake bushfire risk assessments and develop fire protection plans (FPPs).



Adrian Pyrke commenced as the Project Officer in September 2018 and is based in the TFS headquarters in Hobart.

Adrian has worked for 20 years in fire management with the Parks and Wildlife Service, the last nine of those years as the State Fire Manager. Since 2015 Adrian has been working as a bushfire consultant on various projects all over Australia.

Adrian attended the Regional FMAC Forums in September; this was very important to gain an

understanding of the purpose of FPPs and FMAC members' ideas for the way forward.

The development of the risk assessment framework and standard methodology are the key tasks at the present time. Two working groups have been established to guide the project with the following aims:

- Working Group 1 - Design and adaptation of Tasmanian Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (TERAG) steps and tools.
- Working Group 2 - Design the framework for bushfire protection planning process and the format for Bushfire Protection Plans.

Both working groups have met over the past few weeks. If you would like further information please contact Adrian on adrian.pyrke@fire.tas.gov.au.

Key dates for FMAC members will include training on the risk assessment method followed by a risk assessment workshop for each FMAC.

Dates are detailed in the Events section of this newsletter, and invitations will be sent in the New Year to all members.

FMAC Terms of Reference

The FMAC Terms of Reference has now been approved by the SFMC. Thanks again to all FMAC members who provided input.

The new Terms of Reference is available on the [SFMC website](#).

Job Vacancy

APPLY NOW

The [Planning Coordinator, Bushfire Risk Unit](#) with Tasmania Fire Service is currently advertised on the Tasmanian Government Jobs Website – www.jobs.tas.gov.au

Applications are to be submitted by Thursday, 10 January 2019 at 11.55pm.

What's New

Burning on Private Land

TFS has developed a new graphic to help private landholders know what to do when registering a burn.

The graphic is designed for print or social media.

If you would like a copy to use on your website or in your publications please email sfmc@fire.tas.gov.au.

2017-18 SFMC Annual Report

The SFMC Annual Report for 2017-18 is now available on the [SFMC website](#). This is a great resource for new members, or organisations who would like to know more about the SFMC.

Research

Bushfire & Natural Hazards CRC

A team of researchers, led by Dr Marta Yebra have developed the [Australian Flammability Monitoring System](#). The system uses satellite data to collect information on moisture content in highly flammable vegetation, such as fallen bar, leaf litter and grass. It then displays this information on an interactive map.

Centre of Excellence for Prescribed Burning Webinar

There is conflicting scientific and experiential evidence of the efficacy of prescribed burning, which can have a negative impact on policy environments.

Bushfire scientist Dr Neil Burrows explores that discord, drawing on four decades' experience in a land management agency to offer some explanations on the conflicting evidence.

View the webinar [here](#).



Contribute to the development of new Land Use Planning Handbook

Manual 7 in the Australian Disaster Resilience Handbook Collection: *Planning Safer Communities: Land Use Planning for Natural Hazards (2002)*, is scheduled for review and transition to a new Land Use Planning Handbook.

The new Land Use Planning for Natural Hazards Handbook will provide guidance on national principles and practices for land use planning in a disaster resilience context.

A survey is now open aimed at identifying areas of the current Manual that need to be updated, re-organised or changed to reflect current principles and practice and align with the *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience*. The [current Manual](#) is available on the AIDR Knowledge Hub

Contribute to the development of the Land Use Planning for Natural Hazards handbook - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/55RM3B8>

Training and Development

Emergency Management Volunteer Scholarships

The Australian Government has established a million-dollar scholarship fund to equip volunteers with the skills and leadership required in the emergency and disaster management sector. Volunteers may be eligible for financial support to access accredited vocational and higher education qualifications in emergency and disaster management fields.

Round 5 applications open 7 January, for more information go to the [AIDR website](#).

2019 Conferences

29 April - 3 May

Fire Behaviour and Fuels Conference, Sydney

<http://sydney.firebehaviorandfuelsconference.com>

27 - 30 August

AFAC19 Conference, Melbourne

The conference will explore how the emergency management sector is transitioning to a new normality. The program will focus on how our communities, environments and systems are evolving and adapting to change.

For more information go to <https://www.afaconference.com.au>

Useful Resources

Bushfire Ready Neighbourhoods

The latest Bushfire Ready Neighbourhoods (BRN) newsletter is now available online at <https://www.bushfirereadyneighbourhoods.tas.gov.au/content/issue-13>.

In this edition BRN Round 3 communities are announced in the North-West and Central North.

Bureau of Meteorology

Climate Outlooks (BOM)

The latest climate outlook and outlook video, issued 29 November is available on the [BOM website](#).

Fire Weather Forecast Tools

BoM is now routinely issuing their suite of fire weather forecasts via the Bureau's [Registered Users Page](#), as well as via the [TFS website](#).

Fire weather forecasts, including [MetEye](#), will be updated at **1600 hours** daily.

A preliminary forecast will be issued by midday if it is likely a fire weather warning (District FFDI ≥ 38) will be required for the following day.

Fire Australia magazine

Issue Four of 2018 is available [now](#).

AFAC Resources

the National Council for Fire and Emergency Services

Climate change and the emergency management sector

The revised AFAC Position on Change has been published on the [AFAC website](#).

New AFAC TV



A new initiative from AFAC; an innovative online news-style program.

AFAC TV features interview with experts and industry professionals, news reports and in-depth editorial profiles from AFAC members and leading organisations

2019 Events

APRIL

- 4** SFMC Meeting, Hobart
Agenda Papers due 22 March 2019

MAY

- 25** Tasmanian Emergency Service Conference, Launceston

JUNE

- 20** SFMC Network Event, Hobart
What happens before, during and after a fuel reduction burn - Fuel Reduction Program Team
SFMC Meeting, Hobart
Agenda Papers due 7 June 2019

- 25** FMAC Risk Training – Burnie

- 26** FMAC Risk Training – Launceston

JULY

- 3** FMAC Risk Training – Hobart
- 4** FMAC Risk Training – Campbell Town
- 30** King Island FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop

AUGUST

- 1** West Coast FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 2** Central North FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop

AUGUST continued

- 6** Hobart FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 8** Southern FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 13** Flinders FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 15** North East FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 16** Tamar FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 20** East Coast FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop
- 22** Midlands FMAC Risk Assessment Workshop

SEPTEMBER

- 18** SFMC Meeting, Launceston
Agenda Papers due 5 September 2019
SFMC Network Event, Launceston
Bushfire risk assessment for Fire Management Areas in Tasmania with Adrian Pyrke
- 19** Pre-Bushfire Season Briefing, Launceston
The Multi-Agency Coordination Group will be hosting the pre-bushfire season briefing in Launceston for all stakeholders and inter-agency personnel.

OCTOBER

- 31** SFMC Network Event, Burnie
To be confirmed

NOVEMBER

- 28** SFMC Meeting, Hobart
Agenda papers due 15 November 2019

New SFMC Phone Number



Please note that due to a change of phone system the new SFMC phone number is **616 65618**.