



## SFMC UPDATE

from the Chair, Ian Sauer

### Season's greetings

On behalf of the SFMC, I would like to thank all FMAC members for their diligent contribution during 2024.

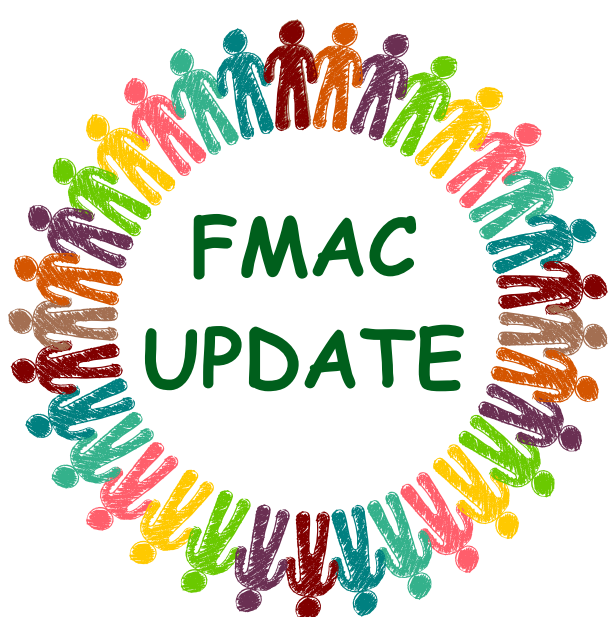
The State Fire Management Council had a productive meeting in late November. This was my last meeting as Chair SFMC. I have indicated to the Minister that I am happy to provide support in the background until a new Chair is appointed. I look forward to seeing the SFMC and FMAC work progressed by the next SFMC Chair very soon.

The SFMC approved all annual updates to BRMPs and these documents will be available via SharePoint and the SFMC website. Your commitment to attending meetings, forums, and developing these Bushfire Risk Management Plans (BRMPs) and prioritising mitigation activities for your areas is genuinely valued.

The Red Hot Tips team also gave an overview on the program outcomes to date. The team have facilitated a total of 704 burns in the state, totalling 13,374 ha. There are 306 landowners registered with the practical bushfire management program. There has been such a fantastic response to this program, and I am excited to see how Red Hot Tips and some of the other SFMC projects progress into the future.

It has been great talk with many old and new faces at the FMAC events and forums held around the State during my time as Chair. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you once again for your contribution during 2024, and for the whole of my term as Chair SFMC. Hopefully we will more rain and a bushfire free Christmas.

**Best wishes for a safe and happy holiday season**



### Community Protection Plans

Community Bushfire Protection Plans (CPPs) have undergone a change in style, consistent with the TFS Bushfire Safety campaign. All CPPs are now in a new template that emphasise key bushfire safety messages, including leaving early (low risk), and bushfire places of last resort/Nearby Safer Places (high risk).

### Induction Manual

The FMAC Induction manual has been approved by the State Fire Management Council and will be distributed in the New Year.



## PEOPLE MOVEMENTS

### RED HOT TIPS

**Coordinator - Sam Tacey** - Sam was successful in his application and has been appointed to this position until June 2026.

**Facilitator North/Northwest - Andrew Crowden**  
Andrew was successful in his application and has been appointed to this position until June 2026.

**Facilitator South - Frank Bishop** is on leave and will return to his role mid December on light duties.

### EAST COAST FMAC

**Peter Porch**, Glamorgan/Spring Bay Council, was nominated Deputy Chair  
**Blake Repine**, Tasman Council, replaced Lee Wilson

### HOBART AND SOUTHERN FMACs

**Pip Jones**, PLCP - NRE, replaced Anthony Mann

### TAMAR FMAC

**Rick Dunn**, George Town Council, replaced Andrew McCarthy

## SHAREPOINT

A new Incident Management SharePoint site has been created for TFS, PWS and Sustainable Timber Tasmania. The site became active on 1 November 2024.

The new SharePoint site will be the primary document and resource sharing platform for all multi-hazard level 2 and 3 incidents managed by Tasmania Fire Service, Parks & Wildlife Services and Sustainable Timber Tasmania.

This platform will enable IMT personnel across the response agencies to collaboratively share and store draft incident documentation, share tasks and communicate from any location.



## SUSTAINABLE TIMBER TASMANIA - Data in Action Award Conference

Sustainable Timber Tasmania was a joint winner of the Data in Action Award Conference this past September. AFAC is the National Council for Fire and Emergency Services which highlights the importance of this prestigious award.

Over the past four years, our partnership with Indicium Dynamics has driven the development of #DigitalForests, a cutting-edge environmental monitoring solution.

Last fire season, Sustainable Timber Tasmania deployed AI-driven fire cameras along Tasmania's east coast, providing 24/7 coverage over 4,900 square kilometres. These advanced cameras detected 1,580 fires, significantly enhancing our response times and operational efficiency.



By replacing traditional methods with digital technology, Sustainable Timber Tasmania is not only increasing data accuracy but also reducing risks to our people by minimising their time on the road and in the forest.

The impact of this technology extends beyond forest safety. By reducing fire risks and improving response times, Sustainable Timber Tasmania is also protecting critical infrastructure like power lines, communications towers, and homes.

Sustainable Timber Tasmania shared the AFAC Data in Action Award with Kelley Toy and Ashleigh Romanosof from Fire and Emergency NZ.

## ELISE JEFFERY - Tasmanian Land Conservancy

Elise, member of the Midlands FMAC, is a Conservation Management and Planning Coordinator and has 25 years' experience in conservation and land management working across the public and private sectors including state and local government, a mining company, consultancy and now with the NGO Tasmanian Land Conservancy.

Her first introduction to fire was as a project fire fighter at the Alpine National Park in Victoria where a bushfire burnt through 32,000 hectares in 10 days. After that hectic start, it was a bit calmer with a focus on planning ecological burns in western basalt plains grassland and Anglesea heathlands.

Elise moved to Tasmania seven years ago from Victoria's surf coast and joined the City of Hobart Fire and Biodiversity team implementing fuel breaks for asset protection and planned burns for fuel reduction and ecological outcomes with a focus on protecting the unique biodiversity values that surround one of Australia's most bushfire-prone cities. At TLC, Elise's role is to develop the management plans for TLC's permanent reserves including the planned burning program for threatened species management and to ensure the ongoing health and diversity of the native ecosystems.

Elise and her family enjoy spending time in nature, whether it's exploring new places in Tassie or quietly holding a cup of coffee amongst the grassy woodland on their Land for Wildlife property on North Bruny.



## JASON VINEN - 2024 Finalist Resilient Australian National Community Award

A big congratulations goes to Jason Vinen, District Officer - Midlands and everyone else involved in the Bushfire Risk Reduction, Prevention and Infrastructure Upgrade project for being nominated as a finalist for the 2024 Resilient Australia National Community Award.

The National Awards Ceremony was held in Canberra late November.