

Planned Burning. An all-tenure approach



Presented by: Terry Ouroumis



**Burning on
private and
public land.**

Protecting lives and property

cfa.vic.gov.au

Foundations of CFA

4.2.3 PREVENTION AND MITIGATION

Authorised CFA members undertake the following prevention activities:

- vegetation management in and around communities to mitigate the impact of bushfire on property and communities
- work with communities, agencies and local government to develop shelter and other mitigation options
- support communities to develop local plans about fire safety and emergency management.



What are the issues



CFA is not a land manager like DELWP / PV.

Ensuring Legislation compliance (state and federal)

Availability and capacity for volunteer brigades to help with fuel management

Limited municipal council resources – reliance on CFA to burn

Effective community engagement

DELWP - CFA data sharing

Importance of heading towards an all-tenure, risk based approach to burning



Vegetation Management Staff

Burn Planning and Works management

Road and rail reserves

Council reserves

Landholders - Private land

Environmental and cultural heritage compliance

Burn/works plan liaison with DELWP

Traditional Owner referral

EPBC and other environmental checks

Strategic Planning input

Municipal Fire Planning

Regional Fire Planning (IFMP)

Township Protection Plans

Strategic Breaks



Vegetation Management Staff

Stakeholder networks

Brigades

CFA Operations

Municipal councils

IFMP Network Managers

Biodiversity conservation agencies, NGOs and community interest groups

DEPI Land and Fire division and
fire ecology programs

Program awareness and advocacy

Agency stakeholders

General community

Agricultural sector

Guidance and advice to Brigades



Legal Framework



- The CFA Act provides authority and indemnity to conduct planned burns, but does not over-ride other Acts.
- The OHS Act stipulates requirement to ensure health and safety of employees.
- The FFG and EPBC Acts provide penalties for causing harm to vulnerable or threatened species.
- Road Mgt Act - regulations for burning on roadsides
- CFA Standard Operating Procedure 9.39 requires:
Burn Commanders to possess an authorised plan, brief personnel, conduct the burn safely and hand over responsibility to land-owner at the conclusion.



Learning by doing...

2013 Survey	2005	2010	2013 Brigades involved	2013 Brigades with little or no involvement
	%	%	%	%
Planned burning is not important	9	9	2	11
Not enough planned burning is done	35	70	81	61
Would like to do more planned burning	72	71	87	72



CFA Planned Burning Project being run under the Capability and Infrastructure portfolio of Deputy Chief Officer Alen Slijepcevic. The project is funded until the end of June 2017.

The scope of the project is within two of DELWP's priority Risk Landscapes:

- Barwon Otway (BORL)
- East Central (ECRL)

To Provide support to other VMOs and areas



- Develop and deliver increased planned burning and participation between CFA members and DELWP burning practices,
- Encourage tenure-blind burning,
- Increase volunteer participation to:
 - Up-skill CFA members
 - Learn at CFA Burn camps
 - DELWP Burns and mentoring
- Combined Preparation works
- Combined engagement with community



The key positions:

- **Project Manager**
- **Bushfire Risk Landscape Coordinators x 2**
Barwon Otway and East Central bushfire risk landscapes



Courtesy: O. Gooding

- **Planned Burn Resource Coordinators (originally x 2).
To be expanded to 4 x 8month positions.**

Support DELWP and CFA with planned burns on public and private land.



Courtesy: T. Ouroumis



Training and development:

- new CFA 2 day 'Burn Commander Course' targeted towards volunteer members.

New engagement tools:

- CFA senior FBAN working with a USA supplier for a 3D wildfire simulator (SIMTable) to assist with training and community engagement.
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W-Pn-aV5DtE>

New equipment:

- Vegetation Mgt Trailer for burns—moisture meters, signage, kestrels, drip torches, rake hoes, stationery.
- Burn Mix Trailers

New Systems:

- Capturing brigade deployment to Planned Burns
- Capture member skills in webTRAIN.
- Collaboration with DELWP to establish one platform in capturing PB information



A silhouette of a person standing in a field, with their right hand raised towards a bright, hazy light source in the sky. The person is facing away from the camera, and the background is a soft, glowing gradient of light and dark tones.

THE END

Questions ?