



State Strategic Resource Arrangements for Fire Vehicles and Crews

Friday 7th February- Tuesday 11th February

Planning Considerations:

- Fire in Landscape as of Thursday 6th February
Gippsland complex, Stoneyford and Mallee
- Potential of new starts, weather forecast potential for lightning ignitions and fire suppression threshold.
- Local ground based suppression capacity with a focus on aggressive initial attack, suppressing fires in grassland to minimise fire spread into forested areas.
- Fire behaviour risk assessment (population/property versus interface)- *as referenced by document prepared by SCC FBAN- Readiness- Fire Behaviour Assessment for 8-02-2014*
- Fatigue levels across State.
- Flexibility in utilisation and deployment of resources.
- Gippsland manages fires with current resources until Sunday 9 February 2014

Arrangements / Principles:

Resources

- Regions, Districts to have full appreciation of resources committed versus resources available (home and away)
- State having visibility of resources committed versus resources available (home and away) and match resource type to task
- Local resources matched to fire in landscape requirements, CFA Districts and Regions to be at maximum readiness, DEPI due to Gippsland Commitment are at reduced levels.
- Forest Industry Brigades (50 – 60 Fire fighting appliances) in SW Victoria to be utilised in South West and SA border resourcing and response arrangement as per local plans

Ready response

- CFA strike team to be stationed at Fiskville from Saturday 8 February 2014 for reactive deployment and then to be moved if required to Gippsland for Sunday 9 February 2014.
- Slip on/Light Tanker Strike Team to be deployed to Gippsland for first attack and surge capacity.
- MFB providing 3 strike teams, 1 strike team utilised for step ups into District 8 to release surge capacity resources. 2 remaining Heavy Pumper Tanker strike teams to be placed in the North and South of Metro area for reactive deployment (primarily asset protection). 2 MFB Pumpers deployed to Traralgon and Morwell to provide additional security to power station to remain until Monday 10 February 2014.



- Movement of South West/Wimmera fire vehicles to Central Victoria after the change has come through on Sunday morning (subject to new starts and fire activity) in South West and Wimmera. Potential strategic staging location to be considered as part of regional planning to facilitate this movement of resources.
- Liaison with Vic-Pol at every level to support the movement of large numbers of resources by road is required.

Interstate Support

- Interstate (NSW F&R) Urban Pumper appliance plan (Greater Melbourne Area) - 48 hours lead time required, 10 Heavy Pumpers with staff. NSW pumper not to be pre-positioned, however this is a State Control Team consideration for Sunday 9 February 2014, subject to fire in landscape and response requirements. This also requires, 1 officer and 1 fire fighter to be provided with each truck by host agency (Victorian).
- Interstate resources- cross border considerations. NSW RFS on request to provide 2-3 heavy tanker strike teams from Cooma to East Gippsland. NSW RFS have provided 1 Strike Team into Orbost for asset protection.

Longer Term Planning Considerations (3-7days)

- Activation of Interstate (NSW) Urban Pumper appliance plan-subject to fire in landscape and fatigue impacts.
- NSW RFS and other interstate major support requirements to be considered on Sunday 9 February 2014. Required to manage fire in landscape, new starts and fatigue impacts.
- Use of CFA to support DEPI first Attack capability in regions where there is reduced DEPI capacity.
- Additional multi-disciplinary taskforce requirements for access/egress of impacted and/or isolated communities or emergency service resources.
- Specialist resources to support fire/relief operations- i.e medical, rescues etc.