

"LK-2"

Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

October 2011



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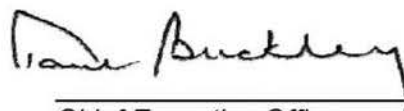
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Municipal Endorsement

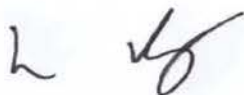
This is to certify that Latrobe City Council has endorsed the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan [MFPP] prepared for the period 8th December 2011 to 31 May 2014.

The Plan has been produced by the appointed Municipal Fire Prevention Committee in accordance with the CFA guidelines. The Plan is the culmination of cooperation among many people, organisations and government authorities.

SIGNED for and on behalf of)
LATROBE CITY COUNCIL by)
 Paul Buckley pursuant to Instrument)
 of Delegation dated 8th December 2011))
 in the presence of:)



 Chief Executive Officer



Witness
 Coordinator Emergency Management



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Executive Summary

Purpose of the Fire Prevention Plan

The Country Fire Authority Act 1958 Section 55A requires municipal councils to prepare and maintain a municipal fire prevention plan. The CFA also provide "Municipal Fire Prevention Planning Guidelines" which establishes a process by which a Fire Prevention Plan can be prepared.

Municipalities for many years have been required to and have provided an officer to carry out the role of "proper officer" or more recently "fire prevention officer". This officer's role has traditionally been one of annual inspections and service of notices/directions upon property owners whose property contains or potentially contains a fire hazard. The role of the fire prevention officer has changed over the last few years with his/her involvement expanded out of the traditional urban area to the broader municipal boundary, the amendments to the CFA Act to include materials other than vegetation (grass) as a fire hazard, and for the officer to be able to issue infringement notices for landowners failing to carry out works required in the served notice. Previously produced Municipal Fire Prevention Plans concentrated mainly on the issue of wildfire, the serving of notices (for fire hazards) and the performance of other authorities.

Fire prevention plans now require planning for issues across a much broader spectrum and to look at all potential origins of a fire. These can be a rural wildfire, urban fires and building fires. The approach is based on risk management. The CFA guidelines require the plan to:

- identify fire risks
- identify priority risk environments
- define how the risks can be treated
- specify parties responsible for identified risks
- define the groups involved in fire prevention
- increase the community knowledge about fire safety
- develop programs to deal with identified issues

Intended Users of the Plan

The following Fire Prevention Plan is a document that is both a resource document in that it details all of the players involved in fire prevention, their roles and legislative requirements and all of the issues in the CFA Guidelines and identified by the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee as relevant to the achievement of a fire aware and safe community, as is humanly possible.



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The primary users of the Plan will be the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee, Municipal Fire Prevention Officer and CFA Brigades. There will however be a wide range of users from within the Council, all over the municipality and even beyond. The risks identified and action or strategies developed embrace a wide range of people, issues and includes those seen as responsible or who can contribute to mitigating a community identified fire risk.

The Plan is a minimum requirement to achieve the objectives of providing a fire safe community. The document is also a living document and shall be regularly reviewed to maintain its relevance and meet community expectations and legislative changes.



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1. Vision Statement

The vision of the plan is: to protect, as far as practicable all life, property, community assets, flora and fauna in the Latrobe City area from damage or destruction by the occurrence of fire and to make the municipality a safer place in which to live, work and visit.

2. Introduction

In the Australian countryside, wildfire is accepted as a natural phenomenon with the potential for catastrophic devastation of life and property.

In an effort to reduce the incidence and intensity of wildfires or building fires, prevention, protection and pre-suppression works need to be carried out to protect the residents, visitors, property, wildlife and natural vegetation of this municipality.

This Fire Prevention Plan has been prepared by the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee to detail the issues required to achieve acceptable results and to highlight the need for continued efforts at educating the public.

It is intended that the plan will cover all issues known in regard to prevention and protection. The Plan is proposed to sensibly harmonize with conservation issues as well as the strategies of the Department of Sustainability and Environment & Department of Primary Industries (DSE/DPI) in their efforts of fire prevention and protection on public lands, other Authorities or Organisations identified, and also the Municipal Emergency Planning Committee in planning for coping with disasters.

History has taught us through the devastating fires of 1898, 1939, 1944, 1965, 1983, 2005, 2007 and 2009 that fire will occur. Through efforts by the Fire Authorities, Government Departments, Power Generators, Sp Ausnet, Hancock's Plantations Victoria, Australian Paper, Water Authorities, Municipalities and the Community, it is the intention of this process to develop strategies to minimise the occurrence and the severity of any fire.

For this plan to be successful all individuals, organisations and community groups must recognise their responsibilities to fire prevention and protection and work towards making our buildings and environment as safe as possible.

This plan is presented as a means to identify all of the issues seen as relevant to fire prevention and protection, as an information base and as a means of developing standards and practices necessary to achieve the desired results within Latrobe City.



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3. Aims and Objectives

The aim of the plan is defined as: the desire to create as fire secure a community as far as practicable, with an educated and prepared public.

The *CFA Act* has set a number of requirements in sections 55A and 43 enabling Latrobe City to achieve this aim.

The objectives of the plan are:

- To prevent the occurrence of fire and to minimise the danger of the spread of fire on and from, any land, road or property vested in it or under control, care or management of Latrobe City.
- To identify areas, buildings and land use in Latrobe City which are at particular risk in case of fire.
- To specify how each risk is to be treated.
- To specify who is responsible for treating those risks.

4. Definitions

Act	<i>Country Fire Authority Act 1958</i> including the <i>Fire Authorities (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1995</i>
Assembly area	A place within a refuge where, in the event of wildfire, evacuated persons or those prevented from reaching their destination, can be recorded on arrival and await further instructions.
Back burning	A fire started intentionally from a prepared line to burn an area of inflammable material in the path of an advancing fire.
Bridge	Any access way over a watercourse, river or railway. Includes load limit bridges which have a carrying capacity restriction.
Buffer zone	Width of cleared area between identified fire risk area and protected area. Should be of sufficient width to reduce the intensity of a fire to aid in the efforts to defend the protected area.
Building	Includes part of a building and also includes structure, temporary building or structure and any part thereof.
CFA	Country Fire Authority. The agency responsible for fire prevention and suppression on private land in the Country Area of Victoria.
Community Fireguard	CFA's Community Fireguard Group program encourages residents to work together in small

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	neighbourhood groups to prepare for bushfire. The program is based on a series of educational sessions on bushfire preparation and planning, and facilitated by a trained Community Fireguard presenter.
Control line	A constructed or natural barrier used to assist in the control of a fire.
Country area of Victoria	That part of Victoria that lies outside of the Metropolitan Fire District but does not include any State Forest, National Park or protected public land.
Declared road system	Means a freeway, State highway, main road tourist road, forest road or stock route.
DSE/DPI	The Department of Sustainability and Environment, the Department of Primary Industries.
Emergency Management Committee (EMC):	Council Committee to deal with management of any emergency situation that may occur. Involves representatives from all emergency services. Has prepared an Emergency Management Plan. Previous reference plan known as "displan." Committee established under the Emergency Management Act 1986.
Fire access road	A road providing access or providing a link between established routes, in order that access is available to fire fighters.
Firebreaks	A minimum 10 metre strip of land or suitable area, or at the discretion of the MFPO, in consultation with the relevant authorities, upon which the fuel load has been greatly reduced. It may be a natural break or a break maintained by mechanical or chemical means. Its purpose is to isolate, slow down or stop the spread of fire or to provide a control line from which the fire can be attacked. Also serves the purpose of a transport corridor. See also strategic firebreak.
Fire danger period	In respect of country areas of Victoria, the period in which the lighting of fires is restricted in accordance with the CFA Act.
Fire hazard	Any material which presents a serious risk of fire by being easily ignitable or difficult to extinguish and/or by virtue of its position, if ignited would be likely to present a threat to life, property or other assets.
Fire hazard reduction	The reduction, removal or elimination of flammable hazards.
Fire pre-suppression	Activities undertaken in advance of wildfire occurrence to ensure more effective fire suppression.
Fire prevention	Activities undertaken to minimize the incidence of fire.
Fire prevention notice	Notice served by MFPO on landowner to clear a

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	specified fire hazard or potential hazard.
Fire protection	All activities to protect life, property and assets.
Fire risk	A place where the incidence of fire is high or likely to be high, or the probability of a fire starting is high.
Fire season	The period of the year during which wildfires are likely to occur and spread.
Fuel load	The amount of natural or deposited litter on the forest floor. Defined as the oven dry weight of fuel per unit area. Commonly expressed as tonnes per hectare.
Fuel moisture content (FMC)	Water content of fuel expressed as a percentage of its oven dry weight.
Fuel reduction	Reducing the quantity of a fuel load from a specified area.
Fuse break	Fuel reduction works across a relatively narrow linear strip such as road reserve or river reserve, to prevent continuous heavy fuel loads acting as a linear fuse. Depending upon size may also provide a refuge to the travelling public and fire authorities and to provide access to adjacent land.
Local road	Any public road not a part of the Declared Road System.
Management burning	Achievement of specified land or natural resource management objectives by the prescribed use of fire as the fuel reduction method.
Map references	Map references referred to in this document refer to either maps in the appendices or the CFA Region 9 & 10 Rural Directory.
Municipal Fire Prevention Committee (MFPC)	A committee appointed in accordance with Section 54 of the <i>CFA Act</i> .
Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO)	The person appointed by Latrobe City Council in accordance with Section 96A of the Act.
Neighbourhood Safer Place - Places of Last Resort (NSP)	Neighbourhood Safer Places are identified buildings or spaces within the community that are a place of last resort in emergencies only - These are places where people can go when their bushfire survival plans have failed
Prohibited period	The period during which lighting fires is restricted: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With respect to any State Forest, National Park or Protected Public Land - the whole of the year. 2. With respect to any fire protected area other than 1 - a period declared by the Minister of DSE/DPI. Note - see comments under Appendix K.5, DSE/DPI, for details regarding the 'marginal mile'.
Property management plan	A plan developed for any property for the total management of the site including environmental and fire

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	management. The plan should be developed in conjunction with the relevant authorities and specialists in the field.
Public authority	Means any board commission or trust or other body corporate or unincorporated established or constituted by or under any Act for any public purpose, whether in respect of the whole or any part of Victoria, but does not include a municipal council.
Public land	Protected Public Land, State Forest or National Park under the control of government departments or DSE/DPI & Parks Victoria.
Recovery	The process by which affected persons and communities are helped to a proper level of functioning. It commences as soon as practicable after the impact of an emergency and usually continues long after the cessation of response activities. This process is administered through the Emergency Management Committee.
Refuge	A place where people may shelter in the event of wildfire or major disaster and may include towns, settlements, the family home or defined prepared areas.
Regional Fire Prevention Committee (RFPC):	A committee convened in accordance with Section 52 of the CFA Act for the purpose of coordinating fire prevention planning across the whole CFA region.
Response	The combat of an emergency and the provision of emergency relief including rescue and needs of affected persons.
SES	Victorian State Emergency Service.
Slashing	The reduction of fuel loads by use of mechanical means.
Strategic firebreak	A fire break established as part of a pre-planned strategy to form the basis of a control line and access corridor. These breaks can be: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Primary firebreaks: Breaks designed to provide protection to the municipality as a whole and are usually designed along the declared highways and main (arterial) road system or rail system. 2. Secondary firebreaks: Additional breaks designated by the MFPC and local brigades to provide protection at a local level and strategically dividing the municipality. <p>Note; all strategic firebreaks are the highest priority for roadside maintenance works.</p>
Township Protection Plans	TPPs are used by CFA and agency partners to provide residents and visitors with local information to help them make informed decisions for bushfire survival planning.
Victorian Fire Risk	The VFRR is now the standard bushfire risk identification tool



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Register	used by CFA to assess the level of risk and the range of treatments.
Water supply	Location where water may be obtained for fire fighting and mopping up purposes. Supplies obtainable from reticulated mains, permanent streams, tanks or dams.
Wildfire	Any unplanned fire in the natural environment requiring suppression action.

5. Latrobe City

The Latrobe City Council was formed in December 1994 following the amalgamation of the Shires of Traralgon and Morwell and the Cities of Traralgon and Moe. There were some minor boundary modifications.

The City covers an area of 1600 square kilometres and has a current population of 70,961 as supplied by the Australian Bureau of Statistics 2001. The municipality extends from Moe in the west to midway between Traralgon and Rosedale in the east and from Boolarra / Traralgon South in the south to Toongabbie in the north. Reference to Appendix A indicates the municipal boundary and the precise description is contained in the Government Gazette.

The City has a varied topography from the hilly terrain of the southern Strzelecki ranges, the river plains in the centre (Morwell / Traralgon to Glengarry), to the hill and forested areas of the Great Dividing Range in the north.

The City varies in vegetation cover. The City comprises of well developed fertile pasture land in the central area with wooded hills in the south and the north. There are also extensive pine and hardwood plantations in the southern and northern area.

The major industries are the extensive power industries with electricity generation from coal, paper manufacture, education, and agriculture and timber plantations. The agricultural industry includes dairy farming, beef & sheep.

The major towns are Moe, Morwell and Traralgon. Each town contains extensive commercial and industrial development. Churchill offers a medium sized town and accommodates the Gippsland Campus of Monash University. There are the smaller urban centres at Yinnar, Boolarra, Traralgon South, Hazelwood North, Yallourn North, Tyers, Glengarry and Toongabbie. There are also numerous hobby type farms throughout the City.

The average rainfall for the City is around 820 mm per annum. The area has a mild climate with an average minimum temperature of 8°C and an average maximum temperature of 20°C. The temperature extremes vary from around -2°C to +40°C.



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6. Fire History

The fire history throughout the Latrobe City shows that there have been numerous wildfires since European occupation.

The Heyfield Group area has experienced major fires, significantly in 1939, 1944, 1968, 2005 and 2006. Since 1968 there have been fires every year with significant fires occurring or having potential until stopped, around every 10 year period. The risks have changed over the years and the concerns are now with the areas of bush land interface with urban areas, house fires, rural residential development and recreational activities in the bush land areas with little preparation for fire safety. The potential still exists however for major fires given the scenario of extreme weather conditions and fuel loadings.

The Morwell Group area has also experienced major fires. The bushfires of 1939, 1944, 1962, 1978, 1982, 1983, 2003, 2006 and 2009 were significant fires in particular the 2009 Black Saturday Churchill fire that killed 11 people.

Significant fires have occurred in the power generating plants in recent years, with one in particular closing the Morwell briquette factory. The potential however is ever present for a fire and every effort and commitment is required to educate all residents and visitors, provide for preventative measures to reduce the opportunity and intensity of any fire and to be prepared to act efficiently and effectively in the event of any fire.

The Narracan Group area has experienced major fires, significantly in 1939 and 1944. Since then there have been significant fires in the mid '60s, late '70s, early '80s and 2005/06 season. Most of these fires did not develop into major proportions with the exception of the 2005/06 fire. This was due in part to prevention activities and quick responses from local brigades. The potential still exists for major fires given the scenario of extreme weather conditions and fuel loadings. The advent of rural type subdivisions, many in bush environments, during the '70s and '80s, will result in more lives and property at risk in a major fire situation.

The Traralgon Group area has also experienced major fires. The bushfires of earlier years also affected this area. The significant change in the incidence of fire in more recent years however is highlighted by fires of a structural nature in the urban areas and the power generating industries. The incidence of fires in rural residential areas (hobby farms) also has increased. The risk then has shifted from the wildfire option to structural and the urban interface with the rural land and bush land.

The Department of Sustainability and Environment & Department of Primary Industries in their document Central Gippsland Region Fire Protection Plan (1999) provide the information of:

- The Central Gippsland Region contains approximately 850,000 ha of public land.



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- The variety of vegetation types in the region are capable of generating fires of cataclysmic proportions. Examples of such fires have occurred in 1939 and 1983 (Noojee and Powelltown area) and 1978 and 1986 fires in the alpine areas. (This plan is current and due to be reviewed in 2006)

Records (Appendix 5 of the Central Gippsland Plan) show that over a 12 year period from 1978/79 to 1989/90, 590 fires were recorded which burnt out a total area of 41,137 ha.

Fire history within plantations within the municipality is relatively low. Statistics provided by Australian Paper Plantations, for their plantations, show that of a total current (96/97) area of plantation of around 36,000 ha, and over a period of 28 years (data commencing in 1960/61), there has been a total loss of some 897 ha of plantation. Of this only 319 ha has been within the Latrobe City.

HVP Plantations manage over 130,000 ha of land in Gippsland of which 80,000 ha is plantations, both softwood and hardwood. There have been numerous fires within these holdings with the largest loss occurring during Jan/Feb 2009. Over 17,000 ha of HVP land burnt including over 10,000 ha of plantations, mainly in the Latrobe City

Structural fire history figures for the period between 1997 to mid 2002 supplied by the CFA's Fire Incident and Reporting System showed that structural statistics from 1997 to 1999 dropped from 204 structural reports to 115 in the Latrobe City Municipality. These figures have gradually increased to the point where the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee initiated an awareness program during August 2002. This program targeted television, radio and the print media in Latrobe City area, highlighting the need for a heightened awareness amongst residents and property owners that in Latrobe City structure fires were on the increase as well as offering information on how to identify and minimize fire risks.

7. CFA Act

The *Country Fire Authority Act* (herein after the Act) 1958 requires municipal Councils to carry out specific fire prevention roles and activities. These are defined under:

- Section 41 of the Act provides for the Fire Prevention Officer to serve notice on land owners (not being a public authority) to remove fire hazards or potential hazards from the defined property.
- Section 43(1) "It shall be the duty of every municipal council and every public authority to take all practicable steps (including burning) to prevent the occurrence of fires on and to minimize the danger of the spread of fires on or from:
 - (a) any land vested in it or under its control or management ; and
 - (b) any highway road street lane or thoroughfare the maintenance of which is charged upon it."



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- Section 46 of the Act provides for the CFA to take action against a public authority or municipal council should they fail to satisfy the powers and duties conferred and imposed upon them by the Act. The CFA shall report to the Governor in Council who may take such action as seen fit.
- Section 54 of the Act further provides for the establishment of a Municipal Fire Prevention Committee. This Committee is charged under Section 55 with the functions that include:
 - (a) “to plan the burning or clearing of firebreaks within the area for which it is appointed
 - (b) to advise the appropriate authorities as to the existence of and steps to be taken for the removal of fire hazards within the area”

Section 55A requires municipal councils to prepare and maintain a municipal fire prevention plan. The Act specifies items the plan must contain. The MFPC is to advise and make recommendations to the municipal council on the preparation of its fire plan.
- Section 55B stipulates that fire prevention plans must be audited by the Authority between 1.1.1998 and 31.12.1998 and thereafter at least once every three years.
- Section 96A states; “Each municipal council, the municipal district or part of the municipal district of which lies within the country area of Victoria, shall appoint –
 - (a) a person to be the fire prevention officer for that municipal council for the purposes of this Act; and
 - (b) such number of persons as the council sees fit to be assistant fire prevention officers for that municipal council.”

8. Other Legislation

8.1 Planning and Environment Act 1987

The land use planning system in Victoria is concerned with the use and development of land.

The objectives of planning in Victoria are set out in the Planning & Environment Act 1987.

They are:

- To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land;
- To provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity;
- To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria;



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- To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value;
- To protect public utilities and other assets and enable the orderly provision and coordination of public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community;
- To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives set out in the five paragraphs above; and
- To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.

The *Planning & Environment Act 1987* provides a statutory instrument to plan for and manage the use and development of land. Planning schemes are enabled under the Act.

The planning scheme, as subordinate legislation, controls land use and development within a municipality. It contains State and local planning policies (both Municipal Strategic Statement and statements of Local Policy), zones and overlays and other provisions that affect how land can be used and developed.

Every municipality has its own planning scheme which indicates if a planning permit is required to use land, change the use of land, to construct a building or other works or make other changes to land.

The Latrobe Planning Scheme which came into effect on 2 March 2000 addresses fire prevention in the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) at Clause 21.03-8, identifying the following 'Objectives':

- To ensure that new land use and development does not increase the level of fire risk.
- To ensure that new land use and development includes adequate fire protection measures.

The 'Strategies' outlined under Clause 21.03-8 are:

- Identify areas of a high fire risk.
- Require adequate fire protection measures as part of permission.
- Support the implementation of fuel reduction and ecological burning programs in rural residential interface areas, undertaken by the CFA and DSE.
- Support the use of fire as a management tool to reduce fuel loads and assist in maintaining ecological diversity in appropriate vegetation communities.

Sections 52 & 55 of the Planning and Environment Act provide for the referral of applications for use and development of land to Authorities or any person specified in the Planning Scheme.

Action:

It is recommended that -

8.1 The CFA be a referral authority for all:

Subdivisions in high fire risk or bush fire prone areas identified in the MFPP,



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intensive developments including places of assembly and large gatherings (e.g. camps, hospitality industry proposals).

8.2 Building Regulations

8.2.1 General

Building in Victoria is enacted by:

- The Building Act 1993.
- The Building Regulations 2006.
- The Building Code of Australia & incorporated documents.

The MFPC's concern with all buildings is the initial provision of suitable fire detection, suppression, fire fighting equipment and passive fire protection and the maintenance thereafter.

Current building legislation provides an option to obtain a building permit from either the Municipal Building Surveyor or a "Private Building Surveyor". Latrobe City and its Municipal Building Surveyor have responsibilities in addition to the operation of a building permit service. Among other duties they include, record keeping, enforcement, and the maintenance of essential safety measures in residential, commercial, industrial and public buildings.

Current building practices provide for occasional referrals to the Chief Officer (CFA) where variations to building regulations for specified fire separation equipment is required. Generally the Chief Officer (CFA) has no involvement or authority with respect to issue of building permits.

Building surveyors, both Council and private are required when issuing an occupancy permit for class 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 buildings (commercial, residential care, industrial and public assembly) to nominate essential safety measures, detail the applicable maintenance standards and frequencies. Essential safety measures typically consist of exits, exit doors, paths of travel to exits, passive and active fire protection systems, detection and fire suppression equipment and air handling systems to name a few. The owner of the building under the building regulations is required to maintain the essential safety measures. Maintenance records are to be kept on the premises including an annual essential safety report signed by the owner.

The Municipal Building Surveyor and Chief Officer (CFA) may jointly or separately inspect the essential safety measures to determine whether they are being satisfactorily maintained.

Council has developed and implemented an Essential Safety Measure Audit Policy. This policy details an audit program and provides a consistent approach to the inspection and



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audits of essential safety measures in residential, commercial, industrial and public buildings. This policy is also aligned with the Latrobe 2026 policy and the Council Plan.

Action:

It is recommended that -

8.2.1 All brigades be advised that where any building is brought to their attention regarding provision and maintenance of "essential safety systems", and is of genuine concern, they shall report the matter to the CFA Manager Community Safety or the Municipal Building Surveyor.

8.2. Bush Fire Prone Areas

On 10 March 2009 the Victorian government through the Building Amendment (Bushfire Construction) Interim Regulations 2009, designated all of Victoria to be bushfire prone for the purposes of the regulations.

The Building Regulations 2006 and the Building Code of Australia ('BCA') control and regulates building work. Under the BCA all new residential style buildings must be assessed for an appropriate level of bushfire attack and provide the appropriate resistance to bushfire in order to reduce the risk to life and the loss of the building.

If a building is constructed according to AS 3959 it will satisfy the objectives and performance requirements of the BCA.

8.3 Latrobe City Local Law No. 2

The Latrobe City Council Local Law Number 2 includes Part (9 - Safety - People and Property) and clauses (134 to 138, inclusive) that cover the issues of discharging of fireworks, burning off and fire hazards. Clauses 134 to 137 are local issues however clause 138 is covered by the Health Act 1958, Section 40.

Action:

It is recommended that - Council enforce the issue of not issuing permits to burn in the urban areas, all other planning areas will be at the discretion of the MFPO.

9. Municipal Emergency Management Committee

The Municipal Emergency Management Committee (MEMC) for the City is a committee established under the Emergency Management Act 1986.

The MEMC has compiled a plan called "Latrobe City - Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP).

The link between the MFPC and MEMC is of utmost importance as the objectives of both groups are the same. (MFPO is an MEMC member)

There is no specific reference made to the MFPC or the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan in the document. The issue of fire however is recognised as a "high" risk in Appendix G, page 2. As well Part 4 (page 2) of the Plan mentions Prevention / Mitigation Plans and a list appears in Appendix C.

With the changes to the Emergency Management Manual Victoria it is recognised that this plan will transition to the Municipal Fire management plan in 2012 and will become a sub – plan to the MEMP.

10. Municipal Fire Prevention Committee (MFPC)

10.1 General

The MFPC is established under Section 54 of the CFA Act 1958. The functions of the Committee are defined in Section 55 of the Act.

The Act allows the Committee to be made up from members as follows:

- It shall consist of the MFPO (who is executive officer and chairman), One representative from each rural and urban brigade, one representative from each group of brigades, a representative from Council and a representative from DSE. The CFA shall, on the request of the Committee, appoint a representative from any public statutory authority and a representative from any local interest group specified by the Committee.



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The Committee shall conduct meetings in accordance with Section 59 of the Act.

With the introduction of Integrated Fire Management Planning (IFMP) it is most probable that the structure and relationships of fire prevention in Municipalities will change.

10.2 Committee Meetings and Membership

The Municipal Fire Prevention Committee for the Latrobe City meets in accordance with the following:

- The Municipal Fire Prevention Committee is the overall decision making body and meets four times per year.

The membership of the Latrobe MFPC is:

1 CFA Brigades

Heyfield Group - Glengarry, Glengarry West, Toongabbie, Cowwarr.

Morwell Group - Boolarra, Churchill, Driffield, Hazelwood North, Mirboo East, Morwell, Yinnar, Yinnar South.

Narracan Group - Moe South, Moe, Newborough, Tanjil, Yallourn North.

Traralgon Group - Callignee, Flynn, Maryvale, Traralgon East, Traralgon, Traralgon South, Traralgon West, Tyers.

2 Other Organisations

CFA Gippsland Region Community Safety Manager, CFA District 9 HQ, CFA District 10 HQ, Latrobe Council (MFPO), HVP, Vic Roads, International Power (Hazelwood), Loy Yang Power, Truenergy, SP Ausnet DEECD and DSE/DPI.

The meetings are to be chaired by the MFPO or an Assistant MFPO.

10.3 Brigade Boundaries

The brigade boundaries are defined by the CFA. Copies of plans of the various boundaries are available through the CFA.



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11. Current Fire Prevention Plans

11.1 Council

This plan has been adopted by Latrobe City Council in December 2011 and replaces the previous plan, dated November 2008.

11.2 Department of Sustainability and Environment

11.2.1 Gippsland Region

The document "Gippsland Fire Protection Plan – 1999" details how DSE will conduct wildfire prevention and suppression activities on public land in an effective, operationally safe, environmentally sensitive and cost effective manner.

The *Forests Act 1958*, Section 62(2) and the *National Parks Act 1975*, Sections 17 & 18, require the Department to "carry out proper and sufficient work for the prevention and suppression of fire in every State Forest and National Park and on all protected public land". (Gippsland Fire Protection Plan 1999, p8) .

From their Plan DSE have four main strategies: wildfire prevention, wildfire preparedness, wildfire suppression and wildfire recovery.

DSE also prepare an annual Fire Operations Plan, which contains a schedule and maps for both ecological and fuel reduction burning planned for the following three years. It also contains details of new preparedness works.

The Gippsland Fire Protection Plan will apply until the plan is reviewed in 2011.

DSE are currently reviewing their code of practice for Fire Management on Public Land with comment being sought and the adoption of this code by the end of 2011.

Note 1: Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) was established in December 2002, and has ultimate responsibility for the prevention and suppression of wildfire on public land held by the former Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE). DSE delivers this in conjunction with Parks Victoria, Department of Primary Industries and Vic forests.

11.3 Other Plans

There are a number of other authorities or organisations that have developed their own fire management plans. The following organisations have management plans. Reference to Appendix J will provide details on the documents held.

1. HVP Plantations.
2. Australian Paper - Maryvale Mill.
3. SP Ausnet.
4. International Power Loy Yang.
5. Truenergy.

The requirements for fire management plan development of other authorities and organisations; this is contained in Clause 24 and Appendix J.

12. Plan Review

The MFPC will formally review the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan on the following basis:

- At the September meeting each year. The MFPC will review the Plan prior to the fire season.
- Following any substantial fire within the municipality. The CFA and MFPO shall determine the parameters of “substantial”.
- Following any substantial change in legislation or any other matter that may impact upon the Plan.
- Following any significant changes made by Council affecting fire prevention and the Fire Prevention Plan.

The lifespan of this plan will be from December 2011 to December 2014.

Appendix L, Plan Review Record, is to be used to record the dates and reasons for reviews.

13. Special Fire Risk Environments

13.1 Rural Areas - Priority Environments/ Community Assets

Following meetings with and submissions from the community and the brigades, identification of special interest, priority environments (based on such criteria as fuel load, environmental value, historical value, employment value etc.), or community assets (such as schools, halls, public buildings, refuse tips etc.) have been made. This information has been processed by the following methods:

1. Considered in the Plan as a special issue (e.g. building inspections, large industry) and treated as a topic in its own right, or
2. Compiled into brigade area listings, with plans, giving locations of such identified sites. This information is contained in Appendix D - Brigade Sub-Plans.

13.2 Urban Areas - Priority Environments/ Community Assets

Also following meetings with and submissions from the community and the brigades, identification of special interest, priority environments or community assets have been made. This information has been processed by the same following methods:

1. Considered in the Plan as a special issue (e.g. building inspections) and treated as a topic in its own right, or
2. Compiled into brigade area listings, with plans, giving locations of such identified sites. This information is contained in Appendix D - Brigade Sub-Plans.

The criteria set are for urban areas to be designated "refuge areas" within their own right and efforts to be made to reduce the risk from any fire threat.

The identification of either specific community or environmental sites is registered to enable particular attention be made to these areas for fire protection. Equally, specific sites that pose a higher than normal fire risk (e.g. fuel depots) shall also be listed for fire protection works and clear identification by a brigade in the case of any emergency.



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13.3 Inspections

Inspections shall be made of all areas identified within Appendix D along with the pre fire season inspections carried out for the purpose of clearing of private lands within the municipality. The inspections shall be arranged between the local brigade. Inspection responsibilities for “other” identified fire risk sites are also listed in Clause 8.2 for buildings and commercial developments.

The Municipal Fire Prevention Officer (MFPO) in conjunction with the Local Laws team has developed a recording system identifying the date of first inspection, location; notice issued, second inspection and costs incurred by:

- private properties throughout the municipality;
- areas specifically identified in appendix D; and
- public authority land that may impact upon the fire safety of the city.

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 1 The Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR) be used in conjunction with annual inspections by the MFPO with the local brigades providing back up reporting on any needs for fire protection; and
- 2 All urban areas to be inspected annually to ensure adequate fire safety from surrounding rural land or bush reserves. MFPO to inspect and take appropriate action, with the local brigades providing back up support on reporting of non complying properties.

14. Latrobe City Council Community Environmental Plan

Latrobe City Council’s Environmental Consultative Committee has adopted an Environment Policy which aims to achieve integration of industry with the natural environment. The result of this policy is the Community Environmental Plan.

The Plan is a culmination of community input and it defines its major thrust as “to identify specific issues for implementation, provide impetus for continuous improvement in environmental management and to ultimately achieve and sustain environmental best practice throughout the City”.



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The Plan details existing projects and initiatives and promotes further actions for numerous environmental projects. The Plan makes little reference to fire management as a tool of an overall management plan.

Latrobe City's Environmental team works closely with the Fire Prevention Officer to identify and monitor sites of significant environmental value that require burning for fuel reduction and regeneration reasons.

15. Neighbouring Shire Council Fire Prevention Plans

The neighbouring municipality fire prevention plans are inter linked through the development of the GIS maps for fire hazard ratings which cover the whole of this region.

A copy of the completed Fire Prevention Plan shall be provided to each neighbouring municipality for information purposes.

16. Latrobe City Council Road Management Plan

Latrobe City Council is reviewing a Municipal Road Management Plan (RMP) simultaneously with the MFPP.

Under the State Conservation Strategy 1987 and the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988, municipalities and the CFA have a responsibility to conserve the State's native species. Fire prevention works, on Roads as well, are exempt from the Native Vegetation Clearance Controls however shall have regard to the legislation objectives and take them into account before any works are carried out.

Both the Fire Prevention Plan and the Road Management Plan will provide generalized objectives for works and standards. Road assessments are generally very broad classifications of conservation value rather than detailed botanical assessments. This will result in the need to develop refinement of certain areas where there are identified conflicts that require further investigation and resolution.

The MFPP strategic firebreak system plan will be overlapped with the RMP and where there are concerns, these areas shall be better identified and a site specific plan recommended to be developed to determine the best treatment for works, in a global sense, however without compromising the objectives of the fire prevention plan.



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Site specific plans will need to develop actions that will complement both fire protection and conservation protection. This may result in identifying different methods of protection works or possibly additional works external to the sensitive site. Consideration shall be given to appropriate signing of such areas to reinforce the particular site and the values and work variations necessary.

Planning of alternative fuel reduction methods shall also be cognizant of the possible effects of burning off fine fuels. "Fire can also affect the quantity and quality of water runoff. Some soils develop hydrophobic (water repelling) tendencies when exposed to high temperatures, thereby reducing the soils' initial capacity to absorb water and promoting surface runoff. Lines of weakness may be left when organic material is consumed by fire, increasing the soil's susceptibility to erosion" (Water Victoria, An Environmental Handbook, Department of Water Resources, p23).

The Road Management Plan addresses a number of issues relevant to fire prevention. These are:

- Prune vegetation to allow safe passage of school buses and cattle trucks.
- Wherever possible locate strategic firebreaks on roadsides or private property of low conservation value.
- Prior to any fire prevention works on roadsides, identify and ensure adequate protection is given to rare, threatened and significant flora and fauna habitat.
- On low or medium conservation value roadsides, slash grass and weeds to a height of 75mm during the period from the last week of November to the second week of December to retard the growth of exotic grasses and prevent seed set. If necessary, slash a second time no lower than 200mm at the end of February to allow indigenous grasses to set seed. This will achieve both fire prevention and conservation objectives.
- On medium and high conservation roadsides other than grasslands, implement a mosaic pattern of slashing or burning, taking advantage of natural features to create breaks. Breaks should be less than 100m at intervals of 250-400m on a 15-20 year rotation.
- High conservation value roadsides which are grasslands should be burned at intervals of 2 or 3 years in late summer or late winter. If slashed, mowing should be no lower than 200mm and the grass removed by raking or baling.
- Identify areas of regenerating indigenous vegetation and leave unmown.
- Avoid annual slashing of indigenous under storey (unless indicated in the MFPP).
- The cutting of hay on roads of low conservation value is allowed, subject to the obtaining of a permit (up to 5 years life).

Locations to be burnt -

- 1 Old Melbourne Road, Traralgon West between Airfield and Pedra Road (South side of road)
- 2 Old Melbourne Road, between Maryvale Rd. and Latrobe Rd.(both sides)
- 3 Old Melbourne Road, between Airfield Rd. and Alexanders Road, Morwell (south side)



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- 4 Early Road, Yallourn North Purvis Road to Hunter Tr. (Moondarra State Park southern boundary)
- 5 Brights Road, Boolarra, (planning complete, depends on weather and Volunteer availability)
- 6 Gaskin Park Reserve, Churchill, (planning complete, depends on weather and Volunteer availability)
- 7 Ikara Way Reserve, Churchill, (planning complete, depends on weather and Volunteer availability)
- 8 Sargeant Drive Reserve, Jeeralang, (planning started)
- 9 Old Walhalla Road Toongabbie.

To aid in the patrolling of post burn operations it is recommended that Latrobe City Council train appropriate staff in CFA minimum skills to facilitate this process.

Appendix K provides information for the designation of Strategic Firebreaks including the conservation values determined for the subject roads. Roadside slashing is currently carried out in accordance with the Latrobe City's Road Maintenance contract and is satisfactory to the MFPC. The slashing defined achieves strategic firebreak widths and accords with the Road Management Plan vegetation removal clause.

The issues raised by the RMP are generally achieved through the MFPP with further recommendations of:

- Council review of their maintenance contract (roadside slashing).
- Where permits are sought by any applicant for works within the road reserve, then a process be adopted that any approvals given shall be cognisant of the issues raised in the RMP.

A copy of the Road Management Plan, conservation values, is given in Appendix H.

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 16.1 The MFPC and MFPO annually re-assess the Road Management Plan and its interrelationship with the Fire Prevention Plan & CFA Road Management Guidelines.
- 16.2 Council to work with CFA, Vic Roads, DSE and other relevant authorities to undertake prescribed burns of areas as identified in this plan.
- 16.3 The MFPO recommend that Council train appropriate staff in CFA minimum skills to facilitate post burn patrols and operations.



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17. Fire Hazard Mapping

17.1 Aim

The aim of the exercise of “fire hazard mapping” is to provide a system to identify fire hazard ratings on a consistent basis, including areas of high fire hazard, across the municipality and region.

The traditional method has been to use the rationale contained in the booklet “ Fire Hazard Mapping, W.Morris & J.Barber, Town and Country Planning Board and Country Fire Authority”. The four (4) Fire Prevention Plans for the former municipalities adopted this procedure.

The booklet used a methodology for assessing the degree of fire hazard by adopting the criteria of: “frequency of fire season, length of fire season, slope – aspect, slope – steepness, vegetation - ground cover, vegetation - average annual driest state, fire history, amount and type of existing development and egress fire fighting services and facilities”.

Each of these criteria required assessment and a resulting rating, eventuating in a total score. A fire hazard map could be derived from these assessments.

The Municipal Fire Prevention Steering Committee have resolved to adopt the latest method developed which is a computerised Expected Fire Behaviour Map (using Geographical Information System, GIS, maps) to identify those parts of the municipality that are particularly vulnerable to wildfire.

17.2 Geographical Information System

A Geographical Information System (GIS) can be regarded as a high/level map. If one thinks of the “Melways” and its individual pages, the map on each contains a great deal of information that is used in various ways by different individuals and organisations. It allows us to locate ourselves in relation to the rest of the world. Maps are also used in diverse applications and formats: from locating telephone wires and gas mains under our streets, to displaying the extent of de-forestation in the Strzelecki ranges.

The map in its traditional form suffers from a number of problems. Firstly maps are static and therefore difficult and expensive to keep up to date. This relates to a second problem, in that, because they are static they are inflexible, for example, maps exist as discrete sheets and to access the relevant information you may require multiple versions of the same area denoting different aspects to the map detail. In addition you will need a version



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control system for referencing the correct map to use. Inevitably your area of interest lies on one or more map depending on the configuration of the information. Also maps are often very complex and may require an expert to extract the particular data that are of interest.

GIS provides the facility to extract the different sets of information from a map (roads, settlements, vegetation, etc.) and use these as required. This provides great flexibility, allowing a paper map to be quickly produced which exactly meets the needs of the user. However, GIS goes further, since the data is stored on a computer, analysis and modelling become possible. In short the GIS can produce much more concise information on one map than could be displayed on a conventional paper map.

17.3 Victorian Fire Risk Register

CFA developed the Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR), as a systematic process to identify assets at bushfire risk. It was rolled out across 22 municipalities identified as high risk. The benefits of its collaborative approach are now recognised by municipalities and other emergency services organisations, in particular its high level of multi-agency and community involvement. The VFRR is now the standard bushfire risk identification tool used by CFA to assess the level of risk and the range of treatments.

18. Fire Restrictions and Total Fire Bans

The CFA have issued guidelines on the use of fire during the “declared fire restriction period and on days of total fire ban”. The guidelines cover the issues of:

- the use of barbecues or spits;
- incinerators;
- fire for the purpose of burning off;
- welding, soldering or gas cutting;
- the use of tractors, slashers or chainsaws; and
- the lighting of a campfire.

Appendix I provide details of the limitations for the above issues within the defined periods.

19. School and Pre School Fire Plans (Emergency Plans) and School Bus Routes

Schools are required to provide an emergency plan for their school site and buildings. The emergency plan covers a range of possible disasters including fire, internal or external to the site.

The plans should be kept up to date and the local emergency services, particularly the fire services should be aware of their particular brigade district school plan(s). This will ensure local knowledge is maintained of school sites, procedures and responses.

School bus routes for the whole of the Municipality can be accessed via the Geographical Information System Planning tool.

The MFPO and local brigade are recommended to offer their services in the development of the pre school emergency plans as a part of their educational role in fire prevention and planning.

Action:

It is recommended that:

1. Local brigades to familiarise themselves with school and Pre School fire plans. Where improvements can be made to plans, these shall be advised to the DEECD or MFPO.

20. Strategic Features and Standards

Municipal fire prevention includes the control of a vast array of land and other related activities. It is critical the overall functions of the MFPC and the MFPO be detailed to ensure that a smooth and consistent flow of activities occurs to achieve support to other fire prevention activities.

One of these actions relates to Risk Tree identification where section **86B** of the **Electrical Safety Act 1998** states that the Municipal Fire Prevention Plans must specify procedures for the identification of trees that are hazardous to electric lines:

- procedures and criteria for the identification of trees that are likely to fall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line (**hazard trees**); and
- procedures for the notification of responsible persons of trees that are hazard trees in relation to electric lines for which they are responsible.



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These procedures are identified in **Appendix I**.

Appendix K details various issues, sets standards for treatments of fire prevention works and activities including fire hazard clearance notices, road standards and strategic firebreaks determines responsibilities for related programs and details parties' responsibilities.

A number of recommendations arise from Appendix I/K. These recommendations have been carried out and are the current standards committed to by Latrobe City.

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 1 The method of fuel reduction work be in accordance with the relevant authorities guidelines and cognizant of the Roadside Management Strategies of each authority.
- 2 as required by section **86B** of the **Electrical Safety Act 1998** these procedures be update as required.
- 3 The reduction work shall be carried out at least once per year immediately prior to the fire season. Further works may be necessary depending upon the season.
- 4 An inspection program be established by the MFPO with the CFA and brigades concerned to inspect all static water supplies. Records to be kept of inspections and action taken.
- 5 As per the requirements of K.6, all requests for maintenance of fire hydrants or plugs by brigades shall be submitted to Latrobe City's Asset maintenance Officer who shall:
 - 5.1 Record the request together with an estimate of costs and action taken
 - 5.2 Advise the responsible Water Authority and request their attention to the maintenance required including appropriate markers
 - 5.3 Arrange with the responsible brigade as a part of their "fire plug familiarisation program" for the cleaning up around the plug or hydrant. Council is responsible for the installation of the raised blue road reflector or blue post reflector. All material costs shall be borne by the Council.
- 6 All static water supplies provided through the MFPC and the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan are identified in accordance with the approved guidelines.
- 7 As per the requirements of K.7, the MFPO and Brigades involved identify the exact areas involved for small town fire protection works for the purposes of assessing all areas for contract definition purposes or reporting to and consulting with DSE/DPI or other organisation, for appropriate ACTION:. Works to be in accordance with the approved guidelines.
- 8 As per the requirements of K.8.3, DSE/DPI be advised of the MFPC concerns at the application for land for wildlife status to properties without the requirement on the property owners of responsibility for fire prevention and protection works. Selection criteria for such recognition of properties should include the requirement for the owner to develop an appropriate fire management plan and forwarded onto the MFPC.



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- 9 The Standards proposed under "Local Roads" in Appendix K.9.3 (i) to (viii), be recommended to Council for adoption and for inclusion in their strategic planning process and their road maintenance contracts.
- 10 Council to maintain fire access roads, including signing as a part of their annual budget for road maintenance works.

21. Places of Significance

21.1 Heritage, Anthropological, Botanical and Zoological

The CFA document, "Municipal Fire Prevention Planning Guidelines" (July 2003), suggests the MFPC consider the importance and value of sites of significance.

The objective of including such information is to improve the MFPC, MFPO and Brigades' knowledge of such issues. This will allow that collectively they can provide additional efforts to protect such identified sites and that fire protection works will not encroach onto such sites. If required site specific fire management plans can be produced in cooperation with the DSE.

The following sites are listed as significant sites and shall be included in a priority inspection list for hazard reduction and protection works. The sites are taken from those identified in the Road Management Plan and the proposed new Planning Scheme:

- Traralgon Creek Road, identified fossil sites.
- Scarred trees from aboriginal removal of slabs, now stored at Loy Yang.
- Callignee South Road, mountain ash stumps.
- Mechanics Institute and Library, Toongabbie (Cnr of King/Cohen Streets).
- Edward Stringer Memorial, Toongabbie.
- Church Buildings, Traralgon, (south east Cnr of Church and Kay Streets).
- Court House and Post Office Building Complex, Traralgon, (south west corner of Franklin/Kay Streets).

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 1 The MFPO establish an annual check sheet to provide for the inspection of all identified "sites of significance" and to ensure that the sites are suitable for the coming fire season. Where sites are found not adequately prepared the MFPO to take appropriate action.

22. Signage of High Fire Risk Areas

Fire risk warning signs have been installed at different locations throughout the municipality, the location of these signs have been identified below.

These signs will relay the message of a fire danger, the existence of a declared fire season and the need for permits.

Latrobe City has also provided alternative signs for the following scenarios:

- An alternative form of signage in the case of the non declaration of a season. These signs are required due to the fire sensitivity of the numerous tourist areas particularly as several are located in more fire prone areas of the City.
- Signage with different but relevant messages regarding fire related issues.

22.1 Fire Warning Signs Locations - Review

Fire restriction signs are at the following locations:

Priority Location

- 1 Traralgon Creek Road, east side, to the north of motor cross track.
- 2 Monash Way, east side just north of Riga Court, Churchill. **-poles missing**
- 3 Road junction to south of Boolarra South Hall.
- 4 Old Sale Road, south side, just east of the Beck's Bridge Road intersection Moe **post missing.**
- 5 Moe Glengarry Road, east side, just east of the Tyers Road intersection.
- 6 Grey Street, Traralgon, south side, just east of the Tyers Road intersection
- 7 Hazelwood Road just past Gippsland Water.
- 8 Monash Way, east side at the Commercial Road roundabout. **Posts missing**
- 9 Moe South Road, East side, just north of Bormann's Street intersection.
- 10 Monash Way, Churchill, west side just north of Switchback Road
- 11 Kay Street, Traralgon, south side, just west of Swallow Grove intersection.
- 12 McDonalds Track, south side, at the Princes Freeway/Yallourn interchange.
- 13 Purvis Road, north side, just east of the Walhalla Road intersection.
- 14 Traralgon – Maffra Road, Toongabbie east side, north of the fire station.
- 15 Gunns Gully – Northwest side of railway overpass on John Field Drive
- 16 Corner of Junction Road and Jeeralang West Road Jeeralang

The location of all signs proposed is as per the plan in Appendix A.

New signs have been erected in areas of High Fire Risk. These signs are to make people aware that the areas they are entering contain significant threat to the community from fuel loadings, slope and aspect combined.

Locations of signs:



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- 1 Rifle Range Road Glengarry West, at the corner of Birmingham Park.
- 2 Callignee South Road and corner of Traralgon West Road Creek.
- 3 Jeeralang West Road and Junction Road intersection.
- 4 Jumbuk Road and Middle Creek Road Yinnar.

22.2 Neighbourhood Safer Place – Place of Last Resort (Nsp)

Latrobe City Council is responsible for the identifying, designating, establishing, maintaining and decommissioning of NSPs.

The locations of Latrobe City's Neighbourhood Safer Places- Place of last resort that have been designated are:

- Churchill Community Hall, Philip Place, Churchill 3842.
- Boolarra Memorial Hall, Cnr Tarwin & Christian Sts, Boolarra 3870.
- Yinnar Primary School Main Street, Yinnar 3869.

Action:

- Council will need to identify additional places as NSPs by 31 May each year.
- The CFA will certify the NSPs, then Council will assess the site against Council criteria no later than 30 June each year.
- To designate a site the CFA & Council reports will go before the MEMP committee to be passed, before going to Council for designation before 31 July each year.
- The MFPO must provide an up-to-date list of NSPs to the CFA no later than 30 September each year.
- NSPs should be established by 30 October each year.
- NSPs must be inspected prior to 31 August each year and monthly in the Declared Fire Season.
- All NSP sites that have been established must be displayed on the Latrobe City Council's web page and amended in the Municipal Emergency Management Plan and the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan.
- Signage must be erected at the NSP site.

Action:

It is recommended that:

1. The proposed sites allocated for signage be reviewed every year as to their suitability and also any need for additional sites,
2. The need for further signs be investigated.



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23. Community Fireguard & Fire Ready Victoria

Community Fireguard is a bushfire safety program designed to reduce the loss of lives and homes in bushfires. Community Fireguard helps residents to plan for the threat of a bushfire and to manage their own fire risk.

CFA cannot provide every person and home with individual protection during a major bushfire and recognises that many people may have to face a fire without the support of CFA. Bushfires are survivable if people take responsibility for their fire safety and prepare themselves for the event of a bushfire in their area.

Community Fireguard assists community groups to develop bushfire survival strategies that suit their lifestyle, environment and values.

CFA, DSE and MFB will work together to increase the public's awareness and understanding of the bushfire risk and to improve the level of preparedness and safety of all communities in Victoria.

Each agency will contribute to Fire Ready Victoria with its own activities as well as participating in joint programs.

Action:

It is recommended that -

- 1 Upon identification for the need of a Community Fireguard environment the CFA notify Latrobe City Council of what communities have them for inclusion in this plan.

24. Other Authorities & Organisations

There are a number of other authorities and organisations which share the responsibility for fire prevention, protection and pre-suppression activities.

Historically these authorities have been Government owned and hence under the *CFA Act*, Section 43(1), were required to be responsible for land and property under their control or management. With the privatisation of many authorities, there are now numerous new entities that now fall under the umbrella of management and control of lands in country Victoria. This means that the Council, through the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer and Municipal Fire Prevention Committee, have a responsibility to prevent the occurrence of fires or the spread of fires on what were assets that were previously the responsibility of other government authorities.

This section is dedicated to listing the authorities which are acknowledged as having an impact on our environment through their roles in fire prevention and protection activities. It also lists the acknowledged major industries which have a responsibility to address the issue of fire prevention. Those organisations are predominantly from the former State Electricity Commission of Victoria which has been dissolved into various private holdings.

Appendix J lists the authorities and organisations which are seen as partners in the efforts to prevent any fire occurring. The general function of every authority or organisation listed is given including the areas of their control.

A number of recommendations arise from Appendix J. These are:

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 1 All non government organisations identified in Appendix J.7 to J.19, inclusive, be requested to develop and maintain a "Fire Protection Plan" for all land and buildings under their control.
- 2 All Fire Protection Plans shall be to the satisfaction of the CFA and acknowledged by the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee.
- 3 The CFA shall keep the MFPC informed as to the current situation regarding all Plans for the endorsement of their Actions by the MFPC.
- 4 All Fire Protection Plans shall be reviewed in accordance with Section 12.0 of the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan.

25. Special Interest Groups/Areas

25.1 General

There are several special interest groups throughout the municipality which have an interest in the issue of fire prevention or which are identified as controlling public land that requires specific consideration for fire prevention planning and activities. Reference to Appendix F provides the current contact persons for each of the following organisations.



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25.2 Rail Trail Committees

Rail Trail Committees are not public authorities and will be required to comply with Section 41 of the CFA Act. The Rail Trail Groups/Committees existing in the municipality are:

- ***Moe-Yallourn Rail Trail***

A Committee of Management was appointed for the purpose of overseeing the preparation of a concept plan for the rail trail. This document has been completed and is titled "Concept and Business Plan" (February 1998).

The document is written in detail and proposes development, to varying standards, of the rail trail for a wide range of users. The Plan identifies fire management as an issue and states that in the past fire prevention activities have been carried out however since the closure of the railway, nothing has been done. This has resulted in some sections of the line experiencing significant increases in fuel loads.

- ***Mirboo North-Boolarra Rail Trail***

This organisation has been established as a community group to develop the former Mirboo North to Boolarra rail reserve as a community access linear trail for active and passive recreation purposes. The site contains a number of creek and watercourse crossings.

The importance to the MFPC will be the development of a responsible management plan including suitable fire prevention measures to cover the whole of the linear reserve. The CFA's and local brigades' knowledge of the site, its access and development, is paramount to its response as an emergency service. The Rail Trail Committee is in its infancy and the local brigades and CFA can offer assistance in the development of a suitable fire management plan.

- ***Gippsland Plains Rail Trail***

The Gippsland Plains Rail Trail Group Inc. has been established and manages the disused rail easement land from the Princes Highway in Traralgon to Toongabbie on Latrobe City's boundary.

As with other rail trail committees, the requirement to develop a suitable management plan together with a fire management plan will be sought.



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25.3 Friends of the Gippsland Bush

This organisation is understood to have recently entered into an agreement with a plantation company regarding the management of an area of bush land. Any such management should include the development of a suitable fire management plan.

25.4 Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve

The Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve is a 57ha reserve sited on the southern boundary of the Moe Township.

The reserve is crown land and the Latrobe City Council is the appointed Committee of Management for the reserve. The Council, under Section 86 of the Local Government Act has appointed a Committee which is charged with matters of management for the reserve. The Committee has a formal Instrument of Delegation.

The reserve area is a bush land reserve with substantial stands of indigenous and endemic vegetation. The site is also used for passive recreation and is well set out with walking tracks for the general public.

A fire management strategy has been developed for the reserve (dated October 1997) by a consultant, in consultation with committee members and the CFA.

25.5 Crinigan Road Reserve, Morwell

The Crinigan Road Reserve is an area of land of around 40 ha of land sited on the north side of Morwell behind the urban area and adjoining the Maryvale Private Hospital, the old Falcons Soccer Club and Hancock's Plantations Victoria.

Latrobe Council is the owner of the land and has appointed a Committee of Management for this reserve.

The Management Plan for the reserve sets out the responsibility for the Fire Management of this reserve; Council Officers working in conjunction with CFA are cooperating in implementing a Burning Programs, Grass Slashing Programs to manage fuel loads.

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 1 The Rail Trail Committees be advised by the MFPO of their responsibilities for the land under their care and control and that a suitable Management Plan including a Fire Management Plan should be developed as soon as possible.



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- 2 That the Recreation Liaison Officer for Latrobe City writes to all specific Interest Groups that have management or control of any land be requested to provide fire management plans for the subject land.

26. Economic Importance of Major Employment Centres

Throughout the municipality there are centres of employment that provide for major activity within this region and are of strategic importance. The objective of identifying these is to place a priority on developing early suitable inspection regimes with a particular emphasis on “education”. Whilst any loss due to fire is unacceptable, the major employment centres are to be identified and singled out for special attention.

The major employers are:

- Maryvale Paper Mill
- Power Generators
- Monash University
- Latrobe Valley Regional Airport and tenants
- Latrobe Valley Hospital, Maryvale Private Hospital
- Latrobe City Council, Offices and Depots
- Gippsland Water, Office and Depots
- All Schools (primary, secondary, TAFE)
- Hostels (Latrobe Valley Village, Moe; Mitchell House, Morwell; Hazelwood House, Churchill; Dalkeith Memorial Home, Traralgon; Margery Cole -Yallambee Village, Traralgon; O'Mara House, Traralgon)
- Nursing Homes (St Lawrence, Morwell; Traralgon & District, Traralgon; St Hilarys, Moe; Brookfield Park, Traralgon; Latrobe Regional Hospital Traralgon Campus)
- Supported Residential Services (Graceview Lodge, Moe; Gracedale Lodge, Morwell; Glenwood Special Accommodation, Traralgon)
- Major shopping centres (all towns)
- Plant Hard Saw Mill
- Geo-Eng Australia
- Grand Ridge Plantations
- National Foods

Action:

It is recommended that:

- 1 The MFPO establish a “Major Employers” program and arrange inspections or joint inspections of all listed properties for general compliance with external to building fire



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prevention suitability. Where the site is operated by a “public authority” the MFPO will report any requirements to the relevant authority should works remain outstanding from no action at a local level.

- 2 The MFPO and CFA establish a “Major Employers” building regulation compliance check and circulate all listed properties at a minimum of once per year (at the same time each year), with a request for self inspection and Action as necessary.

27. Public Information and Education

An objective of this plan is to “help educate the public as to their responsibilities, to heighten their awareness of fire danger and to the existence of emergency plans in case of wildfire”.

Following adoption of this plan copies will be provided to various interested groups, however there will be a need to reach the wider population who are not involved in these organisations.

The general public will be reached by:

- Advertise annually in all local papers for the need for slashing and general clean up of land sites prior to the approaching summer season.
- Make available to all residents and ratepayers a “fire information pamphlet” with information on land care for fire protection, brigade contacts and brief fire information.
- Provision of “fire signs” at strategic locations throughout the municipality particularly in areas of high fire risk, tourist destinations and municipal boundaries.
- Adopting a program of circulating by mail, to major business organisations requesting self checks of their fire detection and protection equipment.
- Adopting a program of circulating by mail, all schools including Monash University, kindergartens, Nursing Homes and Aged Accommodation Centres requesting information or updates on their “emergency plans”. Update advice to those groups should propose the adoption of “fire drills” to help educate the users and heighten their everyday awareness.
- Public information days at select high fire risk locations in accordance with Sections 8 of this document.
- Promote Fire Awareness Week by providing public displays and support Advertising.
- Local Radio: pursue opportunities of promotion of fire information such as owner responsibilities to clear land, high fire danger periods and total fire ban days.

The MFPC will adopt an affirmative approach to public education, particularly the young, the elderly and the areas at greatest risk and will annually review their public awareness practice for potential improvements or additions.



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Action:

It is proposed that:

1. The MFPC adopt the strategy proposed and promote fire prevention and preparation through the different mediums identified. To be instigated by the MFPO.

28. Recommendations to Other Authorities

All material referred to in this plan that involves or links with “other public authorities” will be made available to those authorities. Where specific requirements are deemed desirable these shall be requested of those authorities.

All requirements for fire prevention and protection works are seen as minimum requirements only and any higher order of works that is compatible with other considerations, such as environmental and economical matters, are welcomed.

Any observed variation, by Brigades, to the works and standards proposed, shall be reported back through the MFPC and MFPO for appropriate Actions.

All authorities have a responsibility, as per the CFA Act, and shall provide adequate fire prevention planning and works to make properties under their control as fire safe as humanly possible. Sections 11.3, 24 and Appendix K.5, K.6 & K.9.2 refer to requirements of other Authorities and the Actions proposed.

29. Recommendation to Council

At a meeting held on the 7th December 2011 the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee recommend the Municipal Fire Prevention Plan to Council for adoption as an official document and policy direction for the Council on the issues of Fire Prevention and Protection of the people, land, flora and fauna of the Latrobe City Council. The Chief Executive Officer has delegated authority to approve such a plan on behalf of Council and has done so on 8th December 2011

30. Action: Plans

30.1 General

Taken from the “Actions” identified in all previous sections, the following is the total list of Actions identified by the MFPC that require consolidation into one recorded program, appropriate support and recording of results. The “actions” are in accordance with the table in Section 30.2.

The actions proposed also consider the issue of “risk” of each Action considered. The level of risk is determined by considering two factors. These are:

1. The likelihood of a fire occurring, and
2. The consequences of any event occurring.

The levels of risks are set for each action as being one of four levels. These are:

- High (H). A high risk and detailed research and management planning required.
- Significant (S). Significant risk with detailed attention required.
- Moderate (M). Moderate risk, management responsibility must be specified.
- Low (L). Low risk, manage by routine procedures.

A matrix to assist the establishment of a level of a risk is given in:

LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCES				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Almost Certain	Significant	Significant	High	High	High
Likely	Moderate	Significant	Significant	High	High
Moderate	Low	Moderate	Significant	High	High
Unlikely	Low	Low	Moderate	Significant	High
Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	Significant	Significant

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30.2 Risk Action: Program

SECTION	ACTION/WORKS PROGRAM	RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION	LEVEL OF RISK	TIME FRAME	REVISED DATES
8.1 Building Regulations	All Brigades to be advised that any building brought to their attention for concern regarding fire equipment shall report such to the Council's Building Surveyor and the CFA Community Safety Manager, for inspection and report.	Brigades, CFA Risk Manager & Municipal Building Surveyor	S	Annually	Ongoing
8.3 Local Law	Council enforce no issuing permits to burn in the urban areas, all other planning areas will be at the discretion of the MFPO	MFPO & MFPC	M	Ongoing	
13.0 Special Fire Risk Environments	The Rural & Urban Special Fire Risk maps be used with annual fire hazard inspections for fire protection needs	MFPO with Brigades providing backup support	S	Annually	
13.0 Special Fire Risk Environments	All urban areas and bush reserves and/or rural land surrounding urban areas to be inspected annually for fire protection suitability	MFPO with Brigades providing backup support	M	Annually	
13.0 Special Fire Risk Environments	Jumbuk School Holiday Camp, Birmingham (Scout) Camp, Guide Camp at Glengarry West, to be inspected by the CFA for compliance with CFA Guidelines for Group Accommodation	MFPO/CFA Fire Safety Officer	S	2008	
13.0 Special Fire Risk Environments	The CFA to inspect and audit the Fire Prevention Plan for Camp Woorabinda (Yallourn North)	CFA Community Safety Manager or Fire Safety Officer	M	2008	
13.0 Special Fire Risk Environments	The Fire Prevention Strategies for the Edward Hunter Reserve, Moe, and Crinigan Road	MFPO	M	Annually	

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	Reserve, Morwell, shall be annually checked for compliance with their strategies				
16.1 Road Management Plan (RMP)	The MFPO & MFPC annually re-assess the Road Management Plan and its relationship to the MFPP & CFA Road Management Guidelines	MFPC & MFPO City Environmental dept	M	Annually	Annually
16.2 Road Management Plan	Council to work with CFA, Vic Roads, DSE and other relevant authorities to burn off roadsides as identified in this plan	MFPO	M	Annually	Ongoing
16.3 Prescribed Burning	The MFPO recommend that Council train appropriate staff in CFA minimum skills to facilitate post burn patrols and operations	MFPO	M	Ongoing	Ongoing
19.0 Schools and Pre Schools Emergency Plans	Local Brigades to familiarise themselves with school and pre school fire plans. Where improvements can be made to plans, these shall be advised to the education dept. Regional Manager or MFPO	Local Brigades, MFPO and Education Department Regional Manager	M	Annually	Ongoing
20.0 Roadside Management	The method of fuel reduction work to be in accordance with the relevant authority guidelines and cognizant of the Road management strategies of each authority	MFPO & CFA Fire Safety Officer	M	Annually	Ongoing
20.0 Road Management	Roadside fuel reduction works to be carried out at least once per year immediately prior to the fire season.	MFPO & Manager Outdoor Maintenance	S	Annually	Ongoing
20.0 Fire Plugs and Hydrants	All Brigade requests for maintenance of fire hydrants or plugs shall be submitted through Latrobe Cities Asset Maintenance Officer who	LC Asset Maintenance Officer	M	Ongoing	Ongoing

Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

	will keep appropriate records				
20.0 Road Maintenance Works and Standards	Maintain all fire access roads to a satisfactory standard	MFPO	M	Annually	Ongoing
20.0 Road Maintenance Works and Standards	MFPO and relevant Brigade to develop a schedule for maintenance inspections of all approved fire access roads	MFPO and relevant Brigade	M	Annually	Ongoing
21.0 Places of Significance	Establish an annual check sheet to provide for the inspection of all identified sites of significance to ensure sites are prepared prior to the fire season.	MFPO	M	Annually	Ongoing
22.0 Signage of Fire danger period	MFPC to review the signage locations every year	MFPO & MFPC	L	Annually	Ongoing
23.0 Community Fireguard	CFA Establish Community Fireguard Committees where a need is identified	CFA Community Safety Manager	S	Ongoing	Ongoing
23.1	CFA to notify council of what communities have community fireguard committies for inclusion in this plan	CFA Community Safety Manager	M	Annually	Ongoing
24.0 Other Organisations	All organisations identified in Appendix J.7 to J.19 are requested to update and maintain fire protection plans	MFPO	H	Annually	Ongoing
24.0 Other Organisations	All fire plans developed shall be to the satisfaction of the CFA who will report to the MFPC.	CFA Community Safety Manager	H	Annually	Ongoing
25.0 Special Interest Groups	The Rail Trail Committees to be advised of their responsibilities for land under their care & control, and that a	MFPO, LC Recreation Liaison Officer	M	Annually	Ongoing

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	suitable management plan including a fire plan should be developed				
25.0 Special Interest Groups	Specific Interest Groups that have management or control of any land be requested to provide fire management plans for the subject land	MFPO, Recreation Liaison Officer	M	Annually	
26.0 Economic Importance of Major Employment Centres	Establish a "Major Employers" list for buildings and circulate to all property owners, at least once per year, a letter regarding self inspection of their building regulation requirements for fire and life safety elements. If works are needed and land is of a Public Authority the MFPO to advise the Authority responsible	CFA Community Safety Manager, MFPO and Municipal Building Surveyor	S	December 2009 and then annually	
27.0 Public Information and Education	Adopt the strategy proposed and determine annually the best methods to promote fire prevention and preparation through the different mediums identified	MFPO, MFPC and CFA Risk Manager	M	Ongoing	

31. Distribution List

Appendix M is a list of distribution for the Fire Prevention Plan.

The MFPO shall provide a copy of the approved Plan to all those organisations and public authorities listed.

All amendments to the Plan shall be forwarded to those organisations and public authorities for updating purposes.



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Appendix A

Fire Season Sign Locations



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Appendix B

Unofficial Fire Refuge Locations



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Fire Refuge Locations

Due to issues of liability all previous identification and signage of these sights have been removed after consultation with Latrobe City's Municipal Fire Prevention Committee. In reference to K.4 on page 100.



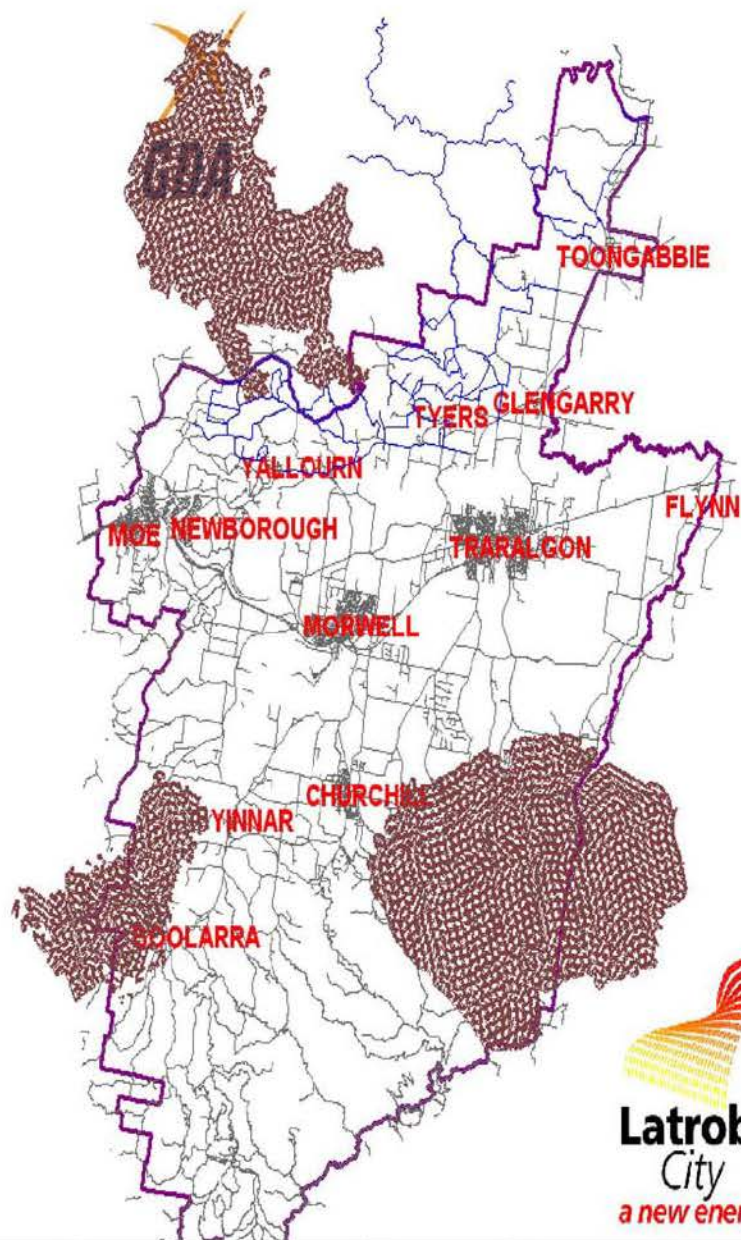
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Appendix C

Bushfire Impacted Areas 2009 and Moondarra Fires of 2006 and Associated Firebreak Works



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan





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Appendix D

Brigade Sub Plans with Special Fire Risk & Small Town Protection Maps

As identified at the Municipal Fire Prevention Meeting held on the 7th Dec 2011, it is envisaged that these plans will be replaced with a map based product identifying high risk areas.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Brigade Sub Plan Boolarra Fire Brigade

Introduction

The township of Boolarra, the centre of the brigade district, is situated south of Morwell and has main road access from Monash Way.

The district is primarily rural in nature. The topography ranges from undulating land to hilly land. There are large plantations, particularly softwood, throughout the area.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Boolarra Primary School, Boolarra Regional Park, Boolarra Motel and various pine plantations.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Boolarra is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm dams, Little Morwell River, Morwell River and creeks and domestic tanks with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan, which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Boolarra Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.



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Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

Brigade Sub Plan Churchill Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Churchill Brigade district extends from the Hazelwood Power Station in the north to almost down to Jeeralang in the south. The western boundary follows Billy's Creek and the Hazelwood Pondage to Bennetts Creek in the east. The urban centre of the district is the township of Churchill.

The Brigade district is generally rural in nature with open farming land in the northern sector and the hilly timbered area of the Jeeralangs in the south. The township of Churchill is host to the Monash University, Gippsland Campus.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Churchill North Primary School, Churchill Primary School, Kurnai College Churchill Campus, Lumen Christi Primary School, Monash University Gippsland Campus, Hazelwood House/ Special Accommodation, Churchill Public Hall, Hazelwood South Public Hall, Churchill Leisure Centre, Churchill Telephone Exchange, Jeeralang Junction/Jumbuk Estate. The Hub, Hazelwood Village Shopping Centre, GEP Building at Monash University.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Churchill is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from the Hazelwood Pondage, Lake Hyland, Lake Kretlow, various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Churchill Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

It is also recommended that the Jeeralang Junction/Jumbuk Estate be a priority site for Community Fireguard.

Brigade Sub Plan Callignee Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Callignee Brigade district is located south of Traralgon between Traralgon South and Mount Tassie.

The district is principally rural in nature with numerous hobby farm developments throughout the area. There are a number of plantations in the district and areas of native bush land.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Callignee Hall/Recreation Reserve, Transmission lines on Mount Tassie, Plantations, Rural - Residential interface with bush land areas.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points



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Available from Traralgon Creek and various farm dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition..

Brigade Sub Plan Driffield Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Driffield Brigade district is sited south west of Morwell and is a rural area with no townships.

The District is primarily a farming community. The topography ranges from flat to undulating land. The majority is cleared farming land with pockets of natural bush and plantation forests.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Plantations and bush land areas

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets, and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Appropriate property management plans may be sought for properties.

Brigade Sub Plan Flynn Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Flynn Brigade district is a rural area situated between Traralgon and Rosedale and is both north and south of the Princes Highway. There are no townships in the district.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Flynn Community Hall, Flynn Recreation Reserve, Gas and Oil pipelines that traverse the brigade area.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.



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Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

Brigade Sub Plan Glengarry Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Glengarry Brigade district is generally rural in nature with the township of Glengarry as the only urban centre.

The topography ranges from cleared flat grazing lands over most of the district, to hilly bush land north of Glengarry Township. These bush land areas contain a number of rural - residential type subdivisions.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Glengarry State School, Glengarry Farm, Glengarry Recreation Reserve and facilities, Scout Camp (Bermingham Park), Glengarry Telephone Exchange, Tjalla Estate and interface with bush land, Glengarry Pre School, Glengarry Public (Town) Hall, Plantations

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Glengarry is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire



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station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Glengarry Township and the Tjalla Estate shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

It is also recommended that the Tjalla Estate be a priority site for Community Fireguard, including planning for the rural-residential/bush land interface, and that the Berminham (Scout) Camp and Glengarry Hotel/Bed & Breakfast be inspected by the CFA for compliance with CFA Guidelines for Group Accommodation including the development of a suitable fire management plans.

Brigade Sub Plan Glengarry West Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Glengarry West Brigade district covers the area north of the Latrobe River between the townships of Glengarry in the east and Tyers in the west. There are no urban centres.

The brigade district is predominantly rural in nature. The topography ranges from flat farming land in the south to timbered hilly country in the north. There are a number of rural-residential estates in the north of the district.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Rural-Residential Estates in the bush land areas, Guide Camp (Glengarry North)



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Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from the Latrobe River, various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

It is recommended that the various Rural-Residential Estates be considered for priority for Community Fireguard, including planning for the rural-residential/bush land interface, and that the Guide Camp, Glengarry North, be inspected by the CFA for compliance with CFA Guidelines for Group Accommodation including the development of a suitable fire management plans.

Brigade Sub Plan Hazelwood North Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Hazelwood North Brigade district is south east of Morwell. There are no urban centres.

The Brigade district is principally rural in nature. The topography ranges from flat farming land to undulating terrain. The district also contains numerous pine and blue gum plantations and substantial areas of rural-residential development.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Hazelwood North Primary School, Hazelwood North Hall, Jeeralang North Hall, Hazelwood North Telephone Exchange, Plantations, Jeeralang North Quarry, Town Water Pumping Station, Women's Refuge (Warath Drive)



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from various farm dams, creeks and Jeeralang North Quarry, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

Brigade Sub Plan Maryvale Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Maryvale Brigade district is situated north east of Morwell between Morwell and Traralgon on the Traralgon West Road. The district extends within and around the Australian Paper's major paper mill. There are no urban centres.

The Brigade district is rural in nature and contains the paper mill and a number of plantations. The topography ranges from flat land to hilly open farming land.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Australian Paper Mill



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from a reticulated supply within the Maryvale Mill and various farm dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Maryvale Mill shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

The Maryvale Mill is a priority environment which is dealt with under Section 9 of this Plan.

Brigade Sub Plan Mirboo East Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Mirboo East Brigade district is sited south west of Morwell and is a rural area with no urban centres.

The District is primarily a farming community. The topography ranges from flat to undulating/hilly land. The majority is cleared farming land with pockets of natural bush and plantation forests. The district sits in the foothills of the Strzelecki Ranges.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Plantations and bush land areas.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets, and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Appropriate property management plans may be sought for bush land properties.

Brigade Sub Plan Moe Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Moe Brigade district covers the urban area of the township of Moe. The district is totally urban in area with extensive residential, commercial and industrial development. The city is dissected by the Melbourne to Sale Rail line and the Princes Freeway.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Rocklea Spinning Mill, Old Gippstown, Edward Hunter Heritage Bush Reserve, Primary and Secondary Schools, Commercial and Industrial Areas

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.



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Water Points

The township of Moe is serviced by a reticulated water supply.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Moe Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets, and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Where buildings are involved refer to Section 16 of this Plan. The Edward Hunter Reserve has an adopted Fire Management Strategy and the reserve shall be checked for works in conformity with the strategy.

Brigade Sub Plan Moe South Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Moe South Brigade is predominantly contained within the Latrobe City Council and a small portion is contained within the Baw Baw Shire. The Brigade district is sited on the southern side of the township of Moe and contains the towns fringe residential and Rural-development. The terrain is generally flat to undulating in character.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Narracan Primary School and Narracan Public Hall.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.



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Water Points

The nearby township of Moe is served by reticulated water supply. Water supply is also available from various farm dams. Local knowledge of locations and access suitability is required. The brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory..

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The risk environments identified by the Brigade are within the Baw Baw Shire. The Edward Hunter Reserve is on the border of the Brigade boundary and shall be maintained in accordance with the Fire Management Strategy developed.

The rural land surrounding the fringe residential development and the rural-residential development shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Brigade Sub Plan Morwell Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Morwell Brigade district covers the urban area of the township of Morwell and the surrounding rural area. This extends to the Latrobe River and including the Yallourn and Yallourn North open cut areas and W Power Station, in the north and to, and including, the Hazelwood Power Station in the south. The town of Morwell has a population of around 18,000 people.

The district is a mixture of urban with extensive residential, commercial and industrial development, rural farming land and power stations and open mines. The district is dissected by the Melbourne to Sale Rail line and the Princes Freeway and Highway.



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Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: The Valley Christian School, Crinigan Road Primary, Maryvale High School (disused), Morwell Park Primary, Tobruk Street Primary, Kurni College, Commercial Road Primary, Carinya Child Care, St Vincent De Paul School, Sacred Heart School, TAFE College Hospitality, Parklands Pre School & Community Centre, Maryvale Private Hospital, Nursing Homes & Special Accommodation (refer to Section 24 for list), Morwell Telephone Exchange, Plantations, Elderly Citizens Centre, Commercial and Industrial areas, Power Stations, Motels/Hotels, Caravan Park, Rubbish Tips/Transfer Stations, Bushland interface with urban areas including the Crinigan Road Reserve, Gas and Oil pipelines that traverse the brigade area.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Morwell and rural interface is serviced by a reticulated water supply. Power Stations and Open Cut Mines have reticulated water.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Morwell Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets, and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Where buildings are involved refer to Section 16 of this Plan. Power Stations are dealt with under Section 9 of this Plan. The Crinigan Road Reserve is currently producing a Fire Management Strategy and when complete, the reserve shall be checked for works in conformity with the strategy.



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Brigade Sub Plan Newborough Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Newborough Brigade district is rural and urban in nature with the urban centre of the district being the township of Newborough.

The Brigade district rural sector is open farming land and includes the Lake Narracan area. The township of Newborough is situated on the eastern fringe of Moe and has a commercial and industrial area as well as large TAFE College. The topography ranges from undulating land to hilly land in the north.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Schools and Pre Schools, Caravan Park at Lake Narracan, Aged Accommodation, Health facilities, and Commercial and Industrial areas, TAFE College

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Newborough is serviced by a reticulated water supply. Rural supply is available from Lake Narracan, Eric Scott Reservoir, Narracan Creek and various farm dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Newborough Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets, and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Where buildings are involved refer to Section 16 of this Plan.

Brigade Sub Plan Tanjil Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Tanjil Brigade is a rural brigade with no township areas, sited north of Moe and Yallourn North. The terrain is undulating to steep hilly country with significant vegetation cover. The Tanjil Brigade district is sited in both the Baw Baw Shire and Latrobe City.

The land consists predominantly of plantation, dairy, beef and sheep farming and forestry. There are also numerous hobby type farms throughout the district.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are; Woorabinda School Camp, George Bates Reserve, Howlett Track and facilities, Latrobe Valley Water Ski Club facilities, Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall (Moe-Walhalla Road), Boral Quarry (Quarry Road), Plantations and bush land areas, Connan Park, Scout Camp (on the Tyers River - crosses the municipal boundary into Baw Baw Shire).

Other areas identified but within the Baw Baw Shire are: Gooding Gas Boosting Station (Moe-Rawson Road), Moondarra Dam picnic area, shelter & township, Field & Game Club (Wood Track off Moondarra Reservoir Road)

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Water supply is available from Moondarra Reservoir, Tanjil and Tyers Rivers, various farm dams and various creeks. Local knowledge of locations and access suitability is required. The brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory..



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

There are no townships in the district. Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

It is also recommended that the existing Camp Woorabinda Fire Prevention Plan be audited by the CFA for compliance with CFA Guidelines for Group Accommodation. All plans should be reviewed by the CFA and the Shire on a regular basis.

Brigade Sub Plan Toongabbie Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Toongabbie Brigade district covers an area of some 50 square kilometers. The township of Toongabbie is the only urban centre, with a population of around 270 people.

The Brigade district is principally rural in nature. The topography ranges from cleared flat to undulating grazing lands in the east, north, south and central areas of the district, to steep and hilly bush land and pine plantations areas west of Toongabbie township. The district is traversed by Fells Creek, Rosedale Creek and Toongabbie Creek, all a part of the Latrobe River catchments.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Toongabbie Telephone Exchange, Community Halls, Toongabbie Primary School, Recreation Reserves and facilities, Golf Club, Plantations

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Water Points

The township of Toongabbie is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Mechanics Institute and Library, corner of King & Cohen Streets; Edward stringer Memorial.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Toongabbie Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets, and places of significance, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

Brigade Sub Plan Traralgon Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Traralgon Brigade district covers the urban area of the township of Traralgon. The town has a population of around 20,000 people.

The district has extensive residential, commercial and industrial development. The district is dissected by the Melbourne to Sale Rail line and the Princes Highway.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Refer to following list of properties identified as priority risks. The significant risks are identified as those of a structural nature, with those of high employment and high statistical incidence, being the highest priority.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Traralgon is serviced by a reticulated water supply.

Places of Significance

Church buildings, south east corner of Church & Kay Streets; Court House and Post Office Building Complex, south west corner of Franklin & Kay Streets.

Priority Risk Protection Works: The rural land surrounding the Traralgon township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and places of significance and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Where buildings are involved refer to Section 16 of this Plan.

Brigade Sub Plan Traralgon East Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Traralgon East Brigade district is bounded in the west by Traralgon creek, the north by the Latrobe River, and the east by Sheepways Creek to Shields Road/Broomfield Road to Hyland Highway to Scales Road and on the south by Bartons Lane-Mattingley Hill Road.

The district is both rural in nature together with rural-residential dwellings and some industrial development on the east side of Traralgon. The district is dissected by the Melbourne to Sale Rail line and the Princes Highway.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Angus McMillan Motel, industrial development, Traralgon Tip, Loy Yang Open Cut Mine, Gas and Oil pipelines that traverse the brigade area

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Water Points

The rural-residential subdivisions are serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Minniedale Road, scarred trees from aboriginal removal of slabs

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and places of significance, and the land surrounding those assets, to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition. Power Stations are dealt with under Section 9 of this Plan.

Brigade Sub Plan Traralgon South Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Traralgon South Brigade district is located due south of Traralgon along the Traralgon Creek Road. The township of Traralgon South is the only urban centre.

The Brigade district is principally rural in nature. The topography ranges from cleared flat to undulating grazing lands in the north, to undulating and hilly grazing land in the south. The township is surrounded on the east and south by bush land. The district is traversed by Traralgon Creek. The district also contains the Loy Yang Power Station. There is rural-residential development along Red Hill Road to the south of the township.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Loy Yang Open Cut Mine, Kornalla Park, Traralgon South Motorcycle Track, Traralgon South Hall and Recreation Complex, Bushland interface with the urban area.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Traralgon South and the Loy Yang Mine, are serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from the Traralgon Creek and various farms dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory..

Places of Significance

Nil

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Traralgon South Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition, including planning for the residential and rural-residential bush land interface.

Brigade Sub Plan Traralgon West Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Traralgon West Brigade district is situated between the towns of Morwell and Traralgon. The district has no urban area but its character is predominantly residential and rural-residential subdivision and pine plantations. The district is split by the Princes Highway and the Melbourne to Sale rail line.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Latrobe Regional Hospital, Latrobe Regional Airport, Caravan Parks, and Plantations

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The majority of the district is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil

Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

Brigade Sub Plan Tyers Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Tyers Brigade district covers the township of Tyers and the bush land to the north and extends southerly to the Latrobe River.

The district is predominantly rural in nature. The topography ranges from flat land in the south to undulating and hilly land in the north. Much of the housing in the township is sited



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

within bush land and the small town is surrounded by bush on the north and north-west sides.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Wirilda Nature Park, Tyers Primary School, Tyers Pre School, Tyers Recreation Reserve and Sporting Complex, Tyers Community Hall

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Tyers is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm and plantation dams, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory..

Places of Significance

Nil.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Tyers Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

The establishment of residential living within the bush land area presents a high fire risk.

It is recommended that a program be established which promotes the development of property management plans. Plans shall be developed with the land owners, CFA Risk Manager, Shire and be approved by the Shire. Approved plans shall also form the basis for any works required under a Fire Prevention Notice to Clear.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition, including planning for the residential and rural-residential bush land interface.



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Brigade Sub Plan Yallourn North Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Yallourn North Brigade district covers the residential development of the township of Yallourn North. The town is sited approximately 1 kilometre north of the Yallourn Open Cut Mine and north of the Latrobe River.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Primary School, Pre-School and Maternal Child Health Centre, Elderly Citizens Flats

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Yallourn North is serviced by a reticulated water supply.

Places of Significance

Brown Coalmine Museum, Third Street Yallourn North.

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Yallourn North Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.



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Brigade Sub Plan Yinnar Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Yinnar Brigade district covers the urban area of Yinnar and the surrounding rural land.

The district is principally farming land. The topography ranges from mostly flat to undulating open grazing land.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Yinnar Pre School, Elderly Citizens Units, Yinnar & District Community Memorial Hall

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

The township of Yinnar is serviced by a reticulated water supply. The rural area supply is available from various farm dams and creeks, with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil

Priority Risk Protection Works

The rural land surrounding the Yinnar Township shall be kept in a priority fire safe condition.

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.



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Brigade Sub Plan Yinnar South Fire Brigade

Introduction

The Yinnar South Brigade district covers some 70 square kilometres of area from Billy's Creek in the north to around Budgeree Road in the south, Fauna Road in the west and Jumbuk old school site in the east. There are no townships within the brigade area although there are an estimated 400 homes throughout the rural environment.

The Brigade district is principally rural in nature. The topography ranges from the flat farming country along the Middle and Billy's Creeks to the hobby farms at the foothills of the Strzeleckies and into the steep hills of the Strzelecki Ranges. Morwell National Park, Grand Ridge Plantations and DSE areas are all within the brigade boundaries.

Priority Environments / Community Assets

Those identified are: Yinnar South Transfer Station, Yinnar South State School, Yinnar South Hall (Brewsters Road), Yinnar South Church, Telephone Exchange, Tennis Courts, Fire Station (all on Middle Creek Road), Martin Walker Reserve, Jumbuk Hall and Jumbuk School Holiday Park.

Firebreaks

Refer to Appendix A.

Water Points

Available from various farm dams, creeks (Billy's and Middle) and springs with local knowledge of location and access suitability required. Some hydrants are available on the Jumbuk Estate water reticulation system. The Brigade is to develop a water supply plan which will be sited at the fire station. The plan should be developed to adopt grid references from the CFA Gippsland Rural Directory.

Places of Significance

Nil.



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Priority Risk Protection Works

Inspections shall be made of the sites identified as priority environments/assets and the land surrounding those assets to ensure they are maintained in a priority fire safe condition.

It is also recommended that the Jumbuk Estate be a priority site for Community Fireguard and that the Jumbuk School Holiday Camp be inspected by the CFA for compliance with CFA Guidelines for Group Accommodation including the development of a suitable fire management plan.



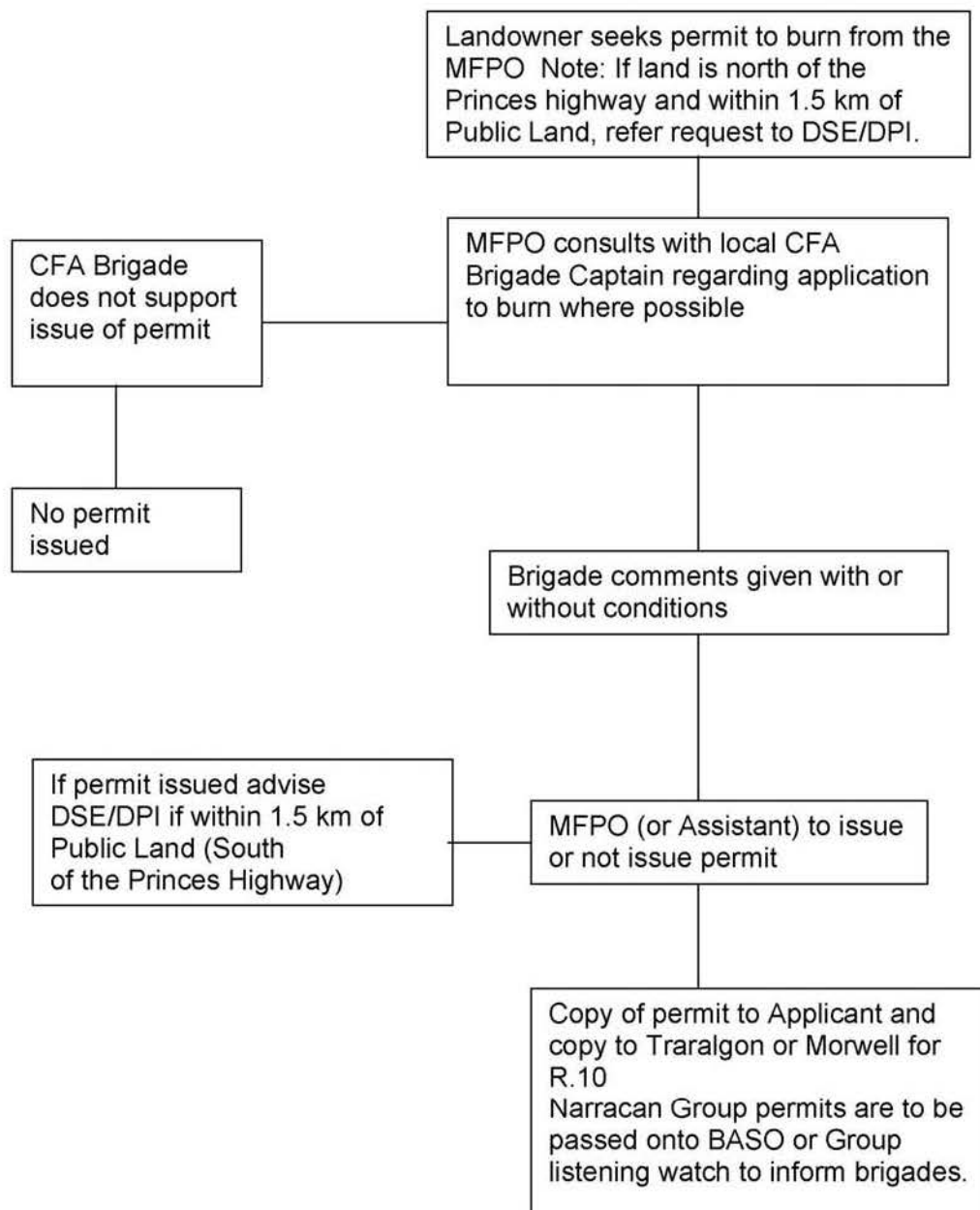
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Appendix E

Issue of Permits to Burn - Flow Chart

Issue of Permits to Burn

Flowchart





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Appendix F

Special Interest Group Contacts



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

1. Mr. Rob Sharrock
Secretary
Moe-Yallourn Rail Trail Committee
PO Box 301
NEWBOROUGH 3825
Phone: (03) 5127 1700
2. Mrs. Kate Cartwright
Chairman
Boolarra-Mirboo Rail Trail Committee
PO Box 373
BOOLARRA 3870
Phone: (03) 5169 6592
3. Dr Tony Richards
Chairman
Gippsland Plains Rail Trail Committee
RMB 4702
Maffra 3860
4. Theo Morsink
Friends of the Gippsland Bush
RMB 4592
Munckton Rd
JEERALANG 3840
5. The Secretary
Edward Hunter Reserve Committee of Management
PO Box 422
MOE 3825
6. Cr Darrell White
Matheson Park Committee
Latrobe City
Phone: 0417 377 645



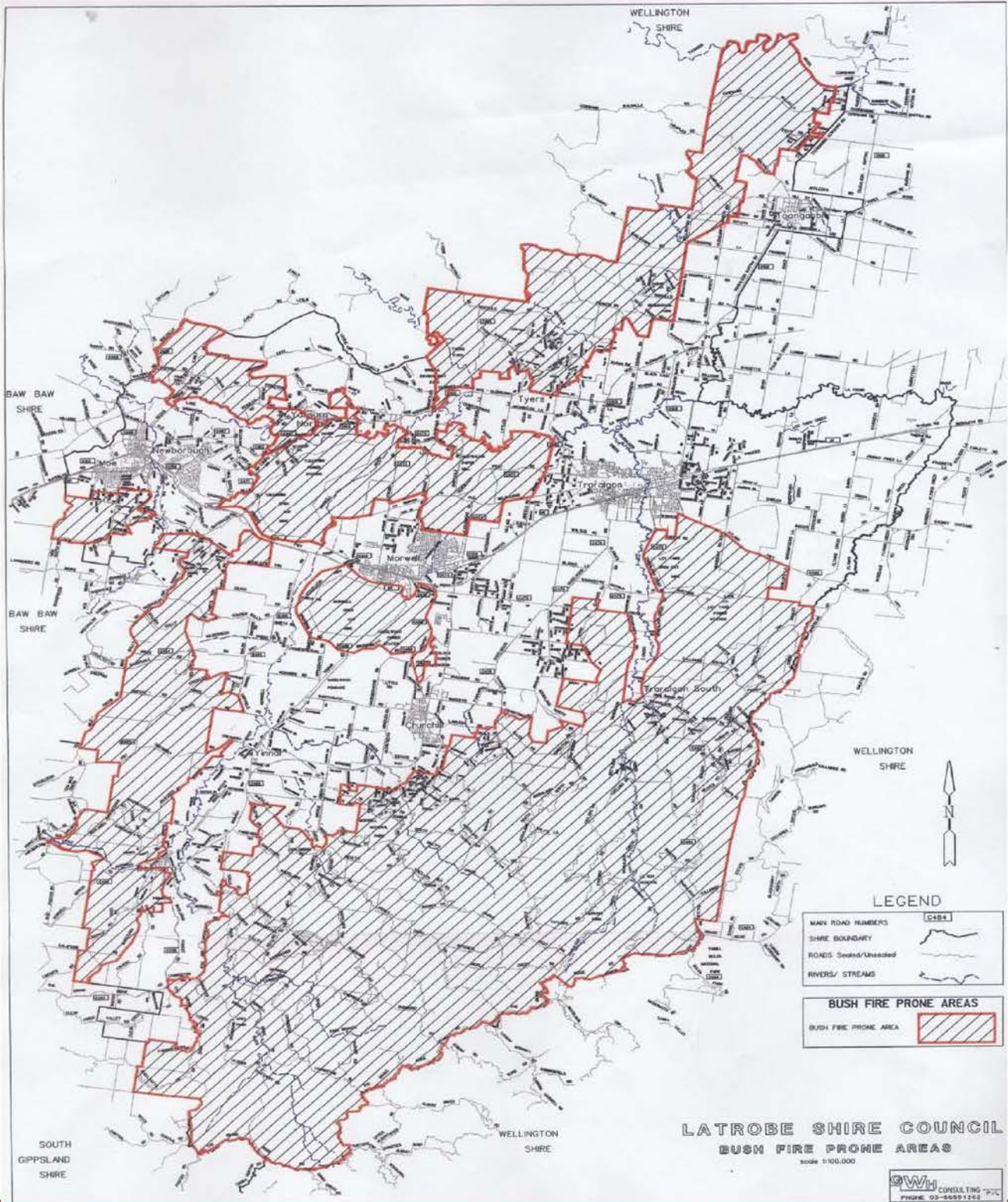
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Appendix G

Bush Fire Prone Area Plan Map



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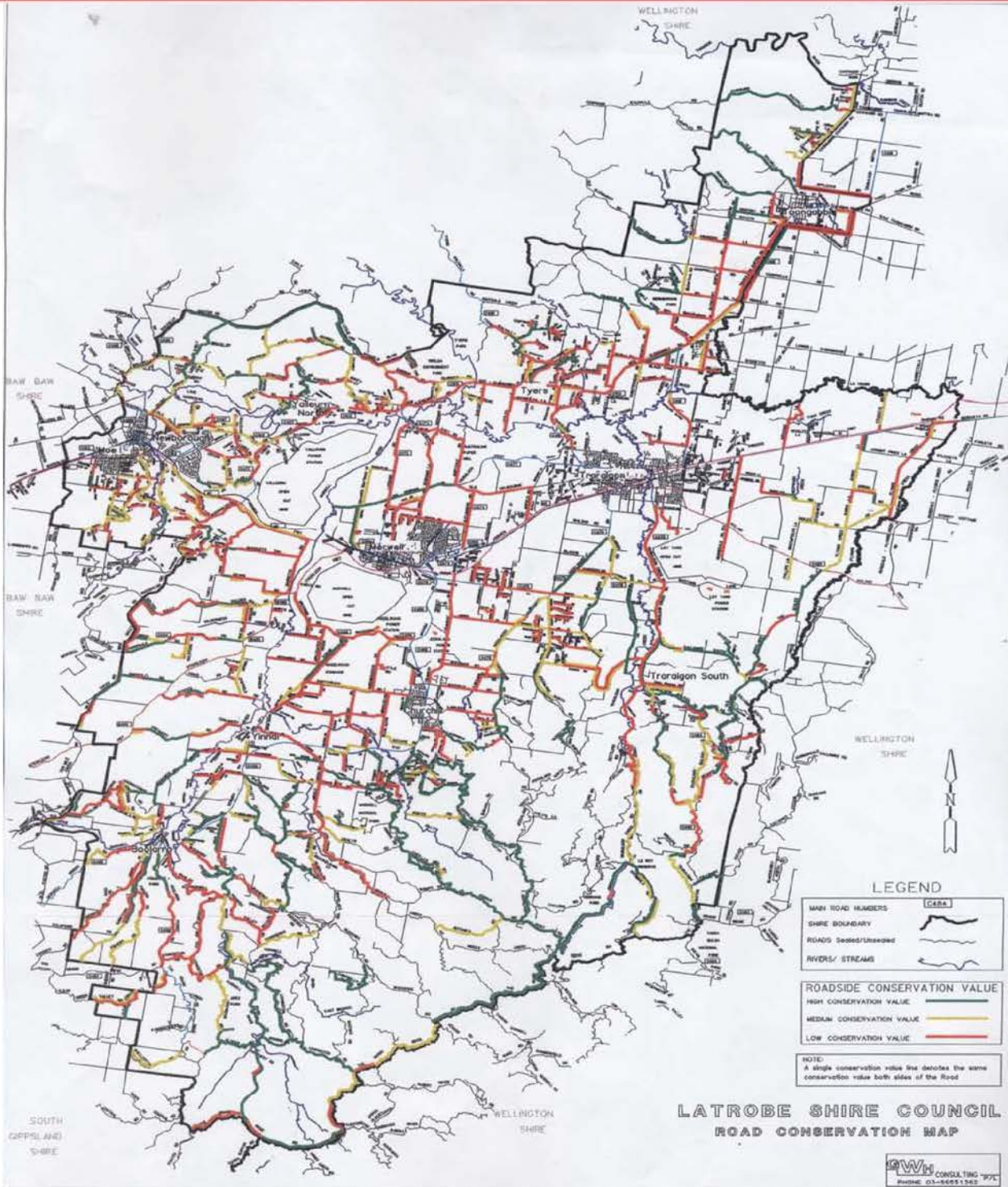
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Appendix H

Roadside Management (Conservation Values)



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Appendix I

Hazard Trees

Hazard Trees – Identification and Notification Procedures

The Electricity Safety Act 1998 (Vic) (**ES Act**) provides that a municipal council must specify, within its Municipal Fire Prevention Plan:

- procedures and criteria for the identification of trees that are likely to fall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line (**hazard trees**); and
- procedures for the notification of responsible persons of trees that are hazard trees in relation to electric lines for which they are responsible.

Under the ES Act, the person responsible for maintaining vegetation and clearance space around power lines is referred to as the 'responsible person'.

The procedures outlined in this section of the MFPP [*or MFMP, where applicable*] seek to address the requirement detailed above.

Each responsible person should have its own internal procedure regarding the steps that will be taken when it receives notification of a potentially hazardous tree.

What is a Hazard Tree?

According to the ES Act, a hazard tree is a tree which is likely to fall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line.

The Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010 (**the Regulations**) further provide that a responsible person may cut or remove such a tree provided that the tree has been assessed by a suitably qualified arborist; and that assessment confirms the likelihood of contact with an electric line having regard to foreseeable local conditions.

Due to legal requirements which require a clearance space be maintained around an electric line, hazard trees are usually located outside the regulated clearance space.

Despite being outside the clearance space, the tree may still have the potential to contact the line due to its size or because of a structural fault or weakness which renders part, or all, of the tree likely to contact or fall onto the line.

Who is Responsible for a Hazard Tree?



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Under the ES Act, the person responsible for maintaining vegetation and clearance space around power lines is referred to as the responsible person. This includes responsibility for keeping the whole or any part of a tree clear of the line.

Under the ES Act, responsibility is allocated between distribution businesses and other owners of electricity infrastructure, land owners and occupiers, public land managers such as municipal councils and VicRoads.

Municipal councils are responsible for trees on public land within their municipalities, for which they are the land manager, where these are also within a Declared Area for the purposes of the ES Act. Primary responsibility for vegetation clearance and management within the municipality, for areas which are not within a Declared Area, will usually fall to the relevant electricity distribution company.

Responsible Persons within Latrobe City Council

There are a number of organisations that have responsibility for line clearance in *Latrobe City Council*, including:

SPAusnet

VicRoads

[if there is a declared area within the municipality, insert name of Shire or Municipality]

Other Relevant Information

Responsible persons, other than private persons, must have an electric line clearance management plan in place for areas for which they have responsibility (*refer Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance) Regulations 2010*)

Latrobe City Council has an Electric Line Clearance Management Plan

Name: Latrobe City Council

Date: October 2010

Procedures and Criteria for Identifying Hazard Trees

In the course of everyday duties, potentially hazardous trees may come to the attention of staff or volunteer members of the entities with representation on the Municipal Fire Prevention Committee [*or Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, where applicable*] (**the Committee**), staff of the distribution business(es) or other persons, including members of the public.



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There are a range of factors which may indicate that a tree is a hazard tree. That is, a tree which is likely to fall onto, or come into contact with, an electric line. Some of these factors will be obvious when looking at the tree but many may only be apparent when the tree is assessed by a person with specific expertise and training, such as an arborist.

The following criteria may be used to assist in identifying a hazard tree:

- The size of the tree suggests that it is likely to come into contact with the electric line, for example because it appears to be encroaching or growing into the line clearance space.
- There is an excessive lean on the tree, or branches hanging off the tree and the tree is in proximity to an electric (power) line.
- The size or appearance of the tree suggests it could come into contact with the line including under foreseeable local conditions.

If a potentially hazardous tree is identified, the notification procedure outlined below should be followed. Where a responsible person becomes aware of a potentially hazardous tree for which they have responsibility, they must follow their own applicable internal procedure and the notification procedure described below does not apply.

Procedures and Criteria for Notifying Hazard Trees

To ensure that information regarding potentially hazardous trees is captured in an efficient manner and, as appropriate, referred to the responsible person for action, the following procedure for the notification of hazardous trees should be followed:

- The person with responsibility for the highest percentage of lines within the municipality (**the primary responsible person**) *[or alternative person as nominated and agreed by the Committee]* is the person to whom potentially hazardous trees should be reported.
- The primary responsible person (or their representative) is referred to in these Procedures as the primary responsible person representative (**PRPR**).
- Where any person becomes aware of, or receives a report of, a potentially hazardous tree within the municipality, this should be referred to the PRPR. Where the Committee becomes aware of, or receives a report of, a potentially hazardous tree within the municipality, this must be referred to the PRPR.
- Reports of potentially hazardous trees must be provided to the PRPR for action as soon as practicable. Reports must include, at a minimum:
 - The name and contact details and any relevant qualifications where known of the person making the report.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

- As much detail as possible about the location of the tree (including, where known, GPS coordinates, details of numerical/name plate on nearest pole, name of nearest road or crossroads, closest landmark, whether tree is on private land or road reserve etc.).
 - A description of the tree (including, if known, the genus and species of tree).
 - The primary reasons given for the tree being identified as potentially hazardous (eg. tree is in proximity to an electric line AND there is evidence of structural weakness and/or excessive lean and/or appears to be encroaching into line clearance space etc.).
 - An indication of whether or not urgent action is required.
- The PRPR must take all necessary steps to advise the person responsible for the tree that it may be hazardous.

Primary Responsible Person Representative (PRPR)

For the purposes of this part of the Plan, the primary responsible person is Chris Dash Team Leader Proactive Tree Works *Latrobe City Council with responsibility for the highest percentage of lines within the Latrobe City Area OR alternative person SPAusnet as nominated and agreed by the Committee*].

Procedures for Notification of Responsible Persons

Where a potentially hazardous tree has been reported to the PRPR, the PRPR should follow the procedure outlined below.

Step 1		Report provided to PRPR.
Step 2		PRPR to determine who the responsible person is in relation to the reported tree. (If necessary, the PRPR can seek assistance from ESV for this step.)
Step 3	Is the responsible person the primary responsible person?	Yes => applicable internal procedure for referral and assessment of potentially hazardous tree to be followed.
No => proceed to Step 4.		
Step 4	Did the report indicate that urgent action is required?	Yes => the responsible person should be notified as soon as possible, and by <i>[insert period, eg. the close of the next business day]</i> .

No => the PRPR must advise the responsible person of the existence and location of a potentially hazardous tree in accordance with the timelines below.*



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

- The PRPR should put in place mutually agreed arrangements for the manner in which it passes on reports of potentially hazardous trees to responsible persons.

Responsible Person Contact Details

SP AusNet contact for Hazard Trees is;

Peter Scotto
Program Leader Central South
Lilydale

Reporting Timelines

The PRPR should provide reports to the relevant responsible person as soon as practicable. In circumstances where:

- the potentially hazardous tree is located within a high bushfire risk area (as per s.80 of the ES Act) and the potentially hazardous tree is reported during the fire danger period declared under the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 (Vic); or
- the report indicates that there is an imminent danger that the tree will contact or fall onto lines as a result of minor environmental changes;

the potentially hazardous tree must be referred to the relevant responsible person for action as soon as possible, and by *[insert period, eg. the close of the next business day]*.

Each responsible person (other than the primary responsible person) must provide the PRPR with contact details of the person Team Leader Proactive Tree Works to whom reports should be provided. It is the responsibility of each responsible person to ensure that the PRPR is provided with up-to-date contact details.

Register

It is recommended that the PRPR maintain a register in which all notifications are recorded together with the date of receipt of the notification and the date the notification was reported to the responsible person.

It is recommended that responsible persons also maintain a register of notifications received of hazardous trees for which they are the responsible person.

PRPR Consultation



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

The Committee notes that the Primary Responsible Person was consulted in relation to the development of these procedures.



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Appendix J

Other Authorities & Organisations



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1. VicRoads

Vic Roads is the Authority responsible for the construction and maintenance of the State Highways, Freeways, Main Roads, Forest Roads, Tourist Roads and Stock Routes.

The Freeways and Highways that traverse the municipality are:

- Princes Highway and Princes Freeway,
- Hyland Highway,
- Strzelecki Highway.

The main road system, forest and tourist roads of this municipality are:

Main Roads

- Boolarra South - Mirboo North Road
- Boolarra - Churchill Road
- Boolarra - Mirboo North Road
- Brodribb Road
- Churchill - Traralgon Road
- Loy Yang - Morwell Road
- Maryvale Road
- Moe North Road
- Moe - Glengarry Road
- Moe - Rawson Road
- Monash Way Road
- Morwell - Thorpdale Road
- Morwell - Traralgon Road
- Morwell - Yallourn North Road
- Morwell - Yallourn Road
- Traralgon Creek Road
- Traralgon West Road
- Traralgon - Maffra Road
- Tyers Road

Forest Roads

- Boolarra Road
- Tyers - Thomson Valley Road

Tourist Roads

- Traralgon - Balook Road



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The maintenance of these roads is carried out by:

1. Main Roads. Vic Roads
2. The Freeway, Highways, Tourist & Forest Roads are Vic Roads responsibility for their maintenance and construction.

The objective of roadside slashing is to maintain a suitable dimensioned vehicle movement zone, sight distance for users, reduced fuel loads and a clear distance off the road carriageway. The major objective overall being the safety of road users.

Vic Roads have developed a Code of Practice for Fire Prevention on Declared Road Reserves and this is used as a reference document for the issue of standards to be achieved and their treatment of slashing works or other fire prevention works along the road system.

The critical issues in regards to fire prevention works are:

- the standards proposed in the Code of Practice document; and
- funding.

Further consideration of the requirements for the road system is given in Appendix K.9 and reference should be made to this section and the recommendations to Vic Roads proposed.

2. V/Line

The V/Line is the corporation responsible for the operations and functions of the Railways in Latrobe City.

The main railway system traverses this municipality in an east - west direction and virtually cuts the municipality in two. The railway system operates both passenger and freight services. The responsibility for the rail line, rail reserve and bridges over rail, belongs to V/Line

There are no recommendations to be made in reference to V/Line for rail services, however all MFPC members need to continue to monitor V/Line performance in regards to maintenance of their assets for their program of railway reserve maintenance and fire hazard reduction and for ongoing bridge (over rail) maintenance. If any reduction of service occurs then the matter should be taken up through the appropriate channels.



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3. Water Authorities

The Regional Water Authority to service the municipality is Gippsland Water. This authority is the major supplier of reticulated water throughout the city. Supply reservoirs for the major supply of water in the municipality are the Blue Rock Lake (water obtained by arrangement with South East Water), Moondarra Reservoir and Cowwarr Weir. All reservoirs are outside the municipality. There are also numerous smaller water supplies from rivers and creeks near to the various subject towns.

The importance of this Authority is in their role as the provider of reticulated water to the developed urban areas and the provision and maintenance of fire hydrants. Reference should be made to Appendix K .6, Fire Hydrants and the development of standards for maintenance thereof.

A strong working relationship with the Authority is necessary due to their importance in the supply, location and standard of hydrants and water mains.

4. Catchment Management Authorities

Catchment Management Authorities (CMA) have taken over the role of Waterway Management Authorities and Catchment and Land Protection (CALP) Boards (with the exclusion, at this stage, of the Port Phillip CALP Board).

The primary goal of catchment management is given in the document, Future Arrangements for Catchment Management in Victoria as “ To ensure the sustainable development of natural-based industries, the protection of land and water resources and the conservation of Victoria’s natural and cultural heritage” (1997, p7).

The CMA which covers the entire municipality is the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority. It will be important to establish and maintain liaison with this Authority due to their interest and involvement in land and water resources, planning and development. action to establish links with the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority is given under Appendix K .5.

It will be necessary to establish the CMA’s interest and role in fire prevention planning.

5. Department of Sustainability and Environment

The Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) in conjunction with the Department of Primary Industries and Parks Victoria are considered partners with the MFPC in the endeavour to carry out fire protection and prevention works.



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Council is responsible for the monitoring and controlling fire prevention works on private land and land under municipality's control. Public Authorities are responsible for land under their control.

DSE is responsible for land under their control as per the Forests Acts 1958, National Parks Act 1975 and the CFA Act 1958.

For land under DSE's control in this municipality, there is a fire protection strategy which is outlined in the document "Gippsland Fire Protection Plan – 1999", Refer to Section 12.2 for details.

With reference to land within 1.5 kilometres (historically referred to as the marginal mile) of public land the following requirements apply:

- Public land South of the Princes Highway – the MFPO is responsible for the fire planning and control without reference to DSE. The MFPO shall however notify DSE of any permits to burn issued, in accordance with the flow chart given in Appendix E.
- Public land north of the Princes Highway – for the area within 1.5 km of any public land, DSE is responsible for the fire planning and control. DSE will notify the local CFA brigade regarding any permits to burn issued.

6. Parks Victoria

Parks Victoria manages several major parks within the City, Morwell National Park and Tyers Park being the most significant. Whilst Parks Victoria have management responsibilities for these areas, fire protection and suppression for these parks is included in the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) Gippsland Region Fire Protection Plan 1999. DSE are therefore responsible to ensure the implementation of fire suppression and protection measures identified in this plan.

Note 1: Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) was established in December 2002, and has ultimate responsibility for the prevention and suppression of wildfire on public land held by the former Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE). DSE delivers this in conjunction with the Department of Primary Industries and Parks Victoria.

7. Loy Yang Power

Loy Yang Power has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. Loy Yang Power is divided into three main operating sections. These are:

1. Corporate or administration area.
2. Loy Yang A Power Station (producing around 40% of Victoria's electricity).



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

3. Loy Yang (open cut) Mine and surrounding rural land.

There are also off site strategic assets such as a pipeline from Yallourn to a high level storage dam on Firmans Lane, near Loy Yang and a pumping station on the Latrobe River below the old Yallourn Power Station.

Loy Yang Power have produced a "Fire Risk Mitigation Plan". This document covers a broad range of issues including the treatment of all wildfire situations, be they structural, industrial, bushfire or rural wildfires. The document is extensive and covers the scenarios of fire risks within and from outside their area of control. It also covers the issues of training of staff, preparedness, detection, permit systems, appointment of a fire prevention officer, design of plant and fire fighting equipment.

The issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk. The risk comes from the fact that there is a likelihood of a fire occurring due the nature of the industry and its vast area of control and the consequences of a serious fire have local, state and national significance. The power station is a key player in the arena of electrical power and a major employer. It is paramount that such an industry be prepared, as best as humanly possible to prevent, protect and suppress any fire situation.

8. International Power GD Suez

International Power has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. There are three main operating areas under their control. These are:

1. Hazelwood Power Station
2. Hazelwood Pondage
3. Morwell Open Cut

International Power advises that they have a current Fire Management Plan for the Open Cut and have Emergency Management Plans for the Power Station. There is no Fire Plan for the station or Hazelwood Pondage however some prevention measures are in place.

Like all other members of the Power Industry, the issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk.

9. International Power GD Suez

International Power has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. There is only one main operating area under their control. This is:

1. Loy Yang B Power Station (an area of around 4ha)



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International Power advises that they have a Fire Management Plan as a part of their Emergency Management Manual. There are also Codes of Practice for the training of personnel.

Like all other members of the Power Industry, the issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk.

10. TRUenergy

TRUenergy Yallourn has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. They have three main operating areas under their control. These are:

1. Yallourn W Power Station
2. Yallourn Open Cut
3. TXU

There are also off site strategic assets such as water supply areas/dams, HV/LV transmission easements and other ancillary works.

TRUenergy has produced a number of documents relating to fire prevention and emergency management. These are:

- Emergency Management Policy and Instruction
- Draft Bushfire Mitigation Plan
- Latrobe Valley Open Cut Mines Service Policy & Code of Practice (currently under review)
- Yallourn W Power Station Mitigation Manual (currently under review)
- Power Station Emergency Response Plan
- Mine Emergency Response Plan
- TRUenergy/CFA Emergency Response Agreement

These documents cover a broad range of issues including the treatment of wildfire situations be they structural, industrial, bushfire or rural wildfires. The documents are extensive and cover the scenarios of fire risks within and from outside their area of control. They also covers the issues of training of staff, preparedness, detection, permit systems, appointment of a fire prevention officer, design of plant and fire fighting equipment.

Like all other members of the Power Industry, the issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk.



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11. SPAusnet

SPAusnet has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. They are the sole transmission company for Eastern Victoria.

They have three main operating areas under their control. These are:

- Terminal Stations (switchyards) on Tramway Road and Monash Way
- Switchyards in the power stations of Loy Yang, Hazelwood, Yallourn and Jeeralang
- Transmission line easements

The company has a Bushfire Mitigation Policy which provides for transmission lines and switchyards. The transmission lines are audited annually and priorities identified for all areas.

Like all other members of the Power Industry, the issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk.

12. Ecogen Energy

Ecogen Energy has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. They have one main operating area under their control. This is:

1. Jeeralang (A & B) Power Station

Ecogen Energy has no formal consolidated document for a fire management strategy or plan. They do however carry out works that are related to fire prevention & suppression. These activities involve fire prevention works around the power station site, water supply and augmentation schemes and provide suppression equipment.

Like all other members of the Power Industry, the issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk.

13. Energy Brix

Energy Brix has emerged from the privatisation of the power industry. They have one main operating area under their control. This is:

1. Morwell Power and Briquette Factory

There are also off site strategic assets such as the interconnecting railway for coal from Yallourn and with V/Line for briquettes out of the factory. They also have other ancillary works.



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Like all other members of the Power Industry, the issue of a fire in such a significant industry is deemed a very high risk.

14. Maryvale Mill (APP)

The Maryvale Mill has an area of control for some 810ha (2000 acres) of land. The company has a number of documents relating to their management of fire prevention, protection and suppression resources. The documents include:

- A Maryvale Mill "Fire Management Plan"
- An "Operations Plan" for fire prevention

The Fire Management Plan defines their role and activities in fire prevention activities. The Mill has its own fire brigade, the Maryvale Brigade. The brigade services the land and assets under their control and also has an undertaking with Amcor Plantations to assist in any fire suppression activities within Amcor's Plantations. These plantations are substantial containing currently around 1 million hectares of trees.

The Operations Manual is a work procedures document and details other activities of the Mill. These include provision of fire suppression equipment, compliance with building regulations/codes, maintenance of equipment and training of staff.

15. HVP Plantations

Formally Grand Ridge Plantations (GRP) was formed in 2001, following the amalgamation of the former Australian Paper Plantations and Hancock's Victorian Plantations - Latrobe Zone. HVP has extensive forestry holdings in the municipality including plantations on company land, private, leased, Crown and State Forest (under license). HVP has a "Fire Protection Plan - Strategic Document" detailing policy, risk and strategies and a "Fire Operations Folder" detailing contact arrangements, standby rosters, skills and fire equipment registers.

HVP has fire suppression equipment available in the way of slip on fire units, tankers, staff and minor equipment and carries out a program of fire prevention works annually within their plantation areas. Works include the maintenance of fire breaks, fire dams and fire access tracks. HVP are part of the CFA registered as a Forest Industry Brigade.



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16. Pine Gro Products P/L

Pine Gro Products are composters and potting mix manufacturers who deal with wastes such as tan bark and sawdust.

The company operates a 20 acre site plus a further 12 acre lease, on Monash Way, Morwell.

The company is 50% owned by AMCOR and 50% owned by Yates. They propose to develop a fire prevention plan together with APP, Maryvale. Fire prevention activities are currently carried out in accordance with their fire prevention plan.

17. Plantations

There are numerous timber plantations of varying sizes, throughout the municipality. Management plans for all plantations should be required to ensure their management and operation is carried out in an industry standard manner and that they all have adequate fire prevention activities.

Summary

It is recommended that an action be adopted that all of the recognised major industries from 7 to 17 be requested to provide a Fire Management Plan for their particular industry. In addition to these industries it is also recommended that all plantation operators have Fire Management Plans. All Plans shall be provided to the satisfaction of the CFA and acknowledged by the MFPC.



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Appendix K

Strategic Features & Standards

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1. Strategic Firebreaks - Primary and Secondary

Strategic firebreaks are established where sites are identified because of their ability to be used as a firebreak and a major traffic corridor. There are primary and secondary breaks.

All strategic firebreaks are the highest priority for both fire prevention works and road surface maintenance.

1. Primary Firebreaks: Breaks designed to provide protection to the municipality as a whole and are usually along the declared highways and main (arterial) road system or rail system. The primary firebreaks identified are:

Road	Location	Conservation Category (na-Vic Roads)
• Princes Highway	full length (within municipality)	" "
• Princes Freeway	" " " "	" "
• Strzelecki Highway	" " " "	" "
• Hyland Highway	" " " "	" "
• Monash Way	Morwell to Boolarra	" "
• Hazelwood Road	Traralgon to Thomsons Road	L, M & H
• Boldings Road	Thomsons Road to Tramway Rd	L
• Tramway Road	Boldings Road to Monash Way	L
• Airfield Road	full length	L
• Scrubby Lane	" "	
• Traralgon - Maffra Road	" "	L, M & H
• Traralgon - Tyers Road	Traralgon to Moe-Glengarry Rd	L & M
• Tyers-Walhalla Road	Tyers to city boundary (also known as Tyers - Thomson Valley Road)	L, M & H
• Moe - Glenngarry Road	T'gon-Maffra Rd to Princes Hwy (Includes Latrobe River Rd, Third Street & John Field Drive)	L, M & H
• Purvis Road	Walhalla Rd to Moe-G'garry Rd	L, M & H
• Walhalla Road	full length	L, M & H

Conservation values are: L= low, M= medium and H= high.

Refer to Appendix A for the strategic firebreak plan map and Appendix H for the Road Management Plan and the sighting of the various conservation values.

2. Secondary Firebreaks: additional breaks designed by the MFPC and local brigades to provide protection at a local level and strategically dividing the municipality. The secondary firebreaks identified are:

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Road	Location	Conservation Category
• Old Sale Road	Thompsons Rd to Walhalla Rd	L & M
• Thompsons Road V.R.	Old Sale Road to Sullivans Rd	L & M
• Becks Bridge Road	Old Sale Road to Purvis Road	L, M & H
• Haunted Hills Road	De Campo Drive to Princes Fwy	M & H
• De Campo Drive V.R.	Haunted Hills Rd to John Field Dv	L
• Moe South Road	full length (within municipality)	L, M & H
• Pearces Track	McDonalds Tck to Two Mile Rd	L & M
• Two Mile Road	Pearces Track to Frys Track	L & M
• Frys Track	Two Mile Road to Princes Fwy	M
• McDonalds Track	Princes Fwy to Sayers Rd	L
• Morwell Thorpdale Road V.R.	full length (within municipality)	L & H
• Yinnar - Driffield Road	Strzelecki Hwy to Yinnar Road	L & M
• Yinnar Road	Brooribb Road to Monash Way	L, M & H
• Morwell-Mirboo Road V.R.	Boolarra to city boundary	L & M
• Boolarra Forest Road V.R.	Boolarra to Grand Ridge Road	L & H
• Grand Ridge Road V.R.	Boolarra Forest Rd to city body	L
• Middle Creek Road	Monash Way to Healys Road	L
• Brooribb Road Half V.R.	Full Length	L
• Glendonald Road	" "	L & H
• Thomson's Road	Hazelwood Rd to Glendonald Rd	M & H
• Jeeralang North Road	Hazelwood Rd to Sagars Rd	M
• Sargeant Drive	Cnr. Linders Rd to Sand Pit	L
• Firmins Lane V.R.	Monash Way to Hazelwood Rd	L
• Tramway Road	Boldings Road to Firmins Ln	L
• Sanders Road V.R.	full length	L
• Mattingley Hill Road V.R.	" "	L & M
• Traralgon Creek Road V.R.	Hyland Hwy to fire access track (Red Hill Rd to Traralgon Creek Rd)	L & H
• Traralgon-Balook Road	Traralgon Creek Rd to Sunday Rd	L, M & H
• Sunday Road	Tr'on Balook Rd to Old C'gn Rd	M & H
• Old Callignee Road	full length	H
• Callignee South Road	Old C'gneer Rd to T'gon C'k Rd	L, M & H
• Bartons Lane V.R.	full length	
• Minnedale Road South	" "	L
• Minnedale Road	" "	L
• Melrossa Road	" "	
• Flynn's Creek Road	" "	M
• Barrs Lane	" "	L, M & H
• Cowwarr-Walhalla Road	Toongabbie to Sheila Crt.	L & H
• Rifle Range Road	T'gon-Maffra Rd to Riggalls Rd	L & H
• Old Melbourne Road	Latrobe Rd to Traralgon	L & H
• Traralgon West Road V.R.	T'gon-Tyers Rd to Old Melb. Rd	
• Alexander's Road V.R.	Princes Hwy to Old Me'brne Rd	L
• Maryvale Road V.R.	Old Me'brne Rd to Tanjil East Rd	L



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- | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| • Tanjil East Road | V.R. M'vale Road to Moe-G'garry Rd | L |
| • Latrobe Road | V.R. Princes Hwy to Tanjil East Rd | L |

Conservation values are: L= low, M= medium and H= high.

Refer to Appendix A for the strategic firebreak plan map and Appendix H for the Road Management Plan and the siting of the various conservation values.

It is recommended that an action be adopted that the above strategic firebreaks be approved and works to be carried out in accordance with each relevant authorities adopted standards and with acknowledgment of existing Road Management Plans. All works should be carried out immediately prior to the fire season.

2. Firebreaks

Firebreaks by definition are a minimum 10 metre strip of land (includes road surface where applicable) or suitable area, or at the discretion of the MFPO, in consultation with the relevant authorities, upon which the fuel load, particularly fine fuels, have been greatly reduced. Within the municipality there are no formal firebreaks other than the road strategic system (K .1) that require construction or maintenance by the City or Vic Roads.

There are extensive firebreaks on DSE/DPI managed land and in the numerous plantations. It is paramount that these firebreaks be maintained by DSE/DPI and the plantation owners. The works shall be carried out in accordance with the Fire Protection Plans developed by DSE/DPI and the plantation industries.

3. Water Supplies and Water Points

Adequate water supply for the purpose of fire fighting is integral to planning for fire suppression.

Water supply for fire purposes is available through two avenues;

1. Urban areas with reticulated water supply. Refer to Appendix J, 3. for the Responsible Authority. Reticulated water is available in the towns of:

- Boolarra
- Churchill
- Glengarry
- Moe
- Morwell
- Newborough
- Toongabbie
- Traralgon



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- Traralgon South
- Tyers
- Yallourn North
- Yinnar

Section 96 of the CFA Act stipulates that the Water Authority for the purposes of the CFA ... "shall make free of charge of all water mains water plugs valves pipes and works of water supply... and of all water therein..."

2. Rural water supply; Rural water supplies can be derived from:

- water supply from nearby town supplies
- hydrants on water mains from storage reservoirs to town reticulation
- permanent rivers or streams
- farm dams or reserved fire fighting dams
- static water supplies (tanks)
- stand pipes
- reservoirs

Each Fire Brigade is to develop a Plan of the sites available for rural water supply that have been selected by the brigades as being permanent, accessible, reliable and adequate sites from which to obtain water for fire fighting purposes. Plans will be kept in an easily identifiable and available location at each Fire Station.

Static water supplies can be provided by either concrete or galvanized tanks. There is two static water supplies currently provided in the municipality for the purposes of water supply for fires. These are sited at:

- Callignee Hall Callignee
- Rickards Drive Churchill

It is the responsibility of the local brigade to ensure annually that all static supplies site are in working condition and the tank full of water.

A number of standpipes exist throughout the municipality that can be used for water supply purposes. The role of such water provision is now questionable due to the observed number of other users and clouded detail as to who is paying for the water and responsible for the maintenance of the standpipe. The issue as to the relevance and future need should be investigated and resolved.

It will be the responsibility of the MFPC together with the CFA and local brigades to identify any short comings in the adequate supply of water to any location. Where it is clear that additional static supply is required the MFPC shall adopt this as a priority requirement in their "action plan". Refer to Appendix K.9.4 "Fire Access Roads" for details on funding available.



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The marking and signing of all hydrants and static water supplies should be carried out in conformity with the CFA draft document "Guidelines for the Provision and Indication of Water Supplies for Firefighting Purposes". Refer to Appendix K.6 for further detail.

4. Refuge Areas

Please refer to the Community Fire Refuges Policy Oct 2011

Defined as "A place where people may shelter in the event of wildfire and may include towns, settlements, the family home or defined prepared areas".

A community fire refuge may be a multi-use facility or part of such a facility provided it meets the relevant requirements for siting, location, construction, access, availability and maintenance outlined in *Community Fire Refuges Practices and Procedures* and the Building Regulations.

5. Responsibilities of Other Authorities

Section 43 of the CFA Act states that all public authorities are ... "to take all practicable steps (including burning) to prevent the occurrence of fires on and to minimise the danger of the spread of fires on or from (a) any land vested in it or under its control or management; and (b) any highway road street lane or thoroughfare the maintenance of which is charged upon it".

Each public authority is responsible for land under its control. The MFPO does not have the authority to direct public authorities to carry out fire prevention works on their land.

By definition, with the contemporary move to privatisation of what have been historically public authorities, the MFPO will now assume responsibility for those new non - public organisations, as per the Act. In the Latrobe City this issue has significant impact following the privatisation of the former State Electricity Commission.

Each of the public authorities is accountable for land under their control and shall maintain those properties in accordance with their internal codes of practice or expected industry standards. The public authorities concerned are:

- Vic Roads - to carry out works on roads in accordance with their code of practice " Fire Prevention on Declared Road Reserves in Rural Areas (1985)" and "Road Management Guide (1990)"
- Regional Rail Link - to carry out maintenance works on all land and bridges over rail and ensure leased properties are maintained in proper fire safe condition
- Water Authorities - to carry out proper fire prevention works on all lands under their management control including reservoir sites



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- Catchment Management Authorities incorporating Waterway Authorities – to plan revegetation projects along the rivers and streams under their management control and to carry out proper fire prevention works on same
- DSE/DPI - to carry out works in accordance with their internal fire plans for managed crown lands and in accordance with the Central Gippsland Region Fire Prevention Plan
- Department of Education - to carry out works for fire prevention in accordance with accepted practices
- Department of Infrastructure (Housing) - to carry out works for fire prevention in accordance with accepted practices on all land under their management including residential properties

6. Fire Plugs and Hydrants

Responsibility for maintenance and marking of fire hydrants and plugs is covered under the various requirements of:

1. *Water Act 1989*. The relevant section is:

Section 165. Fire plugs and free water;

“(1) A council may require an Authority that has a water district situated wholly or partly within the council’s municipal district to fix fire plugs to any of the works of the Authority within the water district in suitable locations for the supply of water for fire fighting purposes.

(2) A council must meet the costs of providing, installing, marking and maintaining all fire plugs that the council requires under sub – section

(3) to be installed in its municipal district.

(4) An authority must -

(a) keep all fire plugs in its water district in working order; and

(b) provide conspicuous markers for fire plugs supplied by it;

(5) Sub - section (4) (a) does not require an Authority to make sure that water pressure is adequate for fire fighting.”

2. *The CFA Act*. The relevant sections are:

Section 32 -Duties of turncocks of water supply authorities:

“(1) Every turncock or other similar officer or employee of any water supply authority shall on the occurrence of any fire within the area under his supervision with all possible speed proceed to the place where the fire is and assist by all means in his power to ensure a copious supply and pressure of water.”

Section 36 -Authority [CFA] may require certain municipalities to provide hydrants in streets etc; “The Authority may by notice in writing require any municipal council any part of the municipal district of which is supplied with water by a permanent reticulated water supply system to provide a pillar hydrant or hydrants at any specified place or places in or near a public street or road within the said part of the municipal district.”



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Section 96 -Power to Authority [CFA] to use water for fire and drills etc. without charge; "The Authority, the Chief Officer, any officer exercising the powers of the Chief Officer and all officers and members of any brigade shall have the free use of charge of all water mains water plugs valves pipes and works of water supply authority public authority or body whatsoever and of all the water therein and of all water in any well or tank belonging to any person whatsoever for the purpose of extinguishing any fire or for the purpose of drills competitions and practices conducted by or with the permission of the Authority".

3. CFA Guidelines for Identification of Fire Hydrants with raised Reflective Pavement Markers (Circular C.130/87): This document deals with the standardisation of installation of and location of "blue raised reflective pavement markers". It also details the existing methods of hydrant identification. The circular (Clause 5) states the responsibility for installation and maintenance of the "markers" lies with the municipality. The issue of installation, maintenance and marking needs to be clarified due to variation of practices within the municipality and a policy standard adopted.
4. CFA Draft Guidelines for the Provision and Indication of Water Supplies for Fire fighting Purposes (March 1997): This document covers a number of issues that propose guidelines for the standardisation of the types of hydrants that should be installed throughout country Victoria and the method by which hydrants should be identified. The issues identified include; type of hydrant (L type or ground ball) and suggested configuration to be used; marking identification of water supply points and static water supplies; variations for special buildings; hydrant type and identification in bush fire prone areas and identification in various standards of street construction.

The document should be adopted as a guideline for the provision of hydrants and identification of the various water supplies.

Gippsland Water has their own internal procedure for dealing with the maintenance of fire plugs. The process is defined in their document number Q03W.011.3.

7. Small Town Fire Protection

Small town fire protection is an integral part of the planning process for fire prevention.

Each brigade and the MFPC have identified strategies necessary to help maximise the protection to the small towns and hamlets throughout the City.

Reference to Appendix D displays the degree of protection within and around the township areas identified for fuel reduction works. A further investigation is required to ascertain exact areas (in metres squared) which can be documented and used for contract purposes in fire hazard clearing contracts. Inclusive to this will be the identification of works that will



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be the responsibility of DSE/DPI or other organisations. This will include consultation with those organisations identified to facilitate mutual agreed strategies.

It is recommended that identification be made of all areas required for small town protection and to establish responsibilities.

8. Fire Hazard Clearance

8.1 Private Land

In accordance with the requirements of the Act, the MFPO (and Assistants) and MFPC shall oversee the planning for the fire preparation of the municipality. Brigades shall also assist in the identification of hazards or potential hazards in their areas.

For the purpose of site inspections and serving of notices for fire hazard removals or reductions, it shall be the aim to have all notices served by the second week of December each year. It is critical however that each year be treated on its merits for the severity of the season to optimise the timing of inspections and particularly the serving of notices. This is to avoid re-inspection and possibly further notices to cut or remove hazards.

The guideline to be used shall be:

1. All areas shall be inspected by the last week of November, with "Fire Prevention Notices to clear" issued by the second week of December. All properties identified shall be cleared by the end of December.
2. Notices shall define the extent of works required, generally in accordance with standards developed in Appendix K.8.4 and at the discretion of the MFPO.

8.2 Occupied Crown Land

Any "Public Authority" lands identified by the MFPC or MFPO during the course of inspections or identified otherwise shall be recorded and appropriate notices for clearance made to the occupier of the land. Where such occupier is unknown, the MFPO shall take the issue up with the responsible Authority.

8.3 Land for Wildlife & Trusts for Nature

Properties with the status of "Land for Wildlife" as approved through DSE/DPI, remain within the laws for fire prevention responsibilities, the same as any other property in country Victoria. The properties can be identified by the aqua/blue sign with a standard logo and words, "Land for Wildlife". Such status for properties is limited to the current ownership of the property and is not an ongoing concern.

Properties qualify for Land for Wildlife because of they provide valuable habitat for flora and fauna and this habitat is therefore an asset to be protected. It is incumbent upon the



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property owner to develop an appropriate fire management plan that provides that protection and is acceptable to the MFPO and CFA.

Trusts for Nature have similar valuable habitats however all such properties have an encumbrance on the title providing for an ongoing use and protection of the land and its habitat.

It is recommended that appropriate fuel reduction methods be established for land designated for wildlife and Trusts for Nature. Some examples of these may be grass areas requiring regular burning, heath requiring mosaic burning and forests requiring firebreaks. DSE/DPI shall be requested to require all applicants for Land for Wildlife status be required to develop suitable site management plans. Trusts for Nature (an independent body) shall also be requested to develop suitable site management plans.

8.4 Works and Standards

The amount of work and the standard to be achieved for a fire hazard clearance notice on a property will be finally dependent on the condition of the property and the requirements of the MFPO. In general terms however the following work standards will be the minimum standard required to provide a satisfactory and practical fuel reduction level;

- Standard residential size allotment:
 - Grass and weeds cut over the whole of the land described, to a maximum height of 75mm above the natural surface of the ground (removed if deemed necessary by the MFPO)
 - Grass and weeds cut over a defined section of the land (e.g. the rear), to a maximum height of 75mm above the natural surface of the ground (removed if deemed necessary by the MFPO)
 - Specified material to be removed from a defined location on a defined site (e.g. stacked timber, heap of undergrowth, heap of cardboard boxes)
- Larger allotments:
 - Any of the above, subject to determination by the MFPO
 - Where adequate stock are on or to be introduced to a property, a minimum 10 metre strip cut around the property boundary with the grass and weed cut to a height of maximum 100mm above natural ground will be required

Note: Advice regarding vegetation around and against a building may be given to help reduce fuel loads around a dwelling. The standard of works for road reserves is defined in Appendix K, No. 9.

8.5 Fire Prevention Notice to Clear

Following the inspection of properties throughout the municipality, in accordance with the timetable schedule proposed in Appendix K.8.1, Fire Prevention Notices to Clear shall be served on the relevant properties by the MFPO.



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Notices shall be served in accordance with Section 41 of the CFA Act (as defined in the Fire Authorities (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1995 - No. 2 of 1995) and as per Schedule 15 of the CFA Regulations.

Note: Fire Prevention Notices to Clear can also include $\frac{1}{2}$ the road width of any Private Street on which the land abuts. See Section 41(1) (b) of the CFA Act.

Section 41B and 41C of the Act allows for the right of objection or appeal to a Notice. Refer to the Fire Authorities (Miscellaneous Amendments) Act 1995 for the process of objection and appeal.

8.6 Permits To Burn

Following the declaration of a "Fire Danger Period" no person shall light a fire in country area Victoria without authorization or direction as per the CFA Act. The relevant reference sections of the Act are Section 37, 38, 38A, 39 and 39A.

Note the distinction between properties within 1.5 kilometre of a State or National Park (public land) for land north of the Princes Highway and for land south of the Princes Highway. Refer to Appendix K.5.

Properties within 1.5 kilometre of public land north of the Princes Highway require a permit to burn from DSE/DPI and not the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. As well, the prohibited period may be different for DSE/DPI as compared to the CFA.

The authorisation required for a "permit to burn" is by application to the MFPO and the issue of a permit in accordance with Schedule 12 of the CFA Regulations for Brigades and Schedule 13 for Individuals applicants.

The process developed for the issue of a permit to burn is:

- • All applications shall be made to the MFPO
- • If the application within 1.5 km of public land and north of the Princes Highway, the application shall be referred onto DSE/DPI
- For all cases (not under DSE/DPI control) the MFPO will obtain comments from the relevant Brigade Captain prior to the issue of any permit
- No permit will be issued where there are negative comments forthcoming from the Brigade
- The MFPO shall then determine whether to issue or not issue a permit to burn
- Conditions on permits shall be in accordance with CFA comments, MFPO requirements and in accordance with Schedule 13 of the Regulations
- A copy of the permit will be provided to the applicant and a copy shall be sent to the Brigade Captain/Officer in Charge or his representative
- For land south of the Princes Highway and within 1.5 km of Public Land, DSE/DPI to be advised, by the MFPO, of the permit issued. (Note for private land north of the Princes



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Highway and within 1.5 km of a State or National Park, DSE/DPI is responsible for the issue of permits to burn. DSE/DPI should provide a copy of any permits issued to the local brigade)

- The MFPO will keep a record of all applications and permits issued

A flow chart of events for the “issue of a permit” is contained in Appendix E. It is recommended that the process defined be adopted.

9. Road Maintenance Works and Standards

9.1 General

The objective of this section will be to define the desired requirements for roadside works for fire prevention and the standards to be achieved.

Intrinsic to these requirements will be the need for the Road Authorities (Council and Vic Roads) and Vic Track, to provide and maintain the roads and bridges in a condition suitable for both emergency response and for the easy and safe movement of general commuter traffic.

The road maintenance works required are aimed at fine fuel reduction methods which have an objective of assisting with the safe passage of traffic, to help restrict the risk of spread of wildfire from the roadside to adjoining land, to stop some fires from spreading across country and to assist the suppression forces in stopping wildfires.

9.2 Declared Roads

Vic Roads is the responsible road authority in accordance with their “Code of Practice for Fire Prevention in Declared Road Reserves.” The current code of practice is deemed to be acceptable compliance with fuel reduction practices.

A number of roads within the declared road system form a part of the “strategic firebreak” system and hence the importance of those roads as a means of access and the need for maximisation of sound fuel reduction practices.

The standards set in the Code of Practice divide the road system into the following five broad categories for types of country:

- Dense timber and undergrowth in forest areas
- Light timber and undergrowth
- Timber and undergrowth adjacent to grassland country
- Grassland and scattered trees and vegetation
- Open grassland



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For each category there are guidelines given for work requirements however they are general only and are to be used as a guide only.

The one constant guide given over all of their categories is “the cutting and/or slashing of vegetation up to 3 metres behind the guide posts where practicable”.

This standard is approved by the MFPC for all Vic Roads roads of Highways, Main Roads Tourist Roads and Forest Roads (refer to Appendix J, No.1 for road list).

9.3 Local Roads

Local roads are all roads that are not a part of the declared road system and are under the municipality’s control. They do not include roads on private land or another public authorities land. Local roads include numerous roads within the defined “strategic firebreak” system.

The standards proposed for local roads are:

- All Council maintained roads shall be constructed or formed and maintained to a standard to provide all weather and all vehicle access.
- All new constructions, re-constructions or pavement rehabilitations shall be made to provide a minimum 6.0 metre wide pavement. Where this is not achievable due to low traffic counts or steep topography, regular passing bays and turning circles shall be provided.
- All road name signs shall be displayed and erected in a clearly visible location. The signs shall be maintained in a clean and readable condition. No through roads shall be appropriately signed.
- All strategic firebreaks forming a part of the local road system shall be slashed both sides of the road to a distance of 1.0 metre behind the guide post line or where no posts exist, slashing to 1.5 metre from the edge of the road surface, where practicable. This guideline objective is to achieve a minimum 10.0 metre clear width including the road surface.
- Slashing shall occur on all such roads prior to the fire season and as required thereafter depending upon the growth and to a suitable minimum fuel load capacity.
- (vi) Where strategic firebreak reserve widths exceed 20 metres (1 chain) and lead into or away from any built up area, slashing may be carried out to the fence line (if practicable) unless the roadside management plan requires otherwise. Refer to Appendix A for the strategic firebreak plan or Appendix K .1 for the list of road names.
- All other sealed and where possible, unsealed roads, should be slashed to the guide post line or 1.5 metres from the road surface edge and achieve a minimum 10.0 metre clear width including the road surface, at a timing the same as in (v) above.

Councils current “road maintenance services” contract specifies works to be undertaken and “intervention levels” - control of roadside vegetation by grass mowing is described as “machine mowing of roadside areas so as to control weeds, grass growth, maintain sight distance, reduce fire hazards and keep a tidy roadside appearance, without leaving grass cuttings on roadways”.

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The intervention levels are given as 1.5 metre width from back of guideposts or edge of pavement to keep to a maximum 300mm length by cutting to 100mm length. As well the specification contains a general clause requiring: "In addition to the above:

- (i) extend grass cutting to maintain sight distance according to the traffic control at intersections and 30 metres in advance of all approaches and departures at rest areas and bus stops; and
- (ii) comply with the requirements of Road management and fire prevention plans where applicable."

The standards set in Council's current specification including the above, are satisfactory for roadside fuel reduction works.

The grass cutting maintenance requirements for roads under Council control are applicable to all of the sealed road system, unsealed collector roads and bus routes.

9.4 Fire Access Roads

The fire access roads within the city are:

- Harris's Lane, Toongabbie
- Entrance to the Guide Hall, Glengarry West (Guide Camp Rd)
- Track, Rules Road and Government Road.
- Lakeview Place, down to Becks Bridge Road
- Black Tank Road, Glengarry, western end gated
- McColls Road. Yallourn North gated area through the quarry.
- Whitelaws Track Callignee
- Rickards Drive Churchill

Refer to map for Appendix A for locations of fire access roads.

Not all fire access roads are currently operational. The list shall be checked for usability and signing, if appropriate. Where a track is in unsatisfactory condition, appropriate application for funding shall be made. Signing shall be arranged through the Council.

Funding for fire access road construction, maintenance or static water supply is available through the Ministry of Police and Emergency Services. Applications are called for and made through the CFA. Where fire access roads are identified for construction or maintenance, the MFPC shall adopt a priority listing and applications made for accordingly by the MFPO. All funding is on a shared basis with the municipality. The list shall be reviewed along with the review timetable for the MFPP.

There are also numerous fire access roads and tracks contained on Crown Land and private Plantations as per their Fire Prevention Plans. DSE/DPI and Plantation Operators are responsible for maintenance of the identified roads and tracks.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

9.5 Bridges

Bridges form a strategic part of the access network for general commuters and emergency vehicles. It is of high priority that all bridges remain useable for the road users and that maintenance, upgrades or replacements occur as necessary.

Any bridge that is restricted by load limit or is known to require a remedial or replacement action will be recommended for inclusion on a responsible and achievable bridge repair or replacement program.

The responsible authorities for bridges are Vic Roads, Council and Vic Track.

10. Council Properties

In accordance with Section 43 of the Act, Council is responsible to take all practical steps to prevent the occurrence of fires on property under its control or management including roads.

The standards to be achieved by Council should be the same as for private landowners. Where any land or reserves exist that require particular consideration for reasons such as environmental values, Council shall develop a "management plan" that includes a fire management plan. Where no such plan exists, land shall receive fire prevention work levels in accordance with surrounding private land fuel reduction practices.

11. Roadside Slashing Programs

The objective of roadside slashing is to maintain a suitable dimensioned vehicle movement zone, sight distance for users, reduced fuel loads and a clear distance off the road carriageway. The major objective overall being the safety of road users.

12. Declared Roads

A number of roads within the declared road system form a part of the "strategic firebreak" system and hence the importance of those roads as a means of access and the need for maximization of sound fuel reduction practices.

The slashing requirement is "the cutting and/or slashing of vegetation up to 3 metres behind the guide posts where practicable".

Main Roads: **NB** These are now the responsibility of Vic Roads:

- Boolarra South - Mirboo North Road



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

- Boolarra - Churchill Road – (Monash Way)
- Boolarra - Mirboo North Road
- Brodribb Road – (Monash Way to Power station)
- Churchill - Traralgon Road – (Hazelwood Rd.)
- Loy Yang - Morwell Road – (Firmins Lane, Sanders Road, Mattingley Hill Rd, Barton's Lane)
- Maryvale Road – (Alexander's Road, Old Melbourne Road, Tanjil East Road)
- Moe North Road – (Thompson's Road)
- Moe - Glengarry Road
- Moe - Rawson Road – (Walhalla Road)
- Monash Way Road
- Morwell - Thorpdale Road
- Morwell - Traralgon Road – (Princes Highway)
- Morwell - Yallourn North Road – (Latrobe Road)
- Morwell - Yallourn Road – (Decampo Drive)
- Traralgon Creek Road – (Ends at Koornalla Road & Balook Tourist Road)
- Traralgon West Road – (Grey Street to Maryvale Road)
- Traralgon - Maffra Road
- Tyers Road – (Traralgon –Tyres Road)

13. Local Roads

Local roads include numerous roads within the defined “strategic firebreak” system.

The standards for local roads are:

- Strategic firebreaks forming a part of the local road system shall be slashed both sides of the road where practicable to a distance of 1.0 metre behind the guide post line or 1.5 metre from the edge of the road surface where no posts exist. This guideline objective is to achieve a minimum 10.0 metre clear width including the road surface.
- Where strategic firebreak reserve widths exceed 20 meters (1 chain) and lead into or away from any built up area, and it has previously been slashed to the fence line is to be slashed to the fence line, otherwise slash as in (a) above.
- Other sealed and where possible, unsealed roads, should be slashed to the guidepost line or 1.5 meters from the road surface edge and achieve a minimum 10.0 meter clear width including the road surface.

14. Strategic Firebreaks - Primary and Secondary

All strategic firebreaks are the highest priority for both fire prevention works and road surface maintenance.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Primary Firebreaks

Road	Location	Conservation Category
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Vic Roads Responsibility

• Hazelwood Road	Traralgon to Thomsons Road	L, M &H
• Boldings Road	Thomsons Road to Tramway Rd	L
• Tr'gon-Maffra Rd	Princes Hwy to boundary	L, M &H
• Moe - Glenngarry Road	(includes Latrobe River Rd, Third Street & John Field Drive)	L, M &H

Latrobe City Responsibility

These roads are to be cut first by Council Staff as they are primary firebreaks. (3 metre cut) or fence to fence where practicable.

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Airfield Road	1.85kms	full length	L
• Scrubby Lane	3.12kms	full length	L
• Purvis Road	8.23kms	Walhalla Rd to Yall. Nth.	L, M &H
• Becks Bridge Rd.	3.750kms	Purvis Rd. - Walhalla Rd	L

Conservation values are: L= low, M= medium and H= high.

All other roads to be cut under fire prevention roadside slashing contract

Toongabbie & Glenngarry Area.

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Thompson Dr.	0.675kms	off Weir Rd.	L
• Hocking Cr.	0.380kms	" "	L
• Hillier Lane	0.220kms	off Toongabbie Cowwarr Rd.	L
• Fox's Rd.	0.770kms	" "	M
• Hilsley Crt	0.665kms	" "	L
• Wykes Rd.	0.660kms	off Fox's Rd to end of sealed	M
• Lang Pl.	0.120kms	" "	L
• Travoyers Rd.	0.585kms	" "	L
• Shelia Crt.	0.665kms	" "	L
• Glenngarry North Rd	4.630kms	Moe/Glenn Rd - end of seal	L
• Rifle Range Rd	1.830kms	" "	L
• Francis Rd	3.230kms	" "	L
• Christensons Rd	1.380kms	" "	L
• Waites Rd	1.420kms	Francis to Burnet Rds.	L

Tyers Area

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
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• Old Maffra Rd.	1.140kms	T'gon/Tyers Rd - end of seal	L
• Mays Rd.	1.580kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – end of seal	L
• Monaro Dr.	0.810kms	Mays Rd – end of seal	L
• Kyandra Dr.	0.700kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – end of seal	L
• Fitzgibbons Rd.	2.280kms	Rawson Tourist Rd to end of seal	L
• Travotello Pl.	1.250kms	Rawson Tourist Rd to end of seal	L
• Cowies Rd.	2.550kms	Rawson Tourist Rd to end of seal	L
• Deys Rd.	0.430kms	Cowies Rd. – end of seal	L
• Guild Way	0.140kms	Cowies Rd. – end of seal	L
• Hensley Court.	0.280kms	Cowies Rd. – end of seal	L
• Archbolds Lane	2.140kms	T'gon/Tyers Rd – Littles Lane	L
• Littles Lane	0.580kms	Archbolds Lane – Moe/Glen Rd.	L
• Sayers Tr.	1.100kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – Christensens Rd.	L

Yallourn North Area

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Manuals Tr.	1.660kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – end of seal	L
• Nardino's Rd.	1.000kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – end of seal	L
• Valley View Crt.	0.320kms	Nardino's – end of seal	L
• Hollander Dr.	0.250kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – Helga Dr.	L
• Helga Dr	390kms	end of Hollander Dr	L
• Quarry Rd.	5.600kms	Moe/Glenn Rd – Kaye Rd.	L
• Manfa Crt.	0.280kms	Quarry Rd to end of seal	L
• Savages Rd.	1.300kms	Quarry Rd to end of seal	L
• Howlets Tr.	0.917kms	Purvis Rd. to Hall Rd.	L

Moe, Newborough Areas.

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Lake View Pl.	0.540kms	Purvis Rd. - end of seal	L
• Adam View Crt.	0.250kms	Becks Bridge Rd - end of seal	L
• McPherson Rd.	0.430kms	Thompson's Rd to end	L
• Hayes Rd.	1.350kms	Thompson's Rd to end.	L
• Sullivans Tr.	0.600kms	Thompson's Rd to Lake Narracan	L
• Golf Links Rd.	1.470kms	Moe/Glen Rd – Coach Rd	L
• Coach Rd.	2.690kms	Decampo Dr.to Newborough.	L
• Bill Shultz Dr.	1.320kms	Coach Rd to Haunted Hills Rd.	M-L
• Haunted Hills Rd.	3.010kms	Decampo Dr. to Newborough.	H-L
• McDonalds Tr.	4.970kms	Marretts Rd. end of seal	M-L
• Yasmin Dr.	0.735kms	McDonalds Tr. end of seal	L
• Arwon Dr.	1.100kms	Sayers Tr. to end.	L
• Pleasant Dr.	0.440kms	McDonalds Tr. end of seal	L
• Outlook Way	0.350kms	McDonalds Tr. end of seal	L
• Pearces Tr.	2.140kms	McDonalds Tr. to Two Mile Rd.	L
• Frys Track	1.980kms	Two Mile Road to Princes Fwy	M



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

• View Rd.	0.864kms	Pearces Tr. to end	L
• McGraths Tr.	1.640kms	McDonalds Tr. to Frys Tr.	L
• Coalville Rd.	2.015kms	Two Mile Rd to Moe South Rd	L
• Ryland Way	0.910kms	Coalville Rd to end	L
• Blackwood Rise	0.700kms	Moe South Rd to Wirraway St	L, M
• Lynne Ave.	0.720kms	Moe South Rd to end	L
• Daphne Dr.	0.744kms	Moe South Rd to end	L
• Chalk Road	0.300kms	Moe South Rd to end	L
• Simon Ct.	0.650kms	Moe South Rd to end	L

Morwell, Churchill, Hazelwood and Yinnar Areas

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Marretts Rd	4.900kms	Strze Hwy to McDonalds Track	L
• Yinnar Rd.	5.740kms	Brodribb Rd to Yinnar/Driffield Rd	L
• Hazelwood Estate Rd.	7.770kms	Yinnar Rd to Monash Way	L, M & H
• Walshs Rd	2.715kms	Hazelwood Est. Rd. to Jumbuk	L
• Switchback Rd.	4.260kms	Yinnar Rd to 70kmh Sign	L
• Frasers Lane	2.180kms	Switchback to end of seal	L
• Nadenbousches Rd.	3.140kms	Switchback to Brodribb Rd.	L
• Bonds Lane	0.995kms	Tramway to Monash Way	L
• Buckleys Rd	0.860kms	Firmins to end	L
• Groppi Rd	0.675kms	Buckleys to end	L
• Ambrose Rd	0.860kms	Firmins to end	L
• Malcolm Way	0.710kms	Firmins to end	L
• Kenneth Ct	0.250kms	Malcolm to end seal	L
• Romuald Rd	0.850kms	Firmins to end	L
• Davey Jones Rd	0.850kms	Firmins to end	L
• Waratah Dr	0.580kms	Firmins to end	L
• Fenton Way	0.560kms	Waratah to Tanners Rd	L
• Tanners Rd.	0.660kms	Firmins to end	L
• English St.	1.338kms	Holmes Rd to Paul St.	L
• John St.	1.010kms	English St. to Andrew St.	L
• Andrew St.	1.500kms	Latrobe Rd to Maryvale Rd.	L
• Paul St.	1.270kms	Andrew St to Latrobe Rd.	L
• Church Rd	3.155kms	Tramway Rd. to Clarks Rd.	L
• Titree Rd.	0.860kms	Church Rd to end	L
• Mulga Rd	0.720kms	TiTree to end	L
• Cranwell Cres.	0.725kms	Church Rd to end	L
• Jeeralang North Rd.	7.280kms	Hazelwood Rd to Quarry Entrance	M&H
• Firmins Lane	1.060kms	Hazelwood Rd to end of seal	L
• Meles Rd.	0.530kms	Firmins to end	L
• Theresa Rd.	0.930kms	Meles to end	L
• Glanville Cres.	1.055kms	Jeeralang Nth to Plantation	L
• Arrandoon Dr.	0.910kms	Jeeralang Nth to end.	L



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•Glen Pl.	0.080kms	Arrandoon to end	L
•Lynn Pl.	0.080kms	Arrandoon to end	L
•Madison Pl.	0.700kms	Jeeralang Nth to end.	L
•Warren Terrace	2.260kms	Jeeralang Nth Rd to Clarks Rd	L
•Clarks Rd.	2.270kms	Church Rd to Sagars Rd.	M
•Murray Rd	0.320kms	Church Rd to Wilkan Dr	L
•Wilkan Dr.	0.990kms	Clarks Rd to end	L
•Sheridan Ct.	0.210kms	Wilkan Dr to end	L
•Loriel Ct.	0.210kms	Wilkan Dr to end	L
•Marcus Grv.	0.230kms	Wilkan Dr to end	L
•Sagars Rd.	1.250kms	Jeeralang Nth to end	L
•Lauderdale Rd.	0.560kms	Sagars to end	L
•Maitland Rd.	0.545kms	Sagars to end	L
•Raesowna Rise	0.545kms	Jeralang Nth to end	L
•Mt View Ct.	0.415kms	Raesowna Rise to end	L
•Buurman Dr.	0.420kms	Jeeralang Nth to end	L
•Munckton Rd.	1.500kms	Jeeralang Nth to Quarry	L
•Thomsons Rd	4.850kms	Hazelwood Rd to end of seal	H
•Lawless Rd.	2.740kms	Thomsons Rd to Switchback Rd	L
•Holts Rd.	0.960kms	Thomsons Rd to end.	M
•Stonehaven Rd.	0.530kms	Thomsons Rd to end.	M
•Salisbury Lane	0.790kms	Thomsons Rd to end.	M
•Tumny Rd	0.318kms	Holts to Salisbury Lane	L
•Tramway Road	4.300kms	Boldings Road to Firmins Lane	L
•Snake Gully Rd.	0.240kms	Monash Way to end	L
•Junction Rd.	2.880kms	Monash to Jumbuk Rds.	H
•Braniffs Rd.	1.265kms	Junction Rd to end	L
•Koala Dr.	0.710kms	Braniffs to end	L
•Surman Rd.	0.120kms	Braniffs to end	L
•Tebb Terrace	1.350kms	Junction Rd to end	L
•Temple Ct.	0.710kms	Junction Rd to end	L
•Trews Rd.	0.730kms	Junction Rd to end	L
•Kowloon Rd.	0.633kms	Trews to Old Junction Rds.	L
•Wakanenn Dr.	0.785kms	Trews to Old Junction Rds.	L
•Old Jumbuk Rd	1.420kms	Junction Rd. to Jumbuk Rd.	H
•Jumbuk Rd.	7.300kms	Wicks St Yinnar to Junction Rd	L
•Williams Rd.	2.000kms	Trews Rd to Walshes Rd	L
•Considine Dr.	1.030kms	Williams to end	L
•Goodings Rd.	0.740kms	Monash to end	L
•Middle Creek Rd.	4.000kms	Jumbuk to Gilberts Rd	L
•Pages Rd	1.270kms	Middle Creek to end	L
•Perry Ct.	0.270kms	Pages to end	L
•Brewsters Rd.	1.190kms	Middle Cr. To end	L
•Peel Dr.	0.660kms	Brewsters to end	L
•Gilberts Rd.	3.380kms	Middle Creek to end of seal	L&M
•Brockelbank Rd.	0.270kms	Gilberts to end.	L



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•Healys Rd.	1.760kms	Middle Creek Rd to end.	L
•Explorers Rd.	1.400kms	Middle Creek Rd to Whitelaws.	L
•Whitelaws Trk.	4.180kms	Monash way to end of seal	H
•Speargrass Rd	1.720kms	Monash way to end of seal	L&M
•Creamery Rd	2.620kms	Yinnar Rd to end of seal	L&M
•Vaggs	0.480kms	Yinnar Rd to end of seal	L&M
•Nuttalls Rd.	0.735kms	Yinnar Rd to end of seal	L&M

Boolarra District

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Roy's Rd	2.270kms	Budgaree to Prosper Valley Rd.	L
• Prosper Valley Rd.	3.330kms	Morwell River Rd. to Roys Rd.	L&M
• Livingstone Rd.	5.270kms	Boolarra Sth Rd to Morwell River	L&M
• Limonite Rd.	6.760kms	Mirboo Nth Rd to Council Boundary	L
• Hirsts Rd.	0.970kms	Darlimurla to fish farm.	L
• Bunderra Dr.	1.640kms	Darlimurla to end	M
• Todds & Macintoshs Rds.	3.100kms	Darlimurla to sealed section on Macintoshs	M

Traralgon & Flynn Area

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Old Melbourne Rd.	5.100kms	Rail Xing to 80 k sign (Alexanders Rd)	L,M&H
• Mark Dr.	0.580kms	Tyers Rd to Traralgon West Rd.	L
• Paysely Rd.	0.860kms	Old Melb. Rd to end of seal.	L
• Wilga Cr.	1.225kms	Traralgon West Rd. to Traralgon West Rd.	
• Freemans Rd.	0.690kms	Traralgon West Rd. to end	L
• Negoura Ct	0.140kms	Traralgon West Rd.	L
• Hoven Dr.	0.528kms	Old Melb. Rd to end of seal.	L
• Coonoc Rd.	1.048kms	Old Melb. Rd to Princes Fwy.	L
• Regan Rd.	0.516kms	Old Melb. Rd to end of seal.	L
• Pedra Rd.	0.376kms	Old Melb. Rd to Beau Vista	L
• Beau Vista Dr.	0.680kms	Regan to end	L
• Easterly Dr.	0.730kms	Airfield Rd to end	L
• Northern Ave	1.090kms	Easterly Dr to Princes Fwy	L
• Valley Dr.	0.560kms	Airfield Rd to end	L
• Village Ave	0.660kms	Princes Fwy to end	L
• Melrossa Rd.	2.710kms	McNairn Rd to Minniedale Rd.	L
• Minniedale Rd.	3.870kms	Princes Hwy to end	L
• Hourigan Rd.	1.200kms	Minniedale Rd. to end	L
• Widdows Lane	1.200kms	Minniedale Rd. to end of seal	L



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• Wilmont Ct.	0.634kms	Princes Hwy to Turnbull Dr.	L
• Turnbull Dr.	0.995kms	End to end	L
• Varney Cr	1.040kms	Turnbull Dr. to end	L
• Kings Way	0.447kms	Varney to Turnbull Dr.	L
• Sheepwash Creek Rd.	0.355kms	Princes Hwy to end	L
• Barrs Lane	5.300kms	Princes Hwy to Inges Rd	L
• Flynns Creek Rd	10.470kms	Princes Hwy to end	L
• Rathjens Rd	.595kms	Flynns Creek Rd to Bridge.	L

Loy Yang, Traralgon South and Callignee

Road	Length	Location	Conservation Category
• Callignee South Rd	7.910kms	Traralgon Creek Rd to end of seal.	M&H
• Whitelaws Track	0.816kms	Callignee Sth Rd to 2nd Rita Dr exit	H
• Rita Dr.	1.300kms	Whitelaws to Whitelaws.	L
• Old Callignee Rd	1.800kms	Callignee Sth Rd to hall	H
• Lyndons Rd.	1.950kms	Old Callignee Rd to Bridge	L

These roads are currently on a roadside spraying program, the roadside slashing program to fund one additional spray during the fire danger period.

Road	Location	Conservation Category
• Yinnar – Driffield Road	Strzelecki Hwy to Yinnar	L & M
• Yinnar Road	Brodribb Road to Yinnar	L
• Brodribb Road.	PowerStation to Strzelecki Hwy	L & H
• Jeeralang North Road	Hazelwood Road to Sagars Road	
• Toongabbie to Sheila Court		M & H
• Minnedale Road	Full Length	L

Conservation values are: L= low, M= medium and H= high

Councils current "road maintenance services" contract specifies works to be undertaken and "intervention levels" - control of roadside vegetation by grass mowing is described as "machine mowing of roadside areas so as to control weeds, grass growth, maintain sight distance, reduce fire hazards and keep a tidy roadside appearance, without leaving grass cuttings on roadways".

The intervention levels are given as 1.5 metre width from back of guideposts or edge of pavement to keep to a maximum 300mm length by cutting to 100mm length.

As well the specification contains a general clause requiring: "In addition to the above:



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- (i) extend grass cutting to maintain sight distance according to the traffic control at intersections and 30 metres in advance of all approaches and departures at rest areas and bus stops; and
- (ii) comply with the requirements of roadside management and fire prevention plans where applicable.”

The standards set in Council’s current specification including the above, are satisfactory for roadside fuel reduction works.

The roads identified in this program may be altered depending on the season and at the Municipal Fire Prevention Officers discretion.

Urban Areas

All areas to be slashed fence to fence unless specified otherwise.

Traralgon

- Hickox St. (south of Rose Avenue park side only)
- South end of Botanic Park (Road formation through to Hazelwood Road.)
- Hyde Park Rd (south of Rose Avenue)
- Rose Av (South Side)
- Hazelwood Road Boundary to developed area.
- Tyers Rd (Traralgon West Rd to Cross’s Rd)
- Cross’s Rd (North side.)
- Marshall’s Rd (at west end to fence on south side as far as Gippsland Water gate; on north side as far as last farm driveway, then 2 cuts beside roadway to gate.)
- McNairn Rd (between Melrossa Rd & Hyland HWY east side)
- Stuart St
- Retreat Rd
- Standing Drv
- Tip Rd Retreat Rd to tip 1 cut behind guideposts.
- Coopers Rd (Roadside reserve.)
- Alamere Dr. (To end.)

Traralgon South

Township roadsides.

Flynn

Town Area.

Churchill

- Mathison Park (30m firebreak from McDonald Way to waters edge at school fence line. Section on the corner of Monash Way & Northlands Rd)
- McDonald Way (Rear of fire station and west of Leisure Centre Behind skate park)
- Ikara Way/Switchback Rd



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- Canterbury Way East
- Gaskin Park South
- (McCormick St N/Strips
- Mackeys Rd West
- Glendonald Road.

Morwell

- Cut along fence line closest to German Club & Houses.
- Waratah Reserve. (Bridle Rd North End)
- Crinigan Rd Passive (Fire breaks through the bush reserve)
- Recreation Area.
- Crinigan Rd.
- Jason St.
- Palm Gr.
- Ashly St.
- Toners Lane
- Go Cart track Frontage.

Yinnar

- Hazelwood Estate Rd (Bonds Lane to Monash Way)
- Jumbuk RD Langley St to Monash Way
- Sliedell Ct. (Corner section.)

Boolarra

Bastin St Foster Rd to Church St - South side

Moe

- Edward Hunter Reserve Boundaries
- Coalville Rd
- Monash Rd
- Wirraway St.
- Borrmans Rd
- Samantha Ave.
- Latrobe Valley Village (Area behind Homes)
- Elderly Citizens Homes
- Old Sale Road (Walhalla Rd. to Narracan Creek)
- Haig St Extention
- King St Ext.
- Mountain Glen Drive (cut to fence line)
- Watsons Rd.
- Tambo Rd
- Pineridge Rd.

Toongabbie



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

- Street Formations
- Water Reserve
- Glengarry
- Cairnbrook Rd

Tyers

- Main Rd (as per map)

Yallourn North

- Murray Road

Roads where extra works to be carried out

Upper Jumbuk Road (from Junction Rd. to O'Reillys Hill Rd. a reach mower is to be used on the right hand side embankment travelling east one cut down the embankment)

Summary:

It is recommended that -

- K, 9.3 (i) to (vii) be recommended to Council for adoption
- Fire Access Roads be maintained by Council and that regular inspections be carried out to ensure their satisfactory condition.
- all relevant authorities be requested to maintain bridges under their control in a suitable and non-load limit condition.



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Appendix L

Plan Review Record

Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

SECTION	PAGE	AMENDMENT DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
Appendix L	114	Fire Refuges	4/8/99	
Appendix L	114	Fire Refuges	10/11/99	
30.2	43–48	Action Plan	29/11/00	
Plan Review	All	Major Tri – yearly review	00/05/03	L King
Plan update	All	Yearly Review as identified in plan.	08/09/04	L King
Plan update	All	Updated prior to audit. MFPC approved	15/06/05	L King
Amended	All	To align with Geographical Information Planning	21/06/06	L King
Amended	All	Updated prior to Audit	08/05/08	L King
Amended	All	Updated prior to audit	29/10/08	S English
Amended	All	Document reformatted	28/11/08	S English
Amended	25	Road Management Plan	22.7.09	S English
Amended	8	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee additions	29.9.10	S English
Plan Update & reformat	All	Updated prior to audit.	21/06/11	L King



Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

Appendix M

Plan Distribution List

Municipal Fire Prevention Plan

NUMBER OF COPIES ISSUED	PLAN ISSUED TO	DATE	AMENDMENT NO SENT
25	Country Fire Authority – All local Brigades		
4	Country Fire Authority - Group Officers		
2	Country Fire Authority - Region 9 & 10 HQ		
1	Country Fire Authority – Community Safety Manager		
1	Department of Sustainability and Environment, Erica		
1	Municipal Emergency Management Committee		
1	Municipal Emergency Response Officer		
5	Neighbouring Municipalities		
1	Latrobe City Council – CEO		
2	Latrobe C.C. Municipal Fire Prevention Officer Note: The Master Copy of the MFPP is to be retained on the City records		
2	Latrobe C.C. Strategic Planner/Planner		
1	Vic Roads, Regional Office, Traralgon		
1	Water Authorities: Gippsland Water		
1	West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority		

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