Shire of
Narrogin
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MINUTES

BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

SHIRES OF NARROGIN

16 March 2026

These minutes were confirmed at the Bush Fire Advisory Committee Meeting held on 11 September 2026.

Signed: ……
(Presiding Person at the meeting at which minutes were confirmed)

Acknowledgement of Noongar People

The Shire of Narrogin acknowledges the Noongar people as traditional custodians of this land and their continuing connection to land and community. We pay our respect to them, to their culture and to their Elders past and present.

Naatj ngiyan Birdiya Gnarojin kep unna nidja Noongar Moort ngaala maya nidja boodjera baarlap djoowak karlerl koolark. Ngalak niny ngullang karnan balang Bibolman baalap borong koora wer boorda.

Electronic copies of minutes and agendas are available for download from the Shire of Narrogin website www.narrogin.wa.gov.au

Alternative formats are also available upon request, including large print, electronic format (disk or emailed), audio or Braille

STRATEGIC COMMUNITY PLAN 2017-27

SNAPSHOT

Shire of **Narrogin**

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VISION

To be a leading regional economic driver and a socially interactive and inclusive community.

MISSION

Provide leadership, direction and opportunities for the community.

KEY PRINCIPLES

In achieving the Vision and Mission, we will set achievable goals and work with the community to maintain a reputation of openness, honesty and accountability. In doing so we will:

- Respect the points of view of individuals and groups;
- Build on existing community involvement;
- Encourage community leadership;
- Promote self-reliance and initiative;
- Recognise and celebrate achievement;
- Support the principles of social justice; and
- Acknowledge the value of staff and volunteers.

OUR VALUES

Care with Trust & Teamwork

Caring - We display kindness and concern for one another and our community

Accountability - We accept responsibility for our actions and outcomes

Respect - We treat everyone how we would like to be treated

Excellence - We go the extra mile to deliver outstanding services

Trust - We share without fear of consequences

Team Work - We work together for a common goal

ECONOMIC

Support growth and progress, locally and regionally...

Growth in revenue opportunities

- Attract new industry, business, investment and encourage diversity whilst encouraging growth of local business
- Promote Narrogin and the Region
- Promote Narrogin's health and aged services including aged housing

Increased Tourism

- Promote, develop tourism and maintain local attractions

An effective well maintained transport network

- Maintain and improve road network in line with resource capacity
- Review and implement the Airport Master Plan

Agriculture opportunities maintained and developed

- Support development of agricultural services

SOCIAL

Provide community facilities and promote social Interaction...

Provision of youth services

- Develop and implement a youth strategy

Build a healthier and safer community

- Support the provision of community security services and facilities
- Advocate for mental health and social support services
- Continue and improve provision of in-home care services

Existing strong community spirit and pride is fostered, promoted and encouraged

- Develop and activate Sport and Recreation Master Plan
- Engage and support community groups and volunteers
- Facilitate and support community events
- Provide improved community facilities (eg library/recreation)
- Encourage and support continued development of arts and culture

Cultural and heritage diversity is recognised

- Maintain and enhance heritage assets
- Support our Narrogin cultural and indigenous community

A broad range of quality education services and facilities servicing the region

- Advocate for increased education facilities for the region
- Advocate for and support increased education services

ENVIRONMENT

Conserve, protect and enhance our natural and built environment...

A preserved natural environment

- Conserve, enhance, promote and rehabilitate the natural environment

Effective waste services

- Support the provision of waste services

Efficient use of resources

- Increase resource usage efficiency

A well maintained built environment

- Improve and maintain built environment

CIVIC

Continually enhance the Shire's organisational capacity to service the needs of a growing community...

An efficient and effective organisation

- Continually improve operational efficiencies and provide effective services
- Continue to enhance communication and transparency

An employer of choice

- Provide a positive, desirable workplace

FCEO027

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Council and Committee agendas, recommendations, minutes, and resolutions are subject to confirmation by the Council or Committee and therefore, prior to relying on them, one should refer to the subsequent meeting of Council or the Committee with respect to their accuracy.

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In accordance with Regulation 14I of the Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996, the Shire of Narrogin records all Council Meetings. Recordings are publicly available within 14 days and retained for at least 5 years. Copies may be provided to the Departmental CEO upon request.

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BUSH FIRE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BFAC) MEETING

16 MARCH 2026

1. OFFICIAL OPENING/ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISITORS

The Presiding Member, President Ballard, declared the meeting open at 3:31 pm.

2. RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/APOLOGIES/APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Members (Voting)
L Ballard – Shire of Narrogin President (Presiding Member)
P Porter – Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
V Gibson – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
S Moyses – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer
C Hardie – Fire Control Officer
B Lange – Fire Control Officer
K Quartermaine – Fire Control Officer
J Rick – Fire Control Officer
N Walker – Fire Control Officer
T Smith – Fire Control Officer

Other (Non-voting)
District Officer (DO) Gavin Stevens – DFES

Employees (Non-voting)
A Majid – Executive Manager Planning & Sustainability
P Gibson – Community Emergency Services Manager
Guy Maley – Senior Ranger
L van Heerden – Executive Support Officer

Leave of Absence
Nil

Apologies
A Russell – Fire Control Officer
D Kilpatrick – Fire Control Officer
L Hardie – Fire Control Officer
Snr Sgt M Glynn – Narrogin Police

Absent
M Saunders – Fire Control Officer
TBC – Narrogin Volunteer Fire & Rescue Service

Visitors
T Jenkins – Lightsource BP
C Beatty – Lightsource BP
L Wears – Lightsource BP
L Flavel – Nominee FCO

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST BY ELECTED MEMBERS AND COUNCIL EMPLOYEES IN MATTERS INCLUDED IN THE MEETING AGENDA

Name	Item No	Interest	Nature
Nil			

4. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

5.1 Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) Meeting

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION AND COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: P Porter Seconded: G Maley

That the minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee (BFAC) Meeting held on 1 October 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record of proceedings.

CARRIED10/0

For: All Members
Against: Nil

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PERSON PRESIDING WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil.

7. PETITIONS, DEPUTATIONS, PRESENTATIONS OR SUBMISSIONS

Lightsource BP delivered a presentation about the proposed Narrogin East Renewable Energy Project.

The Lightsource BP reps left the meeting at 4:30pm.

Outcome: Following discussion amongst FCOs, who raised concerns regarding the requirement for, and minimum extent of, protection zones or firebreaks extending from the base of wind turbine infrastructure, Adam Majid (Executive Manager Planning & Sustainability) and Paul Gibson (CESM) will review the Bush Fires Act to identify potential considerations to include in the Firebreak Notice.

8. MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE DECISIONS

8.1 ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF FIRE OFFICERS

Attachment 1– List of current appointees

A list of the current CBFCO, DCBFCO, Weather Committee, FCO's, Brigade Captains and Dual FCO's is required to be endorsed by Council annually prior to the fire season.

OFFICERS RESOLUTION

Moved: S Moyses Seconded: V Gibson

There be a recommendation to Council to appoint the following with all previous appointments being rescinded.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer	Pip Porter
First Deputy CBFCO	Vern Gibson
Second Deputy CBFCO	Stuart Moyses
Base Radio Operator	Stuart Moyses
Shire Rangers (Narrogin Townsite):	Guy Maley
CESM (Whole Shire):	Paul Gibson

Bush Fire Brigade	**Fire Control Officer's:**	
Highbury	Captain	Pip Porter
	1st Lieutenant	Stuart Moyses
	2nd Lieutenant	Lee Flavel
Minigin	Captain	Clayton Hardie
	1st Lieutenant	Lewis Hardie
	2nd Lieutenant	Russel Ashley
Narrogin	Captain	Vern Gibson
	1st Lieutenant	Jon Rick
	2nd Lieutenant	Leigh Ballard
Nomans Lake	Captain	Nathan Walker
	1st Lieutenant	Daryl Kilpatrick
	2nd Lieutenant	
Ockley	Captain	Troy Smith
	1st Lieutenant	Kieran Quartermaine
	2nd Lieutenant	Braden Lange

Weather Committee		**Alternative Member**
Boundain	Kieran Quatermaine	
Highbury East	Pip Porter	Stuart Moyses
Highbury South	Lee Flavel	
Minigin	Clayton Hardie	Lewis Hardie
Narrogin Central	Vern Gibson	Leigh Ballard

Nomans Lake	Nathan Walker	Daryl Kilparick
Ockley	Troy Smith	Braden Lange

Dual Fire Control Officers

Cuballing	Guy Maley, Clayton Hardie, Kieran Quartermaine
Wagin	Stuart Moyses, Nathan Walker
West Arthur	Lee Flavel
Wickepin	Troy Smith
Williams -	Clayton Hardie, Russell Ashley

CARRIED 10/0

For: All Members
Against: Nil

Shire of Narrogin
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SHIRE OF NARROGIN FIRE CONTROL STRUCTURE

Position	Name	Contact
Chief Bush Fire Control Officer (CBFCO)	Pip Porter	0429 859 041
First Deputy CBFCO	Vern Gibson	0428 108 274
Second Deputy CBFCO	Stuart Moyses	0427 859 029
Base Radio Operator	Stuart Moyses	0427 859 029
Senior Ranger/Shire FCO	Guy Maley	0448 873 207
Community Emergency Services Manager	Paul Gibson	0439 655 772

Register of Bush Fire Brigades AND Brigade FCO's

(Form 12, Regulation 41 of Bush Fires Act 1954)

Bush Fire Brigade	Brigade Rank	Fire Control Officers	Contact
Highbury	Captain 1st Lieutenant 2nd Lieutenant	Pip Porter Stuart Moyses Murray Saunders	0429 859 041 0427 859 029 0427 811 100
Minigin	Captain 1st Lieutenant 2nd Lieutenant	Clayton Hardie Lewis Hardie Russell Ashley	0408 845 278 0409 845 267 0428 815 859
Central	Captain 1st Lieutenant 2nd Lieutenant	Vern Gibson Jon Rick Leigh Ballard	0428 108 274 0428 584 467 0428 832 095
Nomans Lake	Captain 1st Lieutenant 2nd Lieutenant	Nathan Walker Daryl Kilpatrick Vacant	0428 827 027 0400 429 516
Ockley	Captain 1st Lieutenant 2nd Lieutenant	Troy Smith Keiran Quartermaine Braden Lange	0429 637 240 0429 889 838 0428 717 242

9. MATTERS WHICH REQUIRE DISCUSSION

9.1 ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE SHIRE FIRE ORDER

Attachment 2 – 25/26 Fire Order

The Shire of Narrogin Fire Order is to be reviewed annually.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION AND COMMITTEE RESOLUTION

Moved: S Moyses Seconded: K Quartermaine

There be a recommendation to Council to that Council approve the Fire Control Order for the 2026/27 year as presented in Attachment 2 with the date changed.

CARRIED 10/0

For: All Members

Against: Nil

NOTICE TO ALL OWNERS AND OCCUPIERS OF LAND IN THE SHIRE OF NARROGIN

Shire of Narrogin
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2025/2026 FIREBREAK AND FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION NOTICE

FOR ALL FIRES PHONE 000

ABOUT THIS NOTICE AND YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

In accordance with Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954, you are required to carry out fire prevention work on land owned or occupied by you as set out in this Notice by the dates specified. If the requirements of this Notice are not met by the due date, or are not completed to the satisfaction of an inspecting officer, an on the spot fine of **$250** will be issued. The maximum fine for failure to comply is **$5,000.** The Shire can also enter upon the land and carry out required works at the owner/occupier's expense.

DATES YOU MUST REMEMBER		
RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD	PROHIBITED BURNING PERIOD	RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD
1 October to 31 October	1 November to 1 March	2 March to 1 May
UNRESTRICTED BURNING SEASON 2 May to 30 September		

This Notice outlines the Firebreak requirements and restrictions for different property types and activities.

PROPERTY TYPE	CATEGORY	YEARLY COMPLIANCE DATES
Land Zoned Rural, Rural Smallholding & Rural Residential	Category 1	1 November to 1 May
All Other Land, Including Residential, Rural Townsite, Service Commercial, and Industrial up to 4,000 m^2	Category 2	1 November to 1 May
All Other Land, Including Residential, Rural Townsite, Service Commercial, and Industrial over 4,000 m^2	Category 3	1 November to 1 May

1. SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND ALTERNATIVES

1.1 SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

The requirements of this Notice are considered the minimum standard of fire protection required to protect not only the individual property but the community as a whole. The Shire can impose additional requirements to remove or abate hazards if considered necessary. Any property subject to a Bush Fire Management Plan, or conditions imposed as a result of development approval, must comply with the approved conditions in addition to the requirements of this Notice.

1.2 ALTERNATIVES

If it is considered to be impracticable for any reason to clear firebreaks or to remove flammable material from the land or any other provisions required by this notice you may apply to the Shire or its duly Authorised Officer not later than 1 October, for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or to take alternative action to manage fire hazards on the land. If permission is not granted by the Shire or a duly authorised person, you shall comply with the requirements of this notice.

Enquiries relating to this Firebreak and Fuel Hazard Reduction Notice or fire prevention in general should be directed to the Shire Ranger Services on (08) 9890 0900 or 0448 873 207.

2. WORK REQUIRED TO BE UNDERTAKEN

2.1 CATEGORY 1 – Land Zoned Rural, Rural Smallholding & Rural Residential

By 1 November until 1 May

Firebreaks

(a) On Rural zoned land at least 2.5 metres wide shall be maintained inside and within 20 metres of the boundary of all land; and surrounding such other positions as is necessary to divide land in excess of 400 hectares into area not exceeding 400 hectares, each completely surrounded by a firebreak.

(b) On Rural Smallholdings (4-40 hectares) and Rural Residential (1-4 hectares) land at least 4 metres wide and 4 metres vertical clearance firebreaks shall be maintained around the boundary of the property.

(c) at least 6 metres wide shall completely encircle all buildings and haystacks.

(d) fuel tanks, whether containing fuel or not, shall have the ground surface cleared to a distance of 6 metres from and encircling the tank/s of all flammable material.

Fire Fighting Equipment

Where the land is zoned Rural, a readily mobile operational fire fighting unit containing a minimum of 800 litres of water on standby and available for inspection is required during the period from 1 November to 1 May, inclusive.

Harvesting

A person shall not undertake or allow harvesting during the Prohibited Burning period unless–

(a) one hand held water filled fire extinguisher with a minimum capacity of 7.5 litres is filled in a readily accessible position on the machine, and

(b) an operational mobile engine powered firefighting unit or units with a minimum combined capacity of 1200 litres of available water, located in or immediately adjacent to the paddock being harvested and/or baled. The responsibility to supply and operate the firefighting unit is that of the landowner/occupier.

Harvest bans and other bans - permitted activities

(a) Water carting for stock and domestic purposes provided it is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fire fighting unit and meets minimum specifications.

(b) Checking of stock and water for stock, provided it is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fire fighting unit and meets minimum specifications.

(c) All necessary travel to and from and within piggeries, sheep or cattle feed lots, provided this is undertaken with a mobile fire fighting unit in attendance.

(d) All necessary carting of livestock, provided that such a vehicle is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit.

(e) Essential service provider checking for telecommunications, power or utility water services, provided they are accompanied by a mobile firefighting unit.

(f) Activities which received specific exemptions from the Shire or the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.

2.2 CATEGORY 2 – All Other Land, Including Residential, Rural Townsite, Service Commercial, and Industrial up to 4,000 m^2

By 1 November until 1 May

All flammable material on the land shall be reduced to a height of less than 10 cm.

2.3 CATEGORY 3 – All Other Land, Including Residential, Rural Townsite, Service Commercial, and Industrial over 4,000 m^2

(a) firebreaks shall be maintained at least 2.5 metres wide immediately inside all external boundaries of the land and surrounding all buildings situated on the land; and

(b) flammable material on the remainder of the land shall be reduced to a height of less than 10 cm.

(c) A special control zone or other land not elsewhere specified in this Notice, shall comply with the higher level measures required by adjoining land unless varied under clause 2.2.

2.4 Properties with Fire Management Plans

All properties with approved fire management plans shall comply with the plan and or this notice whichever is the greater.

If the requirements of this Notice are carried out by burning, such burning must be in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Bush Fires Act. A permit to burn is required during the Restricted Burning periods from an Authorised Officer.

3. REGULATED ACTIVITIES

3.1 BURNING OF GARDEN REFUSE AND RUBBISH

Prior to the burning of garden refuse and rubbish a 3 metre radius perimeter around the waste heap is to be cleared of all flammable material. Burning of garden refuse and rubbish is not permitted during the Prohibited Burning Period and during the Restricted Burning Periods it will require a burning permit from a Fire Control Officer.

3.2 SLASHING DURING THE RESTRICTED AND PROHIBITED BURNING PERIODS

This clause does not apply to the mowing of residential lawns. During the Restricted Burning Period, any person conducting slashing must have available a fire extinguisher of not less than 7.5 litre capacity either attached to the machine or within 200 metres of where the machine is operating. During the Prohibited Burning Period, any person conducting slashing must have available a fire fighting unit (full of water and in good working order) of not less than 400 litre capacity within 200 metres of where the machine is operating.

3.3 OPEN AIR FIRES

Are permitted during the Restricted Burning period,

- subject to compliance with the provisions relating to Restricted Burning periods and Shire of Narrogin Local Laws (eg requiring a permit).
- Are not permitted at all during the Prohibited Burning period (including garden refuse).
- Are not permitted on any day when the fire danger rating is "High" or above.

3.4 PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

(a) A harvest ban and a ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines is imposed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day each year.

(b) All other activities or operations may only be undertaken during a ban on the movement of all vehicles and machinery and a ban on the operation of internal combustion engines after approval has been granted by the Shire. Approval has to be sought on an individual basis, and is subject to specified conditions. It should be noted that approval may not be granted.

4. DEFINITION OF TERMS

DEFINITIONS

Authorised Officer: An officer appointed as a Shire of Narrogin Fire Control Officer.

Ban on the Movement of all Vehicles: includes machinery and the operation of internal combustion engines within the Shire or a part of the Shire and during a time as specified in a Notice or broadcast with the exception of the movement of vehicles and machinery on constructed gazetted roads, internal vehicle access and yards;

Firebreak: means a strip of land from which all flammable material has been cleared to the specified width by ploughing, cultivating, scarifying, burning or otherwise clearing.

Firebreak Time: The time each year where fire hazard reduction works must be maintained as specified in this Fire Control Order. This period commences on 1 November each year until and including 1 May of the following year.

Flammable Material: includes bush (as defined in the Bush Fires Act), accumulated fuel such as leaf litter, twigs, bark, grass over 100mm in height, timber boxes, cartons, paper and any combustible material, capable of carrying a running fire but excludes living standing trees and shrubs, stubble, or growing bushes and plants in gardens, or lawns;

Harvest Ban: applies on the operation of all grain harvesting machines including swathing, baling or slashing machines within the Shire or part of the Shire and during a time, as specified in a notice or broadcast;

Harvesting: includes grain harvesting, swathing, baling or slashing of stubble or hay in any crop;

Internal Vehicle Access: is defined as a trafficable surface, free of all flammable material, a minimum width of four metres, and with overhanging vegetation pruned back so as not to come into contact with parts of a vehicle;

Mobile Fire Fighting Unit: is defined as having a minimum water carrying capacity of eight hundred (800) litres, fitted with a hose and pump capable of delivering water through an adjustable nozzle in the spray and jet configurations;

Prohibited Burning: This period commences on 1 November of each year until and including 1 March of the following year. This time may be amended, subject to prevailing seasonal conditions.

Restricted Burning Time: This period commences on 2 March until and including 1 May and recommences on 1 October until and including 31 October of any year. This time may be amended, subject to the prevailing seasonal conditions.

Unrestricted Burning Time: The time period each year where a permit to burn is not required, in areas zoned rural under the Shire of Narrogin Town Planning Scheme. This period commences on 2 May and continues up to and including 30 September. This time may be amended, subject to the prevailing seasonal conditions.

Yard: is defined as an area, greater than four metres wide, with a constructed, trafficable surface, free of all flammable material save live standing trees.

5. FIRE PERMITS AND UNDERTAKING FUEL HAZARD REDUCTION WORK

5.1 PERMITS to burn are required for the whole of the restricted periods and can only be obtained from the Fire Control Officers listed overleaf.

5.2 CAREFULLY READ and adhere to all of the conditions of the permit as any breach or negligence could make you liable for any damage to neighbouring properties and/or infringements/penalties.

5.3 ANY SPECIAL CONDITIONS imposed by the Fire Control Officer/s when issuing permits must be strictly adhered to. Rangers will check that permit conditions are being complied with during the Restricted Burning Period.

5.4 INFRINGEMENTS/ON THE SPOT FINES of $250 and upwards apply to any breaches of the permit conditions/special conditions. Contact your FCO or local Rangers if in doubt.

5.5 THE PERMIT HOLDER shall give notice of their intention to burn to the following:

(a) The Shire Office, no later than on the day when burning is to take place. Weekend burning must be notified by 4.00 pm of the preceding Friday.

(b) The owner or occupier of adjoining land.

(c) The nearest Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions, Parks and Wildlife Service office, if the land is situated within 3km of a State Forest (Notification should be given even when burning is in the open burning period.

5.6 PERIOD OF NOTICE to neighbours prior to burning cannot be more than 28 days or less than 4 days, although lesser notice may be determined by mutual agreement of all neighbours.

5.7 INCINERATORS used to burn rubbish must be properly constructed. An open drum with or without a lid is not an authorised incinerator.

5.8 FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT residents are strongly encouraged to have and maintain firefighting equipment for the protection of their own property.

6. HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS AND TOTAL FIRE BANS

6.1 TOTAL FIRE BANS (TFB) are declared by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) following consultation with Local Governments due to extreme weather conditions or widespread fires stretching firefighting resources. During a TFB the lighting of any fires in the open air and any other activities that may start a fire are prohibited, including:

(a) All open air fires for the purpose of cooking/camping, i.e. wood fuel barbeques, candles, pizza ovens;

(b) Incinerators, welding, grinding, soldering, gas cutting, angle grinders and lawnmowers.

Penalty: Up to $25,000 fine and/or a 12 month jail term. Exemptions may be granted by DFES and must be requested in writing.

6.2 HARVEST AND VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS are imposed by Local Government under the Bush Fires Regulations 1954 Section 38A and Section 24C, when prevailing and/or anticipated weather conditions and/or when availability or response capacity of the local firefighting resources are reduced. A Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban may be imposed for any length of time but is generally imposed for 'heat of the day' periods and may be extended or revoked as weather conditions change. During a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban, the use of engines, vehicles, plant and machinery is prohibited in order to mitigate the associated risk of causing or contributing to the spread of a bushfire.

6.3 AUSTRALIAN FIRE DANGER RATING SYSTEM (AFDRS) The Fire Danger Rating for any day can be located at **https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/#firedangerratings**

7. VOLUNTEERING IN A BUSHFIRE BRIGADE

7.1 BRIGADE MEMBERSHIP Information about becoming a volunteer can be found on the Shire of Narrogin website:

https://www.narrogin.wa.gov.au/live/services/volunteering-in-the-shire/shire-of-narrogin-bush-fire-brigades.aspx.

8. BUSH FIRE CONTROL OFFICERS

WHOLE DISTRICT

Chief Fire Control Officer
Pip Porter 0429 859 041

First Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer
Vern Gibson 0428 108 274

Second Deputy Chief Fire Control Officer
Stuart Moyses 0427 859 029

Community Emergency Services Manager
Paul Gibson 0439 655 772

NARROGIN TOWNSITE (Permits Only)

Senior Ranger
Guy Maley 0448 873 207

Central
Vern Gibson 0428 108 274
Jon Rick 0428 584 467
Leigh Ballard 0428 832 095

Highbury
Pip Porter 0429 859 041
Stuart Moyses 0427 859 029
Murray Sanders 0427 811 100

Minigin
Clayton Hardie 0408 845 278
Lewis Hardie 0409 845 267
Russell Ashley 0428 815 859

Normans Lake
Nathan Walker 0428 827 027
Daryl Kilpatrick 0400 429 516

Ockley
Troy Smith 0429 637 240
Keiran Quartermaine 0429 889 838
Braden Lange 0428 717 242

9.2 UPDATE ON THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT SCHEME (LGGS)

The CESM provided an update on the Local Government Grant Scheme Application and explained the development of 3 business cases to boost the number of firefighting assets within the Shire to Address the capability gaps as identified in the Bushfire Risk Management Plan, which included strategic positioning of a 4.4B Appliance in Highbury, as well as a Light Tanker and Bulk Water Tanker. The CESM encouraged brigade captains to inform the CESM if they have any additional requests for funding for specific equipment that could benefit their brigade.

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

District Officer G Stevens – Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES)

Attachment 3 – BFAC Report, Post Season 2025/26

- It was noted that the recent bushfire season was less active than in previous years.
- DFES expressed its appreciation to the Shire of Narrogin for promptly responding to calls and providing assistance throughout the season.
- The BFAC report, Post Season 2025/26 includes information about the current levels of dryness being experienced across the region.
- The report also contains a QR code and an email address where community members can submit lessons learned during the fire season.
- The report highlights the availability of training opportunities and provides public information and warnings relevant to fire preparedness.
- A training calendar for 2026 has been released.
- Several business cases prepared by Paul Gibson (CESM) were acknowledged, and these present valuable opportunities for securing future funding.

G Maley – Senior Ranger

- It was confirmed that no permits will be issued due to the current level of dryness.

S Moyses - Dept Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

- Reminded everyone to ensure that when issuing permits the correct information is included in the ‘other conditions’ section and to cross out the previous fire danger ratings of ‘Severe’ and ‘Very High’ on the back of the permit to reflect the newly implemented FDR based off the national standardisation of the ADFRS.
- Everyone was asked to notify the relevant WhatsApp groups if any permits have been revoked.

N Walker – Fire Control Officer

- Sought clarification regarding the water supply requirements for specific works with regard to the Fire Break Notice.

B Lange – Fire Control Officer

- A request was made to clarify what the next step is for Lightsource BP and if the purpose of the presentation was purely for information.
- The Presiding Member advised that the administrative staff would look into the matter, and that the presentation provided was for information purposes only.

Vern Gibson – Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

- Plans for Shire Brigades to conduct Hazard Reduction burning with Water Corp between the 19th & 25th of April. Watercorp have booked accommodation for that week, and if unable to proceed the backup date for the burning is in May. Water Corp are committed to investing and working collaboratively with the brigades to achieve risk mitigation and meetings are ongoing.

11. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE APPROVED BY THE PERSON PRESIDING OR BY DECISION OF THE MEETING

Nil.

12. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further business to discuss, the Presiding Member declared the meeting closed at 5:22 pm.

Bush Fire Advisory Committee
Department of Fire and Emergency Services Report
Post-Season 2025/2026

Key DFES Contacts

Name	Area of Responsibility	Phone Number
All Hours Emergency Contact		
DFES COMCEN	**All Hours Emergency Contact** For Turnouts and Providing Incident Information	**1800 198 140**
DFES UGS Regional Duty Coordinator	**All Hours Regional Contact** For Support and Assistance	**1800 865 103**
DFES Public Information	**All Hours Contact** For Issuing Alerts and Warnings	**1800 718 288**

Post Season Information

- **In the Upper Great Southern region this season key incidents were;**
  - Newmont Goldmine Fire (Inc 765644) 14 Dec 2025 – 07 JAN 2026
    4150Ha, activating Evac Centre (Ngn and Williams) and engaging the Level 3 Preformed State Team, this incident had two deployments from South Australia and put the townsite of Boddington into Emergency Warning on Christmas day
  - Dunn Rock Bushfire (Inc 769192) 17 Jan 2026 – 28 Jan 2026
    32537Ha in the Shire of Lake Grace near Lake King townsite. Was eventually run as South Coast Complex along with Fitzgerald National Park by the State Level 3 Team and then DBCA before being handed back to Local Government
  - Boddington Complex (Inc 769835) 22 Jan 2026 – 02 Feb 2026
    6200Ha, 4 separate fires, 125kms of edge, 54 impacted properties including sheds etc, multiple saves, very few losses across 3 local governments and DBCA tenure, run as a Level 2 Complex Incident across 3 divisions. Narrogin evacuation centre used.

  Thank you to everyone for their support, co-operation and patience as we progressed through a very busy and complex season for the Upper great Southern region. **Well done** on your work at home and across other shires it is very appreciated and essential to all.

- **Grain Harvest Water Bombers** – Water Bomber teams are positioned in Narrogin, Esperance and Geraldton to support the Grain Harvest Strategy. Approximately 50 people were trained across the region in the Ground Controller in just this season alone. From this Grain Harvest Taskforce which has concluded there were **152 activations** with **997hrs of flight time**.

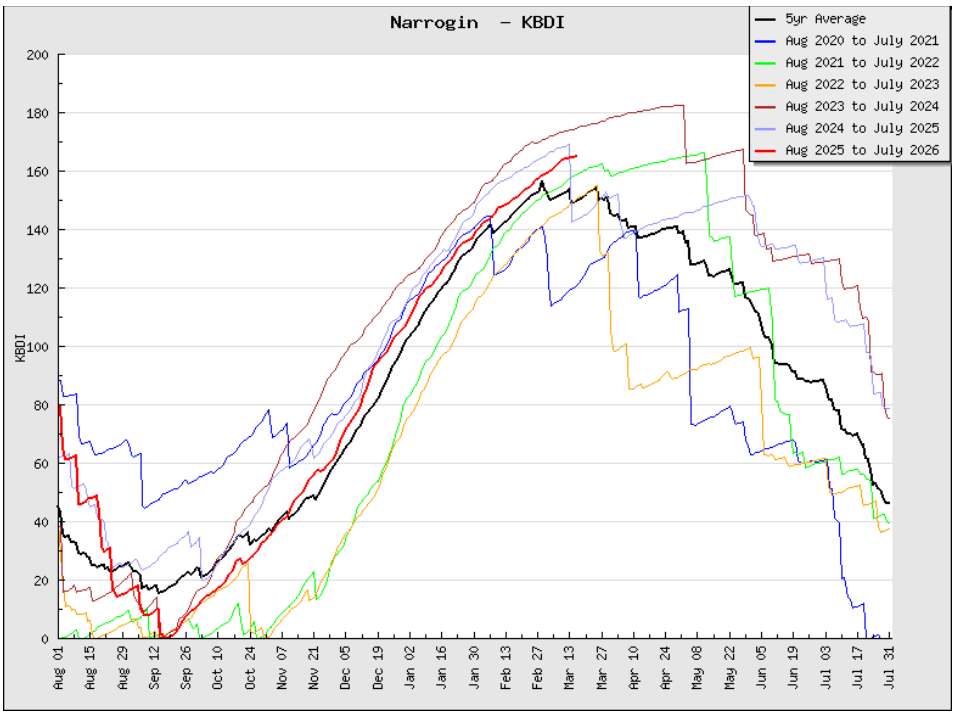
Seasonal Outlook

KBDI Graph - The Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI) is a numerical value reflecting the dryness of the top layer of soils, deep forest litter, logs and living vegetation. The KBDI is expressed as a scale from 0–200, where the number represents the amounts of rainfall (in millimetres) to return the soil to saturation.

The index is calculated daily using:

- the areas mean annual rainfall
- the maximum temperature for the day
- the previous 24 hours' rainfall
- the previous day's drought index value.

More Info on KBDI



Review of Narrogin's KBDI – With the current Graph and Seasonal conditions it appears the soil dryness is well above the 5 year average and would require an additional 25+mm of rain in the landscape to bring the current soil dryness to the 5 year average. For Reference the region will generally enter High Threat Period when the Scale reaches 120mm and generally exits HTP around 120mm.

Feedback or Observations from the current fire season?
Tell us anytime - the Lessons Management Observation Register is always ready to receive your observations. Scan the handy QR code or for further information or enquiries, please email Lessons@dfes.wa.gov.au

WAFES Awards
Regions are encouraged to promote the awards and nominate volunteers and staff who have made an outstanding contribution over the last 12 months. - https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/awards-and-events/wafes-awards

Training Calendar – The Upper Great Southern DFES Brigade Training Calander for 2026 has been released and available on eAcademy. As per the regional plan we have a strong focus on incident management and developing new trainers.

Want to run your own training in your locally? – Workplace Trainer Assessor training is 3 days to upskill you in the requirements of this, on in Narrogin 17, 18 & 19 April 2026 – enrol on eAcademy or contact our regional Training Support Officer (TSO) via TSO.uppergreatsouthern@dfes.wa.gov.au PH: 6832 3110

Public Information and Warnings

Emergency WA

Use Emergency WA as your source of Truth for Incident Information. Stay up to date with Emergency WA, they also have a new Emergency WA App now available on IOS and Android devices. Allowing you to stay up to date with real-life live data and updates. You are able to set watch zones and receive updates if an incident occurs nearby. Refer the community to Emergency WA for Information.

As Incident Controllers we need to start feeding Incident Information up and issuing appropriate alerts and Warnings to support this.

Alerts and Warnings

For incidents where smoke or fire is going to impact or affect he public we need to start thinking about issuing alerts and warnings. **Being proactive with alerts and warnings can save lives.**

It is also a **State Strategic Control Priority – Community Warnings and Information**

We use 3 Warning levels, which is a National approach, details below:

Bushfire Alerts and Warnings	
Warning Level	**When to Issue Warning**
ADVICE	There is an active incident is the area. There is no immediate danger. The Community needs to stay up to date in case the situation changes.
WATCH AND ACT	There is a possible threat to lives and homes. The Community needs to take actions now to stay safe.
EMERGENCY WARNING	There is an immediate threat to lives and homes. The Community is in danger and need to take immediate action.

How to Issue Bushfire Alerts and Warnings		
Issuing Bushfire Advices, Watch and Acts and Emergency Warnings		
Contact	**Number**	**Actions**
DFES PUBLIC INFORMATION	**1800 718 288**	You can call DFES Public Information and they will be able to talk through which warning. It would be advantageous to know what warning you requires and the "Boundaries", these can be roads, waterways etc.

The State Hazard Plan – Fire (Update)

The State Hazard Plan - Fire provides an overview of arrangements for the management of fire in Western Australia (WA) and contains information on fire prevention, preparedness, response and recovery. The State Hazard Plan has now been reviewed, updated and republished (21st August 2025). State Hazard Plan - Fire can be found here: https://www.wa.gov.au/system/files/2025-08/shp_fire_v3.00.pdf

Transfer of Control

As per Bushfires Act 1954 and State Hazard Plan – Fire, **Local Government is the Controlling Agency for all Fires outside of the Gazetted Fire District.**

In some circumstances the Controlling Agency of an incident can be transferred to another agency.

Reasons for Transferring Control

For bushfires, circumstances that may trigger a change of Controlling Agency include:

- At the request of the Current Controlling Agency
- Beyond the capacity of the Controlling Agency
- Level 3 incident
- Complexity of the incident / multiple hazards
- Multiple local government areas
- DFES Officer authorised under section 13 of the Bush Fires Act 1954

4.1.4 Controlling Agencies

Controlling Agencies for fire suppression are determined by their area of responsibility in accordance with Western Australian legislation.

Where the response requirements exceed the owners and/or occupier's capabilities, the relevant Controlling Agency takes control in accordance with their legislative responsibilities.

Table 2: Initial controlling agencies

Area of responsibility	Initial Controlling Agency
Within Gazetted Fire Districts	DFES
On DBCA managed land outside Gazetted Fire Districts	DBCA
Within local government districts outside of Gazetted Fire Districts and outside DBCA managed land	Local governments

LG to DFES

Transfer of control to DFES can only occur under a Section 13 of the Bushfires Act 1954 which requires authorisation at State Level by the Duty Assistant Commissioner (DAC). This can be accepted or declined and does take time to progress.

During this time Local Government retains control of this incident. The region and Bushfire Liaison Officers will continue to support you throughout this time.

LG to DBCA

Transfer of control to DBCA can occur under a Section 45 of the Bushfires Act 1954. Generally, if the fire involves DBCA Tenure. The Current Incident controller can contact the DBCA Duty Officer who can assist in facilitating this. **Please note – This Process is between DBCA and LG, however, Comcen need to be made aware of this and requires a signed handover form.**

Fires on UCL/UMR and DBCA Tenure

There were a few instances where fires were not actioned last season due to Brigades not knowing whose land it is, ie. being in a reserve or near DBCA land, Under the Bushfires Act 1954, The Bushfire Brigade can enter the tenure and/or property to prevent the spread of fire as long as they are taking due care and informing the property owners of attendance.

Checklist and Supporting Documents

The Upper Great Southern have an Online Folder with helpful and useful resources that can assist you. The link is found here or scan the QR Code below.

DFES
Upper Great Southern
Online Resource Folder
Incident Documents and Checklists

Open Camera App and Scan Me

DFES UGS RDC - 1800 865 103
(To Request Assistance)
DFES COMCEN - 1800 198 140
(For Incident Updates)

Shire of
Narrogin
Love the life

89 Earl Street, Narrogin
Correspondence to:
PO Box 1145, Narrogin WA 6312
T (08) 9890 0900
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