Queensland Fire and Rescue Service

Jurisdiction Report

2017-2018
# QFES Operational Periods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sep</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- **Wildfire Mitigation Period 2017**
  - Operation Cool Burn

- **Wildfire Operational Period**
  - Operation Toom Nhom 2017

- **Severe Weather Operational Period**
  - Operation Guardiare 2017-18

- **Pre-planning for**
  - OCB 2018
### Table 1. Number of mitigation activities in priority areas by REGION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Hazard Reduction Burn Not Completed</th>
<th>Hazard Reduction Burn Completed</th>
<th>Firebreak or Trail Not Completed</th>
<th>Firebreak or Trail Completed</th>
<th>Community Education Not Completed</th>
<th>Community Education Completed</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brisbane</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Far Northern</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Coast</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Eastern</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Western</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Graph 1. Number of bushfire prone localities with an identified high risk

### Graph 2. Number of mitigation activities in priority areas by REGION

### Graph 3. Number of mitigation activities in priority areas by Activity Status

#### Activity Status
- Hazard Reduction
- Firebreak or Trail
- Community Education

#### Grand Total
- Hazard Reduction: 168
- Firebreak or Trail: 75
- Community Education: 225
- Total Activities: 468
Queensland experienced a very intense but short bushfire season in 2017.

Weather Conditions
- TC Debbie produced high fuel loadings in the Whitsunday Coast due to vegetation damage and Central and SE QLD had significant rainfall.
- Storm season arrived early.
- Drought effected 66.3% of the state.
2017 Drought
66.3% of the State land mass
A major fire occurred at Caloundra on the Sunshine Coast in August. The fire season ran through until some early season rains reduced much of the intensity in many areas October/November. Bushfires and grassfires were experienced across most of the state.

Despite these conditions losses due to bushfires were kept to a minimum. Some major contributors to this result were:

- A very wide campaign across mainstream and social media emphasising the need for **public awareness** of the risk and their role in being prepared, preventing ignitions and reporting any fires;
- Widespread **restriction on permits** to light fires and use of local firebans to reduce ignitions; and
- A very strong preparedness and **weight of attack** on any ignitions which did occur on bad days through very good cooperation within QFES (Rural Fire Brigades and Fire and Rescue Service units) and with our partner agencies.

It was the combination of these factors which maximised the chances of success.
Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2015

For a firefighter to be eligible under the proposed deeming provisions, they must:
be diagnosed with one of the following 12 cancers on or after 15 July 2015; and
meet the qualifying period of active firefighting service for that disease.

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Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990 - Commissioner’s Notification

Review currently being undertaken into the Commissioner's Notification relating to the
setting of fires to assist in the management of Cane due to significant changes to the Cane
Industry due to deregulation of the industry.
Operation Cool Burn
Managing the Risk

- Stakeholder engagement and education
- Risk identification
- Risk mitigation
- Documentation of risks and outcomes attained to mitigate risk
- Reporting outcomes to meet legislative requirements
Operation Cool Burn 2018

Purpose

The purpose is to communicate the strategies and objectives for risk mitigation prior to the 2018 bushfire season to assist landowners/occupiers and other stakeholders in reducing the risk of bushfire and/or reducing the potential danger to persons, property or the environment in the event of a bushfire.

Application

This Standing Order applies to relevant Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) staff and volunteers.

Policy

Situation

Operation Cool Burn 2018 officially commences on 1 April 2018 and will continue through to 31 August 2018, unless extended for climatic or operational reasons.

This operational period will proactively focus on assisting and coordinating government and private landowners/occupiers and other stakeholders with risk mitigation for the coming bushfire season. Whilst Operation Cool Burn 2018 is a focussed operational period, it is acknowledged risk mitigation activities occur at other appropriate times of the year.

It is also acknowledged the responsibility for risk mitigation rests with the owner of the hazard (i.e. the landowner/occupier); the QFES, therefore, has a significant interest in assisting landowners/occupiers in reducing the risk of bushfire.

Mission

A unified QFES approach together with our partners from state and local government agencies, related industry associations, and landowners/occupiers will be applied to enable the QFES bushfire risk mitigation mission objectives of:

- enhanced community safety;
- reduced bushfire risk and potential impact;
- proactive landowner/occupier and community engagement and resilience; and
- informed operations prior to the 2018 bushfire season.
Operation Cool Burn
Connecting the players

- Fire Management Groups
- Community
- Regional Inter Departmental Committee
- State Inter Departmental Committee
Fire Management Groups

- Local stakeholders & partners
- Planning meetings to identify hotspots and mitigation strategies
- Develop Bushfire Risk Mitigation Plan and copy submitted to LDMG & RIDC.
- Reviewed prior to fire season to determine residual hazard.
Help REDI Portal improve
Take the user survey

redi MAP
Risk & Hazard Mapping

redi EXPOSURE
Exposure Analysis

redi MITIGATE
Mitigation Activities

redi INFO
Links & Training Guides
Redi-Portal

- Bushfire Risk Mitigation Plan
- OCB Mitigation Activity Reporting
- Operational activities

Planning

Reporting

Operations
Redi-Portal
GIS Links

- GIS MAP
  - Hotspot Map ID
  - Local Government
  - Locality
  - Activity

- HOTSPOT MAP ID
  - Hotspot Map ID

- SPREADSHEET
  - Planned activities
  - Completed activities
Jigija Indigenous Rangers Fire Program