



Figure 25: Fire suppression

Section 4

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Appendix 1

Glossary

aspect The direction towards which a slope or feature faces.

Country Area of Victoria That part of Victoria which lies outside the metropolitan fire district, but does not include any state forest, national park or protected public land.

control line A natural or constructed barrier, or treated fire edge, used in fire suppression and prescribed burning to limit the spread of fire.

crown fire A fire burning in the crowns of trees and usually supported by fire in ground fuels.

embers (firebrands) A piece of burning material, commonly bark from eucalypts.

farm forestry The incorporation of commercial tree crops into farming systems to complement conventional agriculture.

fine fuel Grass, leaves, bark and twigs less than 6 mm in diameter.

fire access track A track constructed and/or maintained for fire management purposes.

fire behaviour The manner in which a fire reacts to the variables of fuel, weather and topography.

Fire Danger Index A relative number indicating rate of fire spread or suppression difficulty for specific combinations of fuel, fuel moisture and wind speed.

Fire Danger Period This is declared each summer in each municipality in the Country Area of Victoria. This period stays in place until May 1 unless otherwise stated. During this time fires in the open (not in a permanent structure) are restricted.

fire management All activities associated with the management of fire prone land, including the use of fire to meet land management goals and objectives.

fire prevention All activities associated with minimising the incidence of wildfire, particularly those of human origin.

Fire Protected Area The area of land over which Department of Sustainability and Environment has fire prevention or suppression responsibilities. This includes all parks and forests managed by this department and any land within 1.5 km of their boundaries, unless it has been excised.

fire suppression All activities associated with putting out a fire. Fire suppression includes activities associated with managing a fire and also using wet or dry firefighting methods.

fuel Any material such as grass, leaf litter, dead and live vegetation which can be ignited and sustains a fire.

fuel break (firebreak) Any natural or constructed discontinuity in a fuel bed used to segregate, stop, and control the spread of wildfire, or to provide a control line from which to suppress a fire.

fuel load (fuel quantity) The oven dry weight of fuel per unit area, commonly expressed as tonnes per hectare.

heat engine Any internal combustion engine, steam engine or any other engine in which any furnace, fire or spark or any burning or exploding oil or vapour is used in driving the engine.

heavy fuels Dead woody material greater than 25 mm in diameter in contact with the soil surface (fallen trees and branches).

Prohibited Period The period when Forests Act fire restrictions are in force within the Fire Protected Area (Forest Act 1958). The Prohibited Period applies the whole year within any State forest, protected public land or national park and is in force for the summer fire season for adjacent land (within 1.5 km) in some parts of Victoria.

rate of spread The forward progress per unit of time of the fire head (front) or another specified part of the fire perimeter.

Total Fire Ban Total Fire Ban is declared on those days when the danger of fires occurring is extremely high. The use of fire is extremely restricted and subject to a special permit. Any normal permits issued for use in the Fire Danger Period are suspended for the time the Total Fire Ban operates.

Appendix 2

Useful information

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Appendix 4

Contacts

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Mt Waverley 3149
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www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Victorian Bushfire Information Line

Phone: 1800 240 667
www.cfa.vic.gov.au/incidents/vbil.htm

VicFire

(Emergency Services Telecommunications Authority)
Phone: 1800 668 511
www.esta.vic.gov.au

VicFire burnoff notification options

Phone: 1800 668 511
Facsimile: (03) 5337 3501
Email: burnoffs@esta.vic.gov.au

Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Phone: (03) 9669 4000 (Melbourne office)
www.bom.gov.au

Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE)

Phone: 136 186
www.dse.vic.gov.au

Department of Primary Industries (DPI)

Phone: 136 186
www.dpi.vic.gov.au

Department of Human Services (DHS)

Phone: 1300 650 172
www.dhs.vic.gov.au/emergency

Parks Victoria

Phone: 131 963
www.parkweb.vic.gov.au

Energy Safe Victoria (ESV)

Phone: (03) 9203 9700
www.esv.vic.gov.au

Environment Protection Authority (EPA)

Phone: (03) 9695 2722
www.epa.vic.gov.au

Landcare Groups

www.landcarevic.net.au

VicRoads

Phone: 131 171
www.vicroads.vic.gov.au



www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Figure 26: Harvester cleaning for fire safety



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