



Bulletin 01

Agricultural Fire Management Guidelines

Project Overview

Introduction

A key responsibility for CFA is to provide guidance to the community about fire safety, including how to plan and prepare for if a fire does occur. CFA is undertaking this project to develop agricultural fire management guidelines (AFMG) to assist primary producers to make sound decisions regarding fire management on their land.

Objective

Develop fire management guidelines for agricultural industries.

Scope

This project will focus particularly on broad acre agricultural enterprises such as cropping and grazing because these enterprises often have high fuel loads and they occupy a significant proportion of rural land in Victoria.

This project is also confined to developing guidelines for the management of land and the protection of agricultural infrastructure such as fencing and sheds from wildfire, not the fire safety required within buildings such as farm workshops.

Agricultural industries occur along side a range of other activities in a rural landscape such as housing or enjoyment of the natural environment. While these are often integral to farming enterprises, other advice is available to provide guidance on these issues and these additional issues will not be part of the proposed guidelines.

Project Management

CFA is undertaking this project on behalf of the State Government. This project is funded as part of the Victorian State Government response to the recent Report of the Inquiry into the 2002 – 2003 Victorian Bushfire (2003). The project will finalise the guidelines by January 2007.

There are two committees assisting in this project:

AFMG CFA Advisory Group, an internal CFA committee providing specific advice relating to project management and direction.

AFMG Consultation Committee, consisting of representation from key stakeholders and CFA to provide advice and links to relevant stakeholder interests



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