

Shire of Morawa

Fire Hazard Reduction and Firebreak Notice 2021-2022



**FIRST AND FINAL NOTICE IS HEREBY SERVED TO ALL RATEPAYERS
AND RESIDENTS OF THE SHIRE OF MORAWA**

This Notice is issued under **Section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954**. Failure to install and maintain firebreaks in accordance with this notice can result in a \$5,000 fine.

**Fire Hazard Reduction Works and Firebreaks must be completed
by 15 September 2021 and maintained until 15 March 2022.**

Burning Period Dates	From	To
Restricted Burning Period	1 October 2021	14 October 2021
Prohibited Burning Period	15 October 2021	28 February 2022
Restricted Burning Period	1 March 2022	15 March 2022

Guidelines for Fire Hazard Reduction and Firebreaks

Townsites

Properties within the townsites of Morawa, Gutha, Canna, Koolanooka, Merkanooka, and Pintharuka are required to comply with the following:

Where the area of land is less than 3,000m², the property must be cleared, mowed or slashed to a **maximum** height of 7.5cm of all flammable material.

Where the area of the land is 3,000m² or more, a firebreak must be provided not less than 3m in width inside and along the whole of the external boundaries of properties.

All flammable material must be cleared 3m in distance from all buildings or haystacks situated on the land.

Barbeques and Incinerators

Solid fuel barbeques and incinerators are **Prohibited** on days of **Very High Fire Danger** or above. Gas and electric barbeques are permitted at all times.

Fuel Storage Sites

All grass and similar flammable material are to be cleared from such places where fuel or fuel storage containers are stored/located.

Rural Land

Firebreaks must be provided not less than 3m in width inside and along the whole of the external boundaries of the properties owned or occupied; where this is not practicable the firebreaks must be provided as near as possible to, and within, such boundaries.

All flammable material must be removed from an area of 3m in width immediately surrounding a farm building, an unattended electric motor site, or an unattended fuel operator motor site.

Firebreaks must be at least 3m in width completely surrounding and not more than 20m from the perimeter of any building, group of buildings or haystacks.

Tree plantations

Plantations larger than 3 hectares, are to construct a 10m wide mineral earth firebreak with a vertical clearance of 4m high, clear of all inflammable material immediately surrounding the plantation.

Plantations larger than 10 hectares are to comply with the Guidelines for Plantation Fire Protection by DFES and the Code of Practice for Timber Plantations in Western Australia.

Properties will be inspected to ensure compliance with requirements.

Failing to comply with this Notice can result in significant fines and penalties. The person in default is also liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the cost of performing the work as required in this Notice, if not carried out by 15 September 2021.

**For all Fire Emergencies
Call 000**

**All Bush Fire Brigades
operate on UHF 11**

Harvesting Operations

A separate fire fighting appliance is required to be present in any paddock being harvested, churning, raking stubble, straw baling and associated allied activities during restricted and prohibited periods. The fire fighting unit must be in a state of readiness and have a minimum capacity of 400 litres of water, a powered pump and hose. The farm fire fighting unit should be parked on bare ground in or near the harvesting or working area.

A Harvesting and Movement Ban and Use of Internal Combustion Engines (except for the watering and movement of stock) will be imposed when the actual weather conditions reach a Fire Danger Index (FDI) rating of thirty five (35) or above at the weather stations of two (2) Bush Fire Control Officers. All such bans are at the discretion of the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer or a duly appointed person.

This Order allows for provision of firebreaks in situations other than immediately with property boundaries subject to approval. The Chief Bush Fire Control Officer and appointed Fire Control Officers have been authorised to act for Council in this matter.

Harvest and Movement Bans

Harvest and Movement Bans will be advertised on the Shire of Morawa's Website. Visit www.morawa.wa.gov.au for more information.

Mobile numbers registered on the Shire of Morawa's Harvest and Movement Ban text messaging service will also be sent a text.

It is your responsibility to check whether a Harvest and Movement Ban has been imposed, please call the Shire Office on 08 9971 1204.

To add or remove your mobile number from the Shire of Morawa's Harvest and Movement Ban text message service, please contact the Shire on 08 9971 1204 or admin@morawa.wa.gov.au

Harvesting operations are **not** permitted on **Christmas, Boxing Day or New Years Day.**

Total Fire Bans issued by DFES are listed on the www.emergency.wa.gov.au website.

Morawa Bush Fire Control Officers

*Permit Issuing Officers

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Richard Sasse* 08 9972 3018
0427 723 018

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officers

Keven Beattie* 0428 288 574
Wayne Kowald* 0429 615 271

Morawa Town Brigade

Keven Beattie FCO* 0428 288 574

Canna/Gutha Brigade

Jerome Short FCO 0429 723 060
Wayne Kowald FCO* 0429 615 271
Garry Collins FCO* 0428 722 027
Jeremy Wasley FCO 0488 728 001

Morawa West Brigade

Darren Yewers (Capt.) 08 9971 6013
0427 981 364

Koolanooka Brigade

Glen Tapscott (Capt.) 08 9971 4018
0427 715 048

Pintharuka Brigade

Laurie North 08 9971 7020
0427 717 020

Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM)

Rick Ryan* 08 9956 6018
0427 717 020

Fire Control Officers are not obliged to issue permits and permits cannot be issued over the phone. Should a Fire Control Officer refuse to issue a permit, it is a breach of the Bush Fires Act 1954 to request a permit from another Fire Control Officer.

For more information about Fire Prevention, visit the DFES website: www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Failure to comply with Total Fire Bans or Harvest and Movement bans can result in significant fines and/or criminal conviction. It is your responsibility to be aware of any Total Fire Bans or Harvest and Movement Bans.