

BUSHFIRE HAZARD REDUCTION ORDER

BUSH FIRES ACT 1954

Notice to owners and/or occupiers of land within the Shire of Broome

PURSUANT to Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* you are hereby required on or before **15 May 2018**, or within 14 days of the date of you becoming owner or occupier should this occur after 15 May 2018, to comply with the following provisions of this order and you must maintain the property in the required condition until 31 December 2018:

A. Properties greater than 2000 square metres

- (i) Trafficable firebreaks must be installed on the land and the firebreaks clear of flammable material. The firebreaks must be within ten (10) metres of all external boundaries.
- (ii) A twenty (20) metre "parkland cleared" low fuel buffer zone must be established around all buildings on the property, which must be clear of all flammable material.

B. Properties 2000 square metres or less

- (i) All grasses are to be maintained below 100mm in height by mowing or slashing or other means. All flammable material must be removed from the whole of the land except living trees.
- (ii) A twenty (20) metre "parkland cleared" low fuel buffer zone must be established around all buildings on the property, which must be clear of all flammable material.

C. Fuel dumps & depots

- (i) On all land where fuel drum ramps are located and where fuel dumps, whether containing fuel or not, are stored, a firebreak must be cleared and maintain at least (5) five metres wide around any drum, ramp or stack of drums.

DEFINITIONS

"Flammable material" is defined for the purposes of this notice to include long dry grass, leaves, bark, timber, boxes, cartons, paper and like flammable materials, rubbish and also any combustible matter, but does not include living trees, shrubs, growing bushes and plants under cultivation or mulch with an average depth of less than 10cm.

"Parkland cleared" is defined for the purpose of this notice as land that is maintained in a low fuel state. It may contain regularly maintained gardens, trees, shrubs and short grass. It must be kept in such a state that fire cannot be sustained readily upon the land.

"Trafficable" means a pathway clear of all vegetation and obstructions that is not less than 3 metres wide with a vertical clearance of not less than 4 metres and allows the safe passage of a fire fighting appliance of a type used by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

RESTRICTED BURNING PERIOD

The Shire of Broome Restricted Burning Period is between **1 April 2018 and 31 December 2018**. During this period, the burning of any material throughout the Shire is not permitted unless a written permit has been obtained from an authorised Bush Fire Control Officer. A Bush Fire Control Officer can be contacted at the Shire of Broome on (08) 9191 3456. Please note that the above dates may be varied according to seasonal conditions, but that any changes will be advertised.

ALTERNATIVE FIREBREAKS

Should you consider it to be impracticable for any reason to clear firebreaks or remove flammable material from the land as required by this notice, you may apply to the Shire of Broome in writing no later than 15 May 2018 for permission to provide firebreaks in alternative positions or to take alternative action to abate fire hazards on the land. If permission is not granted in writing by the Shire prior to 15 May 2018, you must comply with the requirements of this notice.

If written permission to provide alternative firebreaks has been granted, you must comply with all conditions endorsed on the permit. If at the time this Bushfire Hazard Reduction Order comes into effect the agreed variations (if any) have not been installed to the required standard then the requirements of the order will prevail and the Shire may, under the provisions of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* take measures to make the property compliant with the order.

Any alternative firebreak provided for in accordance with an approved Bushfire Management Plan or variation must be trafficable and placed in accordance with the extent and location depicted on the Bushfire Management Plan or variation.

PENALTIES

The penalty for failing to comply with this notice under Section 33 of the *Bush Fires Act 1954* is a modified penalty of \$250 or a penalty of up to \$5000 if convicted by a Court. Any person failing to comply with this notice may also be liable, whether prosecuted or not, to pay the cost of the Shire of Broome obtaining contractors to perform any fire hazard reduction works on the property.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER