



Bushfire Management Strategy

The Fraser Coast Bushfire Management Strategy was adopted on 8 September 2010 to guide fire management on Fraser Coast Regional Council controlled lands.

The strategy brings together best practice information to allow Council to meet fire-management obligations under legislation.



The Strategy is broken down into two parts.

Part One contains background information about the Fraser Coast Region, its geography, vegetation and land tenure arrangements. This includes a detailed description of all vegetation types found in the region and their bushfire hazard score and desirable ecological fire frequencies. It also includes relevant extracts from State legislation and policies which relate to fire management.

Part Two contains a set of land management practices and guidelines for a range of activities such as firebreak and fire trail construction and maintenance and fuel load monitoring. This includes detailed guidelines for planning and conducting prescribed burns of bushland areas.



Bushfire Ecology

Fire is an integral part of most regional ecosystems. While some communities such as rainforest and mangroves do not benefit from being burnt, many others require fire to maintain the diversity and vigour of the organisms and processes within them.

Council's Responsibilities

Council is responsible for managing numerous parks, reserves and freehold lots containing native vegetation and bushland areas. Prescribed burning is an important tool for ecological land management in these areas Council relies on the Queensland Fire and Emergency Service to assist with prescribed burning and response to wildfires on council land.

Current Activities

- Working with rural bushfire brigades and agencies such as the Department of Environment and Resource Management to undertake prescribed burns on bushland reserves for fuel reduction and ecological management purposes.

- Developing Land Management Plans incorporating fire management on key parcels of Council managed land.
- Constructing and maintaining fire breaks and fire control lines on Council managed land where required to protect adjacent property.
- New development and building applications and including conditions in approvals that ensure compliance with bushfire safety codes for breaks, buffers and emergency access.
- Seeking input from all interested parties regarding fire management.

Future Action

A Bushfire Management Strategic Action Plan has been developed. It includes a number of strategic actions for consideration by Council in the areas of resources and training, planning scheme amendments, bushfire management planning, biodiversity management and research and inter-agency coordination. Action Plan recommendations not already in place will be considered as part of future budget and operational plan development.



Bushfire Emergency

The Bushfire Management Strategy does not deal with general bushfire emergency response issues. The lead agency responsible for dealing with threats from urban fire and rural bushfire is the Queensland Fire & Emergency Service. Council may be called on to assist in a support role. See the Fraser Coast Regional Council Local Disaster Management Plan for more details.

Where can I get more information?

For further information contact

- Council's Open Space and Environment team on 1300 79 49 29.
- Queensland Fire and Emergency Service Rural Fire Service via their websites:

www.fire.qld.gov.au

www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au

- Southeast Queensland Fire and Biodiversity Consortium via their website:

www.griffith.edu.au/environment-planning-architecture/southeast-queensland-fire-biodiversity-consortium/resources/educational-materials

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