

# Statewide

## 2019/20—2021/22 Joint Fuel Management Program



### What is the JFMP?

The Joint Fuel Management Program (JFMP) sets out a three-year FFMVic and CFA program of fuel treatment across public and private land. It implements long-term bushfire management strategies that outline how we will manage the risk of bushfires for the protection of life and property, while maintaining and improving natural ecosystems.

The JFMP is designed to be flexible, and timing of proposed activities may change in response to weather and other conditions. This means activities like planned burns may be carried out in a different year than indicated.



### Community Based Bushfire Management

**25** active CBBM communities

Community Based Bushfire Management (CBBM) is an initiative under Safer Together. It provides a space for local residents and agencies to collaboratively identify bushfire risk and work towards ways to reduce it.



### Cultural burning **35** burns with traditional owners

The Victorian Traditional Owner Cultural Fire Strategy was officially launched in May 2019. It articulates the aspirations of Traditional Owners to practice cultural burning and ensure knowledge about fire is sustained through generations.

FFMVic and CFA contribute to achieving these aspirations through providing operational and planning support to Traditional Owners to use cultural fire on Country.

### Non-burning fuel management activities

Over 10,000 ha of slashing, mowing and mulching

Mechanical fuel reduction methods will be used to treat bushfire risk close to towns and on important fire access roads.

### Engaging the community

**2** Statewide roundtables

FFMVic works with stakeholders with an interest in planned burning through the Statewide Land and Fire Management Roundtable. The roundtable includes industry and agricultural stakeholders who may be impacted by smoke, including tourism, apiarists (bee keepers) and vignerons (winemakers), make considerations during harvesting seasons.

### Monitoring conditions

25 new Automated Fuel Moisture Meters have been constructed across the state. This network of meters will allow monitoring of fuel moisture content (FMC) at a landscape level. The vegetation's moisture content is an important factor in deciding when conditions are suitable for planned burning. The network will improve our ability to take burning opportunities.



### Planned burns

**1,200** over 242,400 ha

Burns are planned to address bushfire risk close to towns and along strategic roads and rail corridors. In remote areas, planned burns address the spread of large landscape-scale fires and reduce the bushfire risk to natural ecosystems.

### Monitoring & Evaluation Program

Pre- and post-burn fuel monitoring  
**20% of all burns**  
Overall fuel hazard will be assessed before and after fuel treatments to determine the level of fuel reduction across a planned burn.

Ecosystem-resilience Monitoring Sites  
1,000 plots  
The state-wide ecosystem resilience monitoring program will undertake comprehensive biodiversity assessments across the state. This program will inform and update ecosystem resilience metrics (e.g. Tolerable Fire Interval and Growth Stage Structure) and improve data that underpins the Fire Analysis Module for Ecological values (FAME).

### Research

FFMVic works with the University of Melbourne and the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, with over \$20 million currently invested across more than 40 projects.

Investments for 2019/20 include research ecosystem resilience, focusing on priority ecological fire groups to determine the impact of both bushfires and planned burning on ecosystem resilience. This research will provide evidence to support strategic bushfire management, accountability and reporting.



### Bushfire risk **68%** by June 2020

Current residual risk is 69%. Bushfire risk will remain under the Statewide target of 70%. With no joint fuel management program, it is estimated that the bushfire risk could increase to 73% by June 2022.

Areas identified for bushfire protection include the Otway range coastline, the Wombat Forest near Daylesford, Dandenong and the Yarra Ranges, East Gippsland near Mallacoota.

### Get Notified!

Planned Burns Victoria (PBV) is a new system to identify and find out about planned burns near you. The system can notify people when a planned burn in Victoria is close to being ignited. Once ignited, all FFMVic and CFA planned burns will appear on both the PBV and the VicEmergency app. Other agricultural and industry burns will not appear on PBV.