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Safety on Public Land Act 2004

DECLARATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ZONES

I, Geoff Conway, Deputy Chief Fire Officer – Gippsland, as delegate of the Secretary to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, make the following declaration of public safety zones under section 4(1) of the **Safety on Public Land Act 2004**.

1. Definitions

In this declaration:

- (a) 'the Act' means the **Safety on Public Land Act 2004**;
- (b) 'the declared public safety zone' means the area declared under Clause 2 of this declaration;
- (c) 'the Schedule' means the Schedule to this declaration;

2. Declaration of Public Safety Zones

- (a) The areas of State forest contained within the location coordinates in the Schedule are declared to be public safety zones.
- (b) The extent of the public safety zones are described by the minimum planimetric extent using a North South orientated rectangle that encloses the area bound by:
 - **a**. the south-west limit described by the first two metric coordinates (Easting and Northing); and
 - **b.** the north-east limit described by the next two metric coordinates (Easting and Northing).
- (c) The public safety zones are limited to all areas that contain State forest within an area identified by the coordinates in the Schedule.
- (d) The coordinates in Schedule 1 are provided in Map Grid of Australia (MGA) Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Zone number 55. These use the Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS80) spheroid.

3. Purpose for which the area has been declared

The purpose for which the declared public safety zones have been declared is for the maintenance of public safety in relation to planned burn operations. These operations include all planned burn preparation, ignition, patrol and rehabilitation works associated within the planned burn area and access tracks.

4. Period of the declaration

The period for which the declared public safety zones are declared is the period commencing from 11 March 2021 and ending on 31 May 2021 inclusive.

5. Activities prohibited

The activities that are prohibited in the declared public safety zones are:

- (a) knowingly entering a declared public safety zone during a period when access is prohibited; and
- (b) knowingly remaining in or being present in a declared public safety zone during a period when access is prohibited.

6. Periods when access is prohibited

Access is prohibited to the declared public safety zone throughout the period of the declaration.

7. Exempt persons or classes of person

Pursuant to section 5(2) of the Act, the following persons or classes of person are exempt from the operation of this declaration:

(a) Employees, agents and contractors of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning engaged in carrying out their functions.

- (b) Employees, agents, volunteers and contractors of the Country Fire Authority engaged in carrying out their functions.
- (c) Employees, agents and contractors of the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services Board, Ambulance Victoria, WorkSafe Victoria and Environment Protection Authority Victoria engaged in carrying out their functions.
- (d) Members of the police force of Victoria engaged in carrying out their functions.
- (e) Employees, agents and contractors of the Local Government Areas engaged in carrying out their functions.
- (f) Employees, agents and contractors of the Department of Human Services engaged in carrying out their functions.
- (g) Employees, agents, volunteers and contractors of an Emergency Management Services engaged by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or the Country Fire Authority to carry out an emergency management functions.
- (h) Employees, agents, volunteers and contractors of Networked Emergency Organisation partners engaged by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning or the Country Fire Authority to carry out their functions.
- Employees, agents and contractors of Water Authorities engaged in carrying out their functions.
- (j) Members of the public using State forest roads as the most practical access to and from private properties surrounding State forest.
- (k) Employees, agents and contractors engaged in accessing and carrying out functions within a prescribed mine, as defined by regulation 5.3.3 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007, where both an approved work plan, as defined by section 40 of the **Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990**, and an Emergency plan, prepared in accordance with regulation 5.3.34 of the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007, are in place which address the risk of bushfires.

Dated 4 March 2021

GEOFF CONWAY
Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Gippsland
as delegate of the Secretary of the Department of
Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Notes:

- 1. Maps showing the public safety zones are held at the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Regional office at Traralgon and at 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002 (by appointment with Regional Fuel Management Coordinator, telephone 136 186). Maps are also available on the following website: https://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests
- 2. In addition to the above persons or classes of person exempted under section 5(2), section 9 of the **Safety on Public**Land Act 2004 provides that a public safety zone declaration does not apply to the following:
 - the Secretary;
 - an authorised officer;
 - a utility engaged in the carrying out of its functions in a State forest;
 - a transport authority engaged in the carrying out of its functions in a State forest;
 - a person or class of person authorised under section 10 of the Safety on Public Land Act 2004 to be in the public safety zone.

Schedule: Public Safety Zones

Extent of Public Safety Zones							MGA
State Forest, Forest Park or Reserve	Planned Burn Name	Planned Burn Number	South-west limit Easting Northing		North-east limit Easting Northing		Zone
Bendoc State Forest	Bendoc – Helens Track South	GP-SNO- BOC-0037	672726	5882299	677207	5886336	Zone 55
Bonang State Forest	Bendoc – Roaring Camp	GP-SNO- BOC-0031	652205	5895814	656410	5899098	Zone 55
Cottonwood State Forest	Bendoc – Corner Track	GP-SNO- BOC-0040	663781	5890890	666588	5895540	Zone 55
Cottonwood State Forest	Bendoc – Ted Track	GP-SNO- BOC-0035	664938	5887849	666354	5889594	Zone 55
Hartland State Forest	Orbost – Wombat Track	GP-SNO- ORB-0059	614492	5817568	616394	5820611	Zone 55
Mount Alfred State Forest	Flaggy Creek – Watts Creek Track	GP-TBO- BAI-0001	538426	5823686	541635	5824986	Zone 55
Mount Raymond State Forest	Cabbage Tree – Palm Track	GP-SNO- ORB-0125	645414	5822121	649406	5825161	Zone 55
and Bemm State Forest			650187	5821968	652685	5824349	Zone 55
State Forest adjacent to township – Marlo	Marlo – Bushland Reserve East and William Hunter Flora Reserve	GP-SNO- ORB-0007	636291	5815721	637015	5816137	Zone 55















