

Statewide - Year 1

2020/21—2022/23 Joint Fuel Management Program

FFMVic and CFA



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.

Re-introducing fire after bushfires

Victoria has had many large-scale bushfires over recent years. The Joint Fuel Management Program (JFMP) includes planned burns which will re-introduce fire into these landscapes over the coming years, to reduce the scale, severity and impact of future landscape fires. These planned burns will be critically important to achieving the objectives of our long-term bushfire management strategies, and minimise the impact of future fire.



Cultural burning **70** burns with Traditional Owners

Traditional Owner nominated and led burns are included in the JFMP across both private and public land for 2020-21. 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.

Get Notified! plannedburns.vic.gov.au

Use Planned Burns Victoria (PBV) to find out about burns near you, and to get notified when they are about to commence and when they do commence.

Once alight, 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.

Engaging the community

2 Statewide roundtables

FFMVic works with stakeholders with an interest in forest and fire management through the Statewide Land and Fire Management Roundtable. The roundtable includes industry and agricultural stakeholders, including farming, health, apiarists (beekeepers) and vignerons (winemakers).



Monitoring conditions

25 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 **600** covering over 220,000 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

Ecosystem-resilience Monitoring Sites - 800 plots

The state-wide ecosystem resilience monitoring program will undertake comprehensive biodiversity assessments across the state. This program will inform ecosystem resilience metrics and improve data that underpins our ecological modelling.

Determine the level of fuel reduction - 20% of all planned burns

Overall fuel hazard will be assessed before and after fuel treatments to determine the level of fuel reduction on 20% of all planned burns.

Research

FFMVic continues its commitment to research agreements with the University of Melbourne and the Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC, with over \$10 million currently invested in projects to enable improved policy and operational responses through community understanding, ecosystem resilience, environmental compliance and planning, decision support and risk management tools.

Non-burning fuel management activities

Over 19,000 ha of slashing, mowing and mulching vegetation

Mechanical fuel reduction methods will be used to treat bushfire risk close to towns and on important fire access roads. This is a significant increase from previous years.



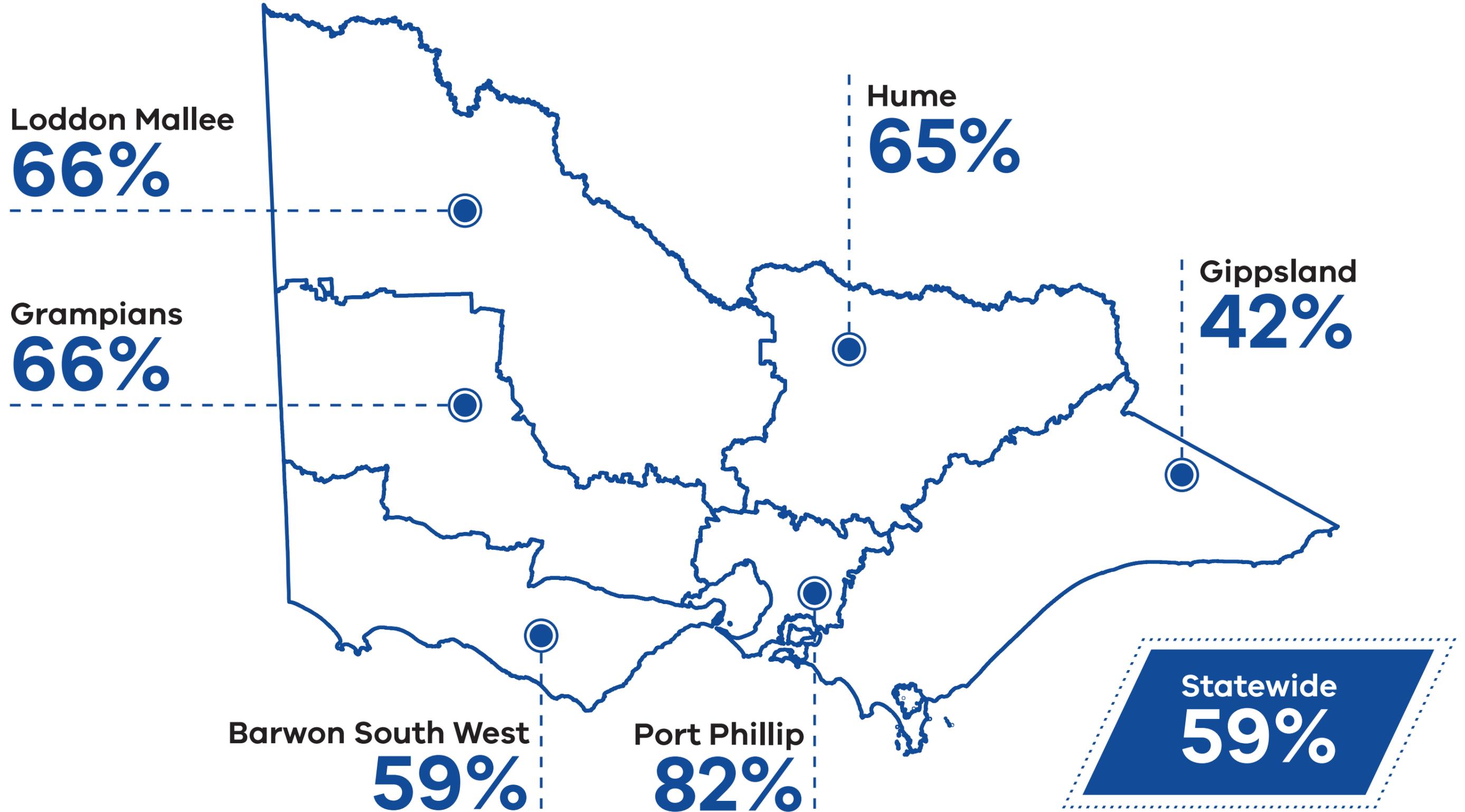
Bushfire risk **59%** by June 2021

Current residual risk is 64%. Bushfire risk will remain under the Statewide target of 70%. With no JFMP, it is estimated that the bushfire risk could increase to 70% by June 2023.

Areas identified for bushfire protection include the Otway range, the Wombat Forest near Daylesford, areas around Bright, Dandenong and the Yarra Ranges, and west Gippsland.

Reducing Victoria's Bushfire Risk

By the 30 June 2021 estimated residual bushfire risk:



as of 30 June 2021