



OBRM Update 10 December 2015

GENERAL UPDATE – OFFICE OF BUSHFIRE RISK MANAGEMENT (OBRM)

Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program

The Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program is a state-wide program being led by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) to support local governments to develop and implement an integrated bushfire risk management planning framework in their local area.

As a component of this program, OBRM has been responsible for developing the *Guidelines for preparing a Bushfire Risk Management Plan* (the Guidelines). The development of these Guidelines was achieved with input from local governments through a pilot program and DFES. The Guidelines establish the process for assessing bushfire-related risk and developing and implementing a Bushfire Risk Management Plan (BRMP).

I have now endorsed the Guidelines as a Standard to support a consistent approach to bushfire risk management planning across Western Australia. Importantly, the Guidelines ensure that a contemporary approach to risk management, aligned to *AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 Risk management - Principles and guidelines* is applied to the development and implementation of any BRMP.

The Guidelines are intended for those who are involved in the development, implementation and/or review of bushfire risk management plans in Western Australia. The Guidelines will support local government, state government agencies and other land managers in developing their BRMPs and associated risk treatment activities. They are now available on the Publications page of the OBRM website at: www.dfes.wa.gov.au/obrm.

DFES are currently providing targeted support to a number of local governments identified as having significant bushfire risk and a limited capacity to develop and implement a BRMP. As the Bushfire Risk Management Planning Program develops, additional local governments that have the capacity and resources to develop and implement a Bushfire Risk Management Plan using their existing resources will be offered support. For further information on the Program, please contact brmp@dfes.wa.gov.au.

The publication and use of the Guidelines will support both government and other land managers in undertaking a shared responsibility approach to bushfire risk management planning in Western Australia.

MURRAY CARTER, DIRECTOR OBRM

OBRM aims to enhance the efficient and effective management of bushfire related risk in Western Australia in order to protect people, assets and other things valuable to communities.

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