

Planned Burning Survey

For Brigades with Recent Involvement

(Use this survey if your Brigade has been involved in planned burning activity within the last 10 years)

To assist in collating the information, can the person submitting this survey on behalf of the Brigade please provide the following information:

Name:	
Position:	
District:	
Brigade:	
Contact Email Address: (Optional)	
Contact Phone Number:	

SECTION 1: WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING?

- 1. How much planned burning did your brigade participate in 10 years ago?**
 - None
 - Some
 - Extensive
 - Don't know
- 2. How much planned burning does your brigade carry out compared to 10 years ago?**
 - Much less
 - Less
 - About the same
 - More
 - None
- 3. How many planned burns did you brigade participate in over the last 12 months? (Estimate only)**

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- 4. How many hectares of land or kilometres of road/rail reserve do you think your brigade burned over the last 12 months? (Estimate only)**
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- 5. Would you like to do more controlled burning?**
 - Yes
 - No
- 6. Are the planned burns you conduct linked or identified to the Municipal Fire Management Plans?**
 - Yes
 - No

7. Of the planned burns your brigade has conducted, who has been the land manager or land owner? (You may choose more than one)

- Road reserve - local government
- Road reserve – VicRoads
- Water Authority
- Private land
- Local government owned or managed reserve
- Railway land
- Crown reserve for or with DEPI

8. Do you think there is enough planned burning done in your area?

- Yes
- No

9. Does your brigade consider the road/rail corridors in your community to be adequately managed/treated?

- Yes
- No

SECTION 2: ATTITUDES

10. As a brigade, how important do you consider planned burning as a treatment for bushfire risk overall?

- Not very
- Somewhat
- Important
- Very important

11. From a training and skills maintenance perspective, how important is it that your brigade members participate in planned burning?

- Not very
- Somewhat
- Important
- Very important

12. If you don't think being involved in planned burning is important, tell us why. (You may choose more than one answer)

- Brigade has other competing priorities
 - Burning to reduce bushfire risk is not important in our brigade area
 - Fuel reduction in our brigade area is adequate
 - Fuel reduction by burning is undertaken by others (other brigades, DEPI, land owners, etc.)
 - Our brigade does not have the resources
 - We don't have adequate access to training and skills maintenance opportunities
 - Other (please specify)
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13. Would you like your brigade to do more planned burning?

- Yes
- No

14. Would your brigade be interested in participating in more of the following planned burns? (Please select one answer for each row)

	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Don't know
Public land				
Private land				
Road/Rail corridors				
Broad scale (remote)				
Urban interface areas (asset protection)				
Water Authority areas				
Own area				
Neighbouring areas				

15. Could your brigade do more planned burning?

- Yes
- No – provide explanation

16. Would your brigade be interested in nominating members to possible 'planned burning task forces' during the burning season, deployed similarly to a campaign fire strike team agreement?

- Maybe
- Interested
- Definitely

SECTION 3: TRAINING AND AVAILABILITY

17. Do you have enough members in your brigade trained and capable of maintaining your current planned burns?

- Yes
- No

18. Do you have enough members in your brigade trained and capable of increasing the amount of planned burning you already do?

- Yes
- No

19. How many members do you think your brigade has interested and available to participate in any planned burning?

- None
- 1 – 3
- 3
- 0+7 – 10
- 10+

20. What are the main reasons members would not be interested or available for planned burns? (You may choose more than one answer)

- Skills
- Experience
- Equipment
- Burn timing – volunteer availability
- Burn timing – weather constraints
- Burn site preparation
- Post burn patrolling
- Slow permit approvals process
- Approvals not contained
- Brigade confidence
- Liability
- Other (please specify)

21. Do you see planned burning as a valuable opportunity for training and/or skills maintenance?

- Yes
- No

22. Does your brigade have sufficient access to training to help members conduct planned burns?

- Yes
- No

23. Do you want more training for your members?

- Yes
- No

24. Do your members currently receive skills maintenance/recognition for participating in planned burns?

- Yes
- No

25. If your members currently do not receive skills maintenance/recognition for participating in planned burns, would you like them to?

- Yes
- No

SECTION 4: EQUIPMENT

26. Does your brigade frequently use its own trucks when conducting planned burns?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Frequently
- All of the time

27. Does your brigade use private equipment/vehicles when conducting planned burns?

- Never
- Sometimes
- Frequently
- All of the time

28. What things would encourage your brigade to make your vehicles more available to other brigades or agencies wanting to conduct planned burns?

(You may choose more than one)

- Own members with vehicles
- Vehicle is cleaned before return
- Vehicle is serviced before return
- Only burns in our area
- Only burns in neighbouring areas
- Clear arrangements in place (when going, how long for, with who)
- If own brigade area has sufficient resources
- Other (please specify)

29. Has your brigade ever had a bad experience with someone else using your truck which might influence your brigade's attitudes to sharing their truck or equipment?

- No
- Yes (please explain)

30. Does your brigade have sufficient equipment necessary to conduct more planned burns?

- Yes
- No - what would you need more of?

SECTION 5: BARRIERS

31. What factors hinder your brigade from doing more planned burning (You may choose more than one option)

- Skills
- Experience
- Equipment
- Burn plan preparation
- Burn timing – volunteer availability
- Burn timing – weather constraints
- Burn site preparation
- Post burn patrolling
- Slow permit approval process
- Approvals not yet obtained
- Liability
- Other (please specify over page)

32. Who should have responsibility for traffic management during planned burns?

- Brigade
- Someone else (landowners)

33. How much responsibility should the land manager have for traffic control?

- None – our brigade does all traffic control or we can use road closures
- None – we don't need traffic management
- Some – our brigade does traffic management on some burns
- All – the brigade does not have the resources

34. What does your brigade think about the prescriptions placed on your planned burns?

- Necessary
- Adequate
- Too prescriptive
- Not workable

35. What do you consider the top 3 barriers to your brigade being more involved in planned burning?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

SECTION 6: INCENTIVES

36. What incentives would help your brigade do more planned burning?

(Please select one answer for each row)

	Not important	Somewhat important	Very important	Don't know
More training				
Volunteer availability				
Streamlined burn approvals process				
Traffic management by others				
Participating in joint agency burns				
Resources for burn preparation				
Resources for conducting a burn				
Resources for post burn patrolling				
Assistance with weather forecasts				
Assistance with burn prescriptions				
Payment to brigade				
Access to equipment				
Purchase of extra brigade equipment				
Other (please specify)				

SECTION 7: ADMINISTRATION AND PLANNING

37. Does your brigade prepare a burn plan for your planned burns?

- No
- For some
- For most
- For all

38. Is it a written plan?

- No
- For some
- For most
- For all

39. Who prepares these plans for your brigade?

(You may choose more than one)

- Brigade members
- CFA Vegetation Management Officers(VMO's) with brigades
- DEPI or other land manager owner

40. Would you like more support in the preparation of your planned burns?

- Yes
- No

41. What involvement does your brigade have in the DEPI Fire Operations Plans (FOP)?

(You may choose more than one)

- None
- The brigades comment on FOPs
- The brigades nominate sites for inclusion in FOPs
- The brigades provide input to FOPs through CFA Operations Officer
- The brigades provide input to FOPs through CFA VMO
- The brigade doesn't know how to be involved

42. How much involvement does your brigades have with Municipal Fire Management Plans (MFMP)? (You may choose more than one)

- None
- Via brigade delegates attending Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP)
- Via group representation attending MFMP
- Via CFA VMO
- Via Operation Officers attending MFMP
- Via the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
- Other (please specify)

43. Do you think your Municipal Fire Management Plan accurately identifies in the areas of your community that need planned burning?

- Yes
- No – provide explanation

44. Would your brigade like more involvement in Municipal Fire Management Planning?

- Yes
- No

45. What are the main barriers to your brigade being involved in DEPI Fire Operations Planning or Municipal Fire Management Planning?

(You may choose more than one answer)

- Time commitment
 - Lack of expertise/experience
 - Inadequate representation
 - How the meetings are run
 - Responsiveness of the agencies
 - Other (please specify)
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SECTION 8: PARTNERSHIPS

46. Has your brigade conducted any burns with DEPI or another public land manager?

- None
- Not for a while
- Recently (in the past 12 months)

47. How would you describe your brigade's relationship with DEPI when it comes to planned burns?

- Very good
- Good
- Poor
- None

48. Would your brigade be happy to assist DEPI or Parks Victoria with planned burning?
(You may choose more than one)

- As a training or skills maintenance opportunity for brigade members
- With brigade members and their equipment on Crown land with DEPI as lead agency
- With brigade members and their equipment on private land adjoining Crown land with DEPI as lead agency
- As a joint burn across both private and Crown land at the same time with DEPI or CFA as lead agency
- By lending brigade equipment without CFA members crewing

49. How would you describe your brigade’s relationship with the councils when it comes to planned burning?

- Very good
- Good
- Poor
- Very poor
- None

50. How would you describe the role of the CFA Regional Operations Officer (OO) in your planned burns?

- Effective – the OO are proactively involved with burn planning or conducting, are responsive with burn plan authorisation and assist our brigade with obtaining resources
- Helpful – the OO work with the brigades and VMO in burn planning, approvals and obtaining resources
- Supportive – the OO encourages brigade involvement but are not actively involved in brigade burn planning or conducting
- Not effective – the OO does not support burning by our brigade as a priority
- None – our brigades have no involvement with OO in relation to planning or conducting burns
- Other (please specify over page)

52. Does your brigade engage with the CFA Vegetation Management Officer (VMO) for your area?

- No – have no need to consult VMO
- No – don’t know what a VMO is
- No – don’t know what VMO do
- Yes – we have discussed burns with the VMO and/or VMO has undertaken burn planning and approvals for our planned burning

53. How would you describe the support provided by the CFA Vegetation Management Officer (VMO) to your brigade?

- Effective – the VMO ensures that all our burns are planned, authorised and included in the Municipal Fire Management Plan
 - Useful – the VMO facilitates burn planning and approvals and stakeholder management for all or most burns
 - Helpful – our brigade does all of our burn planning and approvals with the help of the VMO
 - Not very effective – the VMO has not been able to help us with our burn planning for some or any of our burns
 - None – the brigade has never used the services of the VMO
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CFA is closing the survey period on Saturday 3rd August 2013

Please return this survey via:

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Email: a.barnett@vfbv.com.au

Fax: 03 9886 1618 (Please note survey is double sided)

**Should you require any assistance completing the survey,
or wish to discuss your answers in more detail, please contact:**

Project Officer: Mark Jones 0428 179 826