

**BUSHFIRE GUIDELINES - VEHICLE MOVEMENT BANS**

<b>DIVISION</b>	<b>BUSINESS UNIT</b>	<b>RESPONSIBILITY AREA</b>
Community Services	Regulatory Services	Fire Protection

**OBJECTIVE:**

The objective of this Policy is to determine the conditions under which certain activities that may occur during a Harvest Ban and/or Vehicle Movement Operation of Combustion Engine Ban.

**POLICY DEFINITIONS**

'Registered On and Off Loading area' means an area free of inflammable material, except live standing trees to a radius of 50 metres from the centre of the area.

'Mobile Fire Fighting Unit' means having a water carrying capacity of 400 litres, fitted with a minimum of 20 metres of 19 millimetre diameter fire fighting hose and pump capable of delivering water to full capacity through an adjustable nozzle in the spray and jet configurations.

'Harvest Ban' means any operation of machinery involved in harvesting seed crops/timber and/or other produce must come to a complete stop in paddocks when a ban is in place.

'Vehicle Movement/Operation of Combustion Engines Ban' means no vehicles to be driven unless on a constructed gazetted road and/or front entrance of property residences when the ban is in place and no combustion engines to be operated.

**POLICY:**

1. Under the Bush Fires Regulations 1954 (38A) the following regulated activities may take place when a Harvest Ban and/or Vehicle Movement/Operation of Combustion Engines Ban is in place:
    - a. Loading and offloading of grain, fertiliser and feed is only permitted on sites which are approved and registered by the Council on an annual basis and which comply with the definition of a Registered On and Off Loading area. A mobile fire fighting unit shall be in attendance at all times the site is in use during the ban period.
    - b. Water carting for stock and domestic purposes, provided a mobile fire fighting unit accompanies the vehicle being used for water carting purposes, or alternatively, the water carting vehicle acts as the mobile fighting unit and meets the requirements as detailed in the definition of a mobile fire fighting unit (including the retention of 400 litres at all times).
    - c. All necessary travel to, from and within piggeries, sheep or cattle feed lots, provided this is undertaken in or is accompanied by a mobile fire fighting unit.
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- d. All carting of livestock necessary for animal welfare, provided that a mobile fire fighting unit accompanies such a vehicle.
- e. All activities attending to the immediate welfare of animals provided that a mobile fire fighting unit accompanies such a vehicle.
- f. Activities which have received specific exemptions from the Shire of Plantagenet or the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer.
- g. All other activities or operations may only be undertaken during Harvest Bans and/or Vehicle Movement/Operation of Combustion Engines Bans after approval has been granted by the Council. Approvals must be sought on an individual basis and if granted, may be subject to conditions.
- h. Once the Fire Danger Index reaches 50 or above, all regulated activities must cease excluding those for the immediate welfare of stock, provided that a mobile fire fighting unit accompanies such a vehicle.'

**ADOPTED: FEBRUARY 2006**

**LAST REVIEWED: 22 MAY 2018**

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