
S2 Vegetation Fires (NCI 22)

Purpose

This document provides for:

- safe and effective operations at vegetation fires.

Instructions for Vegetation Fires

Chief Executives' responsibilities

Chief Fire Officers will issue a procedure for vegetation fires.

Fire Region Managers will ensure that every Fire District in the Fire Region has a procedure, in accordance with this instruction.

NZFS personnel's obligations

NZFS personnel will:

- familiarise themselves with:
 - the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977
 - Fire Authority fire plans relevant to their Fire District
 - any Fire Protection Agreements relevant to their Fire District
- follow the fire plan/incident action plan procedures of the Fire Authority

Origin and Cause

All vegetation fires within the Fire District will be investigated to determine the origin and cause (refer to *P1 Fire reporting*, and *P3 Fire Investigation*).

Local procedures

Local procedures will include:

- Pre-planning:
 - liaison with the Fire Authority
 - hiring of plant, plant machinery and aircraft
 - establishing who is the responsible fire authority at a fire and notifying them
 - monitoring the fire weather index data
 - procedures for hand over to Rural Fire Authority.

(Local procedures is continued overleaf)

Local procedures(continued)

- Actions at the Incident
 - assessing the fire
 - assessing and identifying the risks:
 - environmental
 - cultural
 - commercial
 - assessing potential fire spread
 - providing water supplies
 - upgrading the response
 - establishing communications
 - arranging incident ground safety
 - evacuating endangered people or stock
 - providing personnel:
 - appointing Safety Officer(s)
 - relief crews
 - providing refreshments.

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