



National
Operational
Guidance

Control measure

Emergency response plans: Wildfires



NFCC
National Fire
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC



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Control measure knowledge

Wildfire fire plans (sometimes referred to as wildfire response plans) can help to improve the safety and effectiveness of the response should a wildfire occur.

Wildfire fire plans should be prepared before an incident and include a range of important information such as:

General information

- Contact names and details for land owners and/or land managers
- Contact names and details for neighbouring land owners
- Communication methods and procedures
- Rendezvous points (RVPs)
- Significant hazards
- Access points and access, egress and escape routes for personnel
- Equipment available
- Building and site plans
- Location and type of animals (refer to the hazard 'Presence of animals' for further information)
- Location and type of any hazardous materials (refer to National Operational Guidance: [Hazardous materials](#) for further information)
- Stock maps and plans (for woodland)
- Designated or sensitive sites (refer to the hazard '[Environmental impact of wildfires](#)' for further information)
- Specialist resources
- Maps of the area
- Digital photography of the area

Information on the provision of water

- Water supplies on site
- Any pre-planned arrangements to provide additional water supplies to the site
- Plans for potential deployment of high volume pumps (HVPs)
- Areas of hard standing that may be suitable for parking HVPs and for temporary dams



Information on vehicle movement and parking

- Access, egress and escape routes for vehicles
- Any narrow access or egress routes that may require vehicle marshalling and/or one-way systems
- Any limitations to the types of vehicles that may be able to use specific access, egress or escape routes
- RVPs and suitable holding or parking areas for vehicles
- Turning and passing areas for vehicles
- Areas of hard standing that may be suitable for vehicles
- Road and bridge weight limits and surface hazards

Information on utilities

- Location of overhead power lines
- Location of gas or oil pipelines

Information related to aircraft

- Helicopter authorisation details
- Pre-planning for using aircraft
- Potential impact of a wildfire and/or firefighting operations on aircraft and airports

Information on military training areas and shooting ranges/areas

- Location of areas containing unexploded ordnance
- Location of shooting ranges/areas (both civilian and military)
- Potential impact of a wildfire and/or firefighting operations

Strategic actions

Fire and rescue services should:

- Identify relevant wildfire sites and their risks, and prioritise them according to the level of risk
- Gather information for inclusion in the wildfire fire plans
- Carry out familiarisation visits to identified sites
- Record and capture the information gathered from familiarisation visits and other sources
- Establish a delivery method to present the information in a clear and timely manner
- Schedule reviews and audits for the validity and accuracy of wildfire fire plans
- Consider organising joint training to test the use of wildfire fire plans, involving other organisations as appropriate



Tactical actions

Incident commanders should:

- Access any memoranda of understanding or other arrangements that exist for wildfire incidents
- Refer to wildfire fire plans during an incident, if they are available