



Councillor Information Bulletin

For the Ordinary Council Meeting
held on Thursday 20th May 2021

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Fire Weather Districts Review April – June 2020.-



SHIRE OF WESTONIA

April, May, June 2021

Date & Time	What	Where	Who
Monday 19 th April	WEROC CEO Meeting	Zoom	CEO
Wednesday 21 st April	Mediation Meeting - MRD	WALGA Perth	CEO, President
Thursday 22 nd April	Council Meeting	Westonia	CEO, Councillors
Tuesday 27 th April	WEROC Board Meeting	Merredin	CEO, President
Thursday 27 th April	WALGA GECZ	Zoom	CEO, President
Friday 28 th April	Polling Booth Inspection - Westonia	Westonia	CEO
Tuesday 4 th May	Ramelius Visit – Mark Zeptner, Duncan Coutts, Richard Jones	Westonia	CEO, President
Wednesday 12 th May	CMCA Motorhome WA Group	Westonia	CEO
Tuesday 18 th May	Ramelius – Natilie Orr	Westonia	CEO
Wednesday 19 th May	Audit Entrance Meeting – Auditors & OAG	Teams	CEO, President, MCS
Thursday 20 th May	Council Meeting	Westonia	CEO, Councillors
Tuesday 25 th May	CEACA Board Meeting	Kellerberrin	CEO, Louis Geier
Thursday 27 th May	LEMC	Southern Cross	CEO, Cr Geier
Thursday 17 th June	Council Meeting	Westonia	CEO, Councillors



Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

Resolutions not included here can be assumed to have been satisfactorily completed or have become redundant by virtue of a more current resolution or action. Councillors aware of an outstanding resolution not completed that should be placed in this outstanding resolution report

should contact the CEO. Red – New ~~Strikethrough – Delete~~

MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
September 19	12/09-19	LAND- DEVELOPMENT – SCHEELITE STREET	<p>That Council-</p> <p>1. Continue with the Scheelite Street Subdivision as planned;</p> <p>2. Engage the services of Resolute Australia Civil Contractors at the cost of \$39,648.61 plus GST to perform the water extension for the Scheelite Street;</p> <p>3. Authorise the additional expenditure (approximately \$25,000) as an out of budget expense, funded by budget savings or Development Reserve transfer at year end. Works are complete on the water extension/upgrades. Power extension waiting on amalgamation of blocks (Dept of Lands).-</p> <p>The Department of Planning, Lands and Heritage (DPLH) has received the valuation for the amalgamation of Lots 328 and 329 plus others in Freehold, the valuation is \$3,000.00 which is \$2,727.27 exclusive of GST. If the shire would like to request a reduction to the purchase price they are required to provide a business case outlining why the Shire should receive a reduction to the purchase price. This has been completed. Offer to purchase all 18 townsite blocks in Lease O388484 in Feb Agenda. Power applications have been submitted – awaiting approval and installation. SUBDIVISION COMPLETE</p>	CEO	Dec-20



Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

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October 2018	12/10-18	<p>WATER CORPORATION PRICING POLICY – COUNCIL OWNED STANDPIPES</p>	<p>That Council</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Discusses any public submissions received from the community; 2. Seeks an extension of time to respond to the Water Corporations Action Plan for Council Controlled Standpipes; 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to attend the Rural Water Council meeting in Northam on Friday 19th October to raise Council’s issues with the new fee structure; 4. Reaffirm September motion to write to the WA Water Corporation opposing their proposed fee structure in remote parts of the eastern wheatbelt; 5. Reaffirm September motion to write to the Department of Water and suggest that as a result of the increased Standpipe water costs that they re-introduce the Farm Water Grants to allow effected landholders the ability to create on-farm water storage and water connections; <p>Meeting arranged with Water Corp and Shires of Westonia, Yilgarn and Kellerberrin but postponed due to Covid-19</p> <p>Meeting arranged with Water Corp Tuesday 30th March</p>	CEO	Dec 20
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Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

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MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
Sept 2017	10/09-17	Westonia Airstrip	<p>That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate a fair price for the two areas of land to incorporate into the Westonia Airstrip and report back to Council at the October meeting. Offer and Paperwork to be discussed and finalized.</p> <p>The CEO has recently held discussions with Paul Sawyer of AD Astral Aviation in relation to some substantial development & improvements to the Westonia Airstrip to allow commercial flights in and out of Westonia. Waiting on response from Ramelius Resources. Additional discussion held with Ramelius regarding airstrip Surveyors completing survey and negotiating with owner on sale/transfer. Subdivision application submitted to Planning Commission, pending approval. Negotiations with owner complete, pending sellers acceptance of terms.</p>	CEO	July 21
Apr 2017	17/04-17	Town Planning Scheme	<p>Currently seeking input from town planners in relation to low cost solution.</p> <p>Held discussions with Dept of Planning – there are willing to assist, spoke with Planner in Kellerberrin who is willing to assist. Result – reduced cost plan. Dept of Planning attended June Meeting to discuss TPS with work to commence in 2018/19. Planning Commission met with Council in March 2019 with partially completed TPS & Strategies for review by Council. Draft complete, awaiting review from Council</p>	CEO	June 21



Council Outstanding Resolutions Status Report

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MEETING	ITEM/RESOLUTION	ACTION REQUIRED	RESPONSE	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER	TIME FRAME
Apr 2017	16/04-17	Westonia Airstrip	Currently investigating, coincide with Kaolin St Renaming.	CEO	July 21
Apr 2017	15/04-17	Renaming of Egg Rock Road & Kaolin Street	Currently seeking input from families prior to advertising as per requirements Documents sent to Geographical Names committee, awaiting response	CEO	July 21
Mar 2017	13/03-17	Review of Integrated Planning Suite	Awaiting commencement date for Integrated Planning Suite review. Review undertaken from April 2018, presentation in Dec 2018. Community Strategic Plan due for adoption in April 2019. Commence Workforce Plan in April 2019. Community Strategic Plan & Workforce Plan Completed.	CEO	Ongoing
Oct 16	10/10-16	Adopted sea container policy formulated by the Chief Executive Officer on the provision of sea containers in the Westonia Townsite.	CEO awaiting advise from new Health/Building Surveyor in relation to extent of paperwork required in submitting “Building Application” for approval. Local Planning Policies via Town Planning Scheme to address issue. TPS due for adoption in December 2019.	CEO/Building	Dec 20

WORK SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

1. PLANT REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

No significant plant repairs and maintenance were carried out since the last meeting.

2. CAPITAL ROAD WORKS

- The Roads crew are nearing completion of the widening of a section of Leach Road prior to bitumen edge sealing.
- Asphalt sealing has been completed at the Caravan Park, town entry, museum parking, and intersection into the mine entrance for the roadtrains. Some crossovers/driveways into private residences were included.



3. GENERAL ROAD MAINTENANCE

- The graders have been carrying out winter grading on the following roads – Goldfields, 4 Mile, section Sth Walgoolan, Henderson, Pitt, section of Warrachuppin, George, Strahan, section of Maxfield, Waddell, Settineri, Corsini and Demarte roads.

4. PRIVATE WORKS

- J Daniels – delivery of garden soil, aggregate and removal of waste.
- D. Hermon – delivery of garden soil.
- F Corsini – delivery of sand and asphalt driveway.

5. TOWN MAINTENANCE

- The town crew have been working vigorously planting new trees and plants in median strip gardens, cemetery and Caravan Park to invigorate the gardens.
- Clean up of fallen trees is still in progress.
- Clean up of rubbish tip.
- Slashing of vacant blocks.

6. OTHER

- Delivery of firewood to eligible pensioners.
- Pick up of concrete culverts from Kellerberrin.

7. PLANT HOURS

The following is a list of plant and vehicle kilometre and hour readings for the period ending 1.4.21

Item		1.4.21	1.5.21
P1	JOHN DEERE 770G GRADER	8,804hrs	8,839hrs
P2	CAT 12M	5,720hrs	5,812hrs
P3	PRIME MOVER (OLD FREIGHTLINER)	169,576kms	175,257kms
P4	ROAD TRAIN (NEW FREIGHTLINER)	37,685kms	39,756kms
P5	JOHN DEERE LOADER	3,106hrs	3,149hrs
P6	MULTI PAC	10,076hrs	10,146hrs
P7	MINI-EXCAVATOR	598hrs	603hrs
P8	TELEHANDLER JCB	1,774hrs	1,841hrs
P9	TOYOTA (MTCE UTE)	55,555kms	57,333kms
P10	MITSUBISHI CANTER	57,001kms	58,628kms
P11	TOYOTA HILUX (GARDENER) WT 35	71,223kms	75,054kms
P12	JOHN DEERE (5100)	2,078hrs	2,088hrs
P14	TOYOTA LANDCRUISER GXL (CEO)	18,334kms	1,472kms
P15	TOYOTA PRADO GXL (W/SUPER)	17,172kms	21,477kms
P16	TOYOTA RAV4 (ADMIN)	22,843kms	24,496kms
P17	TOYOTA HILUX DUAL CAB	82,940kms	84,861kms
P19	FAST ATTACK	10,866kms	10,933kms
P20	FIRE TRUCK	6,730kms	6,730kms
P18	WESSY BUS	118,028kms	119,666kms
P21	DYNAPAC FLAT DRUM	2.118hrs	2.066hrs
P22	KUBOTA RIDE ON MOWER (OVAL)	1,919hrs	1,930hrs
P23	TOYOTA MINI BUS (WT COM V)	21,113kms	23,134kms
P24	HAMM ROLLER	3,003hrs	3,042hrs
P25	MICK's BEAUT UTE	143,444kms	143,652kms
P26	GO-GO MOBILE SWEEPER		

TOURISM REPORT

WESTONIA SHIRE CARAVAN PARK:

Asphalt has been laid at the caravan park a full loop through the park from the entrance to the exit of the park. There is a section that runs to the tent area and parking bay for the caretaker.



REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- Various minor repairs and maintenance ongoing.
- Grassed area to be established for Tents. The shade cloth areas are not lasting as long as first thought. They are breaking down within a year then look a mess until they are able to be replaced.

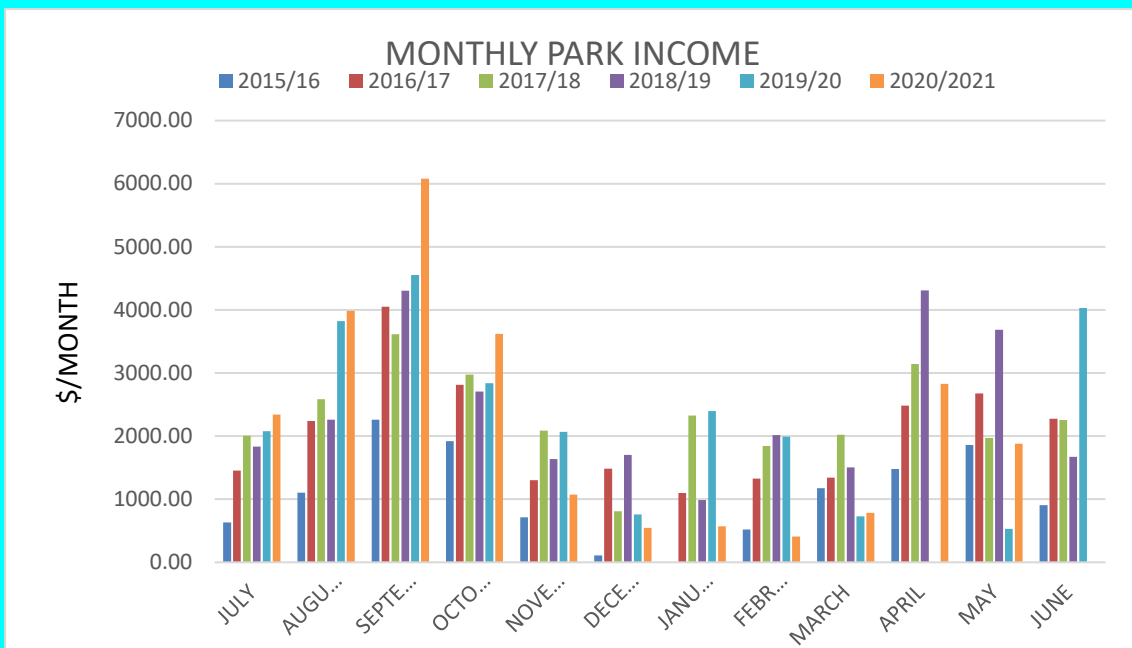
FUTURE PROJECTS

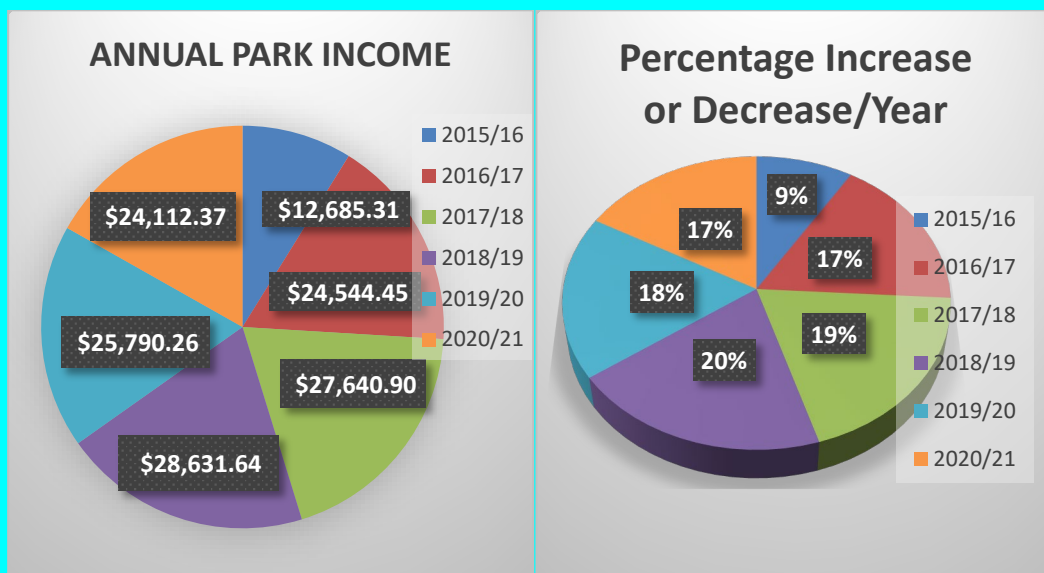
- Unpowered Overflow/ Tent area – Weed matting and out lined sites

VISITOR FEEDBACK

- Just a great little town lovely lady at the C/Park very friendly told us a lot about things around Westonia.
- Great park great host.
- Great amenities. Very helpful caretaker.

STATISTICS





HOOD-PENN MUSEUM:

Asphalt has been laid at the rear of the museum and to finish the path along the museum verandah. We will now be able to make the rear door operational for our volunteers and close the old one. This allows us to complete the Farming scene and open this area to museum visitors.



REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE

- We now need to change handles over on the doors so that volunteers can enter through the rear door and close off the old one to become a façade’.

RECENT PROJECTS

- Lighting solutions.
- Storage area restructure

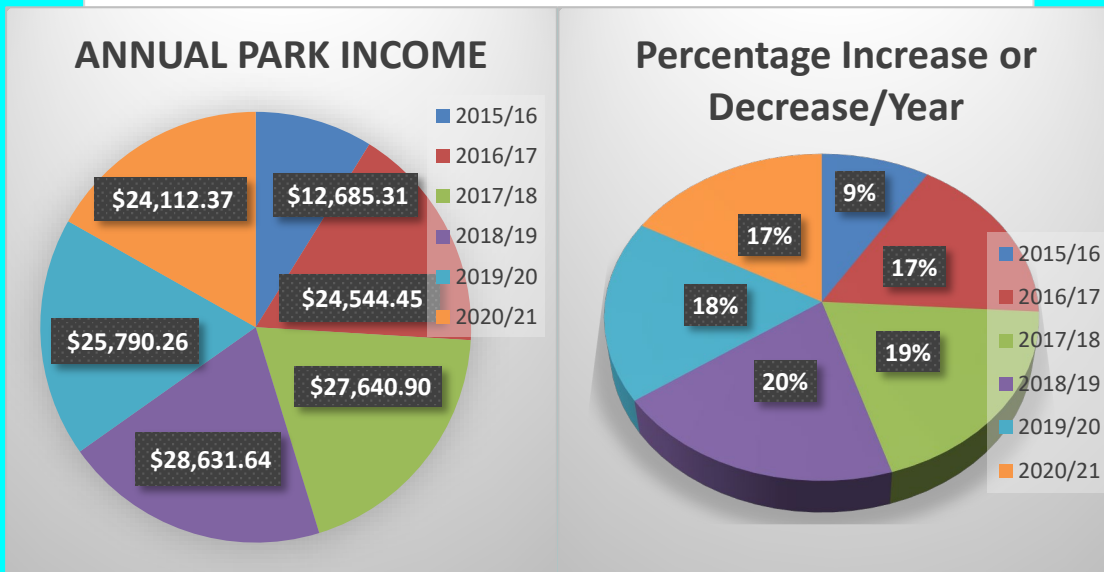
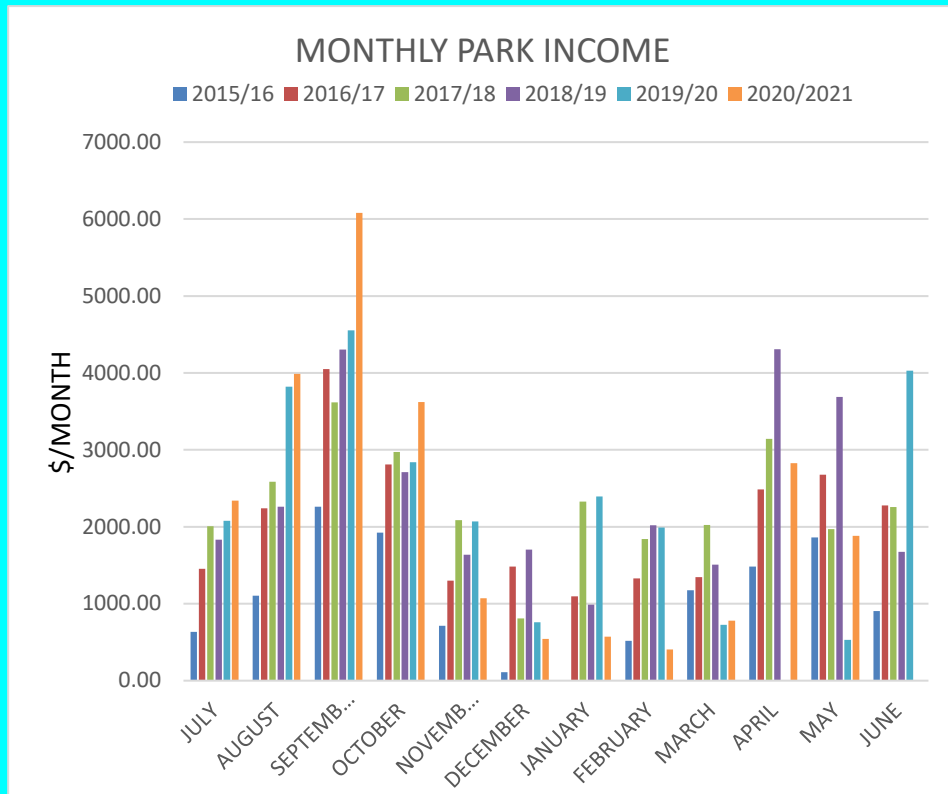
FUTURE PROJECTS

- New scenes to be created in the existing space of the old storage room to tell the stories of our primary industries of which Westonia was founded on.

VISITOR FEEDBACK (Verbal and Visitor register)

- Clean No dust!
- Not cluttered
- The best Museum they have visited on their travels.
- Not over the top with things to read.
- Visitor’s hearing about museum in Merredin, specifically the Visitor’s Centre, railway & military museums.
- Wheatbelt way and word of mouth still a big performer for us (getting quite more and more of the highway drop-ins)

STATISTICS



Program Reinforces Cooperation and Climate Action for Regions



MONDAY, 10 MAY 2021

Media Release

Collaboration across regional Local Governments to strengthen climate action and support local communities in adapting to climate change impacts will be the focus of a pilot program announced today.

The Regional Climate Alliance Program provides funding for two regional climate alliances – with each able to access more than \$400,000 over two years.

The Department of Water and Environmental Regulation has partnered with WALGA and the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries to deliver the grant funding.

WALGA President Mayor Tracey Roberts welcomed the funding, saying it would support regional Local Governments to collaborate and establish climate alliances.

“This funding could assist those smaller regional Local Governments who may face barriers in their climate change activities, such as lack of resources, expertise or competing priorities,” Mayor Roberts said.

“By joining forces with neighbouring Local Governments, climate alliances can share knowledge, accelerate climate adaptation and mitigation actions, and build resilience to climate risk.

“These alliances can successfully develop and implement trial projects that are currently beyond the reach of individual Local Governments, allow for innovation and could further achieve cost savings through economies of scale.”

Examples of potential regional climate alliance projects include adding solar

panels to Local Government facilities, delivering programs to encourage reduced household energy consumption and improve resilience across the community, or increasing tree canopies in town centres.

The Program is an action under the State Government's *Western Australian Climate Policy 2020*, which supports regional Local Governments to drive action on climate change, energy and sustainability through regional partnerships.

The Minister for Environment Hon Amber-Jade Sanderson MLA said the State Government is excited to be launching this initiative.

"We want to see the development of strong and effective emissions reduction and climate change adaptation projects, designed and implemented by Local Government alliances," she said.

For grant program guidelines or to apply, please visit the WALGA website at walga.asn.au/regionalclimateallianceprogram or email environment@walga.asn.au

Applications close on Monday, 21 June 2021.

Ends

FOR COMMENT PLEASE CONTACT:

Kate Murray, Marketing and Media Manager - 0448 896 435
WALGA President, Mayor Tracey Roberts - 0409 112 954

WALGA

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INFOPAGE



To: All CEOs

From: Emergency Management

Organisation:

Date: Wednesday 12 May 2021

Reference:

Priority: Medium

Subject: Fire Weather Districts Review

IN BRIEF:

Operational Area:	Emergency Management
Key Issues:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) are reviewing and updating the Fire Weather Districts (FWDs) for Western Australia as part of the development of the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS).• FWDs are areas that are used to communicate Fire Danger Ratings and fire weather warnings to communities, such as Harvest Vehicle Movement Bans and Total Fire Bans.• Consultation with Local Government on changes to FWDs will be facilitated by DFES at the regional level.• WALGA is supporting DFES to offer an additional consultation opportunity to Local Government through the delivery of a webinar on Friday, 21 May 2021 from 1.30-2.30pm.• The Fire Weather Districts Review approach is available here.
Action Required:	Attendance at webinar on Friday, 21 May. Engagement with regional DFES personnel in order to review and consider Regional Consultation Packages and provide feedback on proposed changes to FWDs.

There are 37 FWDs in Western Australia (see attached map of proposed FWDs). FWDs are areas that are used to communicate Fire Danger Ratings (FDRs) and fire weather warnings to communities. The implementation of the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) presents an opportunity to review and address feedback and limitations associated with the current FWD boundaries.

The review intends to improve synergies with Local Government boundaries; where possible use climate, vegetation, land use and infrastructure as boundaries; consider the impact of activity restrictions on industry and agriculture; and consider fire behaviour influences relating to fuel type and weather influence. The review also aims to improve how Fire Danger Ratings will be calculated, displayed and communicated as part of the new AFDRS, which is scheduled to rollout in June 2022.

DFES's primary method of consulting with Local Government on the FWD review was intended to be through ROAC and DOAC meetings in March and April 2021, however some of these meetings occurred before the consultation package was finalised. Local Governments should still be consulted through regional DFES personnel.

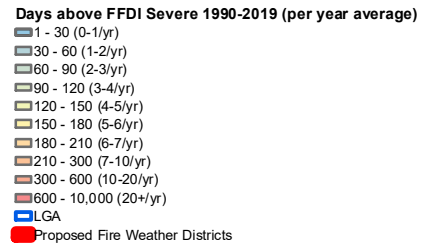
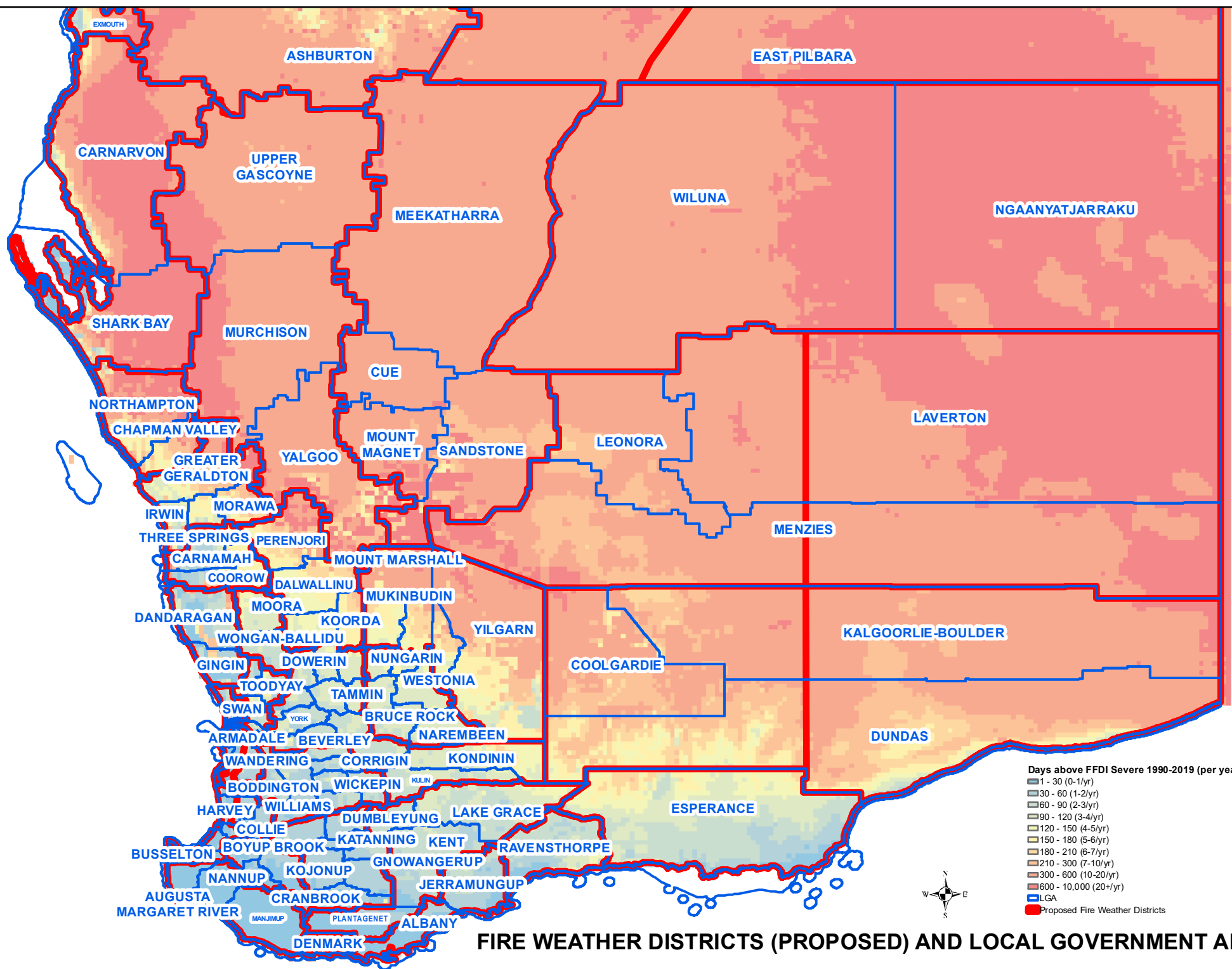
WALGA is supporting DFES to offer an additional consultation opportunity to Local Government through the delivery of a webinar:

Date: Friday, 21 May

Time: 1:30pm to 2:30pm

This webinar is aimed at Local Government emergency management staff and CEOs.
To register your attendance to the event, go to the WALGA website [here](#).

For further information please contact:
Cassandra Mora, Policy Officer, Emergency Management (e) cmora@walga.asn.au or



FIRE WEATHER DISTRICTS (PROPOSED) AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS



WA Fire Weather District Review Approach

The Fire Weather District Review forms part of the Fire Danger Rating Communication work package that contributes to the outcome: 'Community aware of specific daily forecast FDR impacting them'.

1. Background

Fire Weather Districts (FWD) are areas that are used to communicate Fire Danger Ratings (FDRs) and fire weather warnings to communities. They are owned by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM), with DFES as a key stakeholder. There are currently 37 FWDs in WA. The implementation of the Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) presents an opportunity to review and address feedback and limitations associated with the current FWD boundaries.

Fire Weather Districts and subdistricts were created from boundaries from a number of existing datasets, including:

- Bureau of Meteorology Public Weather Districts (2007);
- Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Local Government (LGA) Boundaries (2010);
- Geoscience Australia GEODATA Coast 100K (2004).

2. Challenges with Current FWDs

FDRs are currently presented to the public as a forecast maximum daily FDR value across a broad Fire Weather District. As ratings are calculated as the highest FDR value that covers at least 10% of the area, the rating level may not be representative of the whole FWD. This can create over warning and result in confusion for the public, significantly impact industries and agencies subject to regulations that are linked to FDR thresholds. For example, a Total Fire Ban Exemption does not apply when a Catastrophic FDR has been forecast across a Fire Weather District. The broader the FWD the less relevant the FDR may be for the whole area, occasionally contributing to the over or under warning of the community.

FWDs do not necessarily take into account boundaries of fuel types, terrain or weather influence which can significantly impact fire behaviour. In addition, the FWD boundaries do not necessarily align with local government boundaries, which can result in confusion for the community, agricultural sector and industry.

3. Previous changes to FWDs

Over the years a number of changes have been made the Fire Weather Districts, with the most recent being:



- The whole or portions of coastal subdistricts for the districts of Gascoyne, Pilbara and Kimberley were delineated based on 50 km distance from the coast (2004).
- Southeast Coastal District and Goldfields District aligned to the Esperance Shire boundary (2010)
- .Implementation of the Geographic Forecast Editor (GFE) in October 2012 led to changes to boundaries in the north and SW. To correspond with coastal forecast boundaries, local and inland water districts were included as void areas.
- In December 2016, there was a slight boundary change between North Kimberley Coast and Kimberley Inland (Kununurra).

Since the last change in 2016 there have been a number of formal and informal requests made to change FWDs. In December 2017 a request was made from the Goldfields Midlands Region to change FWDs in the Goldfields, Eucla and South Interior to support Total Fire Ban implementation within the region. These requests were considered as part of the development of the initial proposed changes.

4. Agreement to Review FWDs

At the AFDRS IBOC Subcommittee held in 19 Nov 2020, it was discussed and agreed that the new AFDRS presented an appropriate opportunity to review and update the current FWDs. Following a presentation from Director Bushfire Technical Services (DFES) and Severe Weather Services Manager (BoM), the group discussed a number of proposed changes and agreed there was a need to review the current FWDs as part of the AFDRS Implementation Project. However, the group suggested further consultation was required at a regional level to ensure appropriate engagement with key stakeholders (DFES, DBCA, LG etc) in the review process. Initial changes were reviewed by the Fire Weather Sub Committee on 16th December 2020 who have indicated they are supportive of the review approach.

While it would be beneficial for system testing to incorporate the updated Fire Weather Districts, given system training and testing for the Northern Fire Season is scheduled to commence from May 2021, it is unlikely that this will allow adequate time for effective consultation. The changes do need to be finalised prior to September to allow for BOM AFDRS testing.

5. Review Assumptions

As part of the review process a number of assumptions have been made in relation to expected data and systems and access requirements associated with the new AFDRS. These include but are not limited to:

- The introduction of the AFDRS will result in the use of more detailed vegetation data inputs and systems that respond more accurately to spatial and temporal changes in fuel type and state.
- Fire Danger Rating calculations will be based on the use of the appropriate fire behaviour model (rather than only applying a grassland or forest model)



resulting in more accurate fire behaviour predictions (reducing potential for non-representative FDRs).

- The introduction of BOMs Gridded Forecast Editor (GFE) in October 2012 removed the need for the default 50km Coastal FWD.
- FDRs will be issued at a local government scale.

6. Review Principles

The following review principles have been drafted as considerations used to support FWD boundary changes:

- Where possible to avoid confusion retain alignment between RWD and Public Forecast Boundaries;
- Combine areas of similar climate;
- Combine areas of similar land use and vegetation;
- Reduce area of the broadest FWDs;
- Use LG boundaries where possible;
- Use climate, vegetation, land use and infrastructure (HWY's) as boundaries where possible.
- Consideration of activity restrictions impacting Industry and Agriculture
- Limiting the number of FWDs (i.e. BOM have suggested a maximum of 40, due to practicality of issuing daily forecasts);

7. Measuring Success

The work will be considered successful if:

- DFES, DBCA and local governments have been consulted and their requirements considered in final FWDs;
- The review principles have been consistently applied, or and deviations have been documented for the record;
- The total number of Fire Weather Districts is considered manageable by BoM; and
- The FWDs as endorsed are implemented in the AFDRS systems (Fuel State Editor and Fire Danger Viewer).

8. Consultation and Communication

The review process will be facilitated by DFES in consultation with BOM. It will be undertaken with key stakeholders including DFES, DBCA and local governments. The consultation approach will be to provide initial presentations through existing committees, and networks to outline the consultation intent and approach. To assist in capturing regionally specific issues and suggestions, consultation will be facilitated at a regional level engaging DFES, DBCA and local government personnel.



Local governments will also be engaged through presentations at each of the ROACs and DOACs scheduled throughout the consultation period. DBCA will also be consulted through the DBCA Regional Fire Operations Group. Other opportunities to engage multiple stakeholders will be provided through the Fire Weather Subcommittee, Bushfire Operations Committee and AFDRS IBOC Sub Committee. The below table lists committees and groups that have / will be presented to in relation to the FWD review.

A consultation pack will be provided to each of these groups and through other relevant networks to provide opportunities for review and provision of feedback to inform the review.

Item	Date
IBOC AFDRS Subcommittee – initial presentation	19/11/20
Fire Weather Subcommittee	16/12/20
AFDRS WA Operational Response Working Group	18/01/21
DFES Country Superintendents Meeting	16/02/21
DFES Metro Superintendents Meeting	17/02/21
IBOC AFDRS Subcommittee – consultation approach	25/02/21
DBCA Regional Fire Operations Group	26/02/21
Pilbara DOAC	03/03/21
Midwest DOAC	10/03/21
Lower South West ROAC	10/03/21
Great Eastern DOAC	15/03/21
Northam DOAC	16/03/21
Kimberley Fire Forum	25/03/21
Upper Great Southern ROAC	25/03/21
South West ROAC	25/03/21
Bushfire Operations Committee (BOC)	26/03/21
Metro ROAC	20/04/21
Great Southern ROAC	28/04/21

9. Approval Timelines

The below table outlines the process to obtain approval of reviewed FWD boundaries for use within the AFDRS system.

Item	Date
Supported by Fire Weather IBOC Subcommittee	14 July 2021



Item	Date
Endorsement by AFDRS WA Implementation IBOC Subcommittee	August 2021
Boundaries Updated by BOM for use in AFDRS Testing	Sept 2021
Boundaries updated for use in AFDRS (when operational)	June 2022

10. Review Products

A number of products will be developed and used to support this review process. These will include:

- PowerPoint presentation developed for initial presentations
- Fire Weather Districts Review Approach (background document)
- A slide pack containing detailed information to provide context to the review, outline the approach and provide details to support decision making. Providing in a slide pack will allow for the detail to be presented as a PowerPoint presentation.
- Map products scaled to Northern WA, Southern WA and South West Corner with separate maps detailing the following 3 boundaries / layers:
 - Current (black) and proposed (red) FWD boundaries with proposed FWD labels
 - Proposed FWD boundaries (red) and LG boundaries (blue) with LG labels
 - Current FWD boundaries (red) and LG boundaries (blue) against fire behaviour model map.
 - Current FWD boundaries (red) against FFDI Severe and above frequency map (1990 – 2019)
- Feedback form for capturing and communicating feedback in relation to relevant proposed FWD changes.



Fire Weather Districts Review – Feedback Form

Regional Contact Details

Region / District / Local Government	
Contact Person (<i>name and position</i>)	
Contact Details (<i>phone, email</i>)	
Contributors to review (<i>i.e. regional staff, local Government etc</i>)	

Proposed Fire Weather District (FWD) Feedback

Proposed Change 1

Proposed FWD name	
Do you support this FWD boundary change	Y N
Justification for supporting / not supporting boundary change?	
Suggested amendment to proposed FWD (<i>mark on map if required</i>)	

Proposed Change 2

Proposed FWD name	
Do you support this FWD boundary change	Y N
Justification for supporting / not supporting boundary change?	
Suggested amendment to proposed FWD (<i>mark on map if required</i>)	

Proposed FWD name	
Do you support this FWD boundary change	Y N
Justification for supporting / not supporting boundary change?	
Suggested amendment to proposed FWD (mark on map if required)	

Proposed Change 3

Proposed FWD name	
Do you support this FWD boundary change	Y N
Justification for supporting / not supporting boundary change?	
Suggested amendment to proposed FWD (mark on map if required)	

(include additional 'Proposed Change Tables' as required)

Other Comments:	
-----------------	--

Endorsement

Regional Superintendent / District Manager / Local Government Representative	
Signature	
Date	

Please return feedback by **4th June 2021** to AFDRS@dfes.wa.gov.au



Fire Districts

Northern

1. North Kimberley Coast
2. West Kimberley Coast
3. Kimberley Inland
4. East Pilbara Coast
5. West Pilbara Coast
6. East Pilbara Inland
7. Ashburton Inland
8. Exmouth Gulf Coast
9. North Interior

Central and Eastern

10. Gascoyne Coast
11. Gascoyne Inland
12. Goldfields
13. Eucla
14. South Interior

South West Land Division

15. Coastal Central West - North
16. Inland Central West - North
17. Coastal Central West - South
18. Inland Central West - South
19. Lower West Coast
20. Lower West Inland
21. Geographe
22. Leeuwin
23. Nelson
24. Stirling Coast
25. Stirling Inland
26. Ravensthorpe Shire Coast
27. Ravensthorpe Shire Inland
28. Esperance Shire Coast
29. Esperance Shire Inland
30. Upper Great Southern
31. Roe
32. Beaufort
33. Lakes
34. Mortlock
35. Ninghan
36. Avon
37. Jilbadgie

Legend

- Fire Forecast District Boundaries
- Fire Forecast Divisions Boundaries

Western Australia Fire Weather Forecast Areas



Fire Weather Districts Review

April – June 2020



FOR A SAFER STATE



Public Weather Districts

Forecast districts were initially developed in 1910, based on areas sharing common meteorological characteristics, last updated in 2007. Forecasts are produced twice a day for each forecast district for up to 4 days in advance.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts/map.shtml>

Example:

“Sunny. Winds south to southeasterly 15 to 20 km/h tending south to southwesterly 20 to 30 km/h during the morning. Daytime maximum temperatures 28 to 33.”



Fire Weather Districts

- Areas used by the Bureau of Meteorology (BoM) to communicate fire weather warnings.
- Currently 37 FWDs in WA.
- Created from boundaries from a number of existing datasets:
 - Bureau of Meteorology Public Weather Districts (2007);
 - Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Local Government (LGA) Boundaries (2010);
 - Geoscience Australia GEODATA Coast 100K (2004).

Fire Districts

Northern

1. North Kimberley Coast
2. West Kimberley Coast
3. Kimberley Inland
4. East Pilbara Coast
5. West Pilbara Coast
6. East Pilbara Inland
7. Ashburton Inland
8. Exmouth Gulf Coast
9. North Interior

Central and Eastern

10. Gascoyne Coast
11. Gascoyne Inland
12. Goldfields
13. Eucla
14. South Interior

South West Land Division

15. Coastal Central West - North
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30. Upper Great Southern
31. Roe
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33. Lakes
34. Mortlock
35. Ninghan
36. Avon
37. Jilbadgie

Legend

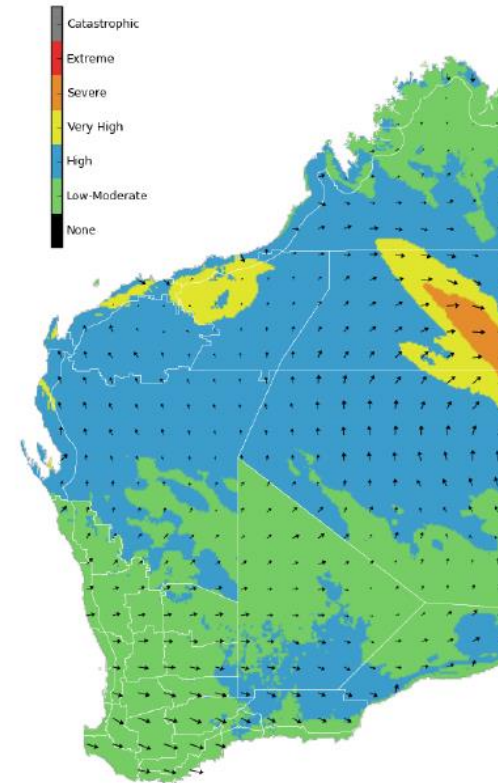
- 6 Fire Forecast District Boundaries
- Fire Forecast Divisions Boundaries
- Reference Locations

Western Australia Fire Weather Forecast Areas



Challenges with current Fire Weather Districts

- Fire Danger Ratings are presented as the forecast 90th percentile maximum daily value across a board Fire Weather District (FWD).
- The broader the FWD the less relevant the FDR may be for the whole area (which may result in over warning and public confusion)
- FWD boundaries do not necessarily take into account boundaries of fuel types, terrain or weather influence which can significantly impact fire behaviour.
- FWD are not well understood spatially as they don't always align with well known boundaries such as local governments



Western Australia Fire Danger Ratings

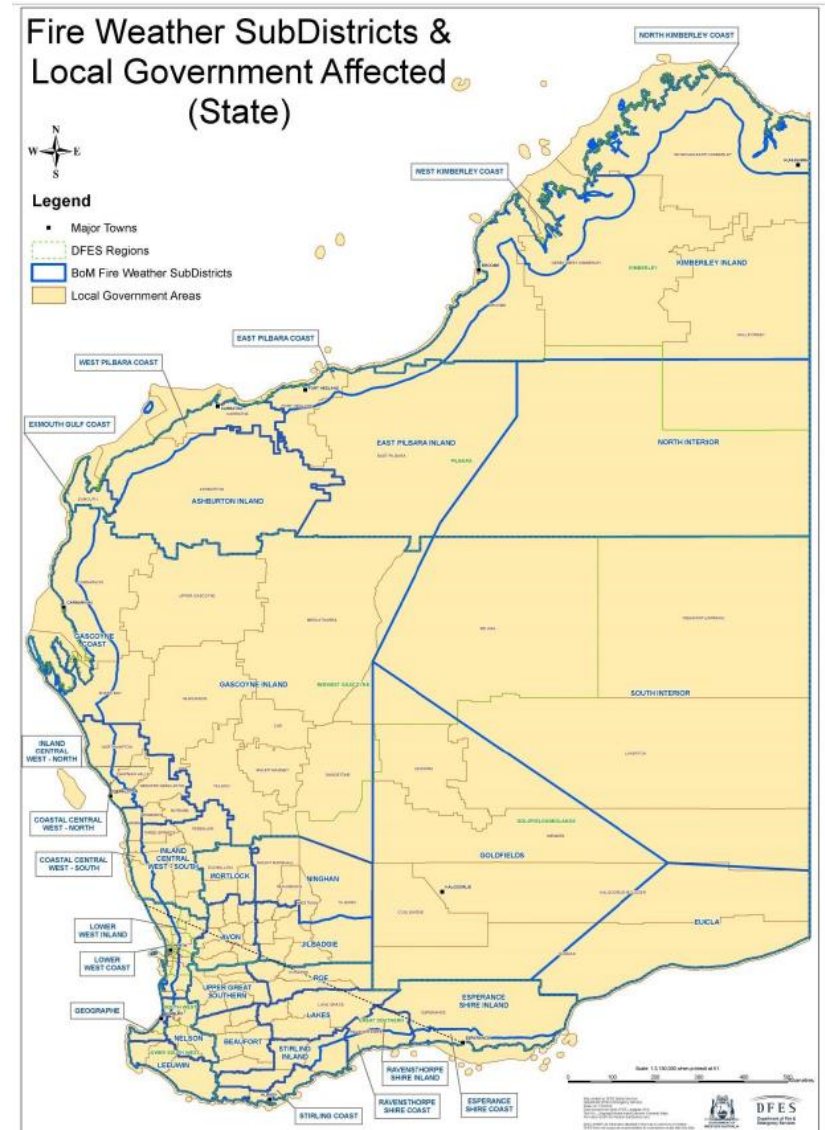
Issued at 4:10 pm WST on Monday 28 September 2020

District	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
North Kimberley Coast	High	High	High	High
West Kimberley Coast	High	High	High	High
Kimberley Inland	High	High	High	High
East Pilbara Coast	Very High	Very High	Very High	Severe
West Pilbara Coast	Very High	Severe	Severe	Severe
East Pilbara Inland	Very High	Very High	High	Severe
Ashburton Inland	High	Very High	Severe	Severe
Esperance Gulf Coast	Very High	Severe	Very High	Very High
Gascoyne Coast	High	Very High	Very High	High
Gascoyne Inland	High	High	Very High	Severe
Oldfields	High	High	Severe	Very High
Eucla	High	High	Severe	Catastrophic
North Interior	Severe	High	High	Very High
South Interior	High	High	High	Catastrophic
Coastal Central West - North	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Inland Central West - North	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Coastal Central West - South	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Inland Central West - South	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Lower West Coast	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Lower West Inland	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Deegrathe	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Leurwin	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Nelson	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Stirling Coast	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Stirling Inland	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Ravensthorpe Shire Coast	High	High	High	Low-Moderate
Ravensthorpe Shire Inland	High	High	High	Low-Moderate
Esperance Shire Coast	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Esperance Shire Inland	High	High	Very High	High
Upper Great Southern	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Roe	High	High	High	Low-Moderate
Beaufort	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Lakes	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	High	Low-Moderate
Morlock	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Ninghan	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Avon	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate	Low-Moderate
Jilbadgie	High	High	High	High

Notes

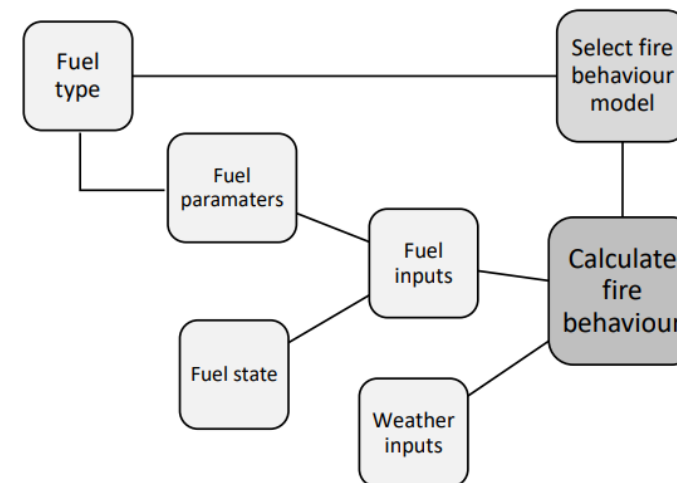
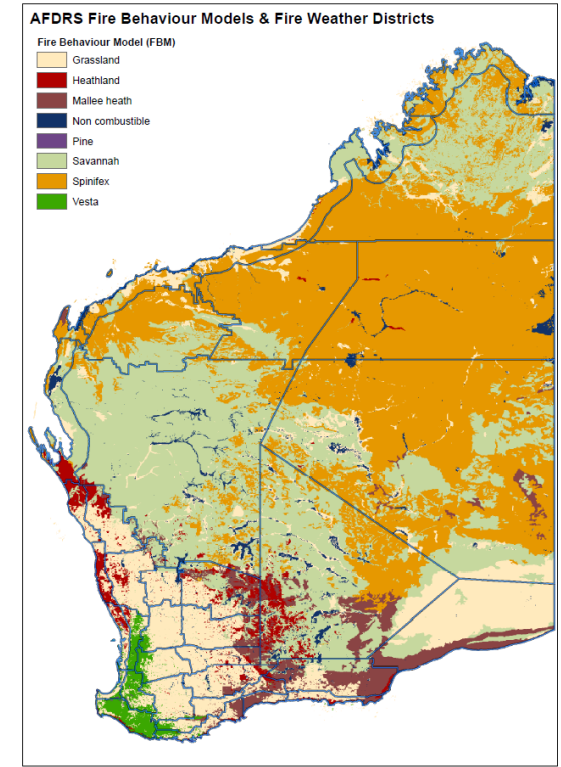
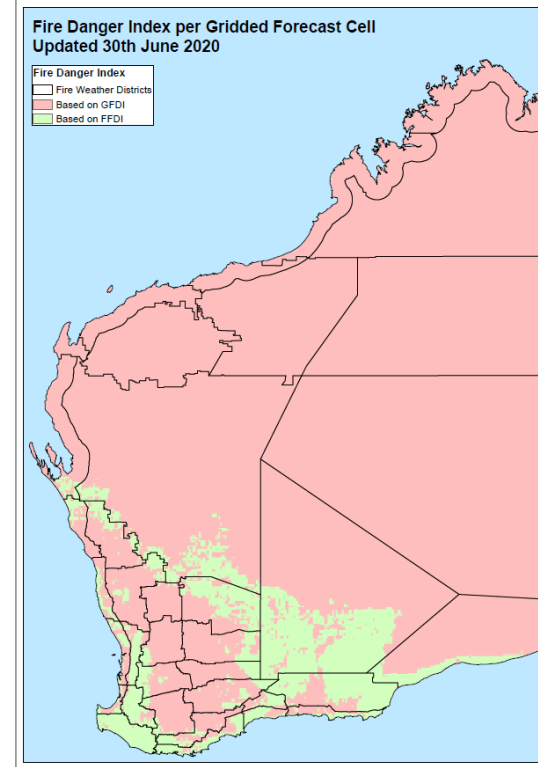
Previous changes to FWDs

- 2004 - whole or portions of coastal subdistricts for the districts of Gascoyne, Pilbara and Kimberley were delineated based on 50 km distance from the coast.
- 2010 - the Southeast Coastal District and Goldfields District was aligned to the Esperance Shire boundary.
- 2012 - Implementation of the Geographic Forecast Editor (GFE) led to changes to boundaries in the north and SW (to correspond with coastal forecast boundaries, local and inland water districts were included as void areas).
- 2016 - slight boundary change between North Kimberley Coast and Kimberley Inland (Kununurra).



Advancement with new AFDRS

- The introduction of the AFDRS will result in the use of more detailed vegetation data inputs and systems that respond more accurately to spatial and temporal changes in fuel type and state.
- Fire Danger Rating calculations will be based on the use of the appropriate fire behaviour model (rather than only applying a grassland or forest model) resulting in more accurate fire behaviour predictions.



Review Principles

- Where possible to avoid public confusion, retain alignment between FWD and Public Forecast Boundaries;
- Use LG boundaries where possible;
- Combine areas of similar climate;
- Combine areas of similar land use and vegetation;
- Reduce area of the broadest FWDs;
- Use climate, vegetation, land use and infrastructure (HWY's) as boundaries where applicable;
- Consideration of activity restrictions impacting Industry and Agriculture
- Limiting the number of FWDs (suggested maximum of 40)

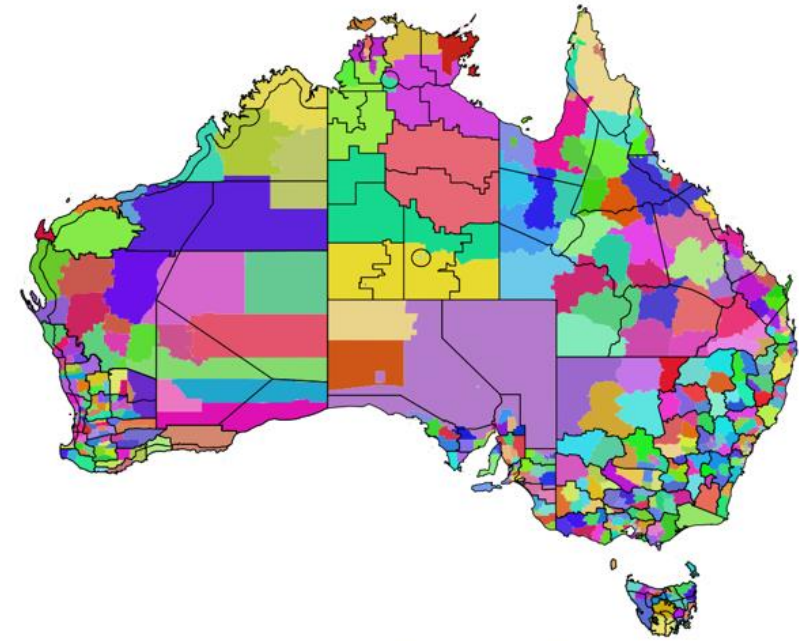
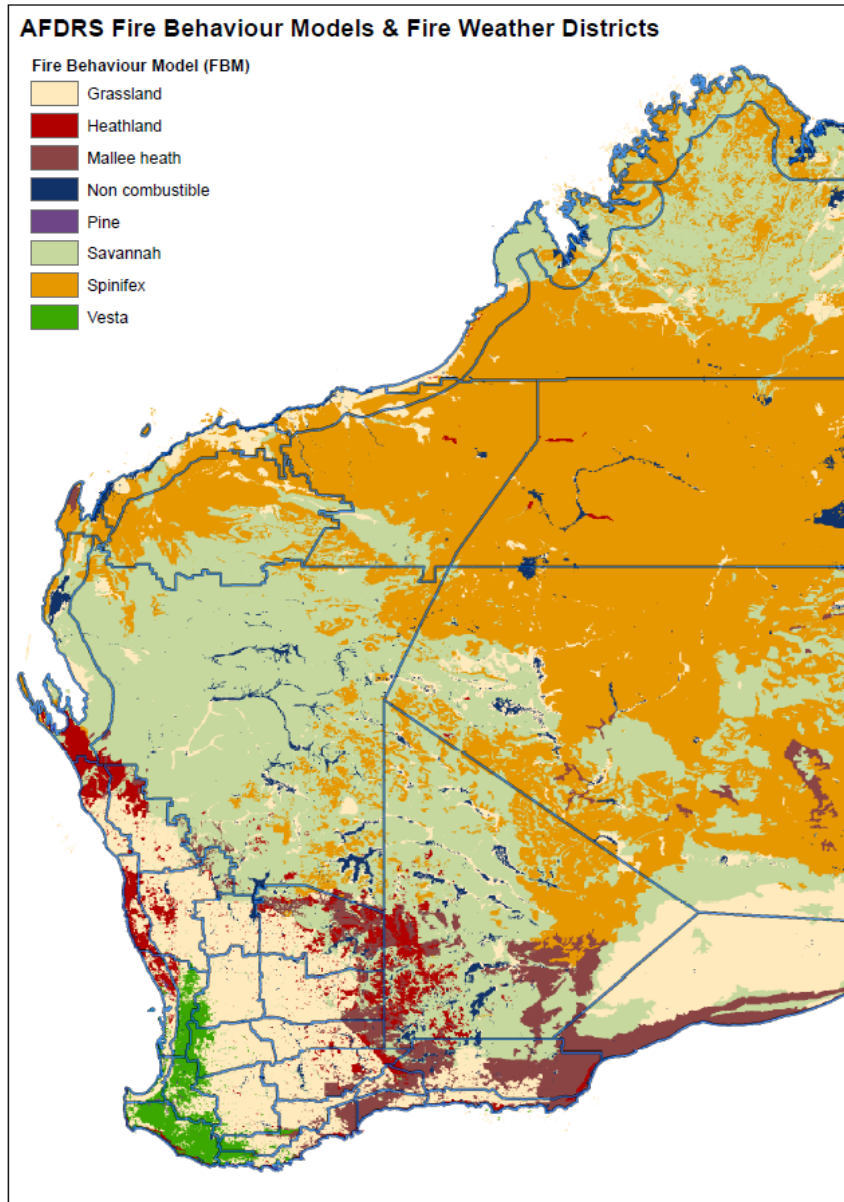
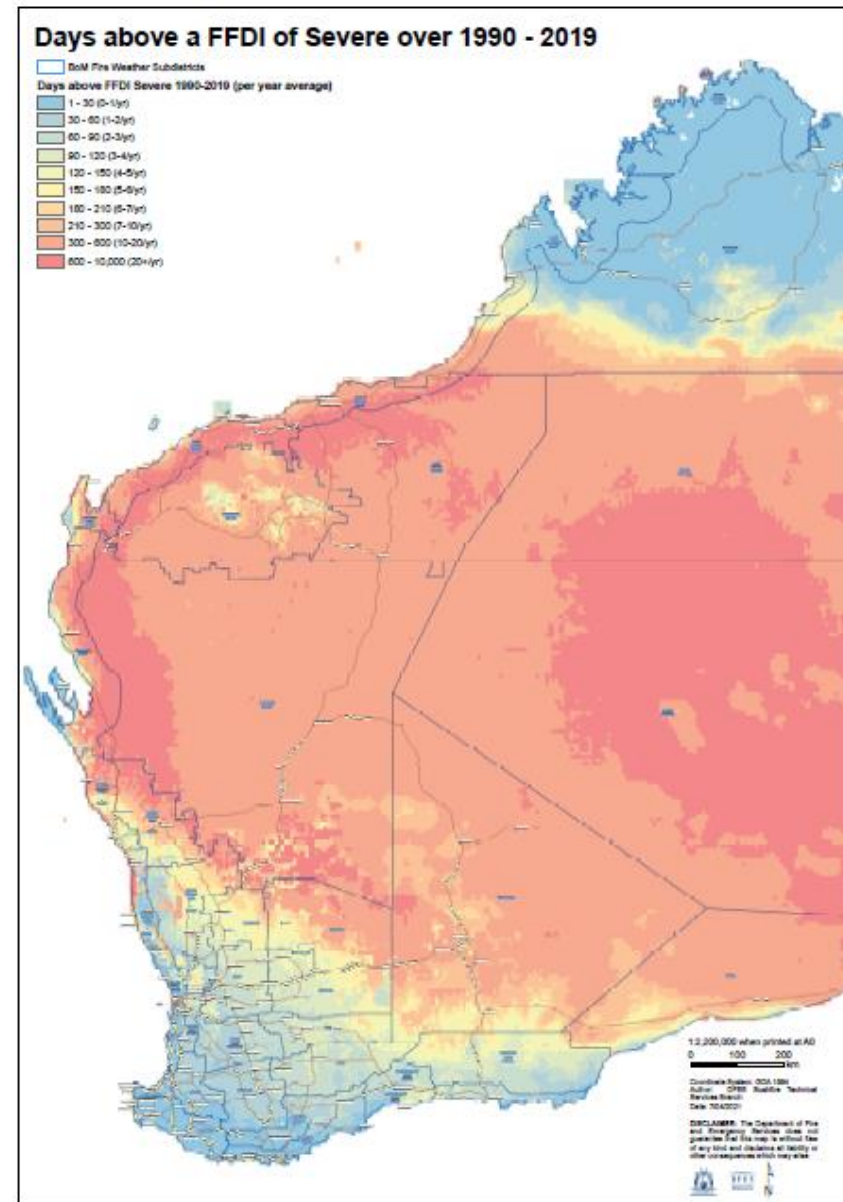


Figure 1. Fire Weather Areas compared to Local Government Areas (FWAs are in black outline)

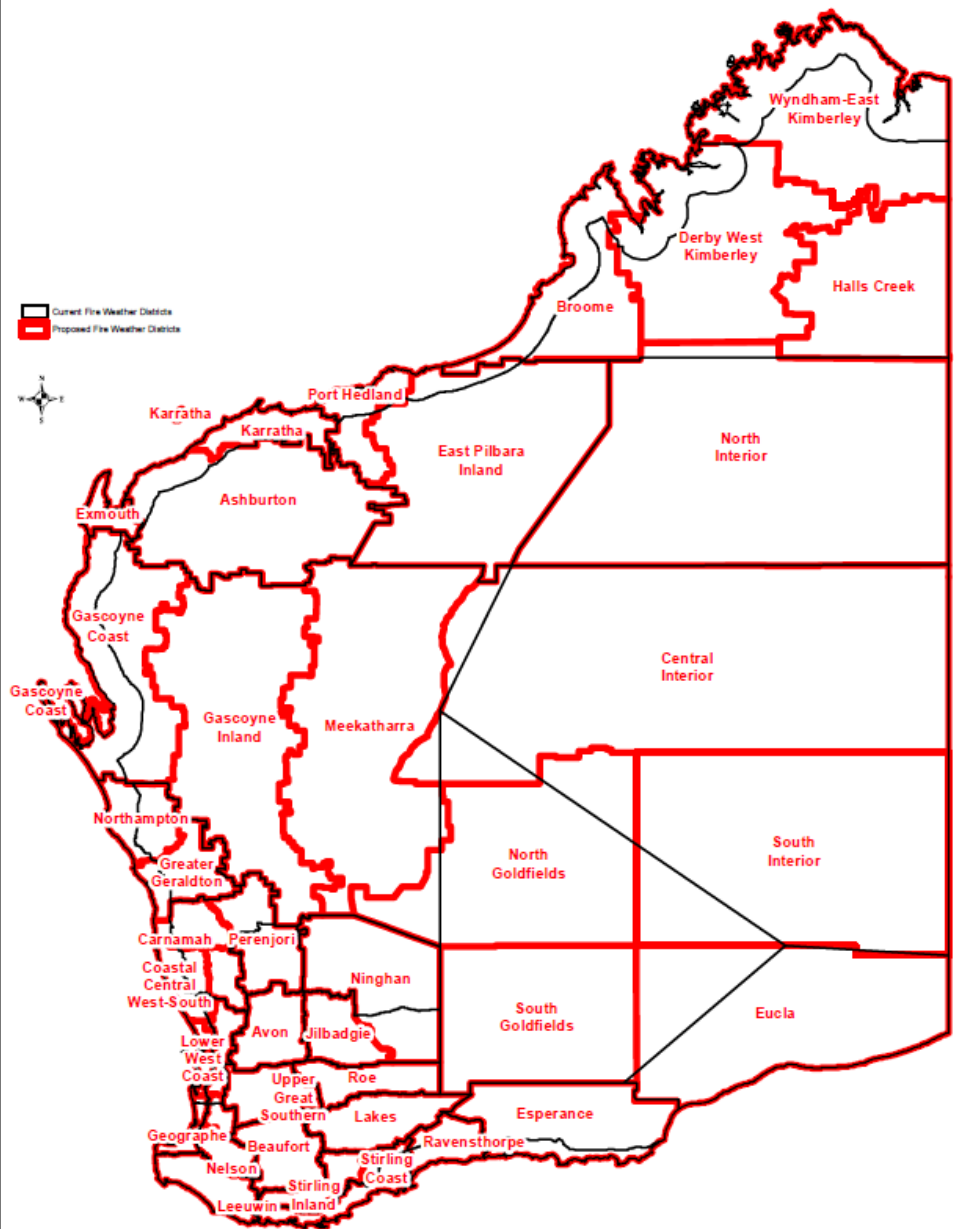
Fire Behaviour Models Map



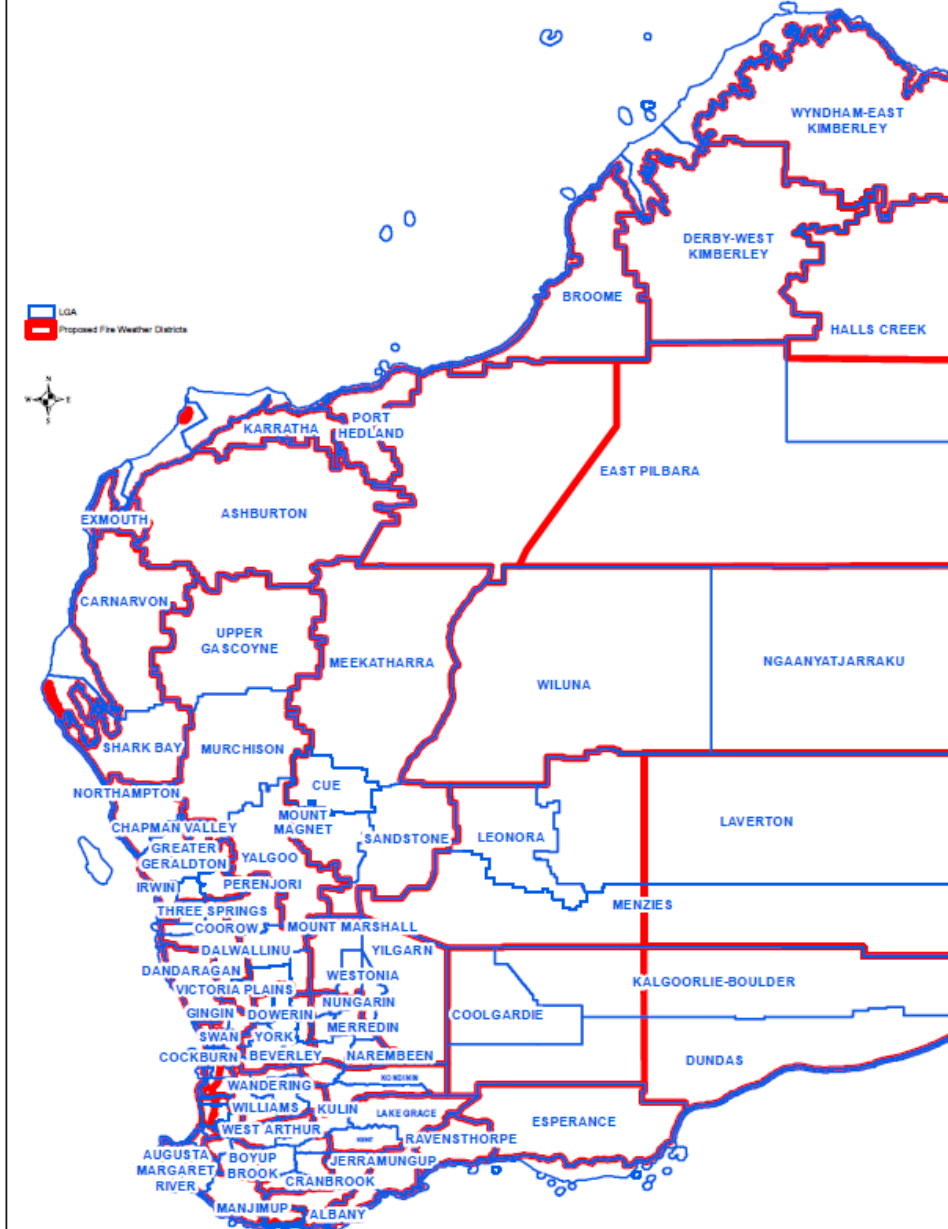
Days above FFDI Severe – based on BOM weather observations (1990 – 2019 per year average)



FIRE WEATHER DISTRICTS (PROPOSED) AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS



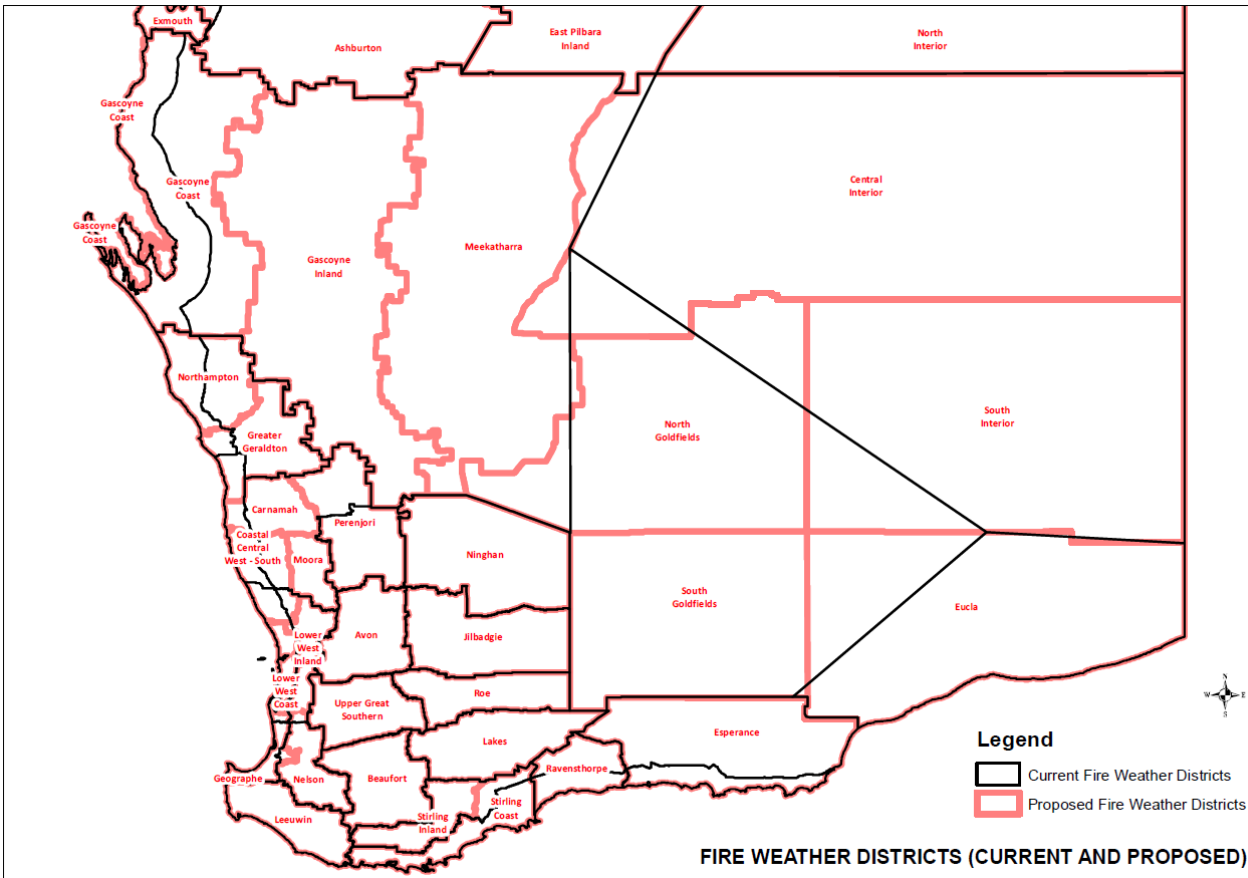
FIRE WEATHER DISTRICTS (PROPOSED) AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS



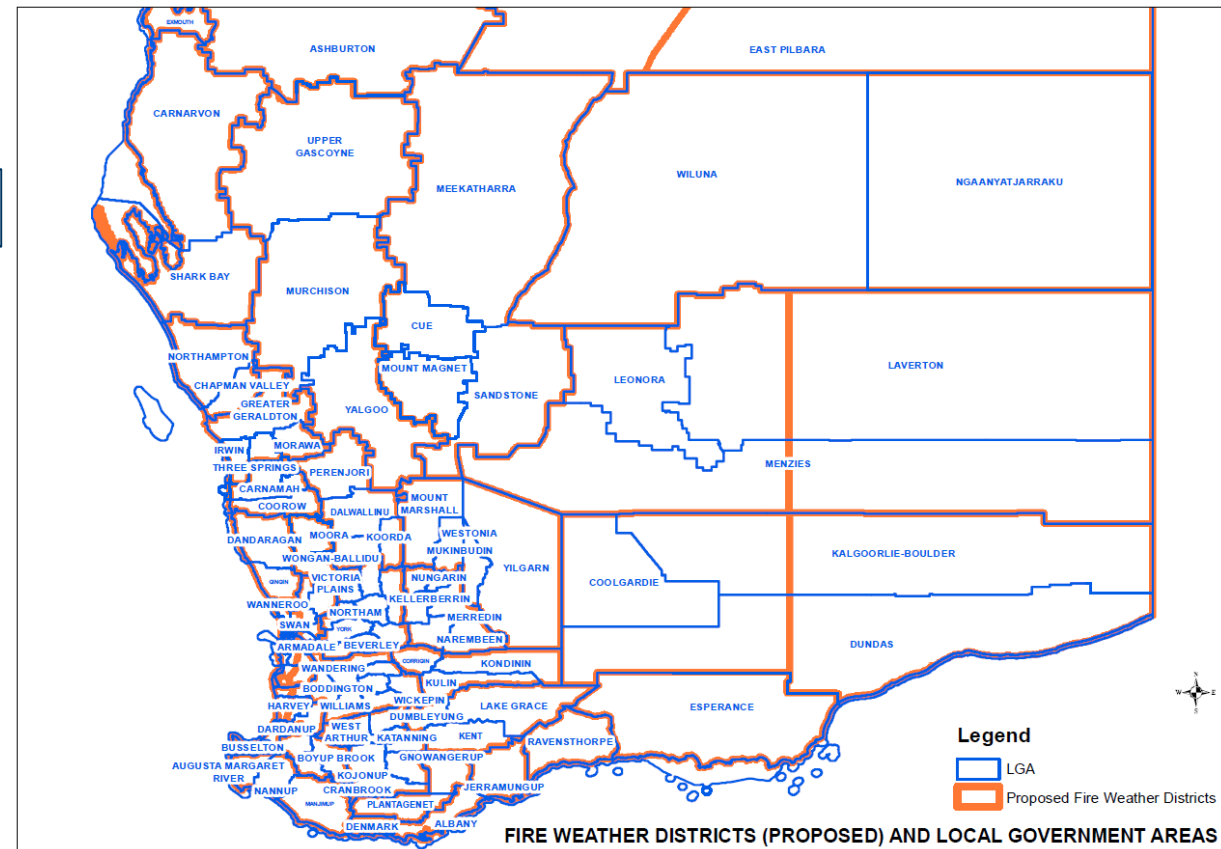
Proposed
 FWD changes
 - WA

Proposed FWD Changes – Country South

Current and Proposed FWDs

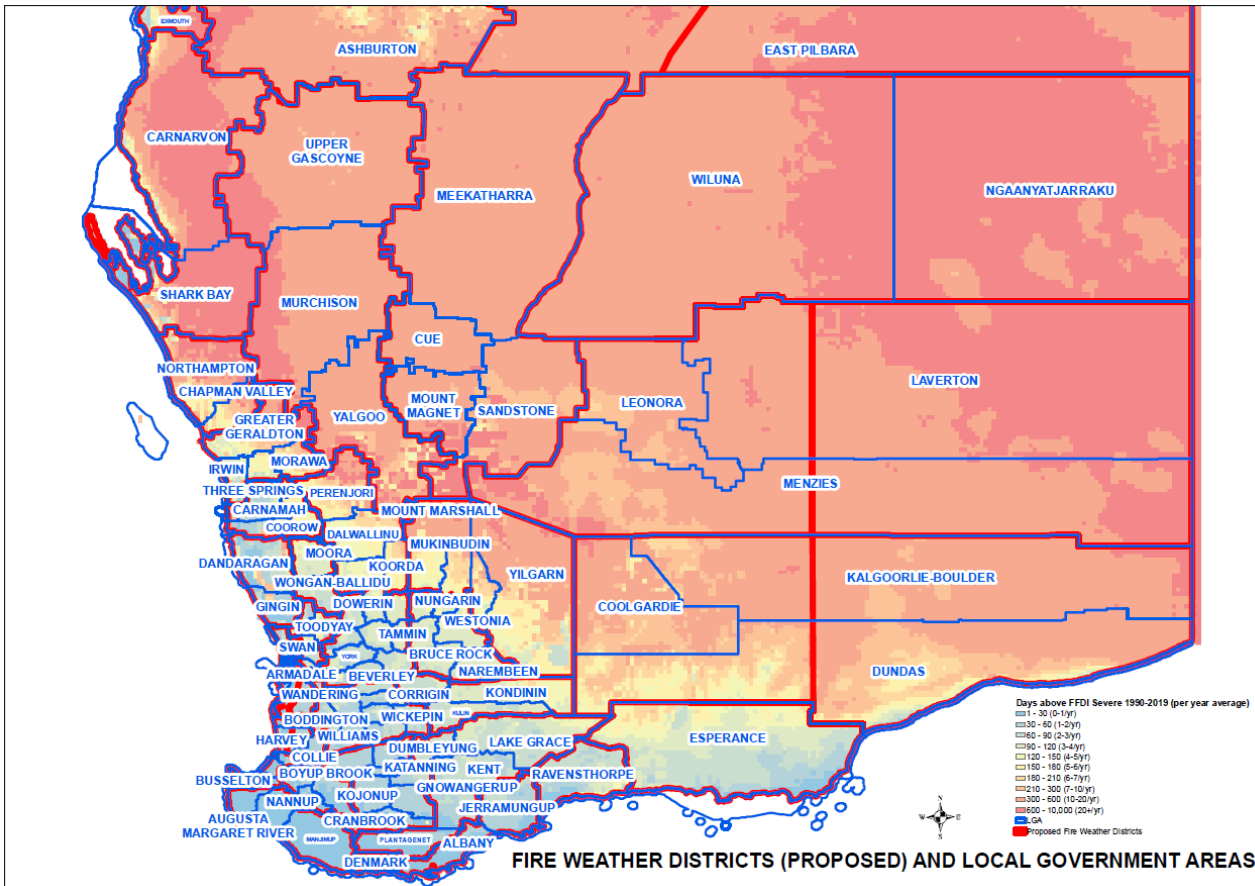


Proposed FWDs and Local Government Boundaries

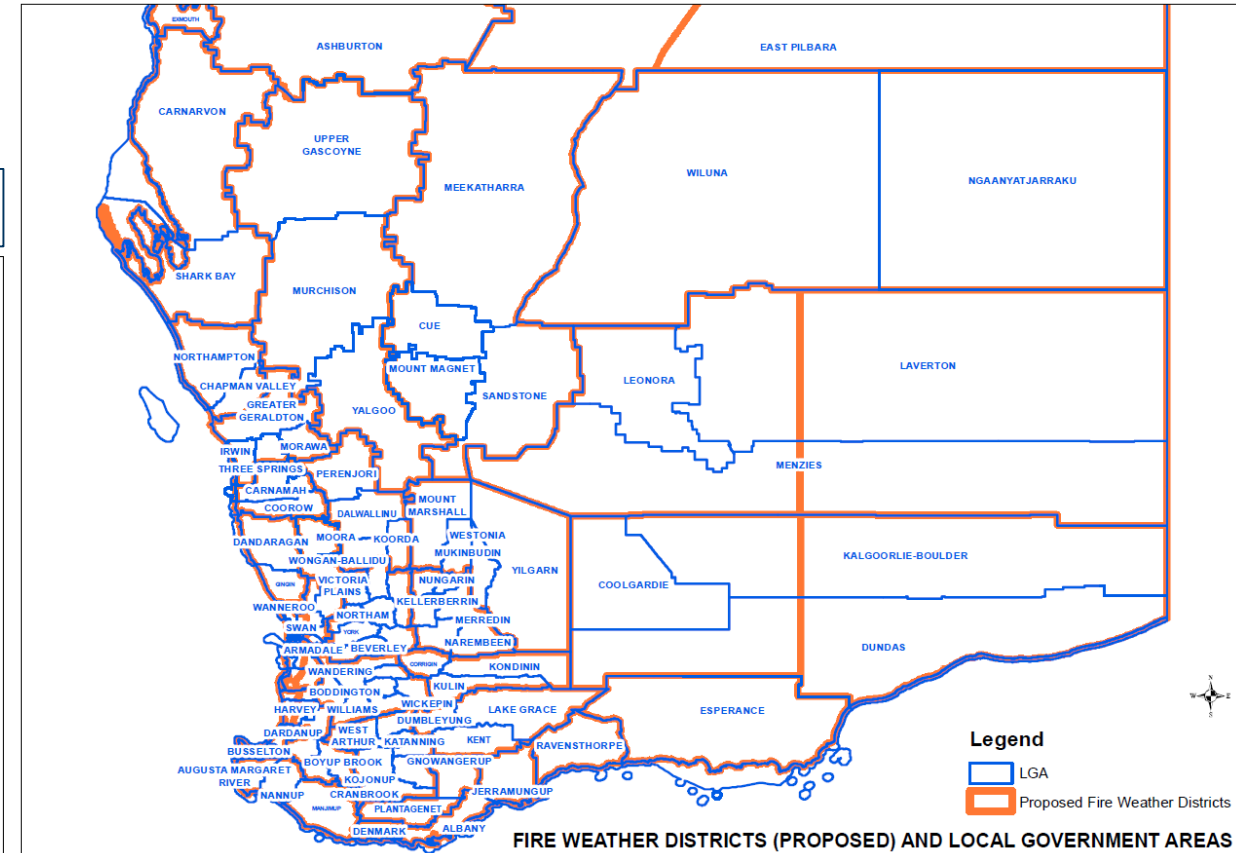


Proposed FWD Changes – Country South

Proposed FWDs and FFDI above Severe



Proposed FWDs and Local Government Boundaries



Consultation Timelines

- April / June – Consultation period (closing 4th June)
 - DFES
 - LGs (ROAC, DOAC, BOC)
 - DBCA
- June – Consolidation of feedback / produce updated FWDs
- July / August - Support and Endorsement
 - Fire Weather Sub Committee
 - Bushfire Operations Committee (BOC)
 - AFDRS IBOC Sub committee
- September – Endorsed FWDs submitted to BOM prior to AFDRS BOM products trial.
- June 2022 – Endorsed FWDs used in new AFDRS system

For more information on The Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) & Fire Weather Districts Review:

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9395 9882

