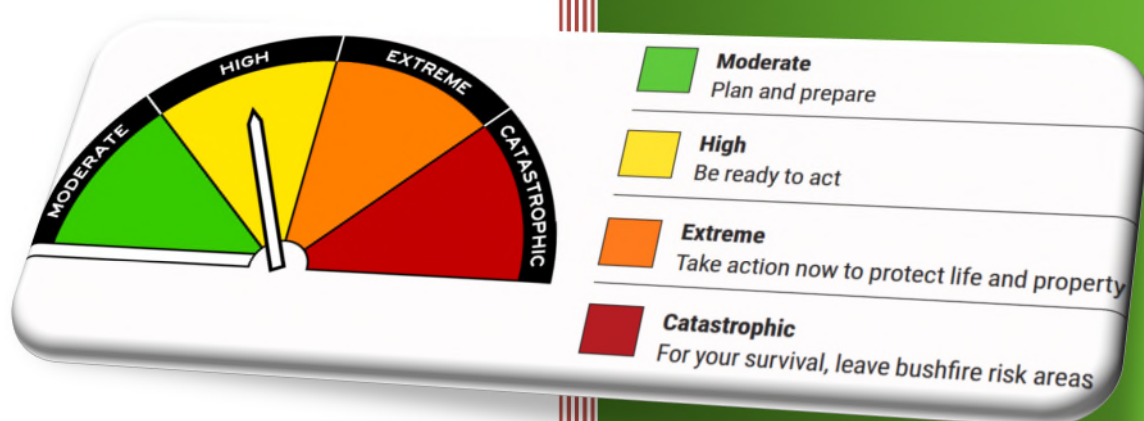




# Bushfire Emergency Plan

The Operational Document for Personnel Responsible for Emergency Management



Lot 70 (66) Capel Street, Kirup

Shire of Donnybrook Balingup

Premises Use:

Short Stay  
Accommodation


Associated BMP:

BPP # 240814

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DOCUMENT CONTROL

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<p><b>Limitation of Liability:</b> The procedures and their associated actions contained in this Bushfire Emergency Plan do not guarantee that a building will not be damaged in a bushfire, persons injured, or fatalities occur either on the subject site or off the site while evacuating. This is substantially due to the unpredictable nature and behaviour of fire and fire weather conditions. Additionally, the correct implementation of the required bushfire protection measures will depend upon, among other things, the ongoing actions of the landowners and/or operators over which Bushfire Prone Planning has no control. Any representation, statement, opinion, or advice expressed or implied in this document is made in good faith based on information available to Bushfire Prone Planning at the time. Bushfire Prone Planning will not, except as the law may require, be liable for any loss or other consequences whether or not due to the negligence, lack of care or otherwise of their consultants, their servants or agents, arising out of the services provided by their consultants.</p> <p><b>Copyright ©2024 BPP Group Pty Ltd:</b> All intellectual property rights, including copyright, in format and proprietary content contained in documents created by Bushfire Prone Planning, remain the property of BPP Group Pty Ltd. Any use made of such format or content without the prior written approval of Bushfire Prone Planning, will constitute an infringement on the rights of the Company which reserves all legal rights and remedies in respect of any such infringement.</p>				

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2. Bushfire Warning System
3. Fire Danger Ratings
4. Sheltering in Your Home
5. Travelling During a Bushfire
6. Safer Places in a Bushfire

## USING THE BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PLAN

This Bushfire Emergency Plan (BEP) has been developed for the proposed development/use that is short stay accommodation or visitation and a ‘vulnerable’ land use (as defined by *State Planning Policy 3.7 Planning in Bushfire Prone Areas*). Specific to this use is the fact that it is unlikely there will be a manager/resident permanently on site with the knowledge and capacity to act as a responsible person in the event of a bushfire emergency and therefore manage the application of the BEP throughout the year.

### DISPLAY OF BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY INFORMATION

1. Bushfire Emergency Information is to be available and displayed in prominent position/s and readily accessible to all persons.
2. The facility/premises owner and/or manager is to have available a printed full copy of the current Bushfire Emergency Plan for reference.

### CONDUCT THE ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY PLAN - UPDATE AS REQUIRED

Make required changes to emergency contacts or emergency information sources within this Bushfire Emergency Plan. Ensure that any changes are also applied to the bushfire emergency information displayed within the facility/premises.

## THE DESIGNATED PRIMARY EMERGENCY PROCEDURE

**In the event of a bushfire emergency**

**THE DESIGNATED PRIMARY PROCEDURE IS**

**SAFE (EARLY) EVACUATION**

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

FACILITY/PREMISES CONTACTS			
POSITION	NAME	BUSHFIRE RESPONSIBILITY	MOBILE NUMBER
Property Manager		Primary Contact.	
Property Owner	Christine Oldmeadow	Primary Contact.	0402 837 489

STATE EMERGENCY CONTACTS		
ORGANISATION	SERVICES	NUMBER
Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) / Police / Ambulance	Response to life threatening emergencies. Use to report a fire.	Call triple zero (000) or use the EMERGENCY+ Phone App.
State Emergency Service (SES)	Assistance with structural damage, flooding, rescuing persons.	13 2500
Western Power	Response to electricity supply outages and damage.	13 1351

OTHER CONTACTS		
ORGANISATION	SERVICES	PHONE NUMBER
Busselton Hospital	Medical services	08 9753 6000
Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital	Medical services	08 6457 3333
Perth Children’s Hospital	Medical services	08 6456 2222
Department of Communities Child Protection and Family Support	Crisis care	1800 032 965
Red Cross	Emergency humanitarian assistance	1800 733 276
Salvation Army	Social services care line	13 72 58

## INFORMATION TO MONITOR AND INFORM DECISION MAKING

ORGANISATION	SERVICES	NUMBER/WEBSITE
Your Surroundings	This can be your best information source. Stay alert to what is happening all around you for as far as you can see. Be aware of the current and forecast wind direction as this is the primary direction the fire will move.	
Emergency WA website	Warnings, incidents, fire danger ratings, total fire bans, preparation, and recovery information	<a href="http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au">www.emergency.wa.gov.au</a>
Radio	Bushfire alerts, warnings, and information.	Local ABC stations (AM/digital).
Your Mobile Phone	Emergency alert (warnings).	An automated government telephone warning system for numbers in an affected area.
Department of Fire & Emergency Services (DFES)	Public emergency information. Note: Call triple zero (000) to report a fire.	13 3337 (13 DFES) <a href="http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au">www.dfes.wa.gov.au</a> <a href="https://twitter.com/dfes_wa">www.twitter.com/dfes_wa</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/dfeswa">www.facebook.com/dfeswa</a>
Parks and Wildlife Service	Bushfire alerts and warnings, prescribed burns in national parks.	<a href="http://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au">www.dpaw.wa.gov.au</a>
Bureau of Meteorology	Fire weather information and weather forecasts.	<a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts">www.bom.gov.au/wa/forecasts</a>
Main Roads WA	Road conditions/closures.	13 8138   <a href="http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au">www.mainroads.wa.gov.au</a>

## FACILITY/PREMISES PREPARATION

### REQUIRED ACTIONS

*The following actions are to be conducted by the property owner/manager before the bushfire season and maintained during the season.*

#### 1. SITE PREPARATION

- ☐ Bushfire Emergency Information is displayed in prominent position and is readily accessible.
- ☐ Comply with the Homeowners Bushfire Survival Manual (DFES 2014) and any additional protection measures identified from the DFES Fire Chat – Bushfire Preparedness Toolkit (Bushfire Preparation Toolkit).
- ☐ Maintain Asset Protection Zones (APZ) around all buildings in accordance with the associated Bushfire Management Plan (BMP) which also establishes the size of the zones for this site. The maintenance specifications and any additional requirements are also stated below.
- ☐ Maintain compliance with the local government’s annual firebreak and fuel load notice issued under section 33 of the Bush Fires Act 1954. Where the requirements are additional to or provide a greater level of bushfire protection than those established in this emergency plan – they must be complied with.
- ☐ Trees (> 5 metres in height): trunks at maturity should be a minimum distance of 6 metres from all elevations of the building, branches at maturity should not touch or overhang the building, lower branches should be removed to a height of 2 metres above the ground or any surface vegetation. Ensure there is clear separation between mature tree crowns.
- ☐ Shrubs (0.5 metres to 5 metres in height): should not be located under trees or within 3 metres of buildings, should not be planted in clumps greater than 5m<sup>2</sup> in area, clumps of shrubs should be separated from each other and any exposed window or door by at least 10 metres (unless they can be classified as low flammability plants). Shrubs greater than 5 metres in height are to be treated as trees.
- ☐ Ground covers (<0.5 metres in height): can be planted under trees but must be properly maintained to remove dead plant material and any parts within 2 metres of a structure, but 3 metres from windows or doors if greater than 100 mm in height. Ground covers greater than 0.5 metres in height are to be treated as shrubs.
- ☐ Grass: should be managed to maintain a height of 50 mm or less across the entire site. Remove any piles of vegetation from site.
- ☐ Ensure property access is kept clear and easily trafficable. Trim trees and shrubs overhanging firebreaks or driveways to the minimum heights and widths established by the relevant local government firebreak notice.
- ☐ Clear all roofs, roof gutters and valleys of any combustible material.

## Emergency Response - Triggers

TRIGGER	PROCEDURE TO BE INITIATED	
	Safe (early) Evacuation	Shelter-in-Place
	PRIMARY	SECONDARY
<b>A</b> <i><b>A BUSHFIRE IS IDENTIFIED – An Alert has been Issued.</b></i> <b>Listen to the Local Radio (ABC - 684 AM). Monitor your information Sources.</b> A bushfire ‘EMERGENCY’, ‘WATCH AND ACT’ or ‘ADVICE’ warning is in place for the area. Early evacuation should almost always be the Primary action – you should never ‘wait and see what happens’. Sheltering-in-place during a bushfire should be a last option when there is insufficient time to evacuate.	✓	Immediately contact the DFES (000) if you are considering this option. In some limited circumstances such as in remote locations or facilities with people with mobility issues, early evacuation may be difficult to implement, and sheltering-in-place may be the safest action.
<b>B</b> <i><b>A BUSHFIRE IS IDENTIFIED – No Warnings in Place. You are Concerned for your safety.</b></i> <b>Listen to the Local Radio (ABC - 684 AM). Monitor your information Sources.</b> Early evacuation should almost always be the Primary action – you should never ‘wait and see what happens’. Sheltering-in-place during a bushfire should be a last option when there is insufficient time to evacuate.	✓	Immediately contact the DFES (000) if you are considering this option. In some limited circumstances such as in remote locations or facilities with people with mobility issues, early evacuation may be difficult to implement, and sheltering-in-place may be the safest action.



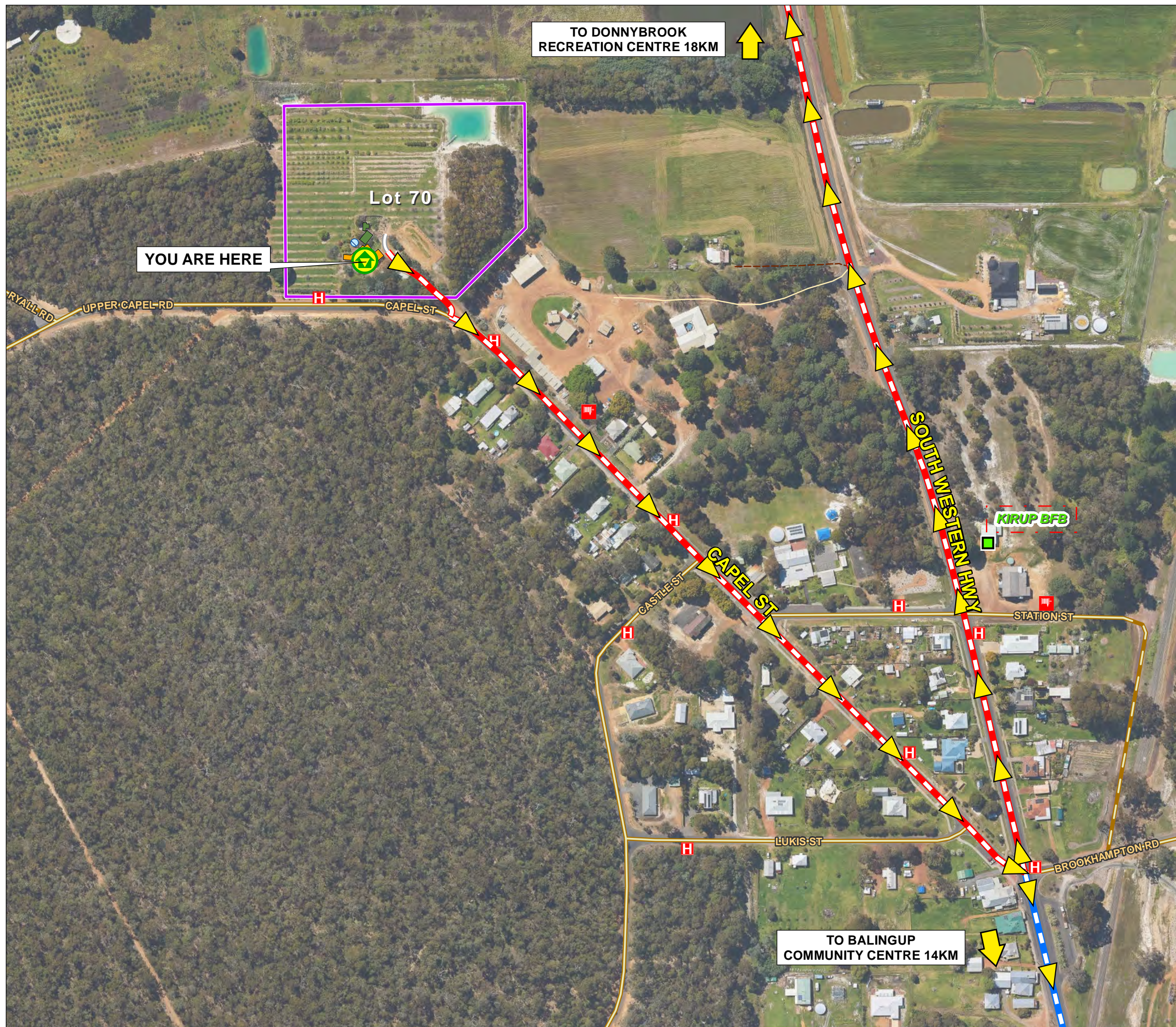


Figure 1  
Site Emergency Information

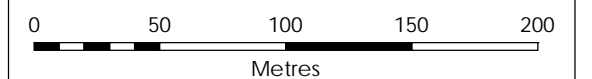
Lot 70 on Plan 082487, Area : 29,110 sq m  
66 Capel Street,  
KIRUP 6251  
SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK - BALINGUP

----- LEGEND -----

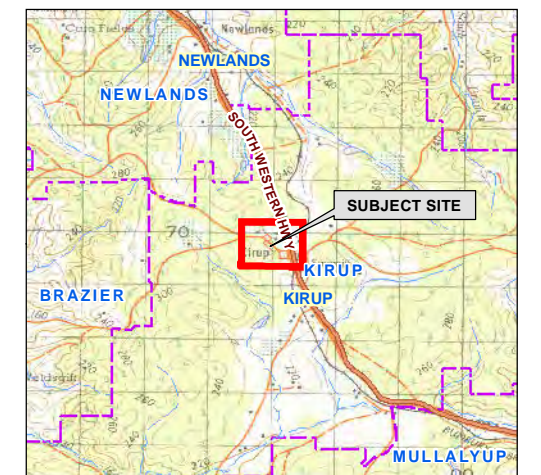
- You Are Here
- Primary Evacuation Route
- Secondary Evacuation Route
- Subject Site
- Bush Fire Brigade
- Hydrant
- Driveways
- Existing Building
- Dwelling
- Shed
- Water Tank

Evacuation Locations

North to Donnybrook Recreation Centre  
South to Balingup Recreation Centre



----- LOCALITY -----



Aerial Imagery : Landgate/SLIP  
Image Date : Sept 2022

Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 50  
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator Units: Metre  
Map compiled by: Ian Ross 12/09/2024  
Map updated by: Ian 12/09/2024  
A3 Scale 1:3,000



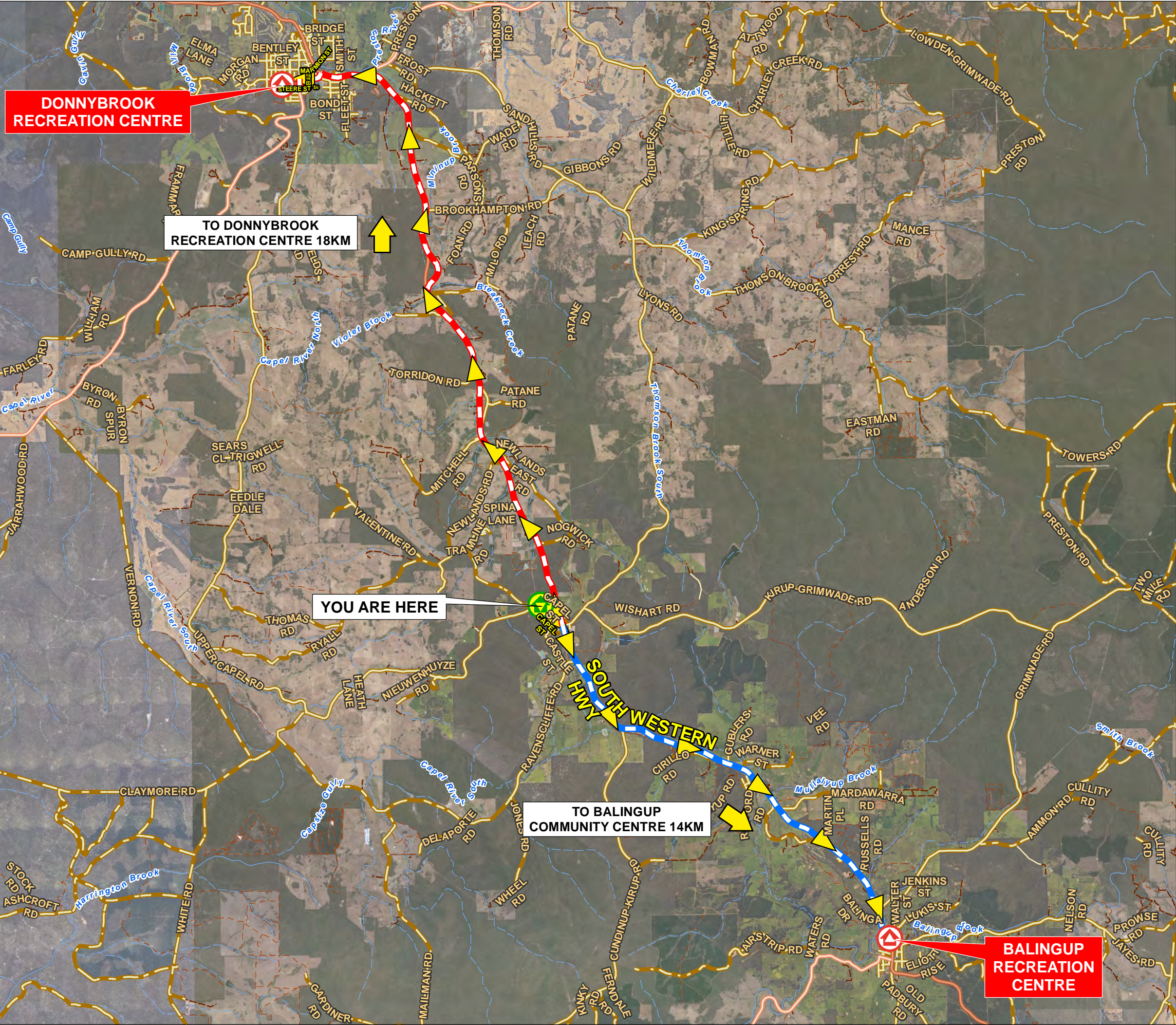


Figure 2  
Evacuation Routes and  
Destinations Map

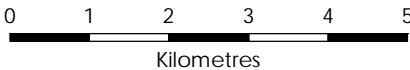
Lot 70 on Plan 082487, Area : 29,110 sq m  
66 Capel Street,  
KIRUP 6251  
SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK - BALINGUP

----- LEGEND -----

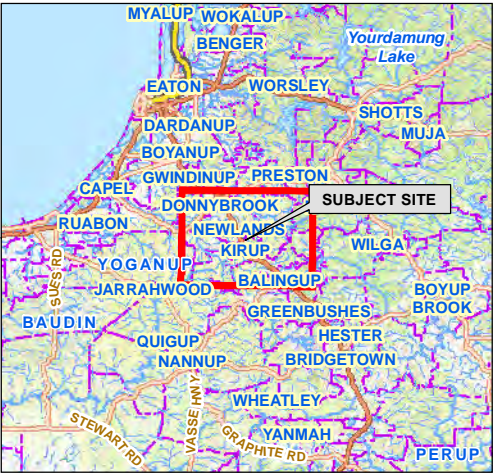
- You Are Here
- Emergency Evacuation Centre
- Primary Evacuation Route
- Secondary Evacuation Route

Evacuation Locations

North to Donnybrook Recreation Centre  
South to Balingup Recreation Centre



----- LOCALITY -----



Aerial Imagery : Landgate/SLIP  
Image Date : Sept 2022

Coordinate System: GDA 1994 MGA Zone 50  
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator Units: Metre  
Map compiled by: Ian Ross 12/09/2024  
Map updated by: Ian 12/09/2024  
A3 Scale 1:95,000

Disclaimer and Limitation: This map has been prepared for bushfire management planning purposes only. All depicted areas, contours and any dimensions shown are subject to survey. Bushfire Prone Planning does not guarantee that this map is without flaw of any kind and disclaims all liability for any errors, loss or other consequence arising from relying on any information depicted.  
Map Document Path / Name: K:\Projects\Jobs 2024\240814 - 66 Capel Street Kirup (BMP BEI STA)\Mapping\MXD\240814\_BEP\_Fig2\_EVAC 66 Capel Street Kirup.mxd





# BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Lot 70 (66) Capel Street, Kirup

Recommended Print Size : A3

Information Developed By:



## INSTRUCTIONS

### BUSHFIRE IDENTIFIED - EVACUATING THE SITE

#### TRIGGERS TO ACT:

- A.** A Bushfire is identified, and a bushfire "EMERGENCY" or "WATCH AND ACT" or "ADVICE" warning is issued
- B.** A Bushfire is identified in the vicinity, no warnings are in place, but you are concerned for your safety

#### EVACUATION PROCEDURE:

1. Check the Bushfire information sources.
2. Call 000 if you are concerned for your safety.
3. Evaluate if the evacuation routes remain available.
4. Choose the appropriate evacuation destination & route.
5. Evacuate the property to a safer location.

### SHELTER ON-SITE (LAST RESORT)

**Triggers to Act:** Impact from bushfire is imminent, evacuation routes are threatened and there is no time to perform a safe evacuation or emergency services have instructed you to shelter in place.

**Procedure:** Take immediate action to survive. Call 000 to report your situation and location, shut all doors/windows, be aware and keep up to date.

### BUSHFIRE INFORMATION SOURCES AND EMERGENCY CONTACTS

**Police/Fire/Ambulance:** Dial 000 | **Local ABC Radio** – 1044 AM Kirup | [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) (Bushfire Information)

**Property Manager:** Christine Oldmeadow - 0402 837 489 | **DFES** - 13 33 37, [www.twitter.com/dfes\\_wa](https://www.twitter.com/dfes_wa), [www.facebook.com/dfeswa](https://www.facebook.com/dfeswa)

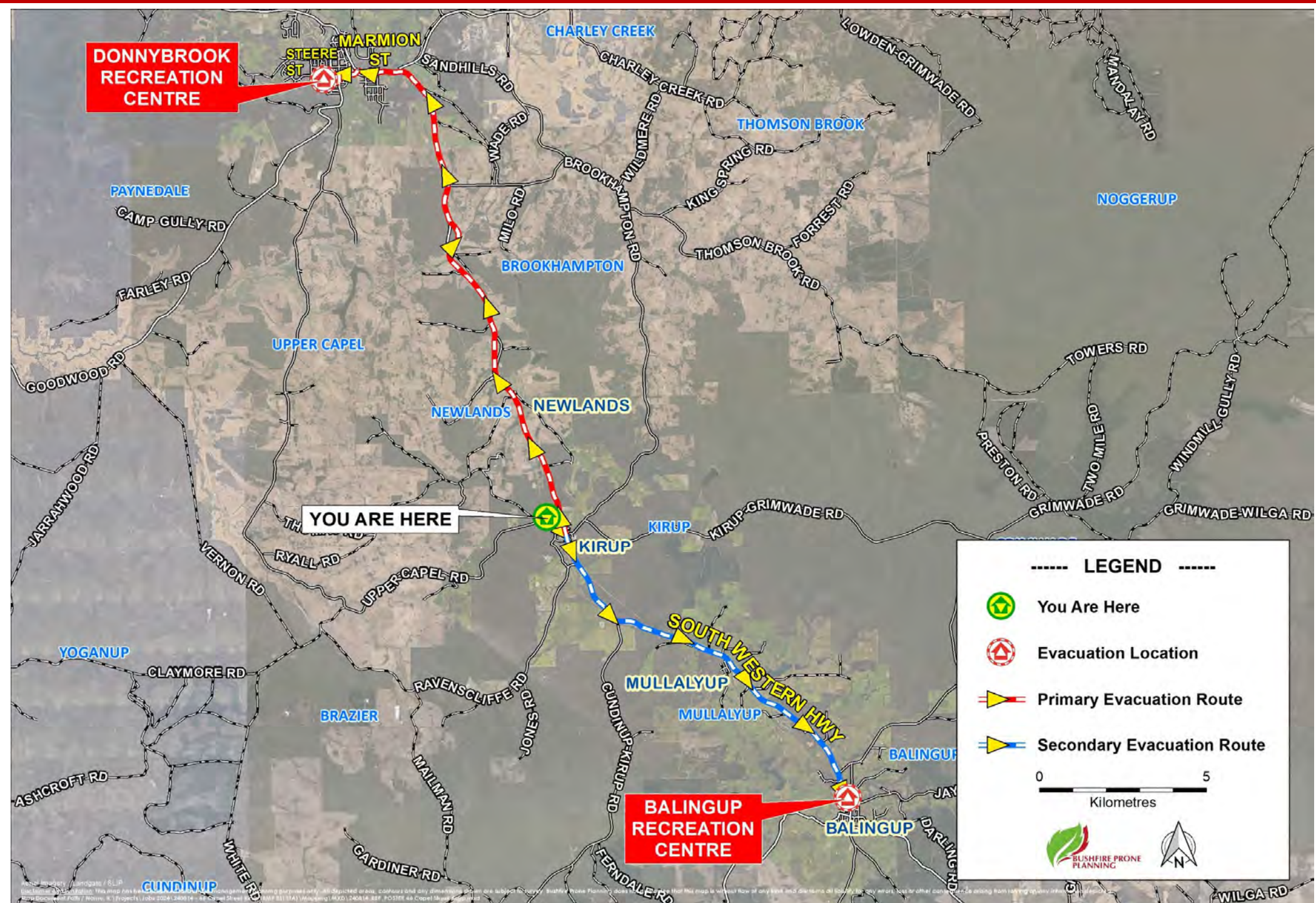
### EVACUATION DESTINATIONS / ROUTES

**Destination 1 (North):** Donnybrook Recreation Centre

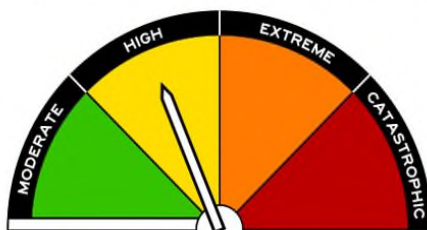
**Route 1 (North):** Capel Street – South - Western Highway (North) – Donnybrook

**Destination 2 (South):** Balingup Recreation Centre

**Route 2 (South):** Capel Street – South - Western Highway (South) – Balingup



#### FORECAST FIRE DANGER RATINGS



The higher the rating, the more dangerous the conditions and the greater the consequences if a fire starts.

No Rating	No Action Required
Moderate	Plan and Prepare
High	Be Ready to Act
Extreme	Take Action Now to Protect Your Life and Property
Catastrophic	For Your Survival, Leave Bush Fire Risk Areas

#### BUSHFIRE EVENT WARNINGS

##### ADVICE



A fire has started but there is no immediate threat to lives or homes. Be aware and keep up to date.

##### WATCH & ACT



There is a possible threat to lives or homes. You need to leave or get ready to defend. Do not wait & see.

##### EMERGENCY



There is a threat to lives or homes. You are in danger & need to act now to survive.



## THE SAFE (EARLY) EVACUATION PROCEDURE

- A. An 'Advice,' 'Watch and Act' or 'Emergency Warning' alert has been issued by an emergency service authority.
- B. A Bushfire has been identified near your location. You are concerned for your safety.

### Refer to the BUSHFIRE EMERGENCY INFORMATION Poster

1. Monitor the **ABC local radio (Kirup – 1044 AM)** and other information sources regularly for local bushfire information (weather trends, warnings, locations).
2. Call 000 if you are concerned for your safety.
3. Evaluate if the evacuation routes remain available.
4. Occupants must identify the appropriate evacuation route to use.
5. Be aware of your ongoing ability to evacuate safely and base the decision to evacuate on this ability or any emergency services directives received.

***If the Evacuation Routes are determined to no longer be safe, then SHELTERING-IN-PLACE will be the required action.***

## THE SHELTER-IN-PLACE PROCEDURE

### Shelter in the Dwelling (Last Resort)

**Note:** *Sheltering in the existing dwelling differs vastly from a Refuge Building or Refuge Open space. Early evacuation before a bushfire starts should always be the priority.*

**Immediately notify DFES by dialling 000 and give the following details:**

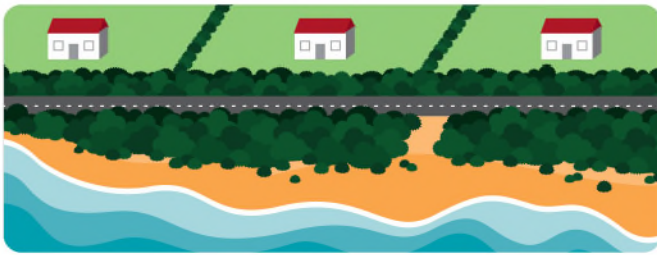
1. Nature of the incident and state that people are sheltering in place;
2. Location (street address);
3. Nearest cross roads (names and distance);
4. Where sheltering;
5. Number of people sheltering;
6. Can you see the fire front /estimate distance away; and
7. Can you see spot fires / are spot fires around the shelter?

If the nominated Emergency Assembly Building is deemed unsafe or to be under direct threat, occupants must evaluate the situation and make informed decisions. The choice will be to continue to stay and defend or proceed to an area of minimal fuel vegetation as a last resort and if it is safe to do so. The latter action is not recommended but is an alternative if the current refuge is deemed to be not safe for occupants and vehicle evacuation routes remain unsafe.

# Am I at risk from Bushfire?

Bushfires happen every summer. They can start suddenly and without warning. It's important to understand your risks and plan what you'll do to keep safe when a bushfire threatens your life or home.

## Bushfires can start anywhere.



### Coastal scrub

Coastal scrub fires can be hot and move fast. If you live near areas of coastal scrub, you're at risk.



### Suburbs, parks and reserves

Flames and flying embers can cross roads and impact homes. If you live in the suburbs, near parks or reserves, you're at risk.



### Grasslands

Grass fires can start easily and spread quickly. If you live in a house or urban area near grasslands, you're at risk.



### Farm and paddocks

Fires can spread quickly over large areas like paddocks. If you live on a farm or near paddocks, you're at risk.



### Forrest and bushland

Fires in these areas can be very intense and extremely difficult for emergency services to reach and extinguish. If you live in an area surrounded by or near forest or bushland, your risk is very high.



**If you live in any of these environments, bushfire is a real threat to you and those you live with. You will need to prepare your home, property and household in case of a bushfire.**



# HOW DO I KEEP INFORMED?



**FIRES CAN HAPPEN SUDDENLY AND CHANGE QUICKLY, SO DON'T RELY ON RECEIVING A WARNING.** It's your responsibility to stay informed and alert. Be flexible – get emergency information from multiple sources and never rely on any one source of information. **Take these four steps to help you keep informed about bushfires and emergencies near you:**



## STAY CONNECTED

**Connected communities are safer communities.**

Join a Bushfire Ready Group to get to know the risk in your local area.

Keep in contact with neighbours, friends and family, especially during high fire-risk day.

Talk to your local brigade about how to prepare for a bushfire.



## STAY ALERT

**If you can see or smell a bushfire – that's your warning.**

Your surroundings could be the best source of information.

If you live in, or near bush, you need to stay alert. If there are signs of a bushfire you could be in danger. Act immediately to keep you and your family safe.



## KEEP YOUR DETAILS UP TO DATE

A telephone warning might be sent to your mobile phone or landline in extreme circumstances. This warning system (Emergency Alert) uses the address held by your phone company.

Keep your address details up to date with your phone company to give yourself the best chance of receiving a warning if one is issued.



## MONITOR OFFICIAL WARNINGS

During an emergency monitor what's happening. You can find bushfire alerts and warnings at:

**Emergency WA**  
[emergency.wa.gov.au](http://emergency.wa.gov.au)

**DFES Public Information**  
13 DFES (13 3337)

**DFES Facebook**  
[facebook.com/dfeswa](https://facebook.com/dfeswa)

**DFES Twitter**  
[twitter.com/dfes\\_wa](https://twitter.com/dfes_wa)

**ABC Radio or 6PR**  
Your local radio frequency

**RSS feeds**  
(subscribe via [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au))



For more information visit  
[dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire](http://dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire)

or contact DFES Community Preparedness:  
[Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au)

or **9395 9816**



# Introducing the new Australian Fire Danger Rating System

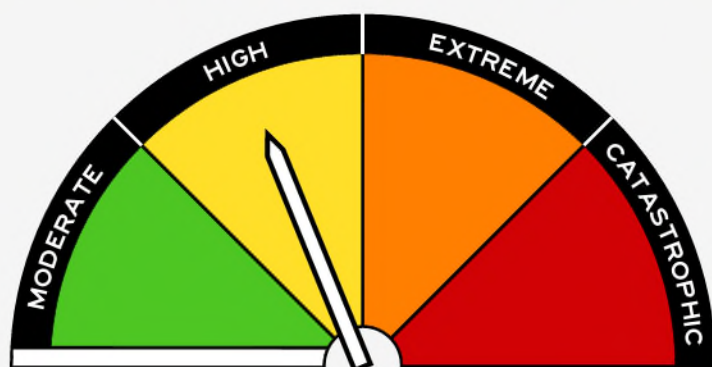






**Fire danger ratings describe the potential level of danger should a bushfire start.**

They are important because they provide people with information so that they can take action to protect themselves and others from the potentially dangerous impacts of bushfires.

From 1 September 2022, Australians will have a simplified, action-oriented Fire Danger Rating System.

## The new Australian Fire Danger Rating System (AFDRS) levels are:



	<b>Moderate</b> Plan and prepare
	<b>High</b> Be ready to act
	<b>Extreme</b> Take action now to protect life and property
	<b>Catastrophic</b> For your survival, leave bushfire risk areas

- The AFDRS will also introduce 'no rating' for days where no proactive action is required by the community. On these days you will still need to abide by local seasonal laws and regulations but there is little or no risk of a fire that starts spreading in a dangerous or life-threatening way.
- The AFDRS is informed by one of Australia's largest social research projects which found that most Australians do not understand the current system and would prefer a simpler, action-oriented set of fire danger ratings.
- The AFDRS is being implemented consistently across Australia and will mean that wherever you are across the country, you will be able to understand the threat posed on any given day and make appropriate decisions to keep you and your family safe.





# BUSHFIRE WARNING SYSTEM



## EMERGENCY WARNING

An out of control fire is approaching fast and you need to take immediate action to survive. If you haven't prepared your home it is too late.

**You must seek shelter or leave now if it is safe to do so.**



## WATCH AND ACT

A fire is approaching and there is a possible threat to lives or homes. Put your plan into action. If your plan is to leave, make sure you leave early. If your plan is to stay, check all your equipment is ready.

**Only stay and defend if you are mentally and physically prepared.**



## ADVICE

A fire has started but there is no immediate danger. Stay alert and watch for signs of a fire.

**Be aware and keep up to date.**

**Where can I get information during an emergency?**

 [emergency.wa.gov.au](https://emergency.wa.gov.au)  13 DFES (13 33 37)

 @dfeswa  @dfes\_wa  Local ABC Radio





# SHELTERING IN YOUR OWN HOME



**SHELTERING IN YOUR HOME DURING A BUSHFIRE SHOULD BE YOUR LAST OPTION, WHEN ALL OTHER PLANS FAIL AND YOU ARE UNABLE TO LEAVE.** Bushfires are very unpredictable and you need to be well prepared to change your plans if you can no longer leave your property.



## IF IT IS TOO LATE TO LEAVE THE PROPERTY:

- ☐ Stay in the house when the fire front is passing.
- ☐ If people are expecting you to leave, let them know you are now staying.
- ☐ Take shelter inside in the room with two exit, furthest from the fire front.
- ☐ Make sure all doors and windows are sealed as best as possible.
- ☐ Soak towels and rugs in water, and lay them along the inside of external doorways.
- ☐ Keep woolen blankets handy for protection against radiant heat.
- ☐ Take down curtains and push furniture away from windows.
- ☐ Get down low to limit your exposure to smoke.
- ☐ Actively defend your property by putting out spot fires.
- ☐ Remember to check the roof cavity through the manhole for any spot fires.
- ☐ Drink plenty of water to avoid becoming dehydrated.
- ☐ Shelter in the house for as long as possible.
- ☐ Many people have died sheltering in bathrooms and other rooms without an exit door leading outside when their house has caught fire. Make sure you can easily escape and shelter in a room with at least two ways to get outside and one that has a water supply.
- ☐ If your house catches on fire and the conditions inside become unbearable, leave through the door furthest from the approaching fire and go to an area that has already been burnt.
- ☐ The majority of people die in a bushfire from radiant heat. You should protect yourself from radiant heat with long sleeves, long trousers and strong leather boots.



For more information visit  
**[dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire](https://dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire)**

or contact DFES Community Preparedness:  
**[Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au)**  
or **9395 9816**



# TRAVELLING DURING A BUSHFIRE



**BUSHFIRES CAN START WITHOUT WARNING.** People have been killed or seriously injured during bushfires. If you are travelling or staying near bushland, fire is a real risk to you. **Pack an emergency kit including important items such as woollen blankets, drinking water and protective clothing.**



## IF THERE IS A LOT OF SMOKE

- ☐ Slow down as there could be people, vehicles and livestock on the road.
- ☐ Turn your car headlights and hazard lights on.
- ☐ Close the windows and outside vents.
- ☐ If you can't see clearly, pull over and wait until the smoke clears.



## IF YOU BECOME TRAPPED BY A FIRE

- Sheltering inside a vehicle is a very high risk strategy. It is unlikely that a person will survive in all but the mildest circumstances.**
- ☐ Park the vehicle off the roadway where there is little vegetation, with the vehicle facing towards the oncoming fire front.
  - ☐ Turn the engine off.
  - ☐ Close the car doors, windows and outside vents, **and call 000.**
  - ☐ Stay in the car until the fire front has passed. Stay as close to the floor as possible and cover your mouth with a damp cloth to avoid inhalation of smoke.
  - ☐ Stay covered in woollen blankets, continue to drink water and wait for assistance.
  - ☐ Once the front has passed and the temperature has dropped, cautiously exit the vehicle.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- ☐ Find the local ABC radio frequency in the area you are travelling though. In a major emergency, when lives and property are at risk, ABC radio will issue broadcast warnings at a quarter to and a quarter past the hour.
- ☐ Main Roads provides updated information on road closures throughout WA. Call 138 138 or [www.mainroads.wa.gov.au](http://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au)
- ☐ Check the weather forecast and current fire restrictions. Be aware of the Fire Danger Rating for the area you are travelling to and be prepared to reassess your plans.
- ☐ Download the Bushfire Traveller's Checklist at [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au)



For more information visit  
[dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire](http://dfes.wa.gov.au/bushfire)

or contact DFES Community Preparedness:  
[Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au](mailto:Community.Preparedness@dfes.wa.gov.au)

or **9395 9816**



# Safer Places in a Bushfire

Bushfire Fact Sheet

## Where to go as a last resort

It is important to identify places where you can go as a last resort if you are unable to leave or implement your bushfire survival plan. A 'safer place' is somewhere you can shelter during bushfire. These places may include a local open space, a dam or beach. Identify and plan where your family safer place will be.

### Consider the use of a safer place as part of your backup plan when:

- You are not able to carry out your Bushfire Survival Plan.
- Your plan was to stay and actively defend however the fire has worsened and your home is no longer a safe place to shelter. Leaving your home in this situation is now your safest option.

### Once you have arrived at your safer place you need to:

- Keep up to date with fire information by radio, mobile phone or whatever means of communication you have.
- Make sure all doors and windows are sealed as best as possible if your safer place is a building.
- Seek protection from radiant heat and embers as best you can if your safer place is an open space. Cover any exposed skin with blankets or clothing and lie flat on the ground as the fire passes.
- Remain vigilant for possible ember attack and new fire fronts.

**If you or a family member have special needs you should think about what assistance may be needed at a safer place. You will need to consider this in your Bushfire Survival Plan.**



### Safer places have their limitations. There are things that you will need to consider if you do plan to use a safer place in your bushfire survival planning:

- They do not guarantee safety in all circumstances. You and your families' safety should be your first priority.
- There may be a risk with travelling to your safer place. Check to see if the route is safe and clear, have a contingency route or safer place in your back-up plan.
- Firefighters may not be there, they may be fighting the main fire front elsewhere.
- Your safer place caters for animals or pets. You will need to consider this in your bushfire survival plan.
- Your safer place may not cater for animals or pets. You will need to consider this in your bushfire survival plan.
- Your safer place may not provide shelter from the elements of a bushfire, particularly flying embers and hot weather. Keep woollen blankets in your car to give you shelter from flying embers and a supply of drinking water.

**For more information visit [dfes.wa.gov.au](https://dfes.wa.gov.au)**  
or contact DFES Community Engagement – 9395 9816

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Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of Fire & Emergency Services



**ARE YOU  
BUSHFIRE  
READY?**