

WILDFIRE READY: FIRE DANGER

Weather plays a major role in wildfire danger. Drought leads to extremely favourable conditions for wildfires and winds aid a wildfire's progress. It can make fighting the fire increasingly dangerous. There are three weather elements that can affect wildfires.



WIND SPEED

Strong winds can drive wildfires over long distances very quickly. These winds also provide oxygen that fuels the fire.



TEMPERATURE

High temperatures are a key ingredient in wildfire ignitions, allowing vegetation to ignite easily, burn quicker and more intensely.



HUMIDITY

Low moisture and incoming dry air masses decrease humidity, reduce rainfall and dry vegetation creating highly flammable fuel for fire.

THE FIRE DANGER INDEX (FDI)

The Fire Danger rating predicts how a fire would behave if one started, including how difficult it would be to control. The rating is your trigger to be prepared and act.

SAFE

Suppressing of Fires
Ignitions not likely to occur. Rate of spread will be slow and fire may die out without suppression actions. Fire behaviour likely to be moderate with low intensity. Control possible with correct resources and tactics.

Precautions

Ensure open air fires are safely contained. If doing Prescribed Burning make sure you have a permit. Braai fires are allowed in designated areas only.

MODERATE

Suppressing of Fires
Ignitions can occur. Rate of spread will be moderate in dense and dry vegetation. Fire behaviour likely to be moderate. Control possible with correct resources and tactics.

Precautions

Ensure open air fires are safely contained. If doing Prescribed Burning make sure you have a permit. Braai fires are allowed in designated areas only.

DANGEROUS

Suppressing of Fires
Ignitions can easily occur. Rate of spread will be fast in dense and dry vegetation. Fire behaviour may be severe at times. Control will be difficult.

Precautions

Authorised open air fires only. If doing Prescribed Burning, extreme caution must be taken and make sure you have a permit. Braai fires are allowed in designated areas only.

VERY DANGEROUS

Suppressing of Fires
Ignitions can easily occur. Rate of spread will be fast in dense and dry vegetation. Fire behaviour will be severe. Control will be dangerous and may not be possible.

Precautions

No open air fires. No activity that can cause an ignition is allowed. Firefighting resources to be ready to respond. If a fire occurs evacuations may be necessary.

EXTREMELY DANGEROUS

Suppressing of Fires
Ignitions can easily occur. Rate of spread will be extremely fast for extended periods. Fire behaviour will be extremely severe and intense. Control will be extremely dangerous and may not be possible.

Precautions

No open air fires. No activity that can cause an ignition is allowed. Firefighting resources to be ready to respond. If a fire occurs evacuations may be necessary.

Stay Informed of the FDI. Contact your Local FPA.



Wildfire is Coming

Are you #WildfireReady?