

Fire Policy

VicForests is committed to supporting the management and suppression of bushfires in order to protect communities, assets and environmental and cultural values including valuable timber resources.

Our Contribution

VicForests' staff and contractors' unique skills and capabilities play an important role in supporting Forest Fire Management Victoria in reducing the risk of bushfires in Victoria's forests.

VicForests' staff are highly trained and experienced in operating in remote forest locations and therefore will focus their contribution on the provision of frontline fire-fighting and leadership roles.

The forest contracting businesses that provide harvesting, haulage, roading and silvicultural services to VicForests contribute specialised machinery and skills to bushfire suppression when required.

Our Commitment to Accreditation

VicForests aims to maintain fire accreditation for at least 60% of all staff, including 80% of all regionally based staff.

VicForests aims for at least 80% of our forester staff to gain at least level one frontline fire operations accreditation.

Our Commitment to Fire Suppression

VicForests is committed to contributing suitably accredited and fit staff to fire suppression activities while balancing the need to continue to support our ongoing business activities.

This commitment includes:

- Rostered staff are available for immediate deployment to first attack duties for the duration of the first attack operations
- Non-rostered staff are available for deployment on first attack as a priority where possible

VicForests will coordinate with Forest Fire Management Victoria the availability of our staff for longer duration deployments, with the general commitment to provide up to 80% of accredited staff to ongoing fire suppression within the areas of our operations.

Fire Management Planning

VicForests will actively contribute to the development and endorsement of Fire Operations Plans for areas of operations, including input into forest management issues.

Fuel Reduction and Regeneration Burning
VicForests uses fire to assist with the regrowing of harvested areas. VicForests therefore has a priority to achieve its regeneration burning program and appreciates Forest Fire Management Victoria's operational, planning and logistical assistance.

VicForests in turn is committed to assisting Forest Fire Management Victoria's fuel reduction program where possible.