

# SERVICE STANDARD 4.2.2A

## FIRE PERMIT (DECEASED LIVESTOCK)

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Version Number	1.0
SOPs	> None
Owner	Executive Director, Operations
Contact	Director, Response and Coordination
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### 1 Purpose

- 1.1 The *Rural Fires Regulation* (the Regulation) requires a person to obtain a fire permit when they propose to light a fire for the purpose of disposing of deceased livestock during the bushfire danger period.
- 1.2 The NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) has developed a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) to comply with the requirement of clause 26 of the Regulation, and to allow the timely destruction of deceased livestock with less conditions and requirements than otherwise would apply to normal S89 Fire Permits.
- 1.3 This Service Standard provides information on how this Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) are to be issued by the NSW RFS.

### 2 Policy

- 2.1 Permits for fires which are proposed to be lit on land in a “fire district”, may be issued by the Fire & Rescue NSW Commissioner or his or her delegate.
- 2.2 Permits for fires which are proposed to be lit on land in a “rural fire district”, may only be issued by the NSW RFS Commissioner or his or her delegate.
- 2.3 The NSW RFS Commissioner has delegated the power to issue permits to certain members of the NSW RFS.
- 2.4 Fire permits may be issued by:
  - a. The District Manager - in relation to any part of the rural fire district to which he or she has been appointed; or
  - b. Any member holding the rank of Operational Officer Level 1 and higher; or
  - c. A member of the NSW RFS who has been appointed as a Permit Issuing Officer (PIO) by a District Manager - in relation to those parts of a rural fire district specified by the District Manager from time to time.

- 2.5 NSW RFS members appointed as PIOs must apply the provisions of this service standard for the purpose of issuing fire permits (Deceased Livestock).
- 2.6 A member of the NSW RFS who has been delegated the power to issue permits must not issue a permit to:
- him or herself;
  - a member of his or her immediate family;
  - any of his or her employees;
  - in relation to any land which he or she owns or occupies; or
  - in any other circumstance to which a reasonable belief may exist to a conflict of interest.
- 2.7 For the purpose of this Service Standard, a conflict of interest shall be determined to mean where a conflict arises between the performance of the member's duties (issue fire permit) and their own personal, professional or business interests, or that of individuals or groups with whom they are closely associated. This shall exclude any associations in the course of a brigade membership to which the PIO may belong.

#### **Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) must be in writing**

- 2.8 Any Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) is to be issued in the form and structure defined in annexure A.

#### **Permit Issuing Officer appointments**

- 2.9 The District Manager for each rural fire district must ensure any member authorised by them is recorded as a *"Permit Officer"* role within the individual member's SAP membership record. A PIO is not authorised to issue permits until such SAP record is updated.
- 2.10 The Commissioner or the District Manager who appointed the member as a PIO may revoke that appointment at any time by removing the Permit Officer role from their SAP membership record.
- 2.11 The Commissioner or the District Manager must revoke the appointment of a PIO at the request of the PIO, by removing the Permit Officer role from their SAP membership record.
- 2.12 The Commissioner or the District Manager who has revoked a PIO appointment not at the request of the PIO must provide 21 days written notice of the intention to revoke the member's PIO appointment.

#### **Issuing Fire Permits (Deceased Livestock)**

- 2.13 A fire permit (Deceased Livestock) may be issued from one of the following forms:
- A Printed Pad Permit Book, printed and issued locally as approved by the Manager Emergency Management Coordination; or
  - An individual permit using the template provided in annexure A.

#### **Issuing a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) during a Total Fire Ban (TOBAN)**

- 2.14 A Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) is not suspended or cancelled when a TOBAN is declared, and may be issued when requested by a landholder.
- 2.15 Prior to issuing a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) on a day of total fire ban, the PIO is to ensure that an exemption for the destruction of deceased livestock has been applied to the total fire ban order. (Annexure B)

#### **Declining or refusing to issue a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock)**

- 2.16 A PIO cannot decline or reasonably refuse to issue a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) unless otherwise prescribed by this standard.
- 2.17 Where a district has suspended the issuing of normal permits, any such suspension does not apply to a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) and should be continued to be issued upon request.
- 2.18 A PIO may decline or refuse to issue a Fire Permit (Deceased Livestock) in the following circumstances:
- Where in the opinion of the PIO the applicant has not sufficiently made steps to meet the prescribed conditions upon the fire permit (Livestock Destruction); or

- b. On a day of any TOBAN, where an exemption has not been granted within the TOBAN order for the disposal of deceased animal carcasses.

2.19 To assist in determining if the disposal of deceased animal carcasses has been approved within any issued TOBAN order a guide has been developed and attached as annexure B.

### Reporting requirements – Details of fire permits issued

2.20 Section 97 of the Act requires the NSW RFS Commissioner to provide a report to the Bush Fire Co-ordinating Committee within two months after the end of the financial year detailing:

- a. bush fires lit pursuant to a fire permit, issued by and in, an area of an appropriate authority

2.21 The Commissioner shall use the information contained within the approved electronic system (for example, BRIMS / GUARDIAN) to acquit the reporting requirements on behalf of the District Manager for their respective rural fire districts.

## 3 Related documents

- > [Rural Fires Act 1997](#)
- > [Rural Fires Regulation 2008](#)
- > [NSW Government Gazette – Schedule of standard exemptions to Total Fire Bans](#)
- > [SS 4.2.2 Fire Permits](#)

## 4 Amendments

AMENDMENT DATE	VERSION NO	DESCRIPTION
18 September 2018	1.0	Initial release

# ANNEXURE A

## FIRE PERMIT (Deceased Livestock)

PERMIT TO LIGHT, USE OR MAINTAIN A FIRE  
UNDER CLAUSE 26 RURAL FIRES REGULATION 2013

Permission is hereby granted to: (Surname, First) \_\_\_\_\_ of

(Address) \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (02) \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

To light and maintain, or use a fire for the purpose of deceased livestock destruction at:

(Address of where livestock is to be destroyed) \_\_\_\_\_

This permit shall be effective for a 72 hour period from the date and time of issue.

Date of Issue: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/ 2018

Time Issued: \_\_\_\_:\_\_\_\_ Hrs

This permit is granted subject to the provisions of the *Rural Fires Act 1997*, and to the following special conditions:

- (1) *This permit must be carried by the permit holder at the time the fire authorised is lit. The permit is to remain on site with those present throughout the duration of the fire, until extinguished.*
- (2) *The permit holder must give written or oral notice at least 1 hour before the fire is lit, to all adjoining occupiers or owners of land including land that is separated by a lane, road or waterway.*
- (3) *The permit holder must contact at least 1 hour before lighting the fire, providing details of the person proposing to light the fire, the location, purpose, period and time of the fire, proposed to be lit to the NSW RFS Fire Control Centre on phone (02) \_\_\_\_\_.*
- (4) *The permit may be suspended, or cancelled (verbally or in writing) by the NSW Rural Fire Service.*
- (5) *If the Office of Environment and Heritage (EPA) declares a "No Burn" day, for the area to which this permit applies then this permit is suspended.*
- (6) *The area around the livestock to be destroyed is to be clear of combustible material for a distance of 30 metres or other such distance sufficient to stop the spread of the fire to surrounding areas.*
- (7) *The fire is lit, maintained or used in a manner which will prevent the escape of the fire.*
- (8) *If the fire is to be lit on a day of Total Fire Ban the permit holder must confirm with the NSW RFS Fire Control Centre at time of notification, (see 3 above) that an exemption for livestock destruction has been granted.*
- (9) *If the fire is to be lit on a day of Total Fire Ban the permit holder must be in attendance at the site of the fire while it is burning.*
- (10) *If the fire is to be lit on a day of Total Fire Ban the permit holder is to ensure adequate firefighting equipment is provided at the site to prevent the escape or spread of the fire.*

Details Of Permit Issuing Officer

Signature of person authorised to issue

permits under the above act within the Rural Fire District

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

(Insert RFS District Address)

(Insert RFS District Phone Number)

## ANNEXURE B

1. To determine if an exemption has been granted for the disposal of deceased stock, the number ten (10) should be listed within the exemptions column of the TOBAN order.
2. A complete listing of exemption clauses can be found here: [NSW Government Gazette No. 16 of 9 February 2018](#)



**NSW RURAL FIRE SERVICE**



### TOTAL FIRE BAN ORDER

#### *PROHIBITION ON THE LIGHTING, MAINTENANCE AND USE OF FIRES IN THE OPEN AIR*

Being of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient in the interests of public safety to do so, I direct by this order that the following parts of the State for the periods specified the lighting, maintenance or use of any fire in the open air is prohibited (subject to the exemptions set out in the table below and described in the *Schedule of standard exemptions to total fire bans* published in the NSW Government Gazette No 16 of 9 February 2018):

Fire Weather Area	Exemptions (Applicable Clauses)
Greater Hunter	
Greater Sydney Region	2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18
Illawarra / Shoalhaven	

This direction shall apply for the periods specified hereunder:

**11:00 hours to 23:59 hours on Wednesday 15 August 2018.**

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'Shane Fitzsimmons', written over a horizontal line.

SHANE FITZSIMMONS AFSM  
Commissioner *15-8-18*  
By delegation from the Minister for Emergency Service