

Rural Recovery Services For landholders affected by Kilmore East Murrindindi Fires September 2009

For more information visit: www.dpi.vic.gov.au

Pasture Management

Fire changes the botanical composition of pastures and can lead to reduced growth rates and a reduction in carrying capacity. For advice on pasture recovery, seed mixes and establishment techniques, contact:

- Kate Sargeant, DPI Seymour 0428 325 318

Stock Containment Areas

Post fire, a well designed stock containment area can assist with temporary hand feeding of stock while pastures recover, reduce soil erosion and better control weed contamination from imported feed. During a fire they can be used as a safe area for stock so constructing one now is a good investment for the future. For more information on stock containment areas and their benefits, contact:

- Kim Wilson, DPI Broadford 5784 0600

Whole Farm Planning

Fences may have to be replaced as a result of the fire. Landholders now have the opportunity to reflect on their current farm layout and make changes for improved management. Whole farm planning can assist in developing a new farm layout. For advice, contact:

- Greg Bekker, DPI Benalla 0417 340 236

Crown Land Boundary Fencing

Reimbursement of insurance excess up to \$400 is available for claims made for Crown land (Park and State Forest) boundary fences that have been damaged or destroyed by the 2009 bushfires (wildfire or fire suppression back-burn). For an application form contact:

- Jane Court, DPI Seymour 0427 200 451

Weed and Pest Animal Management

For advice on control measures to minimise the likelihood of weeds becoming established on your property following fire, or pest animals impacting on Livestock, contact:

- Simon Bonwick, DPI Seymour 0427 092 549

Soil conservation - Erosion Control

With large areas of bare ground, the potential for erosion of valuable topsoil is great. For information on soil protection measures, contact:

- Kerri Goschnick, DPI Alexandra 5772 0249

Livestock – Feed Planning

Managing livestock with reduced feed supplies is an enormous challenge. For advice on feeding strategies to get stock through, contact:

- Jane Court DPI Seymour 0427 200 451
- Gary McLarty DPI Seymour 0427 099 232

Livestock – Animal Health

Issues or concerns about livestock affected by the fire can be directed to:

Animal Health Field Services, Benalla 5761 1604

Water supplies – Farm Dams

Rainfall on paddocks with minimal ground cover can lead to siltation of farm dams, reducing their capacity and contributing to water quality problems. For information on protecting your water supplies, contact:

- Greg Bekker, DPI Benalla 0417 340 236
- Kerri Goschnick DPI Alexandra 5772 0249

Horticulture:

Questions relating to crops affected by the fire can be directed to:

- Vegetables, Rob Dimsey, DPI Bairnsdale, 5152 0619
- Rubus industry, Euan Laird, DPI Knoxfield, 9210 9214
- Horticulture agronomy, Harold Adem, DPI Tatura, 5833 5231

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