

In Western Australia bushfires can start without warning and quickly impact your travel route. If you are traveling during bushfire season, to a bushfire risk area, it is important that you prepare yourself and your vehicle in case a bushfire does occur.

### Things to do before you travel

- Make sure you have a map of the area you are travelling and are aware of your surroundings.
- 2. Find out the most up to date Fire Danger Rating for the area you are travelling to. Visit the DFES website on www.dfes.wa.gov.au
- Find out if there is a Total Fire Ban for the area.



Fire Danger Rating sign board

Visit DFES website or Total Fire Ban Information Line on **1800 709 355**. During a Total Fire Ban, it is illegal to light a fire in open air or undertake any activities that may start a fire.

4. Save the DFES Information & Emergency Numbers into your mobile phone. To keep up to date with emergency Information call DFES on 1300 657 209. To report a fire or emergency, call 000. 5. Find out the local ABC radio frequency for the area you are travelling

In a major emergency, broadcasts will be issued at a quarter to and quarter past the hour.

- 6. Pack a Bushfire Survival Kit Include essential items such as an AM/FM radio, spare batteries, first aid kit, drinking water, woollen blankets and protective clothing.
- 7. If you are staying overnight, plan how you will escape a fire.

  Find out what bushfire safety plans are in place.

Find out what bushfire safety plans are in place where you are camping, caravanning or renting.

8. Be prepared to change your travel plans on hot, dry and windy days.



## PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.



# What will you do if you encounter a bushfire while driving?

If you see smoke and flames, you should leave the area immediately by driving away from the fire. Do not wait to see!

#### What to do:

- If there is a lot of smoke, slow down and be aware. There could be people, vehicles and livestock on the road
- Turn your car headlights on, close windows and outside vents
- If you cannot see clearly, ensure you are not in the path of the fire and pull over to the side of the road
- Keep your headlights and hazard lights on and wait until the smoke clears.

### If you become trapped by a fire:

- Stay in your car and turn your engine off
- Park in an area with low or no vegetation on the side of the road furthest from the fire with your vehicle orientated towards the oncoming fire front
- Close the doors, windows and outside vents and do not get out or open windows until the fire front has passed.
- Lie on the floor and cover your body with any available woollen or cotton blankets or cloths.



#### THE WA BUSHFIRE SEASON

- ☐ **South West** is 1 November to 31 April
- ☐ **Goldfields Midland** is 1 November to 31 March
- ☐ **Midwest Gascoyne** is 1 October to 31 April
- □ North West (Kimberley and Pilbara) is 1 June to 31 October depending on the seasonal rainfall

For further information, visit your local Tourism WA Visitor Centre. For information on how to prepare for a bushfire, visit: www.dfes.wa.gov.au

Call **000** to report a fire.



