Community Information Newsletter March 24th 2018

South West Fire Complex March 2018

INCIDENT INFORMATION

Cobrico Peat Fire:

Due to increased levels of Carbon Monoxide from smoke, a community door knock of a localised area of residents in Cobrico occurred overnight. This saw the temporary relocation of members of the community to Terang Civic Hall.

The air quality in the affected area is hazardous as a result of smoke from peat fire. If members of the community are concerned about their possible exposure to carbon monoxide, they can visit the Terang Civic Hall for a health assessment, or call NURSE-ON-CALL on 1300 60 60 24 for medical advice. Call 000 in an emergency.

Terang:

Estimated at 6698 hectares

This grass fire is the largest of the south west fires and is contained. Overnight 70 firefighters worked to strengthen containment lines by constructing mineral earth breaks and blacking out around the fire perimeter. Today there will be approximate 120 firefighters working on the fire ground strengthening containment lines.

Gazette:

Estimated 3876 hectares

The fire has now been contained behind an inactive (burned) fire edge and bulldozer lines. However there is still some vegetation and peat burning within the containment area. Ground crews are continuing work to prevent any further spread of the fire, with firefighting aircraft on call as required.

Garvoc:

Estimated 4064 hectares

The fire has now been contained. Fire crews are actively Blacking out hotspot and patrolling this fire.

EMERGENCY RELIEF CENTRES

Various support services are available at:
Terang Civic Hall, 129 Mary Bradshaw Avenue (open 9am - 5pm)
Cobden: Cobden Civic Hall, 53-55 Victoria Street (open 9am - 5pm)

COMMUNITY INFORMATION POINTS

A Community Information Point will be operating at Penshurst Memorial Hall, 21 Martin St, Penshurst, Garvoc Community Hall, Main Road Garvoc from from 10:00AM to 5:00PM.

STAY INFORMED

Check for the latest warnings and advice messages at www.emergency.vic.gov.au or the Vic Emergency smartphone app, or your local emergency radio station.

Tune in to ABC Local Radio, commercial and designated community radio stations, or Sky News TV. People who are deaf, hard of hearing, or who have a speech/communication impairment can contact VicEmergency Hotline via the National Relay Service on 1800 555 677.

For help with English, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on 131 450 (freecall) and ask them to telephone VicEmergency Hotline. If you know someone who cannot speak English, provide them with this number.

HEALTH INFORMATION

Carbon Monixide :

Carbon monoxide is a colourless and odourless gas. It is found in smoke and is formed from the incomplete combustion of fuels such as Peat.

When breathed in, carbon monoxide displaces oxygen in the blood and deprives the heart, brain and other vital organs of oxygen. Carbon monoxide may cause “flu-like” symptoms such as headache and tiredness, progressing to dizziness, confusion, nausea or fainting.

If you have concerns about your health you should seek medical advice, visit Terang Civic Hall for a health assessment or call Nurse on Call on 1300 606 024. Anyone experiencing difficulty breathing or chest pain should seek urgent medical assistance phone 000.

SMOKE AND AIR MONITORING

EPA are continuing to undertake air quality assessments around affected areas.
For information on how smoke from bushfires can affect your health, and emergency assistance availability: Nurse-on-Call on 1300 60 60 24 (this is a phone service that allows you to discuss any health-related issue with a registered nurse, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week for the cost of a local call from anywhere in Victoria

For more information about Peat Fires and Carbon Monoxide visit www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief

FIRES

Smoke may be visible from nearby communities and roads. Please do not ring 000 unless you see flames.

ROAD INFORMATION

Roads are open to local traffic and residents are permitted to return. Further information is available via 13 11 70 or the VicRoads website www.vicroads.vic.gov.au

If you are unsure about your safety around your home, contact council for Property Impact Assessment

AFTER THE FIRES

Relief and recovery information is available at www.emergency.vic.gov.au/relief or call Vic Emergency on 1800 226 226.

STOCK LOSSES

Contact Agriculture Victoria on 5336 6721.

VFF SUPPORT AND DISASTER RELIEF

Donations of fodder, provision of generators, need for agistment contact 1300 882 833