

Firebreak Variation - Information for Applicant

The following guidelines are acceptable categories for which a variation to the Shire of Esperance Fire Hazard Reduction Notice may be applied for:

Why Apply?

1. The topography makes the normal placement of a trafficable firebreak impracticable or dangerous, and alternative firebreak, emergency access or fire prevention methods that meet the intention of this notice are provided and demonstrated.
2. The topography/soil type/landscape make the normal methods impracticable (e.g. cap stone, rocky or waterlogged) and alternative firebreak, emergency access and fire prevention methods that meet the intention of this notice are provided and demonstrated. For example, firebreaks may be allowed in alternative locations to negate natural obstructions and to allow for access.
3. An approved Bushfire Management Plan for the property is in place and being conformed to, but the requirements of the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice are not able to be met. *Note: properties with an approved Bushfire Management Plan are not exempt from the Fire Hazard Reduce Notice Requirements.*
4. The firebreak variation only applies to a portion of the property that is reticulated lawn that is kept green, and it can be demonstrated that it is maintained.
5. Cleared access is provided to enable emergency services access to buildings and all parts of the property.
6. Where clearing for fire management in accordance with specific provisions of the Local Planning Scheme.
7. Where clearing is likely to impact upon areas of declared rare flora or environmentally sensitive areas as defined under the *Environmental Protection (Clearing of Native Vegetation) Regulations 2004*.

Application Requirements

- All requests for variation to firebreaks must be submitted in writing using the application form. Applications must include a map indicating proposed variations and relevant property details e.g. landscape features such as rocky outcrops, environmental values, and all structures (refer to application form for all details required).
- Application must be received by **24 September**. If not, the requested variation will not be considered.
- Application must be submitted by the landowner or by a person authorised to act on their behalf.
- The Authorised Officer has the right to grant or refuse an application and alter or add any conditions to an application.
- Failure to comply within timeframes provided by an Authorised Officer will result in the refusal of the application.
- If an application is not approved or refused, the landowner has 14 days to comply with the requirements in the Fire Hazard Reduction Notice.

Community Emergency Services

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