

Restricted Fire Season

Pursuant to the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977 Section 22, and the District Council Bylaws, notice is given that the lighting of fires in the open air in the Wanganui District is restricted as from **Midnight Wednesday 18 April 2012**.

The restriction applies in the Wanganui District to all land south of the line between the junction of Rangitatau East and Kuarapaoa Road to Atene across to the junction of Mangahowai Road and Te Komai Road to Otoko Marae across to the top of Creek Road to the boundary with Rangitikei. All land south of this line to the coast is under a restricted fire season.

All lands administered by the Department of Conservation and within their 1km safety margin require permits for open air fires. The restriction also includes all urban areas.

AND FURTHER that this restriction remains in force until further notice.

Exceptions

The following activities are permitted:

- Rubbish fires and the burning of dead stock, where the fire is contained within a pit or other confined area and where not less than three metres of ground surrounding the fire is cleared of all combustible material
- Barbecues lit in properly constructed containers and fuelled with gas, solid or liquid fuel.
- Cooking fires at camping and picnic sites lit within approved concrete or stone surrounds and with not less than three metres of ground surrounding the container cleared of all combustible material.

Provided:

That no such fires shall be lit when strong or gusty winds are prevailing.

In all cases a person lighting a fire within the bounds of these exceptions **shall remain in attendance at the fire until it is fully extinguished**.

It shall be no legal defence against claims for damage caused by any fire, that such fire was of the type, or lit at the time permitted, by this notice.

Applications for permits should be made to: New Zealand Fire Service, phone 348 0103 or the Department of Conservation, phone 349 2100 during normal business hours.

Sufficient time for an inspection must be made prior to a permit being issued. One weeks advance notice for small fires, and 3 weeks advance notice for larger burns, that may require a fire plan.

Rural fire permits will be inspected on Thursdays and Fridays.

All inquiries to NZ Fire Service, phone 348 0103

Kevin Smith
Principal Rural Fire Officer
Wanganui District.