



## DECLARATION OF LOCAL FIRE BAN

### PROHIBITION ON THE LIGHTING, MAINTENANCE AND USE OF FIRES IN THE OPEN

In accordance with the provisions of Section 86A and Section 86E of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, and with due regard to fire conditions and the weather forecasts issued by the Bureau of Meteorology, a Local Fire Ban is hereby imposed as described below.

A prohibition on lighting fires in the open applies for the period 0001hrs on Thursday, 21 November 2019 to 2359 hrs on Wednesday, 4 December 2019 in the fire ban area(s) specified hereunder:

Within the whole of the Local Government Areas of:

Burdekin  
Charters Towers  
Flinders  
Hinchinbrook  
McKinlay  
Palm Island  
Richmond  
Townsville

Within part of the Local Government Area of:

Whitsunday – The part known as the former “Bowen Shire Council Area”

All Permits to Light Fire previously issued in the local fire ban area are hereby cancelled, subject to the following exemptions.

## THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS APPLY:

1. Fires lit for the purpose of cooking, that are:
  - a. within a properly constructed receptacle such as a barbeque, gas or wood fired and pizza oven, and
  - b. where the fire cannot escape or cause embers to drift, and
  - c. there must be a fire extinguishing device available (e.g. garden hose or fire extinguisher)are permitted provided they are not left unattended.
  
2. Fires lit for the purpose of providing warmth that are:
  - a. lit within a properly constructed receptacle, such as fire pits and braziers, and
  - b. that are used in suburban back yard, and
  - c. that are no larger than 1m x 1m x 0.5m, and
  - d. there is a fire extinguishing device available (e.g. garden hose or fire extinguisher), and
  - e. the area is cleared of vegetation and embers cannot drift from the fire, and
  - f. provided they are not left unattendedare permitted between 1800 hrs to 0600 hrs. (This exemption does not include bon fires)

### **NB. Check with your Local Council By-laws**

3. Fires lit for the purpose of disposal of animal carcasses are permitted, subject to the issue of a permit by the local Fire Warden.
  
4. Fires lit for commercial necessity are permitted subject to the issue of a permit to light fire by the Chief Fire Warden.
  
5. Fires lit for the purpose of burning standing sugar cane for harvest in accordance with the established practice of the industry. The burning of standing cane is permitted between 1800 hrs and 0500 hrs (6pm and 5am) the following day once a permit to burn has been obtained from the local fire warden for those blocks of cane that require a permit to burn.
  
6. Fires lit for the purpose of burning tops and trash between the hours of 1800hrs and 0900hrs (6.00pm and 9.00am) once a permit to burn has been obtained from the local fire warden for those blocks of cane that require a permit to burn.
  
7. Fires lit in accordance with the provisions of Section 86A of the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990*, Part 6 Sections 53 Powers of authorised officer in dangerous situations and 55 Powers of authorised fire officer for preventative or Investigative purposes.



Name Anthony Hazell AFSM

Position Regional manager

Date 20/11/19

Time 1615

Rural Fire Service  
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services  
(As delegate for the Commissioner)

Information on Fire Bans and the exemptions that can apply to a ban of the lighting of fires in the open can be found on the Rural Fire Service website. [www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au](http://www.ruralfire.qld.gov.au)

**Note:** Power tools including lawn mowers and mechanical slashers may be used, however the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services encourages people to use these with extreme care and to ensure that adequate equipment is available to extinguish any fire that may start. This could include having a person available to watch out for any ignitions that occur.