



DECLARATION OF LOCAL FIRE BAN

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

In accordance with the provisions of Section 145M and Section 145Q of the *Fire 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 16:01hrs on Monday 3rd November 2025 to 2359 hrs on Sunday 16th November 2025 in the fire ban area(s) specified hereunder:

Within the whole of the Local Government Areas of:

Mackay Regional Council

Whitsunday Regional Council

Townsville City Council

All current Permits to Light Fire issued for the local fire ban area are hereby suspended subject to the following exemptions.

THE FOLLOWING EXEMPTIONS APPLY:

- 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.

- 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. 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. (6pm to 6am). This exemption does not include bon fires.

NB. Check with your Local Council By-laws

- Fires lit for the purpose of disposal of animal carcasses are permitted, subject to the issue of a permit by the local Fire Warden.
- Fires lit for commercial necessity are permitted subject to the issue of a permit to light fire by the Chief Fire Warden.
- Fires lit in accordance with the provisions of Section 145M of the *Fire Services Act 1990*, Sections 149I Powers of authorised officer in dangerous situations and 149K Powers of authorised fire officer for preventative or Investigative purposes.
- Burning can be undertaken in line with the Notification for Sugar Cane Burning.
- Burning of cane can be undertaken where a permit to light fire has been issued.



Tyron McMahon
Deputy Chief Officer
03/112025
15:04hrs
Rural Fire Service
Queensland Fire Department
(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 Queensland Fire Department website. <https://www.fire.qld.gov.au/>

Note: Power tools including lawn mowers and mechanical slashers may be used, however the Queensland Fire Department 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.