



Media release  
Monday 9 May 2016

## **Prohibited Fire Season introduced**

A prohibited fire season (total fire ban) has been declared in Selwyn District, effective from 8am Monday 9 May 2016.

Under the restrictions no outdoor fires can be lit in the district. The burning of crop stubble is also not allowed. Gas barbeques with a high pressure water source at hand are allowed but not charcoal barbeques. Fires are not permitted in Council reserves at any time. During a prohibited fire season all fire permits previously issued by the Council are cancelled.

The district's Principal Rural Fire Officer Douglas Marshall says fire restrictions have been reintroduced as low rainfall has resulted in vegetation in Selwyn becoming very dry, which when combined with the very dry soil, means that fires can start easily and quickly get out of control.

A fee of \$1,150 can be charged for a fire call out if a fire has been lit which breaches fire restrictions. This fee is provided to local volunteer fire forces.

If you see a fire burning out of control, phone 111 immediately to report it.

Ends

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