

Bush Fire Advisory Committee – Mullewa

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Name	Mullewa BFAC Meeting	Meeting No.	2 / 2019
Meeting Date	Wednesday, 11 September 2019		
Meeting Time	09:00am		
Location	Board Room, Mullewa District Office		
Attendees	Cr Jerry Clune, Chair CGG Councillor Cr Natasha Colliver CGG Councillor (via video) Cr Tarleah Thomas CGG Councillor Sam Messina Mullewa Manager Community Development Wayne Ellis Coordinator Emergency Manager CGG Kieran Mussen – Acting DO Coastal DFES Murray Smith - Chief Bush BFO Daniel Critch - FCO, Tenindewa Sth Brendan Weir - FCO, Tenindewa Nth Murray Preston – FCO, Casuarinas Zac Grima – FCO, Pindar-Tardun Maya Engstrom – Minute Secretary	By Invitation	DBCA, DFES, VFRS
		Apologies	Cr Jennifer Critch CGG Councillor Brett Steele FCO Mullewa South Peter Barnetson FCO Ambania Darrin Fulker FCO Mullewa Central Tony Crudeli Captain Mullewa Volunteer Fire & Rescue Mick Raycos DBCA (P&W) Malcolm Taylor DBCA (P&W)
		Distribution	Attendees, CGG Council

1. WELCOME & APOLOGIES

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 9.05 and welcomed all present and Cr Colliver via video conference. Apologies were noted as above.

1.2. Introductions and announcement of visitors:

- Wayne Ellis gave brief introduction and explained his role as Coordinator Emergency Management for the City of Greater Geraldton.
- Councillor Natasha Colliver introduced herself and her role with Mullewa BFAC.

2. REVIEW PREVIOUS MINUTES – 13 February 2019

2.1. Previous Minutes:

RECOMMEND that the Minutes of the Bush Fire Advisory Committee – Mullewa held on 13 February 2019, as previously circulated, be adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings.

CARRIED by CONSENSUS

2.2. Review of actions from previous meeting

The Action Item regarding the use of City plant/contractor arrangements at bushfires be removed as it has been resolved. Other Actions to be discussed in General Business.

3. KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

3.1. Alignment of RBT and PBT from Chapman Valley/Northampton

This has now been signed off by the FES Commissioner and gazetted in the Government Gazette. There is still ability to make seasonal adjustments within 14 days either side of the dates at the discretion of the LG as per the Bush Fires Act.

3.2. Mullewa Town Rail Corridor

Sam Messina reported this still needs to be done. Suggested possible prescribed burn with volunteers. Follow up with ARC Infrastructure is required with regards to their mitigation program.

ACTION: Murray Smith to follow up

3.3. Prescribed burning of City and Unclaimed Crown Land (UCL)

There are a number of blocks in Mullewa needing to be burnt. Murray Smith to arrange meeting with Infrastructure Coordinator Mullewa, Darryl Pedlar, to discuss and arrange works by City contractor.

4. PRESENTATIONS

Kieran Mussen is current Acting DO Coastal for DFES. Permanent appointment will be made by DFES soon, for 2-year contract.

5. AGENCY AND BRIGADE REPORTS

5.1. Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Weather Stations:

Map of current locations distributed and discussed, along with potential new locations. Planning for an additional four or five new stations depending on funding.

Weather stations will provide data on harvest movement bans and be linked on City's website. Discussion required by Greenough BFAC before any further progression of proposed sites.

Tank locations

Current locations include Mullewa Depot tank and Wongoondy/Tardun Road tank. If more funding were available, Pindar town site would be a suitable additional location as there is no existing water source for firefighting operations. Further discussion required with local residents to determine possible alternative water sources.

Funding for tanks is available via the City budget each year. The City's Senior Operations Technical Officer, Geoff Burton, will have information regarding possible water tanks at Pindar.

ACTION : Sam Messina to meet with Geoff Burton

Fire trucks

Have been upgraded as per DFES safety requirements (CCPS) at a cost of \$100k per truck. Training is planned to upskill volunteer brigades on new and upgraded safety features.

Vehicle servicing

Pre-season servicing is complete for all trucks, with all maintenance now completed in house by the City workshop.

Foam Audit

A full foam audit for all trucks is complete with all foams now replaced.

5.2. Coordinator, Emergency Management

Nothing to report.

5.3. Department of Fire & Emergency Services

The new Rural Fire division is accessible on a virtual platform. It is anticipated that the Division will improve rural fire management, strengthening the relationship with bushfire volunteers and greater collaboration between agencies. The Bushfire Centre of Excellence centre is to be built in the Shire of Murray.

DFES happy to assist and provide template for new contact list details booklet.

5.4. Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (P&W) – not present.

5.5. Mullewa Central Bush Fire Brigade – not present.

5.6. Mullewa South Bush Fire Brigade – not present.

5.7. Tenindewa Bush Fire Brigade – Planning a skills refresher with volunteers prior to the upcoming harvest and fire seasons.

5.8. Pindar/Tardun Bush Fire Brigade – nothing to report.

5.9. Casuarinas Bush Fire Brigade – nothing to report.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

6.1 General Emergency Contact List

The Chair reported he had recently attended an Emergency Management Course for Local Government, and has identified there is no current booklet for the City of Greater Geraldton containing emergency contacts. The City's Emergency Management team are aware of this issue. New DFES booklet will be circulated shortly and presented to all brigades.

NOTE: Need to be aware when including LEMA contacts in any future booklet, that some contact numbers are operationally sensitive.

6.2 Fire Control Officers

Appointments for all Fire Control Officers (FCOs) expire in October 2019. Noted that the Committee can make recommendations for appointment of FCOs, but in accordance with the City of Greater Geraldton Local Laws 2011 (Bushfire), the City is not bound to appoint the persons nominated.

NOTE: All present FCOs had no objections to remaining in current appointments.

ACTION : Murray Smith to write to the City of Greater Geraldton CEO to recommend the re-appointment of all FCO's from the Mullewa BFAC.

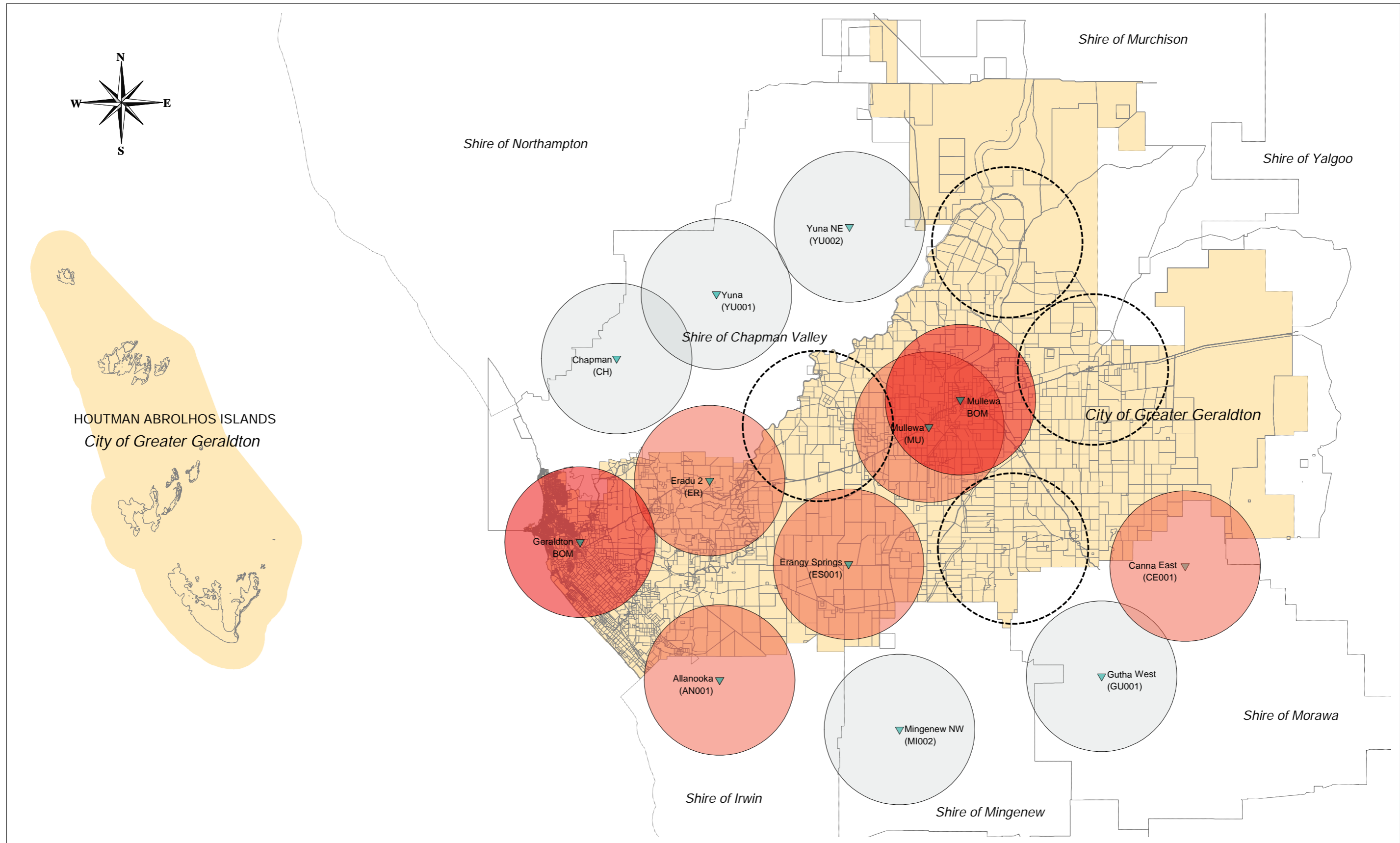
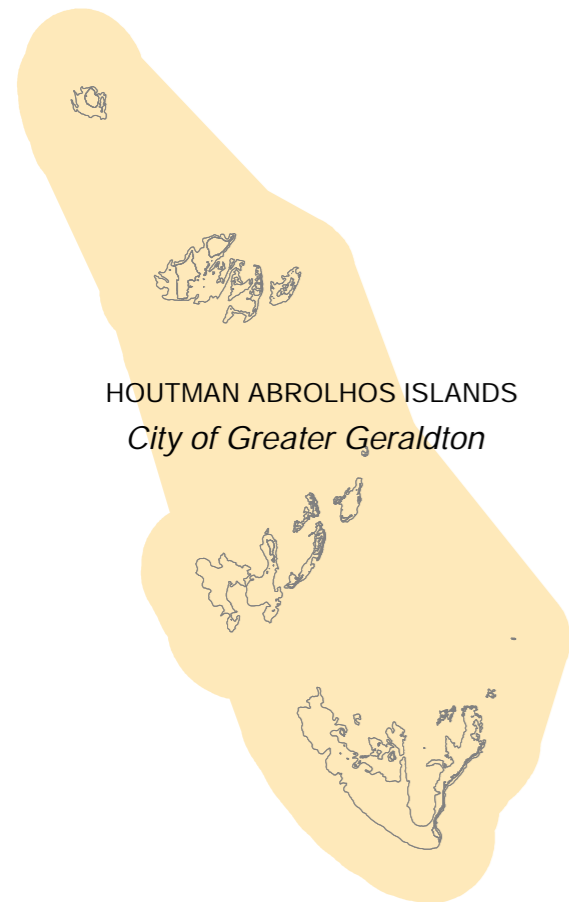
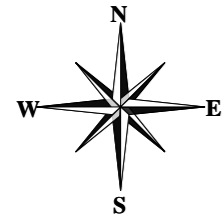
The Chair, on behalf of the City, thanked all Fire Control Officers for their hard work and noted that it was greatly appreciated.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – February 2020

8. CLOSE

Meeting closed at 10am.

ATTACHMENTS: Proposed Radar and Weather Station Sites.



Map produced by the City of Greater Geraldton
 W: www.cgg.wa.gov.au E: council@cgg.wa.gov.au

Proposed Radar and Weather Station Sites

Scale: 1:1

Date	10-Jul-19
Department	IS [Engineering - GIS]
Drawing No.	
Operator	DAT
Paper Size	A3

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