

Bushfire Mitigation Update

1 September 2026



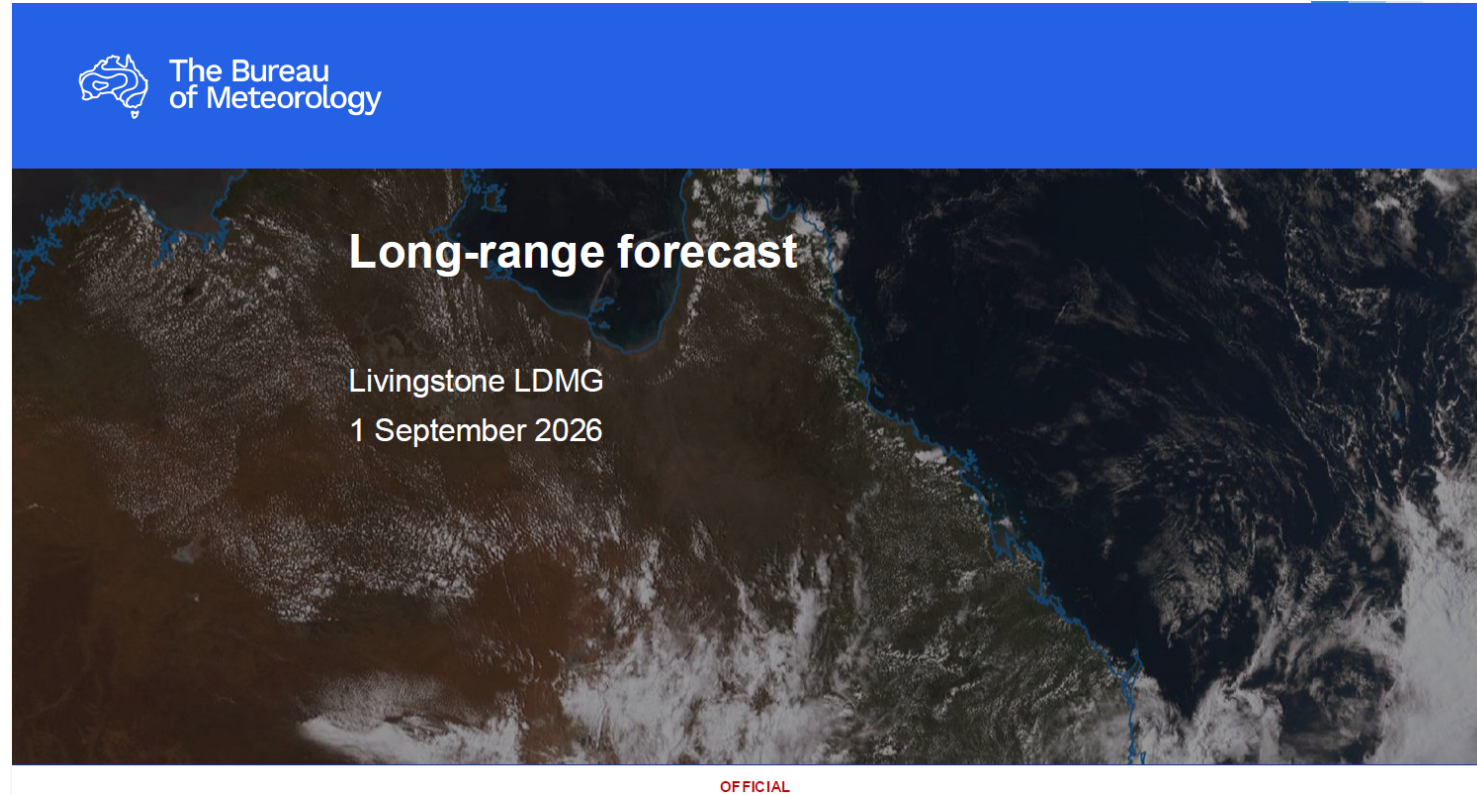
LIVINGSTONE
Disaster MANAGEMENT

Overview

- 01** Weather briefing
- 02** Bushfire season outlook
- 03** Council mitigation activities
- 04** Community engagement and preparedness
- 05** Staying informed



Weather Briefing

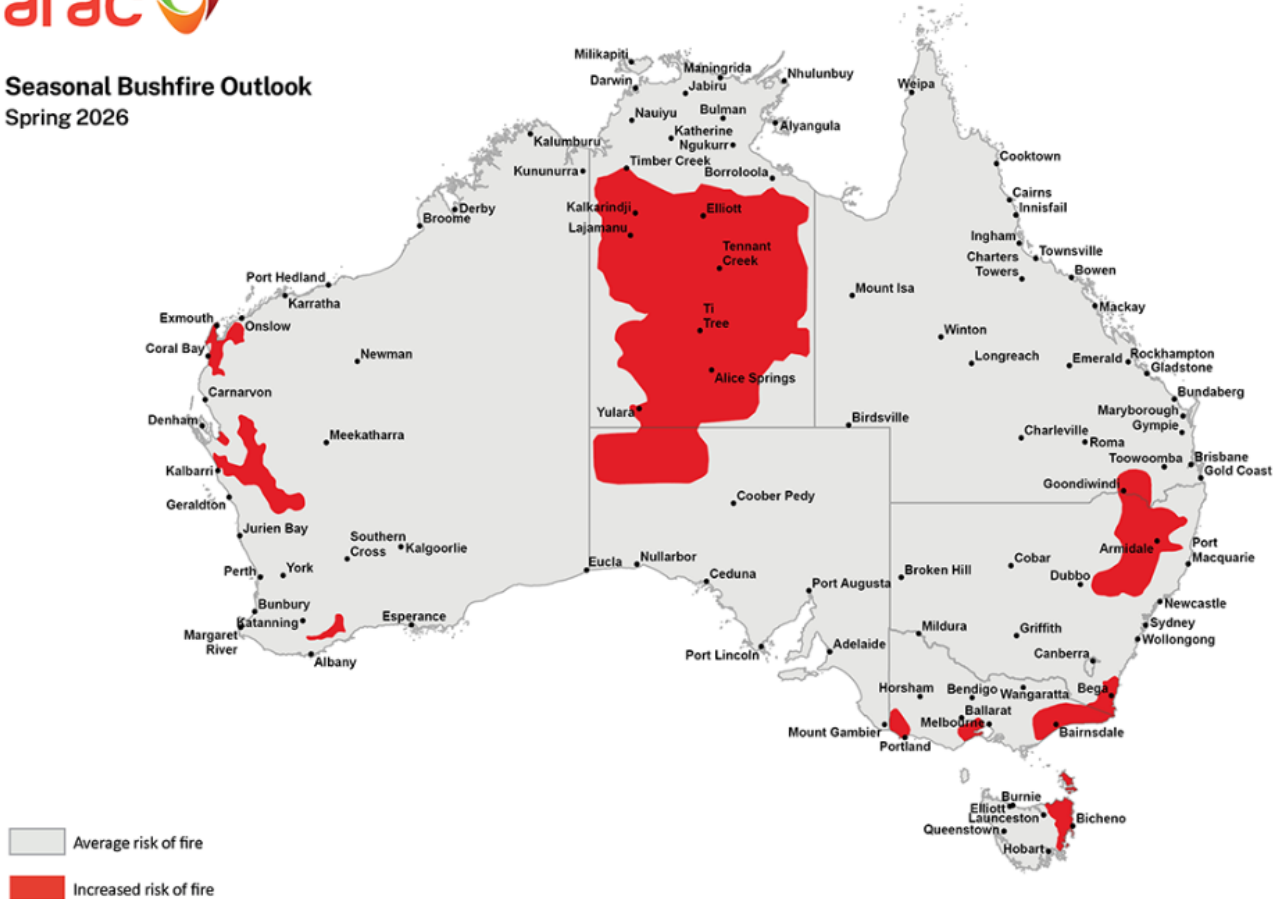


[Livingstone Weather Outlook - Long Range Forecast 1 September 2026](#)

Bushfire Outlook



Seasonal Bushfire Outlook
Spring 2026



LIVINGSTONE
DisasterMANAGEMENT

Livingstone Mitigation Activities

01

Fire Trail Inspections & Upgrades

Routine inspection and upgrade of existing fire trails

02

Fire Trail Establishment

New trail construction and ongoing maintenance

03

Stakeholder Engagement

Working with agencies, landholders and partners

04

Equipment Familiarisation & Staff Training

Building crew capability and readiness

05

Hazard Reduction Burning

Planned burns to lower fuel loads

06

Outdoor Works in Dry Conditions

Index-based controls on outdoor hot works



Fire Trail Inspections & Upgrades

Annual Inspection cycle

January/February – inspect priority areas and trails for prescribed burning;

- Access, blockages and gate issues
- Lock functionality
- Erosion and recreational damage
- Maintenance needs, including overhanging trees

February - Report to Area Bushfire Management Committee (ABMC)

July/August – Inspect trails for fire season readiness; reported to August ABMC

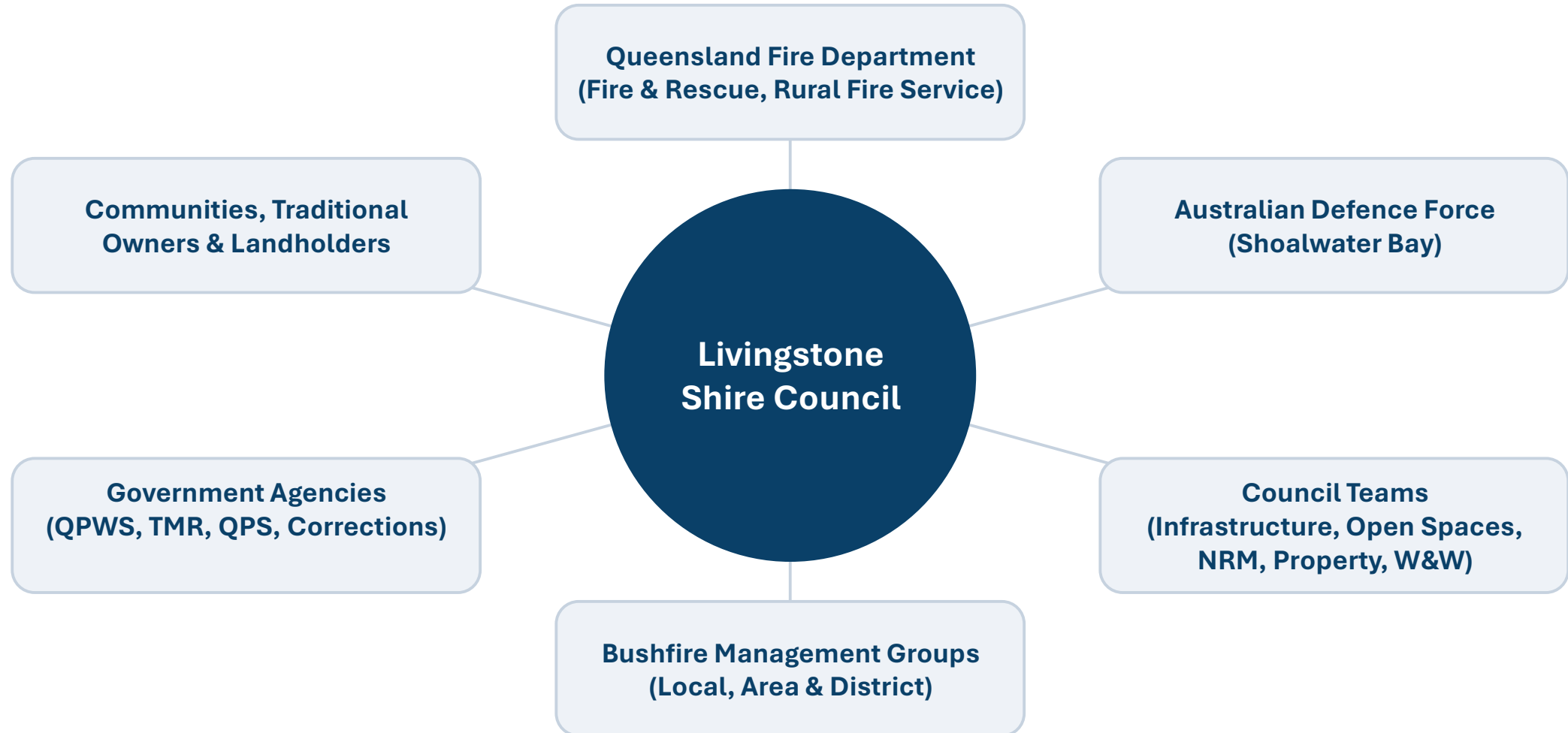


Fire Trail Establishment

- Mapes Road Evacuation Route, Maryvale
- Kelly's Offstream storage, Woodbury
- Yeppoon Landfill
- Dowlings Road, Bondoola
- Cottesloe Street, Taranganba
- Meldrum North & South, Glenlee



Stakeholder Engagement



Equipment Familiarisation / Staff Training



Hands-on training, *for real-world response*

When a bushfire is burning, there's no time to learn how someone else's equipment works. That's why a recent joint training exercise brought Council crews and emergency services personnel together to build skills, test equipment and strengthen the relationships that are so important during an emergency.

The opportunity arose from lessons identified during previous bushfire operations, where Open Spaces crews worked alongside firefighting agencies. Council's Disaster Management Team recognised the value of creating a space where crews could train together before being called into a real-world emergency.

Held at the Yeppoon Emergency Services Complex, the practical session gave staff the chance to get hands-on with each other's equipment, test new fittings and hoses, transfer water between multiple vehicles and gain experience using new firefighting tools. It was also an opportunity to identify potential challenges in a controlled environment, rather than discovering them on the fireground.

The training was coordinated by Jono Purdie, Brigade Support Officer from the Rural Fire Service Rockhampton Area Office, and brought together personnel from multiple agencies to share knowledge and strengthen working relationships.

For Council, the ability to provide a water truck and trained staff in support of firefighting operations is an important capability. Helping reduce water refill turnaround times allows firefighting crews to stay on the fireground longer, supporting more effective fire suppression and helping protect the community.

The value of this support was highlighted during last year's bushfire near the Emu Park Waste Transfer Station, where Council's water truck assisted in protecting important infrastructure through asset protection measures as well as wetting-down the unburnt side of the Scenic Highway.

A sincere thank you goes to Yeppoon Fire and Rescue, Hidden Valley Rural Fire Brigade, Cooberie Rural Fire Brigade and the Rural Fire Service Rockhampton Area Office, along with Council's Disaster Management & Community Resilience, Fleet Services and Open Spaces teams.

By training together before an emergency happens, these crews are helping ensure our region is better prepared when it matters most.

check out the video



Hazard Reduction Burning

- Murphy Drive, Glenlee
- Limestone Creek Crossing , Old Byfield Road Lake Mary
- Sandy Creek Road, Byfield (early planning stages)



Outdoor Works in Dry Conditions

Keetch-Byram Drought Index update – 27 August 2026

CURRENT STATUS

Rockhampton KBDI has reached 175, nearing the 180 restricted works trigger

Precaution – KBDI 150 to 180

Restricted works – KBDI above 180

What is the KBDI?

Keetch-Byram Drought Index

A measure of how dry the soil and vegetation have become, scored from 0 to 200.

The higher the reading, the drier the available fuel and the greater the fire risk.

Readings are taken at gauges across the region and tracked over time.

How Council uses it

Internal trigger process

Council applies an internal process that places measures on outdoor hot works as the index climbs.

Precaution range: additional controls apply to outdoor works.

Restricted works range: outdoor hot works are further restricted.

KBDI trend

Date	Rock.	S. Hill
26 May	144	78
18 Jun	147	76
2 Jul	154	5
17 Jul	161	46
5 Aug	168	73
27 Aug	175	95

Measures in place now

Currently applied in affected areas

Roadside slashing in tandem, each slasher visually inspecting the other's work area

No plant or vehicles parked in grassed areas

Grader degrassing only with a water truck on site above 50 per cent

Teams are being asked to prepare for a continued stretch of dry conditions and to plan what restricted works would mean for their operations.

Community Engagement

Byfield Information Session

Community session and evacuation route tour



Community Events

Agricultural Shows, Beach Day Out, Seniors Expo and Community Centre Lunch



The Hub – School Tours

Student visits to the disaster management hub



Bushfire Safety Campaign

Make a Bushfire Survival Plan

Plan with the household so everyone knows what to do

Decide early whether to leave or stay and defend

Pack an evacuation kit and keep it ready

Prepare the home

Clear gutters and roof of leaves and twigs

Screen windows, vents and weep holes; seal eaves and cladding

Move woodpiles, mulch and outdoor furniture away from the house

Prepare the yard

Keep grass mown and clear dry grass and leaf litter

Keep flammable mulch at least 10 metres from the home

Trim trees for two metres of ground clearance

Stay informed

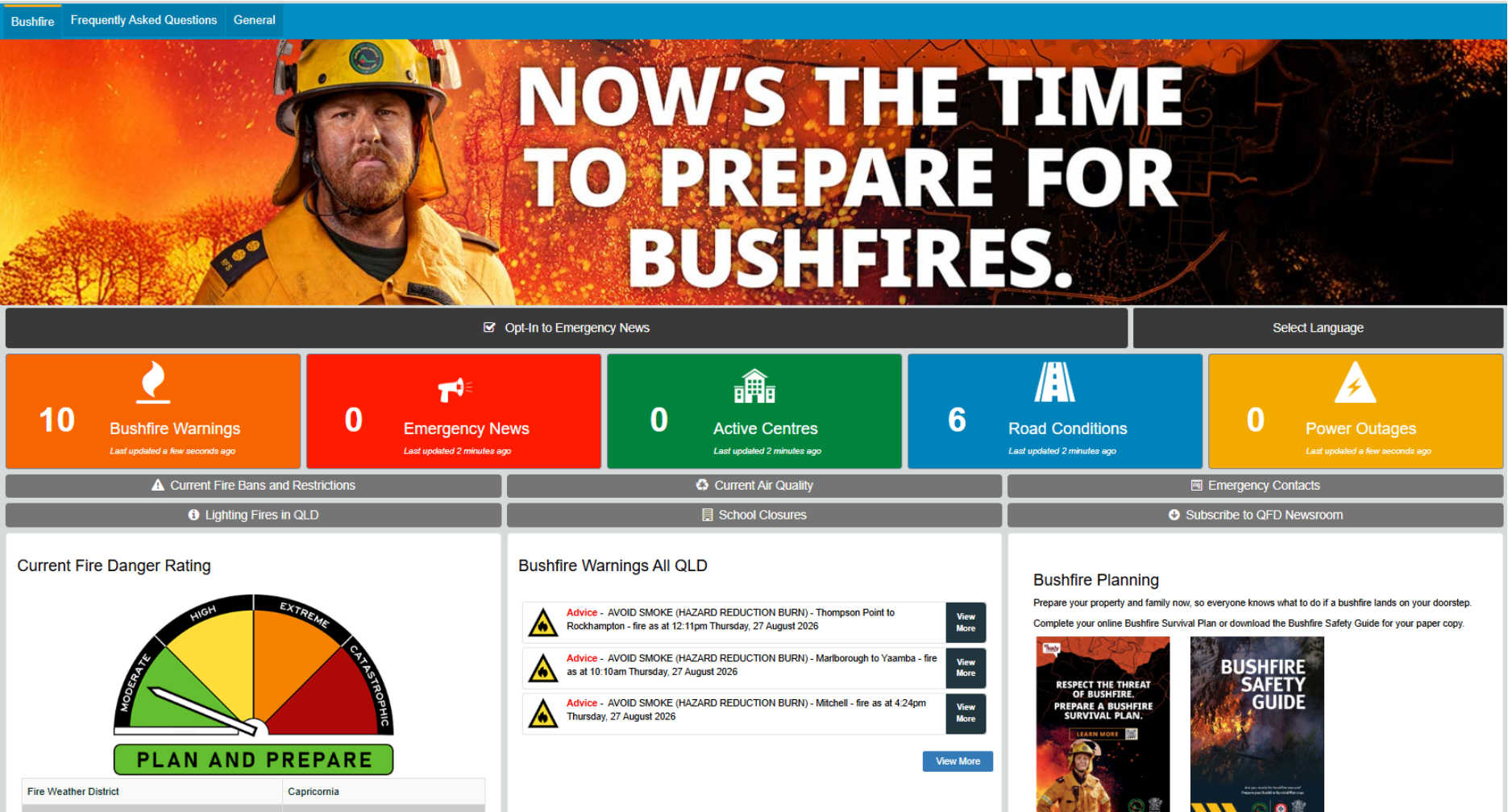
Embers can travel kilometres ahead of a fire front

Register for and act on emergency warnings and alerts

Prepare every season, even if never affected before

Source: Queensland Fire Department – Prepare for Bushfires (fire.qld.gov.au)

Bushfire Disaster Dashboard



Disaster Dashboard

[Bushfire](#)[Frequently Asked Questions](#)[General](#)

DISASTER DASHBOARD

Be Prepared. Stay Informed.



Recovery Information	Introduction Video	Check- In + Opt-In Video	Select Language
 Community Check-In Last Updated: 24/01/2024 08:11 AM	 Disaster Prepared Communities Portal	 Opt-In Notifications	 Business Portal
0  Emergency News Last updated in a few seconds	0  Active Centres Last updated 2 minutes ago	6  Road Conditions Last updated 2 minutes ago	0  Power Outages Last updated a few seconds ago
SES Assistance 132500	Radar Loop	River Heights	Rainfall
Storm Tide Evacuation Zones	Flood Maps	Rosslyn Bay Tide Gauge	
Helpful Contacts	School Closures	Met Eye	
P-CEP	Livingstone Shire Council	Get Ready QLD	Pets and Animals



Staying Informed



**OPT-IN FOR
EMERGENCY
NOTIFICATIONS**

disaster.livingstone.qld.gov.au

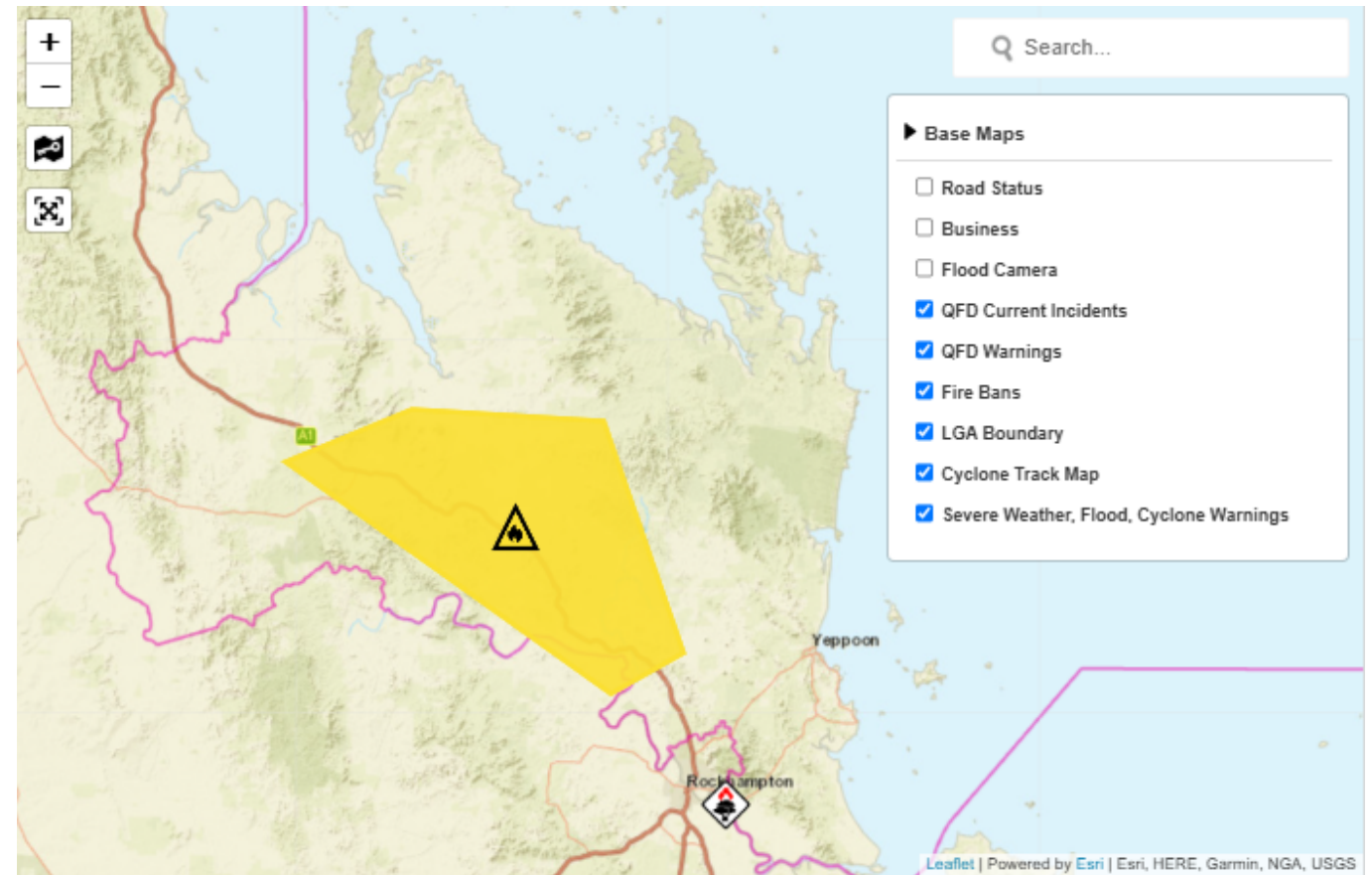
Be Prepared.
Stay Informed.
Opt-In Now!

disaster
management

Livingstone
SHIRE COUNCIL

Recovery Information
Community Check-In
Disaster Prepared Communities Portal
Opt-In Notifications
Business Portal
Emergency News

A cartoon superhero character is pointing at a smartphone displaying the Livingstone Disaster Management app interface. The app shows various services like Recovery Information, Community Check-In, Disaster Prepared Communities Portal, Opt-In Notifications, Business Portal, and Emergency News.



Map image sourced from the Livingstone Disaster Dashboard – disaster.livingstone.qld.gov.au