



Western Cape Umbrella Fire Protection Association NPC  
Newlands Forest, Union Avenue, Newlands, 7700 | Tel: 021 689-7438/9 | Fax: 021 685-5944

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## **WCUFPA MONTHLY REPORT FOR NOV 2016**

### **MEMBERS:**

1. Southern Cape Fire Protection Association (SCFPA)
2. Greater Cederberg Fire Protection Association (GCFPA)
3. Cape Peninsula Fire Protection Association (CPFPA)
4. Winelands Fire Protection Association (WFPA)
5. MTO Cape
6. CapeNature

### **ACTIVITY REPORT:**

#### **SANRAL update:**

The negotiations with SANRAL are complete. Each FPA has been asked to ensure that the relevant SANRAL / contractor route managers have been contacted so that memberships can be finalised and the correct lines of communication established.

#### **GOFPA / SANRAL update:**

While Louise Wessels acknowledged receipt of the email informing her of the 20% admin fee charged by the WCUFPA for the SARAL negotiations, she stated that they did not agree with this decision and would respond officially going forward. At this time we have still had no official response. The WCUFPA also requested reasons as to why the GOFPA resigned from the WCUFPA but have not received any answer to this question.

#### **Eskom Transmission update:**

We have still been unable to move forward with our Eskom Transmission negotiations. As mentioned previously our contact Anré Swart has resigned. We have attempted to continue negotiations with the acting Lines and Servitudes Manager Tony Baloka but have had no response to



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mails or phone messages. We will be drafting a letter with reference to a legal opinion request from DEA's legal team relating to this issue. We will keep you updated on any progress in this regard.

#### **Transnet Freight Rail update:**

We have been in discussions with Danie Kotzee (Chief Property GIS Technician) in order to finalise the total line distances for each depot. There are still a few small discrepancies, which will hopefully be rectified soon. Once rectified we will hopefully be able to move forward with invoicing.

#### **DAFF Funding Request:**

Each of the FPAs have received a draft questionnaire so that we can begin collecting the information required for our DAFF budget request. Once each of the FPAs have provided the relevant information we will be in a position to move forward with this.

#### **Finances:**

All the backdated data for the current financial year has now been successfully populated on the new Sage accounting system. This system will be used to manage the WCUFPA financials moving forward.

We are still awaiting the 2015/2016 Annual Financial Statements; the MIS and completed books have been submitted for auditing and SARS purposes.

The WCUFPA Business account stands at R 108 025.60 on the 5<sup>th</sup> Dec 2016.

#### **Membership Invoices:**

The 2016/17 membership invoices have been generated via the Sage accounting systems and sent to all WCUFPA members.



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## **WCUFPA – WoF MOA**

The draft MOA has been completed and sent to Shane Christian for comment.

## **NUFPA Website**

The maintenance contract for the NUFPA website has now been finalised. The cost for this has been covered by the GEF project. The contact is with Norman Visser, the same web designer who assisted in the creation of the site.

## **State Compliance Letter**

The updated state compliance letter has been sent to Qaphela Ndabankulu for signature by either the Director General or Minister. The DAFF National Veld and Forest WG have taken a resolution at the meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup> November to ensure that the compliance letter will be made available to FPAs before the 31 January 2017.

## **Provincial prohibition of open fires**

As requested a draft letter has been sent to the committee for feedback before being sent to the Provincial Fire Work Group. Dale's request was that that the WCUFPA request that the Minister declares a prohibition within the Western Cape Province on open fires outside of designated areas, without a valid permit. Our concern was that there is no present legislation, that we are aware of, which makes provision for a prohibition and we cannot ask for a prohibition if this is not backed legally by an act. There has been no further comments or feedback from the committee so this item has not been taken any further at this stage.

## **ICS pocket book**

A draft copy of the Incident Response & Fireline Safety Pocket guide has been sent to FPA Managers for comment. Please take the time to have a look and submit any feedback by the end of the year as discussed. This is the WCUFPA's opportunity to have a say and if no feedback is provided, the WCUFPA cannot at a later stage complain about incorrect or insufficient content.

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## GreenAgri

The WCUFPA met with Jana Jordaan from GreenCape who in collaboration with the Department of Agriculture are currently working on the [GreenAgri portal](#). This is a one stop shop for farmers on more sustainable agriculture practices. They are in the process of developing a [Fire Protection page](#) which will provide the relevant information to landowners, managers, possible investors and smallholder farmers. Jana requested assistance with information and content for this page which aims to assist farmers by providing the correct contact details for each of the FPAs as well as promoting the legal responsibilities of landowners in terms of the NVFFA and the benefits of joining Fire Protection Associations. There is also an option to use the portal as a forum to promote any relevant information or news. This would be posted with a teaser and a direct link to the article or website. Should you wish to make use of this platform please email either myself or Jana directly at [jana@green-cape.co.za](mailto:jana@green-cape.co.za)

## DAFF National Veld and Forest Fire Work Group

The DAFF National Veld and Forest Fire Work Group meeting took place in Pretoria on Tuesday the 29<sup>th</sup> of November 2016 and was attended by both Philip Prins and Dale Nortje. Minutes of this meeting will be distributed when received from DAFF.

## GEF Fynbos Fire End of Project Celebration

The GEF Fynbos Fire end of project celebration took place at Meerendal Wine Estate on Thursday the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2016. The event was attended by SCFPA, GCFPA, CPFPA, WFPA and CapeNature.

## DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 12 Dec 2016 – Wildfire Season Awareness and Preparedness Launch
- 26 Jan 2017 - WCUFPA EXCO Meeting