Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Fire & Emergency Services**
Operations

DFES
Department of Fire &
Emergency Services

OPERATIONAL CIRCULAR 65/2021

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September 2021

BUSHFIRE WARNING COLOURS AND ICONS HAVE CHANGED
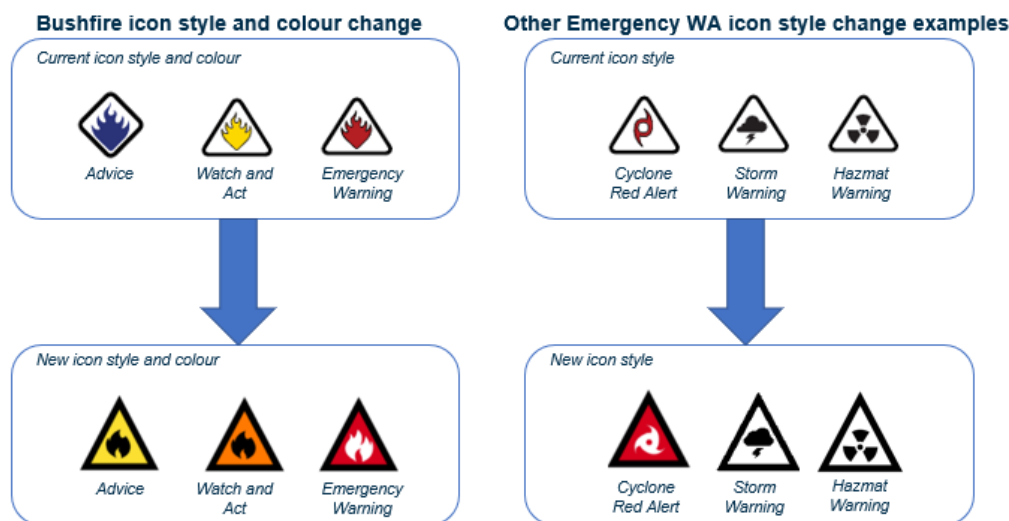
Key Message
Bushfire warning colours and icons in Western Australia have now changed as part of the implementation of the Australian Warning System (AWS).

What you will notice on Emergency WA and other operational systems:

- New warning *colours* for Bushfire to reflect the national framework as per the image below:

ADVICE
A fire has started but there is no immediate threat to lives or homes.
Be aware and keep up to date.

WATCH AND ACT
There is a possible threat to lives or homes.
You need to leave or get ready to defend – do not wait and see.

EMERGENCY WARNING
There is a threat to lives or homes.
You are in danger and need to take immediate action to survive.

- Icon *style* changes for all hazards on Emergency WA in line with AWS standards as per the image below:

Bushfire icon style and colour change

Current icon style and colour
Advice — Watch and Act — Emergency Warning

New icon style and colour
Advice — Watch and Act — Emergency Warning

Other Emergency WA icon style change examples

Current icon style
Cyclone Red Alert — Storm Warning — Hazmat Warning

New icon style
Cyclone Red Alert — Storm Warning — Hazmat Warning

Target Audience: All personnel involved in response and emergency management and Bushfires.				
A	B	C	D	Vol
O.I.C. is to communicate content to all relevant personnel under their command, discuss implications, and sign appropriate box above. Once completed Circulars shall be filed on station and forwarded to Information Resources at the end of each financial year.				

OC-65-21	Issue Date:	Contact:	Media and Corporate Communications
Page 1 of 2	Sep 2021	statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au	

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This change is the first step in a phased implementation of AWS. Subsequent phases will see the new framework introduced for other hazards beyond bushfire.

What does it mean for me?
These changes impact Operational personnel in the following ways:

- Updated Doctrine (SAP 3.2.B - Public Information and Warnings, FG 3.2 -Public Info Media Points) is now available.
- Updated Bushfire Talking Points now available on the IM Toolbox.
- New colours and icons are now visible on Emergency WA, WebEOC, FESMaps, the DFES corporate website and across relevant Community Preparedness resources.

It's important to note that there are no specific changes to the warning levels for bushfire and that alerts and warnings will still appear on Emergency WA, as Western Australia's trusted source of emergency information.

What do I need to do?
Familiarise yourself with the new bushfire warning colours and icons on Emergency WA.

You can also:
- Use the AWS Promotional Toolkit on the DFES Intranet and Volunteer Hub to help communicate these important changes with your local community, fellow volunteers and colleagues.
- View and share the informative AWS video which outlines the changes to bushfire warnings.

Want to know more?
Visit the AWS Intranet Project Page, the AWS Volunteer Hub Project Page or contact the DFES Public Information Branch via statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au

CRAIG WATERS AFSM
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS

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Page 2 of 2	Sep 2021	statepublicinfo@dfes.wa.gov.au		