



OPERATIONAL CIRCULAR 21/2024

File: D01691

April 2024

AERIAL FIREFIGHTING CESSATION DATES

Key Message

The following information outlines aerial firefighting cessation dates for the 2023/24 southern bushfire season.

What happened?

The contracted service periods of aerial firefighting aircraft supporting the 2023/24 southern bushfire season have been extended due to prolonged bushfire risk.

What does it mean for me? / What do I need to do?

Aerial firefighting aircraft will continue to be available to support Operations as detailed below. Further, aerial firefighting mobilisation according to automatic and enhanced response zone procedures will continue as per each Region's High Threat Period; reference [Operational Circular 16/2024](#).

Resources extended until close of business 22 April 2024:

Jandakot

- 1 x Air Intel – Aerial Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance helicopter.
- Up to 2 x Helitaks (Bell 214B with 2,650lts per aircraft), depending upon availability on the day.
- 1 x Air Attack supervision helicopter (AA5).
- 1 x Air Attack supervision and utility helicopter (AA7).

Gingin

- 2 x Helitaks (Bell 214B with 2,650lts per aircraft).

Serpentine

- 2 x Helitaks - High Volume (Black Hawk with 4,500lts per aircraft).

Busselton

- 2 x Helitaks (Bell 214B with 2,650lts per aircraft).
- Large Air Tanker (B737 with 15,000lts) and Birddog aircraft

Retardant bases; Busselton and RAAF Pearce operational.

Target Audience: All personnel involved in Bushfire Operations				
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.				
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Resources extended until close of business 17 April 2024:

Jandakot

- 3x SEAT/bombers (AT 802 with 3,150lts per aircraft)
- Air Attack supervision helicopter (AA1)

Bunbury

- 3x SEAT/bombers (AT 802 with 3,150lts per aircraft)
- Air Attack supervision helicopter (AA2)

Manjimup

- 2x SEAT/bombers (AT 802 with 3,150lts per aircraft)
- Air Attack supervision aeroplane (AA3)

Albany

- 2x SEAT/bombers (AT 802 with 3,150lts per aircraft)
- Air Attack supervision aeroplane (AA4)

Further information / Want to know more?

Contact Air Operations Manager Adam Bannister at Adam.Bannister@dfes.wa.gov.au

CRAIG WATERS AFSM
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OPERATIONS

Target Audience: All personnel involved in Bushfire Operations				
A	B	C	D	Vol
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