



Southern Cape Fire Protection Association

Promotes Integrated Fire Management

WILD FIRES HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON
THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND ECOLOGICAL
ASSETS OF THE FYNBOS BIOME
THUS THE NEED FOR INTEGRATED
FIRE MANAGEMENT

WHAT IS INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT (IFM)?

Through IFM, an implementation plan is made available for a specific area. It focuses on fire reduction measures and scientific fire management, i.e. prescribed burns to prevent fire damage and to ensure biodiversity objectives are met.

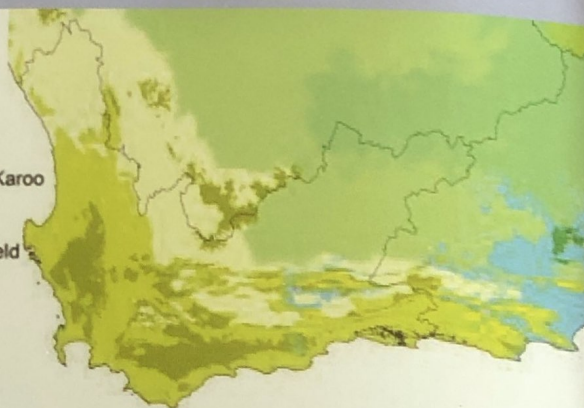
IFM is a holistic approach to fire management and includes:

- Risk Analysis
- Fire prevention plans
- Plans towards raised awareness
- Fire preparedness
- Firefighting precautions
- Plans towards coordination
- Investigation into fires
- Recordkeeping, statistics and reporting



Fire Ecology Type

-  Thicket
-  Succulent Karoo
-  Fynbos
-  Renosterveld
-  Forest



THE SOUTHERN CAPE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION PROMOTES INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT (IFM)

- Catastrophic fires cannot be prevented through good firefighting practices, but fire-driven areas must be managed more scientifically
- IFM takes the needs of all role players into consideration
- IFM helps all role players to improve cooperation and to share resources
- IFM helps the community as a whole to limit financial expenditure and losses
- IFM will make a positive contribution towards the conservation of biodiversity and water resources

- IFM will ensure economic and social assets are not damaged, which will therefore assist long-term financial sustainability
- IFM promotes the activities of the SOUTHERN CAPE FPA
- Duplication is reduced by following a holistic approach

FOCUSING ON THE NATIONAL VELD AND FOREST FIRE ACT (Act 101 of 1998)

What is the aim of the Act?

"...to prevent and fight veld, forest and mountain fires across the Republic..."

The Act places an emphasis on the following:

- The responsibility of the land owner
- Cooperation in terms of fire management and the prevention of fires (through Fire Protection Associations, prescribed burning and fire breaks)
- National fire danger rating system
- Preparedness to fight fires

**For more information or to download the
National Veld and Forest Fire Act, please visit
www.scfpa.co.za**



THE SOUTHERN CAPE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION (SCFPA)

Vision:

Promote IFM in the SCFPA to minimize losses to social, economic and ecological assets. This will be done through the successful implementation of strategies focusing on awareness, fire protection, prevention and support during suppression.

WHAT ARE THE SCFPA's PRIMARY OBJECTIVES?

The organisations primary objectives are to:

- Empower local communities to become more aware of the risks of fire
- Capacitate them to act proactively to reduce hazards and vulnerability of assets
- Allow them to act as a first response in fire emergencies
- Initiate integrated fire management in the most cost effective way possible
- Ensure that members comply with legislation
- To organise professional and coordinated responses when a fire breaks out
- Assist with aerial firefighting co-ordination in the region
- Make resources available to assist with firefighting
- Co-ordinate radio communication during wild fires
- Distribution of the Fire Danger Index to members

SCFPA Benefits:

Direct (tangible) benefits of SCFPA membership:

- Shared resources between members with regards to firefighting equipment which results in Fire Management Unit's being better equipped and resulting in a cost saving for individual members
- Firebreaks are not needed on the cadastral boundaries. Realignment can be negotiated between landowners and exemptions can be applied for by members of the FMUs resulting in a more practical and usable firebreak system. This will result in a cost saving for members by not having to prepare firebreaks on all the cadastral boundaries
- Increase in the conservation benefit within the landscape due to the minimization of the number of firebreaks. This will reduce potential accelerated erosion and disturbance to natural veld and forest

Direct (tangible) benefits continued:

- Increased awareness and management of Social, Environmental and Economic risks
- Increased coordination in the event of a fire
- Reduction of fire related risk by various means e.g. fuel load management
- Fire management plans compiled for FMUs
- Assistance in the event of extreme fire conditions through the provision of Trained Fire Fighting teams and Management
- Training for new members in Basic Veld Fire Fighting
- Additional training can be arranged by the SCFPA at a considerably reduced cost
- Awareness campaigns which educate the public about reducing accidental wild fires
- Provision of a platform with which to raise issues with local and provincial government structures
- Provision of administrative support to FMUs thereby reducing costs for units
- The SCFPA is the mechanism to gain support from Working on Fire and other government initiatives
- Access to international funding if available e.g. GEF and the World Bank
- Reduced incidence of fires
- Enforcement where necessary in incidences where members and non-members do not comply with legislation
- Early fire detection through satellite systems
- Members adhering to the rules of the SCFPA will automatically comply with legislation
- The “presumption of negligence” clause in the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, 101 of 1998
If a fire which has started on your land, or has spread across your land from somewhere else, causes a loss to your neighbour, he may lodge a civil claim against you for damages. In such a case, you are presumed to have been negligent, unless you can prove otherwise.
However, if you are a member of an FPA, you are not presumed to have been negligent
- Access to the daily fire danger index

- **Indirect (intangible) benefits of SCFPA membership:**
- The interaction and extension services with different landowners will result in an increase in awareness concerning the risk of fire and the consequences of uncontrolled fire to both property and infrastructure
- Reduced fire risk due to planning and better response times
- Biodiversity benefits by instituting better fire management practices
- Provision of inputs into government policy and decision-making will be achieved through involvement of the executive committee



YOU CAN ALSO PROMOTE INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SOUTHERN CAPE FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION.

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Complete the application form and return it to our head office. The application form is available on our website.

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Knysna
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**Find us on
Facebook**

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Contact Numbers

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