

Messages

RFS Timor

Edit

midnight 12 Jan. Do not
reply to this message

11 January 2013 16:49:19
Statewide TOTAL FIRE
BAN tomorrow from
midnight tonight until
midnight 11 Jan (SEVERE
rating). Do not reply to this
message

12/01/2013 4:25 PM

12 January 2013 16:25:27
*** FIRE CALL
***Goorianawa Timor
Please respond Fire in
National Park Camp
Wombalong near Split
Rock

12/01/2013 7:31 PM

This is a screen capture from the iPhone of Mr Peter Verwayen, Senior Operations Officer, Research School of Astronomy and Astrophysics, Australian National University, Siding Spring Observatory, Coonabarabran. Please note the date and time of the message as 12/1/13 4:25 pm. He received this message as a member of the RFS, not as an employee of ANU, Siding Spring, or any other affiliation.



Text Message

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Person	Comment	Addition comments or clarifications
The Hon. Dr PETER PHELPS:	Another thing I notice is that within the space of one kilometre or 1½ kilometres you have three different groups responsible for fire management; you have Parks and Wildlife on the western northern side, the RFS on the southern and eastern side and you guys basically take responsibility for the spine. Do you think that that is an efficient allocation of responsibility or do you think you should be given complete responsibility for the area around your facility?	
Mr PRITCHARD:	I guess we ultimately control the land we own and the neighbouring landholders are responsible for managing their land. We cannot spend money or do stuff on someone else's land without their permission.	<p>After reviewing the Castlereagh Zone Bushfire Management Committee – 2004 to 2008 Siding Spring Protection Plan I would like to change the response to:</p> <p>The Protection Plan was developed with NPWS, RFS and the ANU when the Siding Spring Observatory site had a Fire Team. These employees were paid an allowance to prepare the site prior to bushfire season. This included conducting joint hazard reduction burns with the NPWS and RFS. During fire season they were on call and provided first response to fires on the hill and conducted fire spotting activity. The Fire Team was disbanded sometime around 2005. The plan identifies 3 responsibility areas based on the coordinated approach to hazard reduction activities for the site.</p>

The Hon. Dr PETER PHELPS:	As follow-up to my question on notice, can you identify in which zones the hazard reduction burns took place, for example, your zone, the RFS zone, the Parks and Wildlife zone?	
Mr PRITCHARD:	Yes.	Please see attached maps showing hazard reduction burns from

2004 - 2011

The Hon. RICK COLLESS:	When you say that you removed a number of trees after 2003, were you required to obtain a permit under the Native Vegetation Act to remove those trees?	
Mr PRITCHARD:	That was before my time so I am not exactly sure what the process was to identify. We identified trees. I am not sure what the process was of cutting them down. I do have the plans here.	<p> was the project officer for this project.</p> <p>is unaware of the process followed but did say did contact NPWS to liaise with them. In a document that found, there is reference to a RFS permit that was completed.</p> <p>Given the site is Commonwealth Land I don't believe we followed any NSW Native Vegetation Act.</p>
The Hon. RICK COLLESS:	You might take that on notice, if you would not mind.	
Mr PRITCHARD:	Yes.	