



FALKLAND ISLANDS WILDFIRE STRATEGY 2025 - 2030



CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Version:

Consultation Document (May 2025)

Consultation questions are framed in orange throughout this document.

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Introduction

In the UK, the term wildfire is officially defined as ‘any uncontrolled vegetation fire which requires a decision, or action, regarding suppression’¹. Across the world other terms are used to describe vegetation fires, such as ‘campfire’ in the Falkland Islands and ‘bushfire’ in Australia. For the purpose of this document the term wildfire will be used.

Wildfires are a natural aspect of the Falkland Islands landscape, regularly occurring as a result of lightning. However, wildfires can also result from careless or deliberate acts, including where a managed burn escapes control. Regardless of the cause, they can present a significant risk to people, property and infrastructure, livestock, wildlife, habitats, and natural capital due to their impact on ecosystems, agricultural land, inhabited settlements, and military installations. Additionally, they are often difficult to fight and can pose a huge financial burden to the fire services and land managers.

Historically these impacts were managed by separate agencies or with limited cooperation. More recently, wildfire is described as a “whole of society” issue which requires broad participation to tackle the challenges. A coordinated approach is essential to mitigate the impacts of wildfire and to plan the most effective response to wildfire incidents.

Purpose of the Wildfire Strategy

The purpose of this document is to describe the background, scope and responsibilities of wildfire response and recovery in the Falkland Islands.

<p>This Strategy is intended to provide a solid foundation for an integrated multi-sector approach to wildfires in the Falkland Islands.</p> <p>It identifies responsibilities, clarifies relationships and facilitates coordination at government level and between key wildfire stakeholders.</p> <p>The strategy will provide the basis for enhancing environmental and socio-economic resilience to wildfire by understanding and forecasting changing patterns of wildfire danger and planning responses to the environmental impacts of fires.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The infrequency of wildfire incidents in any single area has hindered the development of a coherent, coordinated response to wildfire.• However, there is a need to prepare for these high impact events which are likely to increase in frequency due to climate change.
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¹ The Scottish Government (2013) Fire and Rescue Service Wildfire Operational Guidance, available at <https://www2.gov.scot/Publications/2013/10/6118>. Edinburgh: Scottish Government, 362p.

Wildfire Risk

Wildfire risk is the interaction of the fuel hazard, the likelihood of a fire occurring and the vulnerability of communities and ecosystems to wildfire. Four key factors influence wildfire risk and most of them are likely to be impacted by climate change:

1. **Wildfire Intensity** is determined by the structure and moisture content of the fuel and the landscape and weather conditions that contribute to fire spread. Fire intensity tends to be greater when vegetation is dry, when there are greater amounts of fuel, in windy conditions and on steep slopes. Broadly wildfire risk increases during the summer months when vegetation is dry and high wind speeds promote rapid fire spread. Fire intensity can also be high during other times of year as dead grassy vegetation dries very quickly. The rapid drying of dead grass fuels means intensity can vary significantly over the course of a day. Climate change is forecast to lead to increased frequencies and severities of drought, to increase average temperatures and potentially contribute to the spread of species with higher fuel loads such as conifers and gorse.
2. **Wildfire Likelihood** relates to the probability of a fire igniting and spreading in a given location. The potential for ignitions increases in areas closer to human settlements and infrastructure (e.g. roads) and where managed burning is used as a tool. Natural ignitions also result from lightning strikes. As increased storminess is one predicted effect of climate change, there is the potential for increases in lightning ignitions. Patterns of economic development and land-use remain key issues.
3. **Wildfire Exposure** describes how closely associated an asset (e.g. community, building, conservation area) is with areas of greater or lesser potential wildfire intensity and likelihood. Assets closer to accumulations of flammable fuels, or in areas with greater ignitions densities, will be more exposed. Managing fuels and ignitions are key mechanisms to reduce exposure.
4. **Wildfire Susceptibility** relates to the potential for fire to cause damage to social, economic and environmental assets. Differences in the structure of construction of settlements affects their susceptibility (e.g. wooden building are more susceptible than stone ones) while some plant or animal species may be more or less adapted to fire. Soil moisture content is a critical control on susceptibility as where peat ignites fires can be challenging and hazardous to control, plant roots and seeds are killed limiting regeneration and soil erosion often results. Generally drying conditions under climate change may significantly increase ecosystem susceptibility to wildfire by increasing environmental stress and increasing the potential for peat smouldering.

Peat habitats are important carbon sinks and wildfires can release large amounts of carbon dioxide resulting in severe carbon loss². Severe fires can drive ecosystems over a tipping point by initiating soil erosion and changing the ability of soils to absorb water. These issues are further exacerbated by climate change, for example increased likelihood of drought can result in fewer naturally present water options available for use in the response to wildfires.

² See following journal articles:

- https://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/265824/MoorLIFE-2020-A-report-into-the-estimated-amount-of-carbon-released-from-the-wildfire-on-The-Roaches-in-August-2018.pdf
- <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2013.07.051>
- <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13021-021-00189-0>

Obligations and Legislation

- The Conservation of Wildlife and Nature Ordinance 1999 makes provision in relation to the conservation of nature and the protection of wildlife in the Falkland Islands and prohibits activity likely to cause a fire in a National Nature Reserve.
- The Grass Fires Ordinance 2002 makes provision for regulating the intentional burning of vegetation outside Stanley. A licence is required for prescribed burning.
- The Stanley Town Public Services Ordinance 1973 gives provision for the delivery of certain public services in Stanley Town, including those of the Stanley Fire Brigade which is now known as the Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service (FIR&RS).
- The Falkland Islands Constitution Order 2008 places an obligation on the government to protect life and property.
- The Civil Contingencies (Emergency Powers) Ordinance 2006 and the Emergency Powers (Overseas Territories) Order 2017 can be applicable in the response to a major incident in the Falkland Islands.
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) JSP 418 is specific guidance for the management of environmental protection in defence which applies to MoD activity overseas³.
 - Management of Environmental Protection in Defence Part 1 Directive, chapter 2: Overseas, Defence will apply UK standards where reasonably practicable and, in addition, respond to host nations' relevant environmental protection expectations.
 - MOD Corporate Environmental Protection Manual, Leaflet 9: Environmental Protection on MoD Overseas Estate and Activities. This leaflet provides policy and guidance on application of MOD environmental protection policy to their permanent overseas estate.

Agreements which Enhance Wildfire Response Capability

The following Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) are in place to enhance wildfire preparedness and response in the Falkland Islands:

- *It is intended to develop an:* MoU between the Director of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Director of Emergency Services and Islands Security (DESIS) which details how the Fisheries protection vessel (FPV) Lilibet will be made available to assist in wildfire response taskings best endeavours basis and with respect to existing priority operational commitments, upon the request of the Falkland Islands Fire and Rescue Service.
- *It is intended to develop an:* MoU between the Director of Development and Commercial Services (Dir.DCS) and the Director of Emergency Services and Islands Security (DESIS) which details how the FIGAS Islander Aircraft can be made available to assist in wildfire response taskings best endeavours

³ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/jsp-418-mod-corporate-environmental-protection-manual>

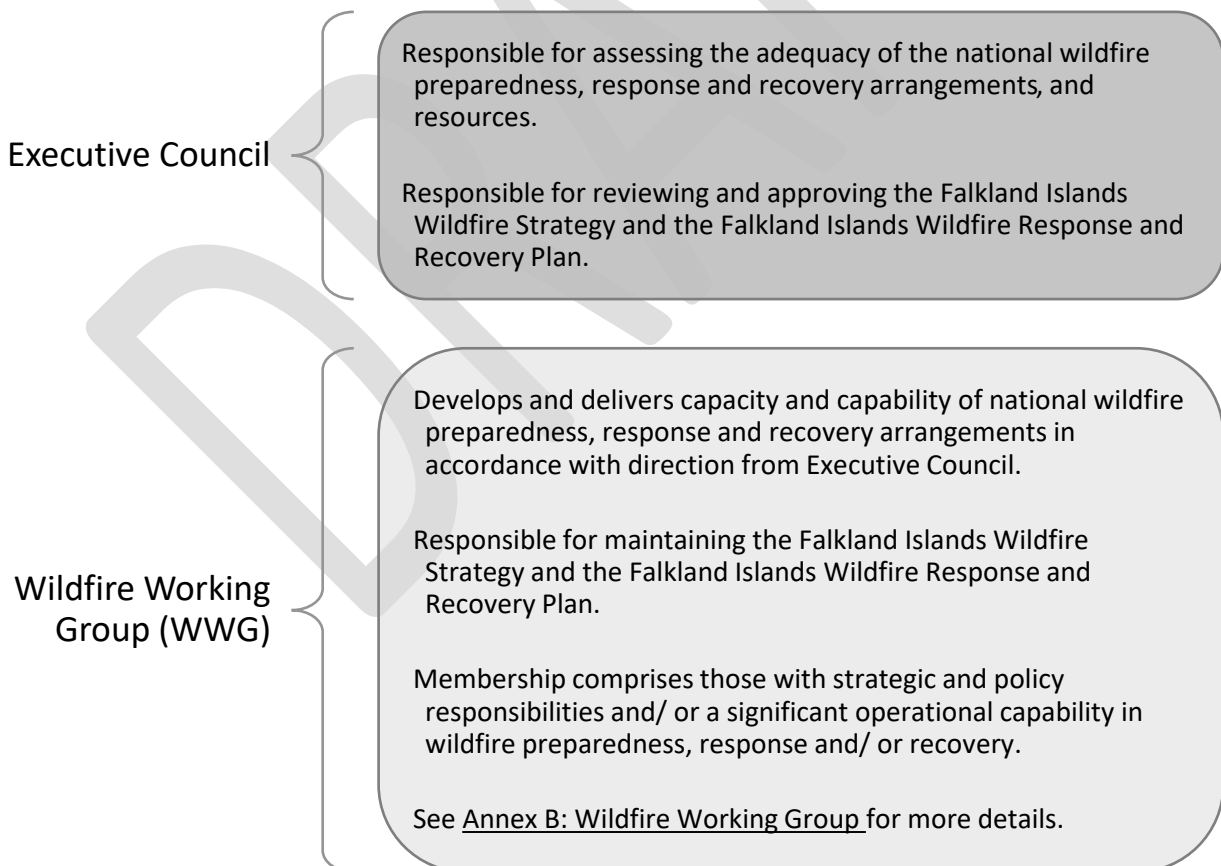
basis and with respect to existing priority operational commitments, upon the request of the Falkland Islands Fire and Rescue Service.

- If necessary, support from the MoD can be requested through the Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in accordance with the 'Joint Doctrine Publication 02 UK Operations: the Defence Contribution to Resilience (fourth edition)⁴

Linked plans

- Falkland Islands Major Incident Plan
- Next steps are to develop a Falkland Islands Wildfire Response and Recovery Plan which will complement this strategy.

Governance



⁴ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/operations-in-the-uk-a-joint-doctrine-publication>

Assurance

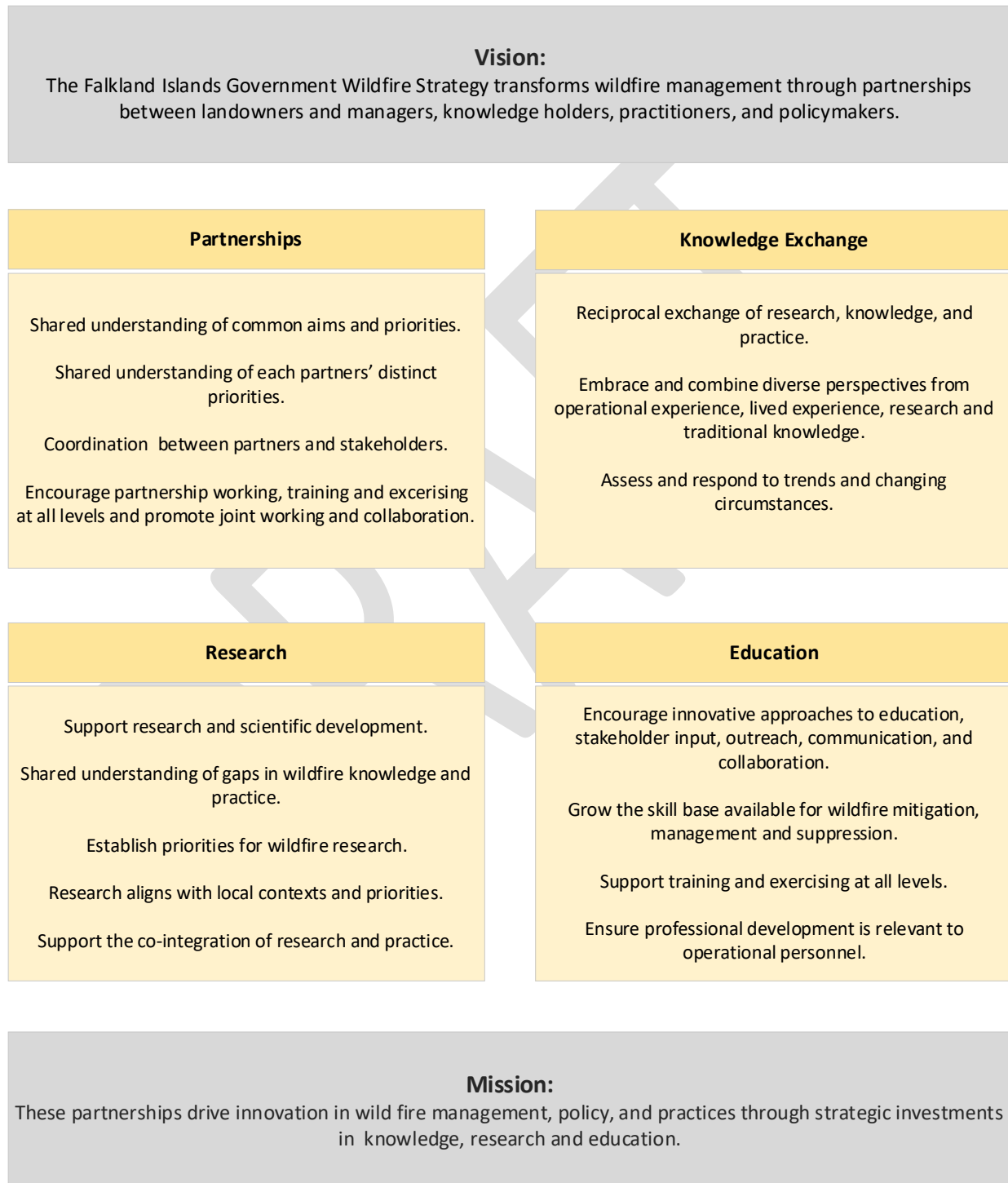
The WWG will implement a range of measures relating to National Wildfire Preparedness, including:

- Assessing the likelihood and potential impacts of wildfire to pre-determined high priority areas and assets as determined in Annex C and identify preventative actions that could prevent or minimise risks, including giving consideration to the development of a wildfire danger rating system.
- Analysing operational data to identify trends and areas for improvement.
- Post-incident lessons identified with actions allocated to appropriate agencies and progress against these actions monitored.
- A quality assurance programme, which could include internal audit.
- Review of this Wildfire Strategy and the Falkland Islands Wildfire Response and Recovery Plan (once developed) to identify any specific gaps in capability against identified hazards. A review will be completed annually and following any wildfire as appropriate, or for any other reason which might be deemed appropriate.

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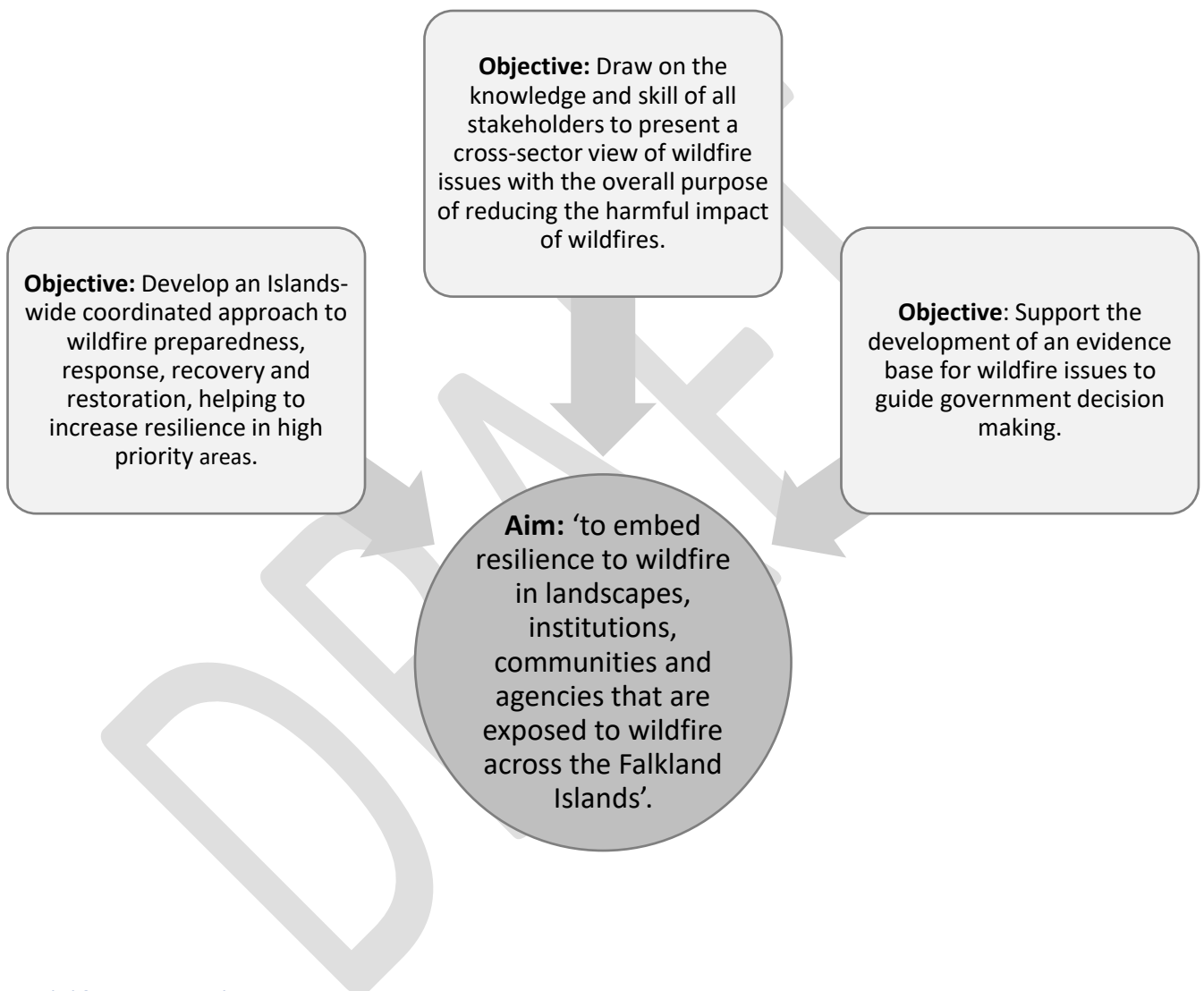
Strategic Vision

This model shows how FIG’s vision connects to its role in managing wildfires and benefiting the wider community who are susceptible to wildfire.



Strategic Aim and Objectives

To help achieve the Strategic Vision, this Strategy has the following aim and objectives:



Wildfire- Local Context

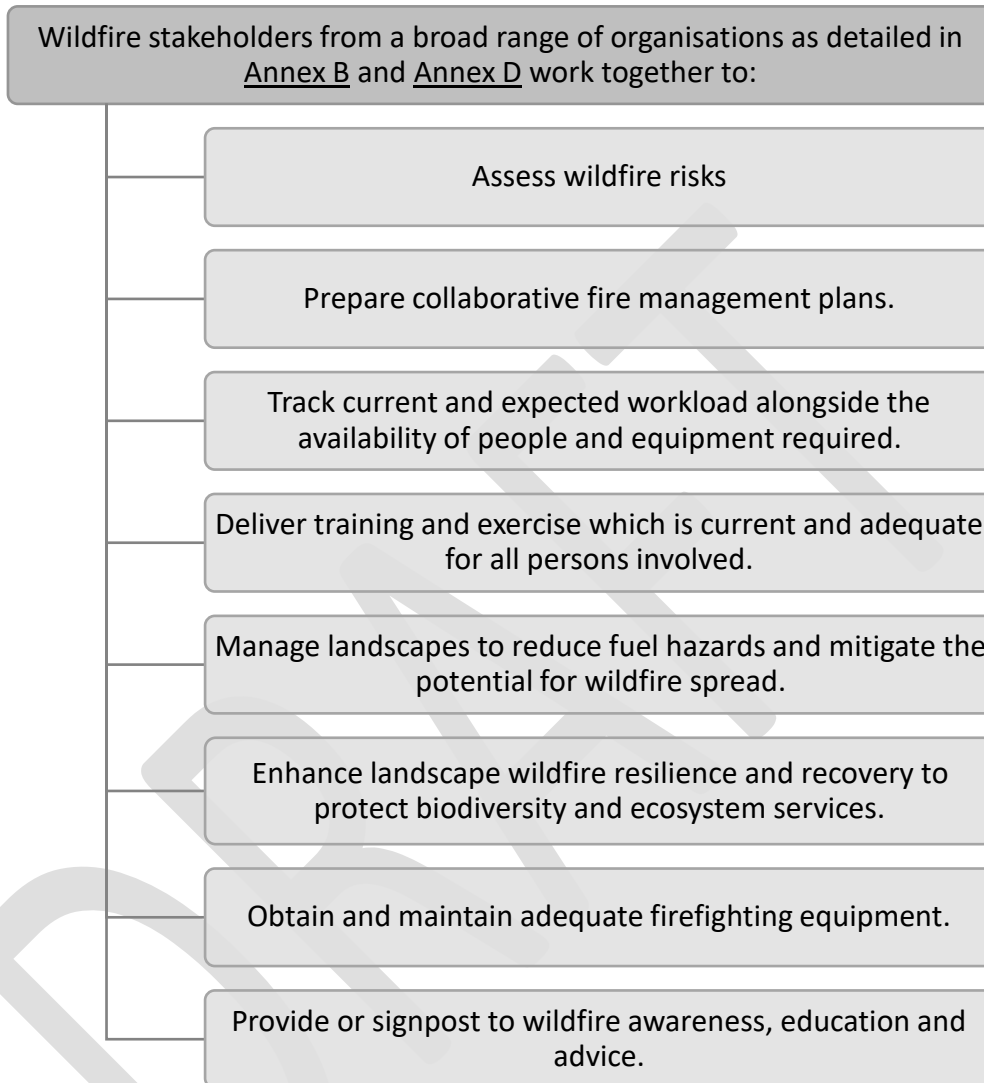
Wildfire data has been collected since 1986 and reports of “out of control” wildfires are a regular annual occurrence within the local context. Please refer to [Annex A](#) for the data.

Responsibility for wildfire preparedness, response or recovery activity can be complex, especially where a wildfire crosses a land boundary. The Falkland Islands Wildfire Strategy acknowledges this complexity.

It is important to remember that wildfires can do significant damage to environment and economy, possibly affecting the community as a whole.

Planning and Preparing for Wildfire

Planning and preparation are important aspects of wildfire management. Responsibility for delivery of these activities is detailed in [Annex D](#).



Do you agree with these proposed planning and preparedness activities?

YES NO.

Comment:

(see Annex B and Annex D for consultation questions relating specifically to those annexes)

Response to Wildfire Emergencies

FIG will endeavour to respond to any wildfire which endangers human life in the Falkland Islands. However, FIG might not undertake fire suppression on all wildfires and may choose only to monitor wildfires in certain circumstances. Firefighting personnel will conduct their firefighting activities in a safe and professional manner and will prioritise the safety of themselves and others.

The FIG response is based on risk assessment and risk management with consideration to high priority factors and assets as determined in [Annex C](#). Wildfire response starts with assessing wildfires when they are first reported and can include some restoration activity after response, for example post-fire actions taken to repair damage and minimise potential soil erosion and impacts resulting from fire suppression activities.

During the assessment stage of incidents, FIG will endeavour to work with stakeholders to identify what is at risk from a wildfire and notify landowners. This assessment will help identify any immediate and emergency actions required to address post-fire risks.

FIG may opt not to undertake fire suppression on a wildfire which does not endanger human life when:

- fire suppression is assessed to not be cost-effective in relation to what is at risk⁵.
- fire suppression does not align with land and resource management objectives as detailed in a Fire Management Plan or other similar document.
- fire suppression is impracticable due to the characteristics or the location of the fire.

Do you agree with this proposed guidance for wildfires which do not endanger human life?

YES NO.

Comment:

⁵ Annex C gives guidance to determine high priority areas and assets.

FIG may delay, limit, suspend or withdraw fire suppression to any wildfire if it is:

- located in an area where it would be unsafe to deploy firefighting resources (such as personnel, aircraft and equipment).
- displaying such fire behaviour as to make fire suppression impracticable or unsafe for firefighting resources.
- a lower priority than other existing wildfires as per information in Annex C.

Do you agree with this proposed guidance for FIG to limit, suspend or withdraw fire suppression?

YES NO

Comment:

DRAFT

If an incident requires coordinated government support or direction, the FIG Major Incident Plan may be activated. This would facilitate rapid coordination of the central government response and effective decision making.

JESIP definition for a Major Incident: An event or situation with a range of serious consequences which requires special arrangements to be implemented by one or more emergency responder agency.

<https://www.jesip.org.uk/webapp/major.html>

Command and Control

Responsibility for the coordination of a response to a wildfire emergency normally lies with the Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service (FIF&RS), who will work together with other stakeholders as required.

The FIF&RS has trained retained staff who can be called upon to assist in a wildfire incident. These people are paid volunteers and the majority have full-time employment in a different role. Their availability to assist in a wildfire incident depends on their own commitments and/ or the willingness of their regular full-time employers to release them for this duty.

Others who might be able to offer support to the FIF&RS in a wildfire emergency upon request and on a 'best endeavours basis', include:

- Other government departments
- The private sector
- Local volunteers
- Ministry of Defence (MoD) assets based in the Falkland Islands constituted as the British Forces South Atlantic Islands (BFSAI)

It is at the discretion of the coordinating authority as to whether assistance from these other agencies or volunteers is requested or used, as they may not be able to offer assurance on training, common operating procedures, regularity of deployment, communications, and interoperability.

Fire Control Cost Recovery

FIG will take all reasonable fire control action within its capabilities in response to wildfires in the Falkland Islands in accordance with this Strategy and will not normally seek to recover costs. However, FIG will consider each wildfire on a case-by-case basis and may seek to recover direct and/ or indirect costs as detailed below if it is determined that a wildfire has been caused deliberately or due to negligence, this could include fires that spread out of control due to:

- Contravention of prescribed burn licencing conditions as detailed in The Grass Fires Ordinance 2002.
- Poor land management practice
- Other negligent activity such as negligent use of open flames outside

Do you agree with this proposed cost recovery intent?

YES NO.

Comment:

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- **Direct Costs:** those items of expense specifically identified with the delivery or completion of activity in support of the response. General examples include, but are not limited to the costs for personnel, equipment and maintenance, materials, supplies, transportation and fuel, accommodation, welfare, agency-owned equipment and supplies lost or damaged, during the response and repair of government infrastructure or other assets which might have been damaged by the fire.
- **Indirect Costs:** those items of expense incurred as part of general management and administrative support to the response. These costs might be distributed among many benefiting activities, such as use of office space, computer equipment and salaries for administrative activities.

Do you agree with the proposed scope of direct or indirect costs?

YES NO

Comment:

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Recovery and Rehabilitation

There are three phases of recovery and rehabilitation following wildfires. Recovery actions which may be considered by stakeholders will be contained in the Falkland Islands Wildfire Response and Recovery Plan.

1. Fire Suppression Damage Repair

- A series of immediate post-fire actions taken to repair damage and minimise potential soil erosion and impacts resulting from fire suppression activities. Dependent on resource, this work ideally begins before the fire is contained.

2. Emergency Stabilisation – Burned Area Emergency Response

- A rapid assessment of burned watersheds (*areas that channel rainfall and snowmelt to ditches, streams, and rivers*), to identify imminent post-wildfire threats to human life and safety, property, and critical natural or cultural resources.
- The immediate actions to implement emergency stabilisation measures to help mitigate the loss of vegetation, exposure of soil to erosion, and increased water runoff that may lead to flooding, increased sediment, debris flow, and damage to critical natural and cultural resources.

3. Long-Term Recovery and Burned Area Rehabilitation

- The rehabilitation of burned areas provides a “bridge” to long-term recovery.
- Non-emergency actions to improve fire-damaged lands that are unlikely to recover naturally and to repair or replace facilities damaged by fire that are not critical to life and safety.
- This phase might include activity such as restoring burned habitat, reforestation, other planting or seeding, monitoring fire effects, replacing burned fences, interpreting cultural sites, treating noxious weed infestations, and installing interpretative signs.

Wildfires and Wellbeing

Wildfire has a wide range of possible economic, social and environmental impacts to the wellbeing of all those involved, including responders⁶. These impacts could include but are not limited to injury or poor health, threat to life, destroyed homes and property, evacuation or displacement, separation from loved ones and perception of ongoing health risks. Following a wildfire, thought should also be made to how a greater sense of loss of a valued landscape and experiencing negative financial effects from a wildfire fire might predict significant psychological distress⁷.

The impact of wildfire on wellbeing and the corresponding recovery and support actions which may be considered by stakeholders will be contained in the Falkland Islands Wildfire Response and Recovery Plan.

⁶ <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jebo.2021.10.029>

⁷ <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10393-015-1052-1>

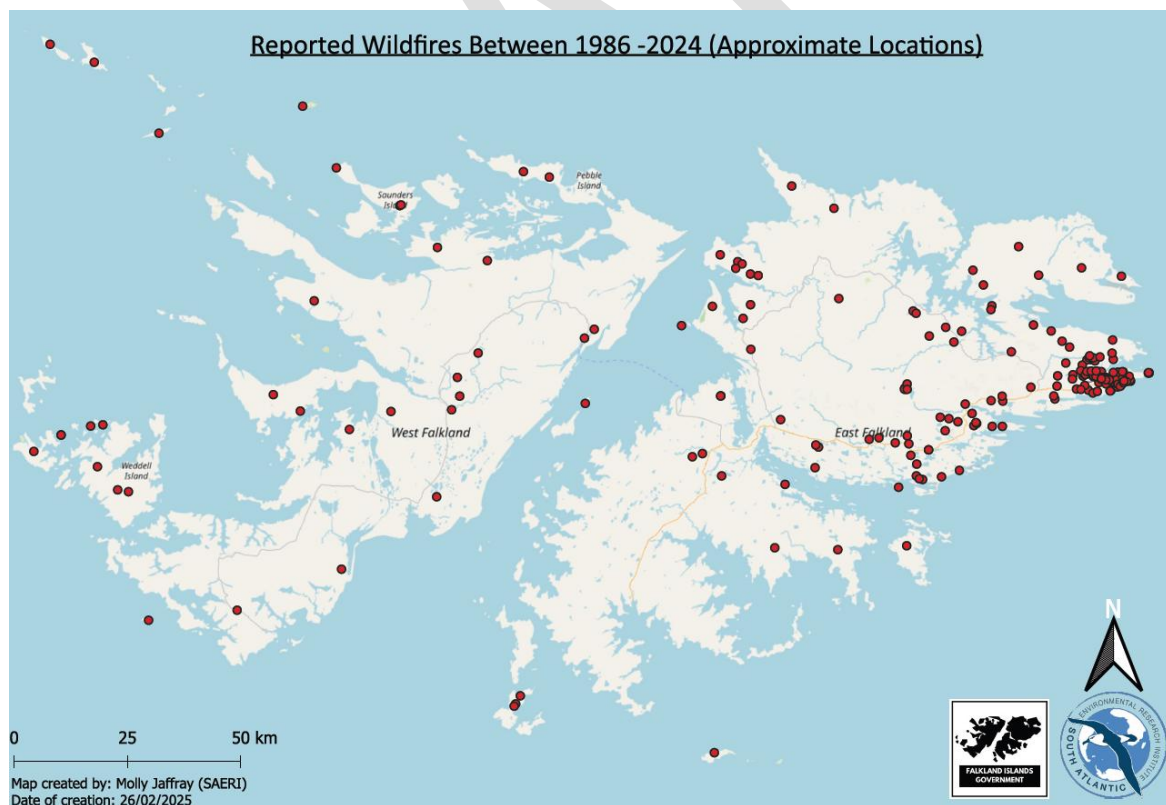
Annex A: Wildfire Data

The Falkland Islands comprise a total 12,173 km² / 1,217,300 hectares of land. This figure includes (approx):

Entity	Hectares	Kilometres ²
FIG & Falkland Landholdings (FLH) farmed land ⁸	301,930	3,019
Privately owned farmed land (local owners) ⁹	830,607	8,306
Privately owned farmed land (overseas owners) ¹⁰	11,059	111
FIG and privately owned non-farmed land <i>Including 343 km² / 34,325 ha of National Reserves and Stanley</i>	73,704	737
Total land	1,217,300	12,173

Figure 1: Map showing the location of wildfires reported to the Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service as ‘out of control’ between 1986 -2024.

Note: In line with earlier records, most locations plotted on this map are not exact, but they do show the general area in which the fire was reported.



⁸ From the 2022/23 Falkland Islands Farm Statistics

⁹ From the 2022/23 Falkland Islands Farm Statistics

¹⁰ From the 2022/23 Falkland Islands Farm Statistics

Figure 2: Chart showing the number of wildfires reported to the Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service as ‘out of control’ each year between 1986 -2024.

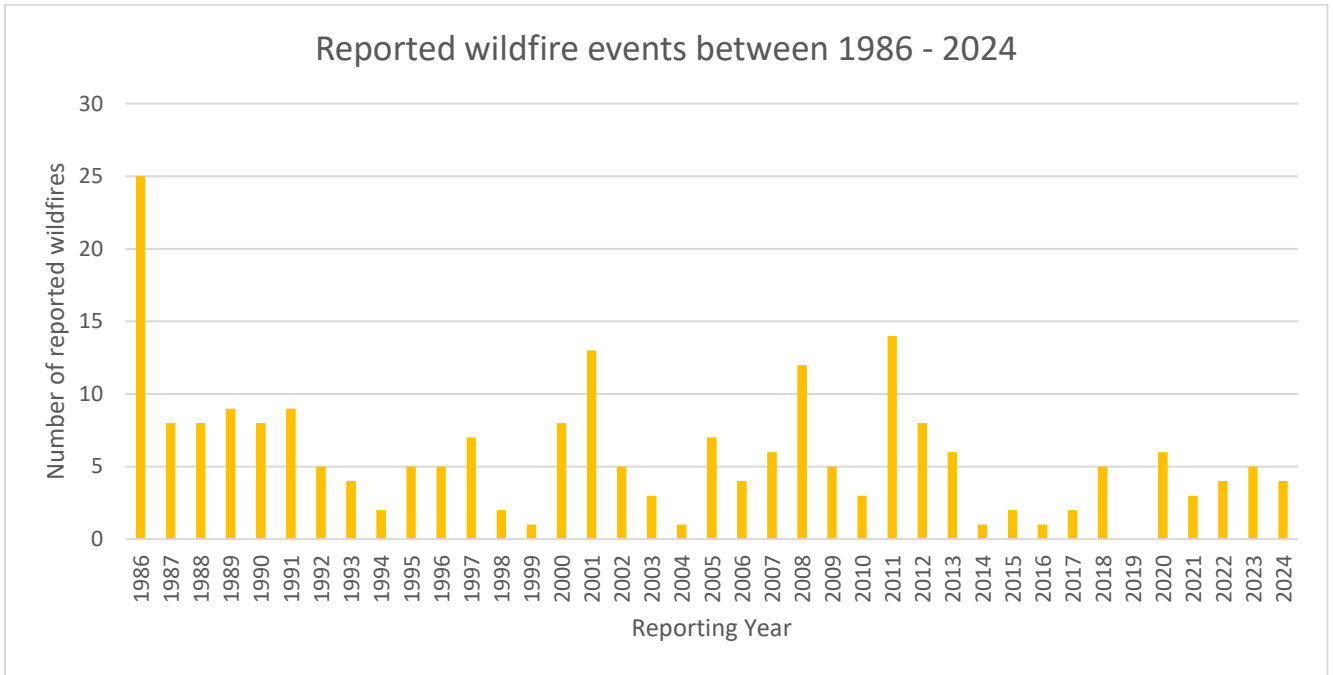
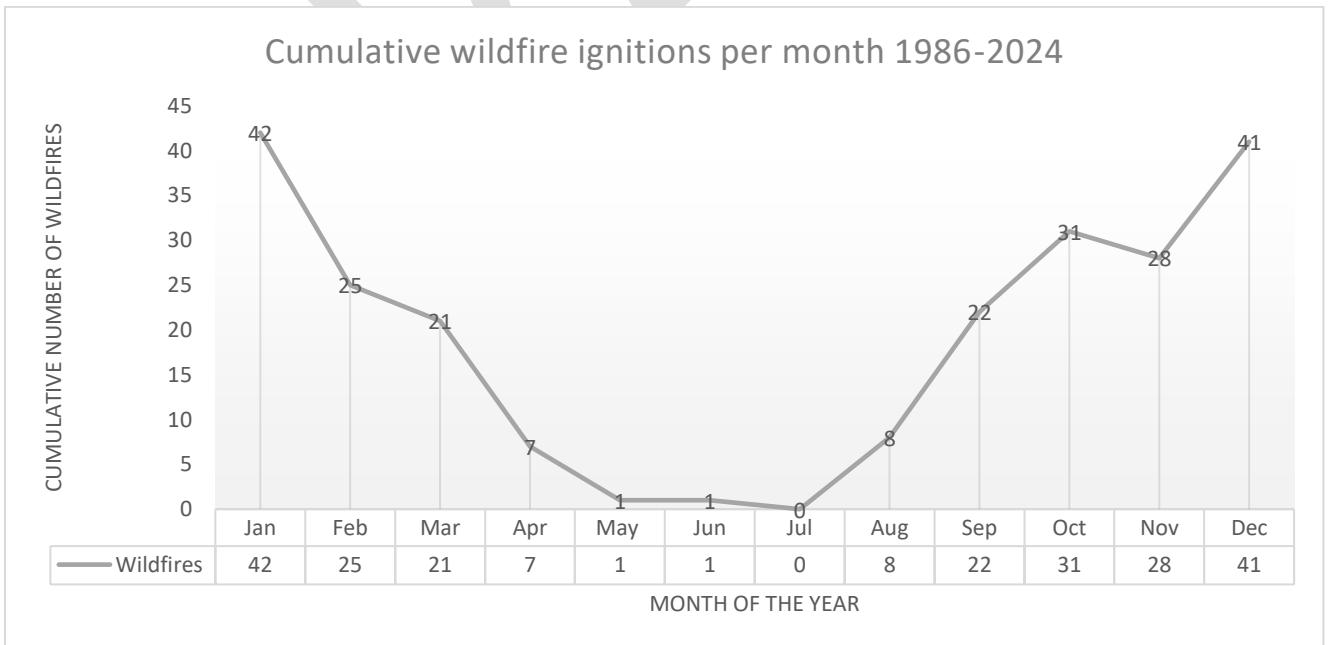


Figure 3: Chart showing the number of wildfires reported to the Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service as ‘out of control’ each year between 1986 -2024.



Annex B: Wildfire Working Group

The Wildfire Working Group (WWG) is an inter-agency forum which reports to Executive Council. It aims to develop the capacity and capability of national wildfire preparedness, response and recovery in the Falkland Islands in accordance with the [Strategic Vision](#) and [Strategic Aim and Objectives](#) as detailed in this document.

Objectives

The WWG works to meet the objectives of the FI Wildfire Strategy, this workstream includes:

1. Maintain the Falkland Islands Wildfire Strategy and the Falkland Islands Wildfire Response and Recovery Plan (once developed).
2. Work with stakeholders to develop a capability to forecast wildfire dangers and implement mitigation measures where possible. (Wildfire danger rating system.)
3. Work with stakeholders to identify and address risks where possible in the Wildland Urban Interface (e.g., around Stanley or other larger settlements and infrastructure), and undertake response and recovery planning.
4. Facilitate and support the development of Wildfire Management Groups and Wildfire Management plans where possible.
5. Develop and deliver a wildfire training and exercise programme suitable to the needs of the Falkland Islands in terms of preparedness, prevention, response and recovery.
6. Warn and inform the community to help prevent human-caused fires.
7. Signpost to wildfire management resources and make wildfire prevention and preparedness information available to the public.
8. Promote and facilitate effective and efficient co-operation between FIG and other stakeholders including private land holders and volunteers in relation to wildfire preparedness and response.
9. Consider research findings, reports and recommendations which affect (or could affect) wildfire preparedness, response or recovery in the Falkland Islands.
10. Offer reviews to CMT on improving wildfire preparedness capability and operational effectiveness.
11. Help FIG lead by example with 'best practice' landscape management for government-owned land.
12. The WWG shall meet at least twice a year.

Do you agree with the proposed objectives for the Wildfire Working Group?

YES NO.

Comment:

Membership

Membership of the WWG is confined to organisations with strategic and policy responsibilities and/ or a significant operational capability in wildfire preparedness, response and/ or recovery. As such, membership comprises informed representatives from the following organisations:

- a. Director Emergency Services & Islands Security (Chair)
- b. Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service
- c. Emergency Planning and Resilience
- d. Environment Department
- e. Department of Agriculture
- f. Falkland Islands Defence Force
- g. Falkland Islands Government Air Service
- h. Fisheries Representative (FPV Lilibet)
- i. Communications and Media Dept
- j. Wildfire stakeholders and ad-hoc guests as invited (see below).

Do you agree with this proposed membership for the Wildfire Working Group?
YES NO.

Comment:

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Stakeholders

The WWG will work closely with a wide range of local and overseas wildfire stakeholders to promote cooperation, collaboration and synergy on wildfire issues across the Falkland Islands.

Non-FIG wildfire stakeholders, include but are not limited to:

1. Falklands Conservation
2. South Atlantic Environmental Research Institute
3. Rural Business Association
4. Chamber of Commerce
5. Farmers
6. Landowners and land managers
7. Transport providers
8. Members of the Community
9. British Forces South Atlantic Islands
10. Overseas stakeholders, for example subject matter experts, training providers and researchers
11. Other stakeholders as relevant

Do you agree with this proposed list of stakeholders?

YES NO.

Comment:

Annex C: Guidance to Determine High Priority Areas and Assets

As detailed in the [Response to Wildfire Emergencies](#) section of this Strategy, FIG will endeavour to respond to any wildfire which endangers human life in the Falkland Islands. However, as the FIG response is based on risk assessment and risk management there are circumstances where FIG might not undertake fire suppression for a wildfire, or delay, limit, suspend or withdraw the response.

This annex gives guidance to help wildfire-response decision makers to determine which assets might be considered 'high priority' for the purpose in assessing risks. However, it is important to note that this is only guidance, and this list is not exhaustive.

Order of Priority

The protection of human life is the single, overriding suppression priority. Setting priorities to protect human communities and community infrastructure, other property and improvements, and natural and cultural resources will be done based on human health and safety, what is to be protected, and the costs of protection. Once people have been committed to an incident, these human resources become the highest value to be protected. The order of priority for wildfire suppression effort is:

1. People

2. Critical National Infrastructure

3. Property and Environment

Property

Livestock

Protected wild
animals, birds and
plants

Natural capital

Do you agree with this proposed order of priority?

YES NO.

Comment:

Definitions

Property does not have a Falkland Islands definition with respect to fires, so this Strategy looks to use UK definitions where appropriate as listed in the UK Government Fire Statistics Definitions¹¹ part 4, Fires:

- dwelling fires are fires in properties that are a place of residence that is, places occupied by households such as houses and flats, dwellings also include non-permanent structures used solely as a dwelling, such as houseboats and caravans.
- other buildings fires are fires in other residential or non-residential buildings; residential includes properties such as hostels/hotels/B&Bs, nursing/care homes, student halls of residence; non-residential buildings include properties such as offices, shops, factories, warehouses, restaurants, public buildings, religious buildings.
- road vehicle fires are fires in vehicles used for transportation, such as cars, vans, buses/coaches, motorcycles, lorries/HGVs. **Note:** *in the UK Government Fire Statistics Definitions 'road vehicles' does not include aircraft, boats or trains, these assets are under 'other outdoors'. However, for the purpose of this strategy, aircraft and boats would require special consideration on a case-by-case basis, and trains are not present in the Falkland Islands.*

Critical National Infrastructure (CNI): The Falkland Islands uses the UK Government CNI definition¹²: Those critical elements of infrastructure (namely assets, facilities, systems, networks or processes and the essential workers that operate and facilitate them), the loss or compromise of which could result in:

- a. Major detrimental impact on the availability, integrity or delivery of essential services - including those services whose integrity, if compromised, could result in significant loss of life or casualties - taking into account significant economic or social impacts; and/or
- b. Significant impact on national security, national defence, or the functioning of the state.

Livestock: as defined in the Falkland Islands Livestock and Meat Products Ordinance 2010¹³:

- a. an animal that is kept, fattened or bred for the production of food, wool, fur, feathers, hides and skins or any other product obtained from that animal;
- b. an animal that is kept for other farming purposes; or
- c. an animal that is not being kept for farming purposes but that is of a kind normally kept for such purposes.

Protected wild animals, birds and plants: as defined in the Falkland Islands Conservation of Wildlife and Nature Ordinance 1999¹⁴.

Natural capital does not have a Falkland Islands definition, so this Strategy looks to use the UK definition where appropriate as defined in the HM Treasury's Green Book: Appraisal and Evaluation in Central Government, at page 63¹⁵

- Natural capital includes certain stocks of the elements of nature that have value to society, such as forests, fisheries, rivers, biodiversity, land and minerals. Natural capital includes both the living and non-living aspects of ecosystems.

¹¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/fire-statistics-guidance/fire-statistics-definitions>

¹² <https://www.npsa.gov.uk/critical-national-infrastructure-0>

¹³ <https://www.legislation.gov.fk/>

¹⁴ <https://www.legislation.gov.fk/>

¹⁵ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/6645c709bd01f5ed32793cbc/Green_Book_2022_updated_links_.pdf

Do you agree with the proposed definitions?

YES NO.

Comment:

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Annex D: Roles and Responsibilities for Wildfire Preparedness, Response and Recovery

Wildfire Working Group

13. Maintain the Falkland Islands Wildfire Strategy and the Falkland Islands Wildfire Response and Recovery Plan (once developed).
14. Work with stakeholders to develop capability to forecast wildfire dangers and implement mitigation measures where possible. (Wildfire danger rating system.)
15. Work with stakeholders to identify and address risks where possible in the Wildland Urban Interface (e.g., around Stanley or other larger settlements and infrastructure), and undertake response and recovery planning.
16. Facilitate and support the development of Wildfire Management Groups and Wildfire Management plans where possible.
17. Develop and deliver a wildfire training and exercise programme suitable to the needs of the Falkland Islands in terms of preparedness, prevention, response and recovery.
18. Warn and inform the community to help prevent human-caused fires.
19. Signpost to wildfire management resources and make wildfire prevention and preparedness information available to the public.
20. Promote and facilitate effective and efficient co-operation between FIG and other stakeholders including private land holders and volunteers in relation to wildfire preparedness and response.
21. Consider research findings, reports and recommendations which affect (or could affect) wildfire preparedness, response or recovery in the Falkland Islands.
22. Offer reviews to CMT on improving wildfire preparedness capability and operational effectiveness.

Directorate of Emergency Services & Islands Security:

- **Falkland Islands Fire & Rescue Service (FIR&RS)**
 - **Emergency Planning and Resilience**
1. FIF&RS are the lead government department for wildfire response.
 2. Stand-up incident response structures during emergency wildfire events.
 3. Evaluate response performance, correcting areas in need of improvement, and improving overall operations.
 4. Work with stakeholders to conduct an Islands-wide assessment, where possible, identifying response capability, vulnerabilities, and limitations to inform wildfire management plans.
 5. Record the scale and scope of wildfire incidents.
 6. Lead on wildfire prevention, coordinating pro-active public communications during periods of high wildfire risk.
 7. Maintain FIG owned wildfire equipment and recruit, train, equip, and dispatch firefighters.
 8. Consider health and safety impacts on fire service attendees at wildfire incidents and that of volunteers who assist.

Directorate of Policy, Economy and Corporate Services:

- **Environment Department**
1. Assess and document vegetation fuel loads in sensitive environmental areas, considering land management inputs to mitigate the spread of Wildfire.

2. Work together with stakeholders to prepare and regularly review wildfire management plans for protected reserves.
3. With stakeholders, consider the impact of wildfire, for example, on the conservation status of land and coastal areas.
4. Consider the potential impact of wildfire on the Islands carbon storage and emissions.
5. Consider the potential impact of wildfire on the Islands water resources, particularly drinking water.
6. Consider the impact of wildfire on delivery of the FIG Environment Strategy.
7. Work with stakeholders to develop long term weather trends and seasonal risk intelligence.

Directorate of Natural Resources:

- **Agricultural Department**

1. Support land managers to enhance the resilience of their land to the spread and impacts of wildfire.
2. Support land managers in the development of landscape fire management plans and maps.
3. Review and update legislation on managed burning.
4. Provide guidance on best-practices for managed and prescribed burning.
5. Promote wildfire preparedness and adaptation planning to land managers including identification of management practices that will assist the emergency response to wildfire incidents.
6. Encourage sustainable land management practices that mitigate against wildfire risk.
7. In conjunction with advice from the FIF&RS and Environment Department, provide guidance on post-burn wildfire remediation.

Do you agree with proposed roles and responsibilities?

YES NO.

Comment:

DRAFT