

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## Recovery commences following major fire in the Shire of Wagin

The Shire of Wagin is commencing recovery efforts after the Department of Fire and Emergency Services returned control to the local authority yesterday following a major fire in the Shire of Wagin.

Volunteer fire brigades from Wagin and surrounding local governments have been working tirelessly since the fire commenced in difficult weather conditions on Friday afternoon. The fire which started in the Shire of West Arthur near the boundary has impacted some 11,000 hectares in the Shire of Wagin.

Given the size of the fire, incident control was escalated to the Department of Fire and Emergency Services.

Sadly, three residential properties have been lost with several other residential and non-residential properties damaged. Stock losses are still being assessed but are estimated to be greater than 150.

The Department of Communities is available to offer assistance and has a crisis care number of 1800 032 965.

On Monday, 27 January 2025, incident control returned to the respective local governments.

With challenging weather conditions forecast in the coming days, volunteer firefighters continue to work around the clock attending to contain the fire.

Local road closures are still in place. Over the coming days manual road inspections are taking place to identify damaged trees that pose a hazard to vehicles. Removal of trees will take time and vigilance is required as trees damaged in the fire can fall well after the event.

The Shire of Wagin is coordinating recovery efforts with State Government agencies and local community organisations.

Property owners and volunteer firefighters came together at a barbeque on Monday evening to recognise the efforts which saved property and lives.

Cr Phillip Blight
SHIRE PRESIDENT

End of Media Release

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