South Australian Country Fire Service

2004 - 2005 Annual Report

Government
of South Australia

SAFETY FIRST

The following Safe Operating Principles are aimed at driving firefighter behaviour and operational decision-making.

These principles are each accompanied by a short statement to qualify and expand on the meaning of the principle:

Mission
Understand your task and the bigger picture

Awareness
Be aware of changes (around you); the environment; the fire and other firefighters.

Teamwork
Act as a team; look out for your mates.

Communication
Ask questions; listen hard; talk about important information.

Empathy
Be aware of the needs of others (around you); the community; the environment.

Competence
Know your job; be fit for it and know your limits.

Decisiveness
Think clearly, evaluate your options and make a decision.

Ownership
Take responsibility for your decisions and the actions of your team.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE
Annual Report 2004-2005

September 2005

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South Australian Country Fire Service website: www.cfs.org.au

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LETTER TO THE MINISTER

The Honourable Carmel Zollo MLC
Minister for Emergency Services
Level 11, 50 Pirie Street
ADELAIDE S AUST 5000

30 September 2005

Dear Minister

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report of the South Australian Country Fire Service for the year ended 30 June 2005 in accordance with section 66(1) of the *Public Sector Management Act 1995.*

In doing so, I wish to express my thanks to you and your government for the support that you have provided to the volunteers and staff of the South Australian Country Fire Service.

EUAN FERGUSON
Chief Executive Officer / Chief Officer

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER / CHIEF OFFICER

The end of the 2004-05 financial year sees SA Country Fire Service (CFS) in a time of change touched by tragedy and trial.

To our 15 500 volunteers, thank you. Once again, you have performed the incredibly difficult task of protecting your community with grace and professionalism. Your example, sacrifice and dedication continue to amaze those who are at the helm of CFS and in Government.

The number of CFS volunteer firefighters has slightly increased over the past twelve months regardless of the fact that volunteer turnouts to incidents continues to grow, and administrative and management burdens continue. However, it is a fact that in some locations, CFS brigades are finding it difficult to find sufficient crew available for daytime responses. The focus on retention and recruitment of CFS volunteers therefore remains a high priority. The introduction of 'exit interviews' and the provision of additional funding to support CFS cadet activities are two examples of actions that CFS is taking to ensure volunteer numbers are maintained into the future.

During the past twelve months, CFS has been involved in many important community activities. CFS cadets were very prominent at the annual CFS competitions held at Tea Tree Gully and opened by Her Excellency the Governor of South Australia Marjorie Jackson-Nelson. CFS cadets, along with other youth groups, also participated in the ANZAC Day Youth Vigil, held at the War Memorial on North Terrace.

As part of engaging the public and investing back into the community, during September 2004 CFS took part in the 'Targeting Employability Program' and hosted a team of five secondary students from Willunga High School to work as a Process Improvement Team on a project 'How can CFS improve bushfire prevention communication strategy to reach high school students? The program aims to provide students with an insight into the real world of work and identifies possible workplace process improvements.

Once again, significant CFS resources, both volunteer and staff, have been expended on firefighter training. The revised Basic Fire Fighter course was completed and, using additional funding provided by Government, new courses in the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) have been developed and delivered following the completion of the national review of that system.

It is a sign of the times that in late 2004 CFS, along with other emergency services, participated in a national multi-jurisdictional counter terrorism exercise, 'Mercury 04'. This exercise tested our collective ability to deal with a terrorist act, with CFS and SA Metropolitan fire Service (SAMFS) personnel conducting decontamination of a simulated incident. CFS is part of a multi-agency response team, established to ensure a coordinated and effective emergency response to such incidents.

Another highlight has been the Road Crash Rescue Competitions, this year held at the Adelaide Showgrounds at the same time as the Motor Show. This event, organised by the CFS, SAMFS and State Emergency Service (SES) continues to grow from strength to strength. It was noted that in many localities the most common type of incident responded to by CFS brigades was road crash.

The bushfire season commenced with Community Fire Safe and Bushfire Blitz programs again being conducted in many high-risk areas throughout the state. New ongoing funding from government has allowed these programs to be secured into the future.

The most significant incident of the bushfire season was January 10 & 11, when a bushfire that started near Wangary on the Lower Eyre Peninsula burned nearly 80 000 hectares, resulting in the loss of nine lives and the destruction of ninety-three homes, many buildings, livestock and vehicles and equipment.

Tragically, two CFS volunteers, Trent Murnane and Neil Richardson lost their lives as they fought the fire on a private firefighting unit. Our thoughts and hopes go out to all those affected by the Wangary fire, and especially to the families, friends and workmates of Trent and Neil.

The significance of the Wangary fire will be felt deeply for many years to come by CFS and in particular those personnel who were directly involved in or affected by the fire.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER / CHIEF OFFICER (cont)

CFS Chief Officer, Euan Ferguson
"There is no power known to mankind which can extinguish those fires. Once that fire gets up and runs it will run wherever the fuel and weather dictates."

Our volunteers have done a fantastic job, many of whom have been directly affected by this fire. I would like to reinforce the praise of our firefighters."

Since the fire, significant resources have been provided to ensure that our volunteers are being supported in order that they too can recover from the terrible stresses from this tragic event.

In February, CFS commenced 'Project Phoenix' with the objective of quickly identifying issues from the Wangary fire, identifying solutions and future directions, then implementing them. The conduct and implementation of Project Phoenix will continue to consume substantial time, energy and resources of both staff and volunteers so that CFS can be a better and stronger organisation.

Other significant bushfires also occurred throughout the State in late January as a result of repeated extensive lightning activity. A number of substantial fires occurred in Conservation Parks in the Murray-Mallee including Ngarkat Conservation Park.

An extended dry period saw bushfire activity continue through to early June. The fire season ended abruptly on the 10 June as a violent storm associated with a cold front moved through the State bringing substantial rain and wind squalls with it. A mini-tornado at Karoonda resulted in a number of houses, as well as the football clubrooms and part of the CFS station destroyed by wind. In typical fashion, the local brigade, supported by surrounding brigades and SES units, continued to 'get on with the job' and respond to the needs of others in the community.

Other significant achievements for the year included significant effort to bring about the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Bill; preparatory work to revise the CFS Regulations; development of a framework (with other agencies) for the introduction of a new rural property addressing system; introduction of new standards for fire access tracks; and identification of additional 'Bushfire Prone Areas' for a Planning Amendment Review. Substantial effort and funding has gone into the replacement of the CFS VHF radios, commissioning of thirteen large and ten small appliances as well as a substantial building replacement program.
In conclusion, I would sincerely thank the former Minister the Hon Patrick Conlon MP and our new Minister Hon Carmel Zollo MLC and their Cabinet colleagues, for their steadfast support throughout the year, but particularly during the difficult times. The CFS Board, who are preparing to transition to the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission Board, have also provided diligent governance and support. In particular, I thank Board Presiding Member, Mr Ray Dundon, who has been instrumental in guiding and supporting many CFS, CEO and Board activities.

Thanks also to the Chief Executive and staff of the Department of Justice, Mark Johns; to the Manager of the Emergency Services Fund, Mr Rex Mathews; to those staff and volunteers, Chief Officers and Executives from the Emergency Services Administrative Unit (ESAU), SES, SAMFS, SA Ambulance, SA Police, Security and Emergency Management and many others with whom we work in response and planning.

Finally, to those wonderful volunteers and staff of CFS, who are dedicated to making our community a safer place to live - thank you all, you are held in the highest respect and deserve the accolades of a grateful Government and community.

Euan Ferguson
Chief Executive Officer
SA Country Fire Service

CFS BOARD REPORT

The Board of the SA Country Fire Service has been privileged to guide the operations of the Service during 2004-05, which has been a very demanding and in many ways, a sad year for its members and staff.

The 2004-05 fire danger season was marked by a number of difficult incidents, culminating in the Wangary fire on 11 January 2005. This incident occurred on a day of unprecedented fire danger, with very strong winds, high temperatures and a consequent fire danger rating of which exceeded anything previously experienced.

On the same day, the CFS was confronted with fifteen other major fires across South Australia, and these incidents combined to place a significant demand on its resources – the highest since the Ash Wednesday fires of the early 1980's.

The Board wishes to commend in the strongest way possible, the efforts of CFS volunteers and staff in combating these incidents on a very demanding couple of days. Their efforts were instrumental in preventing significant losses throughout the State in the face of such extreme conditions.

The commitment and fire fighting skills of our volunteers and staff are highly valued, and provide outstanding benefits to their communities.

It is with a great deal of sadness that the Board has to record the death of two of its volunteer members during the Wangary fire, Mr Neil Richardson and Mr Trent Murnane, along with the death of seven other people, and significant loss and damage to property, livestock and infrastructure.

As a result of the Wangary fire, the CFS instituted an intensive review process to determine what lessons needed to be learned from the events, and its activities and responses to the incident.

'Project Phoenix' is a commendable initiative, showing the maturity of the CFS in scrutinising its operations in a 'warts and all' fashion. It has highlighted a range of opportunities for reviewing CFS approaches to responding to major incidents and, through the Centre for Lessons Learned (Fire), these lessons will be incorporated into standard operating practices before the next fire season.

In addition to the events of 11 January, the Service once again experienced an increase in rural incidents this year. However, fighting fires is only a part of the work of CFS brigades. During 2004-05, fire incidents represented only thirty per cent of call-outs for CFS volunteers.

Increasingly, our volunteers are becoming highly trained and multi-skilled people who attend a variety of emergency incidents including road crash rescues, flood relief, hazardous materials handling and other personal security and safety incidents.

These incidents place increasing pressures on our people to be prepared for any emergency. The resultant increase in the requirements for broader training, and the emotional demands on individuals who are required to remove the dead and injured from road accidents, mean that CFS volunteers and the staff who support them, are true leaders in their communities. Those communities owe the CFS people a great debt of gratitude.

The Board also recognises the importance of ensuring public safety through adequate communications infrastructure. It continues to monitor the implementation of the South Australian Government Radio Network, and is working to ensure a communication system that will deliver what the CFS needs to effectively meet the demands placed on it.

To obtain a clear picture of essential priorities in regional areas, and to meet volunteers face to face, the Board undertook regional visits to the Riverland, Yorke Peninsula and Eyre Peninsula/West Coast, where it was provided with strategic information on future infrastructure and industry trends and developments.

To enhance further the strong relationship between the Board and the South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (SAVFBA), an Executive Member of the Association accompanied the Board on its regional visits.

CFS BOARD REPORT (cont)

In this regard, the Board also met quarterly with members of the Executive of the SAVFBA, and continued its financial support of the Association.

The Board also recognises the strong support given to CFS volunteers by the SAVFBA following the Wangary fire, and in particular, it thanks the Association's Executive Officer, Ms Wendy Shirley, for her continuing and empathetic efforts on behalf of volunteers affected by the fire and its aftermath.

The Board welcomed the recognition by the Government of the important role played by the CFS in fire prevention and community safety through the granting of additional funding for the following programs:

- The provision of $0.723 million over three years to replace and/or upgrade fire alarm monitoring equipment contained within sixty-five CFS fire stations.
- Funding of $2.016 million over four years, for the delivery of nationally accredited training packages to CFS volunteers and staff, and key operational staff from other Emergency Service Organisations and associated Government agencies, focussing on the key areas of 'Incident Command and Control' and 'Chemical, Biological and Radiation'.
- Provision of $2.943 million in 2006-07 to accelerate the replacement of Heavy Fire Appliances in the short to medium term, allowing the procurement of eleven additional Heavy Fire Appliances and two additional Bulk Water Carriers.
- Funding of $4 369 million over four years for maintenance of GRN and State Radio Systems equipment.
- $0 602 million over four years for the extension of bushfire awareness programs.

The Board also continued to evaluate and develop effective processes of providing strategic, policy and internal audit direction for the CFS.

During its Governance sessions, the Board endorsed the CFS Strategic Plan for the next five years, and put in place a process of annual reviews of progress.

The Board identified five key strategies:

Volunteer support, recruitment and retention

To analyse issues impacting on recruitment and retention and age and gender balance, and to develop strategies to address these issues.

Safety first culture

To continue to engender a safety first culture within CFS for firefighters, staff and volunteers.

Incident management

To continue to improve the ability to manage incidents by reinforcing and further developing the Incident Control Systems in collaboration with other agencies and the Local Government Association.

Asset management

To seek to attract additional funding to manage the current resources, and to maximise the use of resources provided to the organisation in the most cost effective manner and against a recognised priority process.

Community prevention and education

To continue to develop the focus on community safety which includes education, preparedness and the provision of timely and high quality information during emergencies using appropriate and relevant media and communication.

The Board's Audit Committee focused on the development of effective risk management and audit practices.

The enthusiastic spirit and generous goodwill of CFS volunteers and staff, continues to have a strong positive impact on local communities. The members of the Board are continually grateful for the resourcefulness, the dedication, and the commitment of its volunteers and

CFS BOARD REPORT (cont)

staff, and wishes to thank them, their families, and their employers very sincerely for their continuing contribution to the Service.

In particular, the Board wishes to thank its Chief Executive and Chief Officer, Mr Euan Ferguson, for his strong leadership of the CFS, and for the way he has developed a close affinity with the volunteers of the Service. Euan has devoted much time out of hours to be present at field days, competitions, meetings and celebrations with volunteers. The Board knows how valuable this is in building the confidence of volunteers, and increasing the understanding of their needs.

Following the passing of the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005, the CFS Board will cease to exist from 1 October 2005.

This then is the last Annual Report of the CFS Board. It is appropriate therefore to record an appreciation of the contribution of all past and present members of the CFS Board for their lasting contribution in building SA Country Fire Service of which all South Australians can be truly proud and confident in its ability to support the communities in which it operates.

To ensure a smooth transition to the new governance arrangements, the CFS Board is proposing to hold joint meetings with both the newly appointed South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission Board (SAFECOM), and the proposed Fire and Rescue Advisory Board (FRAB) to hand over matters upon which it has been deliberating, and to confirm the directions it has established for the CFS.

RAY DUNDON
Presiding Member

CFS BOARD MEMBERS

SA Country Fire Service Board *(L to R: Russell Peate, Euan Ferguson, Brian Treloar, Russell Branson, Raymond Dundon, Lisien Loan (inset John Forster).*

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Mr Raymond Dundon Presiding Member (Minister's Nominee)	**Mr Russell Peate** Member (Local Government Nominee)
Ms Lisien Loan Member (Minister's Nominee)	**Mr John Forster, AFSM** Member (SAVFBA Nominee)
Mr Russell Branson, AFSM Deputy Presiding Member (SAVFBA Nominee)	**Mr Brian Treloar** Member (Local Government Nominee)

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN VOLUNTEER FIRE BRIGADES ASSOCIATION

The Country Fires Act 1989 (Section 14) established the **South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association** (SAVFBA) as an association that represents the interests of volunteer members of the CFS. This will become Section 69 of the new SA Fire and Emergency Services Act (effective 1 October 2005) which will establish SAFECOM and the SAFECOM Board as the Board of Governance of the emergency services sector.

The Association has a strategic plan which it is currently implementing. The plan aims to provide leadership and structure to the future of the SAVFBA through a shared vision, a framework for consultation and cooperation and a basis for strategic direction through to 2010.

The mission of the SAVFBA has been identified as:
'Representing CFS volunteers to protect and progress their interests and welfare'

Whilst its vision is:
'To be recognized as the united voice of CFS volunteers'

The SAVFBA 2004-05 annual plan has actioned many of the objectives of the strategic plan and among those were:

Communicate and consult with CFS volunteers

- The production of a regular newsletter 'The SAVFBA
- Bulletin' for distribution to members;
- Improved SAVFBA website; and
- Attendance by SAVFBA Executive at many CFS volunteer meetings around the State.

Provide excellent leadership

- The provision of governance training to the branch presidents making up the Association Management Committee and Executive;
- The development of role statements for branch presidents and SAVFBA group and brigade delegates; and
- The distribution of delegate information packs to all SAVFBA group and brigade delegates to assist them in their role.

Support CFS volunteers to ensure an enjoyable volunteer experience

- Active support for the CFS employment of Business
- Services Officers to assist groups and brigades with financial issues;
- Financial and administrative support for cadets, Women of the CFS, CFS competitions and the Volunteers promotions Unit; and
- Financial support for volunteers to attend interstate leadership programs.

Developing partnerships while retaining independence

- Close cooperation with the SES Volunteers Association and the United Firefighters Union in the development of the SAFECOM Legislation;
- Development of working relationships with government and other agencies; and
- Close liaison with interstate volunteer associations.

Advancing the role of volunteers in the future of CFS

- SAVFBA participation on CFS and SAFECOM working parties;
- Closer liaison and development of improved working relationships with regional operations committees; and
- Providing public comment on issues affecting volunteers.

Providing sound governance for the Association

As an association, SAVFBA met all its legal requirements and all CFS requirements as per the CFS/SAVFBA Memorandum of Understanding.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

This statement outlines the main Corporate Governance practices in place during the year to ensure the Board met its responsibilities in line with the Country Fires Act 1989.

Governance

The Board is responsible for the overall administration and control of the Service. The role of the Board is clearly stated in Section 10 of the Country Fires Act 1989 and within its own 'Terms of Reference'. The Board's key areas of responsibility can be summarised as strategic direction, corporate policy development, monitoring and accountability.

Monitoring

The Board acknowledges that it is responsible for the overall internal framework. To assist in discharging this responsibility, the Board has maintained to the best of its abilities an internal control framework comprising of:

- Monthly financial reporting;
- Specialised Board Sub-committees and Advisory Committees;
- Expenditure and investment monitoring;
- New policies and amendments to existing policies are approved by the Board and communicated to personnel; and
- Board visits to regional areas.
- Quarterly progress reports against CFS Annual Business Plan.

Board meetings

Meetings of the Board are held monthly, with additional dates allocated for quarterly visits to CFS regional areas. Board Outcomes are advised on a monthly basis to the Minister for Emergency Services, CFS staff, ESAU Managers and CFS volunteers.

Committee structure

To assist in the execution of its responsibilities, the Board maintains the following sub-committees:

Audit Committee

This committee provides recommendations to the Board on financial management and achievement towards strategic goals. Six Board members are on this committee which meets quarterly.

The following committees are maintained to provide consultation and advice:

State Volunteer Management Committee

Membership is drawn from one staff representative and one volunteer representative of each CFS Region. Working parties are formed to address particular issues. This is the primary volunteer advisory committee to the Board.

Volunteer Occupational Health and Safety Committee

Formed in accordance with the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986, with representatives from each SAVFBA Branch and the State Executive.

State Training Committee

Re-established in 1997 with volunteer representatives from each CFS Region, and members of training staff. It aims to highlight issues and provide coordinated responses and training outcomes across the State.

Technical Committee

Represented with operational firefighters from each CFS Region, and technical staff, to advise on new appliances, equipment and protective clothing.

Staff Occupational Health and Safety Committee

Committee for staff in accordance with the requirements of the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (cont)

Other advisory committees are also established under the Country Fires Act 1989 including:

SA Bushfire Prevention Advisory Committee

Advises the Minister and provides a forum for discussion on bushfire prevention. The fourteen members represent fire fighting and prevention, land management, public utilities and conservation agencies.

Regional Bushfire Prevention Committees

Assess hazards and coordinate prevention planning for each CFS Region. Membership includes CFS Regional Commanders, CFS Group and Local Government representatives and nominees from the SA Farmers Federation, Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH), Forestry SA, SA Water and the Conservation Council of Australia.

District Bushfire Prevention Committees

Rural councils are required to establish prevention committees for their area. The committees assess fire hazards, advise on control and prepare plans for bushfire prevention. Members include Fire Prevention Officers, representatives of CFS Brigades and Local Government and nominees from DEH, Forestry SA and SA Water where appropriate.

WHO WE ARE

Agency authority

The South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) is a body corporate established by the Country Fires Act 1989, which is an Act that provides for the prevention, control and suppression of fires; to provide for the protection of life and property in fire and other emergencies; and for other purposes.

The Act is committed to the Minister for Emergency Services.

Funding arrangements

The CFS is primarily funded through the Community Emergency Services Fund, which is comprised of Emergency Services Levy receipts and State Government remissions/contributions.

Prior to the introduction of the Emergency Services Levy in 1999, emergency services organisations received funding from local government (using a rating system) and insurance companies.

History of organisation

The CFS began in the early 1900s as a result of farmers and property owners in South Australia coming together to combat fires.

Local councils also became involved and the Emergency Fire Service was established within the SA Police.

Post World War II, as the Emergency Fire Service grew and expanded, volunteers were keen for the establishment of the Service as a statutory authority. This was achieved in 1976 with the enactment of the Country Fires Act, which established the SA Country Fire Service.

The Fire Service Star (Cross of St John) is the official insignia of the CFS. The Fire Service Star is used by many fire services around the world. The Star is based on the Maltese Cross, with each point and blade being symbolic of the activities and qualities of a fire fighter. These being: tact, loyalty, dexterity, observation, sympathy, explicitness, gallantry and perseverance.

The colours of the corporate logo of the CFS were selected by a CFS Volunteer as part of a competition, organised by the CFS Board. The red checker pattern is the international Fire Service striping (usually on white background) and the yellow represents the overalls worn by CFS volunteers. The map indicates the area served and CFS identifies the organisation.

OUR KEY STAKEHOLDERS

The people and organisations who are important to us:

The community

Within our organisation

- CFS volunteers and their families
- South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (SAVFBA)
- CFS staff and their families
- CFS Board

Agencies with whom we plan and manage

- The Minister for Emergency Services;
- Community fire safe groups;
- Security and Emergency Management Office;
- Justice Portfolio;
- Attorney General's Department;
- Local Government, CEO's, Councillors, Bushfire Prevention Committees.

Other organisations we have strong working relationships with

- SA Farmers Federation;
- Employers of CFS volunteers;
- CFS contractors and communications providers;
- Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC);
- Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (CRC);
- The National Aerial Firefighting Company (NAFC).

Organisations with whom we work before, during and after emergencies

- Bureau of Meteorology (BOM);
- SA Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS);
- Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH);
- ForestrySA and Private Forest Owners (Forest Owners Conference);
- State Emergency Service (SES);
- SA Police (SAPOL);
- SA Ambulance Service (SAAS) and St John Ambulance;
- State Emergency Operations Centre and state Crisis Centre;
- CFS Fire bomber and aerial firefighting contractors;
- State Rescue Helicopter Service;
- Other State Disaster Committee functional services;
- Department of Administration and Information Services (DAIS) – GRN;
- Interstate Fire Services;
- SA Water;
- Environment Protection Authority (EPA);
- Transport SA and other transport providers;
- Red Cross;
- Salvation Army;
- Utility and service providers (gas, power, fuel, transport, telecommunications);
- Department of Education and Children's Services.

OUR VISION, MISSION AND VALUES

Our vision

A safer community

Our mission

To protect life, property and the environment from fire and other emergencies
whilst protecting and supporting our personnel and continuously improving.

Our values

Our people

- Recognising our volunteer and career staff as our greatest asset.
- Working towards a safe place of work.
- Meeting personal development and career aspirations.
- Valuing the diversity of our people.

Community service

- Fostering the community spirit of volunteerism.
- Supporting the commitment of career staff to the community.
- Ensuring service is community focused.
- Ensuring equitable service delivery.
- Respecting community diversity and working with the community.

Leadership and teamwork

- Leading by example, working together for the community.
- Collaborating and developing partnerships.
- Being supportive during times of change.

Integrity, honesty and ethical behaviour

- Respecting each other, promoting open and honest communication.
- Requiring ethical behaviour and trusting each other.

Continuous improvement

- Continuously improving because we are a learning organisation.
- Striving to be the best at what we do.
- Promoting and rewarding safety, efficiency and innovation.
- Promoting a performance culture.
- Recognising centres of excellence within the organisation.
- Being responsive to reform and change and celebrating our achievements.

Governance and accountability

- Identifying and articulating our responsibilities and relationships.
- Defining who is responsible for what, to whom, and when.
- Implementing processes for planning, evaluation, compliance audit and review.
- Managing our corporate risks.
- Complying with government accountability and governance requirements.

CFS AT A GLANCE

People

- 15 590 volunteers
- 434 brigades
- 33 HAZMAT brigades
- 66 road crash rescue brigades
- 6 regions
- 55 groups
  - 11 245 firefighters
  - 3 350 members
  - 920 cadet members
  - 73 staff (full-time equivalents)

Budget 2004/2005 Approx $48 million

Firefighting vehicles

- 85 urban appliances
- 492 rural appliances
- 2 HAZMAT appliances
- 108 command vehicles
- 9 rescue vehicles
- 19 bulk water carriers
- 71 miscellaneous and transport vehicles

Land and buildings

- 412 fire stations and group control centres
- 6 regional offices/regional coordination centres
- 2 training centres

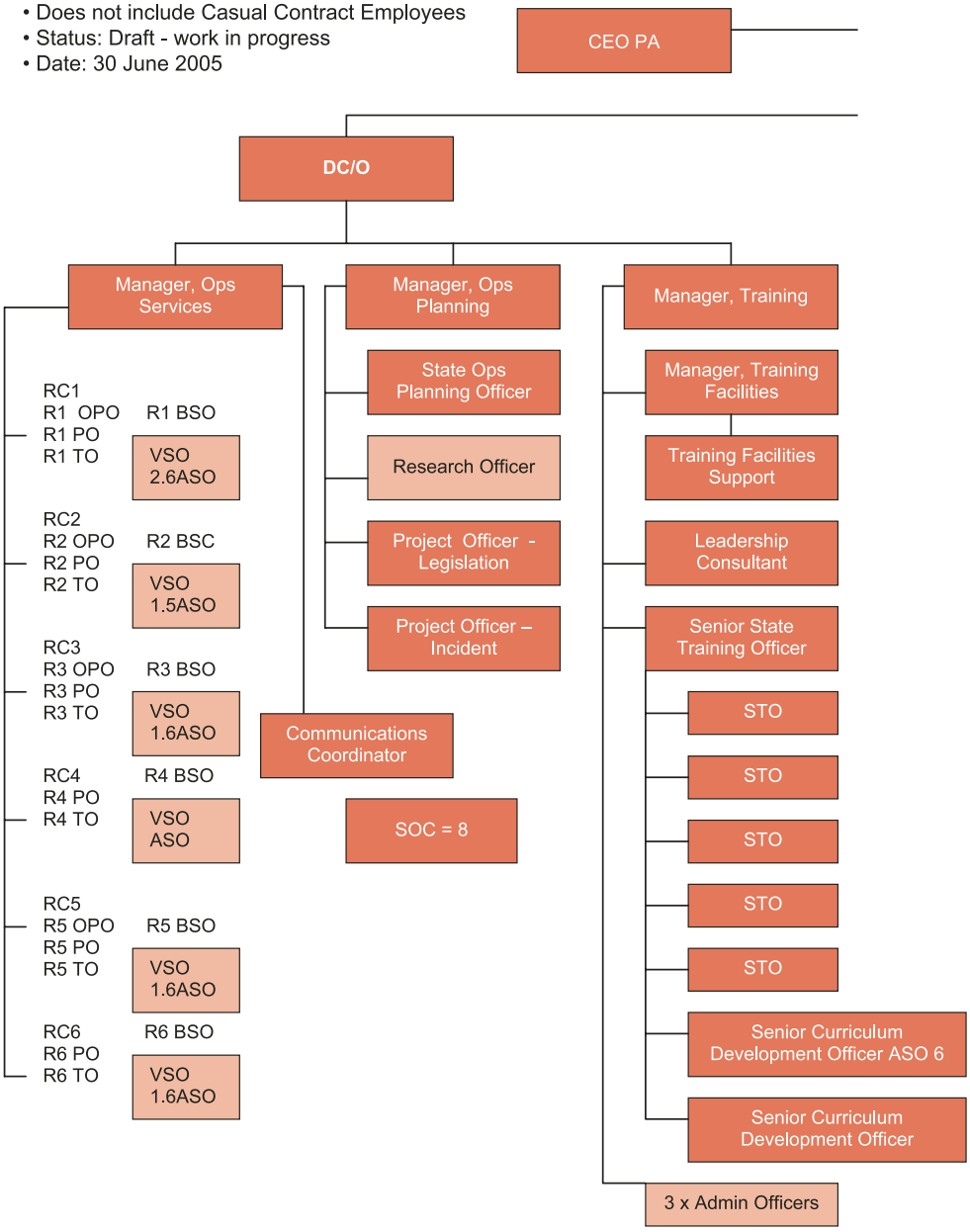
Communications infrastructure

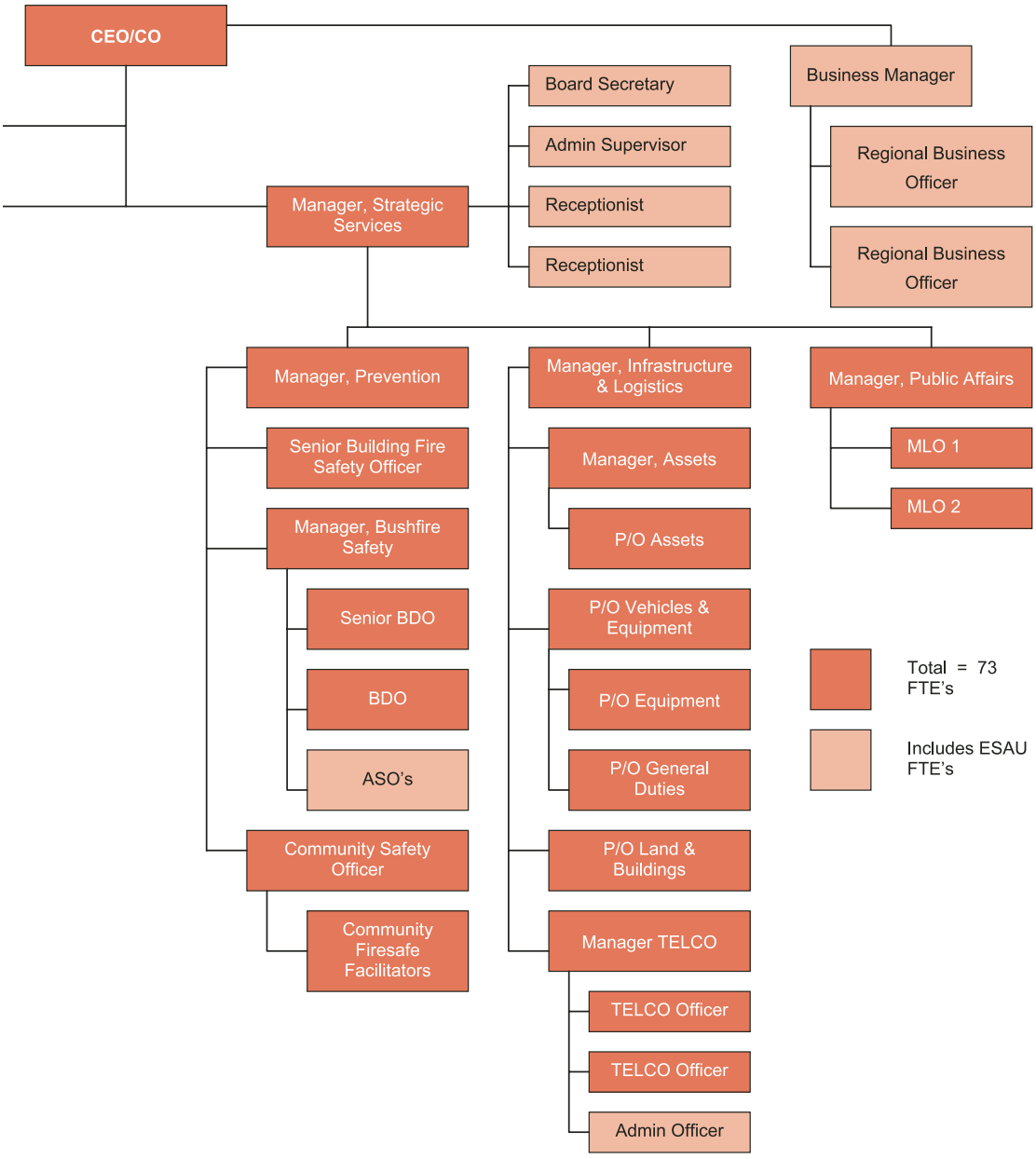
- 1 900 Government Radio Network (GRN) mobile radios
- 1 450 GRN portable radios
- 12 000 GRN pagers
- 2 100 VHF radios

CFS STAFFING STRUCTURE

CFS STAFFING STRUCTURE

- Does not include Casual Contract Employees
- Status: Draft - work in progress
- Date: 30 June 2005




CEO/CO
Board Secretary
Admin Supervisor
Receptionist
Receptionist
Business Manager
Regional Business Officer
Regional Business Officer
Manager, Strategic Services
Manager, Prevention
Senior Building Fire Safety Officer
Manager, Bushfire Safety
Senior BDO
BDO
ASO's
Community Safety Officer
Community Firesafe Facilitators
Manager, Infrastructure & Logistics
Manager, Assets
P/O Assets
P/O Vehicles & Equipment
P/O Equipment
P/O General Duties
P/O Land & Buildings
Manager TELCO
TELCO Officer
TELCO Officer
Admin Officer
Manager, Public Affairs
MLO 1
MLO 2
Total = 73 FTE's
Includes ESAU FTE's

PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Goal

Reduce loss and damage from avoidable fires and emergencies.

CFS Prevention Services

CFS Prevention Services functions include the specific areas of:

- Community Education
- Bushfire Prevention Planning
- Built Environment Fire Safety
- Bushfire Prone Area Development Control

Prevention Services also manages a number of other programs such as the development of community safety policy and procedures and the implementation of the Premier's Bushfire Summit Initiatives and the Council of Australian Government (COAG) bushfire recommendations.

Community education

CFS provides advice and education programs to organisations and communities throughout South Australia with particular emphasis on those located in rural areas or who may have a need to visit or operate within them.

During the 2004-05 financial year, CFS continued the delivery of the successful Community Fire Safe and Bushfire Blitz programs. CFS continued the expansion of the Community Fire Safe program outside of the Mt Lofty Ranges.

There is a growing demand for the services provided by these programs which ultimately lead to changes in behaviour by engaging the community and working with them to identify strategies to resolve community safety issues.

A review of the school children's fire safety education program, Project Fireguard commenced in 2004-05 in partnership with the Department of Education and Children's Services (DECS). Delivery of the program continued in its current form during 2004-05.

CFS developed and delivered fire safety information during 2004-05 which was designed for distribution to the community through various media including Local and State Government offices, and to support the existing CFS bushfire safety education programs.

Community fire safe

The community fire safe program continued to receive strong demand for services throughout 2004-05. During the six-month period of operation, six CFS facilitators held more than 160 community meetings, bushfire workshops or information sessions and initiated thirty-seven new community groups.

While the programs effort focused on high bushfire risk locations throughout the Mount Lofty Ranges, assistance was also provided to communities in the following CFS Regions.

- Region 4: Beetaloo Valley and surrounding districts
- Region 5: Tulka and Garret Rd Port Lincoln
- Region 2: Keyneton

At the completion of the program each resident had a written bushfire action plan and had a greater understanding of how to protect themselves, their homes and their properties from the impact of bushfires.

Since the program commenced operation in South Australia in 1998-99 over 245 community groups representing 3500 households have participated in the Community fire safe program.

PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (cont)

Bushfire Blitz

During the 2004-05 Fire Danger Season, two project officers were employed from December until the end of January to deliver the Bushfire Blitz program.

Conducting a total of fifty-four street corner meetings, Bushfire Blitz Officers provided residents living in high to medium bushfire risk locations with advice relating to fire prevention and preparedness.

The Bushfire Blitz program provides an important first step in raising community awareness and introduces residents to more comprehensive education initiatives such as the Community Fire Safe program.

Volunteers in Prevention Pilot Program (VIP)

The VIP program was trialled within the south east, (CFS Region Five) during 2004-05. The aim of the program is to support CFS volunteers in their bushfire awareness efforts within the local community.

With assistance from local government and CFS Region Five Headquarters, CFS Volunteers conducted thirty-five classroom fire safety presentations to primary school students and conducted community bushfire awareness and information evening targeting the residents of Tarpeena.

The pilot program will help determine the level of support required from CFS staff and the range of resources required to support volunteer initiatives throughout South Australia.

Project fireguard

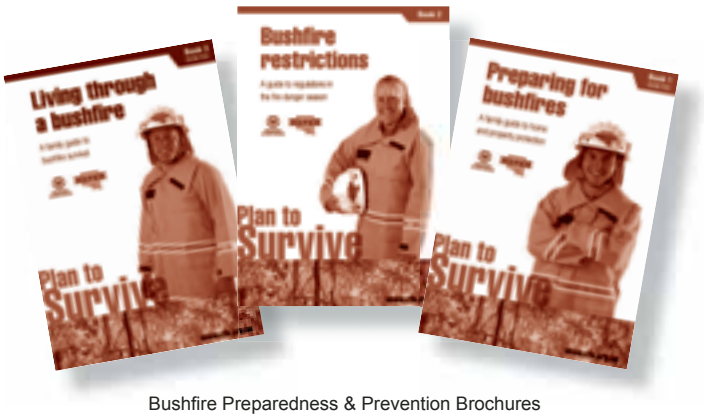
Project fireguard is a classroom fire safety awareness resource presented to school students of all ages. In an effort to maintain the relevance and accessibility of this resource within the school community a review and update of this program has commenced. The first stage of the program review has been to develop resources in electronic format, enabling the program to be more accessible to students, teachers and CFS Brigade volunteers.

Fire safety campaigns

At the commencement of the 2004-05 financial year, CFS engaged the services of a marketing and design company for the development of the annual fire safety campaign. A community survey was undertaken to provide CFS with information about community needs for information.
This survey was used as the basis for the campaign which featured the use of programmed, regular and concise provision of information through a range of media types.

Summer fire safety campaign

The summer fire safety campaign for the 2004-05 financial year featured three primary publications focused on Preparing for Bushfires, Bushfire Restrictions and Living through a bushfire. Two smaller brochures with information about personal safety and rural property safety were also produced. The information was prepared for distribution on a staged basis over the summer period. Distribution of printed material to the community was arranged through Local and State Government offices. A total of 190 000 brochures were distributed across the State during 2004-05.



Bushfire Preparedness & Prevention Brochures

PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (cont)

Winter fire safety campaign

The strategic alliance formed with Duracell (Gillette) prior to the 2002–03 financial year continued to provide funding to promote the 'Change your clock, change your smoke alarm battery' campaign through advertising and editorial public relations. The campaign which was held over several months was run in conjunction with the SA Metropolitan Fire Service. (SAMFS)

CFS continues to develop the partnership arrangement with SAMFS for the development, production and conduct of joint agency winter fire safety education programs.

Bushfire prevention planning

The Country Fires Act 1989 defines a structure for bushfire prevention planning process for South Australia and specifies specific roles, responsibilities and reporting relationships for State, Regional and District bushfire prevention committees.

During 2004-05, each of the committees reviewed and amended the bushfire prevention plan for their area of responsibility. CFS Regional Prevention Officers, located in each of the six CFS Regions, provide direct support to local council Fire Prevention Officers and Regional Bushfire Prevention Committees for the development of district and regional bushfire prevention planning.

The CFS Regional Prevention Officers audited the bushfire prevention planning processes of each of the fifty-one rural councils in South Australia against the requirements of the Country Fires Act.

Each rural council must appoint a suitably qualified Fire Prevention Officer (FPO) and during 2004-05, an additional ten local government FPO's were trained and accredited by CFS to enable local government to undertake their fire prevention responsibilities. The ongoing training of these officers is accomplished through attendance at a series of FPO workshops. Forty-two FPO's attended the State FPO Workshop held at the CFS State Training Centre at Brukunga in September 2004.

Built environment fire safety

The CFS provides fire safety advice on industrial and commercial development proposals to planning authorities and developers through the Built Environment Fire Safety Unit.

The CFS Built Environment Fire Safety Unit provides a consultancy service to planning authorities and developers for industrial and commercial development and provides CFS representation on local government Building Fire Safety Committees.

Development application reports

CFS provided comment on sixteen new commercial and industrial development applications during the 2004-05 financial year. During this period CFS encouraged building owners and developers to seek CFS comment on development proposals prior to submitting the development application to the planning authority. This approach has been widely accepted by Councils and the process leads to a considerable reduction in the time taken to process applications.

CFS comment on alternative solutions

In accordance with Regulation 28 of the South Australian Development Act 1993, the CFS is to be consulted for comment where an alternative solution is to be used in the construction of a building rather than following the 'Deemed To Satisfy' requirements. Comment is required to ensure the proposal has no adverse effect on CFS fire fighting and or rescue operations.

During 2004-05 CFS provided reports to planning authorities on eighty-nine proposed alternative solutions.

PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY (cont)

Commissioning of fire control systems

Regulation 83(4) of the Development Act requires that the Fire Authority inspect fire control systems incorporated in new commercial or industrial premises and a report is to be raised by the Fire Authority prior to a Certificate of Occupancy being issued.

CFS inspected and provided reports on forty-eight new fire control systems in commercial and industrial development applications during the 2004-05 financial year.

Building Fire Safety Committees

In accordance with Section 71 of the Development Act each local council is required to form a Building Fire Safety Committee (BFSC). Committees may meet as many times per annum as required, but must meet at least once per annum.

CFS is represented on the forty-six local government BFSCs established in the CFS area of responsibility. The types and numbers of BFSC inspections that CFS attended during
2004-05 is presented in the following table.

BFSC Fire safety compliance inspections 2004-05.

Type of Premises	Qty Insp
Hotels	75
Public Places / Commercial	56
Motels	31
Caravan Parks	21
Licensed premises / Clubs	11
Private Medical facilities	6
Private School facilities	3
TOTAL	**203**

Health building surveys

A three-year inspection program of all health service facilities within the CFS areas of responsibility has been developed by CFS. During the 2004-05 financial year CFS inspected and prepared reports for the management of seventeen Government and thirteen private health facilities.

Fire alarm panels

CFS was successful in obtaining addition funding for the identified need to upgrade fire alarm monitoring equipment and processes. Funding will be distributed over a three-year period commencing in 2004-05. Arrangements are in place to commence a trial program early in the 2005-06 financial year and will involve twenty CFS Brigades.

Development control in bushfire prone areas

Under the Development Act 1993, CFS is the relevant authority to provide technical advice in relation to the protection of buildings in bushfire prone areas. This is for all new residential and tourist accommodation. Under this legislation the CFS is consulted by local planning authorities (Local Councils) in the designated Bushfire Prone Area, for application of bushfire safety measures in accordance with Australian Standard 3959 (AS3959) 'Construction Requirements for Building in Bushfire Prone Areas', Building Code of Australia and the Ministerial Bushfire Management Plan Amendment report. The CFS Development Assessment Unit (DAU) located at Mt Barker performs these tasks.

The majority of applications received by the DAU were for developments within the Mt Lofty Ranges with a number of bushfire safety reports requested for various building, land division and plantation developments elsewhere in the State.

DAU inspects every development application (about 600 per year) forwarded by the planning authority and provides comment on dwelling siting, building protection, safe fire vehicle access, vegetation management and water for fire fighting, which may be adopted as a condition of planning approval. DAU must reply to the planning authority by the legislative time-frame (forty-two days). An administration fee may be charged for advice, but if the advice is not provided within the legislated time frame the fee must be refunded.

- A total of 762 development applications were processed by the DAU during this financial year. The total number of applications processed for the 2003-04 financial year was 625. An increase of 137 applications.

- The number of development applications completed by the legislative timeframe was 469. The development Assessment Unit was able to process sixty one percent of the applications within the legislative timeframe. This is a thirteen percent increase in processing rate from last financial year despite having an increase (twenty percent) in the total number of applications.

The SA Premier's Bushfire Summit initiatives

CFS was responsible for the organisation and management of the Premier's Bushfire Summit which was organised with support from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Planning SA, the Department for Environment and Heritage, ForestrySA and SAMFS. The Summit was preceded by nine regional forums to capture issues raised by the rural community.

Goals of the Summit included:

- The identification of gaps or weaknesses in land management policies for government and private land and formulate recommendations for improvement.
- The identification of gaps or weaknesses in current planning policies and legislation and make recommendations for improvement.
- How best to develop and reinforce the role of local government with respect to local bushfire issues and to enhance the relationship between the State Government and Local Government on this matter.
- Recommendations for strategies for raising community awareness and ensuring community safety and preparedness.
- Identification of areas of improvement in South Australia's preparedness arising from the recent experience of bushfires in Victoria, NSW and the ACT.

A total of fifteen initiatives were proposed by the Summit process encompassing the areas of Community education, fuel management on public land, and development control in bushfire prone areas.

Status of the Initiatives from the SA Premier's Bushfire Summit

Recommendation	Work in Progress	Date
1. Develop the current CFS community education programs (including the Bushfire Blitz Program, Fireguard, Community Fire Safe) as permanent, state-wide community safety education programs.	Bushfire Blitz and Community Fire Safe permanent programs during Fire Danger Season. Fireguard being rejuvenated as Bushfire Watch as part of COAG Inquiry recommendation to educate school children about bushfire as a basic life skill.	June 2005
2. Establish a whole of Government community safety education and information advisory group to ensure consistency of safety messages, effective use of resources, and collaboration between agencies.	Advisory Group yet to be established. However there has been collaboration between agencies as part of Firewatch and the Government Agencies Fire Liaison Committee to ensure consistency.	June 2005
3. Establish a whole of Government/Emergency Service Agencies Operational Information Project Team to explore cross agency information sharing during operational incidents to improve real time information to the public through a range of communication initiatives.	Draft Bushfire Information and Bushfire Warning System has been developed	June 2005
4. Establish a standard framework for the development of local community emergency plans which recognises the importance of consultation with the community; in particular, the input from Regional and District Bushfire Prevention Committees and other key stakeholders.	Not fully established. To review ESAU/SES Community Emergency Risk Management Plans (CERM) for wider application to South Australian Communities.	Feb 2005
5. Formulate common whole of Government criteria and protocols regarding evacuation, refuge centres, road closures and media and public access during emergency incidents.	Working Group established. Small projects established to resolve issue of road closure and media and public access. Issue of evacuation and refuge centres to be addressed as part of COAG and Project Phoenix	June 2005
6. Develop a standard rural property addressing system for rural properties across the State to replace the existing out-of-date system.	DAIS Project Steering Group established. Pilot Project Complete. Cabinet Submission prepared and a multi-lateral bid (for $2.1M over three years) developed and sent to the Emergency Management Council.	June 2005
7. Amend the Country Fires Act, 1989 and Regulations to allow the issue of 'on the spot' infringement notices for minor offences by Police and local government officers.	Completed.	Jan 2004

8. Review the Bushfire Prevention Planning processes to enable the development of strategic approaches to fire management practices on public and private lands on a landscape scale.	CFS has developed a model Regional Bushfire Prevention Plan and all six CFS Regions are currently developing draft Regional Bushfire Prevention Plans.	June 2005
9. Develop regional strategic prescribed burning plans by Regional and District Bushfire Prevention Committees, in conjunction with public and private land managers, for areas considered to be of high bushfire risk.	Government Agencies Fire Liaison Committee has approved Prescribed Burning Policy. DEH have developed Regional Burning Plans. Prescribed burning on Private Land is still to be explored. CFS and DEH undertaking joint development of prescribed burning training in accordance with national standards. Training to commence in August 2005.	June 2005
10. Develop a streamlined native vegetation clearance approval process for prescribed burning and other fire protection measures to meet sound land management and planning objectives, community expectations and responsibilities defined within the Country Fires Act, Native Vegetation Act, Environment Protection Act and the Development Act.	Working Group discussion has commenced.	June 2005
11. Develop and implement agreed standards for the construction and maintenance of fire management access tracks on public and private lands. It is imperative that strategic fire management access is included in district bushfire prevention plans.	Standards have been developed for Public Land. Currently seeking funding from Bushfire Mitigation Program (BMP) – Fire Trails, to assess Fire Tracks on Private Land to develop strategic fire track network across all land. CFS leading Australian Government BMP – Fire Trails in SA.	June 2005
12. Review bushfire policy framework and development plans (including land use and infrastructure) to update Development Controls in designated Bushfire Prone Areas and to consider extending the number of Bushfire Prone Areas.	Mapping and Policy has been completed. Planning SA Project Team has conducted an independent review to ensure effectiveness following recent bushfire events. This has been the major focus for the past 12 months. The Plan Amendment Report statutory consultation to commence in August 2005 and to be completed prior to the 2005-06 Fire Danger Season.	June 2005
13. Review responsibilities, resources and systems to ensure more effective enforcement of bushfire related development approval conditions.	Awaiting completion of recommendation 12.	N/A
14. Review development legislation and/or processes that deal with bushfire management, fuel reduction burning and prevention to ensure co-ordinated legislative and community safety outcomes.	Awaiting completion of recommendation 12.	N/A
15. Grant powers of 'direction' on development proposals in designated CFS referral areas to the CFS to ensure development is appropriate for the bushfire risk of the area.	Completed.	Dec 2003

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT

Operations Planning

Goal

Minimise the impact of fire and other emergencies by appropriate preparedness and response to incidents.

Key targets

Develop and maintain operational preparedness and management plans for CFS Headquarters, Regions and Groups.

The Operations Planning Unit annually reviews a number of strategic operational planning documents. These documents form the basis of the organisations operational preparedness and response. Documents that have been reviewed during 2004-05 include:

- *State Operations Management Plan (SOMP)* - is a management plan for incident and resource management throughout the State.
- *Regional Operations Management Plans (ROMPS)* - are developed in consultation with CFS Headquarters and provide the framework for the management of incidents and resources within the Regions.
- *Group Operational Management Plans (GOMPS)* - are developed in consultation with CFS Regions, and provide the framework for the management of incidents and resources within the Group.
- *Chief Officers Standing Orders & Standard Operational Procedures (COSO's and SOP's)* are detailed Orders that pertains specifically to firefighter safety and is a method or instruction that must be followed in all circumstances.
- *Interstate Deployment Plan – Bushfire:* A plan that provides the framework and actions required to achieve an effective deployment of firefighting resources to a major incident interstate.
- *Safety First 'Safe Systems of Work' reference cards* – Lookouts: Communications: Escape Routes: Safety Zones. (LCES) (Posters also produced and distributed).
- Principles of Mutual Support developed together with the Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH).
- CFS Operations Management Guidelines (Third edition): A documented record of the operational policies, systems of work and operational management practices used by the CFS.
- The specific plans have been exercised, however it has been identified a more rigorous exercising regime is required to further test the preparedness and operational response capability.

CFS has developed an Operational Competency Assessment Policy, including the establishment of an Operational Competency Assessment Centre, which specifically considers Operational Competency for staff. This allows rank to be clearly assigned and matched against the criteria established in the policy.

Physical Fitness Standards have been developed and are available for use by staff on a voluntary basis. These are not mandatory and have not been distributed to Volunteers.

Other preparatory work completed in support of preparedness and response has included:

- CFS Operational reporting forms
- Regional Coordination Centre role statements
- Incident Management forms
- AIIMS Positions Responsibilities Checklists

The Operations Planning Unit is responsible also for drafting documents to further compliment CFS operational preparedness and response capability; the following documents are currently being developed:

- *The State Bushfire and Emergency Management Plan* provides a strategic guide to agencies and the South Australian community about bushfire management.
- *Farm Fire Unit Guidelines* are being updated to include a framework for improved coordination of farmer firefighter teams.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT (cont)

- *The 'Difficult terrain fire fighting team policy'* for the deployment of firefighters to remote, or difficult to access areas of the state, to deal with fire events is being developed. A pilot program to be in place for the 2005-06 fire danger season.

- *Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) capability policy:* CFS is working to establish agency involvement with the State USAR Task Force.

- *Draft appendix to the Mutual Aid Plan* establishing joint Fire Service planning requirements. This plan is designed to facilitate a coordinated approach to preparedness planning for increased threat levels.

Upgrade of the operational incident database and database management tools

CFS has developed and implemented stage one of the 'review and update' of the Australasian Incident Reporting System (AIRS), which was commenced in 2003-04.

This system is utilised to report on all incident activities CFS undertakes across the State. AIIRS will provide a greater level of reporting against national indicators and will more closely align CFS national reporting against the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC) standards.

Stage two will be carried out in 2005-06 and will include training for CFS volunteers on the revised system. Stage two will provide flexibility for the way in which Volunteers actually provide these reports. Interactive multi media options are being developed to make the system more user friendly.

CFS operations are formally being evaluated

CFS has continued the leadership of the Centre for Lessons Learned (Fire) in partnership with all the agencies involved in managing fire across the State. This Centre will become the focus for the evaluation of CFS's performance to fire events across the State, the Eyre Peninsula fire being the main focus. The Centre has continued to review lessons from other States of Australia as well as international lessons that they become aware of.

This concept of a 'Centre for Lessons Learned' is unique in Australia, especially as it is a joint Centre with representation from a number of stakeholders. CFS believes the Centre will have a pivotal role in analysing and recommending lessons from the events of January 2005.

CFS Operations Planning Unit undertook an annual review of the operational audit processes and tools utilised for Regional and Group Coordination Centres. This is an ongoing commitment to the continuous improvement cycle.

CFS Enhance Mapping Project

The CFS Enhanced Mapping project is continuing. The Southern Flinders Ranges CFS book was released in December 2004. This achievement is book number six of the series of eight and covers the settled areas of the State. The Southern Flinders Ranges CFS Map Book covers from Crystal Brook in the South to Wilpena in the North, Hallet in the East and Whyalla in the West.

The remaining books, which cover the Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast, are due for release in December 2005 and late 2006 respectively.

Liaison with other agencies

Through the Government Agencies Fire Liaison Committee (GAFLC) CFS has maintained a high level of liaison with other agencies such as the Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH), ForestrySA and SAWater The committee reviewed the Guidelines for State Government Agencies 'Fire Breaks and Fire Access Tracks' policy. The policy has been endorsed by all agencies involved and is due to be reprinted and issued by September 2005.

The Committee has commenced work towards establishing 'Multi Agency Remote Area Firefighting Teams', which may be deployed to remote or areas of difficult terrain to deal with fire events. The 2005-06 fire danger season has been targeted to trial this initiative.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT

Operations Services

Goal

Minimise the impact of fire and other emergencies by appropriate preparedness and response to incidents.

Key targets

Planning for safe, effective and efficient preparedness and response to incidents

Operations Services staff annually review a number of strategic documents that form the cornerstone of operational preparedness and response. The following documents attracted the greatest attention by Operations Services during this reporting period:

- *State Coordination Centre Plan* - A management plan for the activation and management of the State Coordination Centre.
- *State Aircraft Plan* - Formulated to encapsulate the CFS Air Operations Manual, the document provides the framework and actions required to achieve the effective deployment and management of aircraft engaged for operational purposes.

Maintain effective liaison and close coordination with other Emergency Services and functional agencies

The CFS has participated in disaster preparedness and inter-service liaison at all levels. Level Three Group Control Centres and Regional Coordination Centres have been maintained and incrementally improved. These facilities are a key strategy for CFS to ensure a counter disaster framework for major incident control as well as immediate liaison with other functional services, government and the communities, which we serve.

Standards of Fire and Emergency Cover

Operations Services is also responsible for managing and maintaining the organisations Standards of Fire and Emergency Cover (SFEC). These resourcing standards were last reviewed in 2000. It has become evident that CFS operational business needs have significantly evolved since 2000, which has been a catalyst for a planned SFEC review during the forthcoming financial year.

State Operations, Support and Coordination

In line with our levels of preparedness, the number of partial and full activations of Regional Coordination Centres and the State Coordination Centre increased due to concerns surrounding predictions of extreme and upper extreme fire danger weather across the State. The concerns were well founded with many days of concern that saw activations continue beyond the scheduled end of the fire danger season due to the late unseasonable break.

The State Operations Call Centre facility operates 24/7 with a dedicated team of Operations Centre Officers who strive to ensure a continuity of service provision to the community and CFS and SES volunteers. The Operations Centre Officers currently provide critical resource support to brigades, volunteers and staff including the provision of operational support, information and communications services that includes emergency call taking and operator assisted messaging services.

CFS is actively involved in the South Australian Computer Aided Dispatch project. It is intended that over the next two years all CFS call receipt and dispatch activities that are currently undertaken by CFS Brigades and Groups will progressively migrate to the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission Call Receipt and Dispatch Centre in Wakefield Street Adelaide. Planning has commenced on this very important project and information sessions for the numerous CFS Regional and State Committees will be delivered during the next financial year. In parallel, CFS will also commence the promotion across each of its six regional areas of dial ‘000’ in the case of an emergency.

CFS State Coordination Centre

The functionality of the CFS State Coordination Centre has recently been reviewed resulting in greater emphasis being placed on the need for an effective and efficient means of transferring important operational information between Regional Coordination Centres and the State Operations Centre. The existing State Coordination Center will be re-engineered to include

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND MANAGEMENT (cont)

an intelligence cell capability and a system that allows Regions to gather operationally critical information on incidents within their Region, track current operational

commitments to tasking and view in 'real time' the incident status including all situation reports and noteworthy events for all incidents across the State.

Maintain and coordinate an effective and efficient aerial firefighting capability

The use of aircraft in firebombing operations is not a panacea for bushfire control. Aircraft enable 'quick knockdown' and buy time for the ground crew to contain, extinguish and overhaul the fire ground. This year CFS engaged the services of Australian Maritime Resources to provide initial attack fire bombing services in the Mount Lofty Ranges and the South East districts, which was funded in part by the Forest Owners Conference. CFS brought forward both air operations contracts due to the increased concern for the amount of available ground fuels that were curing earlier than anticipated.

On 11 January 2005, all available aerial firebombing aircraft were engaged in operations at Rendlesham, Adelaide Hills and Wangary on the West Coast. It was fortunate that McDermott Aviation had two 241B Helibombers based at the State Training Centre, Brukunga. One of these was awaiting Civil Aviation Safety Authority endorsement.

The New South Wales Rural Fire Service flight desk and the Civil Aviation Authority afforded significant assistance to enable CFS to engage and make use of the second Helibomber. The engagement of both of these aircraft, together with ground crews assisted in successfully containing the Mt Osmond fire to around 150 hectares in area. Later information revealed that this fire did in fact spot to a property on Yarrabee Road Greenhill, which fortunately, was extinguished by local residents before it took hold.

Several fixed wing water bombers; a Helibomber and the NSW Rural Fire Service Line scanning aircraft were deployed to Wangarry in order to assist with the significant combat and recovery operations that were unfolding on an enormous scale. Firebombing aircraft were regularly pre-deployed to the West Coast, the Adelaide Hills and the South East districts with aircraft from Victoria being engaged to backfill the South East primary response zone.

Helibomber in action on 11 January 2005

The number of aircraft movements during the Fire Danger Season was significantly more than for any previous year and gratitude is expressed to the small group of CFS aircrew and those personnel on the ground who willingly made themselves available to support aerial operations across the State.

Through the State Budget process increased funding will see an increase in the number and types of aircraft available for aerial firefighting capability across South Australia in high-risk areas including the establishment of a new primary response zone on the Lower Eyre Peninsula based at Port Lincoln. In addition, CFS is progressing a 'call when needed' aircraft register and will be employing a full-time Aviation Manager to manage this important area of CFS business.

CFS REGION ONE

CFS Region One covers 10 000 square kilometres of the Adelaide Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island with a population base exceeding 250 000 people. The Region also includes the Greater Mount Lofty Park, Yurrebilla, National parks and forestry reserves. The Region offers great diversity from urban interface surrounding Adelaide to rural activities including cropping, viticulture and grazing. The Region has a large percentage of volunteers and the highest percentage of incidents within the State.

Statistics > 12 Groups • 87 Brigades • 3874 Volunteers

Total Incidents	2004-05	2003-4	Variance %
Fixed Alarm (no cause)	531	621	-14
HAZMAT Incidents	73	77	-5
Miscellaneous Incidents	103	179	-42
Other Incidences/Attendance	142	137	+3
Rural Incidents	806	778	+3
Special Service Incidents	464	437	+6
Structure Incidents	137	138	0
Vehicle Related Incidents	841	877	-4
TOTAL INCIDENTS	**3097**	**3244**	**-4.5**

2004-05 summary

- Group Officer and Incident Management training were provided during the year to enhance the understanding of incident management sixty officers attended a two-day course.
- The Regional Coordination Centre conducted two training exercises to ensure efficient information flow during incidents and understanding of operational requirements.
- The Regional Volunteer Management Committee has established several working parties. The working parties have addressed issues relating to the development of a future-funding model for groups, bulk water carrier allocations, SA computer aided despatch implementation issues and consultation and decision making within CFS. A majority of the working parties have developed a position paper and conveyed this to CFS Executive and/or the State Volunteer Management Committee.
- The Region has seen several staff movements within the Regional Office. This has created opportunities for career development whilst also challenging continuance of service delivery at group level.
- The Region achieved a safety program for a number of brigades by providing funds to resolve occupational health and safety issues. The works were carried out through the brigade. These works are prioritised by the Regional Committee and expenditure reported back to the Committee.

New warning sign for freeway commuters

The introduction of the electronically activated tri- vision sign, located on the Adelaide bound side of the South Eastern Freeway, near the Carey Gully Bridge, will be activated on days of Total Fire Ban during the Fire Danger Season. The sign will be visibly marked so that motorists can clearly read the warning.

The sign reflects the SA Country Fire Service's aim in empowering the community to make educated decisions about their personal safety.

Warning sign for freeway commuters

CFS assists DEH in fuel reduction

Prior to the fire danger season a series of fuel reduction burns took place with the aim of reducing the bushfire hazard in the Mount Lofty Ranges.

The burns are part of the gradually increasing effort to reduce the fire hazard in our parks by the Department for Environment and Heritage in consultation with CFS to ensure the best possible protection is available for firefighters, the surrounding community and the environment.

As part of the Yurrebilla – Greater Mount Lofty Ranges Parklands initiative, significant effort has been placed on removal of woody weeds over the past two years.

Controlled burn in Belair Recreation Park

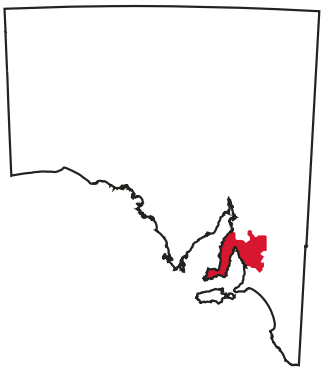
Burnside CFS celebrates 70 years

The Burnside Brigade was officially formed on 21 December 1934 as the Burnside Hills Firefighting Fund. In the years later the Brigade became the Burnside Hills Firefighting Association, Emergency Fire service and now the Burnside Brigade of the SA Country Fires Service.

CFS REGION TWO

CFS Region Two covers approximately 17 000 square kilometres and includes the Mt Lofty Ranges north of the Torrens River, Mid North,
Clare Valley, and Yorke Peninsula areas of South Australia.

Land use varies from agriculture, vineyards, wine production, manufacturing, national parks, commercial forestry and urban/rural living.



Statistics > 11 Groups • 84 Brigades • 3104 Volunteers

Total Incidents	2004-05	2003-04	Variance %
Fixed alarm (no cause)	258	237	+9
HAZMAT incidents	26	30	-1
Miscellaneous incidents	70	143	-5
Other incidents/attendance	135	66	+1.5
Rural incidents	734	730	+0.5
Special service incidents	309	181	+7
Structure incidents	101	99	+2
Vehicle related incidents	695	672	+4
TOTAL INCIDENTS	**2328**	**2158**	**+8**

2004-05 summary

- Personnel within Region Two who are AIIMS trained have assisted with the management of a number of incidents within the Region, as well as having provided support to other Regions during the 2004-05 Fire Danger Season.

- Level 3 Incident Control Centres have been funded to allow them to meet the relevant standard and the shortfalls will be addressed in 2005-06.

- Region Two Officers and firefighters continue to volunteer many hours of their time in support and protection of their local community. These operational activities include training, public relations, cadet activity, fundraising community involvement and attending incidents of all types.

- Group Officers and Deputy Group Officers attended a very successful workshop at Edithburgh in October 2004. Issues addressed included:

- Long term planning for Officers at all levels of the service;
- Personal management styles, knowledge and skills required for leaders;
- Position Information Descriptions (PID's) for positions in Groups and Brigades;
- How the Group Officers saw the service at that time, and its challenges; and
- Timelines for those officers thinking of moving on.

Raising funds for a worthy cause

Cudlee Creek CFS held a quiz night on 12 February 2005 raising a total of $2 656 for the Australian Red Cross Asian Quake and Tsunami Appeal and the Port Lincoln Bushfire appeal.
Brigades within the Gumeracha Group fought a fierce 'Battle of the Brigades', with Hermitage CFS the victors with the highest score.

Hazmat/CBR seminar

On Sunday 12 September, Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) Brigade Officers from Region Two, Three and Four combined resources for a Hazmat/Chemical Biological and Radiation (CBR) seminar at Nuriootpa in the Barossa Valley. Topics presented by SA Police included illegal drug laboratories, STAR Group Tactical decontamination, Technical Advice Coordinators roles and responsibilities and new equipment available in the way of atmospheric monitoring.

Wet August night

In early August 2004, volunteers from the CFS and SES received more than three hundred requests for assistance in one day after a huge downpour of rain caused chaos for residents and motorists across the State. Volunteers from the CFS and SES received more than three hundred requests for assistance after rain and strong winds brought down trees, lifted roofs and caused minor flooding across the state.

Admin forum participants

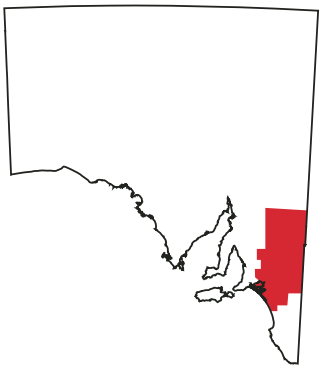
2004 admin forum

Forty-five Administration Officers from CFS Brigades and Groups attended the Region Two Admin Forum on 12 September.

Subjects covered by the Region Two Volunteer Support Officer, Julie Paterson and Regional Admin Staff included police checks for new members and cadet coordinators, member inductions, TAS certificates, awards and life membership, WorkCover, quorums, insurance and general administrative issues.

Workshops were held in the afternoon and raised issues such as developing an effective hand over system, step-by-step cards to processing the paperwork, pro-forma correspondence and access to computer courses.

CFS REGION THREE



CFS Region Three (Murraylands and Riverland) is a diverse Region, covering 54 000 square kilometres. The Region's agricultural pursuits vary from dry land cropping and grazing to large areas of irrigated fruit, wine and vegetables. Apiarists are active in a number of parks areas within the Region.

Tourism within the area continues to flourish, with an annual increase in houseboats and the potential for associated problems. The number of vehicles passing through and visiting the Region contributes towards the overall number of highly traumatic incidents, particularly on the Dukes Highway and which is a cause for concern.

Statistics > 7 Groups • 55 Brigades • 1741 Volunteers

Total Incidents	2004-05	2003-04	Variance %
Fixed Alarm (no cause)	97	109	-11
HAZMAT Incidents	11	29	-6
Miscellaneous Incidents	33	50	-4
Other Incidences/Attendance	46	39	+18
Rural Incidents	279	253	+10
Special Service Incidents	98	68	+44
Structure Incidents	58	53	+1
Vehicle Related Incidents	266	260	+3
TOTAL INCIDENTS	**888**	**861**	**+3**

2004-05 summary

The commencement of the Fire Danger Season in Region Three was a stop start affair with a dry lead up but minimal lightening strikes in the early part. This was combined with flooding in Murray Bridge in December, the Swanport Group being responded to flooding and fire incidents in the one day.

Region Three staff and volunteers were committed to the West Coast in January and shortly after their return were involved in a lightening incident at Ngarkat.

Hazmat incidents seem to have taken over from road crashes on the Sturt Highway with the Highway being closed for quite lengthy periods on two occasions – meanwhile the attendance at road accidents increased across the Region with crews subjected to increasingly time consuming incidents.

Ngarkat and Carcuma fires

During October firefighters from CFS and the Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) battled a series of bushfires caused by lightening strikes in the eastern Murraylands.

Three fires burnt more that 14 000 hectares of open pastoral land and heritage scrub within the Carcuma Conservation Park. The blaze came within metres of a popular camping ground. Fortunately, firefighters were on hand to protect the property.

Another three fires burnt within the Ngarkat Conservation Park in the Upper South East, one of them burning on a front estimated at more that seven kilometres long.

More than sixty firefighters and twelve appliances were deployed to the fires. Non-firefighting aircraft were also used to provide a visual assessment of the fires.

Tailem Bend Field Day

More that two hundred CFS volunteer firefighters from the River and Murraylands district converged at the picturesque town of Tailem Bend for the annual Region Three field day.

CFS firefighters put into practice skills gained from previous training as well as learning new techniques at a serries of training exercises held around the township.

Exercises included road crash rescue, safety with electricity when dealing with structure fires, pumps and priming, LPG gas cylinder fires, and safety when dealing with fires in illegal drug labs – a seminar conducted by the SA Police.

Cambrai and Sedan CFS Brigades close the town

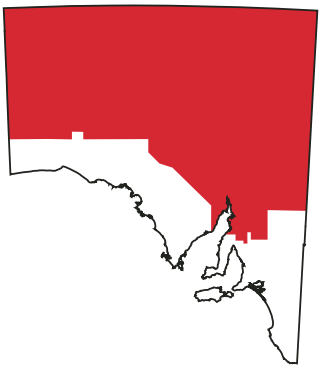
Sunday 23 January 2005 the Cambrai and Sedan CFS Eyre Peninsula Fire Appeal was a huge success. The town of Cambrai was a buzz with activity, with a partial roadblock, stopping motorists and asking for donations.

Both ends of the town were marked with round bales of hay, and two Semi trailers loaded up with thirty round bales of cereal hay ready to be delivered to the victims of the recent West Coast fires.

Donated bales of hay ready to go to Eyre Peninsula

CFS REGION FOUR

CFS Region Four covers the Mid North, Flinders, North and North West Pastoral Areas (approximately 700 000 square kilometres (or 67% of the state). Region Four has the Flinders Ranges running through the Region and is known for sheep, cattle and grain production. Mining also takes place in the northern areas of the Region.



Statistics > 9 Groups • 61 Brigades • 2267 Volunteers

Total Incidents	2004-05	2003-04	Variance %
Fixed Alarm (no cause)	70	78	-1
HAZMAT Incidents	18	24	-3
Miscellaneous Incidents	16	35	-6
Other Incidences/Attendance	35	15	+1.3
Rural Incidents	195	168	+2
Special Service incidents	28	20	+4
Structure Incidents	34	58	-4
Vehicle Related incidents	165	163	+1
TOTAL INCIDENTS	**561**	**561**	**0**

2004-05 summary

- Four Community Fire Safety sessions have been held, Beeteloo Valley, Laura, Wirrabara and Melrose
- Brigade preparedness audits completed
- TAS information inputted within agreed timeframes
- Training programmes well attended
- Critical Incident Stress debriefing conducted within seventy-two hour timeframes
- Cadet Regional Committee established
- Risk management training given to staff
- Capital works projects completed, new stations for Wirrabara & Snowtown, extensions for Whyte Yarcowie, Burra & Stirling North
- Region Four headquarters extensions completed
- One hundred percent Brigades audited
- One hundred percent Brigade bank statements returned
- Complaints management within groups & brigades has been facilitated in a timely manner when requested
- Employer recognition program identified and planned for September 2005
- Workplace harmony training has commenced within the Region

Targets not met this reporting period

Prevention and Operational planning issues and Occupational Health Safety & Welfare Key deliverables were not achieved due to limited resources available. Reviewing of numerous systems, policies etc not achieved as are awaiting for legislative changes. Not visiting pastoral brigades enough throughout the year.

Training exercise at Long Creek

During the year CFS crews combined efforts with the State Emergency Service (SES) and SA Ambulance and drove twenty kilometres West of Coober Pedy for a joint training exercise at Long Creek. About five hours was spent in the field learning first aid, conducting a drafting exercise using a portable dam and examining how the SES air tent was set up.

Examination of SES air tent inter-agency exercise

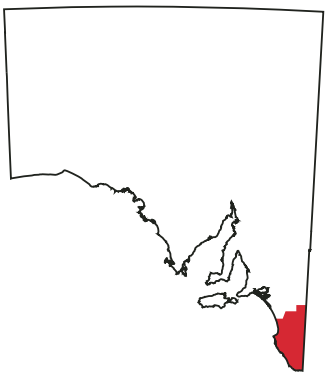
Kitchen fire

Volunteers from Coober Pedy CFS travelled around 110 kilometres to the north of Coober Pedy to respond to a caravan fire on 19 January 2005.

When volunteer firefighters arrived, the caravan, parked in a bay along the side of the Stuart Highway, had been completely destroyed.

It was understood that the owner of the caravan had been cooking lunch at the time of the incident and had left it unattended.

CFS REGION FIVE



CFS Region Five covers about 20 000 square kilometres of the State, with a population of 70 000 people. In general terms it covers the Upper and Lower South East.

With reliable rainfall and abundant underground water the Region has a strong history as a wealthy agricultural area. It is claimed the wine growing district between Penola and Padthaway, is Australia's premier wine-growing district due to a favourable combination of soils and climate. There has been recent rapid expansion of both viticulture and other horticulture.

The South East of South Australia represents eighty five percent of the states forests and is a $1.7 billion dollar industry with an annual growth rate of two percent per annum.

The Region has a history of significant fires and other emergencies that impact on the community in general terms the risks faced by the community are increasing as economical growth continues with industry expansion.

Statistics > 8 Groups • 82 Brigades • 2551 Volunteers

Total Incidents	2004-05	2003-04	Variance %
Fixed Alarm (no cause)	74	84	-11
HAZMAT Incidents	14	13	+8
Miscellaneous Incidents	24	50	-5
Other Incidences/Attendance	35	26	+35
Rural Incidents	204	175	+17
Special Service Incidents	44	52	-15
Structure Incidents	40	55	-27
Vehicle Related Incidents	187	207	-1
TOTAL INCIDENTS	**622**	**662**	**0**

2004-05 summary

- Region Five was instrumental in negotiating the common VHF Code Plug with Victoria and now has a standard in all VHF radios across the State and seamless communications with Victorian Fire agencies for the first time.
- The 'Risk Plan' for Kimberly Clarke Australia (KCA) Millicent Mill is now completed. This premises is the largest of the extreme risk within the Region and co-operation from KCA has been excellent to complete the plan.
- During the reporting period, the Region experienced several days of severe lightning activity, which resulted in multiple simultaneous fires across the Region and in Western Victoria.
- Kingston, Beachport, Wolseley and Southend new stations have been completed.
- CFS took the lead with further reviewing the Southern Border Fire Coordination arrangements - document was reissued.
- CFS participated in a joint Air Operations training session with the Victorian Country Fire Authority and Department of Sustainability and Environment to exercise our joint procedures prior to the 2004-05 Fire Danger Season.

- Tatiara CFS Group was awarded the National 'Safer Community Award' for development and implementation of the Dry Fire Fighting Strategy. CFS Chief Executive Officer, Euan Ferguson presented this award.

- The Regional Bushfire Prevention Committee has progressed the maintenance of 'Fire Prevention' strategies along the disused train corridor within the councils of Tatiara, Naracoorte and Lucindale, Wattle Range, Grant and Mt Gambier. Transport SA has undertaken works as per the presented report.

- Upgrading of the Region Five Training Centre has continued with extensive paving being carried out within the hot fire pad area. The Region continues to look toward further improvement of the site to enable more flexible use of the facility for volunteers.

- CFS continues to maintain a high media profile with regular programming of radio and television events including television commercials and monthly radio session in conjunction with the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service.

Volunteers in Prevention (VIP)

Throughout South Australia, CFS volunteers are often asked to talk to school students, community groups and organisations about fire behavior, how to prepare for the fire danger season and what to do if caught in a house or bush fire situation.

The program aims to assist volunteers that already participate in community awareness activities as well as assist Brigades who would also like to provide this service to the community.

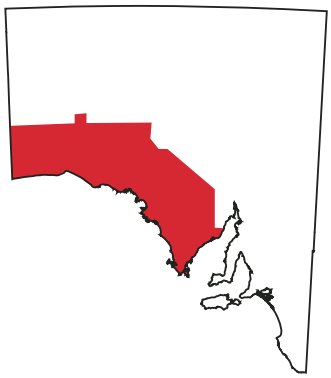
CFS Officer, Malim Watts discovered the VIP while visiting the Californian Fire Department and instantly recognized the potential and need for a similar program here in South Australia.

A pilot 'Volunteers in Prevention' program has been completed in the South East. The overall outcomes of the program were successful with the volunteers delivering Fire Awareness presentations to all Primary schools in the Grant district.

CFS REGION SIX

CFS Region Six is made up of Eyre Peninsula and the West Coast and covers some 188 000 square kilometres. It has approximately twenty percent of the State's population and approximately forty-three percent of the Region is covered by native vegetation.

The major road network in the Region is 'National Highway One' that runs East-West across the north of the Region. The Eyre Highway is the main conduit for heavy freight vehicles, passenger coaches, tourists towing caravans and single light vehicles linking the Eastern States and Western Australia. At present in excess of 140 000 vehicles traverse the Highway annually and it is predicted commercial and tourist traffic will increase significantly over the next decade.



Statistics > 8 Groups • 59 Brigades • 2032 Volunteers

Total Incidents	2004-05	2003-04	Variance %
Fixed Alarm (no cause)	44	80	-45
HAZMAT Incidents	4	8	-5
Miscellaneous Incidents	9	16	-43
Other Incidences/Attendance	14	11	+3
Rural Incidents	124	123	-
Special Service Incidents	15	7	+1.2
Structure Incidents	18	17	+6
Vehicle Related Incidents	80	75	+1
TOTAL INCIDENTS	**308**	**337**	**-9**

2004-05 summary

- This year the Region took delivery of three new 3000 litre, 4WD appliances which have been assigned each to CFS stations in Cleve, Cowell and Tumby Bay. They replace the twenty-year old appliances in Cowell and Tumby Bay which have served these brigades well.

- The replaced appliance at Cleve which is approximately ten years old has been refurbished and put into service in Arno Bay (replaces the twenty-year old appliance currently in use at that station).

- Two more refurbished appliances were assigned to Warramboo and White Flat. The Warramboo appliance was twenty-years old and was one of the last brigade-designed appliances to be replaced on Eyre Peninsula. The White Flat appliance replaces the 1000 litre, 4WD appliance that has limited crew capacity and has been deployed elsewhere in the CFS fleet.

Fire – 11 January 2005

The fire, which became known as Black Tuesday, started on Lower Eyre Peninsula on Monday 10 January and, fanned by strong Northerly winds, flared up on the following day, Tuesday 11 January 2005. The fire burnt through some 77 000 hectares of cropping, grazing and native vegetation. In the process, hundreds of kilometres of fencing were destroyed along with 93 houses, 237 sheds and 139 farm vehicles and machinery.

With great sadness nine lives were lost including two registered CFS firefighters.
The fire has had a tremendous effect on the lives of the people on Lower Eyre Peninsula including CFS firefighters, who lost their own property while fighting the fire and protecting the community in which they live.

This fire will continue to have an impact on the lives of CFS firefighters and the community for a long time to come.

New fire station for Elliston CFS

More than 130 people attended the opening of the new Elliston CFS station, including several former firefighters who returned to the district for the event on 28 January 2005.

Prior to the new station, the seaside town, known for its Salmon fishing had no fire station that the Brigade could call its own.

Mike Wandel, who currently serves with the Sheringa Brigade, said firefighters in the district had waited a long time for their own facility. When he first joined the Elliston Brigade thirty years ago, the members were housed in a small shed at the Waterloo Bay caravan park.

When the fire engine outgrew that shed, a bigger district council shed became the CFS shed for the next 15 years. Mr Wandel said the new shed showed the Emergency Services Levy was being put to good use and the Government should be commended for providing the purpose-built facility.

CFS volunteers receive their National Medals

On Friday 5 November 2004, the LeHunt CFS Group had a presentation evening at the Wudinna Hotel to recognise the service to the CFS by members of the Group.

National Medals were presented to eight CFS volunteers from Minnipa, Wudinna, Mount Damper and Warramboo.

Keith Foale was presented with a Gold Star for forty-five years Long Service, a member of Warramboo CFS since 1953.

Fire station at Elliston

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Goal

To minimise the impact of fire and other emergencies by appropriate response to incidents.

Key targets

Implementing agreed strategies for communicating with and informing the community and government at all levels.

The role of the SA Country Fire Service Public Affairs team is to ensure that it supports all areas of the CFS with effective communications to achieve key objectives outlined in the organisation's strategic plan. It is imperative that the community is kept well informed during bushfires and other emergencies and therefore the delivery of timely and accurate information is paramount. The media plays a crucial role in the delivery of information, with effective media management a vital function of the Unit.

The Public Affairs Unit, comprising a manager and two media liaison staff, provide wide-ranging services, including:

- Media management
- Crisis management and strategic issues
- Corporate communication
- 24 hour Media liaison
- Internal communication programs
- Publications, including the periodic production of the organisation's flag ship magazine – *Volunteer*, and e-newsletter *Firefront*
- Events coordination
- Stakeholder liaison
- Website management

Media management

During the 2003-04 reporting period, CFS Public Affairs distributed 205 media releases and facilitated more than 1000 radio, television and newspaper interviews.

The biggest challenge for the Pubic Affairs unit during 2003-04, was on 11 January, when CFS responded to more than fifty incidents including the devastating bushfires on the Lower Eyre Peninsula, which claimed the life of nine people, destroyed ninety-three homes, and raced across 77 000 hectares in the space of a few hours.

On this day, more than 2000 media calls were received from local, national and international media organizations including the British Broadcasting Commission (BBC). Media and community interest was intense, especially during the first forty-eight hours of the event, with the need for updated information to be provided regularly to the media, community and stakeholders.

During this time, the Unit also facilitated and coordinated dozens of media conferences, distributed media releases and regularly updated the website with new available information.
Media interest for the following two weeks remained strong, with dozens of interviews being coordinated each day and constant liaison with other government departments and agencies taking place.
The CFS Public Affairs unit ensured that information during significant events, especially during 11 January, was available to the media and community. The enormity of the media interest and enquiries during 11 January was overwhelming.

Event management

As well as the media management responsibilities, CFS Public Affairs coordinates many events including the Royal Adelaide Show. This event was a highlight, with CFS recognised for its efforts, and awarded first prize for best display in 2004. Thousands of people visited the site with CFS volunteers handing out more than 10 000 show bags during the nine-day event.

Other events such as Field Days are also significant for the CFS with the Public Affairs unit providing support to its people through assisting in preparing displays as well as delivering educational activities such as the 'Smokey Show'. CFS also took part in the 'Only Way To Live' Expo, held at the Adelaide Convention Centre in May 2005.

Campaigns

In conjunction with CFS Prevention Services, the Public Affairs team also developed a community awareness and media campaign for Winter Fire Safety, to promote house fire safety messages.

The team also compiled a fire danger season campaign to promote the messages of prevention, preparedness and response to bushfire emergencies. As part of the campaign, CFS Public Affairs delivered media awareness training to its volunteers to provide them with the basic skills required to respond to media enquiries during and following an incident.

In May 2005, CFS Public Affairs Unit took the opportunity to develop a 'thank you' campaign during National Volunteer Week. A number of activities were conducted across the state with every CFS brigade receiving a personalised 'thank you' card from the Chief Officer. Brigades also received a DVD, especially produced for them, which recognised the efforts and dedication of all CFS volunteers especially during the tragic 11 January bushfire events.

Training

The Public Affairs unit continued with its bushfire awareness training for media representatives across South Australia. The training aims to provide media with a better understanding of bushfire behavior so they are able to make well-informed decisions about their safety while on a fire ground.

Public Relations

Further to these activities, a new program 'Public Affairs Rotation' was developed by the Public Affairs unit to enhance relationships with all areas of the organisation as well as media – Public Affairs rotation program.

This program, rolled out in March 2005, has been valuable, with one member of the Public Affairs team providing a dedicated media liaison and public relations service to each of the organisation's six regions for a week at a time. This program has also allowed the CFS Public Affairs team to build stronger relationships with volunteers and staff in the regions as well as local media. It provides an opportunity to visit more remote areas across the state and provide media awareness or bushfire awareness training.

Publications

CFS Public Affairs continued to produce its flagship magazine, Volunteer. This publication provides a key communication tool for CFS staff and volunteers, outlining key organisational changes, messages and general CFS news. An internal e-newsletter, Firefront, is also a key internal communication tool for the organisation, Public Affairs is also responsible for this publication.

Audio visual production

CFS Public Affairs Unit has also incorporated into its responsibilities the production of audio visual productions.

This financial year the team has produced videos on:

Black Tuesday DVD for CFS volunteers and staff
Promos for the Royal Adelaide Show
Three minute promotional reel of CFS for use at the Royal Adelaide Show
A 'Thank You' television advertisement from Premier Mike Rann
Radio advertisements for Winter Fire Safety campaign
Radio advertisements for Fire Danger Season campaign
Bluey Day radio advertisement
Radio 'Thank You' advertisement for CFS volunteers

TRAINING

Goal

CFS personnel are competent to safely combat emergencies effectively and efficiently.

Key Directions

- Ensuring that as a Registered Training Organisation, the development, delivery and assessment of training represents best practice.
- Ensuring all training programs are based on a needs analysis and risk assessment.
- Implementing a framework that ensures all firefighters possess the appropriate competencies for the tasks they do and the risks they face.
- Ensuring that competency based training is available to CFS personnel.
- Developing career paths for CFS instructors to ensure that they continue to increase their skills in the development and delivery of best practice training opportunities.
- Ensuring that training and development opportunities are available for leaders, supervisors and incident management personnel.
- Ensuring that all training facilities provide safe and realistic training scenarios to develop the competencies of our people.
- Evaluating the effectiveness of training programs.
- Encouraging professional development opportunities through inter-agency and inter-service exchange and training.

During the 2004-5 financial year, the CFS Training Department reorganised its structure into eight functional areas in order to provide a clear focus and alignment between the training staff and the key deliverables from the annual planning process, consistent with the best practice requirements of being a Registered Training Organisation. The division into eight areas resulted in the following functional units:

Natural environment

The output of the six Regional Training Officers into the coordination, delivery and assessment of training within the 'Natural Environs' is the major focus in this area. Staff and Volunteer Instructors are responsible for the delivery and assessment of entry-level training through the Basic Firefighting 1 Course.

Built environment

To enhance the capacity of the service to deliver training within the 'Built Environs', the permanent appointment of a State Training Officer in this area was made, with a focus on the expansion of the Compartment Fire Behaviour Training course. This initiative further enhanced the skills and abilities gained during the overseas deployment of two State Training Officers to the United Kingdom and Singapore in the previous year.

Emergency management

The appointment of four permanent State Training Officers within the Emergency Management area was made available through the success of a previous Budget Bi-lateral Bid to significantly strengthen the capacity of the organisation to address all areas of Incident Management training across the sector. During 2004-5, all staffing appointments within this area were completed and a significant number of personnel across the emergency services received training in this area.

Specialist rescue

In order to meet the increasingly complex arrangements of Hazmat / CBR within Specialist Rescue training, this area was enhanced by identifying the role within the position of the Senior State Training Officer identified to coordinate and manage the training from a multi-agency perspective. CFS has identified and trained twenty-three experienced Hazmat operators as MART (Multi-Agency Response Team) personnel in order to support SA Police (SAPOL) should the need arise.

Leadership

This area remained a strong focus with attendance at courses available to CFS, Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH), ForestrySA, SAPOL and State Emergency Service (SES) personnel. Training in this area was delivered across the state in order to address the shortfall within the officer ranks in brigades and groups.

Professional development

The Training Department continued to develop training resource kits in line with units from the Public Safety Training Package and this trend will see many existing service level courses transition to National Accreditation. Examination of training deliveries during this year highlights that one third (3312 accreditations) of all training completed by CFS volunteers is now Nationally Accredited and this figure will increase over time. As the demand for Nationally Accredited training continues to grow, the requirement to train and accredit volunteer instructors continues to increase. The organisation now has accredited members in Train Small Groups (469), Workplace Assessor (370), Certificate IV Assessment and Training Systems (130). A further eight members hold the qualification at the Diploma level.

Facilities management

The CFS continues to operate two dedicated training facilities, the State Training Centre at Brukunga and the Region Five Training Centre at Naracoorte to support the delivery of training to volunteers and members of other emergency services.

CFS continues to be involved in the delivery and assessment of training to other agencies within the state and the degree of cross-agency training between CFS, SAPOL and the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (SAMFS) highlights the importance given to all aspects of anti-terrorist training.

During the later part of the financial year, the Training Department conducted a training review involving volunteers and staff members from all regions to identify future directions for training and issues related to the current format of CFS courses. The results from the survey have since been rated against established risk assessment principles to identify future priorities.

Chief Officer's Award for Training Excellence: The annual statistical summary again highlights the considerable involvement of CFS Volunteers and Staff in training, whether as participants or as Trainer/Assessors. As at 30 June 9621 training accreditations had been recorded across the six regions, with thirty-five brigades recognised with the award of the 'Chief Officer's Certificate of Excellence in Training'.

This prestigious award was first implemented in 2003-04 and although the number of eligible brigades fell slightly from the inaugural year, a significant number of brigades are well prepared for the award in the coming year.

CFS and SAPOL Personnel participating in MART Exercise - State Training Centre, Brukunga

The thirty-five recipients of this year's award are as follows:

Region 1	Region 2	Region 3	Region 4	Region 5	Region 6
Athlestone	Nuriootpa	Coomandook	Yacka	Reedy Creek	Greenpatch
Norton Summit/ Ashton	Concordia		Farrell Flat	Compton	Lincoln
Echunga	Mount Torrens		Mount Bryan	Pleasant Park	White Flat
Nairne	Paracombe		Appila	Binnum	
Clarendon	Roseworthy			Hynam	
Kangarilla	Region 2 Ops			Laffer	
Bridgewater	Dalkeith				
Currency Creek	Salisbury				
Inman Valley	Tea Tree Gully				
Belair	Weetulta/Nalyappa				
Mawson Ops Brigade					

Total of training courses during 2004-05

Course Title	Total of Participants	Course Title	Total of Participants
Admin O2 in Emergency	108	Hazmat	42
AIIMS	249	Hazmat Re-Accreditation	76
Alerts	6	Hazmat Seminar	20
Basic Firefighting 1	631	Introduction to GPS	235
BFF1 Info Workshop	87	Level 3 LPG	47
Bushfires - Surviving the Summer	59	Leadership	136
CABA	297	Level 2	295
CABA Course Assistant	2	Level 3	190
CABA Re-Accreditation	194	Manage Injuries at Emergency Incident	607
CABA Seminar	56	Monitor Hazardous Atmospheres	22
CBR Awareness	748	Provide Emergency Care	607
Class A Foam	16	Operate and Maintain Chainsaws	205
Compartment 1.05	145	Plantation Firefighting	36
Compartment 1.05 Level 1 Instructor	7	Prevent Injury	739
Deadman Zone	202	Road Crash Rescue (RCR)	139
Defensive Driving	393	RCR Seminar	31
Drive Vehicles 1	327	Respond to Road Crash	299
Forklift Training	3	Senior First Aid	778
GRN MCS 2000	389	Train Small Group	108
GRN MTS 2000	389	Workplace Assessor	88
GRN Network	389	Workplace Dignity	224

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FOR 2004-05 = 9621

VOLUNTEER AND STAFF SUPPORT SERVICES

Support and develop our people

CFS is a very diverse organisation with volunteers and career staff spread across all parts of South Australia and requiring efficient and effective support by both the agency and the Emergency Services Administrative Unit (ESAU)

The tables below provide information on the employment status and salaries of CFS during 2004-05. These figures are inclusive of employees who were on paid leave.

CFS Workforce Statistics as at 30 June 2005

Persons	**73**
FTE's	**71.9**

Gender	% Persons	% FTE's
Female	**23.29**	**22.11**
Male	**76.71**	**77.89**

Workforce statistics were influenced by a number of items during 2004-05 including:

- 11 CFS staff separated from the agency
- 10 people were recruited by the CFS
- 1 CFS staff was on leave without pay (as at 30 June 2005)

Number of employees by salary bracket

Salary Bracket	Male	Female	Total
$0 - $38 599	4	4	8
$38 600 – $49 999	9	8	17
$50 000 – $65 999	22	5	27
$66 000 – $85 999	19	0	19
$86 000	2	0	2
TOTAL	**56**	**17**	**73**

Status of employees in current position

Number of **FTE's**	Ongoing	Short-term contract	Long-term contract	Casual	Total
Female	14.5	0.4	1	0	15.9
Male	49	3	4	0	56
Total	**63.5**	**3.4**	**5**	**0**	**71.9**

Number of Persons	Ongoing	Short-term contract	Long-term contract	Casual	Total
Female	15	1	1	0	17
Male	49	3	4	0	56
TOTAL	**64**	**4**	**5**	**0**	**73**

Number of executives by status in current position, gender and classification

	Contract		Total		
Classification	**Male**	**Female**	**Male**	**Female**	**Total**
EXEBOA	1		1		1
EXECOA	1		1		1

Total days leave taken

needs to be divided by average FTE figure for the financial year for per FTE figure – Average FTE = 70.44

Leave Type	2004-2005 total hours	2004-05 average hours per FTE
Sick Leave Taken	201.7	2.86
Family Carer's Leave Taken	10	0.14
Special Leave with Pay	96	1.36

Number of employees by age bracket by gender

Age Bracket	Female	Male	Total	% of Total
15 - 19	-	1	1	1.37
20 – 24	-	1	1	1.37
25 – 29	5	2	7	9.59
30 – 34	2	6	8	10.96
35 – 39	5	8	13	17.81
40 – 44	-	6	6	8.22
45 – 49	4	11	15	20.55
50 – 54	-	11	11	15.07
55 – 59	1	9	10	13.7
60 – 64	-	1	1	1.37
65+	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	**17**	**56**	**73**	**100%**

Number of employees using voluntary flexible working arrangements by gender

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Purchased Leave			
Flexitime	4	4	8
Compressed weeks			
Part-time job share			
Working from home			

Document individual performance development plan

Salary Bracket	% with a plan negotiated within the past 12 months plan	% with a older than 12 months	% no plan
$0-$38599		37%	63%
$38600-$49999			100%
$50000-$65999		22%	78%
$66000-$85999		10%	90%
$86000+		50%	50%

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SAFETY AND WELFARE

Goal

Support and develop our people.

Key targets

- Implementing a safety culture throughout the organisation.
- Ensuring a safe and healthy working environment for CFS personnel.
- Providing welfare and support to CFS personnel and their families.

Implementing a safety culture throughout the organisation

- Developed and implemented a functional plan in support of the CFS Annual Plan.
- The plan outlined the activities related to prevention, injury management and welfare. Quarterly reports were provided to the CFS management on the implementation.
- Manual handling risk assessments were conducted on each of the appliance types.
- A fatigue management policy, based on risk management, was developed.
- To begin the process of developing fatigue management guidelines for the CFS personnel, an external consultant has conducted Awareness training of fatigue management issues.
- Delivered Occupational Health Safety and Welfare (OHSW) newsletters to all Regions, Groups and Brigades.

Ensuring a safe and healthy working environment for CFS personnel

- Focus has been on meeting the outstanding issues resulting from the WorkCover Performance Standard for Self Insurers. Forty per cent of the identified non-conformances have been corrected with the remaining work in process items being transferred to the 2005-06 functional plan. The majority of the outstanding non-conformances relate to Standards 4 and 5, Measurement and Evaluation and Management Systems Review & Improvement.
- From an OHSW perspective, considerable Branch resources were focused on supporting the Eyre Peninsula personnel and community after the January fire. Accident investigations were conducted on the tragic deaths with the reports being referred to the Coroner and Project Phoenix team.
- A 'Terms of Reference' was developed for the Compliance Committee which was established to enable the CFS to conduct a management review of its OHSW system.
- A review and update of the Hazard Management procedure was commenced.
- A review of the Physical & Psychological Guidelines was commenced.
- A training needs analysis was conducted for CFS staff and a training plan will be developed to address the identified shortfalls in induction, management and supervisory training, in particular.
- A review of the Health Safety and Welfare Branch functions and roles instigated by Emergency Services Administrative Unit (ESAU), was commenced by external consultants. The consultants have visited CFS, SAMFS and SES worksites to consult with personnel and gain information in the preparation of their recommendations, which are expected by the end of August 2005.
- An external consultant has conducted an audit of the hazard management system, training and consultation.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SAFETY AND WELFARE (cont)

Providing welfare and support to CFS personnel and their families

Stress Prevention and Management Program

The Stress Prevention and Management (SPAM) Team conducted thirty-nine critical incident stress debriefs and fifteen defuses. Three pre-incident training sessions were presented to brigades. A total of 1115 volunteers participated in the program.

During January and February 2005, in response to the Eyre Peninsula CFS community, twelve critical incident stress debriefs and seven defuses were conducted as well as professional individual and family counselling. These services were provided predominantly to Region 6 brigades and included brigades from other Regions that assisted.

Individual follow-up after incidents totalled 3176 hours, 2100 hours of which were attributed to the Eyre Peninsula Fire.

The SPAM Team response to the Eyre Peninsula fire was immediate. A team presence was maintained for several weeks post the incident, and this included involvement with local mental health and welfare service agencies. Professional services continue to be provided to the affected CFS communities.

Volunteer Peer Supports are continuing studies towards Certificate 3, Community Services/Critical Incident Stress Management/Peer Support. Peer Supports provide a vital service to their fellow fire fighters and support the debriefing personnel during interventions.

The Family Support Unit, which is represented in most regions, is a valuable resource to CFS families, providing practical support during prolonged incidents and at times of crisis.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides professional counselling services to staff on a confidential basis.

Mechanisms of injury

The CFS has not met the target of a 15 per cent reduction in the number and costs of claims this financial year as a direct result of the Wangary Fire in Eyre Peninsula during January 2005. Two registered fire fighters tragically lost their lives and CFS moved quickly to minimise the financial burden on the families with prompt payments under Section 44 of the Workers Rehabilitation and Compensation Act 1986.

Accident investigations on the loss of life and a significant burn-over of an appliance were conducted and recommendations to prevent recurrences have been prepared. The investigations were conducted in conjunction with Workplace Services in order to minimise the impact on CFS personnel and their families.

As a result of the compensation paid, the CFS Statistics reflect the costs with an increase in the workers compensation expenditure in relation to the gross annual remuneration rising from 0.85% to 22.32%.

Slips, trips and falls remained the most frequent cause of injury at 41 per cent of new claim numbers but, as anticipated, 80 per cent of the new claims costs arose from burn injuries sustained at the Wangary Fire.

Most of the targets relating to claims management were met, with improvement in the number of injured workers returning to work within five working days being required.

Future directions

Initiatives for the coming year include:
Implementing the agreed recommendations from the Wangary fire accident investigations and Project Phoenix.
Implementing the agreed recommendations from the Health Safety & Welfare Branch review.
Developing and implementing fatigue management guidelines.
Maintain the welfare support for the CFS personnel, in particular those affected by the Wangary fire and during the Coronial Inquiry.
Complete the outstanding items for compliance with the Performance Standards for Self Insurers (PSSI).
Consult with WorkCover and develop agreed standards for volunteer compliance with the PSSI.
Deliver OHSW training for selected Groups, elected Health & Safety Representatives and Brigade liaisons.
Deliver the training plan resulting from the Training Needs Analysis.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE STATISTICS

Table 1 – OH&S legislative requirements	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Number of Notifiable occurrences pursuant to Health Safety and Welfare Act Regulations, Division 6.6	-	4	4
Number of notifiable injuries pursuant to Health Safety and Welfare Regulations, Division 6.6	6	4	3
Number of notices served pursuant to Health Safety and Welfare Act, section 35, section 39, section 40	-	1	0

Table 2 – Injury management legislative requirements	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Total number of employees who participated in a rehabilitation program	12	11	8
Total number of employees rehabilitated and reassigned to alternative duties	3	1	2
Total number of employees rehabilitated back to their original work	8	8	2

Table 3 – WorkCover action limits	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
The number of open claims as at 30 June 2005	23	33	34
Percentage of workers compensation expenditure over gross annual remuneration	22.32%	0.85%	0.11%

Table 4 – Number of claims	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
The number of new workers compensation claims in the financial year	75	72	58
The number of fatalities	2	0	0
The number of lost time injuries (LTI)	18	22	16
The number of medical treatment only (MTO) injuries during the reporting period	57	50	42
Total number of whole working days lost	386	929	412

Table 5 – Cost of workers compensation	2004-05 $	2003-04 $	2002-03 $
Cost of new claims for the financial year	575 644	346 386	77 411
Cost of all claims excluding lump sum payments	240 335	411 754	201 925
Amount paid for lump sum payments s42 of the WRC Act	0.00	44 827	205 600
Amount paid for lump sum payments s43 of the WRC Act)	32 794	110 000	44 559
Amount paid for lump sum payments s44 of the WRC Act	447 229	0	0
Total amount recovered from external sources s54 of the WRC Act	2 577	118	25 544
Budget allocation for workers compensation	320 000	370 000	498 000

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE STATISTICS (cont)

Table 6 – Trends	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Injury frequency rate (calculated from Australian Standard AS1885) for new lost time injury/disease for each million hours worked	Unable to calculate	Unable to calculate	Unable to calculate
Most frequent cause (mechanism) of injury 2004-05 - Falls Trips and Slips 2003-04 - Falls Trips and Slips 2002-03 - Falls Trips and Slips	31 41% of new claim numbers	19 26% of new claim numbers	12 22% of new claims numbers
Most expensive cause (mechanism) of injury 2004-05 – Heat Radiation and Electricity 2003-04 – Other and unspecified mechanisms of injury 2002-03 – Falls Trips and Slips	$464 114 80% of new claim costs	$222 794 64% of new claim costs	$26 634 34% of new claims costs

Table 7 – Meeting the organisation's strategic targets	2004-05 %
15% reduction in new claim numbers for the financial year 2004-05 compared to financial year 2003-04	4.17 Increase
15% reduction in new claim financial costs for the financial year 2004-05 compared to financial year 2003-04	66 Increase
15% reduction in gross financial costs for the financial year 2004-05 compared to financial year 2003-04	57 Increase
75% of claims determined within 10 working days.	85.3
95% of new claims determined within 3 months	98.5
70% of injured workers RTW within 5 working days	64
95% of inured workers RTW within 3 months	89.4
15% reduction in average days lost	60 Reduction

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT BRANCH

Goal

Support and develop our people

Key targets

Maintaining a recruitment strategy for CFS personnel at all levels

Achievements

- Six recruitment workshops were conducted for CFS volunteers. At the completion of the workshops brigades have the capacity to determine recruitment campaigns, advertising for new members, community response and budgeting for a campaign.
- Fifty-five brigades conducted recruitment drives in the past twelve months.
- A recruitment hotline received 290 calls.
- A recruitment video was produced for distribution to brigades as part of their recruitment campaigns. The video has had coverage through community service announcement spots on regional television.

Number of firefighters, auxiliaries and cadets 2004-05

Region	BF 2005	BF 2004	BF Var.	BA 2005	BA 2004	BA Var.	BCAD 2005	BCAD 2004	BCAD Var.	Total 2005	Total 2004	Total Var.
REG1	2 634	2 595	39	985	1 003	-18	255	234	21	3 874	3 832	42
REG2	2 186	2 143	43	633	697	-64	285	302	-17	3 104	3 142	-38
REG3	1 329	1 315	14	302	325	-23	110	96	14	1 741	1 736	5
REG4	1 566	1 583	-17	576	674	-98	125	119	6	2 267	2 376	-109
REG5	1 950	1 932	18	531	586	-55	70	76	-6	2 551	2 694	-43
REG6	1 642	1 593	49	287	294	-7	103	126	-23	2 032	2 013	19
Report Total:	**11 307**	**11 161**	**146**	**3 314**	**3 579**	**-265**	**948**	**953**	**-5**	**15 569**	**15 693**	**-124**

BF = Brigade firefighter • BA = Brigade auxiliary • BCAD = Brigade Cadet

Implementing practices that are open, fair and equitable

Achievements

- The 'Working in Harmony Program' has been developed and implemented to enable the CFS to achieve its objective of providing an environment free from discrimination, harassment, bullying and other unacceptable behaviour.
- The Working In Harmony Program has two core components;
  - Workplace Dignity Training; and
  - Harassment Contact Officers

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT BRANCH (cont)

- Workplace Dignity training is provided to brigades to inform members about the work practices. The training covered legislation associated with workplace harassment and discrimination, bullying, responsibility of ranking officers and management, responsibility of members and the procedure for dealing with unacceptable behaviour.

- Two hundred and sixty seven members from the following Regions received training during this reporting period:
  - Region 1 (72)
  - Region 4 (24)
  - Region 2 (94)
  - Region 5 (26)
  - Region 3 (25)
  - Region 6 (26)

- Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers for all regions have been appointed to assists volunteers. Harassment Contact Officers provide support to volunteers who may wish to explore their options in regards to a complaint of harassment or bullying.

- Volunteer Harassment Contact Officers are available through a confidential referral service provided by the Volunteer Management Branch on a 1300 number.

Maintaining a retention strategy for CFS volunteer personnel

Achievement

A major focus has been on volunteer retention within CFS. To facilitate this, ESAU has produced an 'Exit Interview' policy and procedure, and this identifies the reason why volunteers have left their brigade and what action can be taken in the future to reduce the turnover of volunteers.

A pilot Exit Interview Project has been conducted with a total of five hundred exited volunteers having been contacted by telephone. Phase II of the project involved a mail-out survey to 1500 exited members. The results are currently being analysed. An interim report on Phase I was provided to the CFS Board in December 2004.The program has concentrated on volunteers who have left in the past two years.

Maintaining a youth programs development strategy

Child Protection

- In conjunction with Scouts Australia and the Department of Children, Youth and Family Services, CFS has reviewed the 'Child Protection Policy' and is initiating consultation with volunteers and staff with a new policy to be introduced by 30 December 2005. The prime objectives of the new policy will be:

- to provide ways to minimise the risk of child abuse to youth members and
- to ensure that all allegations of child abuse or suspected child abuse are handled in a consistent and appropriate manner.

This policy will provide guidance in the following specific areas:
- understanding child abuse
- identifying child abuse
- responding to situations of suspected or known child abuse
- prevention (screening, reinforcement, procedures)
- training
- privacy

VOLUNTEER MANAGEMENT BRANCH (cont)

Cadet OH&S awareness program

A training program for CFS cadets has been produced and will be widely distributed in the next twelve months. The training program enables cadets to understand their responsibilities and that of CFS, understanding hazard management, importance of accident/near miss reporting and an understanding of the Occupational Health & Safety Legislation. Cadet programs have included:

- Participation in the South Australian Government Initiatives through the Activ8 program, and Premier's Challenge. The Activ8 program was conducted in four schools and 100 cadets took part in the Premier's Challenge.

- Skills development for cadets who are the leaders in the brigade
  This has been conducted in five regions and includes a weekend of activities on topics such as teamwork, the principles of leadership, working together and planning programs.

- Community based activities, which include the 'Anzac Day Vigil' in which cadets from CFS took part. This involved a team effort in standing guard at the War Memorial in Adelaide from 6.00pm Anzac Day Eve until 6.00am Anzac Day. The presentation and involvement of the cadets was highly commended by the Returned Soldiers League.

Identification of volunteer priorities through the Bushfire Cooperative Research Centre (CRC)

The CFS, in conjunction with ESAU, Volunteer Management Branch and the CRC commissioned a study of the experiences of CFS women volunteers. At the Strategic Leadership Group meeting in July 2004, several topics for research were prioritised by the group. Researching the experiences of women volunteers was seen to be a relevant research topic.

This proposal is congruent with the CFS Annual Plan and with particular reference to the key result area, 'Volunteer and Staff Support'. The goal is to Support and develop our people. The key deliverable is to Develop and Manage Volunteer Recruitment & Retention

Cadet training

- Provide current and accurate information about the experiences of women volunteers within CFS.
- Provide information to guide future advertising and marketing activities aimed at recruiting women volunteers.
- Provide information on actions which could be undertaken by CFS to enhance retention of women volunteers.
- Enhance the reputation of CFS and ESAU as a leader in the field of volunteer member research concerning equity and diversity issues.

Future direction

- Develop themes to promote CFS volunteerism amongst schools.
- Deliver recruitment workshops to volunteers.
- Continue to deliver Equity and Diversity Programs to CFS volunteers, such as the Working In Harmony Program and implementation of recommendations from the research projects.
- Continue a program of Exit Interviews.
- Develop and deliver training to enhance the retention of volunteers.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Strategic management

Goal

CFS activities emphasise business excellence and continuous improvement.

Key targets

- Implementing a risk management approach throughout CFS
- Implementing good corporate governance practices
- Providing a clear framework for development and measurement of goals

Continuous business improvement

The CFS began a journey towards Business Excellence in early 2003 and is continuing to develop a systematic approach to governance and business improvement through applying the Australian Business Excellence Framework as a guide to action and improvement.

In the second half of 2005, CFS will involve another twenty staff members in the 'Driving Excellence' program. The Program will be conducted on a 50/50 basis with the Emergency Services and Administrative Unit (ESAU).

The framework provides:

- a superior and robust methodology;
- a practical and effective approach;
- is widely recognised by a range of Emergency Service Organisations.

This program has provided excellent opportunities for senior managers from the three emergency services agencies to learn about the principles of Business Excellence and apply them to a number of 'Opportunities for Improvement' within their own agency.

As part of the 9-Step - *Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA)* improvement process, one of the key successes was the *'Self Assessment Process'*.

During this reporting period, CFS ran a very similar program, this time incorporating a wider cross-section of our middle-level managers and senior administrative staff *(eighteen CFS staff members completed the course)*. CFS now has over thirty staff members who have completed the *'Driving Excellence'* program.

It is however much more than just a program, the twelve Principles of Business Excellence, the 9-Step Self Assessment process and PDSA are firmly built into both CFS's Strategic Planning and Annual Planning processes. CFS now use a range of other improvement tools such as:

- A standard meeting agenda; – including a Code of Conduct for all meetings.
- A standard action and agreement record; - this replaces minutes of a meeting and is designed to reduce the administrative workload by capturing the essential items only.
- Feedback station available for all meetings by way of a large poster that allows the chairman and meeting participants to provide immediate feedback and input.
- A range of other tools designed to assist meeting facilitators manage meetings and workshops more efficiently.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (cont)

By adopting the Business Excellence Framework the CFS has:

- Built into both the Strategic and Annual Planning processes, the 'Self Assessment' process.
- The 'Systems View' is part of the Strategic Plan and is reviewed on an annual basis.
- PDSA and the twelve Principles of Business Excellence are understood and applied into systems and processes of work.
- CFS has a shared set of tools and templates that help to communicate and manage in a consistent manner. (For example: Action Agreements Records and standard agendas including a Code of Conduct for meetings)
- Streamlined planning and consultation processes, through a wider understanding of our Strategic and Annual Planning processes.
- Higher level of understanding of measurement and reporting on improvements (both internal & external) through a wider understanding of the linkages of CFS Strategic and Annual Planning processes to higher level Strategic Plans.
- Improved meeting processes.
- Improved internal communication mechanisms using the Driving Excellence Feedback Station. (The Feedback Station is a simple chart that enables participants to provide feedback and comment in a neutral way during meetings etc).
- Greater understanding and use of 'Improvement Tools'.

Linkages to strategic and annual planning processes

In September 2004 the CFS Strategic Leadership Group (SLG) participated in a two day Strategic Planning Workshop. This Workshop used a range of Business Excellence processes (including a fresh Self Assessment, Environmental Scan, and analysis of CFS Corporate Risk Register) to propose a revised set of Key Result Areas:

- Community and Environmental Risk Reduction
- Organisational Preparedness
- Effective Emergency Response and Management
- Valuing and Supporting Our People
- Managing Our Business Better

The CFS Board has recently endorsed the revised Key Result Areas. Building on this, the SLG together with Managers from ESAU have recently finalised the Key Directions, Key Deliverables and Key Performance Indicators for each Key Result Area. This forms the basis of the CFS Annual Plan for 2005-06. The Annual Plan also incorporates a large number of the recommendations coming out of the Wangary Bushfire and Project Phoenix.

Risk management

The South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) is committed to promoting and facilitating an environment in which risk management is an accepted element in management decision making.

The CFS Risk Management Procedure has been developed to ensure consistency, effectiveness and efficiency in the identification, recording, treatment and management of corporate and OHS&W risks in support of the legislative, governance and operational requirements of CFS.

The CFS Risk Management Working Group was formed to ensure that a procedure is in place to identify, treat, review and prioritise risks for which more detailed policies and procedures will be produced. CFS is able to demonstrate capability to comply with relevant legislation and guidelines, and be proactive in identifying emerging issues requiring policy or procedural attention.

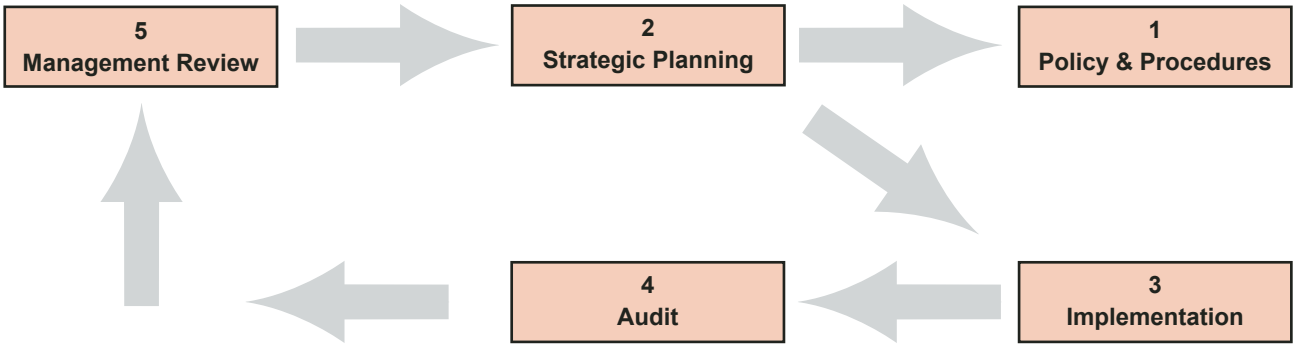
BUSINESS MANAGEMENT (cont)

The document aims to:

- Provide clear direction in terms of a common procedure across CFS.
- Improve the effectiveness of the risk management process from identification through implementation to review and audit, including document control and record management procedures.
- Support a culture within CFS of identifying, monitoring, reviewing and evaluating all risks.
- Instil a stakeholder focus to the risk management approach within the CFS.
- Provide practical guidance and support to CFS Brigades, Groups, Regions and Functional Units and facilitate knowledge sharing by staff and volunteers.

This Framework would also apply to policy and procedures that CFS is required to adopt to meet its business and legislative requirements.

The CFS Risk Management Procedure can be represented as follows



Once a risk is identified it is recorded and assessed in accordance with the processes as outlined in the Emergency Service Administrative Unit (ESAU) Risk Management Framework. If required, policies and procedures are developed to mitigate and/or manage the risk and these processes are implemented via their inclusion in the CFS Strategic and Annual Planning process. These policies and procedures are then audited and the outcomes (Opportunities for Improvement) are fed into the CFS Management Review process, which in turn is fed back into the CFS Strategic and Annual Planning process.

Key achievements

The CFS Strategic Plan is firmly built on the foundation of Business Excellence and the CFS is progressing well on the journey towards incorporating the Principles of Business Excellence in all of its business and planning processes.

Future directions

The functional area of Strategic Services is relatively new, having been endorsed by the CFS Board through the CFS Workforce Plan in May 2004. The Strategic Services functional area also provides overall guidance to the three key areas of Prevention Services, Infrastructure and Logistics and Public Affairs.

Each of the three functional units within Strategic Services have their own plans for the forthcoming reporting period, however the key deliverables for the Manager of Strategic Services for 2005-06 are as follows:

- Review the CFS Strategic Workforce Plan.
- Review and re-negotiate CFS Industrial Agreement.
- Develop a planned approach to support the SA Volunteer Fire Brigades Association activities.
- Review volunteer consultation framework in relation to CFS decision-making.
- Continue to implement business excellence across the agency.
- Changes to legislation that support risk mitigation and management framework will be proposed to Government.
- Develop and implement a strategy for integrated management systems for all business functions.
- Establish and maintain standards, procedures and policies that reflect business excellence and/or comply with legislation.
- Implement the ESAU Governance policy.
- Ensure CFS plans are linked to the ESAU strategic plan.
- Manage CFS responses to Ministerial requests, general complaints, Ombudsmen requests and Freedom of Information requests.
- Develop a strategy to engage stakeholders in developing a vision for a future direction towards the year 2020.
- Service agreements established with ESAU and other service providers.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND LOGISTICS

Goal

CFS activities emphasise business excellence and continuous improvement

Key directions

- Establish a culture of business excellence and continuous improvement within CFS.
- Ensure structure and functions of CFS meet the contemporary needs of the community and CFS stakeholders.
- Explore and investigate opportunities for integration of new technology into CFS business.
- Enhance communications facilities.
- Develop, Implement and monitor an annual maintenance program

Infrastructure and Logistics is responsible for the key areas of:

- Developing and implementing a capital works program to replace ageing appliances and station.
- Project management of the building of new appliances and the construction of new stations.
- Ensuring the existing fleet is correctly maintained and is ready for the fire danger season.
- Managing leased vehicles through Fleet SA. Asset Management.
- Implementing maintenance programs and controlling minor works budget for repairs to existing stations.
- Telecommunications.

Vehicle fleet

New Appliances Purchased In 2004-05

34P Rural Pumper type appliances

During the year eight new 34P-type appliances were purchased by CFS. These appliances were built by SEM Fire and Rescue and have been allocated to the following brigades:

- Virginia
- Burnside
- Norton Summit
- Tanunda
- Dalkeith
- Crystal Brook
- Keith
- Coober Pedy

Brigades are now benefiting from new technology, materials and various innovations enabling the provision of safer and more efficient fire appliances. Enhancements include:

- Sixty metre hose reels located above the vehicle tray.
- Improved water tank low-level alarm systems.
- Improved emergency lighting (beacons etc).
- Improved access and egress systems.
- Improved locker design.
- Ability to carry large hard suction hose.
- Greater water carrying capacity
- Improved ergonomic design

34P Rural Pumper type appliance

34 Rural type appliances

Nine 34-type appliances were commissioned and built at Moore Engineering in Murray Bridge. The following brigades will benefit from these new appliances.

The Range / Hope Forest

- Coonalpyn
- Goolwa
- Salisbury
- Kadina
- Millicent
- Minlaton
- Truro
- Kimba

Enhancements on these models appliances include:

- Improved water tank low-level alarms.
- Improved crew protection both on the crew deck and inside the cabin.
- Improved access and egress systems.
- Sixty metre hose reels now mounted above the tray
- Improved locker design.
- Improved emergency lighting (beacons etc).
- Improved ergonomic design.

34 Rural type appliance

14 Small Rural type appliances

Eight 14-type appliances were commissioned and also built by Moore Engineering.
The following Brigades will benefit from these new appliances.

- Hawker
- Dalkeith
- Swan Reach
- Gumeracha
- Basket Range
- Woodchester
- Oakbank / Balhannah
- Lenswood

Enhancements on previous similar model appliances include:

- Improved water tank low-level alarms.
- Improved crew protection both on the crew deck and inside the cabin.
- Improved access and egress systems.
- Improved locker design.
- Improved emergency lighting (beacons etc).
- Improved ergonomic design.

14 - Small Rural type appliance

Light Rural Type Appliance

Light Rural type appliances

Two Light Rural appliances were also commissioned and built by Moore Engineering. These are smaller vehicle used in particular areas where the topography precludes the use of larger appliances. One has been fitted with a prototype high pressure / low volume pump particularly helpful with water conservation. This appliance is stationed at Monash for use in the scrub areas of local conservation parks. The other appliance is fitted with a conventional small pump and is stationed at Quorn.

Urban Pumper

One new Urban Pumper was commissioned and has been provided to Eden Hills Brigade. This Pumper was built by SEM Fire and Rescue and is designed for Urban Firefighting, Road Crash Rescue and Hazardous Material responses.

- This pumper provides Eden Hills with:
- High capacity pumping
- Improved ergonomics
- Very good stowage space
- Improved on-road performance

Urban Pumper

Communications

The Telecommunications group of Infrastructure and Logistics completed the transition to the new Fireground Radios. The completion of the project has seen some 900 Mobile Radios being installed in CFS and Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) appliances and vehicles and 1800 Portable Radios distributed.

The Telecommunications group has continued to work with Volunteers to provide improved radio communications in areas where the SA-Government Radio Network (GRN) did not meet requirements - these areas included the Gilbert Group, Bookmark Biosphere and an area east of Terowie.

A major project to replace the existing 'Fixed Fire Alarms Panels' throughout the CFS areas of responsibility with a wireless based system was commenced in 2004-05. CFS has elected to implement a product called FIREMON provided by ROMTECK (Australia).

This project has been initiated to provide the following benefits:

- Eliminate ageing and unserviceable Fire Alarm Panels in Stations
- Eliminate the dependency on local copper cable plant that is prone to failure
- Reduce the impact on Volunteers time involved testing and maintaining the Fixed Fire Alarm Panels
- Implement a modern approach to Fixed Alarm Monitoring that meets prevailing Australian Standards.

Testing of the FIREMON system has been programmed for the first quarter of 2005-06.

Asset Management Unit

Asbestos

A major project for asset management has been ensuring all stations had been inspected for the presence of asbestos and asbestos registers were established for all required stations.

JTA Risk Management was awarded the contract and some 280 stations were inspected during February to May. Warning labels were placed in stations where asbestos materials were located and testing samples were taken for laboratory analysis where applicable. At present the asbestos registers, together with all necessary policies and procedures information, are being drafted by JTA Risk Management and will be placed into stations during the 1st & 2nd quarters of 2005-06.

Following completion of the Asbestos Registers an asbestos management plan and asbestos risk reduction program will be developed in accordance with obligations under the Occupational, Health Safety & Welfare Act.

For reporting purposes, sites must be assigned a performance score between one (High Risk) and five (No Risk). A cumulative table showing the number of sites within each Site Performance Score is detailed below as follows:

SECTION 1 : Annual report - priority and removal activities

Site Asbestos Presence Status	Priority for Risk Assessment	No of sites in Priority for Assessment category (412 includes shared sites with SES)	Risk Reduction Program: Activities conducted during 2004/05
Insufficient data	Urgent	0	
Unstable, Accessible; or Unstable, Damaged or Decayed	Urgent	8	Asbestos Inspection completed 2004/05 – removal to be undertaken 2005/6
Unstable, Inaccessible; or Unstable, Partly Accessible	High	0	
Stable, Accessible; or Stable, Accessible, Initial Signs of Decay	Medium	79	Asbestos Inspection completed 2004/05 – investigate 2005/6 and activities to be determined
Stable, Inaccessible; or Stable, Partly Accessible	Low	31	Asbestos Inspection completed 2004/05 – investigate 2005/6 and activities to be determined
Asbestos Free	Not applicable	294	

SECTION 2: Annual report - risk reduction

Site category Scale	Site performance Score	1	2	3	4	5	Not assessed
	Site Risk level	**Severe**	**Major**	**Moderate**	**Minor** (threshold category)	**No risk** (target category)	
	% Of Sites in Category at Year's Commencement	0	2%	19.2%	7.5%	71.3%	0
	Adjusted % After Annual Reduction Activity	0	2%	19.2%	7.5%	71.3%	0

Energy efficiency

In May 2002 the Premier launched the Government Energy Efficiency Plan to facilitate the reduction of energy consumption for the whole of Government of fifteen percent by the year 2010 based on a baseline year of 2000-01. This target has now been revised to twenty-five percent by the year 2015.

The baseline has again been revised this year to reflect a number of site additions to the information collected.

New buildings are being fitted with low energy lighting systems and consideration is given to siting in order to minimise heat loads.

Regional office staff have reported:

- De lamping in some areas
- Use of timers and sensor switches for some lit areas
- Regulating air conditioner settings for different seasons and timers installed where possible.
- Raising awareness amongst staff to switch off equipment and lights not required
- Changes to switching to localised lighting requirements.
- Replacement of inefficient air conditioning systems
- Tinting of windows to reduce heat load
- Providing increased natural light when upgrading

Statistical information

	Gigajoules	Green House Gas Emissions (Tonnes CO2)	($)
Baseline	4330	1334	220 003
2004-05	5043		260 095
Variance	713 (16.5%)	327 (16.5%)	40 092 (18.22%)

There number of reasons for the apparent increased consumption:

- A number of issues to clarify the baseline data, with a number of anomalies that will be resolved in the near future.
- An increase in the number of staff at Regional Offices and the State Training Centre Brukunga.
- Infrastructure improvements such as the smoke incineration unit at Brukunga that consumes more power than the previous installation.
- The replacement station program will inevitably see an increase in power consumption in those facilities with the improved facilities available for volunteers often resulting in increased use and expanded membership.
- Expanded staff and floor space at CFS Headquarters (60 Waymouth Street) since 2000-01.

New stations

During the year CFS successfully completed delivery of the first group of ten building projects constructed in compliance with the original generic concept designs.

The concept designs were developed in accordance with the design criteria set by the Building Requirements Report 2003, a comprehensive value management study and a rigorous stakeholder consultation process.

Elliston CFS station

CFS Beachport - new station

The prime objective of the new direction adopted by CFS for delivery of Brigade and Group Control Centres has been established to collectively achieve:

- Value for money operational outcomes;
- Delivery of CFS fire stations in a cost effective and timely manner;
- Application of innovative methods of construction;
- Quality product applying environmental and acceptable aesthetics;
- Application of energy effluent design considerations; and
- Application of special features to improve operational requirements for volunteers.

Beachport CFS station

Kingston CFS – new station with SES

- CFS has commenced construction for delivery of new fire station facilities within the following locations:
- Callington – 1 Bay Brigade station;
- Clare – 3 Bay Brigade station;
- Coober Pedy – GCC office building;
- Inman Valley – 1 Bay Brigade station;
- Jamestown – 3 Bay Brigade station;
- Glencoe West- Brigade office building;
- Haines – 1 Bay appliance facility
- Kongorong – Brigade office building;
- Melrose – 1 Bay Brigade station;
- Parndana – GCC office building;
- Strathalbyn – 3 Bay Brigade station.

Kingston CFS & SES station

It is the intent of the CFS to continue in the long-term with an ongoing review process and seek to renew alternative and better innovative methods of construction as a catalyst for CFS to move forward and improve the ongoing development of the Generic Design Concept for delivery of new CFS fire stations now and in the future.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 9 of the Freedom of Information Act 1991 (the Act), the following details are provided as part of the Information Statement of the SA Country Fire Service that is an agency as defined under Section 4(1)(e) of the Act.

Section 1 – Policy documents

Description of the kinds of documents held by the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) Headquarters and Regional Offices include:

- Annual Reports
- Agenda, Minutes and Reports presented to CFS Board
- Ministerial enquiries and briefings
- Minutes of Regional and Advisory Committees Strategic Plans
- Business Plans
- Group and Brigade Incident files
- CFS Regional Map Books (cost $55 incl. GST)
- Various Information Brochures & Fact Sheets on Fire Prevention & Awareness

Access to agency documents

Requests under the Freedom of Information Act for access to documents or amendment of records about personal affairs in the possession of the Country Fire Service should be directed in writing to:

Freedom of Information Officer
South Australian Country Fire Service
Level 7/ 60 Waymouth Street
ADELAIDE SOUTH AUST 5000

Telephone: 8463 4200
(Officer Hours 9:00am-5:00pm Mon-Fri)

Details of FOI applications processed during 2004-05

Details of applications		Personal	Other	Total
New applications for the year		1	3	4
Applications brought forward from the previous year				
Total to be processed		**1**	**3**	**4**
Completed			3	3
Total actually processed			**3**	**3**
Unfinished		**1**		**1**
Number of unfinished applications at 30 June 2005	Less than or equal to 30 days			
	More than 30 days	1		1
	Total Unfinished	**1**	**0**	**1**

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Consultancy services

A total of $125 000 ($13 000 in 2003-04) was paid to consultants engaged by CFS.

	Number of Consultancies	Reason	Sub Total $
Below $10 000	1	-	2 000
$10 000 to $50 000	1	SAI Global – Driving Excellence Professional Development Program.	23 000
Above $50 000	1	Noetic Solutions Pty Ltd – Lessons learned from Lower Eyre Peninsula Bushfire.	100 000
			125 000

Fraud

CFS is unaware of any incidents of fraud proven during the 2004-05 financial year. CFS undertakes regular internal compliance checks to maximise the potential for detecting fraud. During 2004-05, the SAFECOM Interim Board approved an updated Fraud Policy that provides specific direction on the reporting and investigation of alleged incidents of fraud.

Overseas travel

Destination	Reason for travel	Total number of employees involved	Total cost for CFS $
Germany	To attend Interschutz International Conference in Germany to gain understanding of latest technology for firefighting vehicles and equipment.	1	10 500

Contractual agreements

During 2004-05 the CFS did not enter into any contractual agreements where the total value of the contract exceeded $4 million and the contract extended beyond a single year.

Account payment performance

Particulars	Number of Accounts paid	Percentage of Accounts Paid (by number) %	Value in $A of Accounts Paid $	Percentage of Accounts Paid (By value) %
Paid by the due date	18 427	84.83	42 925 594.58	90.39
Paid less than 30 days from due date	2 196	10.11	3 432 716.89	7.23
Paid more than 30 days from due date	1 099	5.06	1 129 855.24	2.38
Total	21 722		47 488 166.71	

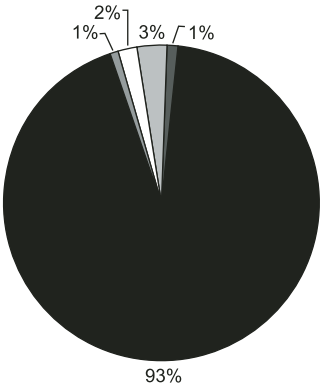
CFS FINANCIAL SUMMARY - 2004-05

2004-05 revenues from ordinary activities and from SA Government - $54.576 million

Contribution from the Community Emergency Services Fund-$50.946 million (93%)
CFS funding is primarily dependent upon contributions from the Community Emergency Services Fund established by the Emergency Services Funding Act 1998. In 2004-05, the fund provided $50.946 million (93%) of CFS's total revenue

Net revenues from the transition and recognition of assets-$1.574 million (3%)
Since 1999 negotiations have been undertaken to identify and transition land, buildings, vehicles and equipment from Local Government and other sources. 91% of all relevant assets had been transitioned at 30 June 2004. Eleven additional properties (valued at fair value of $1.574 million) were formally transitioned into the control of the Minister during 2004-05

Net revenues from the Recognition of Group & Brigade Funds-$0.445 million (1%)
Cash at Bank and Investments held by CFS Groups and Brigades (amounting to $3.231 million) were recognised for the first time in the Board's accounts for the financial year ended 30 June 2004 An additional $0.445 million has been recognised during 2004-05.



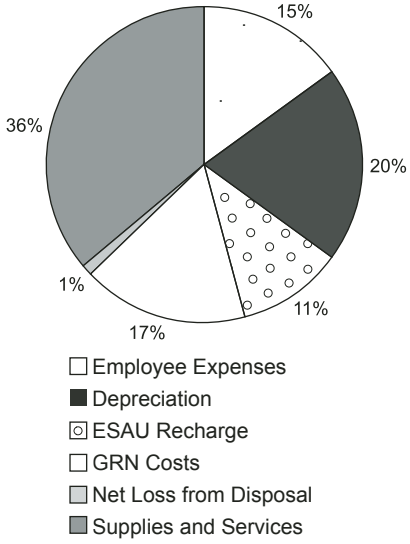
Fees and charges for services-$0.409 million (1%)
CFS received $0.409 million during the year for fees and charges for services, relating primarily to training recoveries and incident cost recoveries.

Other revenue-$1.202 million (2%)
Other revenues during the year amounted to $1.202 million, relating primarily to commonwealth grants ($0.514 million) and interest received ($0.349 million).

2004-05 expenses from ordinary activities - $52.924 million

Employee expenses-$7.684 million (15%)
During 2004-05, $7.684 million (15% of total expenditure) was incurred on salaries & wages, long service leave, workers compensation, payroll tax, superannuation and other employee related expenses.

Depreciation-$10.365 million (20%)
During 2004-05, depreciation of $10.365 million was incurred on property, vehicles, plant and equipment assets controlled by the SA Country Fire Service.



CFS FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2004-05 (cont)

Emergency Services Administrative Unit recharge-$5.778 million (11%)
On 1 July 1999, ESAU was established to provide strategic and support services to the Country Fire Service. SA Metropolitan Fire Service and State Emergency Service. .ESAU delivers services defined in service level agreements and recovers relevant costs from the above mentioned organisations. During 2004-05, ESAU charged CFS $5.778 million for these services.

Government Radio Network Costs-$9.207 million (17%)
During 2004-05, CFS has been charged $9.207 million by the SA Department for Administrative and Information Services for costs associated with the provision of emergency communication services (including voice, paging and data transmission) via the Government Radio Network.

Supplies and services-$19.601 million (36%)
CFS incurred $19.601 million of supplies and services expenditure during 2004-05 relating primarily to repairs and maintenance ($3.705 million), consumables and minor purchases ($3.590 million), aerial support costs ($2.386 million) and communication expenses ($2.064 million).

2004-05 Capital expenditure - $12.745 million

Capital Expenditure
CFS expended $12.745 million on capital items during 2004-05, including $7.196 million on Vehicles, $3.075 million on Communications & IT and $2.268 million on Land & Buildings.

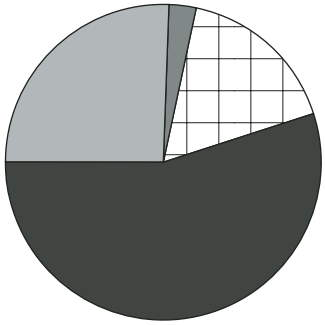
Assets as at 30 June 2005 - $117.321 million

Land
The value of land controlled by the CFS as at 30 June 2005 amounted to $7.428 million. During 2004-05, the total value of land has increased by $3.555 million, primarily due land revaluation increments.

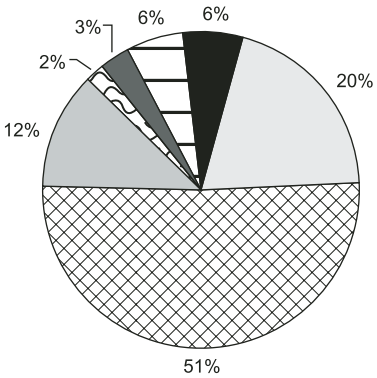
Buildings
The value of buildings controlled by the CFS as at 30 June 2005 amounted to $23.337 million. During 2004-05, the total value of building assets has increased by $2.120 million.

Vehicles
The value of vehicles controlled by the CFS as at 30 June 2005 amounted to $59.520 million. During 2004-05, the value of vehicle assets has decreased by $1.958 million primarily due to depreciation costs exceeding the total value of vehicles completed for the year.

Communications
The value of communications equipment controlled by the CFS as at 30 June 2005 amounted to$14.474 million. During 2004-05, communications assets have increased by $0.578 million primarily due to the delivery of mobile and portable radios for fireground communications.



Land & Buildings
Vehicles
Communication & IT
Plant & Equipment



Land
Communications
Vehicles
Work in Progress
Current Assets
Buildings

CFS FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2004-05 (cont)

Plant and equipment (including computer equipment)
The value of plant and equipment controlled by the CFS as at 30 June 2005 amounted to $2.757 million. During 2004-05, plant and equipment assets have increased by $0.365 million.

Work in progress
As at 30 June 2005, the value of capital works commenced but not yet completed (relating primarily to vehicles and fire stations) amounted to $3.279 million.

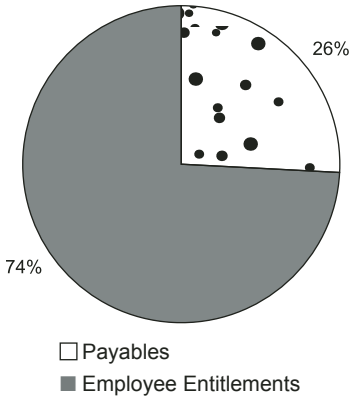
Current assets
As at 30 June 2005, the value of current assets amounted to $6.526 million relating to cash assets ($5.069 million) and receivables ($1.457 million).

Liabilities as at 30 June 2005 - $6.901 million

Payables
As at 30 June 2005, current and non-current payables amounted to $1.810 million, relating primarily to creditors ($0.821 million) and accrued expenses ($0.789 million).

Provisions for employee benefits
As at 30 June 2005, current and non-current provisions for employee benefits amounted to $4.271 million, relating specifically to annual leave ($0.452 million), long service leave ($0.954 million) and workers compensation ($3.685 million).

These charts have been compiled from CFS's Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position and associated notes.



Government
of South Australia

Auditor-General's
Department

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

TO THE CHAIRPERSON
COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE BOARD

SCOPE

As required by section 31 of the Public Finance and Audit Act 9987 and subsection 21 of the Country Fires Act 1989, I have audited the financial report of the Country Fire Service Board and controlled entities for the financial year ended 30 June 2005. The financial report comprises:

- A Statement of Financial Performance;
- A Statement of Financial Position;
- A Statement of Cash Flows;
- Notes to and forming part of the Financial Statements;
- Certificate by the Chairperson, the Chief Executive Officer, the Business Manager, and the Manager, Financial Services, Emergency Services Administrative Unit.

The financial report includes the consolidated financial statements of the consolidated entity, comprising the Country Fire Service Board and the entities it controlled at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year.

The members of the Country Fire Service Board are responsible for the financial report. I have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the Chairperson.

The audit has been conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987 and Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards to provide reasonable assurance that the financial report is free of material misstatement.

Audit procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia so as to present a view which is consistent with my understanding of the Country Fire Service Board's and of the consolidated entity's financial position, their financial performance and their cash flows.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

AUDIT OPINION

In my opinion, the financial report presents fairly in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987, applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the financial position of the Country Fire Service Board and of the economic entity as at 30 June 2005, their financial performance and their cash flows for the year then ended.

19 September 2005

K I MacPHERSON
AUDITOR-GENERAL

Certification of the Financial Report

We certify that:

- The attached General Purpose Financial Reports for the Country Fire Service Board are in accordance with the accounts and records of the Board and give an accurate indication of the financial transactions of the Board for the year then ended;
- as presenting fairly, in accordance with the Treasurer's Instructions promulgated under the provisions of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987, applicable Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia, the financial position of the entity as at the reporting date and the result of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- that internal controls over financial reporting have been effective throughout the reporting period.

Ray Dunden Chairperson CFS Board	Brian Ferguson Chief Executive Officer SA Country Fire Service	Trevor Pearce Manager, Financial Services LSAU	Martin Smith Business Manager SA Country Fire Service
9th September 2005	9th September 2005	9 September 2005	9th September 2005

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

	Note	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Expenses from ordinary activities					
Employee Expenses	4	7 684	5 842	7 684	5 842
Supplies and Services	5	19 601	16 988	19 597	16 988
Emergency Services Administrative Unit recharge		5 778	5 500	5 778	5 500
Government Radio Network costs	7	9 207	9 262	9 207	9 262
Depreciation	8	10 365	9 739	10 365	9 739
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	9	289	348	289	348
Total Expenses from Ordinary Activities		52 924	47 679	52 920	47 679
Revenues from ordinary activities					
Fees and Charges	10	409	284	409	284
Interest	11	349	418	340	410
Assets received from Local Government and Other Sources	12	1 574	5 186	1 574	5 186
Groups and Brigades Funds		445	3 231	445	3 231
Other Revenues	13	853	922	837	922
Total Revenues from Ordinary Activities		3 630	10 041	3 605	10 033
NET COST OF SERVICES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES		**49 294**	**37 638**	**49 315**	**37 646**
Revenues from SA Government					
Contributions from Community Emergency Services Fund		50 946	45 182	50 946	45 182
Surplus from ordinary activities		1 652	7 544	1 631	7 536
Non-owner transaction changes in equity Increase / (Decrease) in the Asset Revaluation Reserve	20	2 288	(831)	2 288	(831)
Total changes in equity other than those resulting from transactions with the State Government as owner		3 940	6 713	3 919	6 705

The above Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 30 JUNE 2005

	Note	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Current Assets					
Cash	14	5 069	7 609	4 744	7 309
Receivables	15	1 457	1 601	1 456	1 600
Other	-	35	-	35	
Total Current Assets	6 526	9 245	6 200	8 944	
Non-Current Assets					
Property, Plant and Equipment	16	110 795	104 875	110 795	104 875
Total Non-Current Assets		110 795	104 875	110 795	104 875
Total Assets		117 321	114 120	116 995	113 819
Current Liabilities					
Payables	17	1 699	3 284	1 695	3 284
Provision for Employee Benefits	18	1 139	955	1 139	955
Total Current Liabilities		2 838	4 239	2 834	4 239
Non-Current Liabilities					
Payables	17	111	85	111	85
Provision for Employee Benefits	18	3 952	3 316	3 952	3 316
Total Non-Current Liabilities		4 063	3 401	4 063	3 401
Total Liabilities		6 901	7 640	6 897	7 640
NET ASSETS		**110 420**	**106 480**	**110 098**	**106 179**
Equity					
Accumulated Surplus	19	85 655	84 003	85 333	83 702
Asset Revaluation Reserve	20	24 765	22 477	24 765	22 477
TOTAL EQUITY		**110 420**	**106 480**	**110 098**	**106 179**
Commitments	22				
Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets	23				

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

The above Statement of Cash Flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2005

	Note	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Cash Outflows					
Employee Payments		(6 805)	(5 645)	(6 805)	(5 645)
Supplies and Services		(21 190)	(15 707)	(21 190)	(15 707)
Government Radio Network costs		(9 201)	(8 913)	(9 201)	(8 913)
Emergency Services Administrative Unit recharge		(5 778)	(5 500)	(5 778)	(5 500)
GST payments on purchases		(4 611)	(3 636)	(4 611)	(3 636)
Total Outflows from Operating Activities		(47 585)	(39 401)	(47 585)	(39 401)
Cash Inflows					
Contributions from Community Emergency Services Fund		50 946	45 182	50 946	45 182
Fees and Charges		274	284	274	284
Interest Received		362	391	353	383
Group Funds		445	3 231	445	3 231
GST receipts on receivables		306	201	306	201
GST input tax credits		4 557	3 042	4 557	3 042
Other		867	1 521	851	1 521
Total Inflows from Operating Activities		57 757	53 852	57 732	53 844
NET CASH INFLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	24	10 172	14 451	10 147	14 443
Cash flows from investing activities					
Cash Outflows					
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment		(12 745)	(10 798)	(12 745)	(10 798)
Total Outflows from Investing Activities		(12 745)	(10 798)	(12 745)	(10 798)
Cash Inflows					
Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment		33	789	33	789
Total Inflows from Investing Activities		33	789	33	789
NET CASH OUTFLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		**(12 712)**	**(10 009)**	**(12 712)**	**(10 009)**
NET (DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH HELD		**(2 540)**	**4 442**	**(2 565)**	**4 434**
CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR		**7 609**	**3 167**	**7 309**	**2 875**
CASH AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	14	**5 069**	**7 609**	**4 744**	**7 309**

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Objectives and Funding

(a) Objectives

The Country Fire Service Board (the Board) is established under the Country Fires Act 1989 and is responsible under the Act for the following;

- Prevention, control and suppression of fires in the country;
- Protection of life and property in fire and other emergencies occurring in the country.

(b) Funding and Administrative Arrangements

Funding of the Board is derived from the Community Emergency Services Fund (the Fund), established by the Emergency Services Funding Act 1998, for the cost of its operational services in the protection of South Australian citizens and their property and the cost of strategic and administrative services delivered to it by the Emergency Services Administrative Unit (ESAU).

Funds generated by Groups and Brigades through fund raising activities are held locally for expenditure in the local community. These funds are recognised in the Board's financial statements.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of Accounting

The financial report is a general purpose financial report. The accounts have been prepared in accordance with:

- Treasurer's Instructions (TI) and Accounting Policy Statements (APS) promulgated under the provisions of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1987
- Applicable Australian Accounting Standards (AAS)
- Other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia

The Board's Statement of Financial Performance and Statement of Financial Position have been prepared on an accrual basis and are in accordance with historical cost convention, except for certain assets that were valued in accordance with the valuation policy applicable.

The continued existence of the Board in its present form, and with its present programs, is dependent on Government policy and on continuing funding from the Fund.

(b) Principles of Consolidation

The financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all entities controlled by the Board as at 30 June 2005 and the results of all controlled entities for the year then ended. The effects of all transactions between entities in the consolidated entity are eliminated in full. Refer to Note 26.

(c) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation in these financial statements where required.

(d) Rounding

All amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars ($'000).

(e) Revenue Recognition

Interest
Interest revenue is recognised as it accrues, taking into account the effective yield on the financial asset.

Sale of Non-Current Assets
The gross proceeds of non-current asset sales are included as revenue at the date control of assets passes to the buyer. The gain or loss on disposal is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount of the asset at the time of disposal and the net proceeds on disposal.

Fees and Charges
Revenues are recognised when services are provided, at fair value of the consideration received.

Revenues from the Fund
Funding for programs are recognised as revenues when the Board obtains control over the assets. Control over funding is normally obtained upon their receipt.

(f) Taxation

The Board is not subject to income tax. The Board is liable for payroll tax, fringe benefits tax and Goods and Services Tax.
In accordance with the requirements of UIG Abstract 31 'Accounting for the Goods and Services Tax (GST)', revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST except that:

- The amount of GST incurred by the Department as a purchaser that is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of an asset or as part of an item of expense.
- Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

(g) Cash

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash at bank and deposits at call that are readily converted to cash and are used in the cash management function on a day-to-day basis. Cash also includes highly liquid investments with short periods to maturity that are readily convertible to cash on hand and subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Cash is measured at nominal value.

(h) Receivables

Trade receivables arise in the normal course of selling goods and services to other agencies and to the public. Trade receivables are payable within 30 days after the issue of an invoice or the goods/ services have been provided under a contractual arrangement.

Other debtors arise outside the normal course of selling goods and services to other agencies and to the public. If payment has not been received within 90 days after the amount falls due, under the terms and conditions of the arrangement with debtor, the Board is able to charge interest at commercial rates until the whole amount of the debt is paid.

The Board determines an allowance for doubtful debts based on a review of balances within trade receivables that are unlikely to be collected. These are generally receivables that are 90 days or more overdue.

(i) Non-Current Asset Acquisition and Recognition

Assets are initially recorded at cost, plus any incidental cost involved with the acquisition. Where assets are acquired at no value or minimal value, they are recorded at their fair value in the Statement of Financial Position.

In accordance with APS2 'Asset Recognition', the Board capitalises all non-current assets with a value of $10,000 or greater.

(j) Valuation of Non-Current Assets

Property, plant and equipment are brought to account at fair value. On an ongoing basis, revaluations are made in accordance with a regular policy whereby independent valuations are obtained every three years and carrying amounts are adjusted accordingly.

(i) Independent valuations for land and buildings were obtained in 2003-2004, and 2004-05 from Liquid Pacific Holdings Pty Ltd. and in 2002-2003 from Valcorp Australia Pty Ltd. and were determined on the basis of open market values for existing use.

(ii) An independent valuation of vehicles was obtained in 2002-2003 for current emergency response vehicles from Valcorp Australia Pty Ltd. and represents the written down current cost of vehicles. Vehicles controlled by Brigades and brought to account for the first time in 2003-04 have been recognised at written down current cost.

(iii) Capital works in progress represent costs accumulated during the construction or development of an asset and is valued at cost.

(iv) Plant and Equipment, Computer Equipment and Communications Equipment are at historical cost.

(k) Depreciation of Non-Current Assets

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis to write off the net cost or revalued amount of each depreciable non-current asset over its expected useful life. Estimates of remaining useful lives are made on a regular basis for all assets with annual reassessments for major items.

Asset Class	**Useful Lives Years**
Communications equipment	10
Vehicles	5-20
Plant and equipment	6-10
Computer equipment	5
Buildings	30-45

(l) Payables

Payables include creditors, accrued expenses and employment on-costs.

Creditors represent the amounts owing for goods and services received prior to the end of the reporting period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period. Creditors include all unpaid invoices received relating to the normal operations of the Board.

Accrued expenses represent goods and services provided by other parties during the period that are unpaid at the end of the reporting period and where an invoice has not been received.

All amounts are measured at their nominal amount and are normally settled within 30 days in accordance with TI 8 'Expenditure for Supply Operations and Other Goods and Services' after the Board receives an invoice.

Employment on-costs include superannuation contributions and payroll tax with respect to outstanding liabilities for salaries and wages, long service leave and annual leave.

(m) Employee Benefits

(i) *Wages, Salaries and Annual Leave*
Liabilities for wages, salaries and annual leave expected to be settled within twelve months of the year-end represent present obligations resulting from employees' services provided to reporting date, calculated at undiscounted amounts based on remuneration wage and salary rates that the consolidated entity expects to pay at the time the liability is settled. Relevant accrued salaries and wages and relevant employment on-costs are shown under the item 'Payables'.

(ii) *Long Service Leave*
Long service leave is recognised on a pro-rata basis in respect of services provided by Board employees to balance date. The liability has been calculated at nominal amounts based on current salaries and wages rates using a benchmark of ten years as advised by the Department of Treasury and Finance. Previously a benchmark of 12 years was used and the change in the benchmark has resulted in an increase of $0.049 million. Relevant employment on-costs are shown under the item 'Payables'.

(iii) *Sick Leave*
No provision has been made in respect of sick leave. As sick leave taken by employees is considered to be from the current year's accrual, no liability is recognised.

(iv) *Superannuation*
Contributions are made by the Board to a number of State Government and externally managed superannuation schemes. These contributions are treated as an expense when they occur. The Board has no liability for payments to beneficiaries as they have been assumed by the respective superannuation schemes. The only liability outstanding at balance date relates to any contributions due but not yet paid to the superannuation schemes.

(v) *Workers Compensation*
A liability has been reported to reflect unsettled workers compensation claims. The workers compensation provision is based on an actuarial assessment prepared by Taylor Fry Consulting Actuaries. The Board's liability is an allocation of the Justice Portfolio's total assessment.

A separate valuation of liabilities of the Board has not been undertaken and if such a valuation was performed it may result in a different assessed liability. The Board fully funds this provision for both employees and volunteers.

(n) Operating Leases

In respect of operating leases, the lessor effectively retains substantially the entire risks and benefits incidental to ownership of the leased items. Operating lease payments are charged to the Statement of Financial Performance on a basis which is representative of the pattern of benefits derived from the leased assets.

3. Changes in Accounting Policies

Impact of Adopting Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards
Australia will be adopting Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) for reporting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005. The Board will adopt these standards for the first time in the published financial report for the year ended 30 June 2006.

Key Potential Implications
Set out below are the key areas where accounting policies will change and where they may have an impact on the financial statements. From investigations undertaken to date it is unlikely that the impact on the financial statements from these changes will be material.

Changes in Accounting Policies
A major change is the treatment of accounting policy changes under IFRS. These will now apply retrospectively except for specific exemptions in accordance with AASB 1 'First-Time Adoption of Australian Equivalents to IFRS'.

Impairment of Assets
In accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 136 'Impairment of Assets' all assets have been subjected to impairment testing, and no impairments were found.

4. Employee Expenses

Employee expenses for the reporting period comprised	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Salaries and wages	5 346	4 542	5 346	4 542
Payroll tax and superannuation	755	681	755	681
Long service leave	233	132	233	132
Workers compensation	1 240	394	1 240	394
Other employee related expenses	110	93	110	93
	7 684	**5 842**	**7 684**	**5 842**

Average number of employees during the reporting period
On average, the Board employed 70.4 (67.6) FTEs throughout the reporting period.

Remuneration of Employees

The number of employees whose remuneration received or receivable fell within the following bands were	Consolidated 2005 Number of Employees	Consolidated 2004 Number of Employees	Country Fire Service 2005 Number of Employees	Country Fire Service 2004 Number of Employees
$100 000 - $109 999	5	4	5	4
$130 000 - $139 999	1	-	1	-
$140 000 - $149 999	1	1	1	1

The aggregate remuneration for all employees referred to above was $789 000 ($558 000).

Board Members' Remuneration

The number of members whose income from the Country Fire Service Board falls within the following bands was	2005 Number of Members	2004 Number of Members
$0 - $9 999	4	5
$10 000 - $19 999	1	1

Total remuneration received by those members was $48 000 ($51 000), which includes fringe benefits and superannuation contributions.

5. Supplies and Services

Supplies and services provided by entities within the SA Government for the reporting period comprised	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Consumables and minor purchases	233	147	233	147
Repairs and maintenance	351	36	351	36
Operating Lease Costs	827	705	827	705
Aerial Support Costs	49	25	49	25
Operational costs	121	154	121	154
Uniforms and protective clothing	18	4	18	4
Communication expenses	26	164	26	164
Energy	2	2	2	2
Travel and training	5	119	5	119
Other expenses	259	256	259	256
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES – SA GOVERNMENT ENTITIES	**1 891**	**1 612**	**1 891**	**1 612**

Supplies and services provided by entities external to the SA Government for the reporting period comprised	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Consumables and minor purchases	3 357	2 803	3 357	2 803
Repairs and maintenance	3 354	3 402	3 354	3 402
Operating Lease Costs	736	644	736	644
Aerial Support Costs	2 337	2 056	2 337	2 056
Operational costs	338	189	338	189
Uniforms and protective clothing	1 259	1 097	1 259	1 097
Communication expenses	2 038	1 684	2 038	1 684
Energy	294	280	294	280
Travel and training	1 475	1 057	1 475	1 057
Other expenses	2 522	2 164	2 518	2 164
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES – NON SA GOVERNMENT ENTITIES	**17 710**	**15 376**	**17 706**	**15 376**
TOTAL SUPPLIES AND SERVICES	**19 601**	**16 988**	**19 597**	**16 988**

Consultancies

The number and dollar amount of consultancies paid/payable that fell within the following bands were:	Consolidated 2005 Number of Consultants	Consolidated 2004 Number of Consultants	Country Fire Service 2005 Number of Consultants	Country Fire Service 2004 Number of Consultants
Less than $10 000	1	13	1	13
$10 000 - $50 000	1	-	1	-
	1	-	1	-
	3	**13**	**3**	**13**

	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Less than $10 000	2	13	2	13
$10 000 - $50 000	23	-	23	-
Above $50,000	100	-	100	-
	125	**13**	**125**	**13**

6. Auditor's Remuneration

The amount due and payable for audit services	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Auditor-General's Department	20	28	20	28
Other	1	1	-	1
	21	**29**	**20**	**29**

The auditors provided no other services.

7. Government Radio Network (GRN) costs

The Board has been charged by the Department for Administrative and Information Services for costs associated with the provision of emergency communication services, including voice, paging and data transmission using the GRN.	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
	2005 $'000	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**
Contribution towards GRN – voice	7 704	7 705	7 704	7 705
Contribution towards GRN – paging	1 503	1 522	1 503	1 522
Other GRN costs	-	35	-	35
	9 207	**9 262**	**9 207**	**9 262**

8. Depreciation

Depreciation expenses for the reporting period were charged in respect of	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
	2005 $'000	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**
Communications equipment	1 824	1 479	1 824	1 479
Vehicles	6 793	6 668	6 793	6 668
Plant and equipment	247	246	247	246
Computer equipment	210	190	210	190
Buildings	1 291	1 156	1 291	1 156
	10 365	**9 739**	**10 365**	**9 739**

9. Net Loss from Disposal of Non-Current Assets

	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
	2005 $'000	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**
Proceeds from disposal of non-current assets	32	789	32	789
Written down value of non-current assets	(321)	(1 137)	(321)	(1 137)
Net revenues from disposal of non-current assets	**(289)**	**(348)**	**(289)**	**(348)**

10. Fees and Charges

Fees and charges received/receivable from entities within the SA Government for the reporting period comprised	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Training and other recoveries	107	43	107	43
Incident cost recoveries	172	(3)	172	(3)
Total Fees and Charges – SA Government Entities	**279**	**40**	**279**	**40**

Fees and charges received/receivable from entities external to the SAGovernment for the reporting period comprised	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Training and other recoveries	129	238	129	238
Other	1	6	1	6
Total Fees and Charges – Non SA Government entities	**130**	**244**	**130**	**244**
TOTAL FEES AND CHARGES	**409**	**284**	**409**	**284**

11. Interest

Interest received/receivable for the reporting period from	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Entities within the SA Government	19	58	19	58
Other	330	360	321	352
TOTAL INTEREST RECEIVED	**349**	**418**	**340**	**410**

12. Assets Received from Local Government and Other Sources

Since 1999 negotiations have been undertaken to identify and transition land, buildings, minor plant and equipment and motor vehicles from Local Government, Community Organisations and other sources into the ownership or the care and control of the Minister for Emergency Services (the Minister).

As at 30 June 2005 all known vehicles, appliances, minor plant and equipment have been transferred to the Minister, Security of tenure by way of transfer, rededication, lease or licence for approximately 92% of all land and buildings has been negotiated, including eleven additional properties (valued at fair value of $1.574 million) formally transitioned into the control of the Minister during the 2004-05 financial year following the finalisation of agreements with various parties and independent assessments of property values.

13. Other Revenue

	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
Other revenue for the reporting period comprised	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**
Donations	16	5	-	5
Rent received	78	43	78	43
Fuel Rebate	46	40	46	40
Commonwealth Grants	514	535	514	535
Other	199	299	199	299
	853	**922**	**837**	**922**

14. Cash

	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
Other revenue for the reporting period comprised	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**
Cash on hand	2	2	2	2
Cash at Bank	1 223	3 010	1 066	2 879
Cash at Bank – Groups & Brigades	2 321	1 517	2 321	1 517
Investments	168	1 366	-	1 197
Investments – Groups & Brigades	1 355	1 714	1 355	1 714
	5 069	**7 609**	**4 744**	**7 309**

15. Receivables

Current	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Sundry Debtors	359	248	359	248
Allowance for doubtful debts	-	(12)	-	(12)
	359	**236**	**359**	**236**
Accrued Revenues	32	47	31	46
GST Receivable	1 066	1 318	1 066	1 318
TOTAL CURRENT RECEIVABLES	**1 457**	**1 601**	**1 456**	**1 600**

Receivables from SA Government entities	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Sundry Debtors	346	17	346	17
TOTAL RECEIVABLES - SA GOVERNMENT ENTITIES	**346**	**17**	**346**	**17**
Receivables from Non SA Government entities				
Sundry Debtors	13	231	13	231
Allowance for doubtful debts	-	(12)	-	(12)
	13	**219**	**13**	**219**
Accrued Revenues	32	47	31	46
GST Receivable	1 066	1 318	1 066	1 318
TOTAL RECEIVABLES - NON SA GOVERNMENT ENTITIES	**1 111**	**1 584**	**1 110**	**1 583**
TOTAL RECEIVABLES	**1 457**	**1 601**	**1 456**	**1 600**

16. Non-Current Assets

(a) Property, Plant and Equipment	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Land at independent valuation	7 091	3 221	7 091	3 221
Land at cost	337	652	337	652
TOTAL LAND	**7 428**	**3 873**	**7 428**	**3 873**
Buildings at independent valuation	23 233	19 172	23 233	19 172
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	2 107	1 069	2 107	1 069
	21 126	**18 103**	**21 126**	**18 10**
Buildings at cost	2 556	3 454	2 556	3 454
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	345	340	345	340
	2 211	**3 114**	**2 211**	**3 11**
TOTAL BUILDINGS	**23 337**	**21 217**	**23 337**	**21 217**
TOTAL PROPERTY	**30 765**	**25 090**	**30 765**	**25 090**
Vehicles at independent valuation	59 988	59 928	59 988	59 928
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	13 049	6 765	13 049	6 765
	46 939	53 163	46 939	53 16
Vehicles at cost	13 760	9 046	13 760	9 046
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	1 179	731	1 179	731
	12 581	**8 315**	**12 581**	**8 315**
TOTAL VEHICLES	**59 520**	**61 478**	**59 520**	**61 478**
Communications equipment at cost	20 351	20 897	20 351	20 897
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	5 877	7 001	5 877	7 001
Total Communications equipment	14 474	13 896	14 474	13 896
Computer equipment at cost	1 790	1 221	1 790	1 221
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	805	629	805	629
TOTAL COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	**985**	**592**	**985**	**592**
Plant and equipment at cost	4 102	3 968	4 102	3 968
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	2 330	2 164	2 330	2 164
TOTAL PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	**1 772**	**1 804**	**1 772**	**1 804**
TOTAL WORK IN PROGRESS AT COST	**3 279**	**2 015**	**3 279**	**2 015**
TOTAL PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	**110 795**	**104 875**	**110 795**	**104 875**

(b) Asset Movement Schedule

2005

Gross Carrying Amount	Land & Buildings $'000	Vehicles $'000	Communication Equipment $'000	Computer Equipment $'000	Plant and Equipment $'000	Work in Progress $'000	Total $'000
Balance at 1 July 2004	26 499	68 974	20 896	1 221	3 968	2 015	123 573
Transfer of work in progress	3 001	4 989	2 233	590	206	(11 019)	-
Asset Revaluation	2 072	-	-	-	-	-	2 072
Transfer from various parties	1 574	-	-	-	-	-	1 574
Additions	224	-	211	17	10	12 283	12 745
Disposals	(153)	(215)	(2 989)	(38)	(82)	-	(3 477)
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2005	**33 217**	**73 748**	**20 351**	**1 790**	**4 102**	**3 279**	**136 487**
Accumulated Depreciation							
Balance at 1 July 2004	(1 409)	(7 496)	(7 001)	(629)	(2 164)	-	(18 699)
Asset Revaluation	216	-	-	-	-	-	216
Disposals	32	61	2 948	34	81	-	3 156
Depreciation expense	(1 291)	(6 793)	(1 824)	(210)	(247)	-	(10 365)
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2005	**(2 452)**	**(14 228)**	**(5 877)**	**(805)**	**(2 330)**	**-**	**(25 692)**
NET BOOK VALUE AS AT 30 JUNE 2005	**30 765**	**59 520**	**14 474**	**985**	**1 772**	**3 279**	**110 795**

2004

Gross Carrying Amount	Land & Buildings $'000	Vehicles $'000	Communication Equipment $'000	Computer Equipment $'000	Plant and Equipment $'000	Work in Progress $'000	Total $'000
Balance at 1 July 2003	25 604	59 032	17 064	1 894	3 742	5 715	113 051
Transfer of work in progress	1 659	6 753	5 153	85	504	(14 154)	-
Asset Reclassification	(1 355)	-	-	-	-	-	(1 355)
Transfer from local govt. councils	914	4 272	-	-	-	-	5 186
Additions	53	157	-	16	118	10 454	10 798
Disposals	(376)	(1 240)	(1 320)	(774)	(396)	-	(4 106)
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2004	**26 499**	**68 974**	**20 897**	**1 221**	**3 968**	**2 015**	**123 574**
Accumulated Depreciation							
Balance at 1 July 2003	(787)	(1 422)	(6 737)	(1 206)	(2 301)	-	(12 453)
Asset Reclassification	524	-	-	-	-	-	524
Disposals	10	594	1 215	767	383	-	2 969
Depreciation expense	(1 156)	(6 668)	(1 479)	(190)	(246)	-	(9 739)
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2004	**(1 409)**	**(7 496)**	**(7 001)**	**(629)**	**(2 164)**	**-**	**(18 699)**
NET BOOK VALUE AS AT 30 JUNE 2004	25 090	61 478	13 896	592	1 804	2 015	104 875

17. Payables

Payables comprise the following	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Current Liabilities				
Accrued expenses	789	687	788	687
Employment on-costs	89	72	89	72
Creditors	821	2 525	818	2 525
	1 699	**3 284**	**1 695**	**3 28**
Non-Current Liabilities				
Employment on-costs	111	85	111	85
TOTAL PAYABLES	**1 810**	**3 369**	**1 806**	**3 369**

Payables to SA Government entities	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Creditors	31	145	31	145
Accrued Expenses	415	439	415	439
TOTAL PAYABLES - SA GOVERNMENT ENTITIES	**446**	**584**	**446**	**584**
Payables to Non SA Government entities				
Creditors	790	2 380	787	2 380
Accrued expenses	374	248	373	248
Employment on-costs (current & non current)	200	157	200	157
TOTAL PAYABLES - NON SA GOVERNMENT ENTITIES	**1 364**	**2 785**	**1 360**	**2 785**
TOTAL PAYABLES	**1 810**	**3 369**	**1 806**	**3 369**

18. Employee Benefits

Employee benefits for the reporting period comprised	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Current Liabilities				
Annual leave	452	314	452	314
Long service leave	20	20	20	20
Workers compensation	667	621	667	621
	1 139	**955**	**1 139**	**955**
Accrued salaries and wages (included in payables)	78	62	78	62
Employment on-costs (included in payables)	89	72	89	72
	1 306	**1 089**	**1 306**	**1 08**
Non-Current Liabilities				
Long service leave	934	730	934	730
Workers compensation	3 018	2 586	3 018	2 586
	3 952	**3 316**	**3 952**	**3 316**
Employment on-costs (included in payables)	111	85	111	85
	4 063	**3 401**	**4 063**	**3 401**

19. Accumulated Surplus

	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Balance at 1 July	84 003	76 459	83 702	76 166
Surplus from ordinary activities	1 652	7 544	1 631	7 536
Balance at 30 June	**85 655**	**84 003**	**85 333**	**83 702**

20. Asset Revaluation Reserve

The asset revaluation reserve is the cumulative balance of asset revaluation increments and decrements	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000
Balance at 1 July	22 477	23 308	22 477	23 308
Revaluation of land and buildings	2 288	(831)	2 288	(831)
Balance at 30 June	**24 765**	**22 477**	**24 765**	**22 477**

21. Financial Instruments

(a) Interest Rate Risk

2005

Financial Instrument	Consolidated Weighted Average Interest Rate at 30.6.05 %	Consolidated Interest Bearing $'000	Consolidated Non-Interest Bearing $'000	Consolidated 2005 Total $'000	Country Fire Service Weighted Average Interest Rate at 30.6.05 %	Country Fire Service Interest Bearing $'000	Country Fire Service Non-Interest Bearing $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 Total $'000
Financial Assets								
Cash on hand		-	2	2		-	2	2
Cash at bank	5.35	1 223	-	1 223	5.35	1 066	-	1 066
Cash at bank – Groups & Brigades	*	2 321	-	2 321	*	2 321	-	2 321
Investments	4.80	168	-	168	-	-	-	
Investments – Groups & Brigades	*	1 355	-	1 355	*	1 355	-	1 355
Receivables		-	1 457	1 457		-	1 456	1 456
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS		**5 067**	**1 459**	**6 526**		**4 742**	**1 458**	**6 200**
Financial Liabilities								
Payables		-	1 810	1 810		-	1 806	1 806
TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		**-**	**1 810**	**1 810**		-	1 806	1 806

* These figures are unavailable

	2004							
	Consolidated				Country Fire Service			
Financial Instrument	Weighted Average Interest Rate at 30.6.04 %	Interest Bearing $'000	Non-Interest Bearing $'000	2005 Total $'000	Weighted Average Interest Rate at 30.6.04 %	Interest Bearing $'000	Non-Interest Bearing $'000	2005 Total $'000
Financial Assets								
Cash on hand		-	2	2	-	2	2	
Cash at bank	4.91	3 010	-	3 010	4.91	2 879	-	2 879
Cash at bank – Groups & Brigades	*	1 517	-	1 517	*	1 517	-	1 517
Investments	4.95	1 366	-	1 366	4.95	1 197	-	1 197
Investments – Groups & Brigades	*	1 714	-	1 714	*	1 714	-	1 714
Receivables		-	1 601	1 601		-	1 600	1 600
TOTAL FINANCIAL ASSETS		**7 607**	**1 603**	**9 210**		**7 307**	**1 602**	**8 909**
Financial Liabilities								
Payables		-	3 369	3 369		-	3 369	3 369
TOTAL FINANCIAL LIABILITIES		-	3 369	3 369		-	3 369	3 369

* These figures are unavailable

(b) Net Fair Values

Financial instruments are valued at the carrying amount as per the Statement of Financial Position, which approximates the net fair value. The carrying amount of financial assets approximates net fair value due to their short-term to maturity or being receivable on demand. The carrying amount of financial liabilities is considered to be a reasonable estimate of net fair value.

22. Commitments

	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
(a) Commitments for Capital Expenditure	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**	**2004 $'000**	**2005 $'000**
As at the reporting date the Board had entered into contracts for the following capital expenditures which are not included in the financial statements.				
These projects are due for completion within one year				
Vehicles	2 327	408	2 327	408
Fire stations and other equipment	2 128	2 909	2 128	2 909
	4 455	**3 317**	**4 455**	**3 317**

22. Commitments

(b) Operating Leases	Consolidated 2004 $'000	Consolidated 2005 $'000	Country Fire Service 2004 $'000	Country Fire Service 2005 $'000
Commitments under non-cancellable operating leases at the reporting date are payable as follows				
Payable not later than one year	1 228	1 007	1 228	1 007
Payable later than one year and not later than five years	2 678	1 996	2 678	1 99
Payable later than five years	228	443	228	443
	4 134	**3 446**	**4 134**	**3 446**

The above mentioned operating lease payments are not recognised in the financial statements as liabilities.

These non-cancellable leases relate to vehicle and property leases, with rental payable monthly in arrears. Contingent rental provisions within the lease agreements require the minimum lease payments to be increased annually based on CPI movement.

(c) Contractual Commitments	2004 $'000	2005 $'000	2004 $'000	2005 $'000
At the end of the reporting period the Board had the following commitments on contracts.				
Payable not later than one year	4 737	1 229	4 737	1 229
Payable later than one year and not later than five years	3 339	1 619	3 339	1 619
	8 076	**2 848**	**8 076**	**2 848**

Contractual commitments relate to aerial bombing, cleaning, and occupational welfare services.

23. Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets

(a) ***Contingent Liabilities***

The Board has several contingent liabilities in the form of unresolved litigation. The majority of these liabilities are likely to be finalised early in the 2005-06 financial year, however the outcome cannot be reliably determined.

(b) ***Contingent Assets***

During the 2004-05 financial year, the Board finalised negotiations for the transition of ten additional properties from Local Government, Community Organisations, private owners and State Government agencies. These properties will be assessed at fair value early in the 2005-06 financial year and have not been recognised within the 2004-05 financial statements.

24. Reconciliation of Net Cash Inflows from Operating Activities to Net Cost of Services from Ordinary Activities

	Consolidated		Country Fire Service	
	2004 $'000	2005 $'000	2004 $'000	2005 $'000
Net Cash Inflows from operating activities	10 172	14 451	10 147	14 443
Contributions from Community Emergency Services Fund	(50 946)	(45 182)	(50 946)	(45 182)
Add/Less Non Cash Items				
Assets received from Local Government and Other Sources	1 574	5 186	1 574	5 186
Depreciation	(10 365)	(9 739)	(10 365)	(9 739)
NET LOSS FROM DISPOSAL OF NON-CURRENT ASSETS	**(289)**	**(348)**	**(289)**	**(348)**
Changes in Assets/Liabilities				
Increase in provision for employee benefits	(820)	(122)	(820)	(122)
(Increase)/Decrease in payables	1 559	(1 704)	1 563	(1 704)
(Decrease) in receivables	(179)	(180)	(179)	(180)
NET COST OF SERVICES FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES	**(49 294)**	**(37 638)**	**(49 315)**	**(37 646)**

25. Related Party Transactions

Members of the Board, or their member-related entities, conduct transactions with the Board within a normal supplier relationship on terms no more favourable than those with which it is reasonable to expect the Board would have adopted with the member or member-related entity at arms-length in similar circumstances.

The names of persons who held office as a member of the Board during the course of the reporting period were:

Mr R Dundon
Mr PJ Forster
Mr R Peate
Mr R Branson
Ms L Loan
Mr B Treloar

26. Controlled Entity

The consolidated financial statements at 30 June 2005 include the following controlled entity:

Name of Controlled Entity	Place of Incorporation
The Country Fire Service Foundation	Australia

The Country Fire Service Foundation (the Foundation) was incorporated on 22 November 2001 under the Associations Incorporations Act, 1985.

27. Event Occurring After Reporting Date

Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005

The Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 was assented to on 14 July 2005. The Act provides for the continuation of the Metropolitan Fire Service, the Country Fire Service, the State Emergency Service, and provides for the prevention, control and suppression of fires and for the handling of certain emergency service situations. The Country Fires Act 1989, the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service Act 1936 and the State Emergency Service Act 1987 will be repealed at proclamation of the new Act. The establishment of the South Australian Fire and Emergency Services Commission is expected to come into operation on 1 October 2005.

The CFS Board will be dissolved. The CFS will still continue as a separate corporate entity under the proposed arrangements.

AUSTRALASIAN FIRE INCIDENT REPORTING SYSTEM

The CFS is a community based fire and emergency service dedicated to protecting the life, property and environmental assets of rural and semi-urban South Australians.

The CFS provides services in the following areas:

- Suppression of bushfires,
- Suppression of structure fires,
- Motor vehicle collisions,
- Hazardous material incidents,
- Storm damage, floods and special incidents,
- Advice on building fire safety,
- Risk and response planning, and
- Community education and awareness programs.

The CFS works in close partnership with industry and community groups in high-risk areas to increase awareness of fire prevention and develop risk minimization programs.

The following statistics are a brief representation of the total number of incidents attended, the type of incident and brigade turnouts in response. Volunteers also expend many hours undertaking other activities including:

- Administration
- Brigade and Group meetings
- Equipment and Station maintenance
- Response planning
- Training

The following tables are provided using the Australasian Fire Incident Reporting System. The Australian Standard AS 2577 'Collection of Data on Fire Incidents' has been adopted by fire authorities in Australia.

Fire statistics 2004–05

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AT A GLANCE

Rural incidents

2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02
2 343	2 238	2 399	2 412

Hectares burnt

2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02
110 555	15 166	49 855	20 469

Dollar loss at rural incidents ($)

2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02
3.5 million	2.4 million	1.7 million	1.9 million

(Wangary not included still waiting on final dollar loss)

Table 1: Estimated dollar lost

INCIDENT **DOLLAR LOSS**

	2004-05 $	2003-04 $	2002-03 $	2001-02 $	2000-01 $
Fixed Alarm	0.00	2 700	28 000	100	0
Hazmat	152 770	271 240	693 460	20 035 090	3 417 700
Other	0.00	160	150	0	5 000
Other 2	216 800	18 092 340	145 565	3 475 594	552 795
Rural	3 535 431	2 438 170	1 898 325	2 092 992	2 630 049
Special Service	264 000	169 850	305 700	22 000	173 700
Structure	8 217 470	13 667 180	7 747 970	9 332 632	7 256 580
Vehicle related	8 971 780	10 322 527	10 105 474	8 006 681	14 604 850
TOTAL	**21 358 251**	**44 964 167**	**20 924 644**	**42 965 089**	**28 640 674**

Table 2: Estimated dollar saved

INCIDENT **DOLLAR SAVED**

	2004-05 $	2003-04 $	2002-03 $	2001-02 $	2000-01 $
Fixed Alarm	0	1 220 000	110 000	0	0
Hazmat	341 075	1 850 000	800 000	269 800	170 500
Other 1	0	5 000	450	0	0
Other 2	558 100	6 427 100	4 834 400	2 410 912	3 488 350
Rural	38 836 013	1 851 100 250	78 991 450	18 818 690	20 099 940
Special Service	399 000	50 000	10 073 000	190 000	579 000
Structure	35 179 202	35 911 200	34 170 600	2 023 985 740	42 224 600
Vehicle related	5 604 950	5 851 160	8 569 700	4 257 470	4 741 560
TOTAL	**80 918 340**	**1 902 414 710**	**137 549 600**	**2 049 932 612**	**71 303 950**

Table 3: Incident by type and brigade responses

Type of Incident	No. of Incidents	Brigade Turnouts	No. of Incidents	Brigade Turnouts	No. of Incidents	Brigade Turnouts
	2004-05		2003-04		2002-03	
Fixed Alarm						
Fixed Alarm Fault	763	1 039	881	1 123	837	1 113
Private Alarm	311	468	326	499	204	305
HazMat						
Combustible / Flammable leak	117	186	141	198	128	190
Hazardous Material	29	98	40	100	50	130
Rural						
Dump	28	70	43	64	33	60
Forest Fire	12	44	12	32	36	131
Grain / Crop Fire	51	167	45	147	41	106
Grass or Stubble Fire	693	1 695	739	1 682	704	1 466
Haystack	44	108	26	72	25	66
Investigation (Burn off)	155	210	142	187	130	185
Investigation (Smoke)	258	398	282	389	299	427
Rubbish Bin Fire	60	96	67	93	62	96
Rubbish Fire	360	505	304	426	312	438
Scrub and Grass Fire	568	1 928	451	1 215	633	1 686
Tree Fire	114	169	115	138	128	179
Special Service Incident						
Animal Rescue	59	71	67	81	57	65
Assist Other Agencies	159	208	138	165	148	186
Extrication/Rescue (not vehicle)	14	27	23	36	14	19
Flood	222	327	33	48	74	96
Lock out	-	-	2	2	-	-
Search	26	44	34	80	35	57
Severe Weather & Natural Disaster	85	128	36	38	187	232
Tree Down	388	492	430	518	441	534
Water / Ice Related Rescue	5	9	2	3	6	7
Structure Incident						
Building Fire	337	830	362	879	349	865
Heat Related and Electrical	51	76	57	82	61	95
Vehicle Related Incidents						
Mobile Property / Vehicle	516	776	578	848	502	785
Vehicle Accident / No Injury	759	1 259	693	1 128	661	995
Vehicle Accident / With Injuries	803	1 330	810	1 288	834	1 322
Vehicle Accident Rescue	157	351	173	356	191	360
Other						
Cover Assignment	35	135	17	60	38	101
Did Not Arrive (Stop Call)	95	396	113	385	101	209
Equipment Malfunction (CFS)	50	57	96	106	143	149
Good Intent Call	175	232	177	247	196	266
Malicious False Alarm	52	81	73	103	73	100
Other / Miscellaneous / Incendiary						
Aircraft Incident / Emergency	12	16	5	9	3	6
Brush Fence	6	15	17	39	21	49
Electrocution	-	-	-	-	2	2
Explosion	6	8	9	14	7	10
Other 202	274	235	315	286	399	
Other Assistance	25	31	20	23	22	25
Water and Smoke	4	4	7	10	5	6
TOTAL	**7 806**	**14 358**	**7 821**	**13 228**	**8 079**	**13 518**

Table 4: Rural fire cause

Fire cause	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Backfire / Exhaust	-	-	1
Bird scarer / Rabbit fumigator / other vermin control device		2	4
Burning and burn offs - with permit	110	106	119
Burning and burn offs - without permit or out of fire danger season	225	166	181
Campfire / BBQ / Incinerator / Rubbish Heap	136	130	172
Chemical Reaction	-	-	1
Cooking / Food Preparation	-	1	2
Deliberate	34	-	-
Electrical - wiring	2	6	1
Electrical - Power lines	34	30	19
Fireworks	11	10	14
Harvesting - Build up of material	7	9	12
Harvesting - Engine/Exhaust	3	3	5
Harvesting - Mechanical failure	28	19	11
Harvesting - Other	12	20	17
Harvesting - Static electricity	9	2	6
Internal Combustion Engines	3	4	5
Lightning	96	39	201
Matches, smoking devices etc.	1	4	4
Matches, smoking devices, candles, lanterns	23	37	50
Mechanical cutting Tool / Welders	48	24	47
Mechanical malfunction	-	-	2
Other	73	78	90
Rekindle	146	134	122
Slasher / Mower	38	39	39
Undetermined	210	-	-
Unknown - suspected human	160	461	471
Unknown - suspected lightning	4	0	2
Vehicle - Other	31	29	34
Vehicle Exhaust (not used in harvesting)	15	22	13

Table 5: Structural fire cause

Fire cause	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Build up of combustible material - Other	1	-	-
Campfire / BBQ / Incinerator / Rubbish Heap	-	0	1
Chemical Reaction	4	2	1
Chimney - Build up material	29	29	31
Chimney - Installation fault	4	6	6
Cooking / Food preparation	40	36	37
Deliberate	3	-	-
Electrical	3	2	6
Electrical - Appliance (not including heaters)	24	24	43
Electrical - Other	4	14	7
Electrical - Wiring	25	30	30
Exposure to external flame	2	8	6
Fireworks	1	-	-
Heater - Electric	4	4	5
Heater - Gas	3	3	1
Heater - Open Fire	4	4	1
Heater - Other	3	3	3
Heater - Other solid fuel fire	12	7	8
Industrial Processes	5	4	4
Lightning	1	2	1
Matches, smoking devices etc.	8	16	20
Matches, smoking devices, candles, lanterns	1	1	3
Mechanical cutting Tool / Welders	1	0	1
Other	16	51	49
Rekindle	4	-	-
Undetermined	38	-	-
Unknown - suspected human	19	68	49
Vehicle - other	1	-	-

Table 6: Vehicle fire cause

Fire cause	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Campfire / BBQ / Incinerator / Rubbish Heap	-	0	1
Backfire / Exhaust	8	8	6
Brakes overheat	9	10	6
Build up of combustible material - Catalytic converter	3	3	2
Build up of combustible material - Other	6	5	7
Cooking / Food Preparation	1	1	1
Crash	12	14	6
Deliberate	25	-	-
Electrical	61	83	57
Exposure to external hostile flame	1	-	3
Gas Appliance	1	-	-
Matches, smoking devices, candles, lanterns	5	11	13
Mechanical malfunction	33	43	66
Other	19	26	29
Undetermined	90	-	-
Unknown - suspected human	150	268	229
Unknown - suspected lightning	-	2	1

Table 7: Problem areas for rural fires

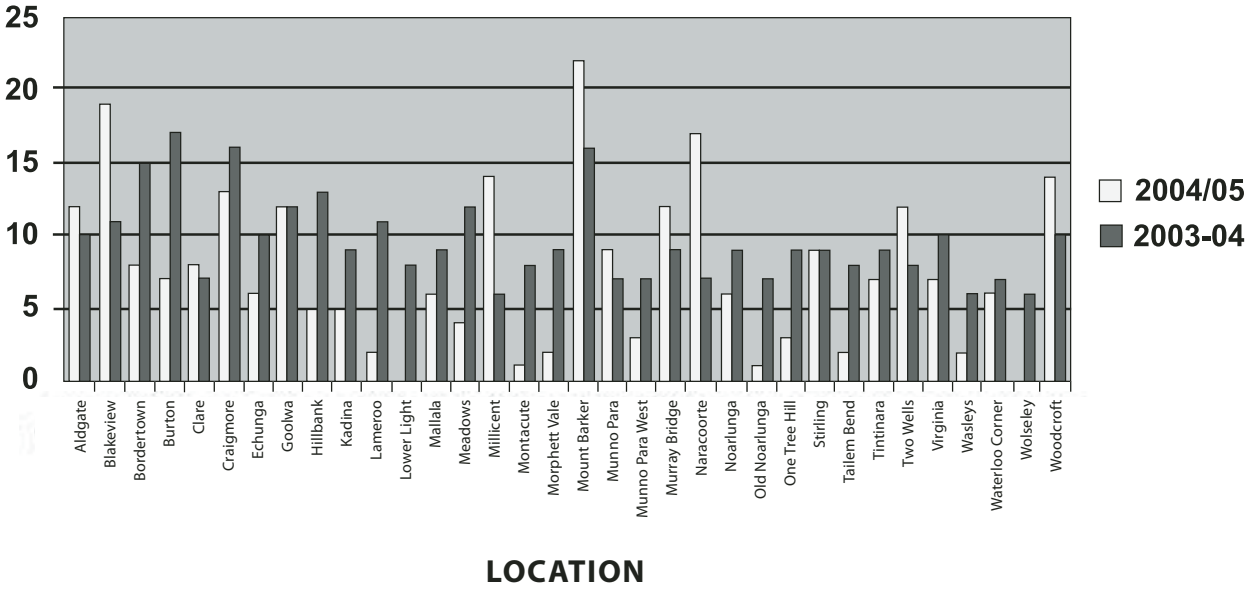


Table 8: Additional problem areas added

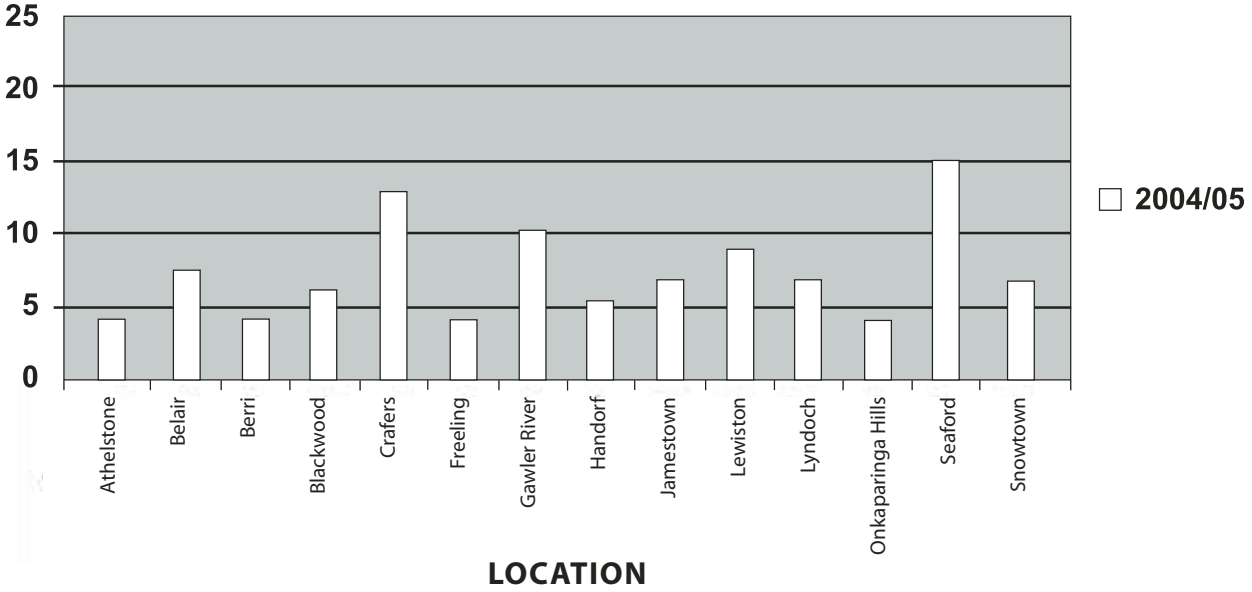


Table 9: State wide volunteer hours at other activities

Activity by type	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Campfire / BBQ / Incinerator / Rubbish Heap	-	0	1
Admin	10 255	9 158	9 342
Cadet Activity	11 540	12 444	15 702
Fundraising	2 779	4 292	4 120
Hazard Reduction	4 649	3 867	4 779
Equipment Maintenance	11 164	9 920	11 858
Station Maintenance	8 138	7 311	8 380
General Maintenance	5 377	5 294	6 263
Brigade Meeting	20 282	21 649	21 808
Group Meeting	5 220	4 970	5 951
Other Meeting	7 698	7 373	7 063
Promote CFS	8 543	417	725
Fire Prevention Advice	289	-	-
Provide Information	589	563	433
Response Planning	1 229	1 490	971
Threat Assessment	876	1 039	935
Training	107 582	113 992	14 7354
Wildfire Prevention	2 138	1 506	1 578
Other Activity	23 324	22 865	19 491

Table 10: Number of incidents by time of day

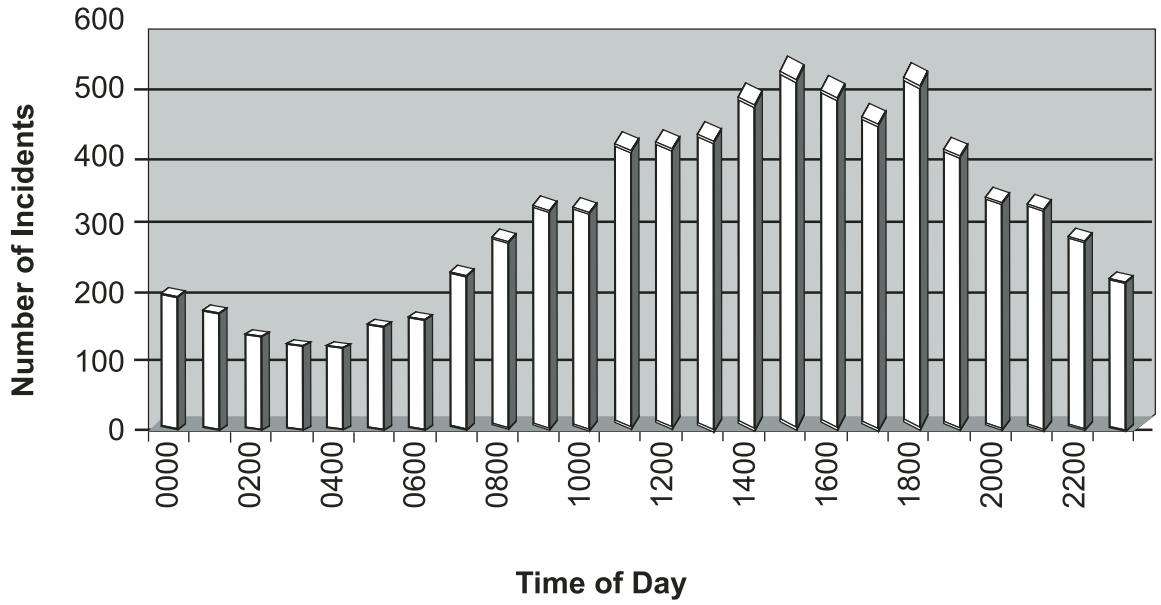
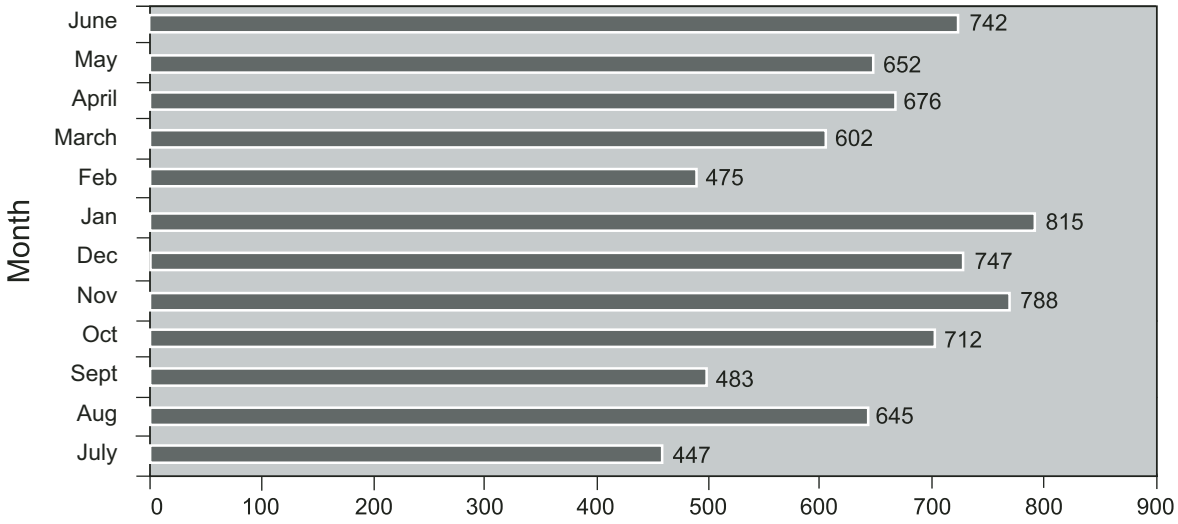


Table 11: Number of incidents by month



FIRE DANGER SEASON - STATISTICS

During the Fire Danger Season, fire restrictions apply throughout all of South Australia's fifteen fire ban districts, including the Adelaide Metropolitan area. The use of fires in the open during the Fire Danger Season is strictly regulated under the Country Fires Act 1989 with local restrictions imposed by councils within each of the fifteen fire ban districts.

Total Fire Bans may be declared in some fire ban districts or even across the whole State on days when extreme weather conditions (high wind and high temperature) could cause fires to become uncontrollable. These bans are broadcast on radio and television from 6.00pm and apply for 24 hours from midnight to midnight the following day. If extreme weather conditions develop suddenly a Total Fire Ban could be announced as late as 7.00am on the morning of the ban.

CFS volunteers in action

Fire Ban Districts	Fire Danger Season	
	From	**To**
North West Pastoral	1 November	31 March
North East Pastoral	1 November	31 March
Flinders	1 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
West Coast	1 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
Eastern Eyre Peninsula	1 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
Lower Eyre Peninsula	1 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
Riverland	15 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
Murraylands	15 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
Yorke Peninsula	15 November	30 April
Mid North	15 November	30 April
Upper South East	15 November	15 April (extended to 30 April)*
Lower South East	22 November	30 April
Kangaroo Island	1 December	30 April (extended to 15 May)*
Mount Lofty Ranges	1 December	30 April (extended to 15 May)*
Adelaide Metropolitan Area	1 December	30 April

Due to extreme weather conditions, the fire danger season was extended in these areas.

FIRE DANGER SEASON

Table 12: Snapshot

	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03
Total Number of Incidents	4 125	4 424	4 085
Total Number of Brigade Turnouts	8 161	7 957	7 361
Total Hours at Incidents	99 888	48 006	51 254

Table 13: Rural fires in CFS area

Type of Incident	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000	1998-99	1997-98	8 year average
Dump	19	34	22	35	34	25	40	41	31
Forest Fire	9	9	17	5	19	20	22	18	15
Grain / Crop Fire	47	43	35	65	68	17	41	46	45
Grass or Stubble Fire	467	618	475	684	643	336	562	389	525
Haystack	30	17	11	6	18	12	27	16	17
Rubbish Bin	32	-	-	60	67	-	-	-	16
Rubbish Fire	171	151	121	172	152	136	136	133	151
Scrub and Grass Fire	376	338	381	394	404	187	363	298	344
Tree Fire	64	72	62	47	71	25	36	26	49
TOTAL	**1 215**	**1 282**	**1 124**	**1 468**	**1 476**	**7 58**	**1 227**	**9 67**	**1 193**

Table 14: Rural incidents by region for 2004-05 fire danger season

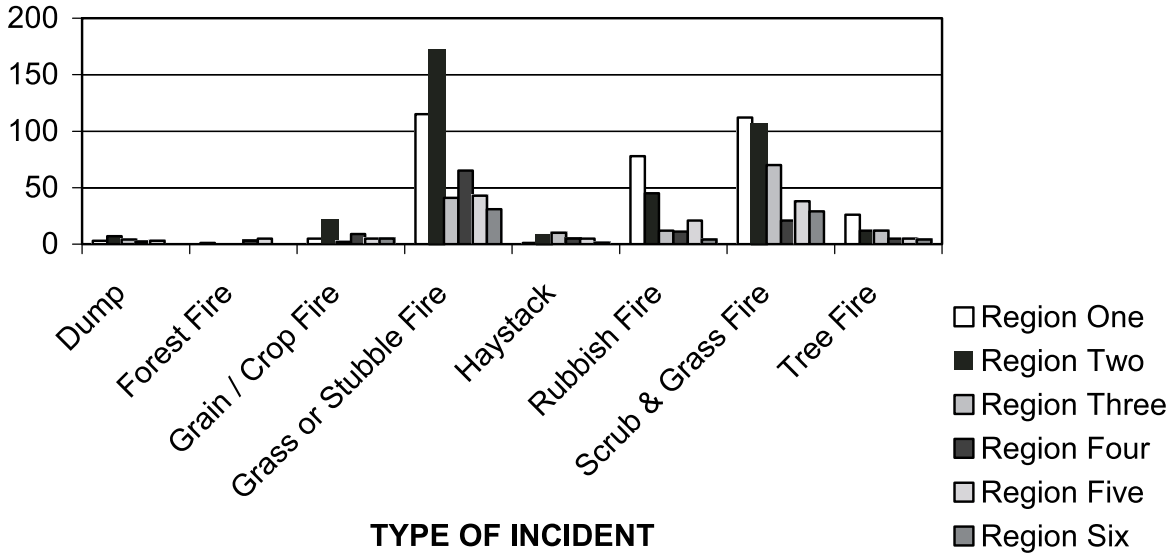


Table 15: State wide rural fire cause information

Fire Cause	2004-05	2003-04
Bird scarer	-	2
Burning and burn offs - with permit	66	52
Burning and burn offs - without permit	80	69
Campfire/BBQ/Incinerator	74	55
Cooking / Food Preparation	-	1
Deliberate	30	-
Electrical - wiring	1	5
Electrical - Power lines	34	27
Fireworks	11	10
Harvesting - Build up of material	7	9
Harvesting - Engine/Exhaust	1	2
Harvesting - Mechanical failure	27	17
Harvesting - Other	12	19
Harvesting - Static electricity	9	2
Internal Combustion Engines (not otherwise classified) (Specify Below)	3	-
Lighting	92	-
Matches, smoking devices etc.	1	-
Matches, smoking devices, candles	19	-
Mechanical cutting Tools/welders	42	-
Other	55	65
Rekindle	85	109
Slasher / Mower	31	37
Undetermined	180	357
Unknown – suspected human	96	-
Unknown – suspected lightning	4	-
Vehicle - Other	25	26
Vehicle Exhaust	-	1
Vehicle Exhaust (not used in harvesting)	11	17

FIRE DANGER SEASON (cont)

Table 16: All incidents state wide

Type of Incident	2004-05	2003-04
Aircraft Incident / Emergency	6	1
Animal Rescue	28	31
Assist Other Agencies	92	85
Brush Fence	3	6
Building Fire	134	158
Combustible / Flammable leak	63	72
Cover Assignment	29	11
Did Not Arrive (Stop Call)	47	59
Dump	19	34
Equipment Malfunction (CFS)	21	42
Explosion	4	5
Extrication/Rescue (not vehicle)	6	12
Fixed Alarm Fault	396	459
Flood	49	14
Forest Fire	9	9
Good Intent Call	75	88
Grain / Crop Fire	47	43
Grass or Stubble Fire	467	618
Haystack	30	17
Hazardous Material	10	21
Heat Related and Electrical	27	33
Investigation (Burn off)	44	67
Investigation (Smoke)	177	221
Malicious False Alarm	24	42
Mobile Property / Vehicle	287	286
Other (Specify in notes box below)	105	157
Other Assistance (Specify in notes box below)	13	13
Private Alarm	167	182
Rubbish Bin	32	28
Rubbish Fire	171	151
Scrub and Grass Fire	376	338
Search	12	17
Severe Weather and Natural Disaster	38	15
Tree Down	194	191
Tree Fire	64	72
Vehicle Accident / No Injury	361	340
Vehicle Accident Rescue	64	82
Vehicle Accident With Injuries	429	396
Water / Ice Related Rescue	4	1
Water and Smoke	1	5
TOTAL	**4 125**	**4 424**

NATIONAL MEDALS AWARDED 2004 - 2005

Staff

Surname	Christian Name	Brigade
CANT	David	ESAU

Region One

Surname	Christian Name	Brigade
ALTMANN	Wayne John	Lobethal
AUSTIN	Daniel Richard D	Meadows
BYRNE	Maurice Frank	Woodchester
COOPER	Gary Robert	Morphett Vale
DEER	Murray James	Clarendon
DOLAN	Murray John	Littlehampton
DOLMAN	Ian Lance	Athelstone
DUKE	Jai Andrew	Seaford
ELMES	Christopher Robert	Aldgate
HARVEY	Gregory Allan	Woodchester
HARVEY	Michael Eric	Woodchester
HARVEY	Neil Charles	Woodchester
LEHMANN	Garrick Wolfgang	Happy Valley
MORTIMER	Dean William	Woodchester
PEDERSON	Christopher Norling	Echunga
SAVAGE	Paul Anthony	Morphett Vale
SAVAGE	Phillip Grant	Lobethal
TREEN	David John A	Southcoast Training Centre

1st Clasp

DILLON	John Brian	Southcoast Training Centre
FALKAI	Laszlo	Woodchester
HOOGLAND	Johan	Seaford
WEIDENHOFER	Geoffrey Robert	Lobethal

2nd Clasp

BROCK	Brian Kenneth	Lobethal
CROSS	Robert James	Woodchester
WEYLAND	Graham Lindsay	Lobethal

Region Two

Surname	Christian Name	Brigade
GROCKE	April Joy	Dublin
PATTEN	Andrew Jason	Tea Tree Gully
RUSSELL	Ted	Gawler River
SAEGENSCHNITTER	David Norman	Angaston
WHITEHORN	Anthony Graham	Angaston

Region Five

Surname	Christian Name	Brigade
ATKINSON	John Maxwell	Beachport
PRESGRAVE	Kyall Raymond	Keith

SA COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE LOCATIONS

Headquarters		Telephone	Facsimile
	Level 7, 60 Waymouth Street Adelaide SA 5000 (GPO Box 2468, Adelaide SA 5001) DX: 666	8463 4200	8463 4234
Regional Offices			
Region 1:	75 Gawler Street Mt Barker SA 5251 DX 51709	8391 1866	8391 1877
Region 2:	8 Redbanks Road Willaston SA 5118 (PO Box 1506, Gawler SA 5118) DX: 51803	8522 6088	8522 6404
Region 3:	10 Second Street Murray Bridge SA 5253 (PO Box 1371 Murray Bridge SA 5253) DX: 51219	8532 6800	8532 6220
Region 4:	3 Main Street Pt Augusta SA 5700 (PO Box 2080 Pt Augusta SA 5700) DX: 51012	8642 2399	8641 0176
Region 5:	46 Smith Street Naracoorte SA 5271 (PO Box 8 Naracoorte SA 5271) DX: 50413	8762 2311	8762 1865
Region 6:	Level 1, Jobomi House 48 Liverpool Street Port Lincoln SA 5606 (PO Box 555, Port Lincoln SA 5606) DX: 51071	8682 4266	8682 6569
Brukunga (State Training Centre)	Pyrites Road Brukunga SA 5252 DX: 51720	8398 9900	8388 6997
Development Assessment Unit (Bushfire Protection)	75 Gawler Street Mt Barker SA 5251	8391 1866	8391 1877
Built Environment Section (SAMFS HQ)	Level 3, 99 Wakefield Street Adelaide SA 5000 (GPO Box 98 Adelaide SA 5001)	8204 3653	8204 3781

ABBREVIATIONS

CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CEO RO	Chief Executive Officer Research Officer
CESF	Community Emergency Services Fund
CFA	Country Fires Authority (Victoria)
CFS BM	CFS Business Manager
CFS MTS	CFS Manager Technical Services
CFS MT	CFS Manager Training
CFS MPS	CFS Manager Prevention Services
CFS MCC	CFS Manager Corporate Communications
CFS	Country Fire Service
CO	Chief Officer
COAG	Council of Australian Government
CRD	Call, Receipt and Dispatch
DAIS	Department for Administrative and Information Services
DAU	Development Assessment Unit
DEH	Department of Environment and Heritage
DGO	Deputy Group Officer
DISEX	Disaster Exercise
DSC	District State Coordinator
DWLBC	Department of Wildlife, Land and Biodiversity Conservation
EA	Executive Assistant
EMA	Emergency Management Australia
ESAU	Emergency Services Administrative Unit
ESLFM	Emergency Services Levy Fund Manager
ESLG	Emergency Services Leadership Group
ESO	Emergency Service Organisation
ESRS	Emergency Services Resourcing Standards
EWP	Employee Working Party
FESC	Fire and Emergency Services Commission
FGP	Fire Ground Practice
FOI	Freedom of Information
FORESTRY	Forestry SA
FPO	Fire Prevention Officer
FRAB	Fire and Rescue Advisory Board
FSI	Fire Station Interface Unit
GAFLC	Government Agencies Fire Liaison Committee
GIS	Geographic Information System
GO	Group Officer
GPS	Global Positioning System
GRN	Government Radio Network
ICS	Incident Control System
IMT	Incident Management Team
ITC	International Timber Corporation
JOLG	Joint Operations Leadership Group
JOT	Joint Operations Team
JPLC	Justice Portfolio Leadership Council
MALO	Mutual Aid Liaison Officer
MIL	Manager Infrastructure and Logistics
MLO	Media Liaison Officer
MOSS	Manager Operations Support Services
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPA	Manager Public Affairs
MPS	Manager Prevention Services
MSU	Mapping Support Unit
MT	Manager Training
MTS	Manager Technical Services
NAFC	National Aerial Fire Fighting Centre Limited
NAFFS	National Aerial Fire Fighting Strategy
NPWS	National Parks and Wildlife Service
OHS & W	Occupational Health Safety and Welfare
OCO	Operations Centre Officer
OPO	Operations Planning Officer
PCAO	Prevention and Community Awareness Officer
PID	Position Information Description
PIRSA	Primary Industries and Resources SA
PMO	Project Management Office
PO	Project Officer
PPC	Personal Protective Clothing
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PPRR	Prevention Preparedness Response and Recovery
PRP	Prepared Response Plan
PSSI	Performance Standards for Self Insurers
RAO	Regional Administrative Officer (ESAU)
RBSO	Regional Business Support Officer
RC	Regional Commander
RCC	Regional Coordination Centre
RCR	Road Crash Rescue
RDO	Rostered day off
RO	Regional Officer
ROPO	Regional Operations Planning Officer
RPI	Rural Property Identification
RPO	Regional Prevention Officer
RTO	Regional Training Officer
SAAS	South Australian Ambulance Service
SACFS	Country Fire Service
SAFECOM	SA Fire and Emergency Commission
SA-GRN	South Australian Government Radio Network (GRN)
SAMFS	South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service
SAPES	South Australian Police and Emergency Services
SAVFBA	South Australian Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (VFBA)
SBFSO	Senior Building Fire Safety Officer
CFS SCC	CFS State Coordination Centre
SDAO	Senior Development Assessment Officer
SEMO	Security Emergency Management Office
SEOC	State Emergency Operations Centre
SES	State Emergency Service
SFEC	Standards of Fire and Emergency Cover
SFPO	Senior Fire Prevention Officer
SIMSC	Shared Injury Management Service Centre
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SLG	Strategic Leadership Group (replacing Strategic Management Group)
SMEAC	Situation Mission Execution Administration and Logistics Command and Communications
SOCC	State Operations Call Centre (CFS - Waymouth St)
SOG	Standard Operating Guidelines
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SOPO	State Operations Planning Officer
SPAM	Stress Prevention and Management
SRS	State Radio Systems
SSB	State Supply Board
STC	State Training Centre (Brukunga)
STO	State Training Officer
SVMC	State Volunteer Management Committee
TAS	Training Administration System
TF/FESC	Task Force Fire & Emergency Services Commission
TOA	Transfer of Assets
TOIL	Time off in lieu
TS	Technical Services
URP	Urban Rural Pumper
VIP	Volunteers in Prevention
VSO	Volunteer Support Officer (ESAU)