



# *2016/17 Fire Season Overview Challenges & Achievements*

Superintendent Kimberley  
Grant Pipe

Northern Australian Fire Managers Forum – June 2017





- ☐ **Increased Community Awareness & Expectation of suppression of ALL Bush Fires**
- ☐ **Increased pressure for Community Bush Fire Awareness & Preparedness advise / information**
- ☐ **Increase in Loss of Pasture, Flora & Fauna Biodiversity, Extensive Environmental damage Impact on Global Warming & Carbon Emissions**
- ☐ **Creation of Government Reports (2006 EPA & CDJSC Reviews)**
- ☐ **Ministerial Complaints from WALGA, LGA's Pastoralists & Environmental Groups & Tourist Operators**
- ☐ **WALGA Kimberley requests to WA Gov for a single Emergency Service in Kimberley**





Mitigation 2016 Started in early March –  
2016.

30 Pastoral Stations participated in Aerial  
Controlled Burning within 2016.

DFES have conducted a significant Roadside  
Burning programme (2yo+ fuels)

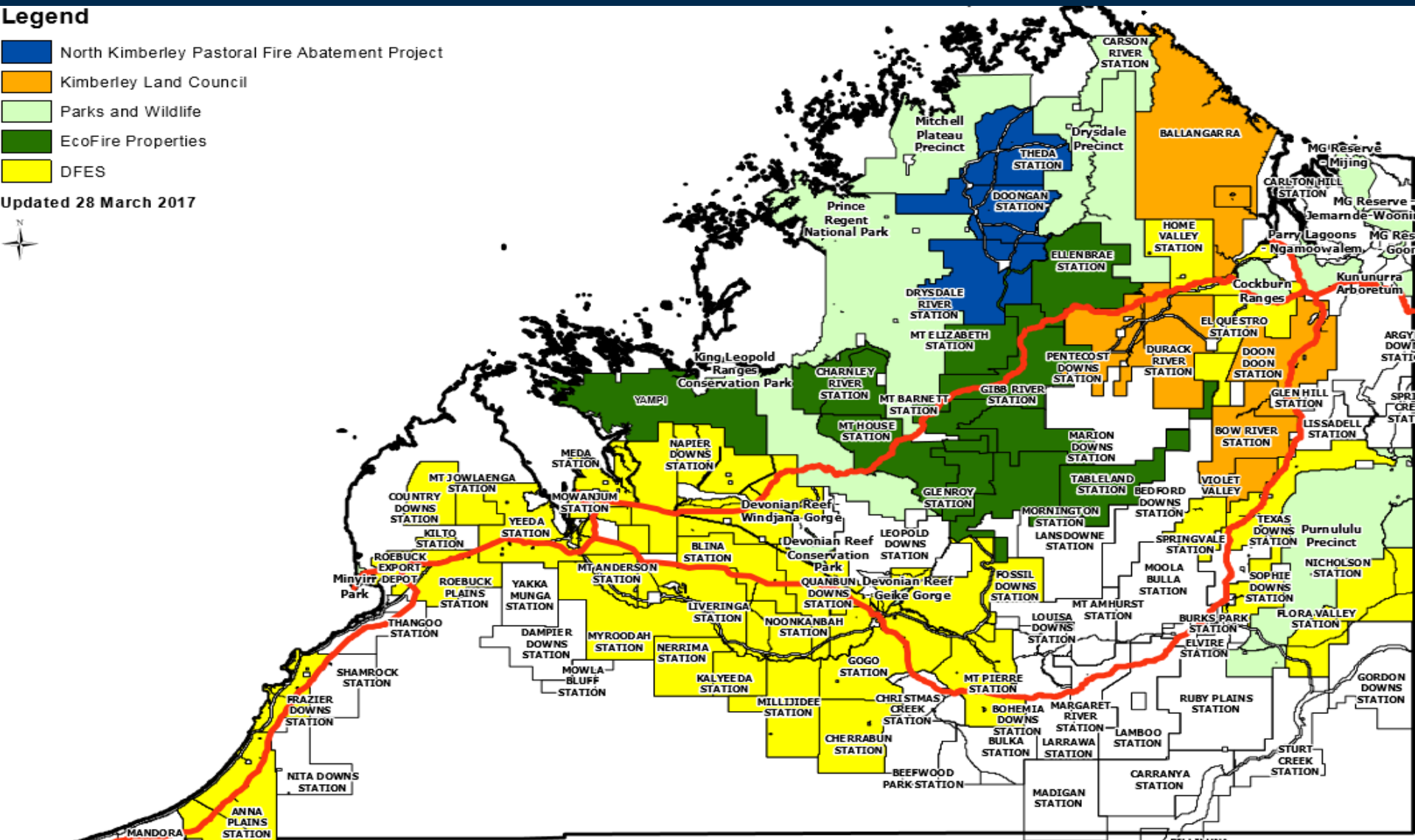
Conducted 8 weeks of in town burning  
(UCL/UMR within the town site boundaries.



## Legend

- North Kimberley Pastoral Fire Abatement Project
- Kimberley Land Council
- Parks and Wildlife
- EcoFire Properties
- DFES

Updated 28 March 2017





There were 226 vegetation fires in the Kimberley during the 2016 northern dry season (July to December).

Due to the remoteness of the region, causes for these fires are largely unknown.

Down from 400 vegetation fires during the 2015 northern dry season for the same period.



## **Was anything different this year compared to previous seasons?**

The 2016 season we generally received favourable weather conditions with decreased fire activity.

Late in the season within the east Kimberley was challenging to contain bushfires.

The 2016 season we also seen a decreased level of arson. WA Police had a number of people bought before the court system within 2015.



## **What was the most difficult fire we had to fight this season and why?**

The most difficult bushfire this season was the Gibb River Complex.

This fire ran for a number of weeks, with strong easterly winds and inaccessible terrain making it challenging to bring the fires under control.





Questions?

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Thank You