Fire Risk Management Planning



Te Uru Rākau New Zealand Forest Service

“High Risk” Fire Seasons

A potentially “bad” fire season could develop into many things:

- High frequency of fires
- High intensity fires
- Both
- Minimal fire activity





Risk Reduction Planning

[Rural land managers fire risk guide | Canopy]



All landowners – if you have trees or vegetation on your property, this wildfire risk planning template is for you

Wildfire Risk Management Plan

Te Uru Rākau New Zealand Forest Service

Having a wildfire risk reduction and management plan is important. Wildfire occurrence is increasing in Aotearoa New Zealand, and managing the risks is key to minimising the impact to you, your assets and your neighbours.

Colours indicate importance or impact of these factors:.

Low	Medium	High

Record of important information

Details	Notes
Location and features	
Type of planting	
Block size (hectares)	
Local fire danger	
Wildfire history	
Rainfall (annual/monthly)	
Local weather patterns	
Surrounding land uses	

Access

Action	Notes	Due date
Create and maintain 4m x 4m vehicle access		
Display bridge weight limits, RAPID numbers		
Padlocked gates		
Consider 2 access ways or share with neighbours		

Water supply

Action	Notes	Due date
Create or identify a water supply for fire suppression		
Ensure fire appliances can access water supply		

Wildfire Risk Management Plan 1

Create space for pumps within 7 metres of water supply	
Consider sharing water supply with neighbours	

Identify risks

Action	Notes	Due date
Reduce or manage fuel		
Remove or minimise weeds within plantings		
Reduce thinning and logging slash		
Create a buffer between neighbouring crops, trees and rank grass		
Remove gorse, volatile weeds and scrub around the neighbourhood		
Machinery use and maintenance		
Do not use machinery in very high or extreme fire danger conditions		
Keep firefighting equipment on hand when using machinery		
Clean and maintain machinery regularly		
Attach a spark arrestor to machinery if appropriate		
Local community		
Risk from neighbouring		
Liaise with Fire and Emergency over local fire history, risk reduction and response		

New Zealand

Due date

One action to take now to reduce the risk of fire to your property?

Wildfire Risk Management Plan 2

Te Uru Rākau New Zealand Forest Service



The Information is all out there

https://fireweather.niwa.co.nz

Check it's alright



Does not burn well				Average burn					Burns well
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Douglas fir		Radiata pine			Eucalyptus species		
		Tasmanian blackwood					Cypress species		
Kotukutuku		Kamahi	Tawa			Totara		Kanuka	
Broadleaf		Ngaio	Rimu			Tree ferns		Manuka	
								Gorse	
Lower fire risk									Higher fire risk

Prioritizing Assets

If a fire was burning on your property:

- People on-site
- Home
- Animals
- Farm or property infrastructure
- Vehicles
- Forestry block
- Others

Mitigation

What can you do?

- Prepare a plan
- Fire breaks
- Land preparation
- Water supply
- Green fire breaks
- Equipment

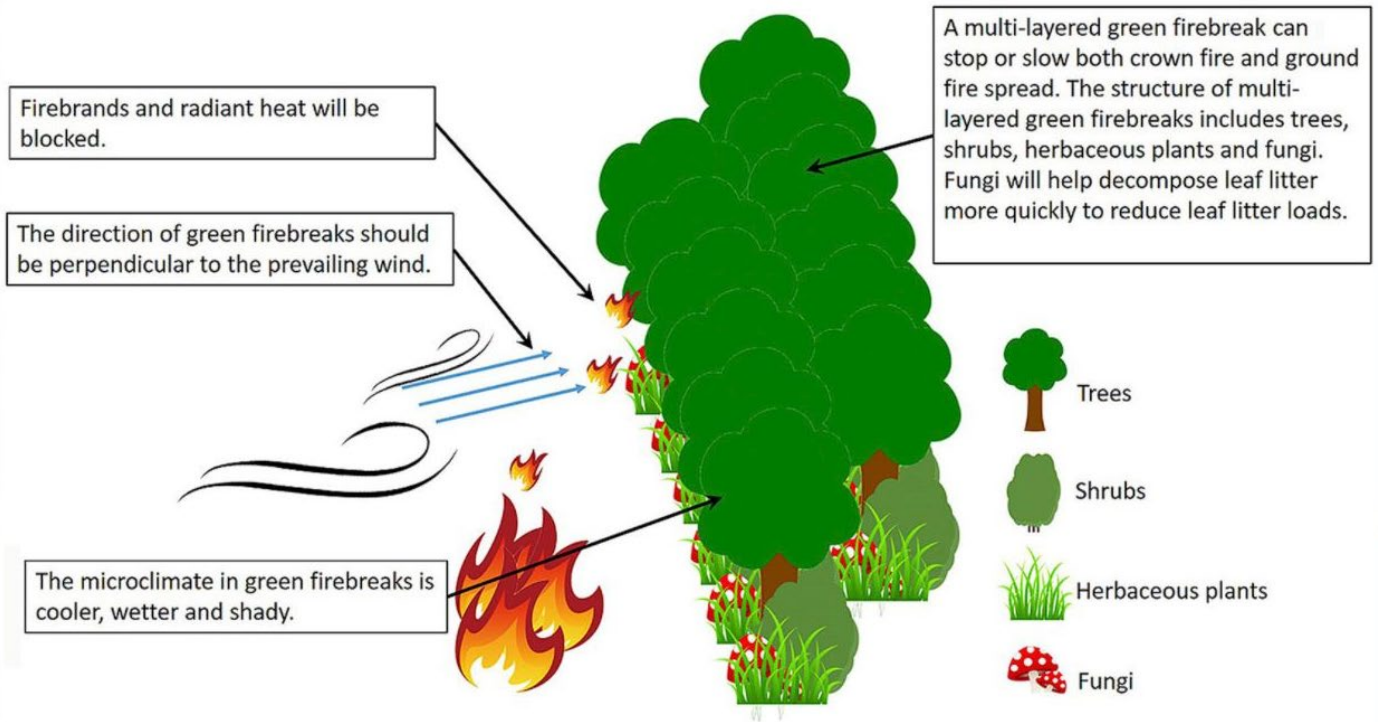



Fire Break Placements
Write a description for your map.
Legend
Fire Break 1
Fire Break 2
Lees Valley Rd
Google Earth
Image © 2026 Airbus
N
100 m

Not all plants burn the same

[Low flammability plants | Fire and Emergency New Zealand]

Think about “green” fire breaks





Select some less flammable plants

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Ngā mihi

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