

OTWAY BUSHFIRE

Community Newsletter – Bushfire Update One 23rd January 2012

IRREWILLIPE BUSHFIRES

DSE and CFA crews worked to contain two fires in the Irrewillipe area. Over 90 fire fighters were deployed to fires on White Peg Road and Pipe Line Road on Sunday, with both fires being brought under control later in the evening.

The White Peg Road Fire burnt approximately 1.2 hectares and the Pipeline Road Fire burnt some 26 hectares.

DSE Incident Controller David Rourke said DSE & CFA crews did a terrific job pulling up the two fires in a timely manner, in particular the Pipe Line Road which had the potential to impact on a large pine plantation.

The fire fighting effort was supported by two large helicopter water bombers, an Ericson Air-crane from Ballarat and a Sikorsky S61 based in Colac. Together these water bombers dropped over 160,000 litres of foam retardant on the head of the fire in support of ground crews.

Crews will continue to black out and patrol the area today and throughout the week. Both fires are currently under investigation.

To find out more about the effects of smoke on your health please visit www.health.vic.gov.au/bushfire or seek medical advice by calling Nurse on Call on 1300 60 60 24.

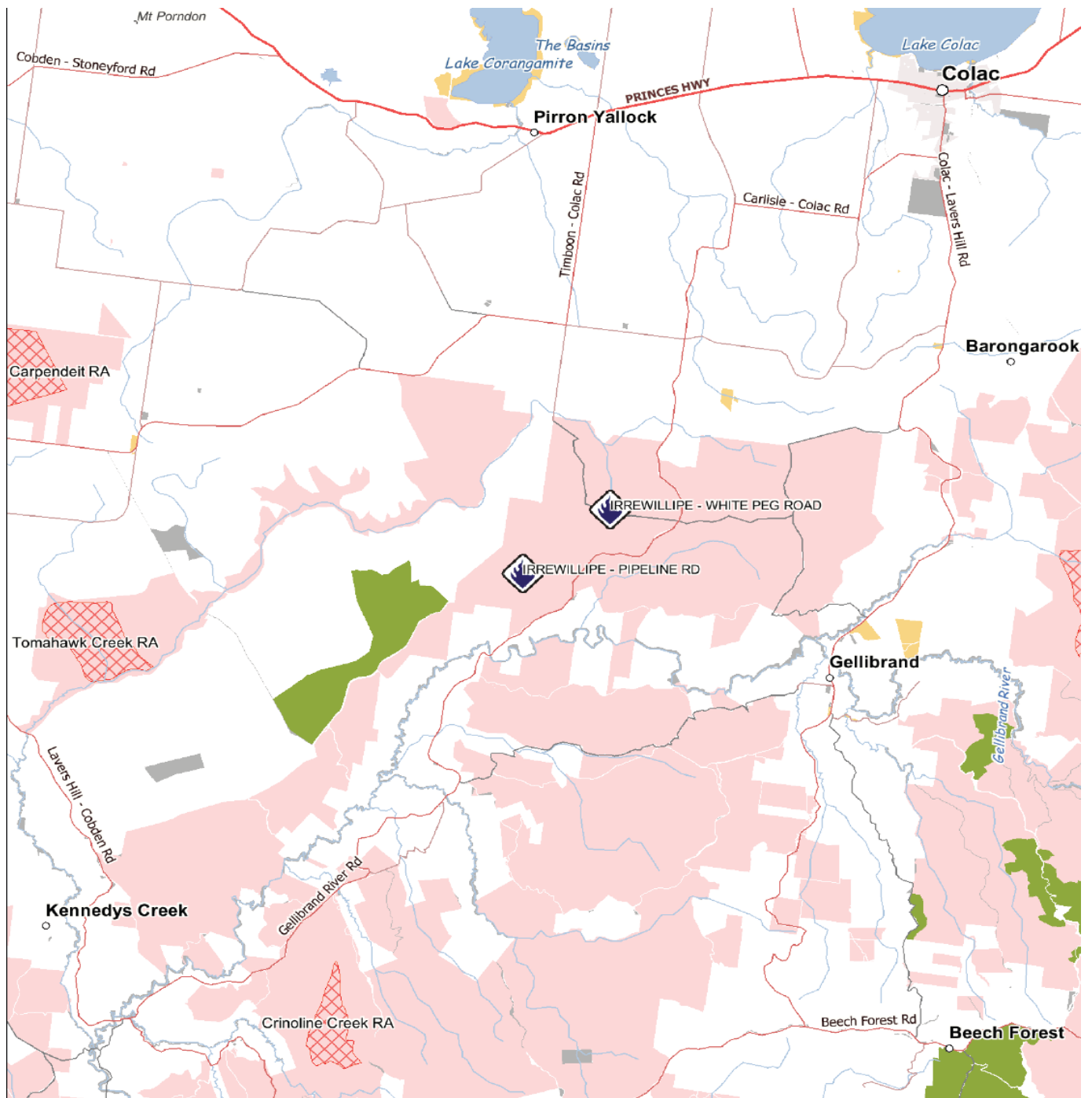
GENERAL SAFETY TIPS

- Always stay outside Aircraft exclusion zones for your own safety and that of refuelling and other Aircraft personnel
- Report registration numbers of unfamiliar vehicles and usual behaviour in your area
- Drive slowly and turn on your headlights when travelling through smoke
- Do not ignore road closures or speed restrictions. They are in place to ensure public and fire fighter safety.
- There is always a risk of falling trees and other hazards and we ask that you keep clear of all Bushfire and planned burn areas.
- Call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 for Bushfire Updates.
- Information about Bushfires and impacts on roads and camp sites can be found on the DSE and Parks Victoria websites:
 - www.dse.vic.gov.au
 - www.parkweb.vic.gov.au
 - www.cfa.vic.gov.au

For more information please contact the Otway Fire District on Ph (03) 5233 5565

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