

Communities need to be aware of the dangers of fire

Larry Bentley

KWAZULU-NATAL experienced a high fire danger index (FDI) over the last week.

Prompt responses by firefighters from the Department of Environmental Affairs' Expanded Public Works Programme - Working on Fire, ensured the fires were contained before extensive damage to the environment could occur.

Six fires in Umgeni, Cathedral Peak, Mbazwana and Melmoth saw 83 firefighters battling the blazes.

All firefighters remain on high alert and

will be ready to provide firefighting services to landowners and municipalities.

Communities and landowners are urged to remain vigilant and not to start any unnecessary fires.

It is also imperative to check the daily FDI warnings issued by the SA Weather Service.

KZN has a total of 732 fully-trained firefighters based at 29 bases across the province.

They also have a fleet of 32 vehicles made up of seven buses, five trucks, six fire tenders, seven rapid response units and seven LDVs fitted with 'bakkie sakkies'.



Mopping up operations are important when combatting fires

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