

Working on Fire Attends to 41 Fires in KZN Last Week

The Department of Environmental Affairs' Expanded Public Works Programme Working on Fire in KwaZulu-Natal were involved in 41 fire suppression's this past week.

368 firefighters were deployed to attend to fires in Manzengwenya, Eshowe, Cathedral Peak, Mbazwana, eDumbe, Manguzi, Normandien A & 1, Ixopo, Shongweni, Kokstad, Ulundi, Nkandla, Bergville, Winterton, Richmond, Vryheid, Umzimkhulu, Ixopo, Ariel resources and Harding.

KZN was affected by a High Danger Index last week which resulted in the 41 fires across the province. Prompt response and tireless efforts of the dedicated firefighters in suppressing these fires ensured that the fires were contained before further damage to the environment could be done.

Stationed in 29 regions across the province, the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries' Working on Fire teams not only assist communities, farmers and landowners with fire suppression, but are also deployed where needed to assist local fire fighters and disaster management teams to extinguish blazes.

KZN Grounds Operations Manager Mortas Khambule said: "Burning after the 31 of July will be prohibited unless discussed and approved by the KwaZulu-Natal Fire Protection Association."

It is imperative that landowners check Fire Danger Index (FDI) issued by the SA Weather Service. The KZN WOF is made up of 725 fully trained and super fit firefighters based at 29 bases across the province with 32 vehicles including buses, Hat trucks, Fire Trucks, Strike Units and bakkies with bakkie sakkies.

