



# Hot Spot

May 2017

## Fire Events

March and April were busy months in the rural area with a total of 79 calls, with 43% for vegetation fires, which is similar to this time last year.

Three notable fires were:

- ❖ Tiwai Peninsula fire resulting from a possum (or two) arching power lines. In dry light scrubby fuels we were very lucky it was a rare calm day and the fire was manageable. If the wind had got up it would be a very different story.
- ❖ A fire in the Brydone area caused by tree trimmings being burnt too close to a hedge, and the fire not being permitted.
- ❖ Cairn Forest Fire, caused by spontaneous combustion on a large pile of logging slash.

### March - April

Type	2016 / 17	2015 / 16
Vegetation	31	34
Mobile Fires	4	6
Motor Vehicle Accidents	6	6
Medical Calls	13	15
Other - structures	16	18

## Save the Date

Invitations are out! We hope you can make it, Southern Rural Fire's last ever Awards night.

**When:** Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2017

**Where:** Ascot Hotel, Invercargill

If you haven't received your invitation please contact Sally [sally@southernruralfire.org.nz](mailto:sally@southernruralfire.org.nz)

Oops a misprint! - The RSVP number on the invitation is incorrect it should be **0800 7733 63** or [info@southernruralfire.org.nz](mailto:info@southernruralfire.org.nz)

**RSVP'S ARE ESSENTIAL AND MUST BE IN BY THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE.**

# FENZ Transition

## FENZ Leadership

Fire and Emergency New Zealand starts on the 1 July 2017. Leadership positions have been announced recently which include

Rhys Jones (centre) as Chief Executive of Fire and Emergency New Zealand, Paul McGill (right) as the National Commander of Urban Fire and Emergency operations and Kevin O'Connor (left) as the National Manager of Rural Fire and Emergency operations.

For more information click [here](#) or go to the FENZ website



Appointments from 1 July 2017: Paul McGill (National Commander Urban), Rhys Jones (Chief Executive) and Kevin O'Connor (National Manager Rural)

## Regional Leadership

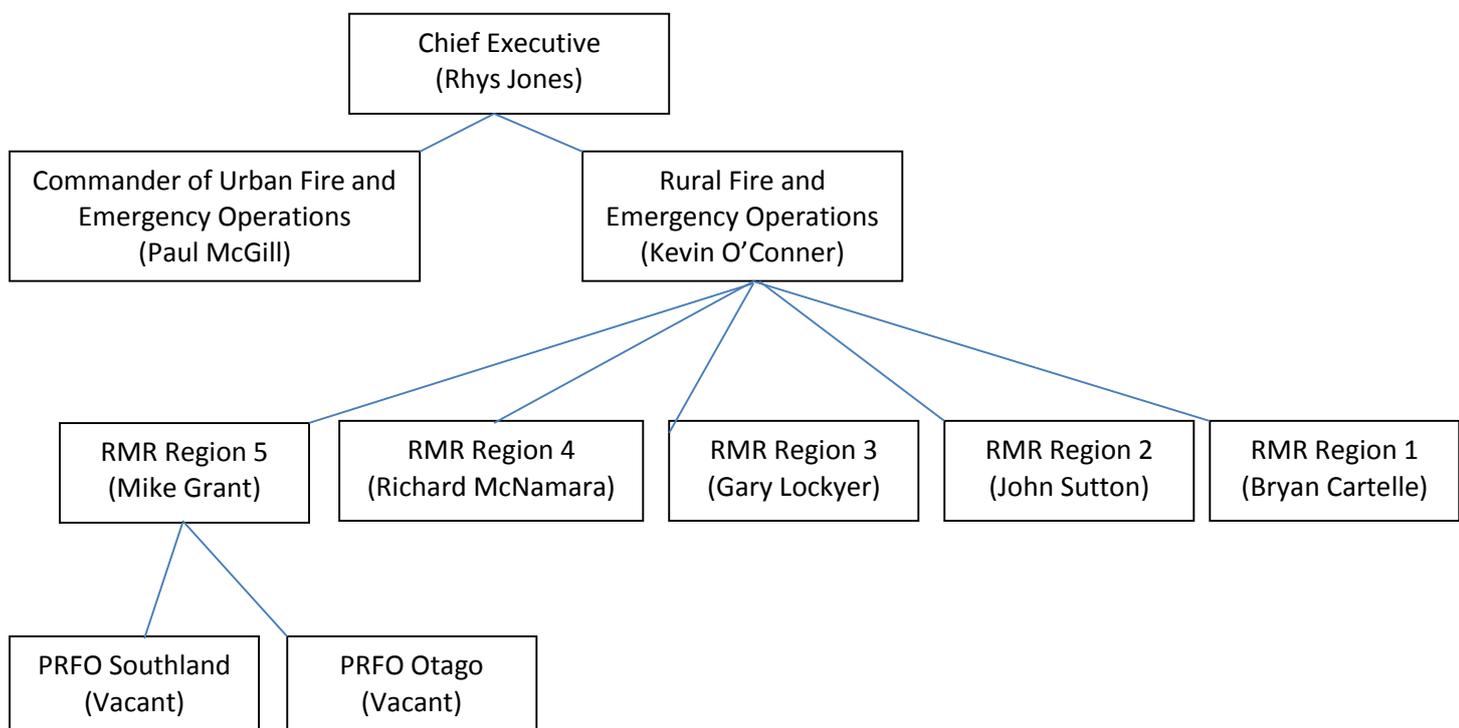
Mike Grant, Principal Rural Fire Officer for Southland has accepted the role as Regional Manager Rural for Region 5 as part of the new FENZ structure. The five Regional Manager Rural positions are new roles for Fire and Emergency New Zealand.

The Regional Managers Rural will work alongside the Fire Region Managers (urban) to ensure consistency of fire response while we work towards a full integration over the next 2-3 years.

The Regional Managers Rural will report to the National Manager Rural, and be responsible for the same Regions that we currently use in the NZ Fire Service. Principal Rural Fire Officers will report to the Regional Managers Rural.

These appointments will effectively bring together urban and rural fire authorities across the country, and ensure our communities continue to receive the same excellent service with no disruption to our day-to-day operations.

## FENZ Rural Management Structure



# FENZ Transition - continued

## What is happening?

The Southern Rural Fire team has been working with FENZ to transfer data, equipment and processes over to the new organisation. You should notice very little change as training, incidents and interaction with staff will continue the same.

To update you on the changes, Southern Rural Fire and the New Zealand Fire Service are holding presentation workshops. These meetings are intended for people in roles of Crew Leader and above. If you would like to attend register [here](#), or ring Sally to arrange.

### Date

### Location

Monday 29 May, 7pm – 9.30pm	Gore Fire Station 51 Hokonui Drive
Tuesday 30 May, 1pm – 5pm	Invercargill Fire Station 46 Jed Street
Tuesday 30 May, 7pm – 9.30pm	Winton Fire Station 16 Wenyss St
Wednesday 31 May, 7pm – 9.30pm	Invercargill Fire Station 46 Jed Street
Wednesday 31 May, 7pm – 9.30pm	Lumsden Fire Station 28 Hero St

Information that will be covered in detail at the meetings include:

**Safety, Health and Wellbeing** - Nothing is more important. The new, more diverse organisation needs a different approach to safety, health and wellbeing to keep people safe.

FENZ want to listen and learn more about what you do well most of the time, and we want you to feel safe so we can learn from when things don't go so well too.

**Authorised Persons** – (similar to Warranted Rural Fire Officers). This replaces the role of specific powers that were included in the Fire Service Act and the Forest and Rural Fires Act. Although the process for giving people powers is different, operational personnel are unlikely to be doing anything differently from how they do their job now.

**Volunteer Support** - Fire and Emergency New Zealand is the only organisation in the country that has a legislative commitment to supporting its volunteer workforce. It's this legislative commitment and duty to volunteers that will help drive the change in volunteer support across the new organisation.

**Command and Control** – This is an interim policy for Day One. There is a lot of work to be done in developing the new command and control policy for the new organisation. The interim policy is based on relationships, communication and respect for each other's qualifications, skills and experience. It provides the opportunity for officers to support and develop each other but also clearly provides guidance for when more senior officers must take control of incidents.

**Identity** – Extensive workshops and research was carried out to come up with a new identity.

The process began with understanding what values people wanted the logo to represent; and what they thought of all the elements in the fire service and rural fire logos – the colours, the star, the crown, the ferns, the helmet and tools. The designs were rigorously tested and the new logo developed.



# Training

The roles of fire fighter, crew leader and fire manager have changed since training material and standards were developed. Along with new technology the way teams train has also changed.

Rural Fire is updating and streamline training material to better fit fire fighter's needs.

The first material to be upgraded and reshaped are management roles including Air Attack Supervisor, Safety Advisor, Incident Planning, Air Support Supervisor and Incident Controller. Historically training for these management roles has been ad hoc and dependant on the region.

Other work includes refresher courses for fire investigators and leadership courses to give people the skills to lead teams confidently.

The development of these courses has been made possible with the appointment of Tony Roddan (above left) as the dedicated National Rural Fire Training Manager.



For fire fighters the changes will mainly be behind the scene. Practical training will still occur, hauling hose, running pumps and understanding fire behaviour are skills that all fire fighters need to keep practicing to remain competent

Team	Date	Location
ICC Parks	16-17 May	Te Anau
DOC – Stewart Island	7-8 June	Stewart Island
Southroads	17-18 August	Kingswell, Invercargill
Fulton Hogan	24-25 August	Kingswell, Invercargill
DOC Te Anau (Team 2)	3-4 October	Te Anau
Volunteer Teams	On your training nights	