

**Australian Horse Industry Council website information:-** [www.horsecouncil.org.au](http://www.horsecouncil.org.au)

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS FOR ANIMAL CARE:**

**There is lots of important information and links on the DPI Website : See Link at the bottom of this page or on our links page.**

**Project Hope** have undertaken the task of co-ordinating offers of donations of feed and agistment for Horses. If you can help, or require assistance contact Project Hope on 1300 881 606, or email [info@phhvw.org.au](mailto:info@phhvw.org.au) or go to [www.phhvw.org.au](http://www.phhvw.org.au) .

**Triple R Equine Rescue** have set up a Crisis network co-ordinating and distributing feed and goods to bushfire victims as well as listing offers of accommodation for horses and people, see [www.triplerequinewelfare.org](http://www.triplerequinewelfare.org) for more info.

**RSPCA is providing temporary accommodation to animals at their shelters across Victoria. If your pet needs emergency accommodation - please phone 03 9224 2222. They are delivering emergency pet food to relief centres across Victoria including food donated by Hill's Pet Nutrition. If you wish to donate items such as pet food, bedding, leads and bowls you can deliver these to your local RSPCA.**

The RSPCA will be working to reunite lost pets with their families. To support our emergency relief effort in other ways, please complete RSPCA \_assistance form

[http://www.rspcavic.org/campaigns\\_news/bushfires\\_help\\_offer.htm](http://www.rspcavic.org/campaigns_news/bushfires_help_offer.htm) detailing the the support you can offer.

**Animal Aid in Coldstream is caring for domestic pets affected by fires Animal Aid has available boarding facilities that it has made available and has cancelled all private vet consultations to deal with injured pets in their vet clinic. Currently looking after dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rabbits, chickens, rats and some small livestock.**

Animal Aid also distributing donations of pet food and has a list of people willing to agist larger animals Anyone wanting to assist can donate funds to assist with the boarding o animals and for vet care. Contact:- Lesley Humphreys, Trustee, Animal Aid, 0418982070

**Wildlife Victoria ( [www.wildlifevictoria.org.au](http://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au) < <http://www.wildlifevictoria.org.au> > ) is responding and coordinating treatment and rescue of wildlife affected by the bushfires.**

**DOGS Victoria** is a source of assistance re dog accommodation and minding - visit <http://www.dogsvictoria.org.au/>

**The Help for Wildlife response team are based in the vicinity where the Kinglake/Healesville fires occurred are on standby waiting to enter the fireground when safe to rescue injured wildlife.**

HELP FOR WILDLIFE - PO Box 181 COLDSTREAM 3770 Ph 0417 380 687 <http://www.helpforwildlife.com/>

**The Cat Protection Society would like to offer the following assistance and use of equipment (subject to availability) for people around the Greensborough area that are affected by the bushfire:**

- Veterinary treatment of cats
- Use of 22 hospital size cages
- IV drips and giving sets
- Bandages
- Antibiotics
- Transport vehicles and facilities
- Boxes
- Contact details for a local cattery that is also able to provide accommodation for cats.

CPS does not have appropriate facilities for dogs, only cats. The clinic has limited opening hours, so it is essential to phone prior to visiting, on 9434 7155 or 9434 7255.

**Pet Industry Association members also have more than 850 dog boarding places and 550 cat boarding places donated by members - all details on Pet Industry Association website [www.piaa.net.au](http://www.piaa.net.au) <<http://www.piaa.net.au/>>**

**The Lort Smith Animal Hospital at 24 Villiers Street in North Melbourne is offering free medical treatment for pets affected by the bush fires. Please contact the Lort Smith Animal Hospital, 24 Villiers Street, North Melbourne on 9328 3021.**

For people who would find it easier to get to our clinic in Mill Park please contact the Lort Smith Plenty Valley Veterinary Clinic on 9407 2030,

**The Greyhound Adoption Program kennels in Seymour are also taking in any greyhounds who have been affected by the fires. They can be contacted on 5799 0166 for assistance**

Large quantities of animal feed, supplies & services have been donated from around Australia, available for use over coming weeks to fire affected families

and their animals. • BAGGED HORSE FEED • DOG / CAT / OTHER FOOD • HALTERS, LEADS etc. • HAY, CHAFF & STRAW

• GRAIN • BOWLS, BEDS etc.

Feed delivery available from volunteers OR available for pickup in the following areas...

ST. ANDREWS Frank: 0431437907

WHITTLESEA Vet Practice: 97162495

YARRA GLEN Chanel: 0411740062

KINGLAKE Vet Clinic: 0408161156

Small animal food, collars, bowls etc. ALL local veterinary clinics & hospitals.

Animal transport, horse hospital facilities Yarrambat Vet Hospital: 94361699

Horse supplies (halters, feed bins etc.) / health care

YARRAMBAT Vet Hospital: 94361699

WHITTLESEA Vet Practice: 97162495

YARRA RANGES Vet Clinic: 97395244

Wildlife

ELTHAM Vet Clinic: 94391111

HURSTBRIDGE Vet Clinic: 97181515

ANIMAL FEED, SUPPLIES & HELP

General inquiries, offers & donations 94361699

## ALERTS

### 2/10/2009 - EMERGENCY CONTACTS FOR ANIMALS IN DISTRESS

#### BRIEF:

**Please note the following contact details for animals in distress**

For farm animals, please contact DPI emergency hotline 136186

For wildlife, domestic, please call RSPCA 9224 2222

The University of Melbourne's veterinary clinic at Werribee has offered to provide free treatment to pets and horses injured in the fires. Emergency & critical care: 9731 2232

#### LINK:

[www.dpi.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au)

### 2/11/2009 - MESSAGE RE VICTORIAN BUSHFIRES

#### BRIEF:

The bushfires in Victoria have created a natural disaster of epic proportions. The loss of human life is difficult for us to appreciate.

AHIC, on behalf of the national horse industry, extends our sincere condolences to all those who have lost family and friends in this terrible tragedy. That so many people could lose their lives in only a few hours is incomprehensible. Many more people have been injured physically, and the mental traumas will go on for a while. At this time access to the affected areas remains difficult. Much of the area has been declared a crime scene as authorities comb the rubble for victims. This is a very necessary step in coming to terms with the loss of human life. There have also been significant impacts on animals unfortunate enough to have been caught by the fires. There is little information currently available on the effects of the fires on the many horses, cattle, sheep, goats, dogs, cats and wildlife in the area.

I have spoken with the Victorian Chief Veterinary Officer and with veterinary practitioners who service the areas to the north of Melbourne. There are sufficient human resources available. Many people are donating fodder and agistment. Halters, lead ropes, rugs and other basic needs have also been provided. All of this is being co-ordinated by the Victorian Department of Primary Industries. You can access their web site for information at [www.dpi.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au)

Currently there are about 300 horses under treatment for various injuries, mainly superficial burns. In bush fires it's the lower limbs and facial areas that suffer the most. Life threatening injuries are those that involve the feet because these can lead to destruction of the affected horse.

Internal injuries are caused by the temperature of the air near the fire front (often many hundreds of degrees Celsius), and the smoke and other debris that accompany the fire. These combine to cause injuries to the lining of the lungs which can result in another major cause for illness and death after fires. There have been many donations of veterinary supplies and bandaging materials which have assisted the veterinarians and carers considerably in these initial stages.

We need to remember that there will be no paddock feed in the affected areas for months. There will be an ongoing need for agistment and routine feeding and watering of livestock for many weeks to come. Local property owners are generously allowing extra animals in their properties at the moment. It is likely that others will also have to help for the future.

AHIC will continue to monitor the situation and provide updates as they become available. In the meantime AHIC is working with authorities to ensure that the needs of affected horses and their owners can be met.

## **2/12/2009 - PROJECT HOPE BUSHIFIRE HELP FOR HORSES**

### **BRIEF:**

Please print off and distribute

### **LINK:**

[www.phhvw.org.au](http://www.phhvw.org.au)

### **FILE:**

 [Project Hope Bushfire Help for Horses.pdf \(417 kb\)](#)

## **10/2/09 APSB re Vic Bushfires**

The Victorian Branch has set up a Disaster Relief Fund to help those in need. If you would like to donate money to this fund you can send cheques in to the office (PO Box 2132, Geelong 3220) or you can call the office (03 5221 3099) and pay money through your credit card. If you would like to transfer money direct, you also need to contact the office and they will let you know the banking details.

On the web site, we have set up a couple of pages. The first one, <http://www.apsbvic.org.au/VicFireUpdate.htm> will have any updates on members who have been involved with the fire. If you know of anybody who has been affected by the fire and you know their status, you can email [newsletter@apsbvic.org.au](mailto:newsletter@apsbvic.org.au) and updates will be made twice a day. Please ensure that the information given is correct not heard 5<sup>th</sup> hand... This area is simply to let people know how their friends in fire areas have been affected. Please be aware that affected people are under an enormous strain at the moment and may not want all of us calling with well wishes.

We have also set up a page <http://www.apsbvic.org.au/fireagistmentregister.htm> to register people who may be able to take in ponies until fencing and feed in the affected areas are available. If you have space and feed, please email [newsletter@apsbvic.org.au](mailto:newsletter@apsbvic.org.au) with your contact details along with the number of ponies you can take and type of ponies (ie only mares/geldings, space of 2 colts/stallions etc.)

Many of the fire victims are unaware of the help they require as yet so it is going to take some time before action can take place. Perhaps some of our groups can get together in the future and form some fencing teams etc. If you have particular skills that you believe may be required you can also let us know and we will list these as well.

This is a time for all members to pull together and support those in need. If you are aware of any members that do need help, just contact the office (03 5221 3099) and we will organise what is required.

Regards,

**Filipa Marshall**  
Newsletter Editor  
APSB Victoria

## **10/2/09 DPI**

### **Media release**

### **From the Department of Primary Industries**

## **DPI ON STANDBY TO HELP WITH FIRE AFFECTED LIVESTOCK**

The Department of Primary Industries (DPI) is mobilising teams to assess the impact on livestock of the weekend fires, the Executive Director of Farm Services Victoria, Ron Harris, said today

The teams will comprise government animal health officers, people from other agencies and private veterinarians, "Teams have already begun assessing the damage in the Horsham area and the west of the state," Mr Harris said.

"As soon as it is safe to do so we will send in teams to all the other fire-affected areas and to make contact with affected farmers over the next few days.

“We will also be undertaking an assessment of other agricultural losses and are working with the Victorian Farmers Federation to arrange emergency fodder.

“Anyone wishing to donate fodder should call the VFF on 1300 882 833 from tomorrow or email [www.vff.org.au](http://www.vff.org.au)

“If farmers need urgent assistance in assessing burnt livestock they should register their needs by calling the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186.

“These farms can be visited when it is considered safe to enter the areas but, if access is limited, farmers may need to use their own resources or local networks to prevent unnecessary suffering.”

Senior DPI veterinarian and Manager of Animal Health Field Services, Lloyd Klumpp says farmers have three major options.

- Destroy immediately – if the animal is down, unable to walk, has excessive burns, swelling of limbs or difficulty breathing.
- Keep and nurse – if the animal is mobile and alert or has burns to less than ten per cent of its body. These animals will need shade, water, feed, daily inspection and veterinary advice and treatment. They will also need constant reassessment.
- No apparent damage – Livestock will still need shade water and feed and they will also need to be reassessed.

“For livestock at risk of impending fire it should, where possible, be moved to safer areas such as recently cultivated paddocks, bared-out or irrigated paddocks or stockyards with bare or ploughed surrounds,” Mr Klumpp said

“People should remove halters, fly-veils and anything else that can burn the animals, they should not be let out onto public roads.”

Any injured wildlife should be reported to Help for Wildlife on 0417 380 687 or Wildlife Victoria on 0500 540 000.

**9/2/09 DPI**

## **HELP FOR BUSHFIRE VICTIMS**

Everyone is concerned about the people, animals and horses that have been caught in the devastating bush fires.

The authorities have declared this an unprecedented disaster and access to bushfire areas has been blocked and will remain so for quite some time yet. Offers of assistance are much appreciated but until the blockades are removed there is very little that can be done.

In the meantime, Project Hope have undertaken the task of co-ordinating offers of donations of feed and agistment. For more information about Project Hope go to [www.phhwv.org.au](http://www.phhwv.org.au).

We will post regular updates from DPI Vic as they come to hand.

For updates on the the fires, go to [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)