

# NEWS LETTER

(t) +27 (0) 43 683 2031 | [www.stutfpa.co.za](http://www.stutfpa.co.za) | (e) [manager@stutfpa.co.za](mailto:manager@stutfpa.co.za)

## Cape Town Fire

We are proud to say that the Stutterheim Working on Fire team that assisted in the suppression of the Cape Town fire received honourable mention on the front page of the Weekend Post, Sat 7 March, for their dedicated service & appreciated assistance on the fire-line.

## AFC Contracts 802 Bomber

The Amathole Forestry Company & Rance Timber have contracted an Air Tractor 802 Bomber for the coming fire season. (Photo top-right). With a hopper capacity of 3000l, the ability to do multiple drops & a cruising speed of 350 kph: this machine a force to be reckoned with. The 802 will be available to members on 2nd call (T's & C's Apply).

## New Boundaries to Include Nkonkobe

The GSFPA has finalised the new FPA boundaries which includes the Nkonkobe LM & a section of Buffalo City Metro. The total area of the GSFPA amounts to approximately 980 thousand hectares.



## A New Year Dawns

The 2014/2015 GSFPA financial year is coming to an end & although the year has not been without its challenges, we feel that positive change has occurred ensuring sustainable growth for the future. We thank all of you, the members, for a fruitful year & continuous support.

The invoices for the new year will be sent out to all members in the coming weeks, following which the Annual General Meeting will be held. The date for the AGM is preliminarily scheduled for the 21st of May, but SMS's confirming the date will be sent out shortly.

We ask that you make an effort to attend the GSFPA AGM as we will be looking at making changes to the constitution that provide for the growth & capacity of the GSFPA.





## Meet the Team: Craig Els

The large growth in the area of the GSFPA has led to a need for equivalent growth in capacity in order to effectively manage the area. Craig Els fills the position of FPA Area Manager & is assigned to the western area of the GSFPA.

- Full Name: Craig Deon Els
- Age: 28
- Position: FPA Area Manager
- Office Loc: Hogsback
- (e): hogsback@stutfpa.co.za

Craig & his wife, Lana, have lived in Hogsback for the past two years & as such, Craig is familiar with the community & the surrounding areas.

His primary function is to grow the GSFPA in the newly added Nkonkobe LM. Craig also serves the community of Hogsback in his capacity as the Vice-Chairperson of the Hogsback Community Policing Forum & the GSFPA has therefore been able to set up a branch office in Hogsback, next to the police station.

Craig's passion, experience & willingness to learn & adapt make him a valuable addition to the GSFPA team.

## *Winter is Coming*

Although we are still in the time where rain is frequent & appreciated, the evidence of a quickly approaching fire season is quite clear. And along with the rapidly approaching winter, the end of the window period to burn heavy materials is also around the corner.

We ask that you make use of the time to reduce the heavy material fuel loads on your property before it is too late & it is left to become a hazard when the fire season is in full swing.

Should assistance be needed in the reduction of fuel load activities please do not hesitate to contact us.

## *Amendments to the Act*

A consultation workshop on the proposed amendments of the National Forests Act, 1998 & the National Veld and Forest Fire Act, 1998 will be held by the Department of Agriculture, Forests and Fisheries (DAFF) on the 21st of April.

Any member wanting to attend is welcome to do so & the proposed amendments can be furnished upon request. The workshop will be held in King Williams Town at the DAFF main boardroom at 10h00.

The amendments are proposed in order to make the two legislations more responsive to operational gaps and challenges on the ground.

