

Friday 1 September 2023

Commonsense decision reached on Grain Harvest Code

A decision to continue current adopted practice under the Grain Harvest Code for the coming harvest has been welcomed by growers as a commonsense approach, according to Grain Producers SA (GPSA).

The South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) had put forward a proposal to change the Grain Harvest Code away from current adopted practice, however a decision was made this week to continue with the same arrangements for this harvest as the last.

GPSA Chief Executive Officer Brad Perry thanked the Minister for Emergency Services Joe Szakacs and the CFS for listening to grain producers on the eve of harvest.

“A majority of grain producers measure the Grassland Fire Danger Index (GFDI) of 35 at two metres only, under the Grain Harvest Code and have been doing so since its inception and we are pleased this has finally been recognised,” he said.

“We’d like to thank the Minister for Emergency Services and the CFS for heeding GPSA’s calls to continue current adopted practice in what can only be described as a win for commonsense.

“We will continue to work with the State Government and the CFS to monitor the season and proactively undertake campaigns to remind grain producers to adhere to the Harvest Code.

“Last harvest GPSA launched our ‘Don’t Be a Bright Spark’ campaign reminding grain producers about the importance of understanding and implementing the Grain Harvest Code and we will be updating and relaunching this campaign.”

Mr Perry also thanked the many grain producers who contacted GPSA to provide their feedback on how they use the Grain Harvest Code.

“We have been overwhelmed with feedback from grain producers, many of whom are CFS volunteers, voicing their concerns about any change to current adopted practice for the Grain Harvest Code on the ground,” he said.

“As we’ve said time and time again, if it isn’t broken, why are we trying to fix it?”

“Thankfully for the 2023-24 harvest, we will be able to continue on GFDI of 35 at two metres which has shown for the past 10 years to keep communities and regions safe.”

For more information, visit www.grainproducerssa.com.au

For interviews, contact Brad Perry, GPSA CEO, on 0418 619 907