

Mayor Richard Kempthorne confirmed the decision has been made to allow the state of emergency to expire. A notice of transition to recovery has been issued. The huge effort from all agencies involved to ensure the threat to people, animals and property is alleviated this is acknowledged.

### **Fire and Emergency New Zealand**

Fire and Emergency Area Manager Grant Haywood is asking residents to remain vigilant, and to stop and think about the risk of fire before any outdoor activities.

Before undertaking any outdoor activity consider the urgency of the work and potential that it could create a spark, for example, where metal could strike metal or stone, such as mowing grass, using firearms or grinding, welding or metal cutting. If these activities can't wait until there's been considerable rain, we're asking they are timed for early in the morning with calm, cool temperatures.

A new fire that started this afternoon in the Redwood Valley area, north-east of the existing Pigeon Valley fire ground, has slowed and been stopped at the grass at the foot of the gully where the fire began.

Winds and low humidity today meant conditions for fire risk were heightened, resulting in challenging fire conditions.

Crews are confident that fire is slowing and they have been able to gain a decent foothold in fighting it. A combination of the ability to move crews and resources quickly from Pigeon Valley fire and the downhill direction of the initial blaze have been the determining factor in the current containment of the fire.

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If you feel unsafe or threatened, it is sensible to self-evacuate as a precaution. Anyone who self-evacuates should register with the Welfare Centre at New Life Church, 85 Wensley Road, Richmond.

Fire and Emergency NZ has received a lot of calls from the public about the fire and we thank the public for their vigilance and staying alert in these conditions.

Nearby residents should go to the [Tasman-Marlborough Fire Area Facebook page](#) for updates.

**Call 111 if you see any signs of fire or suspicious activity.**

### **Nelson Fire Clean-up Crew**

The Nelson fire clean-up crew will be again be at the Wakefield Village Hall from 10am to 3pm on Sunday, 3 March. Please drop in if there are any tasks you need help with as a result of the Pigeon Valley fire. If you are not able to come to the meeting, you can phone 027 42 CLEAN (027 422 5326) or email [nelsonfcc@outlook.com](mailto:nelsonfcc@outlook.com) More details at: <https://nelsonfcc.wixsite.com/home> They'll be coordinating clean-up tasks over the coming weeks.

**Wednesday 27th February 2019**



## **Red Cross and Rural Support Visits**

An outreach programme carried out by Red Cross and the Rural Support Trust will take place from Thursday 28 February through to Sunday 3 March, visiting residents in affected valleys. Assistance is also available at the following phone numbers and website links:

[MPI Animal Welfare](#): 0800 008 333

[Work & Income](#): 0800 779 997

[Nelson Marlborough Public health Service](#)

Local Health Navigators: 0800 611 116 (8am -5pm)

Healthline: 0800 611 116 to speak to a nurse

## **Animal Welfare**

MPI encourages all residents who have livestock to plan for ongoing water restrictions and drought. Federated Farmers has their feedline open to all people with stock in the region to match up with offers of grazing or feed: 0800 327 646 – option 2. For any animal welfare concerns do call MPI.

## **Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund**

The Nelson Tasman District Mayoral Disaster Relief Fund has been set up by the Tasman District and Nelson City Councils to help those most severely affected by the Pigeon Valley fire. The criteria for funding and the application form are available now online at: <https://tasman.govt.nz/link/mayoral-fund>.

**See our Facebook page for the latest information and updates:**

[www.facebook.com/nelsontasmancivildefenceandemergencymanagement](http://www.facebook.com/nelsontasmancivildefenceandemergencymanagement).

Our updates are also online at [www.nelsontasmancivildefence.co.nz/](http://www.nelsontasmancivildefence.co.nz/)