

Bushfire Management – September Update

The Progress Association has been actively involved in submissions to Council on the Colac Otway Bushfire Planning Policy Project and has given financial support to the successful campaign led by Kate Cotter to change the State Government's bushfire planning regulations.

Following those changes, COS Council announced that its Field Officers met with State Government representatives to discuss the implications of the State Government's Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) changes for Council's project examining the potential for BMO schedules in eight of its high risk towns, including Wye River and Separation Creek.

Manager - Planning & Building, **Doug** McNeill has advised the Progress Association that COS will be applying the new State provisions from the effective date of 31 July 2014. Each application will be assessed on its merits and applicants can rely on the building application they lodged prior to the change in regulations, or amend it with additional measures to reduce the **fire** risk.