

The WA State Government has now passed legislation which means if you are building a home or performing construction work in a designated bushfire prone area, you will be required to undertake a Bushfire Attack Level (BAL) assessment. Based on the results of the assessment, you will need to comply with the bushfire construction requirements of the Building Code of Australia (BCA).



Australia's climate has been trending toward more bushfire weather over the last 30 years. On average, **100** homes are lost per year due to bushfires.

What is a BAL?

A BAL assessment provides designers with site-specific information on how to design the structure to reduce the risk of ignition from bushfires, ember attack and radiant heat. The result of the assessment determines the specific construction and design requirements that will need to be adhered to, in order to improve the performance of structures against possible bushfires. A BAL rating can range from low, to BAL- FZ - extreme risk (Flame Zone).

Why does a BAL assessment need to be done?

For any new builds in bushfire prone areas, new legislation means a BAL assessment is required in order to obtain a building permit. To help you identify whether or not your site requires a BAL assessment, the State Government has created a mapping standard outlining the designated bushfire prone areas across WA. These maps are available to view on the Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) website:

<http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/regulationandcompliance/bushfireproneareas/Pages/default.aspx>

What does this mean for you?

Building in accordance with the BAL rating and Australian Standards can bring significant additional construction costs for you or your client, sometimes over \$20 000. **Higher BAL rating = Higher costs.**

Why choose **Structerre** for your BAL assessments?

- > **Can provide recommendations to amend a site's BAL rating**
Not only are we experts in the field but we have the ability to provide clients with customised solutions to potentially downgrade a site's BAL rating. This could save you and your client up to \$20 000 per project.
- > **Are experienced BAL assessors**
We have years of experience doing BAL assessments, our prices and turnaround times are very competitive, and we are recognised leaders in the industry by both councils and our clients.
- > **Assess plans to determine accordance**
We are able to assess your plans to determine the specific construction requirements are in accordance with the determined BAL.
- > **Host on-site training**
We have the ability to host on-site training at our clients' requests to make sure the legislation changes are understood, what implications they may face along the way and how we can help.
- > **Have a strong rapport with councils**
Our 30+ years of experience in the industry has allowed us to develop a strong rapport with councils, who recognise our documents.
- > **Make your business our business**
We make your business our business and work with your systems to achieve the best possible outcome for you and your client.

Contact us

- > For **BAL site assessments**, to discuss options to downgrade a site's BAL rating, or to arrange on-site training:
- > For **engineering advice**, specification checklists and to assess plans to determine the specific construction requirements are in accordance with the determined BAL:



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