



LIMPOPO
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

TO ALL MEDIA

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEC KEKANA URGES PUBLIC TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION TO PREVENT VELD FIRES

The MEC for Agriculture and Rural Development, Ms. Nakedi Grace Kekana has issued a fierce warning to individuals responsible for starting reckless and malicious wild veld fires, which are currently devastating agricultural land, livestock, and livelihoods across the Limpopo Province.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development appeals to members of the public, farming communities, and landowners to remain vigilant and exercise extreme caution during the current dry season to prevent the outbreak and spread of veld fires. Veld fires continue to pose a serious threat to agricultural land, livestock, biodiversity, property, and human lives. The impact of these fires extends beyond affected communities, placing significant strain on emergency response services and causing substantial economic losses.

The Department urges all residents to refrain from activities that may accidentally ignite fires, including the careless disposal of cigarette butts, unattended open flames, and the burning of waste during windy conditions. Members of the public are also encouraged to report any suspicious activities that may lead to fire outbreaks.

Landowners are reminded of their responsibility to maintain effective firebreaks, regularly monitor weather conditions, and work closely with local Fire Protection Associations and relevant authorities to reduce fire risks. Protecting lives, livelihoods, and the environment is a shared responsibility.

Through collective vigilance and responsible behavior, communities can help prevent devastating veld fires and safeguard the province's agricultural resources. The Department appreciates the continued cooperation of all stakeholders in promoting fire safety and protecting our natural and agricultural heritage.

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