

Multiple strategies are adopted to address the threats of fires in and around our concessions. Our approach incorporates policy implementation, stakeholder engagement, capacity building, monitoring of risks and threats, and emergency response to prevent the outbreak of landfires to reduce the severity of any damage.

Goodhope has enforced its strict zero burning policy since 2010, prohibiting open burning on any of its premises. However, during each dry season, the company must deal with the threat of fire outbreaks in and around concessions. Fires are still common on community-owned land as landowners make use of traditional slash and burn practices to clear patches of land for agriculture.

Slash-and-burn is a technique that has been long practiced by farmers in Indonesia. The farmers cut down part of the vegetation on a patch of land and then set fire to the remainder. The technique is an easy and cost-effective way for farmers to clear their land and the burning process also helps to get rid of any disease that may affect the future crops.

Limited and controlled burning as a way of clearing land for farming is legally allowed on up to 2 hectares of land per household in the Indonesian provinces of West Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan where the majority of Goodhope’s concessions are located.

Addressing the problem requires multi-stakeholder cooperation with government agencies and local communities:

- We coordinate with local authorities to socialize the risk of fire among local communities and encourage no burning.
- We conduct joint fire response training with local authorities and support community fire care teams (Masyarakat Peduli Api) for collaborative handling of the threat of land fires.
- We continue to work together with the local communities and local authorities on viable approaches to prevent the use of burning to clear land for agriculture.



Capacity building activities strengthen the skills and alertness of fire response teams to ensure that we have sufficiently trained and equipped emergency response teams to deal with fire outbreaks within and in the vicinity of concessions.

In 2021, we hired an experienced fire expert to provide training and guidance, and to engage with government agencies and local communities for collaboration in fire preparedness, awareness, and response.

Our fire monitoring system includes the use of observation towers, drones, and satellite imagery to determine the location of any potential fires within or in the proximity of a concession area.

Via monitoring alerts, on-site field verification teams are notified of any potential fire located within our concessions or within 2 km from our concession boundaries. In any confirmed case of fire, trained fire response teams are immediately dispatched to extinguish the fire.

In 2021, there were a total of 66 fires occurring in our concessions, impacting 37 Ha of land. All but one of these incidents occurred in West Kalimantan. The cause of each fire was deliberate burning by landowners to clear land owned by local communities. All fires are reported to RSPO and relevant authorities.

	Number of fires				
	Central Kalimantan	West Kalimantan	East Kalimantan	Papua	Total
Inside concessions	1	65	0	0	66
Within surrounding landscape	19	405	1	0	425
Total	20	470	1	0	491