



# **The practice of prescribed burning: whose risk are we measuring?**

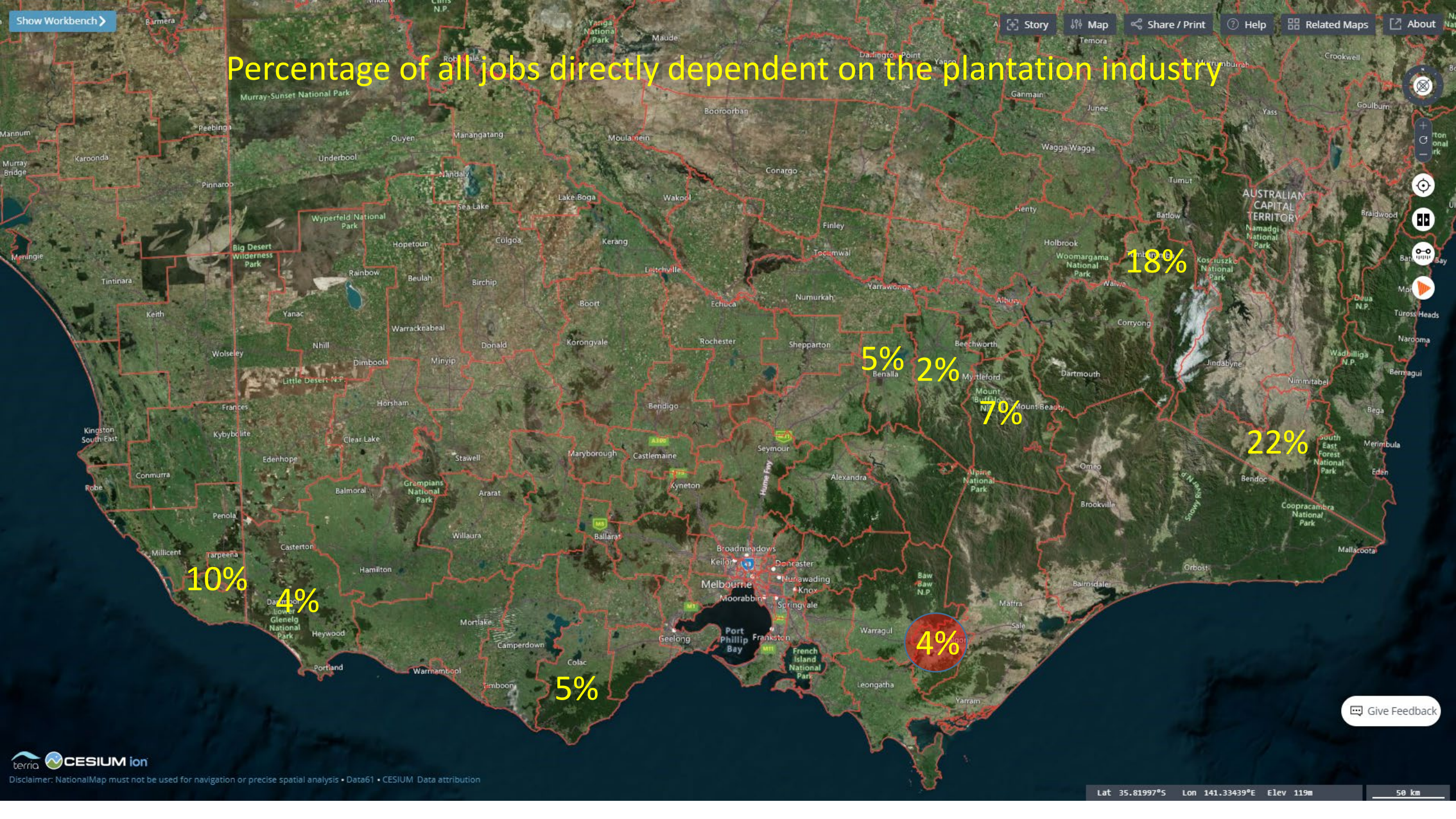
Ruth Ryan, HVP Plantations

National Fire Fuels Science Webinar **20 May 2020**

The practice of hazard reduction: what are the potentials and limitations?



# Percentage of all jobs directly dependent on the plantation industry



Give Feedback

# 15 years investment



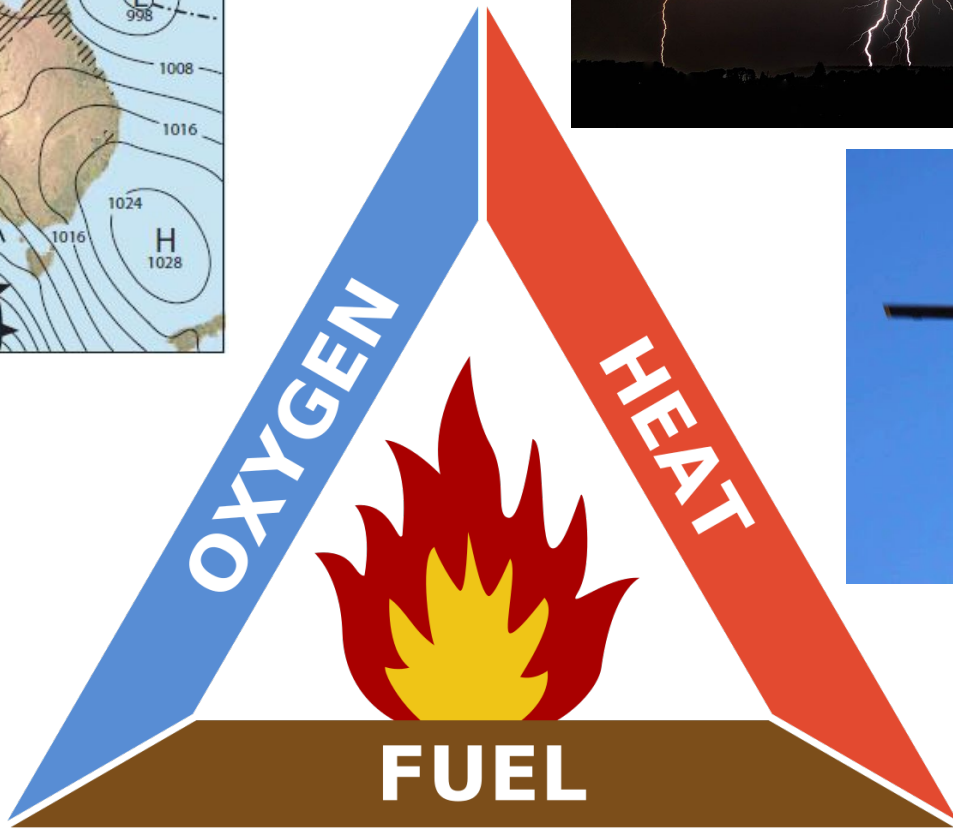
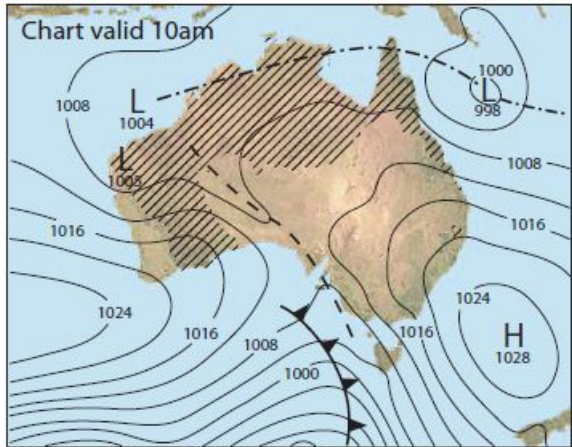
Clearing chain

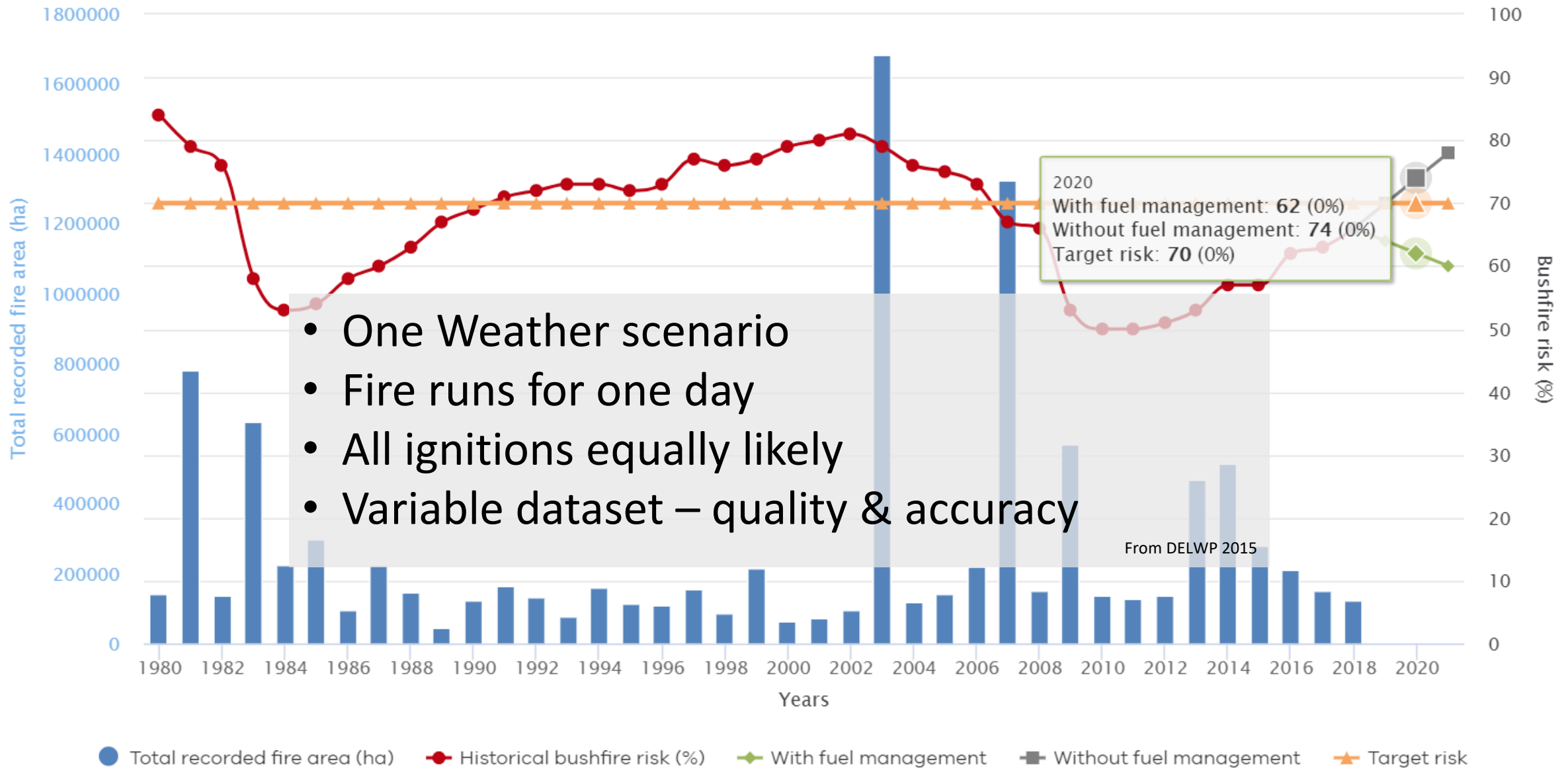
The clearing chain is pulled by two bulldozers and knocks over all the trees in its path

# 30 years investment

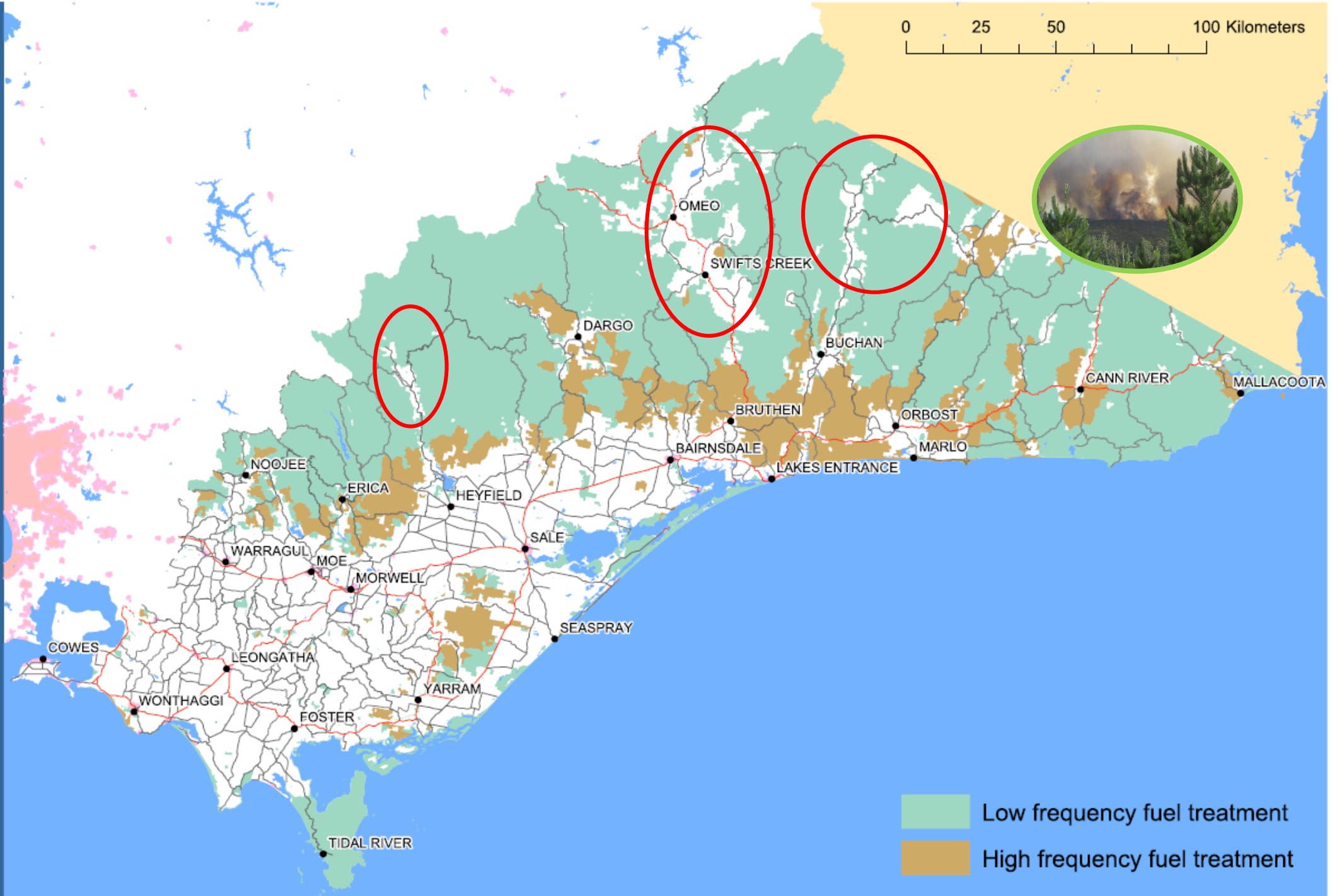


Forwarder replacement cost ~\$600K





# STRATEGY I





*"...you can see in their eyes, and some of them even talk about it when there's only just a couple of us there, that they're really struggling with mental health."*

Publican Cudgewa Hotel



# Otway Ranges, Victoria – Fuel Management Regimes

Objective	Performance measure (preferred direction)	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	A11	A12	A13
Economic impact on agriculture	Millions of \$ (▼)	163	141	187	173	170	164	161	171	176	166	182	192	165
Economic impact on plantations	Millions of \$ (▼)	47	37	58	46	44	46	47	47	51	45	56	60	47
Economic impact on tourism	Millions of \$ (▼)	134	115	165	148	147	137	131	131	138	130	146	153	137
Economic impact on viticulture	Millions of \$ (▼)	0.81	0.77	0.85	0.83	0.86	0.82	0.76	0.77	0.81	0.75	0.83	0.84	0.83
Economic impact on private buildings	Millions of \$ (▼)	136	120	206	184	182	117	125	119	130	128	138	149	124
Cost of disaster relief	Millions of \$ (▼)	55	49	83	74	73	48	51	49	53	52	56	61	50
Economic impact on water provision	Millions of \$ (▼)	0.38	0.35	0.43	0.38	0.36	0.37	0.37	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.42	0.43	0.38
Economic impact on public property	Millions of \$ (▼)	34	28	52	42	43	32	30	31	34	32	38	42	33
Cost of fire management treatments	Millions of \$ (▼)	2382	2533	2264	2308	2379	2348	2318	2358	2327	2344	2301	2276	2344
Community support	Constructed scale: 0 = worst, 100 = best (▲)	77	57	39	66	64	82	82	77	79	79	79	69	83
Impact on cultural heritage	Number of sites adversely impacted (▼)	56	43	74	75	83	56	50	43	46	42	48	51	52
Impact on threatened fauna species	Number of species with a 20% or greater decline (▼)	4	5	1	3	4	1	3	5	5	5	5	5	2
Impact on non-threatened fauna species	Number of species with a 20% or greater decline (▼)	8	23	1	1	5	1	1	7	4	5	3	1	1
Impact on human life	Number of lives lost over 40 years (▼)	50	42	82	71	70	41	45	42	48	46	52	57	44
Number of towns having lower fire risk	Number of towns below an average of 60% residual risk (▲)	15	17	4	8	9	14	17	14	12	15	12	10	17

- Effective Prescribed burning program
  - Enhanced first attack success
- Risk modelling
  - Better reflects multiday fires
  - Equitable
    - looking after the people in the bush
  - Multiple values
    - Biodiversity
    - Cultural
    - Landscape
    - Economic
    - Social
  - Socio-economic data

Black Saturday, Kinglake 2009



9 months post-wildfire, Casterton 2005

# Fire Perimeters for 1956-1971

