

DELIVERING EFFECTIVE PRESCRIBED BURNING ACROSS SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA



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ALTHOUGH MANY JURISDICTIONS ARE COMMITTED TO PRESCRIBED BURNING, WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND ITS EFFECTS ON RISKS TO PEOPLE, PROPERTY AND ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES ACROSS AUSTRALIA



Prescribed burns are a major part of bushfire risk management

A number of states have defined annual prescribed burning targets. However, formal attempts to evaluate the effectiveness of such targets on bushfire risk to people, property and environmental values across different jurisdictions are lacking. While many agencies are moving toward planning systems supposedly based on risk assessment, knowledge of the best way to use prescribed fire to reduce risk to key values is generally lacking.

Working with stakeholders across southern Australia, this project aims to deliver:

1. A Prescribed Burning Atlas to guide implementation of 'tailor-made' prescribed burning strategies to suit the biophysical, climatic and human context of all Bioregions across southern Australia.
2. Continental-scale, biophysically-based models of ignition and fuel accumulation for Australian ecosystems, for use in dynamic risk management planning and operational decision-making about prescribed burning at seasonal and inter-annual time scales.
3. Detailed scenarios of future change in risk mitigation effectiveness of prescribed burning strategies in response to integrated scenarios of changes to climate, fuel (including elevated CO₂ effects) and ignitions.



The PB Atlas

A PRESCRIBED BURNING ATLAS WILL GUIDE 'TAILOR-MADE' PRESCRIBED BURNING STRATEGIES TO SUIT THE BIOPHYSICAL, HUMAN AND CLIMATIC (PRESENT AND FUTURE) CONTEXT OF ALL BIOREGIONS IN SOUTHERN AUSTRALIA

