

# 2024 Fire Summit

## Prescribed fire: Exploring science, culture and practice



Australia is one of the world's most wildfire prone countries, with wildfires severely impacting our environment, communities and economy. This is exacerbated by climate change and social change. What is working, what isn't, and what do we need to do differently?

Managers of public and private land are seeking responsible and effective fire management strategies of which prescribed fire and cultural burning practices can play an essential component. This summit will review and discuss cultural fire practices, evidence from recent wildfires, fire science, lived experience and current prescribed fire practices. The summit will also look to the future and consider more effective use of prescribed fire, health impacts of fire and smoke and how Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders and forest scientists can encourage two-way capacity building to support healthy and resilient forests.

### Day One | Wednesday 26 June 2024

07.30	<b>Registration, arrival tea &amp; coffee</b>
08.30	<b>Welcome to Country</b>
08.50	<p><b>#1: Opening &amp; Dr Kevin Tolhurst AM Memorial Lecture</b> Chair: Dr Michelle Freeman</p> <p><b>Prescribed burning: The facts</b> Dr Neil Burrows AFSM, FireNinti Consulting</p>
09.30	<p><b>#2: Cultural fire practices and Aboriginal forest management</b> Chair &amp; facilitator: Trevor Howard</p> <p><b>Aboriginal land management in forestry</b> Rachael Cavanagh, Balun Budjabin Consulting</p> <p><b>Open forest – a cultural landscape – man made</b> Darren Burns, Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation David Kington, Quandamooka Yoolooburrabee Aboriginal Corporation <i>and</i> Vegetation Management Science</p>
10.45	<b>Morning tea</b>
11.15	<p><b>#3: Assessing the effectiveness of prescribed fire in reducing the spread and severity of unplanned fires</b> Chair &amp; facilitator: Dr Tom Fairman</p> <p><b>Contemporary challenges in fire management in South Western Australia</b> Ed Hatherley, Parks and Wildlife Service Western Australia</p> <p><b>Managing savanna fire regimes</b> Prof Jeremy Russell-Smith, Charles Darwin University</p>

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	<p><b>Reducing bushfire risk using prescribed burning across all land tenures</b>          Courtney Bertram, Office of Bushfire Risk Management, VIC</p> <p><b>An outline of prescribed fire in Southern Pine plantations in Queensland</b>          Tom Clapson, HQPlantations</p>
12.45	<b>Lunch</b>
13.30	<p><b>#4: Achieving land management goals using prescribed fire</b>          Chair &amp; facilitator: Dr Tegan Brown</p> <p><b>Prescribed burning NBFT as a risk reduction approach and as an aid to suppression</b>          Chris Hardman, Forest Fire Management Victoria</p> <p><b>Re-introducing broadscale fire following several decades of fire exclusion</b>          Dr Lachlan McCaw, Consultant</p> <p><b>Planned burning to achieve risk reduction and biodiversity objectives</b>          Dr Jane Cawson, The University of Melbourne</p>
15.00	<b>Afternoon tea</b>
15.30	<p><b>#5: Panel: Prescribed fire research – encouraging effective practice, what are critical gaps and how can these be filled?</b>          Chair &amp; facilitator: Gary Morgan AM AFSM</p> <p><b>Panel discussion and Q&amp;A</b>          Dr Rowena Morris, Natural Hazards Research Australia          Prof Trent Penman, The University of Melbourne          Sandra Whight, AFAC          Dr Thomas Duff, Country Fire Authority</p>
17.15	<p><b>Wrap up</b>          Facilitator: Gary Morgan</p>
17.30	Close
18.30	<b>Casual networking dinner</b>

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**Day Two | Thursday 27 June 2024**

08.00	<b>Registration, arrival tea &amp; coffee</b>
09.00	<p><b>#6: Fire communication</b>          Chair &amp; facilitator: Jacquie Martin</p> <p><b>Actions required to improve forest fire management (“We need to do more of these things...”)</b>          Euan Ferguson, Consultant</p> <p><b>Communicating complex fire science</b>          David Bruce, Natural Hazards Research Australia</p> <p><b>How have we got it so wrong? The public perception of forests and the role of media</b>          Tim Lee, Landline, ABC</p>
10.15	Morning tea
10.45	<p><b>#7: Prescribed fire for environmental and other values</b>          Chair &amp; facilitator: Peter Leeson</p> <p><b>Enhancing forest resilience and protecting fire sensitive forests and water catchments with prescribed fire</b>          Dr Tony Bartlett, Consultant</p> <p><b>Practical bushfire management on private land: Red Hot Tips</b>          Dr Pep Turner, Tasmania Fire Service</p> <p><b>Saving our water supply through prescribed burning</b>          Shaun Lawlor, Dept of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, VIC</p> <p><b>FESA in the Wombat Forest: Opportunities and challenges presented by long-term prescribed fire experiments</b>          A/Prof Lauren Bennett, The University of Melbourne</p>
12.30	Lunch
13.15	<p><b>#8: Fire management, health &amp; risk</b></p> <p><b>What can fire fighters learn from smoke research for health management?</b>          Dr Fabienne Reisen, CSIRO</p> <p><b>Identifying and managing dangerous trees when planned burning</b>          Paul de Mar, GHD</p>
14.30	Afternoon tea

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15.00	<p><b>#9: Prescribed fire: considerations on the way forward</b> Chair &amp; facilitator: Alan Goodwin</p> <p><b>KPIs helping us to meet the National Fire Policy Statement goals</b> Peter Leeson, Consultant, QLD</p> <p><b>Creating effective partnerships and engagement with stakeholders</b> Rebel Talbert, Forestry Corporation of NSW</p> <p><b>Developing an effective prescribed burning workforce</b> Trevor Howard, AFAC</p>
16.30	<p><b>#10: Wrap up, resolutions &amp; close</b> Chairs: Gary Morgan AM AFSM &amp; Dr Michelle Freeman</p>
17.00	Close