

Prescribed Burn

NEWS RELEASE

Mount Lofty
Ranges Fire
Cooperative

Prescribed burn in Deep Creek Conservation Park continues today

29 March 2012

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) and SA Country Fire Service (CFS) will continue with prescribed burning operations at **Deep Creek Conservation Park**, 10 kilometres south of Delamere, today (**Thursday, March 29**).

- The prescribed burn which commenced yesterday (March 28) will continue today in the southern section of the park, south of Trig campground off Tent Rock Road.
- Trent Rock Road and Tapanappa Road will be closed and speed restrictions may apply on other roads in the area during the burn.
- Trig, Tapanappa and Eagle Water Hole campgrounds will be closed.
- Circuit walk including Deep Creek Cove and waterfall walk will be closed, along with the Heysen trail between Eagle Water Hotel and Trig campground. Signage will be placed at key locations to advise passers by and park users.
- DENR and CFS aircraft will be working in the vicinity of the burn today.
- Smoke will be visible from surrounding areas.

DENR and CFS fire crews will monitor the fire grounds until the areas are declared safe.

The purpose of the prescribed burn is to reduce fire fuel loads within the park.

There is conclusive evidence both nationally and internationally that prescribed burning lessens the impact bushfires would otherwise have on assets and the community.

About prescribed burns

"Prescribed burns are an essential part of DENR's strategy of working with the CFS to reduce the impact of bushfires on public land," Mount Lofty Ranges Fire Cooperative convenor Richard de Groot said.

"They are conducted for a number of reasons such as reducing heavy fuel loads in strategic areas of our parks and reserves or for ecological and research purposes.

"Reducing heavy fuel loads is very important, because it can make it easier to control a bushfire, help prevent a bushfire spreading to residential areas, and ultimately save people's lives and property.

"Before every prescribed burn, we carefully assess and prepare to manage a range of risk factors including the weather, dryness of the vegetation and site geography.

"The risks are relatively small compared to the possible consequences of a major bushfire occurring during the summer.

"We always ensure that appropriate back-up resources and fall-back positions are available in the event a prescribed burn crosses containment lines."

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