



Prescribed Burn

NEWS RELEASE

Department
for Environment
and Heritage

Prescribed burn in Belair National Park

16 November 2006

Subject to suitable weather conditions, the Department for Environment and Heritage (DEH) will undertake a prescribed burn in Belair National Park **today**, Monday 16 November 2009.

According to Richard de Groot, DEH's Deputy Regional Conservator for the Adelaide Region, cooler weather conditions forecasted for today have provided the necessary window of opportunity for DEH to undertake this prescribed burn.

"With the fire danger season only two weeks away, it is important that we take every opportunity we can to safely complete as many prescribed burns as possible," he said.

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Belair National Park (Berri Werri Track – located adjacent the eastern edge of the park)

- The prescribed burn is due to begin at about 1.00 pm and will conclude at about 4.00 pm.
- The burn will affect about 1.3 hectares of the park.
- Smoke may reduce visibility on nearby roads, including Sheoak Road, Upper Sturt Road and Parkgate Place, and drivers will need to follow directions, slow down and take extreme care.
- Local residents are advised to close windows to minimise the impact of smoke.

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

DEH fire crews will monitor the fire grounds until the areas are declared safe, with SA Country Fire Service (CFS) crews are now on standby if required.

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 DEH's strategy of working with the CFS to reduce the impact of bushfires on public land," Mr 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.



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"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."

