



Prescribed Burn

NEWS RELEASE

Department of
Environment and
Natural Resources

Prescribed burn in Mount Remarkable National Park Tuesday

11 October 2010

Subject to suitable weather conditions, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) will undertake a prescribed burn in **Mount Remarkable National Park, 6 kilometres north of Melrose, over Tuesday 12 October and Wednesday 13 October.**

- The prescribed burn is due to begin at about 10 am on Tuesday and will conclude at about 10 pm on Wednesday.
- The burn will treat about 10 hectares of Mount Remarkable Range.
- Smoke may reduce visibility on nearby roads, including Main North Road between Melrose and Wilmington, and drivers will need to follow directions, slow down and take extreme care.
- There will be no impact on visitors to the National Park.

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.

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

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," DENR Northern and Yorke Regional Fire Management Officer Stuart Beinke 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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