

CONSTRUCT A FUEL BREAK

Bushfire is a real risk for all South Australians and you can't predict when a bushfire will strike. But your chances of survival are increased if you are prepared.

The State Government, SA Country Fire Service (SA CFS), the Native Vegetation Council and Local Councils are working together to protect life and property, while still recognising the value of native vegetation.

What can I do without approval?

You can undertake any activity that is compliant with an approved bushfire prevention plan.

In the two circumstances below, you can also remove native vegetation to construct fuel breaks so that bushfires burning into them can be more readily controlled without approval:

1. 'Standard' fuel breaks

'Standard' fuel breaks can be constructed up to 5m in width. They may only be constructed along an existing fence-line and should be done so in accordance with a bushfire prevention plan. When measuring the width of the fuel break, you should include any immediately adjoining land where the vegetation has been removed as this reduces the amount of native vegetation you may need to remove overall.

2. Fuel breaks in mallee regions

You can construct a fuel break if a substantial amount of the vegetation you want to clear is mallee scrub, and your property is located in one of the regions listed overleaf.

A fuel break in a mallee region can be constructed up to 7.5m in width. When measuring the width of the fuel break, you should include any immediately adjoining land where the vegetation has been removed as this reduces the amount of native vegetation you may need to remove overall. In addition, a fuel break in a mallee area may only:

- be constructed on a boundary between land owned by different people, and
- the fuel break must be at least 200m from another fuel break, except for fuel breaks that run at approximate right angles. Definitions and the listed Mallee regions are provided overleaf.

What activities do I need approval for?

If you want to construct a 'Primary Production' fuel break you need to do so according to a relevant approved bushfire prevention plan for the area. If there is no bushfire prevention plan in place, or your proposed fuel break is not incorporated under the plan, you can download the application form (see www.cfs.sa.gov.au) to apply to the SA CFS for approval.

(continued overleaf)

Are you Bushfire Ready?

Actions you can take today:

- Reduce
- Remove
- Dispose
- Replace



Managing native vegetation to construct a fuel break

What activities do I need approval for? – cont.

3. 'Primary Production' Fuel Breaks

A 'Primary Production' fuel break may only be located within the area of a rural council as defined in the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* and on a property where one of the main uses is for primary production.

A 'Primary Production' fuel break can be constructed up to 20m in width, and:

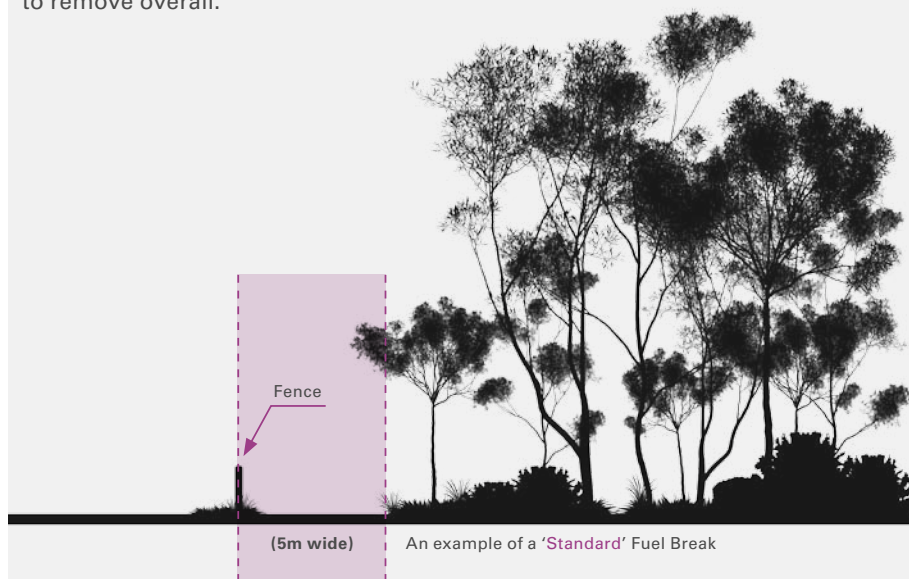
- the fuel break must be at least 200m from another fuel break, except for fuel breaks that run at approximate right angles, and
- when measuring the width of the fuel break, you should include any immediately adjoining land where the vegetation has been removed as this reduces the amount of native vegetation you may need to remove overall.

4. Any other fuel break

You can remove native vegetation to construct a fuel break that is more than 20m in width, only if the fuel break is specified within an approved bushfire prevention plan.

You may want to conduct a prescribed burn to construct a fuel break on your property. To do so you will need to apply to the SA CFS for a permit to burn using the application form (see www.cfs.sa.gov.au). You can use the same application form to apply for approval for your fuel break construction works and to apply for a permit to undertake a prescribed burn.

In considering your application the SA CFS will look at ways to manage bushfire risks whilst minimising the impacts on native plants, animals and their ecosystems.



Fuel break means an area where vegetation has been removed or modified to reduce the risk of bushfires starting and to assist in reducing the intensity and rate of spread of bushfires. Fuel breaks provide protection from fire for personnel, equipment and property, and provide an edge from which fire crews can undertake fire suppression or prescribed burning activities.

Fuel Breaks in Mallee regions

For the purposes of the *Native Vegetation Regulations 2003* 5A(1)(e) a fuel break of 7.5m may be constructed in any of the following Hundreds:

Addison	Inkster	Panitya
Barna	James	Peachna
Barwell	Kappawanta	Peella
Batchelor	Kevin	Pethick
Blesing	Koolgera	Pildappa
Bockelberg	Koongawa	Poynton
Caldwell	Lake	Pureba
Campbell	Wangary	Randell
Campbell	Lucy	Russell
Charleston	Magarey	Sleaford
Cocata	McGregor	Squire
Condada	McIntosh	Sturdee
Corrobinnie	Miller	Talia
Flinders	Moonabie	Tinline
Giles	Moorkitabie	Uley
Glynn	Nash	Wallis
Hambidge	Nicholls	Witera
Hill	Nilginee	Wookata
Hincks	Nunyah	Wright
Hudd	O'Connor	

Primary Production means production resulting directly from the cultivation of land; the maintenance of animals or poultry for the purpose of selling them or their bodily produce; fishing operations; forest operations (which include the planting or tending in a plantation or forest of trees intended for felling and the felling of trees in a plantation or forest) or horticulture. It includes the manufacture of dairy produce by the person who produced the raw material used in that manufacture.

Significant Tree means any native or non-native tree that has a trunk with a circumference of 2m or more at a point 1m above natural ground level. In the case of trees with multiple trunks, the total circumference of the trunks must be 2m or more and the average circumference of each trunk must be 62.5cm or more.

If you want to find out more, *A guide for managing Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire* (2009) can be downloaded at www.cfs.sa.gov.au or as individual information sheets.

Things you will need to consider:

If you want to remove or modify a Significant Tree you will need approval as outlined in the *Development Regulations 2008*. You need to identify if you have a Significant Tree and contact your Local Council for further information on how to apply.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO FIND OUT IF THE ACTIONS YOU ARE PROPOSING TO UNDERTAKE REQUIRE APPROVAL UNDER OTHER LEGISLATION.

South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) In an emergency, please call 000.

Headquarters: (08) 8463 4200

Region 1 – Southern Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island: (08) 8391 1866

Region 2 – Northern Mount Lofty Ranges and Yorke Peninsula: (08) 8522 6088

Region 3 – Murraylands and Riverland: (08) 8532 6800

Region 4 – Flinders, Mid North and Pastoral Areas: (08) 8642 2399

Region 5 – South East: (08) 8762 2311

Region 6 – Eyre Peninsula and West Coast: (08) 8682 4266

Web: www.cfs.sa.gov.au

Native Vegetation Council

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