

# Resources on fire and prescribed burning

Photo: Bart Lebbing

Read the landmark report [\*Icons to Ashes: how giant trees, wildlife and ancient ecology of the Walpole Wilderness Area are being destroyed by prescribed burning.\*](#)

[\*The Burning Issue - 10 quick facts about prescribed burning\*](#) Presenting the latest science on wildfire risk management in Southwest WA and 10 Facts about Prescribed Burning

## Fire and Air Forum: Biodiversity, Environmental Sustainability and Human Health 2023

[Vimeo of the Fire & Air Forum is available online.](#) This is a great resource for anyone wanting to get informed about the efficacy of WA's prescribed burning regime and its impacts on biodiversity and human health.

ABC Feature podcast and article May 2023: [\*Scientists warn prescribed burning in WA is outdated and damaging to bushland and communities.\*](#)

ABC storyboard article by Molly Schmidt in response to the Fire and Air Forum, May 2023: [\*Scientists say WA government's prescribed burn targets have no scientific basis.\*](#)

Fire and Air Forum 2023: [Program notes and presenter biographies.](#)

Emeritus Professor Don Bradshaw busts some myths in a 9 news TV interview: [Is Prescribed Burning Effective?](#)

Media article about pollution research presented at the Fire and Air Forum: [Welcome to the big smoke: hazy days from WA's prescribed burns triple in a decade.](#)

## Fire and Biodiversity Forum 2021

Fire and Biodiversity Forum 2021: expert speaker presentations available online <https://vimeo.com/channels/fabforum>

Fire and Biodiversity Forum 2021: [presentation summaries with Vimeo links.](#)

Fire and Biodiversity Forum 2021: [Program notes.](#)

## Web articles on fire and prescribed burning

Philip Zylstra, Grant Wardell-Johnson, James Watson, Michelle Ward, 2021. [\*Native forest logging makes bushfires worse - and to say otherwise ignores the facts.\*](#) The Conversation.

Philip Zylstra, 2018. [\*Contrary to common belief, some forests get more fire-resistant with age.\*](#) The Conversation.

Fiona Pepper, 2021. [\*Prescribed burning under scrutiny in WA South West wilderness.\*](#) ABC.

Grant Wardell-Johnson and Philip Zylstra, 2023. [\*New research reveals how forests reduce their own bushfire risk if they're left alone.\*](#)

## Research papers on fire and prescribed burning

Nicolas Borchers Arriagada, Andrew J Palmer, David MJS Bowman and Fay H Johnston (2020). *Exceedances of national air quality standards for particulate matter in Western Australia: sources and health - related impacts.* Med J Aust 2020; 213 (6): 280-281. doi: 10.5694/mja2.50547

S. Don Bradshaw, Kingsley W. Dixon, Stephen D. Hopper, Hans Lambers & Shane R. Turner (2011). *Little evidence for fire-adapted plant traits in Mediterranean climate regions.* Trends in Plant Science February 2011, Vol. 16, No. 2

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## Research papers on fire and prescribed burning continued...

Bradshaw SD, Dixon KW, Lambers H, Cross AT, Bailey J, Hopper SD. (2018). *Understanding the long-term impact of prescribed burning in mediterranean-climate biodiversity hotspots, with a focus on south-western Australia*. Int J Wildland Fire. 27(10):643. <http://www.publish.csiro.au/?paper=WF18067>

Tristan Campbell, S. Don Bradshaw, Kingsley W. Dixon & Philip Zylstra (2022). *Wildfire risk management across diverse bioregions in a changing climate*. Geomatics, Natural Hazards and Risk, 13:1, 2405-2424, <https://doi.org/10.1080/19475705.2022.2119891>

Climate Council, 2020. *Australian Bushfire and Climate Plan*. Final report of the National Bushfire and Climate Summit 2020. <https://wafa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/australian-bushfire-climate-plan-1.pdf>

CSIRO Air Quality Forecasting. Presented by Fabienne Reisen & Ruth Dawkins (2021). *Protecting the health of Australians through improved bushfire smoke forecasting*. CSIRO ECOS Issue 283 – Building Resilience October 2021 <https://ecos.csiro.au/air-quality-forecasting/>

Lindenmayer, D. 2020. *Fire, forests and fauna* (The 2020 Krebs lecture). <https://wafa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Fire-Forests-and-Fauna-Krebs-Lecture-PacConsBiol-Acc-MS.pdf>

David B. Lindenmayer . Elle J. Bowd . Chris Taylor . Gene E. Likens (2022). *The interactions among fire, logging, and climate change have sprung a landscape trap in Victoria's montane ash forests*. Plant Ecology 223:733–749. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11258-021-01217-2>

Robertson, P. 2019. *Briefing paper on fire management in a climate emergency*. [https://wafa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Fire-Management-in-a-Climate-Emergency\\_Briefing-paper\\_Peter-Robertson\\_2019.pdf](https://wafa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Fire-Management-in-a-Climate-Emergency_Briefing-paper_Peter-Robertson_2019.pdf)

Rodrigues, U., Lullfitz, A., Coyne, L., Dean, A., Eades, A., Flowers, E., Knapp, L., Pettersen, C., Woods, T., & Hopper, S. D. (2022). *Indigenous Knowledge, Aspiration, and Potential Application in Contemporary Fire Mitigation in Southwest Australia*. *Human Ecology*, 50(5), 963-980. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10745-022-00359-9>

Adeleh Shirangi et al (2021). *Exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5) during landscape fire events and the risk of cardiorespiratory emergency department attendances: a time-series study in Perth, Western Australia*. [Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health](https://doi.org/10.1136/jech-2021-218229) 76(9):jech-2021-218229 DOI:[10.1136/jech-2021-218229](https://doi.org/10.1136/jech-2021-218229)

Marta Yebra et al (2021). *An integrated system to protect Australia from catastrophic bushfires*. The Australian National University: News and Views.

Zylstra, P. (2023). *Quantifying the direct fire threat to a critically endangered arboreal marsupial using biophysical, mechanistic modelling*. *Austral Ecology*, 00, 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aec.13264>

Zylstra, P., Wardell-Johnson, G., Falster, D., Howe, M., McQuoid, N., & Neville, S. (2023). *Mechanisms by which growth and succession limit the impact of fire in a south-western Australian forested ecosystem*. *Functional Ecology*, 00, 1–16. <https://doi.org/10.1111/1365-2435.14305>

Zylstra, P. J., Bradshaw, S. D., & Lindenmayer, D. B. (2022). *Self-thinning forest understoreys reduce wildfire risk, even in a warming climate*. *Environmental Research Letters*, 17, 044022. <https://doi.org/10.1088/1748-9326/ac5c10> See FACT SHEET attached

Zylstra, P. J. (2018). *Flammability dynamics in the Australian Alps*. *Austral Ecology*, 43, 578–591. <https://doi.org/10.1111/aec.12594>