



National Parks Association of the ACT Bushfire Management - Balancing the Risks

Friday 21 – Saturday 22 July 2017

Pilgrim House, 69 Northbourne Avenue,
Civic ACT 2601

A community symposium to discuss research, strategies and expectations for fire management in the ACT in a changing climate

Aim: an informed ACT community able to contribute positively to ACT government policy, goal setting and strategic directions of fire management

FRIDAY 21 JULY

8.30am – 9am REGISTRATION AND COFFEE

9.00 -9.30am OPENING AND OVERVIEW

- **Welcome and overview**, Christine Goonrey – Symposium Convenor, Vice-President National Parks Association (ACT) and member ACT Bushfire Council
- **Minister's welcome**, Mick Gentleman – ACT Minister for Environment; Minister for Emergency Services
- **The community and bushfire management**, Sarah Sharp – former member of the Bushfire Council, Immediate past President of Friends of Grasslands

9.30 -10.30am LAW AND LEGISLATION

- **Bushfire management: balancing the risks**, Commissioner Dominic Lane, Emergency Services Agency
- **Protecting the environment in bushfire management: the role of the Conservator**, Daniel Iglesias, representative of Conservator of Flora and Fauna
- **Balancing nature conservation and emergency risk management**, Associate Professor, Dr Michael Eburn, College of Law, Australian National University

Have your say: moderated by: Professor Stephen Dovers, Fenner School, Australian National University

10.30 – 11am MORNING TEA

11 – 12.30pm VALUES AND EXPECTATIONS

- **Social attitudes towards fuel management used to reduce bushfire risk to life and property**, Melinda Mylek, PhD Student, Australian National University
- **How the sense-making of myths can help us understand bushfire**, Samantha Strong, PhD

Student, Institute for Land Water and Society, Charles Sturt University

- **Between a rock and a hot place: volunteer rural fire brigades and the “wicked problem” of fire management**, Sandra Lauer, PhD Student, Fenner School, Australian National University, member ACT Bushfire Council and NSW Rural Fire Service

Have your say: moderated by: Larry O’Loughlin, Executive Director, Conservation Council ACT Region

12.30 – 1.15pm LUNCH

1.15 – 2.30pm UNDERSTANDING HAZARDS AND RISKS

- **Extreme bushfire development**, Jason Sharples, Associate Professor, Mathematics Research Group School of Physical, Environmental and Mathematical Sciences, University of New South Wales
- **Changing the paradigm from fuel reduction to plant management**, Phil Zylstra, Visiting Fellow at the University of Wollongong Centre for Environmental Risk Management of Bushfires
- **Bushfire risk reduction and biodiversity: the Victorian experience**, Philip Ingamells, Fire Project, Victorian National Parks Association

Have your say: moderated by: Kate Auty, ACT Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment

2.30 – 3.30pm PLANNING FOR FIRE MANAGEMENT – MITIGATING HAZARDS AND RISKS

- **The ACT fire management planning framework, SBMP’s, RFMP’s and BOP’**, Tony Scherl, Senior Fire Management Officer, Fire Forests and Road, ACT Parks and Conservation Unit, Environment Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate (EPSDD)
- **Risk assessment and decision support tool for prescribed burning**, Adam McLachlan, Fire Infrastructure Planner, Fire Forests and Road, ACT Parks and Conservation Unit, EPSDD

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- ***Using technology for post burn monitoring***, Ryan Lawrey, Fire Management Officer, Fire Forests and Road, ACT Parks and Conservation Unit, EPSDD
- ***Values before, during and after the burn***, Craig Wainwright, Regional Operations Coordinator, ACT Parks and Conservation Unit, EPSDD

Have your say: moderated by: Christine Goonrey, Symposium Convenor

3.30 – 4.00pm AFTERNOON TEA

4.00 – 5.30pm RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT

- ***The National Burning Project***, Deb Sparkes, National Burning Project Support Officer, Australasian Fire and Emergency Services Authorities Council (AFAC)
- ***Plants and fire research: what does it tell us about current fire management practices***, Julian Seddon, Conservation Research, EPSDD
- ***Fauna and fire research: what does it tell about current fire management practices***, Tony Corrigan, Conservation Research, EPSDD
- ***Does fire severity matter? Plant responses in montane plant communities after high intensity landscape fires***, Michael Doherty, PhD student, Fenner School, ANU
- ***Is prescribed burning reducing fuel hazard? A case study from Namadgi National Park***, Kelly Dixon, PhD student, Fenner School, ANU

Have your say: moderated by: Kate Auty, Commissioner for Sustainability and the Environment

5.30 – 6.30PM NETWORKING FUNCTION / DRINKS AND NIBBLES

SATURDAY 22 JULY

9.30 – 9.40am WELCOME BACK AND OVERVIEW

Christine Goonrey, Symposium Convenor

9.40 – 10.20am INDIGENOUS FIRE MANAGEMENT

- ***Indigenous fire management: what does it mean, how does it fit in?*** Dean Freeman and staff, ACT Fire Unit, Parks, Conservation Service, EPSDD

Have your say: moderated by: Christine Goonrey, Symposium Convenor, Vice-President National Parks Association; member ACT Bushfire Council

10.20–11am ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS AND CLIMATE RISKS

- ***Climate change and bushfires: a new paradigm***, Professor Janette Lindesay, Deputy Director, Fenner School
- ***Fires and impacts on weeds and pest animals***, Nicholas Daines, Parks Conservation Service, EPSDD

- ***Bushfire, climate change and water supplies***, Emeritus Professor Ian Falconer, water quality consultant

Have your say: moderated by: Eleanor Lawless, 350.org Canberra and Project Officer Conservation Council

11.00 – 11.30am MORNING TEA

11.30am–12.30pm

IMPACTS OF FIRE ON THE COMMUNITY

- ***Decision-makers on fire management know the impacts***, Podcast, Dorte Ekelund and Brett McNamara, personal stories of the 2003 fire
- ***Health impacts of local prescribed burns or wild fires***, Janine Lourensz, Asthma Foundation
- ***Community understanding and perspectives of bushfire management in our loved bush capital***, Kathy Eyles, PhD Student, Fenner School, ANU

Have your say: moderated by: Daniel Iglesias, Director, Parks Conservation Service, Acting Conservator

12.30 – 1.15pm LUNCH

1.15 – 2.15pm WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI)

- ***Managing a farm and grass fuel-loads***, John Starr, former rural leaseholder, Kinlyside
- ***Living at the wildland interface: a personal perspective***, Steve Angus, Member ACT Rural Fire Service for 30 years, Member ACT Bushfire Council
- ***Building standards in bushfire prone zones***, Nick Lhuede, Group Manager, Emergency Management, Risk and Spatial Services, Emergency Services Agency
- ***Community Fire Brigades: a perspective***, Ian Falconer, volunteer fire fighter, Aranda

Have your say: moderated by: Kathy Eyles, PhD Student, Fenner School, ANU

2.15 – 3.15pm SHARED RESPONSIBILITY FOR WAYS FORWARD

Wrap up and Communique. Moderator: Professor Stephen Dovers, Fenner School, ANU

3.15 – 4.15 AFTERNOON TEA

SUNDAY 23 JULY

9.30am –12.30pm – [Aranda Site Visit](#) – hosted by Friends of Aranda Bushland. Morning tea provided. Meet at the eastern side of Bindubi St at the boundary gate between the forest and the grasslands. Bindubi St can be accessed from Belconnen Way or from William Hovell Drive.