Strategic bushfire management – an overview

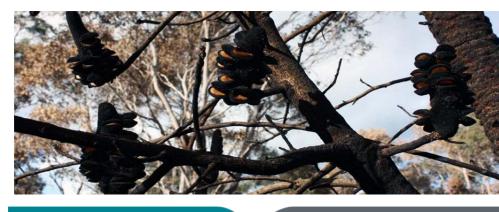
Alpine and Greater Gippsland

What is strategic bushfire risk management?

Alpine and Greater Gippsland is one of Victoria's seven risk landscapes. These allow bushfire management planning to follow the natural bushfire 'catchments', where major bushfire could be expected to start, spread and impact on people and assets.

This strategic planning approach:

- adapts as conditions and risk factors change. It has evolved from the fire prevention planning DELWP does annually with communities and stakeholders
- enables DELWP, PV and other agencies to focus on the most effective strategies to minimise bushfire risk to people, property, the economy and the environment
- combines local knowledge with the latest technology, historical data and the best-available science to enable more precise planning.



What is strategic bushfire management?

What are the features of our landscape?

What are the

environmental

features of our

landscape?



What is bushfire simulation?

PHOENIX Rapidfire, in a joint initiative over several years with the University of Melbourne and the Bushfire and Natural

bushfire based on a number of variables, including ignition

In addition to its strategic and operational benefits, bushfire

What is bushfire simulation?



Effective fire management involves recognising the roles we all play in reducing risk to life, property and the environment

What are the features of our landscape?

The Alpine and Greater Gippsland Bushfire Risk Landscape covers two shires, East Gippsland and Wellington, and parts of the shires in alpine areas. This landscape has many features that present a challenge for bushfire management, including:

- water catchments

What are the environmental features of our landscape?

The Alpine and Greater Gippsland landscape contains an extremely diverse ecology across mountains, tablelands, foothills, river valleys and coastal plains, including the unique Gippsland Lakes waterways.

This environment contains habitats for more than 250 species of threatened flora and 110 species of threatened fauna.

Fire plays an essential role in the ecology of many native plants. DELWP currently uses Tolerable Fire Intervals (TFIs) to determine the effect of the strategy on ecosystem resilience.

Strategic bushfire management acknowledges a balance between reducing bushfire risk to life and property and maintaining ecosystem resilience across the landscape.

For this reason, we modified our strategy in some areas to accommodate the needs of specific threatened plant and animal species.

For more information and factsheets phone (03) 5152 0600 or email alpine.greatergippsland@delwp.vic.gov.au.

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Accessibility: If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone DELWP Customer Service Centre 136 186, email customer.service@delwp.vic.gov.au, via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available at www.delwp.vic.gov.au • 3.3 million hectares, around 70% of which is public land, much of it continuous forest

• more than 32,000 people living in towns of fewer than 500 in rural, coastal and remote areas, often adjacent to forest

• an economy dependent on pristine natural resources with agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing and tourism being major contributors to employment

high-value state and national infrastructure and important

• the Gippsland Lakes, and National and State parks and forests attracting significant numbers of tourists, campers and recreational users throughout the year, with visitor populations peaking in the summer holidays.



Land, Water and Planning