

Planned Burning in the Ballarat, Creswick & Mt Egerton Area

Midlands District – Autumn 2017

A number of planned burns have been programmed in the Ballarat, Creswick & Mt Egerton area this Autumn.

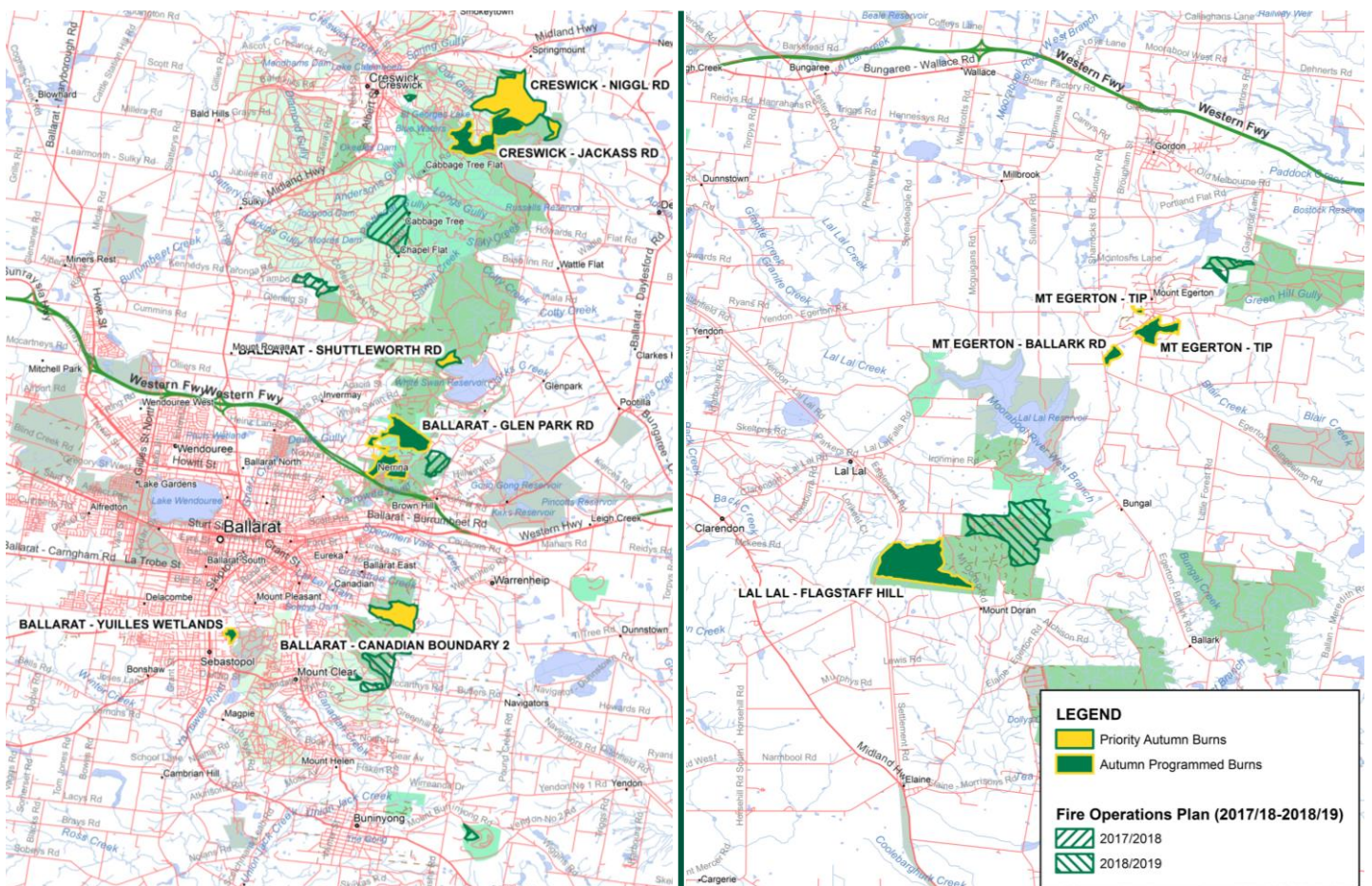
Each year, Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic), together with CFA and other emergency services, carry out a fuel management program in Victoria's parks and forests to reduce the bushfire risk to communities, property and the environment.

FFMVic will only ignite a planned burn when fuel moisture and weather conditions, such as humidity, temperature and wind speed have been assessed as suitable. The decision to proceed is made on the day of the burn following extensive monitoring of these conditions.

For information about these burns or other fuel management works within the Midlands District, please contact our Fuel Management Team on (03) 5335-0716 or midlands.fuelmanagement@delwp.vic.gov.au

PLANNED BURNS PROGRAMMED FOR AUTUMN 2017

Name	Location	Area
Ballarat – Canadian Boundary 2	4km SE of Ballarat	72ha
Ballarat – Glen Park Rd	6km N of Ballarat	136ha
Ballarat – Shuttleworth Rd	8km NE of Ballarat	16ha
Ballarat – YUILLES Wetlands	In Sebastopol	11ha
Creswick – Jackass Rd	3km SE of Creswick	127ha
Creswick – Niggl Rd	3km E of Creswick	197ha
Lal Lal – Flagstaff Hill	5km S of Buninyong	238ha
Mt Egerton – Ballark Rd	1km SW of Mt Egerton	18ha
Mt Egerton – Tip	1km S of Mt Egerton	59ha



Please Note: These are the burns that will be targeted during Autumn 2017 when conditions are suitable. As the season progresses other planned burns on the Fire Operations Plan (FOP) may be programmed, please refer to the Planned Burn Notification System or the DELWP website for the full FOP.

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Forest Fire Management Victoria (FFMVic) and Fuel Management Program

FFMVic consists of specialist staff drawn from the Department of Environment, Land, Water & Planning, Parks Victoria and VicForests. FFMVic is responsible for planning and implementing the fuel management program throughout Victoria's parks and forests.

The fuel management program includes planned burning, which involves the planned use of fire under carefully managed conditions to reduce fine fuel, such as undergrowth, dead wood, leaf litter, bark and shrubs. Burns are carried out near communities and in remote areas to help reduce the spread and intensity of bushfires and the threat to life and property. Planned burns also help plants and animals that have evolved to depend on fire to survive.

The planned burns programmed for completion form part of a broader fuel management program planned for the Midlands District. Planned burns are prioritised using a risk-based approach to bushfire management according to a number of criteria including; protection to life and property, community requirements, environmental considerations and geographic distribution across the landscape.

Protect your health from smoke

Fuel management programs are happening across Victoria to reduce bushfire risk to communities and the environment. Smoke may affect some people's health; asthma or other lung or heart conditions, older people and young children are particularly at risk.

If you live in or are visiting a smoke affected area, plan ahead to protect your health:

- Keep checking when and where planned burns are expected to happen in your region so you can be prepared for smoke. Plans can change at very short notice because of the weather. Refer to the Planned Burn Notification System (PBNS) and contact the Fuel Management Team on midlands.fuelmanagement@delwp.vic.gov.au or (03) 5335-0716 to have you details added to the individual burn plan.
- If you have a health condition follow the treatment plan provided by your doctor and if you are asthmatic, follow your asthma plan and carry reliever medication with you.

During smoky conditions:

- First check www.emergency.vic.gov.au, if the smoke is caused by a fire, you may be at risk and need to leave. If the smoke is from a planned burn, stay indoors with windows and doors closed.
- You may wish to leave the area if it is affected by smoke.
- If you experience symptoms that may be due to smoke exposure, seek medical advice or call Nurse-on-Call on 1300-606-024.

Find out more at www.health.vic.gov.au

delwp.vic.gov.au/ffmvic

Planned Burn Notification System (PBNS)

The Planned Burn Notification System notifies people when a planned burn in a park or forest is close to being ignited. The system provides you with advance notice of upcoming planned burns to make informed decisions about managing the effects.

It displays all FFMVic burns that are intended to be carried out in Victorian parks and forests over the next three years and shows their status.

You subscribe to the system and customise it to suit your particular notification needs – you can register for this automated notification system by visiting www.delwp.vic.gov.au/pbns.

Fire Operations Planning

The Fire Operations Plan (FOP) outlines where and when FFMVic intend to carry out fire management operations on Victoria's public land over the next three years. They include planned burning, slashing, mowing and clearing works creating and maintain fuel breaks and carrying out fire infrastructure maintenance.

These plans are driven by our strategic planning and are updated each year with the latest local information to help us work out what fuel management activities to carry out.

FFMVic welcomes comments on the FOP all year round and encourages you to have input into all parts of the planning process for the Midlands District by contacting (03) 5335-0716 or midlands.fuelmanagement@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Stay Informed

Visit: www.delwp.vic.gov.au/plannedburn

Register: www.delwp.vic.gov.au/pbns

Call: Victorian Bushfire Information Line
1800-240-667 (Free Call)
1800-555-677 (National Relay Service)

Download: VicEmergency App

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