

# Application to manage Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire

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## Cut down the impact of bushfires

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.

Use the following application form to seek approval for activities as specified throughout the *A guide for managing Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire* (2009) (download a copy from [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)). It is important that you provide adequate information about the activities you are proposing to carry out when completing your application form. Applications must be signed by an owner of the property where the works are to be carried out.

## Things you will need to consider:

- If there is a bushfire prevention plan that applies to your area, the activities you are proposing to reduce the impact of bushfire on your property may already be approved. Contact the SA CFS to find out (see [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au) for contact details).
- 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.

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## Are you Bushfire Ready?

Actions you can take today:

Reduce  
Remove  
Dispose  
Replace



# Application to manage Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Date received:

Received by:

Application No.:

Return completed form to your Regional CFS Office (see [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au) for contact details).

### 1. Your Details

Name:

Postal Address:

Postcode:

Phone (Home):

Phone (Business):

Mobile:

Fax:

Email:

### 2. Location of Works

Give details of the property where the proposed works are to be conducted.

Location Address:

### AND/OR

Section:

Hundred:

Lot Number:

### 3. Why do you want to manage native vegetation?

To protect a building/structure – *Go to Section A*

To reduce fuel – *Go to Section B*

To construct a fuel break – *Go to Section C*

To construct a fire access track – *Go to Section D*

## A. Managing native vegetation to protect a building/structure

**Building<sup>1</sup>:** You can manage native vegetation within 20m of a building, without seeking approval. Why would you like to carry out work greater than 20m from the building?

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**Structure<sup>1</sup>:** You can manage native vegetation within 5m of a structure, without seeking approval. Why would you like to carry out work greater than 5m from the structure?

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What do you want to do? Please attach a sketch and/or photos of your property outlining where you intend to carry out the works.

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Total area (approx) for proposed works: .....ha

Distance of proposed clearing around building/structure: .....m

Is the building/structure on a slope?

Yes  No

If yes, please estimate what the slope is:

Upslope:  0-5°  5-10°  10-15°  >15°

Downslope:  0-5°  5-10°  10-15°  >15°

<sup>1</sup>Definitions provided at the end of this application form.

# Application to manage Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire – cont.

What is the main direction the slope is facing?  
(Nth, East, Nth-West, etc.)

How do you propose to undertake these works<sup>2</sup>?

- Mechanical Method (e.g. hand clearing, brushcutting, tree removal/pruning, herbicide use)
- Prescribed Burn – Go to Section E
- Other – Please describe:

If using a mechanical method of vegetation removal, how do you intend to dispose of the vegetation?

- Mulching & leaving on site
- Licensed Recycling / Waste Transfer Centre
- Storage on site
- Pile Burn – Go to Section E
- Other – Please Describe:

**Note:** If you want to conduct a burn during the Fire Danger Season, a permit to burn is required under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (for more information visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)). This application will be considered as an application for a permit to burn – see Section E.

## B. Managing native vegetation to reduce fuel strategically

Why do you think your proposed fuel reduction works are needed?

What do you want to do? Please attach a sketch and/or photos of your property outlining where you intend to carry out the works.

Total area (approx): .....ha

How do you propose to undertake these works?

- Mechanical Method (e.g. hand clearing, brushcutting, tree removal/pruning, herbicide use)
- Prescribed Burn – Go to Section E
- Other – Please describe:

If using a mechanical method of vegetation removal, how do you intend to dispose of the vegetation?

- Mulching & leaving on site
- Licensed Recycling / Waste Transfer Centre
- Storage on site
- Pile Burn – Go to Section E
- Other – Please Describe:

**Note:** If you want to conduct a burn during the Fire Danger Season, a permit to burn is required under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (for more information visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)). This application will be considered as an application for a permit to burn – see Section E.

<sup>2</sup>See 'A guide for managing Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire (2009) Appendix 4' for more information on methods to undertake fuel reduction on your property.

# Application to manage Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire – cont.

## C. Managing native vegetation to construct a fuel break

Why do you think your proposed fuel break(s) is needed?

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Is the property mainly used for primary production?

- Yes       No

What do you want to do? Please attach a sketch and/or photos of your property outlining where you intend to carry out the works.

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Total area (approx): .....ha

Are there any existing fuel breaks on the property?  
If yes, provide details and include on your sketch.

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How do you propose to undertake these works?

- Mechanical Method (e.g. hand clearing, brushcutting, tree removal/pruning, herbicide use)  
 Prescribed Burn – Go to Section E  
 Other – Please describe:

If using a mechanical method of vegetation removal, how do you intend to dispose of the vegetation?

- Mulching & leaving on site  
 Licensed Recycling / Waste Transfer Centre  
 Storage on site  
 Pile Burn – Go to Section E  
 Other – Please Describe:

**Note:** If you want to conduct a burn during the Fire Danger Season, a permit to burn is required under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (for more information visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)). This application will be considered as an application for a permit to burn – see Section E.

## D. Managing native vegetation to construct fire access tracks

All fire access tracks should be constructed in accordance with 'A guide for managing Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire (2009), Appendix 3' (download a copy from [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)).

Why do you think your proposed fire access track(s) is needed?

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What do you want to do? Please attach a sketch and/or photos of your property outlining where you intend to carry out the works.

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Total area (approx): .....ha

Are there any existing fire access tracks on the property?  
If yes, provide details and include on your sketch.

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How do you propose to undertake these works?

- Mechanical Method (e.g. hand clearing, brushcutting, tree removal/pruning, herbicide use)  
 Prescribed Burn – Go to Section E  
 Other – Please describe:

If using a mechanical method of vegetation removal, how do you intend to dispose of the vegetation?

- Mulching & leaving on site  
 Licensed Recycling / Waste Transfer Centre  
 Storage on site  
 Pile Burn – Go to Section E  
 Other – Please Describe:

**Note:** If you want to conduct a burn during the Fire Danger Season, a permit to burn is required under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005* (for more information visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)). This application will be considered as an application for a permit to burn – see Section E.

# Application to manage Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire – cont.

## E. Prescribed Burning

### Please read before completing Section E:

If you want to conduct a burn during the Fire Danger Season, a Schedule 9 Permit to burn is required under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 (for more information visit [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)). This application will be considered as an application for a permit to burn. However, there is no guarantee that a permit to burn will be issued as it is dependent on an assessment by the SA CFS of the safety of the proposed burn. [Click here to access the Prescribed Burn Plan from the SA CFS website.](#)

When conducting a prescribed burn the SA CFS may provide advice or place conditions on any permits to burn that are issued.

**Note:** You may be found liable for any loss or damage caused by a fire lit under the authority of a permit to burn, even if you have complied with the conditions of that permit.

If you want to conduct a prescribed burn to improve *ecological processes* you will need to have a management plan approved by the Native Vegetation Council. You can contact the Native Vegetation Council on (08) 8303 9741.

### What do you want to do?

- Pile Burn to dispose of mechanically removed vegetation  
– Where on the property will you burn (mark on map)?
- Prescribed Burn to reduce fuel strategically  
– Total area (approx) of burn: .....ha

### When do you propose to undertake the burn?

If you want to undertake any **burning during the Fire Danger Season**, you will require a **Schedule 9 Permit to burn**. To apply for a permit to burn, complete the information below. If you are undertaking a prescribed burn also complete and attach an **operation burn plan** using the template provided on the SA CFS website ([www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)).

**Please provide the following information for any burn that you are proposing to undertake, whether in the Fire Danger Season or not:**

### Who is going to undertake the burn?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Who is the nominated contact person before, during and after the proposed burn?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mobile phone: \_\_\_\_\_

The SA CFS should be contacted on the day prior to your intended burn (refer to [www.cfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au) for your relevant Regional CFS Office).

## To be completed for all applications

### 4. Urgency

**Do you think your proposed works are a matter of urgency? If yes, please provide a reason.**

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### 5. Authorisation by landowner(s):

As the owner of this land, I consent to the above-proposed bushfire hazard reduction works, and advise that the information on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I hereby consent to an authorised officer of the SA CFS entering the property to undertake a site inspection for the purposes of assessing the application, assessing compliance, or any other follow-up purposes.

Signature/s \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Note:** You need written authority from each landowner should your proposed works cross into any other person's property.

## OFFICE USE ONLY

Circle/Cross out as appropriate:  
This application has / has not been approved by the SA CFS with/without conditions attached.

Signature & Name of SA CFS delegated officer:

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Application to manage Native Vegetation to reduce the impact of Bushfire – cont.

### Building means:

- (a) a building within the meaning of the *Development Act 1993* (other than a Class 7A or 10B building under the Building Code) that is permanently fixed to land; and
- (b) a building of a kind contemplated by paragraph (a) that is in the course of construction if the foundations, concrete slab or other footings have been completed; and
- (c) any other building or structure declared by the Minister by notice in the Gazette to be included within the ambit of this definition,

but does not include any building or structure declared by the Minister by notice in the Gazette to be excluded from the ambit of this definition (*Native Vegetation Regulations 2003*).

*For example*, a building may be a: dwelling, hotel, motel, school, office building, shop, cafe or restaurant, service station, storage building, laboratory, factory, hospital, private garage, carport, or shed.

(See also definition of Structure.)

**Bushfire prevention plan** means a plan for bushfire prevention and management prepared by a district bushfire prevention committee under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005*.

**Fire Access Track** means a track (up to 15m in width) constructed for use by vehicles undertaking firefighting activities.

**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.

**Prescribed burn** means the controlled use of fire to achieve planned native management objectives. A prescribed burn is only undertaken:

- (i) in specified environmental conditions
- (ii) over a defined area
- (iii) at a particular time, and
- (iv) within a predetermined fire intensity and rate of spread.

**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.

**Structure** means any permanently fixed construction that is not defined under the definition of a 'building'. This includes constructions used for primary production, the housing or feeding of animals, the storage of fodder, and the storage of vehicles or vessels. This also includes any other structure declared by the Minister by notice in the SA Government Gazette to be included within this definition (*Native Vegetation Regulations 2003*).

*For example*, a structure could be any of the following if they are permanently fixed to the ground: a small aviary or other animal enclosure, a small shed constructed around a pump or other small infrastructure, a small garden shed or greenhouse, a pool shed, a gazebo, or a children's playhouse.

(See also definition of Building.)

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](http://www.cfs.sa.gov.au)

Native Vegetation Council

Telephone: (08) 8303 9733

Fax: (08) 8303 9780

Email: [nvc@sa.gov.au](mailto:nvc@sa.gov.au)

Web: [www.nvc.sa.gov.au](http://www.nvc.sa.gov.au)