

ForestrySA | MEDIA RELEASE

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ForestrySA to begin 2016 residue burn program in Mid North

ForestrySA will begin residue burn operations in the Wirrabara Forest in the coming weeks.

Reducing forest fuel loads is also a proven way to reduce the intensity of a bushfire and risk of damage to homes, property and biodiversity.

Plantation residue burning reduces fuel loads and facilitates plantation re-establishment and changes in land use.

It will involve the burning of harvest debris and trees badly affected by the January 2014 Bangor Fire.

ForestrySA Acting Chief Executive Jerome Coleman unfortunately not all fire-affected trees could be salvaged.

“Some of the younger trees cannot be used due to their small size and rapid deterioration in the two years since the fire,” he said.

“Fuel reduction an important measure in fire preparedness and these trees have been pushed over and piled into windrows ready for burning.”

The burns are carried out by trained staff in accordance with a plan, which sets out the conditions under which the burn should be undertaken.

And while all burn operations carry some degree of risk, this is minimised by careful planning and management.

Weather forecasts are monitored and a burn will only be ignited when conditions are suitable.

Members of the public can expect to see columns of smoke while burns are in progress.

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