



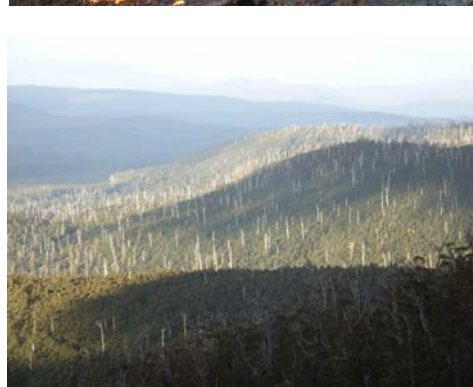
220410 Bushfire Planning and Management

This subject covers the fundamentals of setting and achieving bushfire management objectives for ecological and fire protection purposes in natural ecosystems. Discussions will include the contents of a fire management plan, setting objectives, developing fire prescriptions, undertaking monitoring and evaluation of the management process and review. The science, policy and legislation behind fire management will also be reviewed. With successful completion of the course, students will be well equipped to set achievable fire management objectives and to develop prescriptions to achieve them.

Bushfire Planning and Management can be taken as a stand-alone subject and in conjunction with other fire-related topics (Bushfires and Climate and Bushfire and Biodiversity) to provide the basis for a strong understanding of bushfires and prescribed burning for land management personnel in local and state government agencies and private companies.

Topics covered

- Fire management objectives for individual burns and for broader management areas
- Burning prescriptions to achieve fauna, flora and protection objectives
- Plant and animal life history attributes and the use of this information to devise sustainable fire regimes
- Fire management strategies and plans that maintain water quality and yield
- Use of GIS programs to develop fire management plans
- How to establish and run a monitoring program to assess the effectiveness of a fire management plan
- The current Codes of Practice used for fire management
- Key legal responsibilities related to fire management including the maintenance of biodiversity, protection from damaging fires and fire suppression



Subject co-ordinator

Dr Kevin Tolhurst (kgt@unimelb.edu.au)



2009 Study dates and locations

Intensive teaching from March 2 to March 13 at the Creswick Campus of the Department of Forest and Ecosystem Science including field trips using Creswick as a base

Study materials will be available via the Learning Management System from early February.

Teaching plan

This subject will be taught using a combination of lectures, practical demonstrations and data collection. Contact time will be equivalent to 24 hours of lectures and 36 hours of practical work

Assessment will be based on daily review of course content (quizzes, 20%), a literature review assignment (30%) and a major assignment (50%)

Student costs, travel and accommodation

On campus accommodation options for 2 weeks in Creswick range from \$150 - \$360

Enrolment options

- This subject is normally offered through the Master of Forest Ecosystem Science but is available to students from other courses subject to their Course Coordinator's approval.
- The subject may also be taken as an individual subject through the University's Community Access Program (CAP). This may be in assessed or non-assessed mode. For further information see:
<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/community/access/> or email forests-info@unimelb.edu.au

Further information

Information about this subject and the Master of Forest Ecosystem Science is available at:

<http://www.forests.unimelb.edu.au>

