

Thinking of presenting at the conference?

Please read the outline of the conference themes below and consider where your presentation may fit into the themes. To submit a summary of your proposed presentation please complete an '[Abstract Submission](#)' form which is available on our website or by emailing BushfireConf2015@nature.org.au.

1. Why Use Fire for Restoration?

Overview: This theme will discuss the reasons why it is important to use fire for restoration. This is an opportunity to discuss the science and experiences that support the use of fire for restoration and the ecological implications around the use and non-use of fire. It will also look at how using fire for restoration links with risk management strategies and other fire management requirements. The implications of climate change on risk and restoration opportunities should be considered under this theme.

Examples of papers, speed talks and posters on this topic:

- Interactions between climate change, fire, restoration and risk
- Restoration and risk management – fire for multiple reasons
- Science and experiences that support the use of fire for restoration
- Restoration of landscapes on Aboriginal managed lands and other lands managed for restoration
- Links between healthy landscapes and community safety
- Resilience – how can community understanding of fire be enhanced?

2. What Does it Mean to Use Fire for Restoration?

Overview: This theme will look at the variety of approaches that agencies and communities can take in using fire for restoration. It will provide opportunities for ecologists, Aboriginal communities, councils, NSW Rural Fire Service, Fire & Rescue NSW, farmers, urban and rural communities, contractors and other agencies to present their perspectives on how fire can be used to restore healthy landscapes and how this relates to their values.

Examples of papers, speed talks and posters on this topic:

- Weed management - grasses, lantana, Bell Miner Associated Dieback, woody weeds
- Fire, threatened species and endangered ecological communities
- Cultural burning in practice
- Using fire to help restore degraded agricultural lands
- Are we able to achieve desired restoration outcomes as part of mitigation works?
- The role of fire in restoring and maintain functional landscapes
- Urban and rural perceptions of fire and what it means for its use
- Community wellbeing – connections to landscapes, community expectations, perceptions and concerns

3. How Is Fire Being Used for Restoration?

Overview: This theme will look at practical case studies of how land managers are currently using fire for restoration and consider the aspirations they have for the future. This theme will present examples of the practicalities and logistics of undertaking burns with restoration goals, challenges faced and outcomes achieved.

Examples of papers, speed talks and posters on this topic:

- Resourcing this work – recognising the value of fire for restoration
- Practicalities and logistics of undertaking ecological burns
- Case studies of recent projects
- Options for site preparation
- Post-fire management
- How are people monitoring the results from their restoration work?
- What challenges are we facing in implementing fire for restoration?

4. Where Do We Go From Here?

Overview: This theme will discuss how knowledge can be developed and distributed and how confidence can be built in using fire. It will consider pathways to develop the appropriate knowledge, skills, capacity and confidence to burn, identifying gaps that need to be addressed and how networks can be strengthened.

Examples of papers, speed talks and posters on this topic:

- Will and capacity – does the capacity to burn need to be rebuilt?
- Training - access to knowledge and opportunities for experience
- Collaborations – sharing skill sets across landscapes, agencies and communities
- Learning pathways – qualifications, learning by doing, cultural learning pathways
- What opportunities exist to support this work?
- What are the gaps and how do we address these gaps?
- How do we continue this conversation and form a strong network of people working in this area?

How to submit your presentation proposal

The [‘Abstract Submission’ form](#) may be downloaded from our website. All abstracts must be received by **Wednesday 4th February 2015**.

Examples of the [2013 conference abstracts](#) are available on our website.

If you would like to discuss your presentation ideas or have any questions regarding the conference themes or abstract submissions process please contact us on the details below.

Contact: Michelle Rose or Stefanie Pillora

Phone: 02 9516 0359

Email: BushfireConf2015@nature.org.au