




ADELAIDE MOUNT LOFTY RANGES BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

ENDORSEMENT OF PERMIT ISSUING GUIDELINES

FOR THE

ADELAIDE MOUNT LOFTY RANGES BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT AREA

The Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Committee at the meeting held on 12th October 2016 endorsed this document known as "THE PERMIT ISSUING GUIDELINES FOR THE ADELAIDE MOUNT LOFTY RANGES BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT AREA".

CHAIRPERSON NAME:	BRETT LOUGHLIN
SIGNATURE:	
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	OCTOBER 2017

PERMIT ISSUING GUIDELINES FOR SCHEDULE 9 & SCHEDULE 10 PERMITS

REFERENCE NUMBER:	
RESPONSIBLE ORGANISATIONS:	<p>SOUTH AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE</p> <p>ADELAIDE HILLS COUNCIL</p> <p>THE BAROSSA COUNCIL</p> <p>CAMPBELLTOWN CITY COUNCIL</p> <p>CITY OF BURNSIDE</p> <p>CITY OF MARION</p> <p>CITY OF MITCHAM</p> <p>CITY OF ONKAPARINGA</p> <p>CITY OF PLAYFORD</p> <p>CITY OF SALISBURY</p> <p>CITY OF TEA TREE GULLY</p> <p>MOUNT BARKER DISTRICT COUNCIL</p> <p>TOWN OF GAWLER</p>
APPLICABLE LEGISLATION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES ACT AND REGULATIONS 2005 • NATIVE VEGETATION ACT
STRATEGIC PLAN:	<p>ADELAIDE AND MOUNT LOFTY RANGES BUSHFIRE MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN</p>
RELATED POLICIES / GUIDELINES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SACFS PERMIT TO LIGHT AND MAINTAIN POLICY • WOOD FIRED PIZZA OVENS CODE OF PRACTICE • GRAIN HARVESTING CODE OF PRACTICE • SA CFS VEGETATION PILE BURNING CODE OF PRACTICE • SA CFS BROAD ACRE BURNING CODE OF PRACTICE

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guideline is to provide a consistent approach to the issuing of Schedule 9 and 10 permits throughout the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Area.

2. CORPORATE COMMITMENT

The Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Committee and its Authorised Officers are committed to ensuring this uniformed approach is adopted by all key stakeholders.

3. SCOPE

This Guideline is applicable to all Authorised Officers that issue Schedule 9 and Schedule 10 permits within the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Area.

This Guideline will give guidance to Authorised Officers for the purpose of issuing permits under the Fire and Emergency Services Act and Regulations 2005 and should be used in conjunction with the Related Policies and Guidelines (refer above).

4. DEFINITIONS

Authorised Officer shall mean a person(s) who is authorised under the Fire and Emergency Service Act and Regulations 2005.

Bushfire Management Committee Member shall mean a person(s) nominated by key stakeholders to act as a representative on this committee.

5. ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Council Fire Prevention Officers will ensure that all relevant guidelines approved by the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Committee and relevant South Australia Country Fire Service policies relating to the issuing of permits will be disseminated to all Authorised Officers within their council area.

All Authorised Officers are required to ensure that these guidelines and policies are adhered to.

Council Fire Prevention Officers and Authorised Officers appointed by Council are required to adhere to relevant Council policies, procedures and guidelines relating to the issuing of permits and/or burning in the open provided they are not at odds with anything that may be required under legislation.

6. PERMIT ACTIVITIES

All fires during the Fire Danger Season require a permit unless exempted under the Fire and Emergency Services Act and Regulations.

Section 127 of the Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 (the Act) protects a person appointed as an Authorised Officer against any liability in carrying out their duties as an Authorised Officer provided their actions are carried out in good faith.

Prior to issuing a permit the Authorised Officer may consult with relevant key stakeholders regarding any concerns relating to the application.

- Local Council - Fire Prevention Officer
- Local SACFS Brigade or Group Officer

7. TYPE OF FIRES

Community Events and Catering Fires

- All permit requests for a community event / catering fire will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- The organiser may be required to provide a Risk Assessment if the event is to take place on land under the care and control of Council.
- Schedule 10 permits for wood burning devices such as mobile BBQs and pizza ovens will generally not be approved on days of Extreme or Catastrophic fire danger.

Comfort Fires/ Bonfires

Permits are not required for comfort fires / bonfires provided they meet the criteria listed below. Should an Authorised Officer receive an application for a proposed comfort fire / bon fire in excess of these criteria, a permit shall not be issued:-

- The fire is contained in a properly constructed fire place, a portable cooking appliance or a trench at least 30cm deep; and
- The space immediately around and above the fire is cleared of all flammable material to a distance of at least 4 m; and
- The fire does not occupy an area in excess of 1 m²; and
- A person who is able to control the fire is present at the site of the fire from the time it is lighted to the time it is completely extinguished; and
- An appropriate agent adequate to extinguish the fire is at hand

Please note: Burning in Metropolitan Councils and some Council township areas is prohibited – check with your local Council prior to lighting for more details.

Standing or Heaped Vegetation Fires

Authorised Officers can issue permits for the purpose of cleaning up, burning off or use of fire to clear land during the Fire Danger Season under special circumstances. That is if in the opinion of the Authorised Officer it is warranted and that these permits are based on risk to an asset.

Permits for this purpose will not be issued between 15th December and 15th April in any Fire Danger Season unless exceptional circumstances (that is a direct risk to an asset) apply. Consultation should occur between Council and the Authorised Officer.

Where a total fire ban day has been declared outside of the Fire Danger Season and heaped vegetation has been lit prior to the declaration of the Fire Ban, and where the fire cannot be reasonably extinguished, a permit can be issued provided if it poses no risk of escaping and consideration is given to strengthening the permit conditions.

Hazard Reduction Burning

Applications for Hazard reduction burning must be accompanied with a CFS burn plan if they are being conducted by a private resident or a CFS Brigade. These plans have been disseminated to CFS Group Officers. Permits should not be issued for burns that are not in an approved fire management plan or do not have Native Vegetation approval. For burns being conducted by a land management agency a copy of their burn plan should be obtained for your records.

If you are unsure if the proposed burn area contains native vegetation there is a process to check outlined in Appendix C.

Broad Acre Burning

Permits for broad acre burning for agricultural purposes will only be issued from the 1st of April each year.

Fireworks

All Permits associated with the use of explosives, fireworks, pyrotechnics and film props must be issued by CFS HQ in the first instance or a CFS Regional Office if it can't be done at CFS HQ.

Any permit issued by CFS HQ for fireworks, pyrotechnics or film props must be assessed by consultation with the CFS Region and the local Council Fire Prevention Officer if there is one appointed. In out of Council areas then this consultation will occur with the CFS Regional Office.

Stubble Burns

The conditions set below are the minimum standard to issue stubble burning permits. Reference Appendix A.

The onus is on the permit holder to comply with the conditions that the Authorised Officer sets. Furthermore, the Authorised Officer is obliged to assess each application for a permit on its merit to determine whether a permit will be issued and what permit conditions will be applied.

- Burn days Monday-Saturday excluding public holidays and Easter Saturday/Sunday.
- Burn times: Lit after 10.00am extinguished by 4.00pm or as specified by the Authorised Officer.
- Clearance/Firebreaks: 4 m clearance around perimeter of paddocks & standing trees/fallen timber.
- Stubble burning permits once issued must be validated on the day of the burn.
- After the burn, the site must be monitored for at least 2 days afterwards to minimise rekindling.

- It is recommended permit holders consult the BoM Fire Weather forecast and/or other weather sites such as the Elders weather site to assist in making the decision to ignite or not.
- Stubble burns must not be undertaken when the average wind speed for a GFDI of 15 is exceeded.
- Wind speed: refer to corresponding wind speeds in attached table (Appendix B) for a GFDI of 15. The onus is on the permit holder to monitor wind conditions prior to ignition, while the burn is being undertaken and after the burn is complete.
- No burns shall be undertaken on Total Fire Ban days.
- The permit holder should consider the CFS 'Permits Factsheet' and 'Burning Off Factsheet' prior to undertaking a burn.

8. NATIVE VEGETATION

Permits cannot be issued for the burning of Native Vegetation unless approval has been sought by the applicant. The Authorised Officer should request a copy of the approval before issuing a Permit. Should there be a concern that Native Vegetation is involved the Authorised Officer should contact the Regional Prevention Officer at the CFS Regional Office.

9. HOTWORKS PERMITS

Permits for welding, grinding, cutting that are required outside of the exemptions under the Fire and Emergency Services Act should ensure that the applicant provides any Hotworks policy or processes to be included in the permit conditions.

10. REVIEW

This Guideline will be reviewed annually or earlier in the event of changes to legislation or related Policies and Procedures or if deemed necessary by the Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Committee.

11. FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information on this Permit Guideline, please contact:

Title: Adelaide Mount Lofty Ranges Bushfire Management Committee
Permit Guidelines

Email: cfsregion1@sa.gov.au
Attention: Regional Commander

APPENDIX A

CONDITIONS PRESCRIBED BY THE FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES ACT AND REGULATIONS, 2005

The conditions applicable to any permit issued under the Act for Burning Off land on any day during the Fire Danger Season other than a day of Total Fire Ban are:

- (a) that the land immediately around the relevant land must be cleared of all flammable material to a distance of at least 4 metres;
- (b) that at least 2 persons who are able to control the fire, or such greater number of persons as may be specified in the permit, must be present at the site of the fire from the time it is lighted to the time it is completely extinguished;
- (c) that the fire must first be lighted from the leeward side of the relevant land to establish a protective break, and then may be lighted from the windward side of the land;
- (d) that at least 250 litres of water, or such greater amount of water as may be specified in the permit, must be kept at hand to extinguish the fire;
- (e) a water pump and hoses must be kept at hand in case water must be used to control or extinguish the fire;
- (f) that the holder of the permit must, not more than 7 days, and not less than 2 hours, before the fire is lighted, give notice of his or her intention to light the fire-
 - (i) to any person who owns, occupies or is in charge of land adjoining the land holding where the relevant land is situated and who resides within 8 kilometres of the relevant land or, if it is not reasonably practicable to give such a notice, to the person in charge of the nearest police station; and
 - (ii) if the relevant land is inside (or partially inside) a council area-to an officer of the council for that area; and
 - (iii) if the relevant land is within 2 kilometres of a government reserve- to the person in charge of the reserve; and
 - (iv) A) if the relevant land is within the area of an SACFS brigade-to an officer of that brigade; and
B) if the relevant land is within a designated area-to the fire control officer for that area; and
C) if neither subparagraph (A) nor (B) apply-to the Chief officer.

APPENDIX B

Stubble burning with Grassland Fire Danger Index CGFDII of 15

The following table has been calculated using the McArthur Mk 5 Grassland Fire Danger Index with curing at 100% and an average fuel load of 6 tonne per hectare. It calculates the average wind speed (km/h) for different temperature (°C) and relative humidity (%) combinations that equate to a GFDI of 15. Always round your measured relative humidity down to the nearest number. Planned burning must be postponed when the average wind speed (averaged over 10 minutes) for a particular combination is exceeded.

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GFDI = 15											
TEMP °C	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	RH %
15	5	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	AVE. WIND SPEED (KM/H)
20	3	5	6	8	10	11	13	15	16	18	
25	1	3	4	6	7	8	10	11	12	14	
30	0	1	3	4	5	6	7	8	10	11	
35	DNB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
40	DNB	DNB	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
TEMP °C	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50	RH %

**GFDI=5 McArthur Mk5 Meter used with curing at 100% and fuel load 6 t/ha

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For the example shown, a temperature of 25°C¹ and relative humidity of 30%² has an average wind speed of 8km/h³. For this particular combination, stubble burning operations must be postponed or lighting ceased if the average wind speed measured in the paddock exceeds 8km/h.

- * Stubble burning cannot take place unless a permit is obtained from your local Council and the conditions are right. Please check with your local Council regarding start dates for stubble burning permits in your area.
- + Wind speed average over 10 minutes.

Appendix C

Process to identify if a block might be Native Vegetation.

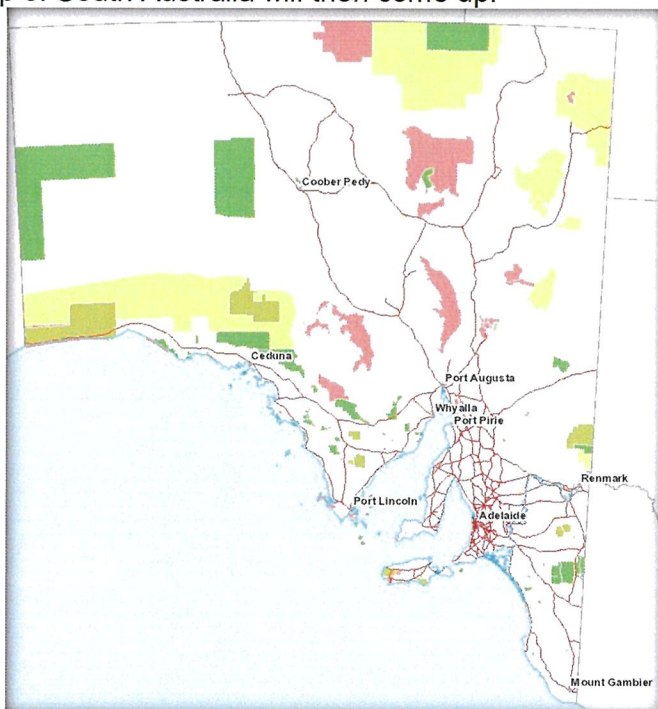
- 1) Go to www.naturemaps.sa.gov.au in your browser.
- 2) Open Nature Maps.



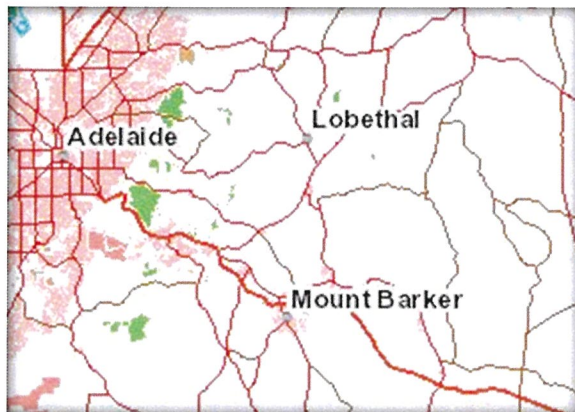
- 3) In the top right hand corner double click on the tab "START using Nature Maps".



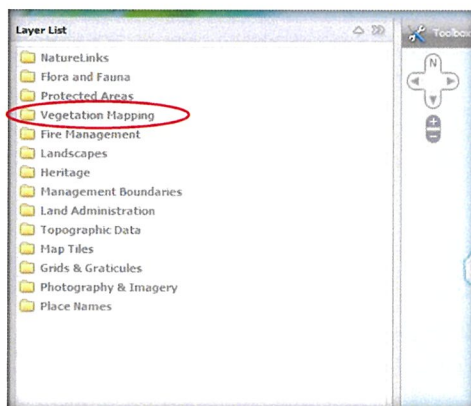
A map of South Australia will then come up.



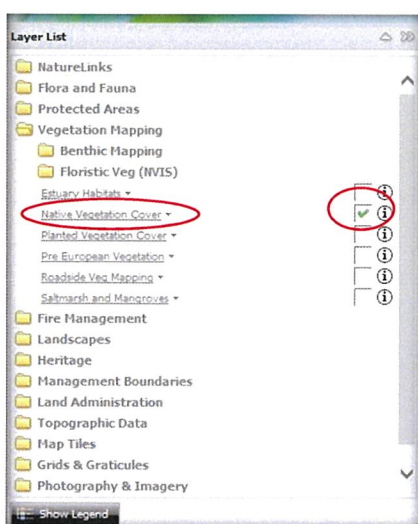
- 4) By (slowly) scrolling in and dragging the map, roughly locate the area to be burnt, for eg. if looking at an area in Lobethal slowly scroll towards that town/area.



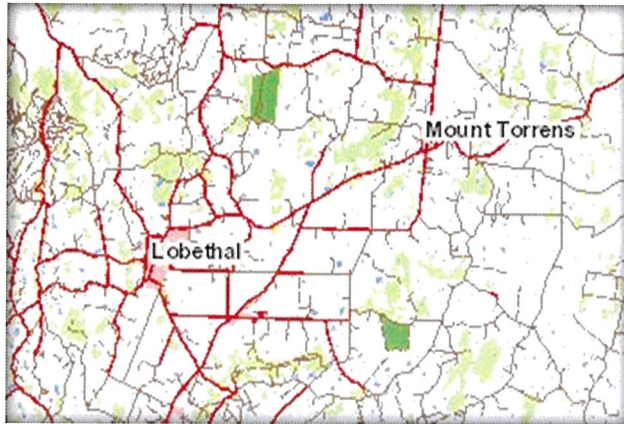
- 5) In the menu on the left hand side go to “Vegetation Mapping”.



- 6) Once in “Vegetation Mapping” Select the box “Native Vegetation Cover”.



The Native Vegetation area will present in light green shaded areas.



- 7) Slowly continue to zoom in and drag until you have positively identified the block of interest to you (again Lobethal example).

