



5/03/2012

Dear stakeholder,

Sustainable Timber Tasmania is commencing its 2021 Planned Burning Program in March this year.

**WHAT IS IT?**

Sustainable Timber Tasmania conducts planned burns to regenerate harvested forests in a similar manner to natural regeneration following bushfire; and to improve the safety of the community by reducing fuel loads in production forests and other areas.

**HOW MANY ARE THERE?**

As part of the Planned Burning Program for 2021, around 175 burns are planned for this year across Permanent Timber Production Zone (PTPZ) land, ranging in size from a couple of hectares up to approximately 100 hectares.

**WHEN'S IT HAPPENING?**

Planned burning is undertaken in Autumn – starting in March and extending to May in some areas. Autumn is the best time to undertake this work because it is the safest time of the year to burn; the fuels are dry which creates less smoke; the extreme conditions of summer have passed, reducing the chance of the fire escaping its boundaries and it is the ideal time for germination of eucalypt seedlings given warm temperatures and the onset of regular rainfall.

**WHAT HAPPENS DURING A PLANNED BURN?**

Our aim is to minimise impact on neighbours and local communities. Every burn is carefully planned for safety, smoke dispersal, protection of assets, infrastructure, special values and threatened and endangered species. These factors are documented in a burn plan that is reviewed, audited, and approved along with a risk assessment.

We only burn when weather conditions are suitable for managing and containing the fire to the boundaries

we have prepared and allow for favourable smoke dispersal. On poor smoke dispersal days, burning is postponed until suitable conditions prevail.

We coordinate these burns with other agencies and forestry businesses to manage smoke levels within the Environment Protection Authority's standards for each airshed area.

#### **HOW WILL I KNOW?**

Sustainable Timber Tasmania notifies and engages with all immediate neighbours throughout the Planned Burning Program planning stage, prior to any burning. This includes notifications to stakeholders who have registered their interest in particular planned burns and through agreed protocols with tourism and wine industries.

We advise the public through daily media and Facebook notifications.

We also publish our Planned Burning Program and daily information uploads to the "What's Burning Now?" page at [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au)

#### **HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE?**

You can find out more about the Planned Burning Program by visiting [www.sttas.com.au](http://www.sttas.com.au) or by visiting the What's Burning Now? page at [www.fire.tas.gov.au](http://www.fire.tas.gov.au)

If you have direct questions, they can be directed to:

The Engagement Team

(03) 6169 2800

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