

What is bushfire risk?

Bushfires are part of the Australian landscape. South-eastern Australia, including Tasmania, is particularly prone to fire and is regarded as one of the most bushfire affected regions in the world. We need to acknowledge that we live in a high bushfire risk region, but what is bushfire risk?



Bushfire risk is made up of two parts:

Likelihood- how likely is a bushfire in a given area?

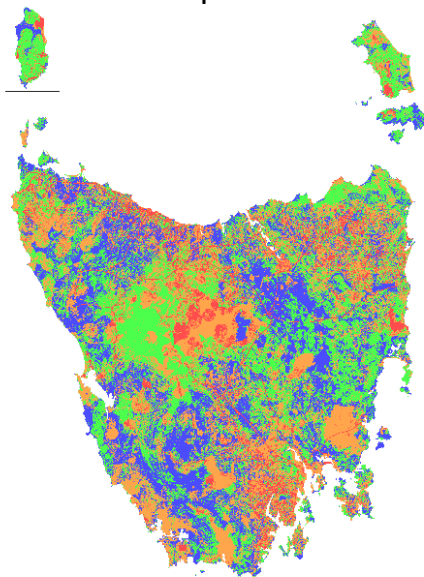
Consequence – what impact could this fire have on communities and the environment?

Knowing the likelihood and consequence of possible bushfires allows for risk management activities, including fuel reduction burning, to be directed to the places where they are most needed.

The Fuel Reduction Program uses advanced computer models to identify bushfire risk within the state.

The models consider many factors to calculate risk, including:

- Vegetation
- Fire history
- Population
- Response times
- Critical infrastructure
- Sensitive natural values

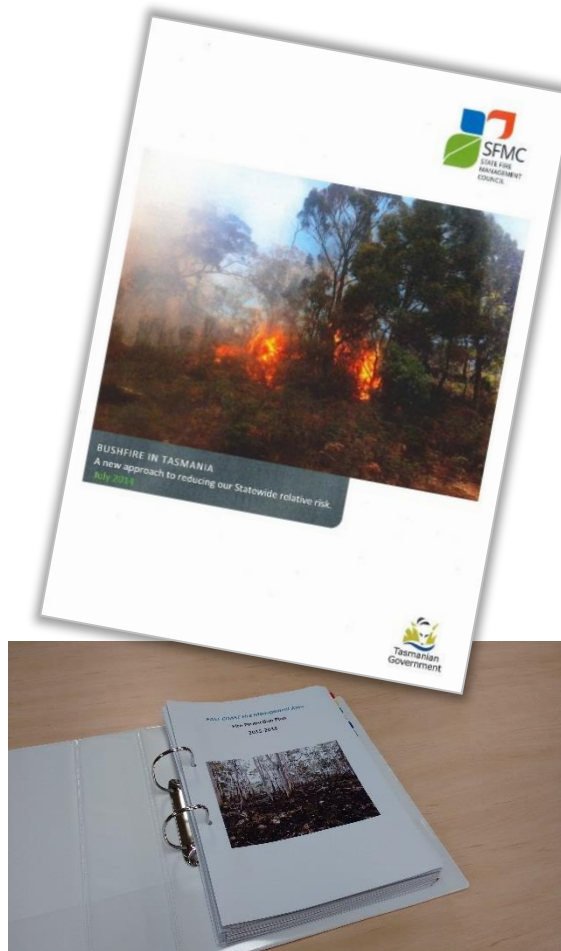


An example of modelled bushfire risk in Tasmania (the BRAM – Bushfire Risk Assessment Model, Parks and Wildlife Service). Red shows areas of highest risk to communities, assets and sensitive values.

Fuel Reduction Program

Using this information, the modelling classifies areas that are at risk. These areas can be a mix of all land types, including both public and private land.

These areas are then included in the Fire Protection Plans that are produced by the Fire Management Area Committees.



The risk of an area is confirmed by gathering local knowledge from land owners and managers, council risk registers and local emergency management plans. Areas confirmed as being a significant risk will then be considered for mitigation activities, including fuel reduction burning.

For more information, visit www.fire.tas.gov.au
or call the Fuel Reduction Unit on **1800 000 699** or fru@fire.tas.gov.au