



COLLABORATE - INNOVATE - CHANGE

RESEARCH ADOPTION, EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

→ The Bushfire CRC is supporting its partners in the fire industry to meet the challenge of implementing change and improvement. It is providing ways for researchers and fire and land management agencies to work together to ensure research findings are applied across the industry.

Change or continuous improvement programs are part of the normal business of all fire and land management agencies.

The Bushfire CRC, through its *Research Adoption and Education Program* and its *Fire Knowledge Network*, is contributing to this culture of change and improvement by promoting the development of knowledge, the sharing of knowledge and enabling the application of new knowledge to improve bushfire management in the fire industry.

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→ RESEARCH ADOPTION AND EDUCATION

The Research Adoption and Education Program (Program E) has more than 30 post graduate students under its scholarship program. It is now moving to work with agencies that are ready to adopt the research into their organisations.



→ WHERE WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Developing strategies to assist volunteer recruitment and retention. Showcasing research through road shows, seminars and public forums that visit capital cities and regional centres
- Providing crucial information to support the Prepare, Stay and Defend or Leave Early policy
- Developed a world leading smoke plume forecasting system used by many land agencies to manage the impacts of prescribed burning
- Delivered two reports on bushfire arson that are amongst the most downloaded documents from the CRC's web page
- Developed a website that is attracting 18,000 visits a month, with the most popular reports being downloaded more than 450 times each month
- Developed the award winning course Fire Ecology and Management in Northern Australia, in conjunction with Charles Darwin University. The course is open to any partner in the Bushfire CRC

OUR PLANS

- Collaborate with the University of Melbourne to develop bushfire management units in the post graduate forestry studies program
- Work with end users to ensure the outputs of key research are adopted into policy and practice
- Promote newly qualified researchers to end user agencies
- Conduct research seminars; for example, in October 2007 the final of four seminars will be held in Perth.

Other research adoption strategies:

- professional development courses
- seminars customised to industry needs
- publications
- developing generic policy and procedure examples for agencies to adopt
- working with agency training groups to incorporate research outputs into training materials

THE FIRE KNOWLEDGE NETWORK

RELIABLE INFORMATION, USABLE KNOWLEDGE, BETTER DECISIONS

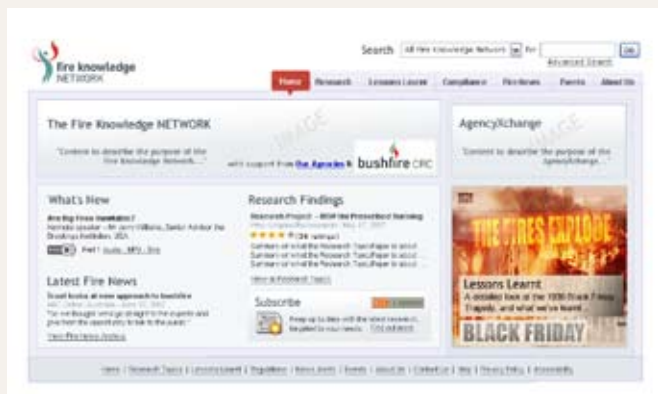
The Bushfire CRC Community Outreach (Program F) program implements a broad program of executive briefings, public community forums and workshops in capital cities and in regional Australia. Combined, these have led to increased awareness of bushfire knowledge and current CRC research. Supporting this increased awareness is the Fire Knowledge Network, which is building a knowledge base for sharing information and learning from past experiences.

The Fire Knowledge Network is a focal point for fire knowledge within Australia, New Zealand and globally. It is bringing together the broad spectrum of research, both within the CRC and from the many researchers in other organisations, as well as local knowledge and lessons from history.

The Network offers four keys areas of products and services:

1. Australasian Centre for Lessons Learnt
2. Fire Research eXchange
3. Communities of Practice
4. Consultancy Services

The Fire Knowledge Network web site will be the main mechanism to deliver these products:



WHERE WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

- Providing access to the evidence-base to support decision making
- Providing opportunities for agencies to link with other agencies and researchers to exchange information and experience
- Building a knowledge-base for the long term benefit of the fire industry
- Creating awareness of Australian and international research trends that could have implications for the industry
- Reducing duplication and improving efficiency in agencies by enabling a sharing of their business practices and procedures
- Presenting synthesised information and tailored knowledge that is easy to understand and digest

OUR PLANS

- The Fire Knowledge Network website with both a public section and a secure agencyXchange extranet for agencies across Australasia to share information and knowledge
- A program of moderated online forums providing access to experts in the field of bushfire science
- A spatially enabled web site that allows searching by state, region, bioregion
- Online discussion groups facilitated through communities of practice
- Publication of bushfire related information products
- Provision of user-pays consulting services targeted to end users who seek assistance to understand the relevance of this information and implement the outcomes of technology transfer initiatives

CONTACT US

More information about the Bushfire CRC Research Adoption and Education program and the Fire Knowledge Network can be found on our website:

www.bushfirecrc.com

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