


PROGRAM C

→ **Prescribed burning - summary of progress and analysis**

Mark Adams, Program Leader

© BUSHFIRE CRC LTD 2004



PROGRAM B : Summary

→ **Overview**

1. Began in 2004 with 8 projects
2. Now nine projects + HighFire (two projects in Program B) = 11 projects
3. Six states
4. ~\$1400K cash per annum, plus ~\$550K per annum in HighFire (3 years only) = total over life of CRC of ~\$10M
5. Large in-kind contribution from land management agencies
6. Increasing cash support from:
 - a) ACTEW-AGL
 - b) UNSW
 - c) CALM
 - d) UTAS
 - e) UOW

© BUSHFIRE CRC LTD 2004



Distribution of funds and focus

1. Biodiversity
 - a) York
 - b) Andersen
 - c) McCaw
 - d) Bradstock
2. Smoke and weather
 - a) Mills (Plume behaviour, smoke dispersion modeling)
 - b) Bell (Smoke composition)
 - c) McCrae (Mountain weather)
3. Tree decline
 - a) Davdison
4. Ecosystem functions (carbon, water, nutrients)
 - a) Grierson
 - b) Adams
5. Synthesis
 - a) Adams



Approaches

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus on Modeling <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bradstock b) Grierson c) Mills d) McCrae e) Adams f) McCaw 2. Focus on establishing long term empirical trials <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Andersen b) Adams c) McCaw d) Bradstock | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Focus on experimental manipulations and measurement <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bell b) Davidson c) Adams d) Andersen 4. Focus on observational data <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bradstock 2. Mills 3. McCaw 4. Grierson |
|--|--|

Are we meeting stakeholder needs?



1. Are we overemphasising *reactive* research?
 - a) Impacts of this or that fire regime on this or that species
 - b) Impacts of this or that fire regime on this or that other attribute of ecosystems
2. Where are we clearly *leading and being proactive* in our research?
 - a) Models of smoke behaviour
 - b) Empirical analysis of fire regimes over long time frames
 - c) Developing understanding of *fire and ecosystems*
3. What are we not doing?
 - a) No major focus on prescribed fires and fuel loads and condition (i.e. effectiveness of prescribed burning). Is this an interesting research issue or a non-issue? Rates of recovery of fuel loads?
4. What do we need to do better to meet stakeholder needs?
 - a) Translate 2c into simple communicable statements and into policy
 - b) Reduce reactive research and/or transfer to other providers and sources of funding