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Media Contact:
Darren Skelton
0417 368 805

Media Release

Fire fighters to ignite regeneration burns near Buxton today

Vic Forests and the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) will today ignite two regeneration burns in State Forest west of Buxton.

Weather conditions pending, the burns are expected to be ignited by hand at midday in the Black Range State Forest, along the Black Range Road.

The burns, which total about 20 hectares, will be undertaken in areas affected by the Black Saturday bushfires.

Regeneration burns are carried out annually to promote the establishment of young eucalypt seedlings following the harvesting process.

The burns will be clearly visible in the immediate area and from nearby communities.

Fire fighters will be in attendance to constantly monitor the burns and patrol the area over the coming days.

Additional burns are also planned for ignition this week in State Forest near Buxton and Narbethong.

Road users are advised to take extra care as road travel may be hazardous due to low visibility from smoke.

If you are experiencing any symptoms that may be due to smoke exposure, the Department of Health advises people to seek medical advice or call Nurse on Call on 1300 60 60 24. For general information about how smoke from fires potentially affects health and precautions to take to reduce exposure, visit www.health.vic.gov.au/bushfire

For information on fires or planned burns in Victoria and general fire safety, please contact the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on freecall 1800 240 667. Callers who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech/communication impairment may call textphone/telewriter (TTY) on 1800 122 969.

Information is also available at www.dse.vic.gov.au/fires and for information about fire restrictions, fire bans and fires on private land at www.cfa.vic.gov.au