

Schedule 5 Good Management Practices to Prevent or Minimise the Discharge of Smoke from Burning Vegetation

General burning practices

- Except in the case of tree stumps or standing dead vegetation or crop stubble, vegetation that is to be burned (such as trimmings, pruning, or fellings cut from active growth) should, as a general guide, be allowed to dry for at least four weeks in summer or six weeks in winter, prior to burning.
- Where practicable, the place of burning should be located as far away from roads and state highways as possible and burning should take place when wind will dissipate smoke away from roads and state highways.
- When starting to burn, the direction and strength of wind should be such that smoke is carried away from the areas most likely to be adversely affected.
- In cases of vegetation previously treated by spray with any agrichemical, any manufacturer's instructions, as on the label of any container in respect of the burning of treated vegetation, must be observed.
- Prior to burning, assess whether the vegetation is sufficiently dry to burn, without unnecessarily exacerbating any risk of an uncontrolled fire.
- Vegetation should be stacked loosely rather than compacted to aid drying and the circulation of air for efficient burning.
- For piles of vegetation, a small fire, started with the driest material first, with further material continually fed on to it once it is blazing, is preferable to burning all of the material at the same time in one large pile.
- Once started, a fire should not be left unattended.

These general practices do not apply to high country vegetation burning.

High country vegetation burning

- No fire should be lit if weather conditions indicate that the presence or discharge of smoke or ash is likely to be prolonged.
- Seek advice from a meteorological service prior to burning, on the expected weather conditions, including wind speed and direction.
- Burning should be carried out only when winds will carry smoke and ash away from any operational ski field or other areas of high public use.
- The Cardrona, Treble Cone and Waiorau ski fields should be notified at least 24 hours prior to burning in the Wanaka Basin.

Notes:

1. The Transitional Regional Plan may require application for a land use consent to burn vegetation in the high country.
2. The burning of vegetation may be subject to the provisions of the Forest and Rural Fires Act and a fire permit may be required from:
 - The Department of Conservation (when burning occurs within the one kilometre fire safety margin of most land administered by the Department);
 - A rural fire authority eg, a city or district council or forestry company.
3. Vegetation burning on Crown land requires consent under the Crown Pastoral Lands Act 1998 from the Commissioner of Crown lands.
4. A resource consent may be required from the relevant city or district council depending on district plan provisions.