Interactions between climate, vegetation and fuel

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Vegetation communities don’t all burn the same way

Shifting vegetation communities – shifting fuel

Range shifts are an expected part of changing climates. These can be expected to change the distribution of fire. But…... Fire can also result in rapid vegetation change.
Prescribed burn windows – a function of climate

Prescribed burning is a key landscape risk reduction tool. Not all burns that get planned get completed. Safe burning needs favourable conditions – a function of climate. Burn outcomes are also in part a function of climate.

The short story

- Fire weather is not the only dynamic element
- Vegetation interacts with climate and fire
- Gradual change in fuel is occurring – however there can also be rapid transitions ‘new flammability states’
- Climatic change and variability also has implications for risk reduction activities