

Large areas of WA have become a time bomb for devastating fires caused by the build up of forest and parkland debris and the over control of farmland waste.

Why—

because the control of this natural waste material has been, by an Act of Parliament placed in the hands of a Central Gov. body that has formed a blanket formula to control and prevent fires over a large portion of the State.

How has this happened —

because the Authorities - Gov and others have appeased certain anti fire groups who don't understand the basic requirements for fire control in our environment. This

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or more have created a very dangerous situation. The present control Authority through advise from academic advisors have adopted a policy of Spring burning of our forests. The horrific and in humane effects over a wide ~~range~~ variety of our fauna and bird life is at the most critical stage of their lives. The spring burn also appears to destroy many of our unique late flowering orchids and other flora. Also by removing the natural leaf cover at ground level it leaves the ground exposed to the direct heat of the sun for the remainder of the summer, also adding stress to the rest of flora.

To repair the damage already done to the

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+ Gov. should establish a co-op. involvement with the rapidly disappearing "older generation" who understand and co-operate with the law of nature. To do this we feel it is necessary to put in place a programme of protect strips like burning of forest and parkland adjoining both farmland, country towns and outer urban city suburbs. - Canberra - for example.

All this should be carried out with the co-operation and involvement of the local population under the guidance where possible of people who understand the natural behaviour of fire. The reason for involving the local people is to educate a new generation of volunteer fire wardens. "Calm" have

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which should be made more available for more protective burning in the Autumn.

The early settlers developed a control system that they copied from the Aboriginal people who managed the land for countless thousands of years. A revamp of that is what is needed today.

The protective strip burning must be carried out during late summer or early autumn on a 5 or 10 year rotation or according to the local natural conditions. This must be done 24-48 hours before rain. The authorities should carry out strip or patch burning over large forest areas carried out by "Air" during Autumn, prior to moderate falls of rain which after a few years will create a mosaic control system that will prevent

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the build up of a large frontal fire. The following winter rains will produce a more conjunctional condition for native flora to recover. This then creates a more natural regrowth pattern for rehabilitation for the natural wild life

NOTE

These are my views after a life time experience in ~~volving~~ protective type burning in my own area, and the experience of major devastation after fires due to the lack of protective controlled operations. I have been involved in the Bush Fire Brigade, when after WWI ^{the local} ~~all~~ brigades ~~were~~ ^{were} issued with one knapsack

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