

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service

Media Release

Monday, 28 April 2025

Hazard reduction burn in Weddin Mountains National Park

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) together with the Forestry Corporation of NSW will this week implement a prescribed hazard reduction burn within Weddin Mountains National Park.

The burn is at Black Springs Fire Trail which is a 1969-hectare prescribed burn, bounded by Stoney Creek Fire Trail and several management trails within both Weddin Mountains National Park and Bimbi State Forest.

This burn will protect forestry pine plantations and reduce fuel loads and will start around 10am on Tuesday 29 April and continue through to Friday 2 May, weather permitting.

The burn will also enhance the conservation and biodiversity value of the nature reserve by maintaining the floristic and structural diversity of vegetation communities, protect important wildlife habitat and help to mitigate the risk of wildfire on park neighbours by reducing the overall fuel hazard from high to low.

Mopping up operations will continue for several days and public access to the burn area and surrounding tracks will be restricted until a safety assessment is undertaken.

To support the hazard reduction burn, temporary road closures will be in place, and motorists should expect traffic delays and smoke in the area. Drivers are advised to follow all signage and adjust their driving to the conditions.

Smoke may be visible in the nature reserve and nearby communities depending on wind direction. NPWS thanks neighbours in advance for their understanding. People with asthma or who are susceptible to respiratory issues are advised to keep clear of the area or stay indoors.

All burns across NSW will continue to be coordinated with the RFS and FRNSW to ensure the impact on the community, including from smoke, are assessed at a regional level.

Details on specific burns will be made available in advance on the Rural Fire Service website, <u>Hazards Near Me</u> app, and on <u>NPWS Alerts</u> website.

For health information relating to smoke from bush fires and hazard reduction burning, visit <u>NSW</u> <u>Health</u> or <u>Asthma Australia</u>.

For up-to-date information on these, and other, planned hazard reduction activities, visit the <u>Rural</u> <u>Fire Service</u>.