



## Fire Management on Private Farms

1. NCT Forestry Co-operative
2. Importance of fire protection
3. Management practices – Brush management
  - Open areas
4. Certification as a Management tool







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## 1) NCT Forestry Co-operative Ltd.


- Forestry Co-operative, owned and run by timber farmers
- Over 2000 Members
- Approximately 300,000 hectares of timber plantations:
  - 73,000 ha pine
  - 108,000 ha wattle
  - 145,000 ha eucalypts


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## Membership base


- Large commercial timber farms (>500 Ha)
- Mixed Farms (50 to 500 Ha)
- Small Scale Farmers (1 to 50 Ha)

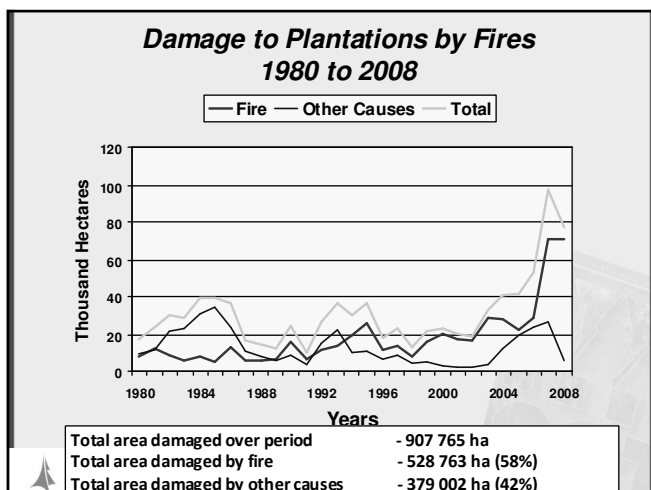






## 2) Fire and fire protection

- One of the main threats to sustainability of plantation forestry
- Any management recommendations must take fire protection objectives into consideration


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### 3. Fire protection

#### a) Brush management

- Fire risk vs environmental impact?



**BROADCAST**



**Brushpile**



**Contour Brush Pile & Burn**



**COOL BURN (NB)  
“Reducing Slash Load”**



b) Management of open areas  
—annual burning

- Fire breaks, strategic valleys, some grasslands, Power lines etc.

b) Open area management - Riparian areas

- Riparian areas ( Annual burning, patch burning, rotational burning, no burning,)



#### b) Open area management - Grasslands

- Early vs late burning (Fire season)?
- Fuel reduction (mowing, grazing)?
- Rotational burning?



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#### 4) Certification as a Management Tool

- Group Scheme
- BOP's written into management system
- Training/extension
- Annual audits
- Monitoring
- Benefits/costs



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### Summary

- Private timber growers own significant areas.
- Fire protection is an important consideration when developing mgt practices.
- Scientifically tested BOP's are not always available for managing open areas
- Certification has been a useful tool for NCT to influence management practices



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