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# Ashes to ashes, dust to dust

Joining the dots in the Forestry industry's woodchipping, burning, ... regeneration? ... program



Between the 15<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010 the forest industry in Tasmania went on a burning spree.

According to Forestry Tasmania supplied figures, **in just 5 days FT alone burnt 2369.56 hectares with 75 fires.** The consequences were felt from North to South of Tasmania. The Sentinel 'Hotspots' captured, and overlaying currently lit/alight burns maps from FT's 'Planned Burns' website, including freely available coupe maps, show that in most cases, these fires DO correlate to Forestry Tasmania and/or their masters need a public relations fix and therefore want the fires to stop being lit ... bang ... they stop.

Wouldn't it be nice if the public were so considered...



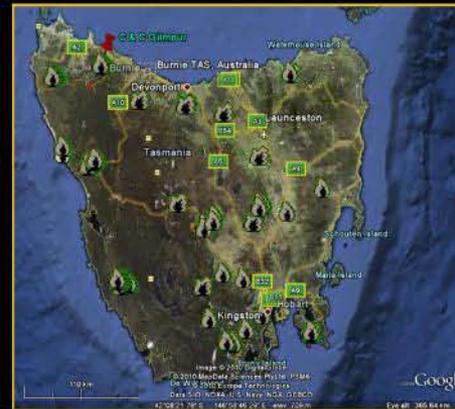
Coupes CF013C & B .....

Monday 19 April 4.55pm

Tuesday 20 April 11.28am

Thursday 22 April 12.25pm

Friday 23 April 11.28am

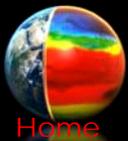


Red = 0 - 12 hrs ...

Yellow = 12 - 24 hrs ...

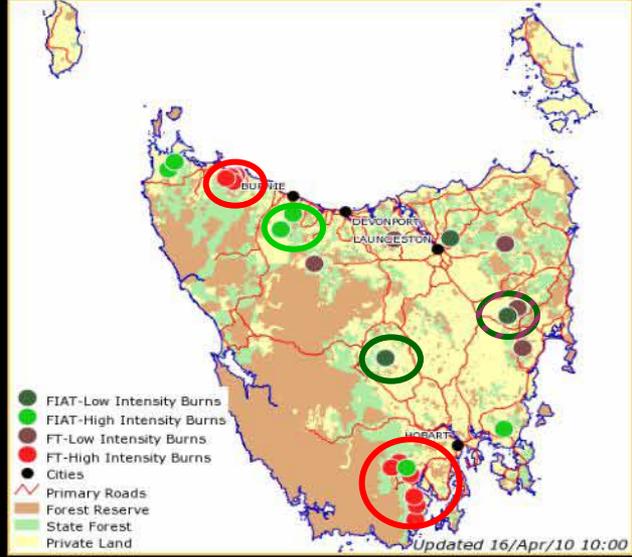
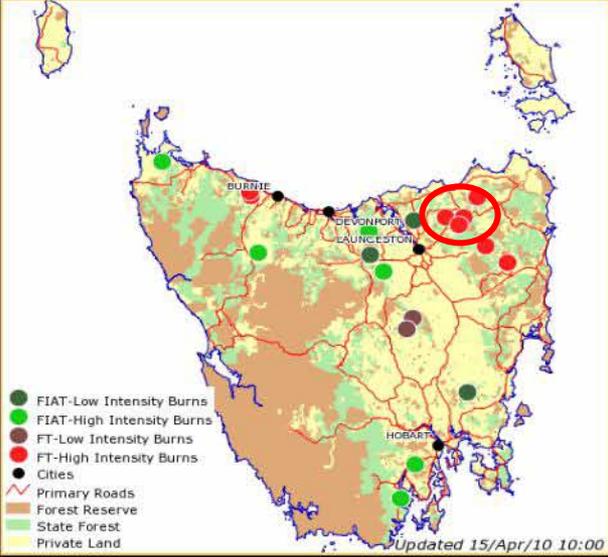
Lt Grey = 24 - 48 hrs ...

Dk Grey = 48 - 72 hrs

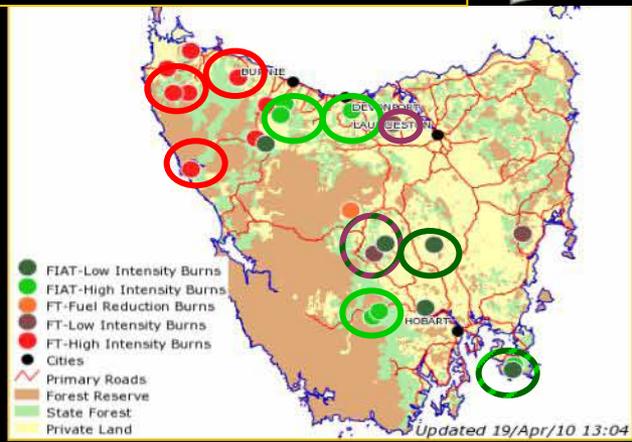
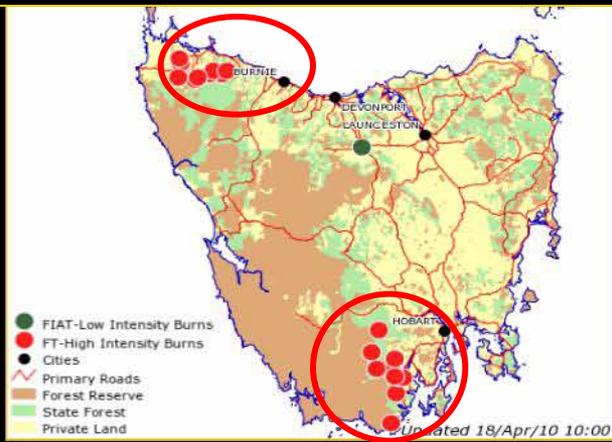
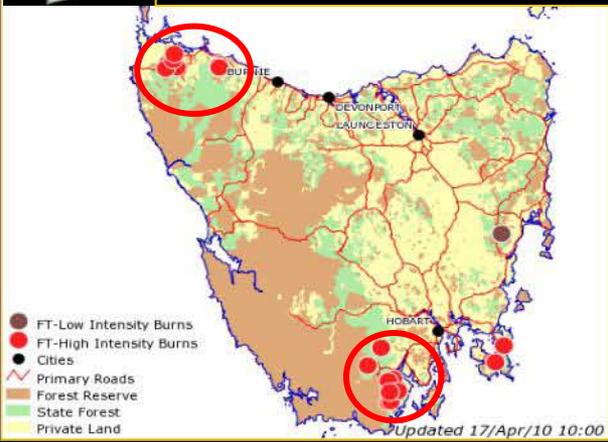


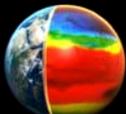
# 'Planned burns' maps as opposed to FT 'current burns' maps ...

... can tell a lot about what is actually 'forestry industry' burnt. If you take each of the FT 'planned' burns maps and overlay them on the Google/Sentinel hot spot maps, you will see just who the culprits are. There is no reason FT cannot immediately create their own daily Google map overlay showing ALL forestry industry fires and associated information. Unless of course they want to hide information from the general public?



Forestry Tasmania says, "Information about planned burns is updated daily during the season on the Tasmanian forest industry's planned burn website." What information? How quick and able FT can blink their fire dots on and off? And for whose benefit and pleasure?

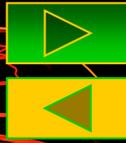




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# Huon District Burns: Sat 17th – Mon 19th April 2010

"Data produced by monitoring stations showed that national air quality standards were exceeded on Monday (19th) and there is sufficient evidence to conclude that regeneration burns over the weekend contributed to smoke in the Huon airshed." (Bob Gordon, Forestry Tasmania) ... and the fine is? The EPA turning a blind eye?

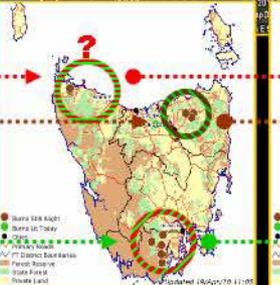
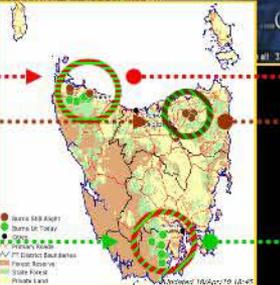
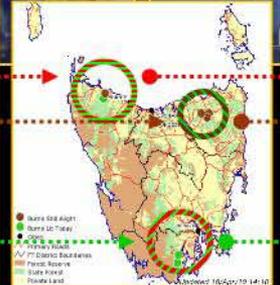
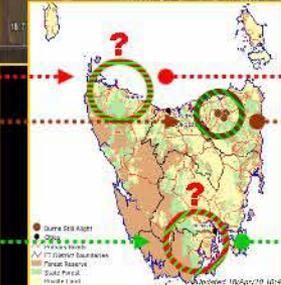
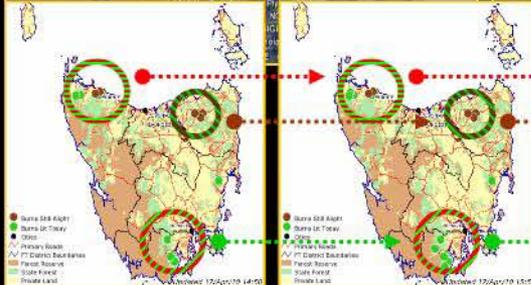
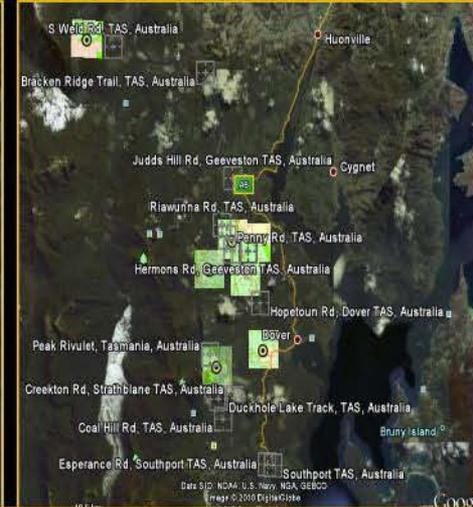


17 April 3.55pm FT O/Lay

18 April 6.45pm FT O/Lay

19 April 5.05pm H/spot O/Lay

Location of some fires



17 April 2.50pm

17 April 3.55pm

18 April 10.45am

18 April 2.10pm

18 April 6.45pm

19 April 11.05am

19 April 5.05pm

Going ...

Going ...

Gone? ...

Going ...

Going ...

Going ...

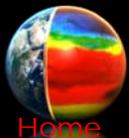
Gone? ...

'Forestry says sorry on smoke'

'The Huon was choked last weekend and on Monday (17-19 April) by thick smoke caused by nine Forestry Tasmania fires and an unknown number of privately lit fires.' (April 24, 2010 Mercury)



FT 'currently lit/alight' burns overlay show the 'Hotspots' relate to Forestry Tasmania fires. IF FT want to try and blame 'private' fires which FT/FPA or EPA? approve, there is no excuse for them to not record, on their 'industry's' current/lit burns maps, information also relating to FIAT fires.

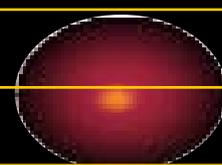
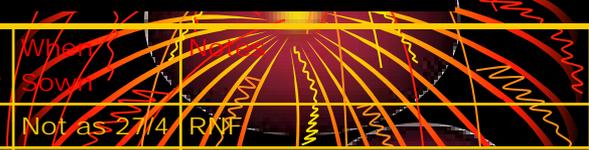


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# Houn District Burns: Sat 17th – Sun 18th April 2010

Forestry Tasmania information showing on these two days, they lit 18 fires in the Houn district, burning 431 Ha. (Wood production plans show 378 - 542.8 ha of clearfelled native forest).

Check out the inconsistencies, especially in the GREY areas.



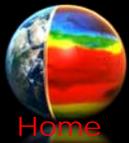
Day/Time Burnt	Coupe ID	Harvest System	Forest Type	WPP Listed Year	WPP Area (HA)	HA Burnt	Where Sown	Notes
17 <sup>th</sup> - 1312	HP029B	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	15	11	Not as 27/4	RNF
1345	KD043C	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06 & Y2 - 06/07 & Y2 - 09/10	24 or 26 or 9 and/or? 6	28	Not as 27/4	HWS HWS HWS?
1355	EP078B	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07 & Y1 - 08/09	20 and/or ? 4	38	Not as 27/4	RNF RNF
1420	EP069B	Clearfelled	Native	Contingency 05/06 - 07/08 & Y1 - 08/09	35 and/or ? 6	43	Not as 27/4	RNF RNF
1438	DN024C	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07 & Y1 - 08/09	20 and/or ? 45	25	Not as 27/4	RNF RNF
1445	HA016A	Clearfelled	Native?	Contingency 08/09 - 10/11	2	43	Not as 27/4	ECP/RHW -H'wd Plantation?
1500	PC023A	Clearfelled	Native	Y3 - 07/08 & Y1 - 08/09	61.8 and/or 36	27	Not as 27/4	RNF RNF
1518	HA026C	Clearfelled	Native	Y3 - 07/08	25	26	Not as 27/4	RNF
1600	EP004D	Aggreg. Retent.	Native	Y1 - 08/09	25	13	Not as 27/4	ARN *
18 <sup>th</sup> - 1345	EP004F	Aggreg. Retent.	Native	Y1 - 08/09	40	5	Not as 27/4	ARN *
1350	KD019A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	22	21	Not as 27/4	HWS
1404	KD022E	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07 & Y2 - 09/10	46 and/or ? 30	22	Not as 27/4	RNF Cable * RNF Cable
1431	KD023G	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	5	6	Not as 27/4	RNF
1454	RU042E	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	45	43	Not as 27/4	RNF
1454	KD004F	Clearfelled	Native	Y3 - 07/08	15	12	Not as 27/4	HWS - cable? Is this viable?
1540	WR015F	Clearfelled	Native	Contingency 05/06 - 07/08 & Contingency 08/09 - 10/11	20 and/or ? 7	13	Not as 27/4	RNF * RNF
1550	AR080H	Thin Plantation Clearfell Native	Native?	Y3 07/08 & Y1 08/09	50 and/or ? 30	27	Not as 27/4	TNP/THH - H'wd Plantation? ECR early clearfell native?
1615	KD054A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 06/07	45	28	Not as 27/4	RNF

\* = Gunns aren't allowed to buy/accept timber for pulpwood off these coupes

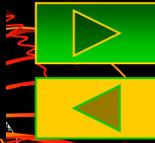
378 - 542.8

431

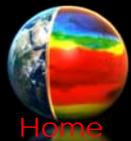
Where's the proof they haven't?



Next generation saw logs destroyed ...  
for the lowest, obviously 'unsustainable' end of the market ... woodchips.  
How much would it have been worth in future saw logs, endangered species habitat,  
a carbon sink, recreational area and healthy water catchment?



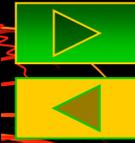
Coupes CF013C & B ..... Still Smoking .... A week later



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# Murchinson Burns: 16 – 20 April 2010

Information received from Forestry Tasmania, shows FT successfully lit 36 fires, burning 703.62 hectares between 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010 in the Murchinson district. (Does not include FIAT fires). Wood production plans show a size of 1072 – 1138 ha's of native forest. The number of fires FT light is not evident from their current burns maps. It appears one FT dot doesn't equate to one fire.



Sat 17th 3.55pm

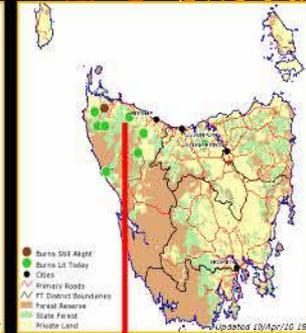
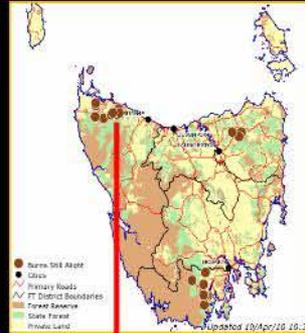
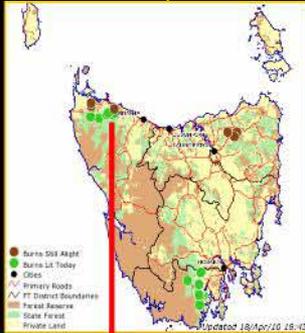
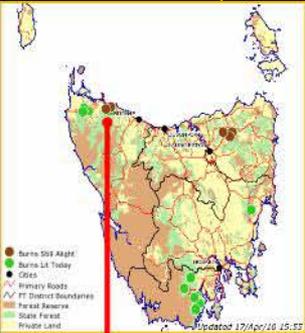
18th 6.45pm

19th 10.30am

19th 11.05am

19th 6.05pm

20th 3.25pm



17th - 2.50pm

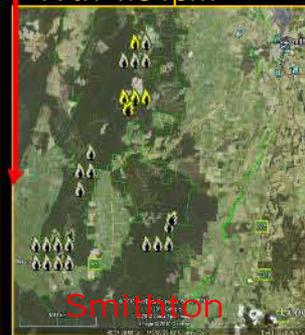
18th 4.05pm

19th 10.51am

19th 4.04pm

19th 6.13pm

20th 11.22am



17th 6.05pm

18th 4.38pm

17th 5.50pm

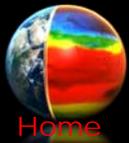
24th 3.49pm

24th 3.57pm

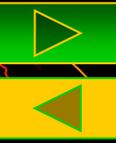
24th 3.42pm



Coups CF013C & B ..... Still Going .... 24 hours later .... Still smoking .... A week later



# Murchinson District Burns: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010



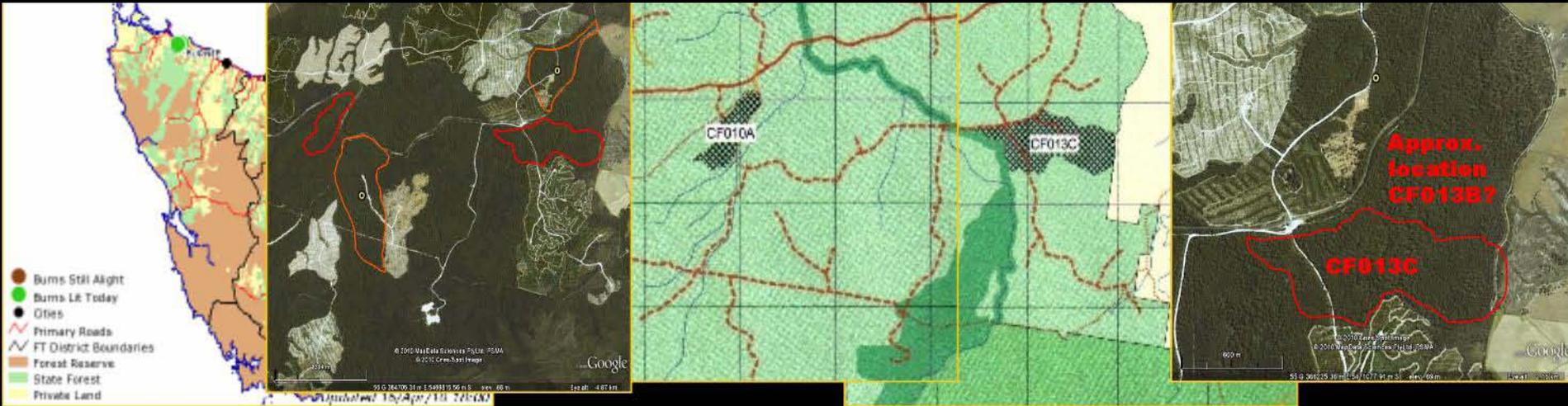
On this day FT say they successfully fire-bombed 112.57 hectares of clearfelled (145 - 150 ha) native forest with 4 fires.

FT's current/lit burns map on the 'Planned Burns' website shows only 2.

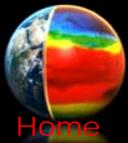
Don't they have to mark areas cleared 4 or so years ago as being burnt?

Some state coupes are listed on both the previous (05/06 - 07/08) AND current (08/09 - 10/11) 3 year Wood Production Plans (WPP), some with varying sizes. So who knows when and how much was cleared on some of the states coupes. For some reason, FT in Murchinson seem to have measured some of their burnt coupes exactly? since last time we requested similar info. Can we trust the info, or is it just another guess like the end time of the fires they light? 3 Year Wood Production Plans are a requirement under the Forest Practices Act 1985. In the case of double dipping plans ... which plans are used? The earlier ones which allow conversion of native state forest to plantations or the later ones which don't?

Is Forestry Tasmania being regulated/audited (on the ground) well enough? ... We personally don't believe so ...



Coupe ID	Harvest System	Forest Type	WPP Listed Year	WPP Area (HA)	HA Burnt	When Sown	Notes
CF010A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06 & Y1 - 08/09	15 and/OR? 15	19.93	Not as 27/4	
CF011D	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	16	14.5	21/4	
CF013C	Clearfelled	Native	Y3 - 07/08 & Y1 - 08/09	65 and/OR? 60	32.54	Not as 27/4	
CF020A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	54	45.6	21/4	2 ha burnt 18/4
				145 - 150	112.57		



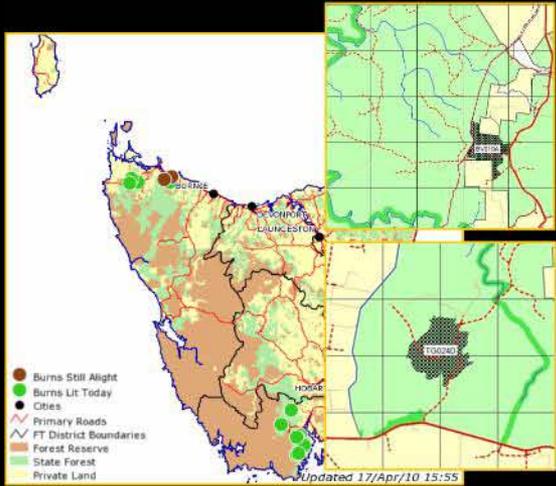
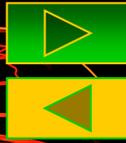
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# Murchinson District Burns: 17<sup>th</sup> April 2010

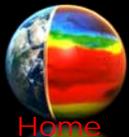
On this day FT say they successfully fire-bombed 227.5 hectares of clearfelled (315 – 348 ha) native forest with 9 fires.

FT's current/lit burns map shows only 4 lit (green dots) - and 2 (brown dots) from yesterday's lit 4.

Photos: Coupe CF029A still smoking a week later.



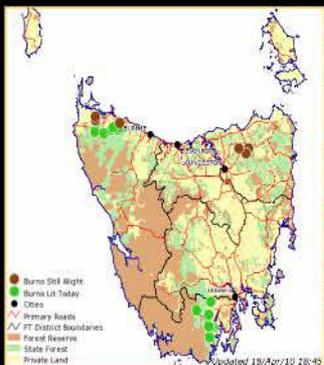
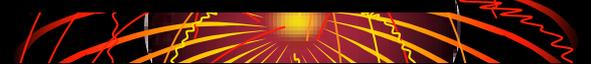
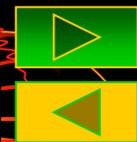
Coupe ID	Harvest System	Forest Type	WPP Listed Year	WPP Area (HA)	HA Burnt	When Sown	Notes
BV010A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07 & Y1 - 08/09	68 and/or? 35	30	Not as 27/4	
CF012A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	27	11.5	21/4	10 ha burnt 18/4
CF013B	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	80	56.29	21/4	
CF022B	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	35	15.7	Not as 27/4	
CF029A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 08/09	47	29.11	Not as 27/4	HWS
CH028B	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	25	36.1	Not as 27/4	
TG009A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 06/07	15	9.7	Not as 27/4	1 ha burnt 18/4
TG017C	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	21	8.2	Not as 27/4	8.2 ha burnt 18/4 *
TG024D	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 08/09	30	30.9	Not as 27/4	2 ha burnt 18/4
				315 - 348	227.5		



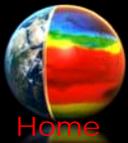
# Murchinson District Burns: 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010

On this day FT say they successfully fire-bombed 216.3 hectares with 15 fires.

FT's current/lit burns map shows only 7 lit burns.



Coupe ID	Harvest System	Forest Type	WPP Listed Year	WPP Area (HA)	HA Burnt	When Sown	Notes
CF012A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	27	10	21/4	11.5 ha burnt 17/4
CF020A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	54	2	21/4	45.6 ha burnt 16/4
CF032C	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	30	16.8	Not as 27/4	
CH013F	Clearfelled	Native	Contingency 08/09 - 10/11	35	35	Not as 27/4	
CH033F	?	Native	NO listed WPP	?	11.2	Not as 27/4	
DP027B	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	18	15.2	21/4	
NA020C	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 08/09	49	9	21/4	
NA021A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	79	20	Not as 27/4	
TG006A	Clearfelled	Plantation	Y1 - 08/09	27.94	28	Not as 27/4	ECP RHW
TG009A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	18	1	Not as 27/4	9.7 ha burnt 17/4
TG017C	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	21	8.2	Not as 27/4	8.2 ha burnt 17/4
TG024D	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 08/09	30	2	Not as 27/4	30.9 ha burnt 18/4
TG028A	Clearfelled	Plantation	Y1 - 08/09	21	20.7	Not as 27/4	ECP RHW
TP022C	?	Native	NO listed WPP	?	22	Not as 27/4	
TP026D	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06 & Contingency 08/09 - 10/11	50 and/or? 50	15.2	Not as 27/4	
				459.94	216.3		

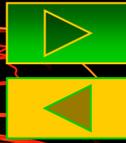


# Murchinson District Burns: 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010

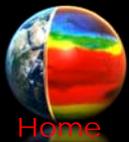
On this day FT say they successfully fire-bombed 147.25 hectares with 8 fires. FT's current/lit burns map shows only 7 lit burns. Does it matter what Forestry Tasmania says ... about where, when, how, how big, how long, how much they trash/burn/poison, under what terms FT/FPA/EPA and the Labor masters control the forest industry? YES it does!

They have ALL the information available to concisely, infact precisely, (ie day, time, spread of napalm fires and poisons sprayed - helicopter logged info!) to inform the public, but they choose not to release the information to the broader public.

## Forestry loads ... Gunns fires ... and the State, Burnie smoke ...

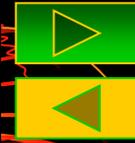


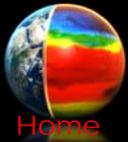
Coupe ID	Harvest System	Forest Type	WPP Listed Year	WPP Area (HA)	HA Burnt	When Sown	Notes
FR014A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07 & Y1 - 08/09	75 and/OR? 47	20	Not as 27/4	
NH032A	Clearfelled	Native	Y2 - 06/07	55	32.75	Not as 27/4	
NW011G	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 05/06	24	2	Not as 27/4	*
OO077G	?	Plantation	NO listed WPP	?	16.5	Not as 27/4	
OO080F	?	Plantation	NO listed WPP	?	11	Not as 27/4	
RE002C	Clearfelled	Native	Contingency 08/09 - 10/11	30	46	Not as 27/4	CLF FBW
SU020B	Ag. Retent.	Native	Y2 - 06/07	15	9	Not as 27/4	ARN RNF *
WH028A	Clearfelled	Native	Y1 - 08/09	30	10	Not as 27/4	SW1 UAT *
				201 - 229	147.25		
16 -19 April 2010 Total Wood Production Plan area?				1120.94 - 1186.94	703.62		Total area FT say they burnt



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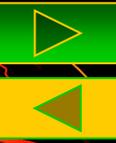
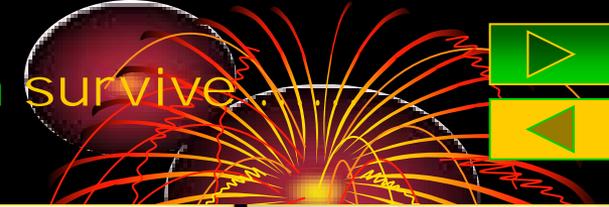
24<sup>th</sup> April 2010 – the air still choked with smoke 7 days after fire-bombing and rain. Note the trashed and burnt little winter water course, dubbed 'drainage depressions'. All part of what is supposed to help feed the water catchments larger tributaries. Some of these areas burnt - according to FT's wood production plans, were clearfelled anywhere up to 4 years ago.... Time .... sucking some of the little critters back in, only to have their homes once again destroyed. Tell us how fast can a tiger snake run from a circle of fire? What does napalmed echidna taste like? Should we drink this un-naturally ashed water now or wait until the poisons have been sprayed?





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# Reality Check! NO burn regeneration survive



- ✘ Forestry Tasmania said:
- ✘ "It is important that we get it right. If there was an alternative to burns, we would do it, but the reality is there isn't." (FT Branchline)
- ✘ "What happens if the forest industry doesn't conduct regeneration burns?"
- ✘ "In wet eucalypt forests, regeneration of harvested areas will not be successful. Harvested areas will be invaded and colonised by weeds and wet forest species and the eucalypt seedlings will not survive."
- ✘ "What impact do planned burns have on Tasmania's carbon emissions?"
- ✘ "Carbon emissions from planned burns represent around one-third of the six million tonnes of carbon that are taken from the atmosphere each year and stored on state forest. In other words, state forests are a carbon sink. The amount of carbon stored on state forest will grow by 17 per cent over the next 50 years, even taking into account the carbon released during the burns. (FT Planned Burns Leaflet)
- ✘ However ... according to an email we received from FT (27 April 2010) "Not all of the information you have asked for is available, in particular the carbon release associated with each fire."
- ✘ So just how have FT taken into account the carbon released during the burns? ... For nor does it seem that information is available from FT on just when Forestry's fires stop burning/smoking, as per email received from FT (30 March 2010). "In regard to the end time for the fires this is not generally recorded, the convection column normally collapses after approximately 2 - 3 hours. At this time the majority of the fuel on the coupe is burnt and smoke generation is significantly reduced thereafter."
- ✘ Infact many fires smoulder for a least a week.



... The photos (above) show an approx. 6 year old 'wet forest' coupe which was clearfelled in 03/04 period but wasn't regenerated using fire but was left to regenerate naturally after FT realised they had made yet another so-called 'mistake' in logging it, as it contained the protected rare wire grass.

According to a Forestry Tasmania spraying and slashing contractor, FT have indicated to him that the above coupe is considered one of their best coupes... but apparently they don't know why it's recuperated so well!

In comparison the coupe below was clearfelled mid 2004, 6 years ago, and burnt in May 2007, 3 years ago. It was re-establishing quite well, until it was burnt.



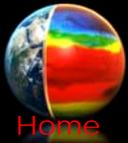
3rd Feb 2009 - 1.38pm



26th June 2010 - 12.30pm

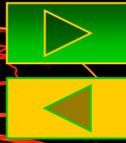
Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 Bob Gordon - "The burns sterilise the soil and create the ashbed needed to regenerate harvested coupes, particularly in wet eucalypt areas. For the sake of the four to five thousand jobs that rely on harvesting of natural forests, we must strive to get 100 per cent of the burns right."

What do we do for the sake of the hundreds of thousands of people who rely on a healthy environment?



# Forestry Tasmania's attempt at mimicking nature.

Is it just yet another mistake? Deliberately sterilising to plant their preferred species? Or is this pitiful attempt at growing cutting grass over the last 6 years the culmination of years of forestry science and research?



2nd Feb 2009- 1.48pm - Approx 2 years after burning



26th June 2010 - 12.33pm - Approx 6 years after clearfelling

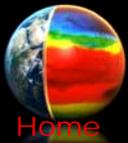


26th June 2010 - 12.32pm - Approx 3 years after burning



26th June 2010 - 12.33pm - Approx Carbon stored after 6 yrs?



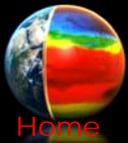


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## A NO BURN Regeneration

The 'wet forest' coupe below contains 'natural' regeneration eucalyptus, myrtles, blackwood - even an old Grey Goshawk and Wedge-tailed Eagle perching stag - and a vast array of native understorey trees and plants. A creek runs through the coupe, which is still recuperating, however as vibrant as this coupe has become, (there is lots of water collected from the surrounding area), an FT spraying contractor has said FT wants to poison a native vine growing through it. That's **not** letting biodiversity take it's natural 'mimicking nature' regeneration course.





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# Summary



Thankyou for taking the time to read this article. It is simply a small snap shot of the burning forestry industry in Tasmania and brings into question information supplied to the general public by FT and their industry. We haven't gone into the health effects of smoke pollution as this is well detailed by other concerned individuals and websites.

C & C Gilmour

- According to Forestry Tasmania supplied figures, FT alone burnt 2369.56 hectares with 75 fires in just 5 days.
- We allege Forestry Tasmania does not supply accurate information (dots) on the actual number of fires being lit/still going, on their 'current lit/alight' burns web page.
- FT should be ensuring public information is correct by making sure their 'current burns' indicators are correctly detailed for the whole of the industry. FT should be linking actual/real information about each fire lit to the dot indicators. There is no reason this cannot also be done for the poisons sprayed...
- FT have previously suggested they need a 'hot ash bed' to regenerate native forest, then WHY don't they always sow their 'preferred' eucalyptus seeds until sometimes well after the 'sterilised' ash bed has become cold? WHY do they clearfell native forest and, at times, not burn until years later ... ? destroying the new young natural regrowth and the integrity of the natural regeneration process.
- "Wet forest" coupes regenerate without fire.

When the clearfelling stops - the burning and smoke will too!