

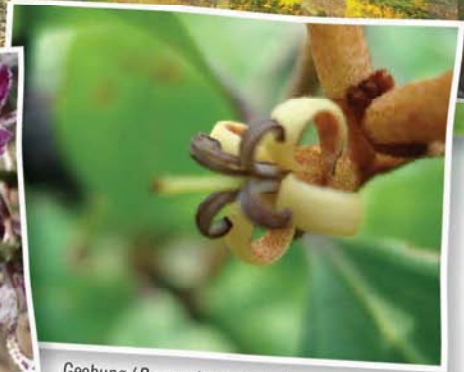
Regenerating the Bush with Fire



Woody Pear in Smoothey Park after burn.



Dipodium orchid responded well after fire with increased numbers observed



Geebung (*Persoonia laurina*) after a burn

Bushfires are naturally occurring events in the bushland around Sydney. In fact, they are essential to the health and long-term sustainability of our remnant bushland areas. The life-cycles of our native plants and wildlife that inhabit these bushland reserves are well adapted to cope with fire, providing it conforms with particular ecosystem requirements of intensity and length of time between burns.

In the context of North Sydney Council's bushland reserve system, managed (or prescribed) burning is used to meet both ecological objectives of bush regeneration and hazard reduction to adjoining assets – namely residential housing. While the risk of a wildfire damaging property or threatening life is relatively low in North Sydney, Council's Bushland Management Team actively undertakes hazard reduction activities including the creation of fire access management zones, manual fuel reduction, pile burns and broad area burns.

Extensive flora and fauna species lists are created pre and post fire. Site monitoring is carried out on all managed burns within North Sydney. Monitoring of fire sites is as imperative as it creates baseline data which is compared to future survey results and highlights changes in vegetation structure and species diversity over time.



Oat Speargrass was not found in Tunks Park Reserve until after burn occurred.

