

Noongarfire.doc 1 2 2002

Historical records of Noongar fires, 1658-1888: a compendium

Ian Abbott

Science Division

Department of Conservation and Land Management
Kensington Western Australia

Records are organized chronologically within region.

To avoid circumlocutions, some locality names have been used anachronistically.

General undated comment has not been included.

Those records in *italics* were not used to quantify season of burning in Abbott, I. *Aboriginal fire regimes in south-west Western Australia: evidence from historical documents*.

Records from newspapers and Colonial Secretary Office Letters Received have been extracted from summaries kindly made available by SJ Hallam or available in the Battye Library.

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
North coast	15.1.1697	Near Jurien Bay (lat. 30° 12' S)	W. De Vlaming/G. Collaert in Robert 1972: 80	A great smoke seen in different places along the coast
	18.1.1822	Geraldton area	King 1827, v2: 175	Large smokes seen in valleys [?of Chapman & Greenough Rivers]
	10.11.1830	Between Geraldton & Dongara (lat. 29° S)	W. Preston in Cross 1833: 78	Several smokes observed, from the sea
	-.1.1840	Between Champion Bay and Arrowsmith River	G. Moore in Grey 1841, v 2: 136	Country all around seemed to be on fire in the morning, land breeze
	-.12.1844	Hutt River	F. Helpman in Exploration Diaries 3: 756	Smoke of numerous native fires observed
	6.12.1846	Chapman River	F. Helpman in Exploration Diaries 4: 6	Several native fires seen from anchorage in Champion Bay
Swan River region	23.2.1658	Near Cervantes	S. Volckersen in Major 1859: 63	Several fires seen, including a great smoke
	8.3.1658	Near Cervantes	A. Jonck in Major 1859: 61	Smoke rising towards ESE
	8.3.1658	Near Cervantes	A. Jonck in Major 1859: 61	At night a fire seen at ENE
	9.3.1658	Near Cervantes	A. Jonck in Major 1859: 61	Another fire seen
	10.3.1658	Near Cervantes	A. Jonck in Major 1859: 61	Fires at 4 different points seen during night, one of which continued to burn throughout the night
	27.3.1658	Swan River	S. Volckersen in Major 1859: 64	2 fires at dusk, close to shore
	31.12.1696	Swan River	W. De Vlaming/G.	Smoke seen at different points

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
			Collaert in Robert 1972: 56, 57	
	1.1.1697	Swan River	W. De Vlaming/G. Collaert in Robert 1972: 56, 57	Smoke seen at different points
	2.1.1697	Swan River	W. De Vlaming/G. Collaert in Robert 1972: 58, 59	Smoke seen at different points
	3.1.1697	Swan River	G. Collaert in Robert 1972: 59	Great number of fires burning along the mainland coast after sunset
	11.3.1827	Swan River upstream from Point Fraser	Stirling 1827: 557	Smoke from many fires rising on different points of view, 20 minutes after sunset
	14.3.1827	At highest point upstream on Swan River	Stirling 1827: 560	Ground had been cleared by fire a few weeks before [i.e. in February]
	12.5.1829	Rockingham area	C. Fremantle in Cottesloe 1979: 46	Smoke c.1.5 miles inland
	16.5.1829	Woodman Point	C. Fremantle in Cottesloe 1979: 49	Native fires visible repeatedly
	1-3.1830	Perth	Roberts 1834: 37	<i>Horizon tinged as by an extensive conflagration</i>
	7.2.1830	Fremantle	Friend 1931: 6	Natives had numerous fires around
	10.2.1830	Near Perth	Friend 1931: 7	Many parts of the bush burnt by natives
	17.2.1830	Peels Town, south of Fremantle	Friend 1931: 8	A large fire made by the natives spreading rapidly owing to the dry state of the grass
	-4.1830	Probably near Fremantle	McDonald & Cooper 1988: 12-13	Aboriginal fire destroyed provisions of newly arrived settler
	-11.1830	Canning River near Maddington	McDonald & Cooper 1988: 39	Bushfire set by Aborigines
	25.1.1831	Maylands peninsula	Cooper & McDonald 1999: 16	Dwelling destroyed by Aboriginal fire
	-2.1831	Canning River near Maddington	McDonald & Cooper 1988: 39	Aborigines recorded lighting fires
	8.3.1832	Mainland opposite Garden Island	J. Morgan in Richards 1978: 23 & in Tilbrook 1983: 7	At times fires were extensive and affected the atmosphere on Garden Island. All this summer the sky has been illuminated by fires, for miles
	Undated	Coastal plain north of Millendon	Moore in Exploration Diaries 2: 388	<i>Fire had recently passed over all this country, and where the grass was it was so green that it would not burn</i>
	3.1.1833	Great plain of Quartania, seen from foothills of	Moore 1884: 156	A fire seen

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
		Darling Scarp east from Millendon		
	-.2.1833	Mt Eliza	Armstrong 1978: 32	A fire extended its ravages over this mount
	-.2.1833	Shore of Swan River (Freshwater Bay to Point Walter)	Armstrong 1978: 32	Country one continuous blaze
	-.2.1833	Maylands peninsula	Cooper & McDonald 1999: 16	Dwelling burnt down by Aboriginal fire
	23.3.1833	Upper Swan	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire resulting in burning of hayricks
	13.4.1833	Preston Point	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire spread considerably
	27.4.1833	?Near Perth	Perth Gazette	Bush recently burnt by Aborigines
	7.12.1833	Mt Eliza	Perth Gazette	Burnt for 2 days
	-.12.1833	Upper Swan	Moore 1884: 211	Area partly burnt
	20.2.1834	Upper Swan	Moore 1884: 211	Country fired by the natives, with flames quite terrific when driven through rank vegetation by a strong wind
	22.2.1834	Upper Swan	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire
	22.2.1834	Upper Swan	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire
	?31.10.1834	Near Clarence Town	Hasluck 1965: 157	Fire supposed to have been started by natives
	1.2.1835	Lake Monger	Cooper & McDonald 1999: 30	Aboriginal fire
	6.3.1835	Near Perth	Perth Gazette	One large fire
	7.3.1835	Bull Creek	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire
	5.3.1836	Perth area	Perth Gazette	Hot land breeze made more intolerable by the Aboriginal fires around
	-.4.1835	Ellenbrook area	G. Moore in Exploration Diaries 2: 320, 322	<i>Fire had recently passed over all this country and the herbage had not recovered its luxuriance. Plains have plentiful herbage where the fire had not passed</i>
	-.4.1835	Lennard Brook	G. Moore in Exploration Diaries 2: 323	<i>Luxuriant grass that had sprung up since a recent fire</i>
	9.5.1835	Bullsbrook area	N. Shaw in Exploration Diaries 2: 331	<i>No feed present in consequence of all the country having been burnt around a pool</i>
	-.11.1837	Canning River near Maddington	McDonald & Cooper 1988: 41	Aboriginal fire destroyed settler's house
	22.1.1838	Near Perth	Backhouse 1843: 541	Natives setting fire to the scrub in various places
	22.1.1838	Near Perth	Backhouse 1843: 541	Much of the bush along the road had been recently burnt
	10.2.1838	Near Perth	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire burnt house down
	10.2.1838	Near Perth	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fire burnt house down
	16.2.1838	Between Perth and Upper Swan	Moore 1884: 337	The country on fire on each side of the road

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
	-.1.1839	Fremantle	W. Cowan in Cowan 1978: 10	Several native fires on shore, visible at night. Fire spreads over a large tract of country because the grass and undergrowth are particularly dry
	28.3.1840	Near Perth	Perth Gazette	Many bushfires around Perth in last week. Lighting of fires by Aborigines on outskirts of town should be prevented as much as practicable
	28.3.1840	Between Perth and Upper Swan	Moore 1884: 408	The country all on fire, burning into the night
	21.2.1841	Near Perth and Mt Eliza	Webb 1847	5 native fires burning on a warm evening. An immense fire at night on the offside of Mt Eliza, brightly reflected in the river (?area 10-20 ha). Even the burnt end of a cigar is sufficient to kindle in a very few minutes a fire of very great extent which will cover a surface of many square miles in a short time if not immediately put out
	-.4.1841	Perth area	Armstrong 1978: 31	<i>Summer fires pass over a great portion of the surface of the country</i>
	-.1.1842	South of Fremantle	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1991 : 180	Bushfire of great extent, at night
	-.1.1842	Perth	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1991 : 180	Bush fires extending many miles around, filling the sky with smoke
	1840s	?	Bradshaw 1857: 73, 76	<i>Country on fire for miles. During the summer months everything is dried and burnt up with the heat of the sun and fires</i>
	17.2.1852	Gingin	Perth Gazette & CSOLR vol. 230	Two Aborigines charged & sentenced for burning bush near Brockman's farm
	-.2.1852	North of Perth	E. DuCane in Hasluck 1973: 31	Country on fire in different places for 15 miles round
	-.2.1852	Near Guildford	E. DuCane in Hasluck 1973: 31	Natives are always setting the country on fire
	-.1-3.1853	?Near Guildford	E. DuCane in Hasluck 1973: 40	<i>Fires over-run the country from January to March</i>
	3.3.1856	Canning	Green & Moon 1997: 321	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for firing the bush
Peel Inlet to Geographe Bay	1.6.1801	Geographe Bay (near Dunsborough)	Péron 1809: 59	1 large fire
	3.6.1801	Geographe Bay (near Dunsborough)	Cornell 1974: 171	3 large fires
	10.3.1803	Geographe Bay	Péron & Freycinet 1816: 197	3 large fires, nothing comparable seen during previous visit

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
	25.11.1829	Port Leschenault-Vasse & southern Geographe Bay	A. Collie & W. Preston in Cross 1833: 46	Smoke in many places (at least 2 native fires).
	29.11.1829	Mouths of Murray River & Peel Inlet	A. Collie & W. Preston in Cross 1833: 49	Distant view of several native fires
	<i>Midsummer 1830/1831</i>	<i>Collie River (section on Swan Coastal Plain)</i>	<i>S. Henty in Bassett 1954: 172</i>	<i>Because of native fires there was little feed remaining</i>
	26.1.1831	Collie River (coastal plain)	W. Shenton in Exploration Diaries 1: 261	The country had been burnt a few days before and the surface was bare of vegetation
	-2.1835	Vasse area	J. Molloy in Exploration Diaries 2: 316-7	Swamp edge still on fire and nearby country the scene of a considerable conflagration a few hours before
	-3.1837	?Between Murray River and Bunbury	H. Bunbury in Bunbury & Morrell 1930: 179	Natives have burnt much of the country
	-1.1838	Vasse	G. Molloy in Hasluck 1955: 157	A native fire
	10.2.1841	Capel River	G. Molloy in Hasluck 1955: 214	A native fire partly destroyed new bridge
	18.3.1841	Australind	L. Clifton in Russo 1995: 128	Native fires burning countryside, and smoke
	7.4.1841	Vasse	G. Molloy in Hasluck 1955: 225	Surrounding native fires
	1.1.1842	Preston-Australind	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1991: 169	Bush burnt and continues at intervals to burn for many an acre on either side of the path [p.136 refers to bushfires being generally caused by Aborigines]
	-2.1842	Preston River	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1991: 188	Country in all directions is burnt and blasted by fire
	-2.1843	Picton	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1992: 34	Bushfires now frequently surrounding
	-2.1843	Between Picton and Bunbury	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1992: 42	A raging fire almost all the way
	1.3.1843	Australind	Joske 1989: 26	Large fires in the bush
	-3.1843	?Picton area	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1992: 48	The whole country has been in a burning state
	-4.1843	Between Mandurah & Picton	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1992: 79	Fires have extended in all directions and burnt up the scrub and charred the trees
	-12.1843	East side of Koombana Bay	J. Wollaston in Bolton et al. 1992: 205	Clouds of black smoke rising in the distance

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
	12.3.1851	Between Mandurah & Pinjarra	J. Wollaston in Burton & Henn 1954: 122	Extensive summer fires have caused desolation on all sides
	16.1.1864	Busselton	J. S. Harris in Jennings 1999: 58	3 weeks after the native conflagrations [in December] have destroyed the grass a rank vegetation provides food for stock
	30.12.1865	Cape Naturaliste	CSOLR vol. 583	Aboriginal gaoled for setting fire to bush & thereby endangering property of settlers in neighbourhood
	15.11.1866	Busselton	Green & Moon 1997: 123	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for firing the bush
South coast (excluding Albany region)	5.12.1792	Near Cape Leeuwin	A. d'Entrecasteaux in Duyker & Duyker 2001: 107	Smoke in one place
	8.12.1792	Near Butty Head	A. d'Entrecasteaux in Duyker & Duyker 2001: 109	Smoke in 3 or 4 places
	9.12.1792	West of Esperance Bay	Labillardière 1800: 254	Smoke of 2 fires
	10.12.1792	Esperance Bay	Labillardière 1800: 254-5	3 fires seen in the morning; large columns of smoke seen in the afternoon
	14.12.1792	Mainland near Observatory Island	C. Riche in Duyker & Duyker 2001: 119	Smoke of fires close to the coast
	15.12.1792	Mainland near Observatory Island	C. Riche in Duyker & Duyker 2001: 121	An area the size of a field covered with bushes set alight by Aborigines- the fire spread until everything has been consumed and the fire left to extinguish itself during the night
	15.12.1792	Mainland near Observatory Island	C. Riche in Duyker & Duyker 2001: 122	Columns of smoke
	15.12.1792	Esperance Bay hinterland	C. Riche in Duyker & Duyker 2001: 124	30 fires in a circumference of at least 10 leagues in diameter
	25.12.1792	East of Esperance	Labillardière 1800: 274	Many fires
	8.12.1801	Near Point Irwin	Flinders 1814, v 1: 52	First smoke seen on this coast; noon
	8.12.1801	Between Pt Nuyts & Rame Head	R. Brown in Vallance et al. 2001: 89	Volumes of smoke from various spots
	7.1.1802	Between Mid & East Mt Barren	R. Brown in Vallance et al. 2001: 109	Smoke seen in several places, especially near mountains
	13.1.1802	View from Frenchman	R. Brown in Vallance et al.	Smoke of 9 fires visible

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
		Peak	2001: 113	
	<i>Between 1830-2</i>	<i>Near Augusta</i>	<i>E. Pearce in Jennings 1983: 68</i>	<i>For miles nothing but a blaze for days</i>
	21.4.1831	Near Rame Point	Anon [W. Preston] in Cross 1833: 118	Country not recently burnt [implying that this was unusual]
	28.4.1836	Near Augusta	Hasluck 1955: 146	Mr Turner's buildings wilfully set fire to and destroyed by natives at Turnwood
	15.12.1837-25.1.1838	Augusta	G. Molloy in Hasluck 1955: 157	A native fire or a hot day had caused fruits to ripen
	22.1.1839	Augusta	Turner 1956: 130	Natives burnt the bush at the back of the town
	28.1.1840	Augusta	C. Heppingstone in Hasluck 1955: 194	The season has been so hot, and the natives are burning every day
	19.11.1848	c.30 km east of Mt Ney	Roe 1852: 15	Native fires burning
	22.11.1848	Near Russell Range	Roe 1852: 18	Natives' smokes observed from a distance
	23.11.1848	Near Russell Range	Roe 1852: 19	Several natives' fires started up c. 1 mile away
	27.11.1848	Near Point Malcolm & NE of it	Roe 1852: 20	Numerous fires of natives smoked up in sand hills
	7.12.1848	Near Mt Merivale	Roe 1852: 23	Large smokes 3-4 miles west
	16.12.1848	Stokes Inlet	Roe 1852: 27	Native fires numerous
	6.1.1854	Between Point d'Entrecasteaux and Bald Head	W. Harvey in Ducker 1988: 73	Smoke rising here and there. When night fell bushfires were seen blazing in many directions. Some fires were miles in extent
	-3.1861	Near Jerramungup	CSOLR vol. 482	Aborigines burnt runs
	1880s	Jerramungup area	Hassell 1975: 41, 110	The Aborigines burn large patches of ground every year
	1880s	Jerramungup area	Hassell 1975: 75	The fires spread in all directions and many miles of country are burnt
	1880s	Jerramungup area	Hassell 1975: 94	Some Aborigines lighted fires about every mile; half the country was on fire
	1880s	Jerramungup area	Hassell 1975: 113	The whole country was on fire and the smoke driving down on the station made life intolerable
Albany region	-12.1801	NW of Princess Royal Harbour	Flinders 1814, v1: 57	Some smokes seen
	24.12.1801	Inland from Torbay Inlet	R. Brown in Vallance et al. 2001: 102	Smoke observed in 2 different places
	21.2.1803	View from hills near Oyster Harbour	Cornell 1974: 486	Very dense smoke seen in the distance
	22.2.1803	South of Porongurup	Cornell 1974: 487	Many separate columns of smoke seen

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
		Range		
	1.3.1803	Mainland north of Eclipse Island	Cornell 1974: 495	During the afternoon several columns of smoke seen
	26.1.1818	KGS	Cunningham: folio 235	Several new smokes seen in woods
	27.1.1818	KGS	Cunningham: folio 235	Native fires lighted among the trees near the beach, afternoon
	31.1.1818	Princess Royal Harbour	Cunningham: folio 237	The whole side of the harbour had been recently fired by natives
	1.2.1818	Coast immediately west of King George Sound	Cunningham: folio 238	Aborigines had kindled one grand blaze of fire on hills to west, under windy conditions; still alight at night
	24.12.1821	Point Possession	Cunningham: folio 199	Hillside set alight by Aborigines
	26.12.1821	West of Oyster Harbour	Cunningham: folio 203	Smokes of natives at foot of range
	-10.1826	KGS	J. D'Urville in Rosenman 1987: 30	Aborigines setting fire to undergrowth and dry grass
	-10.1826	KGS	J. Quoy & J. Gaimard in Rosenman 1987: 43-4	Aborigines set alight the area through which they pass
	-10.1826	KGS	J. Quoy in Rosenman 1987: 47	Aborigines start fires wherever they pass through
	-10.1826	KGS	J. Quoy in Rosenman 1987: 48	Aborigines set undergrowth alight
	22.1.1827	Head of Princess Royal Harbour	Lockyer 1827: 465	One large fire
	22.1.1827	Near Torbay	Lockyer 1827: 465	A very large smoke
	22.1.1827	Between Mts Melville & Clarence	Lockyer 1827: 471	12 large smokes or fires counted about 2 miles apart, forming a complete semicircle
	28.1.1827	Between Mt Gardner and West Cape Howe	Lockyer 1827: 493	Large smokes and fires
	1826-29	KGS	Nind 1831: 28	<i>In summer aborigines set fire to the underwood and grass, which being dry, is rapidly burnt</i>
	1826-9	KGS	Nind 1831: 36	<i>About Christmas the Aborigines commence lighting their hunting fires</i>
	22.1.1830	KGS	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 250	Aboriginal fires noted
	4.2.1830	SSE from mouth of Sleeman River	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 256	One fire, late morning
	7.2.1830	SE of Mt Lindesay	C. Barker in Mulvaney &	Aboriginal fire, noon

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
			Green 1992: 262	
	14.4.1830	West side of Princess Royal Harbour	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 280	Aboriginal fire near top of a hill
	14.4.1830	KGS	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 281	Large fires last night and today
	2.1.1831	South side of Porongurup Range	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 377	Aboriginal fires seen yesterday
	7.1.1831	Top of a mount under Mt Gardner	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 378-9	One Aboriginal fire
	7.1.1831	KGS	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 378-9	Much burning in different parts
	10.1.1831	Near Torbay Inlet	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 379-80	Burning taking place
	19.1.1831	Quarantine hill, Vancouver Peninsula	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 385	Large fires
	21.1.1831	Narinyup	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 386	A large fire, noon
	21.1.1831	Big Grove	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 386	A smoke nearby, afternoon
	22.1.1831	KGS	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 386	Fires at night on hill
	23.1.1831	Flinders Peninsula	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 387	Great fires
	13.2.1831	SE of Porongurup Range	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 399	Aboriginal fires (smoke)
	17.2.1831	N/NE of Albany	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 401	Abundance of smoke, some at a very great distance
	27.2.1831	South of Porongurup Range	C. Barker in Mulvaney & Green 1992: 404	Numerous fires

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
	27.4.1831	SE of Porongurup Range	Collie in Cross 1833: 135	Aboriginal fires have repeatedly consumed the vegetation
	1831-2	KGS	Collie 1834	In December, but more particularly in January and February, the natives burn large tracts of country
	1831-2	KGS	Collie 1834	Less burning after 20 March
	22.12.1831	Between Porongurup Range & Mt Manypeak	R. Clint in Exploration Diaries 1: 345	Mount invisible owing to the smoke enveloping the district. Passed over 3 miles of country on fire
	24.1.1832	South of Stirling Range	R. Dale in Cross 1833: 164-5	Native fires materially obstructed view of coast from Mt Toolbrunup
	-1.1832	KGS	Dale 1834	Smoke and flames of 4 fires visible from Mt Clarence under strong easterly wind
	10.2.1832	Kalgan River SE of Porongurup Range	Collie 1832: 171	Atmosphere thickened with smoke from native fires
	-11.1840	South of Narrikup	Stokes 1846, v 2: 228	Party of natives burning the bush
	-2.1846	Albany	G. Egerton-Warburton in Crabb nd: 63	There is constant burning of the ground by the natives, nearly every summer
Forest	12.1.1831	Frankland River in southern forest	T. Bannister in Jackson 1993: 56	Haze caused by fires greatly reduced visibility
	16.3.1831	c. 30 miles north of Augusta [?Margaret River]	Anon [J. Bussell] in Cross 1833: 110	District had been lately burnt
	16-20.3.1831	Country between the Conical Hills [near Cape Hamelin] & Cape Naturaliste	Anon [J. Bussell] in Cross 1833: 112	The whole of the country has been burnt
	-11.1831	Between Blackwood River & Vasse	Anon [J. Bussell] in Cross 1833: 187-8	Land recently burnt and free from undergrowth. First part of the next day's march was over a country clean burnt
	10.12.1831	West of Porongurup Range	Roe in Exploration Diaries 1: 327	Portion of country had been burnt & young grass had germinated
	26.5.1832	Near Mt Barker	Collie in Exploration Diaries 1: 387	Similar places, unlike this, have escaped the spreading conflagration of the natives
	27.5.1832	Near Mt Barker	Collie in Exploration Diaries 1: 388	Some grass recently consumed by fire
	12.7.1832	SW of Mt Barker	Collie in Exploration Diaries 1: 402	The sides of the valley, formerly bare from burning, now were a rich green
	?Summer 1832	Near Augusta	J. Bussell in Shann 1926: 82	Forest blazing with native fires
	-1.1834	Swan River valley, ?near	G. Moore in Exploration	Several fires had been burning among the hills and volumes of

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
		Jumpekin	Diaries 2: 284	smoke rolled down the valley
	29.3.1834	Blackwood River (at the limit of navigation by boat)	T. Turner in Exploration Diaries 2: 292	Bush was burnt last season by the natives, consequently not bad walking
	-9.1834	Near Chapman River	T. Turner in Exploration Diaries 2: 299	A great deal of this land had lately been burnt [?in summer] which made it good walking
	8.4.1837	Near Mt William	J. Stirling in Exploration Diaries 3: 593	Mt William in the smoke NW 5 miles
	25.4.1837	Collie area	J. Stirling in Exploration Diaries 3: 603	The hillsides where not burnt were covered with succulent herbage
	-3.1843	Preston River near Donnybrook	Frost 1976: 4	The whole country had been burnt
	26.12.1848	Mahogany Creek	J. Wollaston in Burton & Henn: 79	A bush fire running through the forest, at night
	-3.1861	East of Broke Inlet	W. Graham in Stephens 1954: 53	A party of natives burning the ground
Inland	11.12.1829	c. 25 miles east of Mt Dale [i.e. just to west of Beverley]	R. Dale in Cross 1833: 33	Smoke visible of numerous fires made by natives
	-10.1830	Near Mt Bakewell	J. Henty in Bassett 1954: 150	Native fires
	28.10.1830	W & NW of Mt Bakewell	TWH in Cross 1833: 212	Smoke of a native fire seen at a distance
	28.10.1830	East of Avon River	TWH in Cross 1833: 213	Patch of kwongan vegetation partially burnt
	31.10.1830	c.10 miles east of Mt Elizabeth	TWH in Cross 1833: 215	Smoke from a native fire observed
	1.11.1830	Mt Deborah	TWH in Cross 1833: 216	Native fires visible from summit
	1.11.1830	Around lake [?south of Quairading]	R. Dale in Cross 1833: 67	7 native fires seen from a hill
	1.5.1831	Near Moorilup	Collie in Cross 1833: 144	Area recently burnt, leaving only enough of the wattle scrub to show that this was the dominant vegetation
	18.1.1835	Near Williams	A. Hillman in Exploration Diaries 2:313	Aborigines endeavoured to burn us out
	12.2.1835	Kalgan River near Moorilup	Roe in Exploration Diaries 4:370	The country recently burnt by the natives to a great extent
	12.2.1835	Kalgan River east of Kendenup	Roe in Exploration Diaries 4: 371	Vegetation on ironstone had recently been burnt by the natives to a great extent
	21.12.1835	West of Wagin	Roe in Exploration Diaries 2: 545	A few remaining patches of excellent grass (as tall as the saddle girth) had recently been

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
				<i>burnt</i>
	21.12.1835	West of Wagin	Roe in Exploration Diaries 4:370	The country well clothed with good grass previous to its having been ravaged by the extensive fires of the natives. That which had escaped looked more fresh and green than usual
	28.12.1835	Dale River near Mt Cole	J. Roe in Exploration Diaries 2: 567	Aborigines hunting and burning the country before them
	-.?.1836	New Norcia area	G. Moore in Exploration Diaries 2: 388	Fire had recently passed over all this country; where the grass was, it was so green that it would not burn
	-.?.1836	New Norcia area	G. Moore in Exploration Diaries 2: 392	The grass fine, wherever it had not been burned
	4.5.1836	Near York	J. Drummond in Exploration Diaries 2: 406	Aborigines lighted fires on the hills as we came along
	-.6.1836	South of Dale River	H. Bunbury in Exploration Diaries 2: 414	The sun had parched up what little the native fires have spared
	-.6.1836	Between Dale and Williams Rivers	H. Bunbury in Exploration Diaries 2: 416	Trees where Aborigines had burnt out possums
	8.10.1836	Near Althorpe Peaks	Roe 1836: 8-9	2 native fires, grassy land
	20.10.1836	East of Merredin	Roe 1836: 30	A large native fire was smoking up before 9.15 am
	20.10.1836	East of Merredin	Roe 1836: 32	Native fire after 2.50 pm
	21.10.1836	East of Merredin	Roe 1836: 33	Native fires visible
	3.11.1836	Wongan Hills area	Roe 1836: 62-3	Numerous native fires smoking very extensively to NE, NW and SW
	5.11.1836	Wongan Hills area	Roe 1836: 65	13 native fires smoking up at 5-12 miles around
	11.12.1838	Williams River	A. Hillman in Exploration Diaries 3: 626	Difficulty in keeping to the road because most of the marks have been burnt out [?since his visits in January & October 1835]
	15.3.1840	Kojonup	W. Clark in Exploration Diaries 1: 645	Grass had been burnt by Aboriginal fires
	-.?.1840	Near Kojonup	A. Hillman in Exploration Diaries 3: 649	Grass near a pool had been entirely burnt by fires
	5.2.1842	Williams River	J. Singleton in Exploration Diaries 3: 711	Feed excellent, part burnt, the remainder too green to burn
	-.2.1843	Near York	E. Brown in Cowan 1977: 38	Native fires at Mt Matilda for several successive evenings
	23.12.1843	York district	Perth Gazette	Calls on Native Protector to spend more time stopping native fires that continue to do considerable damage (to harvest)
	14.2.1844	Northam district	Inquirer	Unusually high incidence of firing by Aborigines. Fires came from 7 miles away from settlers' properties, therefore attributed to

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
				native use and not native carelessness or intention to injure property of settlers
	~6.1844	?Near Kojonup	<i>F. Humphrey in Exploration Diaries 3: 760</i>	<i>All the vegetation was burnt...there was no scrub...some very fine young grass just appearing above ground which gave a green tinge to the hills a short distance off...the vegetation was all burnt</i>
	20.12.1845	Toodyay district	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal fires for purposes of searching for food have caused great loss to one settler
	~12.1845-- .1.1846	Near York	<i>R. Bland in Ward 1998</i>	<i>It has always been the custom of the natives to fire the country during the summer season, especially December and January</i>
	28.1.1846	Avon Valley	Inquirer	Unusual prevalence of bushfires, destruction of large amount of wheat & the whole feed of some districts
	~1-2.1846	Near York	<i>R. Meares in Ward 1998</i>	<i>Natives perform their destructive operations in January and February</i>
	17.8.1846	West and north of Mt Jackson	Gregory & Gregory 1884: 4	Smokes of many native fires visible in distance
	6.11.1846	Near York	<i>R. Bland in Ward 1998</i>	Natives have already commenced this abominable practice
	10.2.1847	Toodyay district	Inquirer	Negative remarks on the practice of Aboriginal firing of bush
	5.1.1848	York district	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for firing the bush
	12.1.1848	Moowara [Moore River]	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal apprehended for setting fire to grass near Catholic Mission Station
	20.2.1848	?York district	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for setting fire to the bush
	22.2.1848	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for burning the bush
	28.2.1848	Northam district	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal charged with firing the bush
	28.2.1848	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for burning the bush
	1.4.1848	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for setting fire to the bush
	16.1.1849	North of Stirling Range, near Lake Toolbrunup	<i>Roe 1852: 54</i>	<i>Grassy woodland extensively fired by natives</i>
	17.1.1849	West of Northam	Inquirer	Aboriginal bushfire destroyed a field of grain, stock and part of a vineyard
	20.1.1849	Near Kojonup	<i>Roe 1852: 55</i>	<i>Country extensively burnt by natives and grass nearly all</i>

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
				<i>destroyed for the season</i>
	31.1.1849	West of Northam	Inquirer	Aboriginal fires destroyed crops & buildings
	13.2.1849	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for setting fire to the bush
	14.2.1849	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal arrested for setting fire to the bush
	14.10.1849	Around York	Inquirer	Bushfires already ravaging country. Natives must be stopped & controlled
	3.12.1849	York	CSOLR vol. 199	Apprehension of an Aboriginal for burning the bush
	8.12.1849	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal charged for setting fire to the bush
	15.12.1849	York	CSOLR vol. 199	Information received against an Aboriginal burning the bush
	4.2.1850	York	CSOLR vol. 199	Complaint against an Aboriginal for burning the bush
	16.11.1850	York	CSOLR vol. 199	Complaint against an Aboriginal for burning the bush
	27.12.1850	York	CSOLR vol. 199	Aboriginal examined re burning the bush
	29.3.1851	York	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal attempting to set fire to a shepherd's hut
	1.2.1854	York	CSOLR vol. 282	Aboriginal in court for burning the bush
	6.2.1854	Elicup	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Group of York natives have partially burnt runs
	19.12.1855	York district	CSOLR Guardian of Aborigines vols	Aboriginal gaoled for burning the bush
	9.1.1856	Between Williams and Dale River	J. Wollaston in Burton & Henn 1948: 215	Could not remember fires so extensive, all over the country
	3.3.1856	York	Green & Moon 1997: 145	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for lighting fires
	5.12.1856	York district	Perth Gazette	Aboriginal shot after setting fire to feed
	6.2.1858	York	Green & Moon 1997: 201	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for firing the bush
	5.2.1861	York	CSOLR vol. 488	Aboriginal arrested for setting fire to the bush
	5.2.1861	York	CSOLR vol. 488	Aboriginal arrested for setting fire to the bush
	12.2.1861	York	CSOLR vol. 489	Aboriginal charged on suspicion of setting fire to the bush
	15.12.1862	Nanamillup, c.15 km west of Broome Hill	W. Graham in Stephens 1954: 56	Native set run on fire, which spread to house
	7.7.1864	South of Merredin	B. Clarkson in Exploration Diaries 5: 336	<i>For the last 3 nights, all the old feed had been burnt by the natives during the summer</i>
	15-16.9.1865	Fitzgerald	A. Dempster in	Aboriginal fires noted on both days

Region	Date	Locality	Reference	Record (closely paraphrased)
		Peaks	Exploration Diaries 5: 401	
	21.1.1868	Victoria Plains	Green & Moon 1997: 192	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for firing the bush
	25.2.1868	York	Green & Moon 1997: 310	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for firing the bush
	27.3.1888	York, near Moodling	Green & Moon 1997: 283	Aboriginal sentenced to 3 months gaol for firing the bush