

## **Regional Perspectives with NOAA Imagery**

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### **Abstract**

The Vegetation Management Program within the Land Conservation Unit of the CCNT is undertaking a new role in an advisory capacity to land managers in central Australia. The group will be responsible for both development and implementation of prescriptive techniques for sustained land use as well as monitoring programs to assess their effectiveness. With specific regard to fire management, we will act as a facilitator for the active use of fire in central Australia. A principle responsibility will be the transfer of techniques and technology developed as part of the recent CSIRO/CCNT Bushfire Research Project in central Australia.

The Bushfire Research Project developed a technique to use NOAA imagery to monitor the fire history of central Australia. Multi-temporal NOAA images can be manipulated with the microBRIAN image processing system to produce regular updates of the fire mosaic within the spinifex grasslands of central Australia. This technique is now being extended with a new link to the CCNT's ARC/INFO geographic information system. The status of the fire mosaic can be provided to the major land managers of central Australia, including the CCNT Park Rangers, the Bushfire Council and aboriginal organizations such as the Pitjantjantjara Council.

The regional view from the NOAA satellite can not meet all the information needs of fire management. We plan to develop a central registry of fire management information and take on the role of coordinating regular workshops to encourage the use of fire through improved distribution of information, demonstration of techniques and provision of support.