

Workshop: Important Issues in Fire Research

Knowledge

- Fire return intervals?
- Variation within and across veg. types
- How good are existing fire databases?
- Extinction by too frequent fires?
- Role of aliens in exacerbating fire?

Management

- Role of fire in managing threatened species
- Role of fire in managing aliens
- Thresholds of concern

Operations and legislation

- Are current fire-fighting techniques worth while?
- Is the “Fire and Forest Act” violating the ecology of our natural ecosystems?

Important Issues in Fire Research

Workshop objectives

- **Key concerns about fire?**
- **New insights/issues from existing evidence?**
- **Where are the greatest gaps?**
- **What should the focus of a research agenda be?**

Important Issues in Fire Research

KNOWLEDGE

- Fire return intervals
- Short intervals and extinction
- Fire in Renosterveld / Strandveld (ST thicket) /
 - Afromontane Forest
 - vs Fynbos (heathland)

- Quality of existing fire databases

- Fire legislation and good ecological management

- Managing fire & fire regimes
 - ... and alien plants
- Thresholds of potential concern
- Value of suppression/containment techniques

MANAGEMENT

