



Fire and the Environment



Wetlands and Fire:

Wetlands are burnt to improve the grazing value for livestock by removing old dead plant material and increase productivity; to assist in alien plant control; to reduce the risk of run away fires; and to improve the habitat for wetland dependant species.

When planning the burning of wetlands the critical issues are determining:

1. which wetland type to burn
2. climatic conditions under which to burn
3. desired frequency of burning

Fire can be a useful management tool, indeed it is an essential factor in the ecology of ecosystems.

Peat fires are a growing global threat with serious economic and ecological impacts. Peat fires usually burn a smaller area than fast-moving forest fires, but they can burn up to 10 times more fuel mass per acre, producing far more smoke.

Let's work together to save our wetlands!



- Bank stabilization
- slow release of underground stored water
- Fish and wildlife
- Flood damage control
- Water purification
- Renewed vegetation



- Unattended fires
- Unplanned frequent burns
- Peat burns
- Suffering plant & animal life
- Erosion of the natural banks
- Illegal dumping & litter
- Poor water quality

World Wetlands Day

Wetlands for our Future: Sustainable Livelihoods