

Prescribed burns in Western Australia

October 14 2014



The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer on NASA's Aqua satellite detected fires burning in Western Australia on Oct. 14, 2014. These fires are most likely prescribed burns used to limit bushfire outbreaks. Credit: Jeff Schmaltz LANCE/EOSDIS MODIS Rapid Response Team, GSFC.

The Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) on NASA's Aqua satellite detected fires burning in Western Australia on

October 14, 2014. Matching these hot spots up to the the prescribed fire burns on Western Australia's parks and wildlife site:

<http://www.dpaw.wa.gov.au/management/fire/prescribed-burning/burns>

these fires are most likely prescribed burns used to limit bushfire outbreaks. According to the Government of Australia's Department of Parks and Wildlife, "Prescribed burning is the process of planning and applying fire to a predetermined area, under specific environmental conditions, to achieve a desired outcome." IT goes on to say these fires are set for the following reasons:

to maintain biodiversity, to mitigate the severity of bushfires and to help protect lives and property by reducing the build-up of flammable fuel loads, and to rehabilitate vegetation after disturbance, such as timber harvesting and mining to undertake research on fire and its interaction with our environment.

Provided by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center

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