



# Cultural fire management in Pumicestone

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# Aura Bells Creek Cultural Burn – June 2016



<https://vimeo.com/183412469?ref=em-share>



**Aura** — 2,360 ha – 700 ha conservation zone  
50,000 people over 30 years



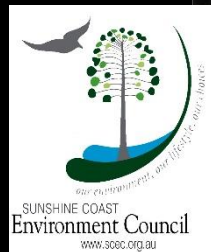
First restoration project - Little Italy  
now known as

**Wurubambi** - first forest



# Aura Community Stewardship Programme

16 groups working on early restoration.  
Fire identified as essential for effective restoration in this coastal ecosystem







# Traditional burning practices:

- Frequent low-intensity (cool) burning
- Mosaic patch burning
- Only burning one type of country at a time
- Never burning canopy parent trees
- Circle and spot burning
- No / reduce drip torch ignition
- No / reduce burning in lines or walls of fire
- Burning slowly – trickling like water

# Fire planning



Cultural burning: healthy communities, healthy landscapes





# Cultural burning indicators are:

- No signs of damage or scorch to canopy trees, low fire scars on tree bases.
- Increase in cover and diversity of desired grass and trees
- Increase parent tree reproduction response
- Increase in abundance and diversity native animals
- Maintain kinship and balance between species relationships
- Maintain healthy waterways through reduced erosion and enhancing wetland functions
- Decrease in undesirable invasive plant species (native and exotic weeds)
- Decrease in fuel load and litter layer







