



MEDIA RELEASE

Desert Fire Symposium

How fire affects people, life and the landscape of central Australia will be the topic of this week's Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre (DKCRC) Desert Fire Symposium at Alice Springs.

Bushfires NT scientific officer Grant Allan said topics will cover Aboriginal, pastoral and conservation perspectives on fire management, including the effect of fire on plants, birds and small mammals.

"The symposium will provide a final summary of the many aspects of the Desert Fire Project," Mr Allan said.

"The project comprised many elements involving many organisations working with DKCRC, such as the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts, Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines, Central Land Council, Centralian Land Management Association, Charles Darwin University, and collaboration with the Bushfire CRC.

A key role of the DKCRC is training future desert land managers and six of the presentations will be by university students.

"The aim of the symposium is to showcase the results of Desert Fire and provide a basis for future DKCRC projects to build on our efforts because we see the project as a step forward towards continued work in this field of research.

"The project was very successful in creating solid networks among these different organisations and hopefully the strength of these networks will be maintained into the future."

The symposium is being held on 1 November from 8.30am to 4.30pm at the Department of Natural Resources, Environment and the Arts conference room, Alice Plaza Building.

Ends

Media Note – For more information contact Grant Allan on 8952 3066

Issued: 10am Monday, 30 October 2006