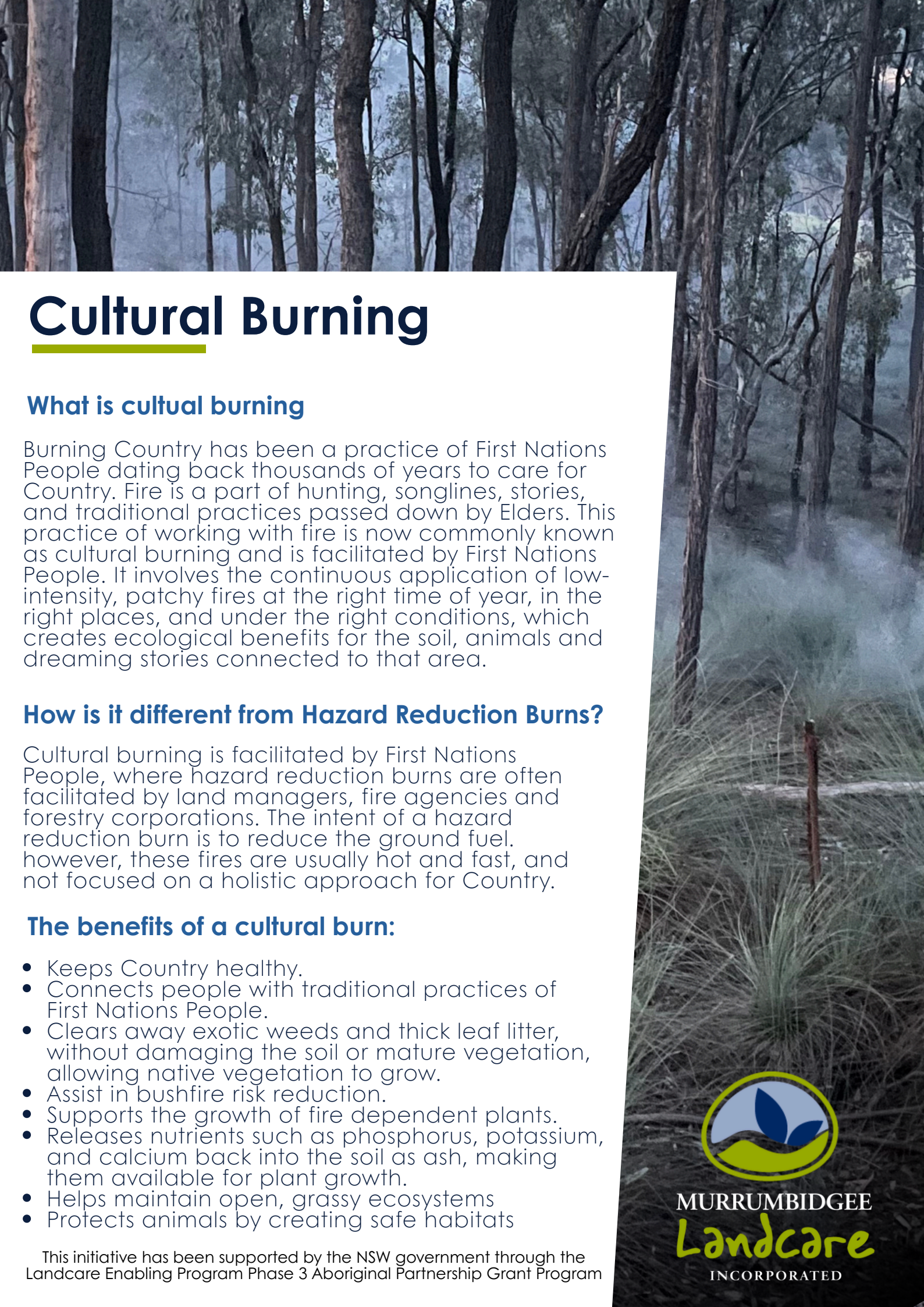




Cultural Burning

What is cultural burning

Burning Country has been a practice of First Nations People dating back thousands of years to care for Country. Fire is a part of hunting, songlines, stories, and traditional practices passed down by Elders. This practice of working with fire is now commonly known as cultural burning and is facilitated by First Nations People. It involves the continuous application of low-intensity, patchy fires at the right time of year, in the right places, and under the right conditions, which creates ecological benefits for the soil, animals and dreaming stories connected to that area.

How is it different from Hazard Reduction Burns?

Cultural burning is facilitated by First Nations People, where hazard reduction burns are often facilitated by land managers, fire agencies and forestry corporations. The intent of a hazard reduction burn is to reduce the ground fuel. however, these fires are usually hot and fast, and not focused on a holistic approach for Country.

The benefits of a cultural burn:

- Keeps Country healthy.
- Connects people with traditional practices of First Nations People.
- Clears away exotic weeds and thick leaf litter, without damaging the soil or mature vegetation, allowing native vegetation to grow.
- Assist in bushfire risk reduction.
- Supports the growth of fire dependent plants.
- Releases nutrients such as phosphorus, potassium, and calcium back into the soil as ash, making them available for plant growth.
- Helps maintain open, grassy ecosystems
- Protects animals by creating safe habitats

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