Proposed planned burn at Grindelwal.

People have it all wrong when they think they have to burn to reduce fuel loads.

Mention fire mitigation and the word ‘fire’ prompts people to immediately get out there with their matches and light every bit of bush they can even if it is green.

According to TFS the idea behind registering burns is so fire brigades do not get called out unnecessarily.

But really what good are they if they are not compulsory?

On so many of our most beautiful clean air days In Tasmania the air is deliberately filled with smoke.

After thoroughly reviewing the latest scientific literature world leading experts convened by the IARC (the leading cancer arm of the World Health Organisation) concluded there is sufficient evidence that exposure to outdoor air pollution causes lung cancer; Group 1 the highest.

They also noted a positive association with bladder cancer.

Particulate matter, a major component of air pollution was evaluated separately, and was classified as carcinogenic to humans: Group 1.

Every year is the flaming same…literally.

Fires are being lit with no hope of having them extinguished if we get an unexpected weather change. We can’t control the weather.

We must be flying so close to having another catastrophic event in this state as a result of a planned burn, or what are now being referred to by the community as ‘uncontrolled burns’.

It is Ok for fire authorities to put the fear of God into people that they will all be burnt to death if they don’t burn but people are, for good reason, having the fear of God put into them if they do burn. Just look at the devastating instances caused by deliberately lit burns in recent years and at Lancefield just this week.

We don’t need to burn; get it out of your heads, please. This is old science being peddled around; we have moved forward and there are excellent safer alternatives.

All burning does is make toxic smoke that adds to our haemorrhaging health system here in Tasmania and risks wiping out some communities, fauna and flora.

There are other tried and proven ways to reduce fuel loads. Go here <http://cleanairtas.com/departments/alternative-solutions.htm>

Mechanical fuel reduction is one way. "There are a number of benefits from this practice as an alternative to controlled burning, including community concerns over air quality, not being limited by weather conditions and managing fuel loads that are close to built-up areas."

Forico owns most of the land planned to be burnt near Grindelwald using public money.

The area has not recovered from the last burn and some areas are green (see photos).

Birds and animals are just starting to return and many of the ground-nesting birds such as wrens and willy wagtails have young.