



## **Bushfire Risk Assessment Project**

The City of Onkaparinga completed its Bushfire Risk Assessment Project in June 2004. This project was the first of its kind in South Australia. The outcomes of the project are:

- Comprehensive GIS maps of bushfire risk and threat across the city
- Review of the District Bushfire Prevention Plan based upon the data produced by the mapping process
- Development of a methodology that can be used by other councils and agencies who wish to undertake similar projects.

The project made use of leading edge technology to translate satellite images into GIS layers of vegetation cover and fuel load. These layers were then overlaid with layers relating to land use, topography, and land value to enable a bushfire risk assessment across the city.

The data generated by the project has been of use to Council in informing the review of the Bushfire Prevention Plan and will form the basis of an education program that will be undertaken in the coming months. This data has also been of considerable use in targeting fire prevention resources to areas with highest needs.

Agencies including the Country Fire Service, SA Police and Planning SA have also made use of the data generated by this project to assist them in their bushfire related activities within the City of Onkaparinga.

The completion of this project has benefited Council and the community by:

- Enabling accurate allocation of fire prevention resources
- Targeting of bushfire education campaigns to the most vulnerable sections of the community; and
- Providing a methodology to enable councils or agencies to undertake similar processes for the protection of their communities.

In September 2005 this project was the winner of the South Australian division of the Safer Communities Awards.

Copies of the final report including the methodology can be found on our website at [www.onkaparingacity.com](http://www.onkaparingacity.com).

Please direct any enquiries to

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