

**Northern Tablelands Region
Avondale SCA
Fire Management Strategy
(Type 2)
2005
Sheet 1 of 1**



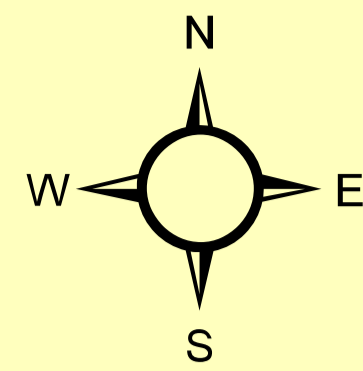
This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

These data are not guaranteed to be free from error or omission. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife and its employees disclaim liability for any act done on the information in the data and any consequences of such acts or omissions. This document is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of study, research criticism or review, as permitted under the copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Department of Environment and Conservation. Published by the Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW), December 2005. Contact: NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Northern Tablelands Region PO Box 402 Armidale NSW 2350.

ISBN: 1 74317 555 X DEC Number: 2005/434 Last Updated: 5 Dec 2005

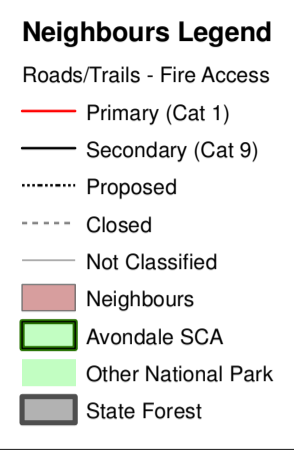
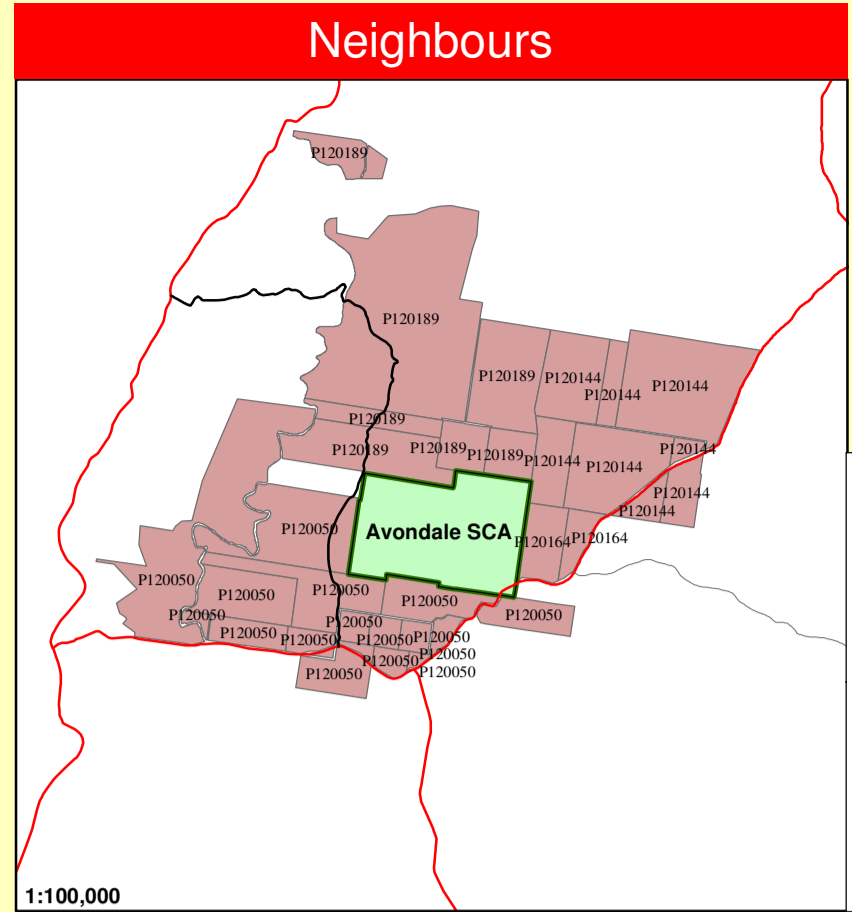
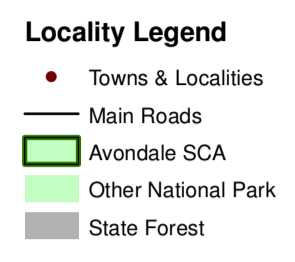
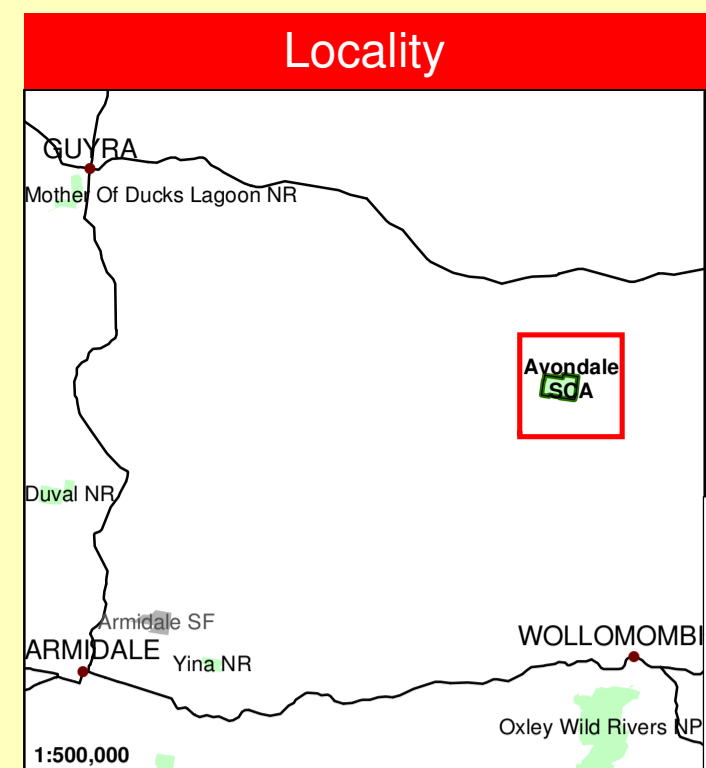
This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

Approved Date: 29 Dec 2005



Datum: AGD66
Projection: UTM
Grid: AMG Zone 56

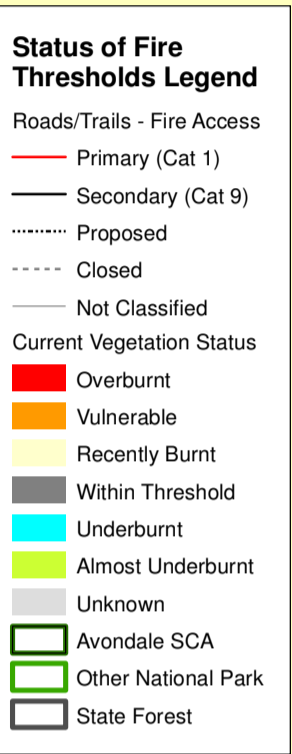
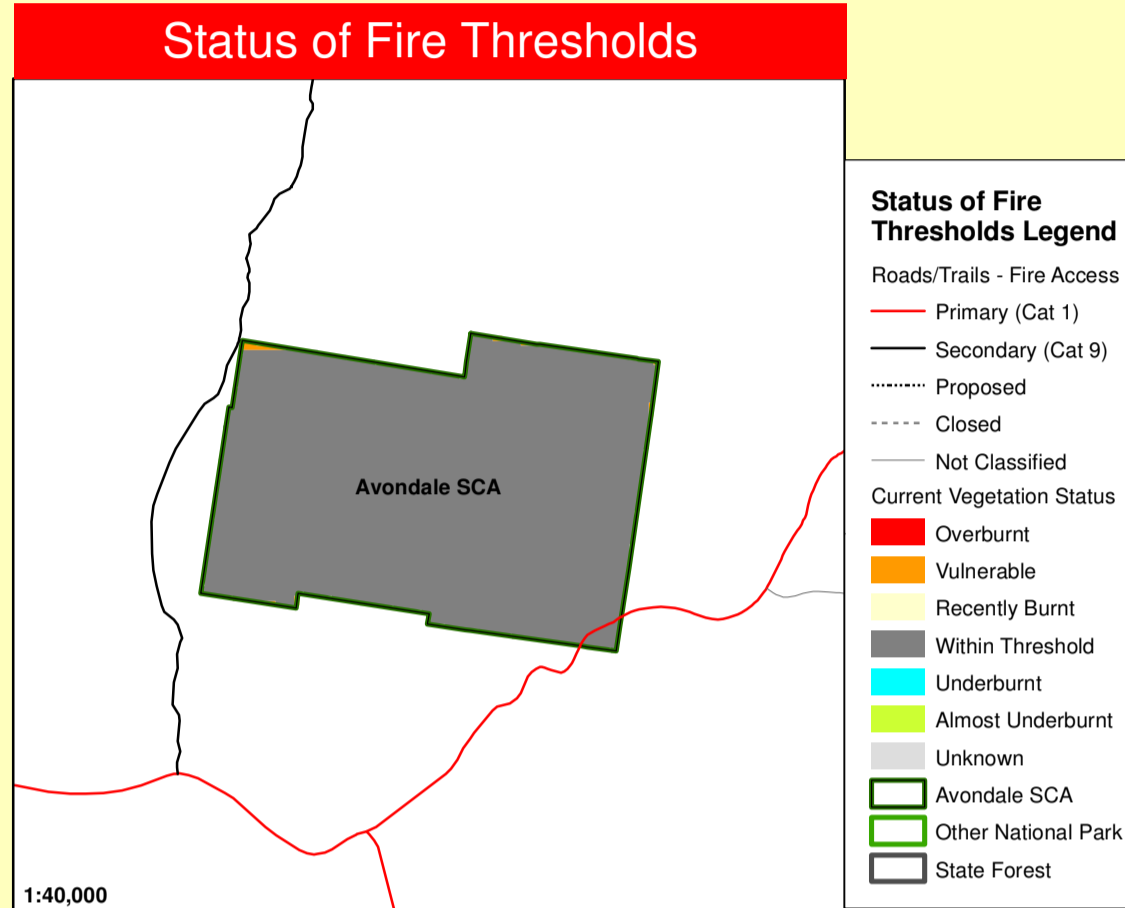
Notes: scales are true when this map is printed on A1 size paper.



Neighbour Information				
For further information, please refer to the Regional Contacts database.				
Map ID	Property Name	Surname	Firstname	Phone
P120050	Girrakool			
P120144	Narloo			
P120164	Radland			
P120189	Tarrangower			

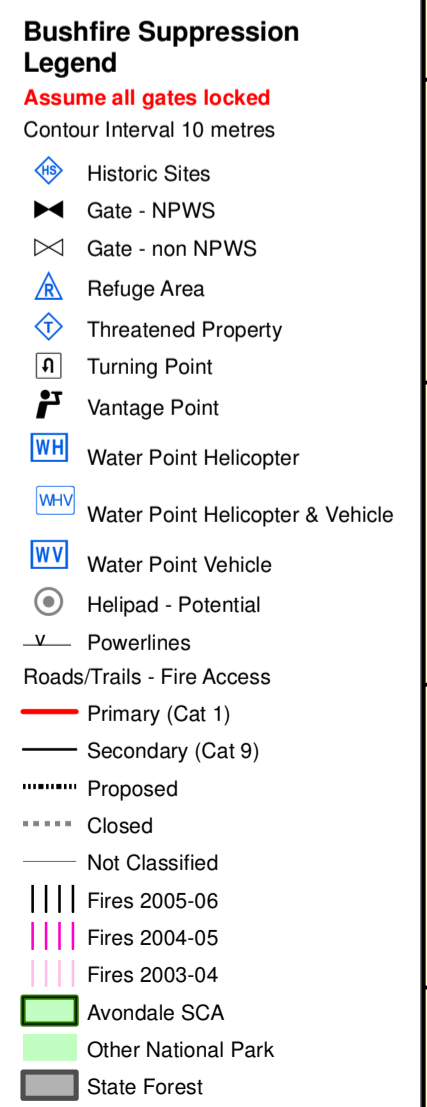
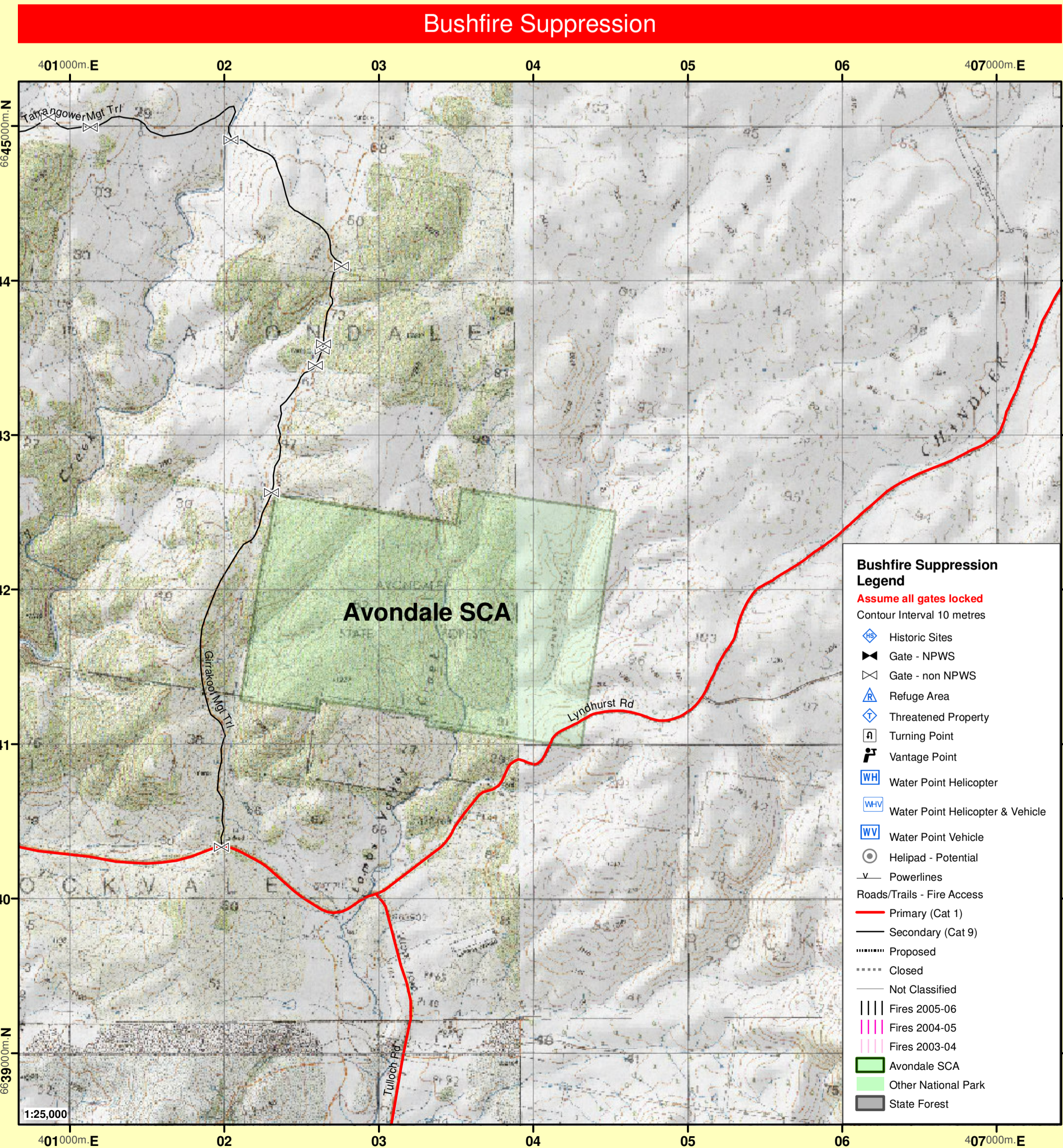
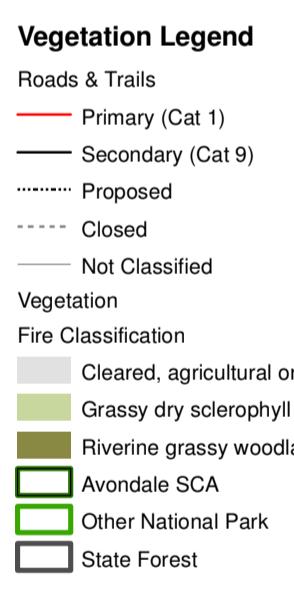
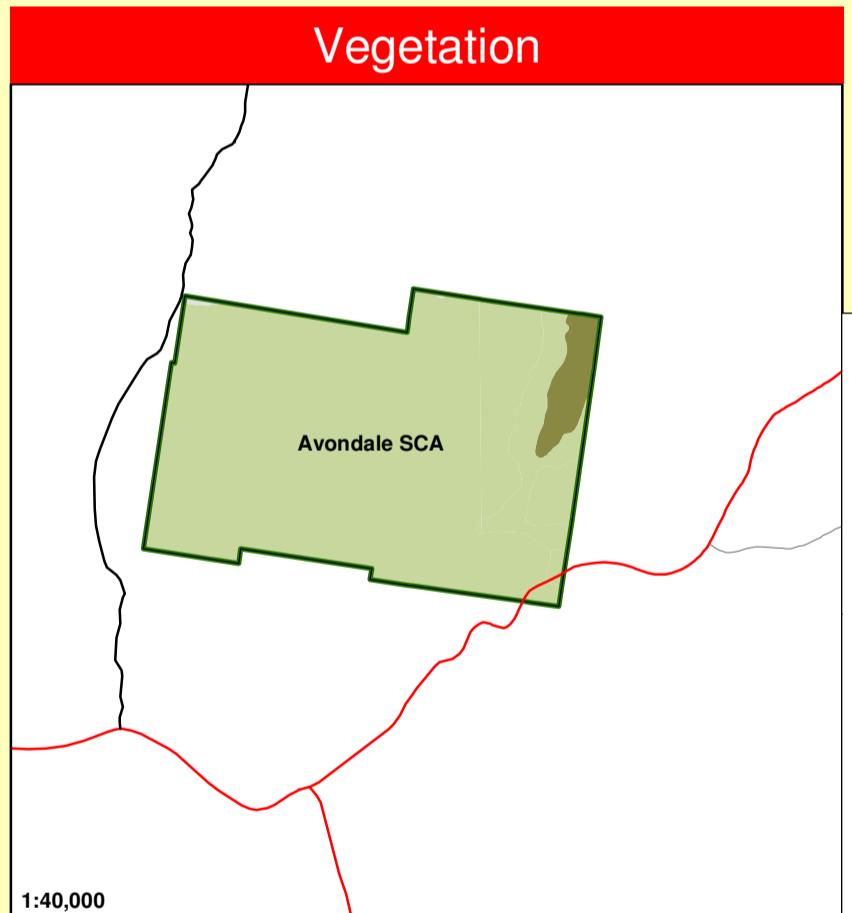
Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	6	Little Duval
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	18	Simplex vehicle to vehicle
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	15	Stored at Armidale/transportable
RFS - PMR - UHF	49	Mt Rumbee
	71	Little Duval
RFS - GRN	-	No service available in NTR
FNSW - VHF	-	Not Applicable
CB - UHF		Channel as appropriate
Aircraft - VHF	119.10	-
Mobile Phone - CDMA	Yes	on high ground
Mobile Phone - GSM	No	service
Satellite Phone	0147 154 353	stored at Armidale NPWS

Strategy Information	
Fire Season Information	
Wildfires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have been known to start as early as late August, but usually the potential for a large fire event is greatest between October and December. This period may extend into January in more severe years. During this period in dry seasons fires may exhibit high intensity behaviour under windy conditions.
Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General season is Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or tourism point of view.
Suppression Strategies	
Current FDR	Forecast FDR
Low - Mod	Low - Mod
Low - Mod	= > High
High	All
All	All

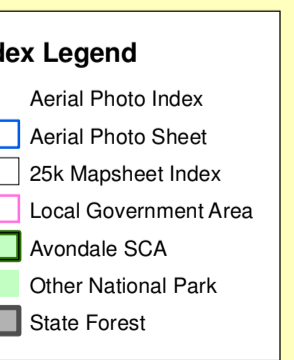
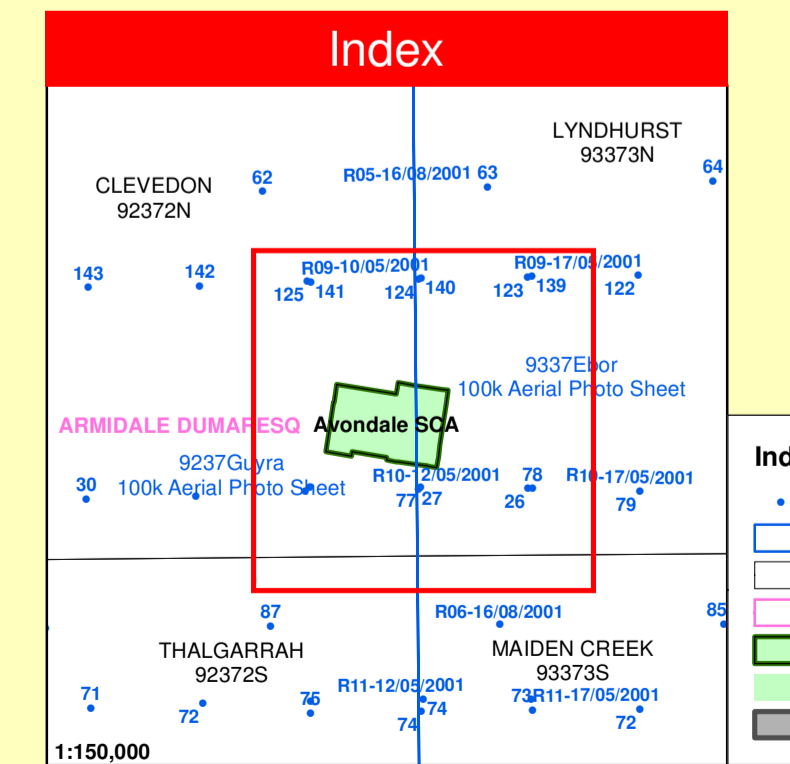


Fire Thresholds	
Overburnt	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
Vulnerable	The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
Recently Burnt	Time since fire is less than the optimum interval, but before that it was within threshold. <i>Avoid fires if possible.</i>
Within Threshold	Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. <i>A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.</i>
Almost Underburnt	The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
Underburnt	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
Unknown	Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

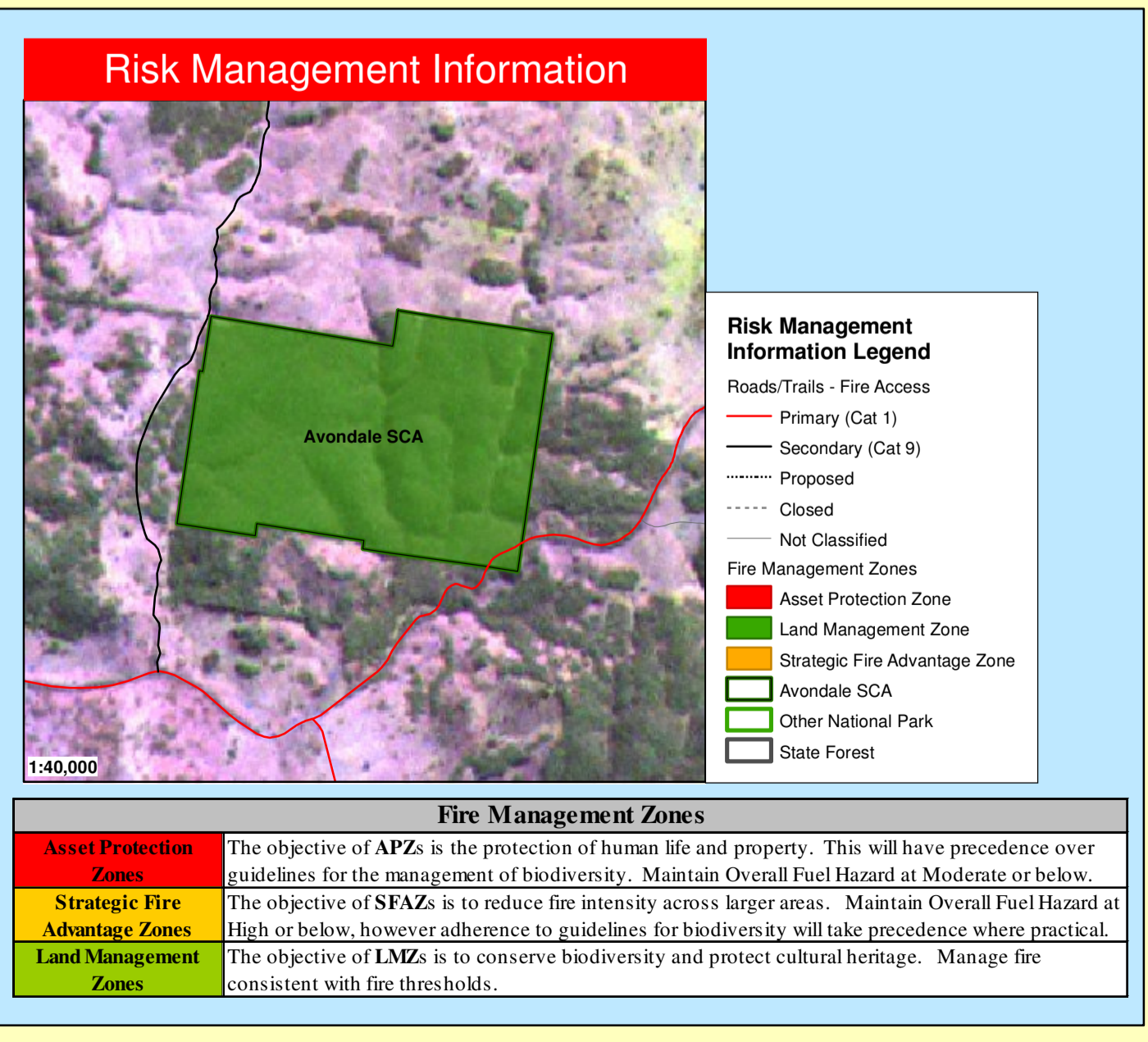
NB. Fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity



Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
NPWS	Regional Duty Officer	0428 345 789
	Area Manager	02 6738 9117
		0428 613 073
		02 6738 9140 (fax)
	Fire Management Officer	02 6776 0014
		0409 220 613
Rural Fire Service	Emergency	000
	New England Duty Officer	02 6771 4619
	Armidale Control Centre	02 6771 2400
		02 6771 3380 (fax)
NSW Fire Brigade	Emergency	000
	Armidale	02 6771 5076
SES	Emergency	000
	Armidale Unit	02 6771 1100
Police	Emergency	000
	Armidale Station	02 6771 0699
Ambulance	Emergency	000
	Armidale Station	13 1233
Hospital	Armidale	02 6776 4777
	Barwon Region	02 6764 5900
DNR	Emergency	02 6771 0611 (fax)
	Armidale	02 6771 0611
Forests NSW	Coffs Harbour	02 6652 0111
		02 6651 9891 (fax)
Council	Armidale Dumaesq Council	02 6770 3600
		02 6772 9275 (fax)
Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC)	Armidale	02 6771 3395



Operational Guidelines	
Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2004. Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:	
Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)	Aboriginal sites are not indicated on this strategy. For information on Aboriginal sites contact the Aboriginal Conservation Heritage Officer or Local Aboriginal Land Council.
Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located contact a Senior NPWS Officer.
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located contact a Senior NPWS Officer.
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief all personnel involved in fire suppression operations, on site location and the required management strategies appropriate to the site type. Where practicable, protect populations or individuals from fire if the fire frequency threshold has been exceeded, or the species is an obligate seeder (fire response category), or if the fire frequency threshold &/or fire response category is unknown.
Threatened Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible property owners with assets at possible risk from a wildfire event should be kept informed regarding the progress of the fire; and asked for an assessment of their current level of asset protection preparedness.
General	Guidelines
Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spotovers. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances Where practicable foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations.
Aerial Ignition (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial ignition may be used during fuel reduction and back-burning operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer. Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.
Backburning (NPWS FMM 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the safest times to implement backburns. Generally, when the FDI is Very High or greater, backburning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day. Where practicable, clear a 1 m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down these trees as part of the backburn ignition. Avoid ignition of back-burns at the bottom of slopes where a long and intense up slope is likely.
Command & Control (NPWS FMM 4.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly. On the arrival of other combatant agencies, the initial incident controller will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BEMC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, except where they can be built by hand with minimal environmental impact. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed immediately at the cessation of the incident. Where practicable, erosion control works should be incorporated into the containment line construction phase. All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.
Earthmoving Equipment (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer, and then only if the probability of its success is high. Earthmoving equipment must be always guided and supervised by an experienced NPWS officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting vehicle. Containment lines constructed by earthmoving equipment should consider the protection of drainage features, observe the Threatened Species and Cultural Heritage Operational Guidelines, and be surveyed, where possible, to identify unknown cultural sites. Earthmoving equipment should be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate.
Fire Advantage Recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
Fire Suppression Chemicals (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wetting and foaming agents (surfactants) are permitted for use in wildfire suppression. The use of fire retardant is only permitted with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer, and should be avoided where reasonable alternatives are available. Exclude the use of surfactants and retardants within 50 m of rainforest, watercourses, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used product's name recorded. Observe the Threatened Species Operational Guidelines.
Rehabilitation (NPWS FMM 5.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Smoke Management (NPWS FMM 3.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations. If smoke becomes a hazard on local roads or highways, the police and relevant media must be notified. Smoke management must be in accordance with relevant RTA traffic management guidelines.
Visitor Management (NPWS FMM 3.6 & 4.13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.



Fire Management Zones	
Asset Protection Zones	The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at Moderate or below.
Strategic Fire Advantage Zones	The objective of SFAZs is to reduce fire intensity across larger areas. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence where practical.
Land Management Zones	The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.