

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 Service 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. This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Department of Environment and Climate Change. Published by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSW), October 2003 Contact: NPWS Far South Coast Region, PO Box 656 Merimbula NSW 2548 Updated: 27 June 2008

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Operational Guidelines Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2005. Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues: Guidelines The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-overs.

The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-overs. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific Agencies Aviation SOPs 02 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective • Where practicable foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations. Aerial Ignition Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.4./ NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)

• Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations when of NPWS Regional Manager or Section 44 delegate.

• Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required. Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the safest times to implement back-burns. 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 1m 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 backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long and intense up slope burn is likely. • The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management agency Command & Control is notified promptly. (NPWS FMM 4.2) • 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 BFMC Plan of Operations. . Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Containment Lines • Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9) • All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident. • All personal involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the • Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a 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 officer, and accompanied by a support Earthmoving Equipment vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting vehicle. (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.3) • 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 • Earthmoving equipment should be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate. • All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database. Recording 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 50m of rainforest, watercourses and dams. For swamp areas, retardants Chemicals (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.9) should be allowed, avoiding wetlands. · Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used product's name recorded. The Threatened Species Operational Guidelines are to be observed. Rehabilitation • Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. • The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and Smoke Management prescribed burning operations. (NPWS FMM 3.4) • 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.

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	Aboriginal Cultural Heritage			
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)	Aboriginal Galtara Heritage			
(AT)	 As far as possible protect site from fire. Do not cut down trees. Use of foams, wetting agents & retardant is acceptable. 			
A	 As far as possible protect site from fire. Avoid ground disturbance including hand tools, dozers. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. 			
A3 >	 Avoid ground disturbance including hand tools, dozers. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. Site may be burnt by wildfire, backburn, prescribed burn. 			
	*RCHMS: Regional Cultural Heritage Management Strategy.			
	In areas where the asset may be in or close to a water body, wetland or swamp, no foam or retardant is to be used.			
	Historic Heritage Management			
Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)				
♠ I>	 High RCHMS* priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. Avoid all water bombing activities. 			
(H2)	 High RCHMS* priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. High or low RCHMS* priority. 			
♠	 Heritage site unlikely to be effected by fire. Danger to any fire crew activity. Avoid site at all costs. Low RCHMS* priority. 			
√H4 >	 Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. Avoid all water bombing activities. 			
(HS)	 Low RCHMS* priority. Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. 			
♠	 High or low RCHMS* priority. Heritage site unlikely to be effected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving machinery. 			
ೕ	 High or low RCHMS* priority. Heritage site unlikely to be effected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving machinery. Avoid all water bombing activities. 			
	Threatened Fauna Management			
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)				
£	Protect large and hollow bearing trees.			
€®>	 Protect large and hollow bearing trees. Avoid interfire intervals of < 10 yrs. Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs. 			
^	Avoid interfire intervals of < 10 yrs.			
(A3)	Habitat unlikely to be effected by fire. Avoid use of earth moving mechinery in wetland habitats.			

Visitor Management
(NPWS FMM 3.6 & 4.13)

• The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

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FAB	 Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible. Avoid use of earth moving machinery.
	Threatened Flora Management
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	
(FLI)	 Avoid interfire intervals of < 10 yrs. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery. Avoid the use of retardant.
(FLZ)	 Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburn, HR, as far as possible. Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery. Avoid the use of retardant.
	 Avoid high intensity fire. Avoid interfire intervals <10 years, effect unknown. Avoid the use of earth moving machinery.
€	 Avoid summer fire. Avid high intensity fire. Avoid earth-moving machinery.
(FLS)	 Avoid low intensity fire. Avoid interfire intervals of < 5 yrs. Avoid earth-moving machinery. Avoid the use of retardant.
	Threatened Property
†	 Where possible property owners with assets at risk from a wildfire event should be kept informed regarding the progrethe fire; and asked for an assessment of their current level of asset protection preparedness.

Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR, as far as possible in wetland habitat.

 Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats. Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.

Avoid use of earth moving machinery in dune habitats.

Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.

Avoid use of earth moving machinery in wetland habitats.

Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.

Habitat unlikely to be effected by fire.

Communications Information				
Service	Channel	Location and Comments		
VHF Communications (NPWS Two Way Radios)	23	Good coverage across most parts of the park and reserve		
UHF-PMR (RFS Two Way Radios)	43 85	Bimmil Hill – good coverage for Ben Boyd north and Bell bird Creek NR Timbillica – good coverage for Ben Boyd south		
Mobile Phone	3G	At the time of printing the depth of coverage provided by the 3G network was untested.		

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW

