

## DAVIDSON WHALING STATION

### Historic Site Fire Management Strategy 2006

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.

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This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 33 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

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### Fire Management Zones

**Asset Protection Zones**

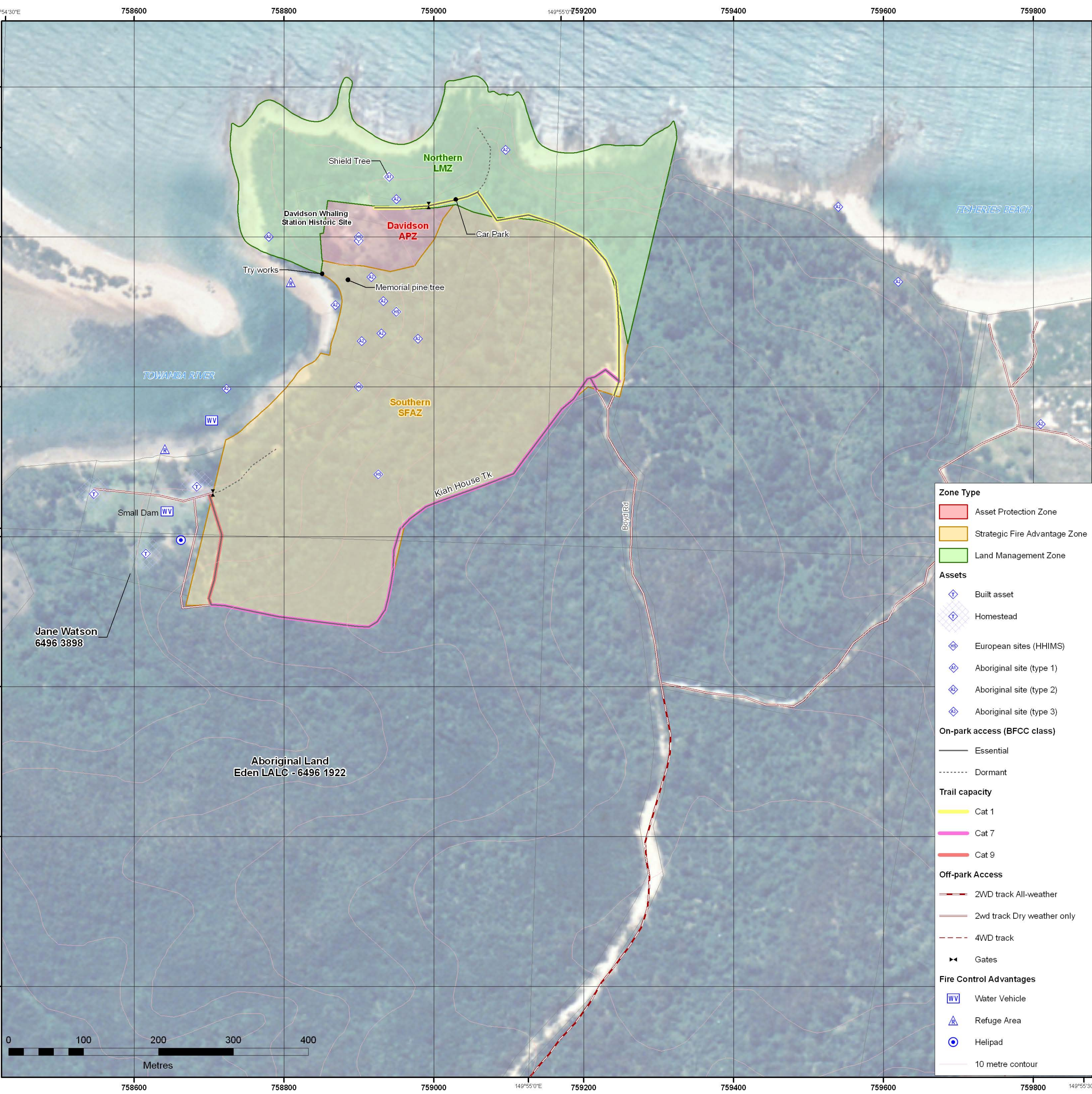
The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at Moderate or below.

**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 and historic heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.

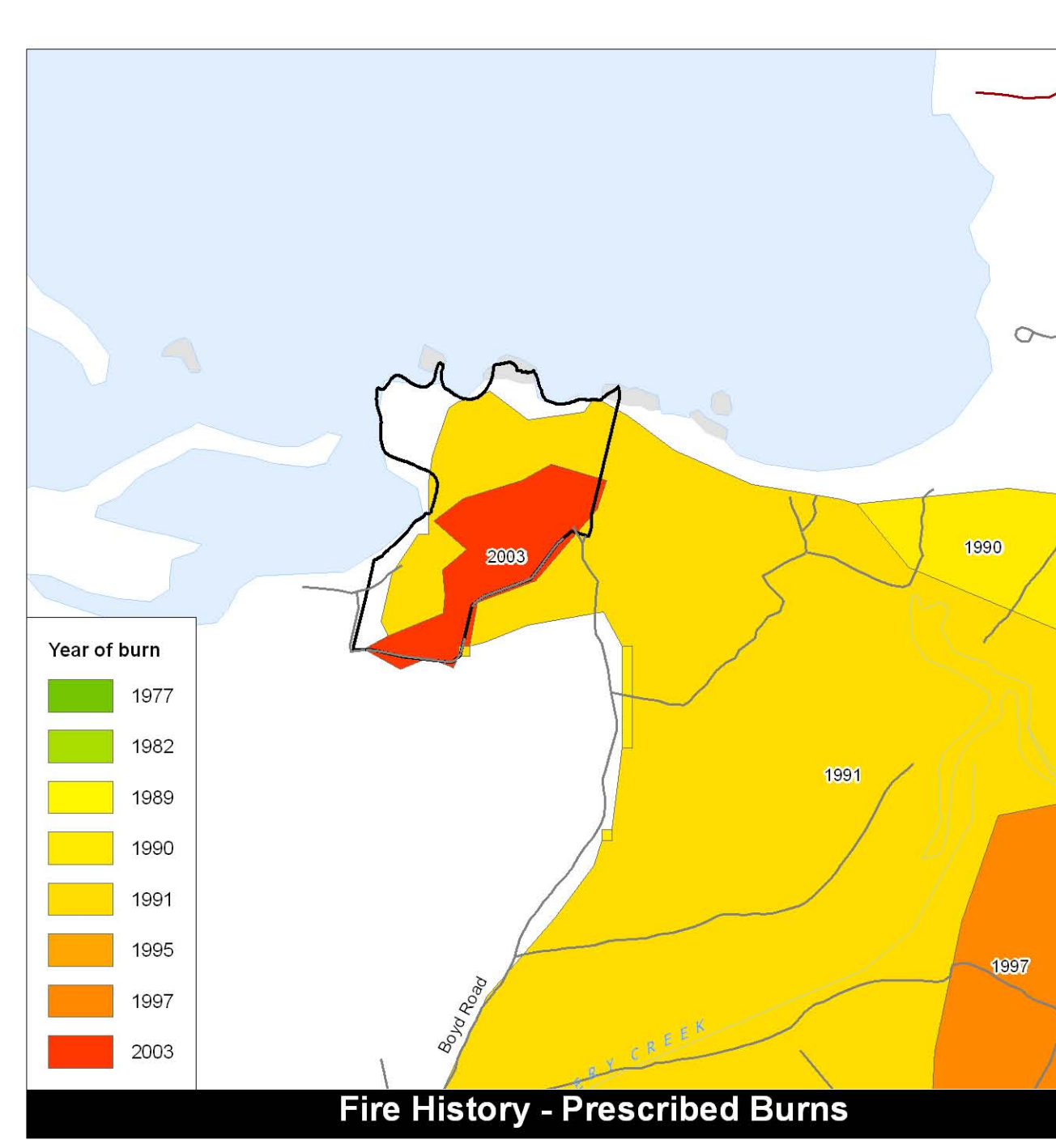
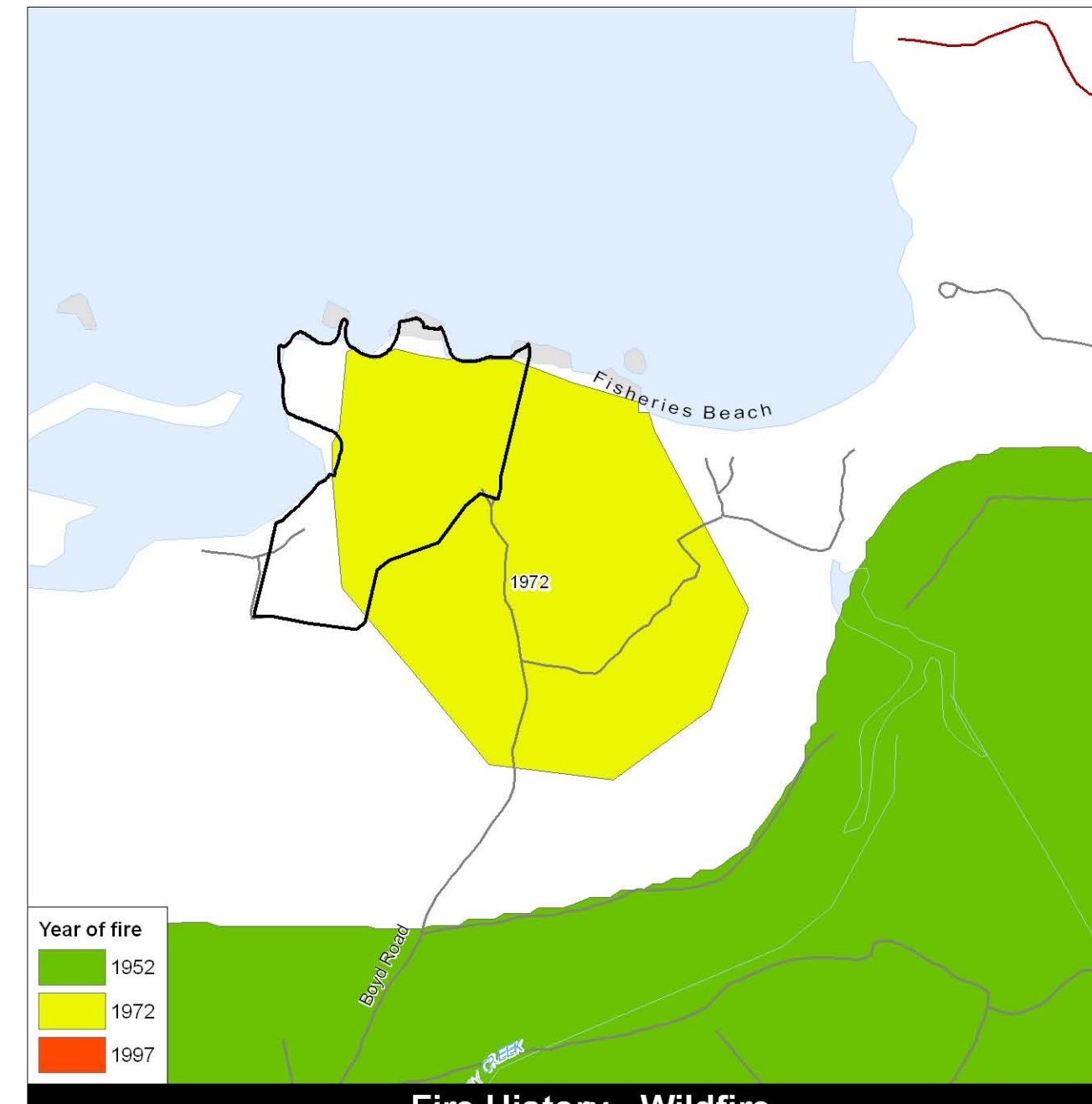
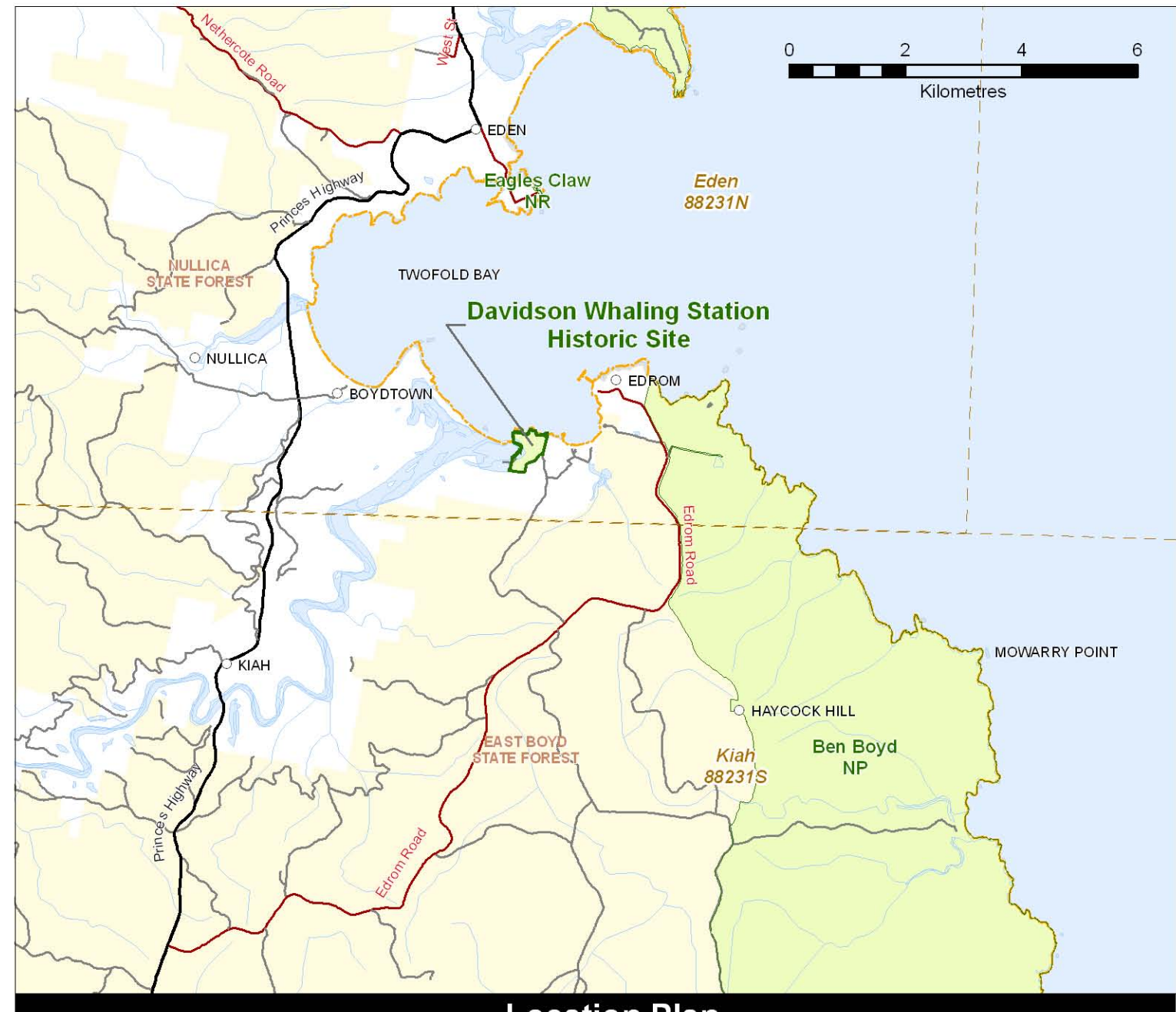


### Operational Guidelines - General

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2005.

Best of personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

- Aboriginal & Historic Heritage Sites:** Brief all personnel involved in control line construction on the location of the sites and the appropriate actions to protect the sites.
- Threatened Fauna & Flora Management:** No sites known in historic site. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS Officer.
- Threatened property:** No sites known in historic site. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS Officer.
- Aerial Water Bombing:** The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-overs.
- Aerial Ignition:** Aerial ignition is not considered practical due to the small size of the reserve.
- Common & Control:** The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but they must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly.
- Containment Lines:** Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact.
- Earthmoving Equipment:** Earthmoving equipment should be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.
- Fire Advantage Recording:** All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
- Fire Suppression Chemicals:** The use of fire retardant is only permitted with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer.
- Smoke Management:** Smoke management must be in accordance with relevant RFA traffic management guidelines.
- Visitor Management:** The reserve may be closed to the public during wildfire suppression operations and periods of extreme fire danger.



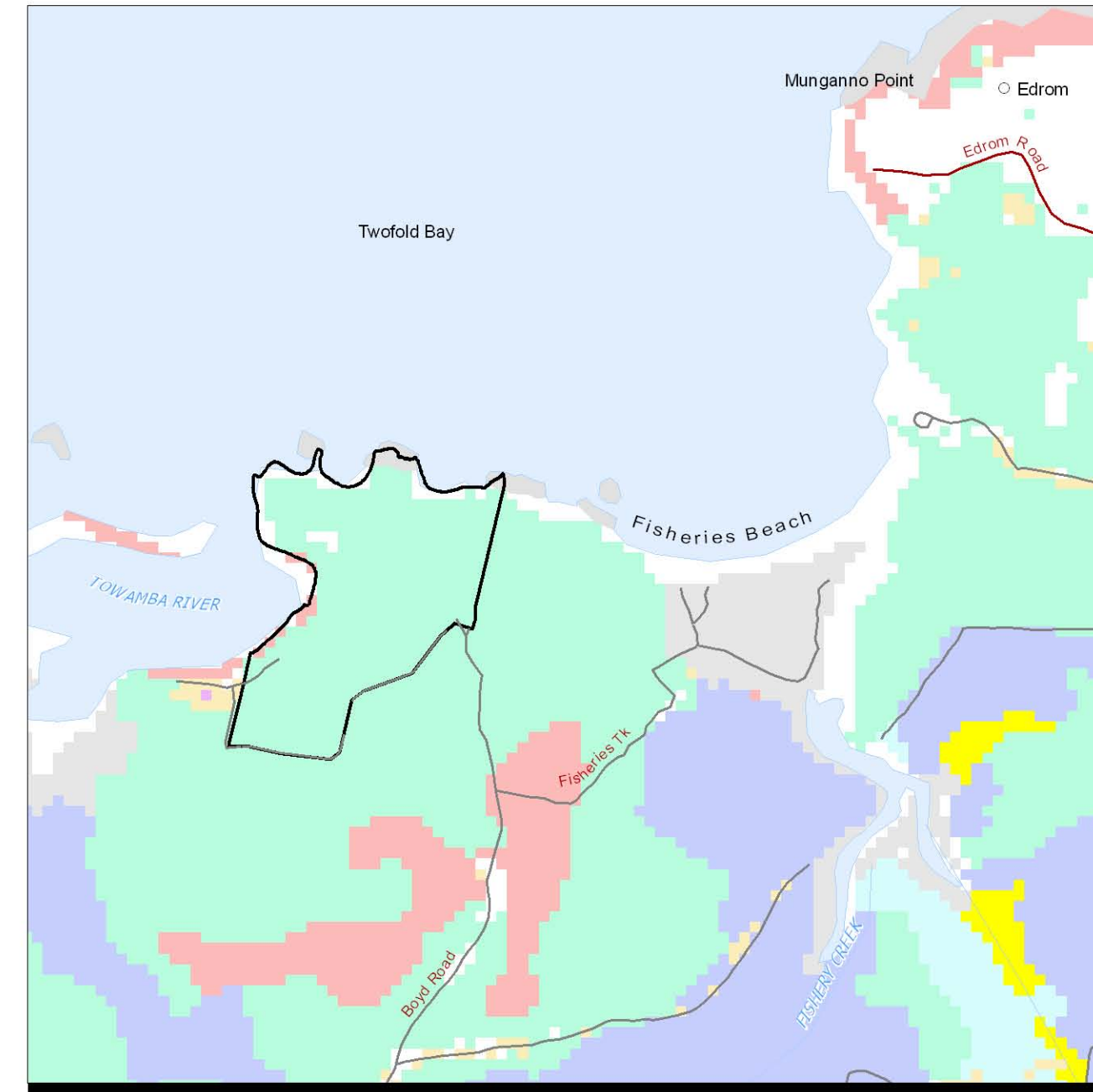
### Fire Season Information

Wildfires

- Have been known to occur as early as Spring, but the potential for fires is greatest between October and February.
- During this period in dry seasons, fires may exhibit high intensity behaviour in windy conditions.
- Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis for ecological reasons.
- Furthermore, any fire ignited in Spring has the potential to be problematic if not contained within safe boundaries.

Prescribed Burning (NPWS FMM 4.7)

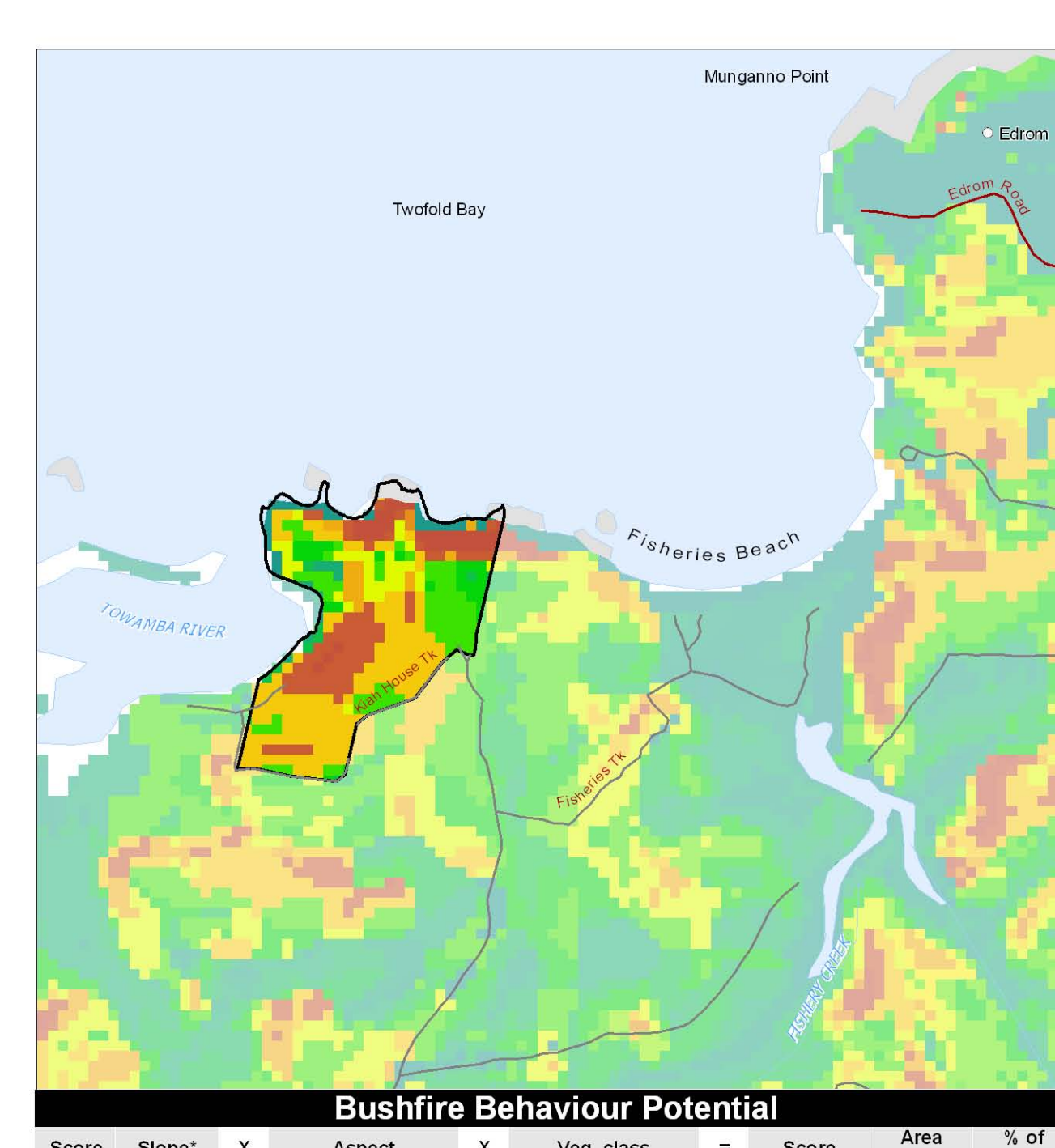
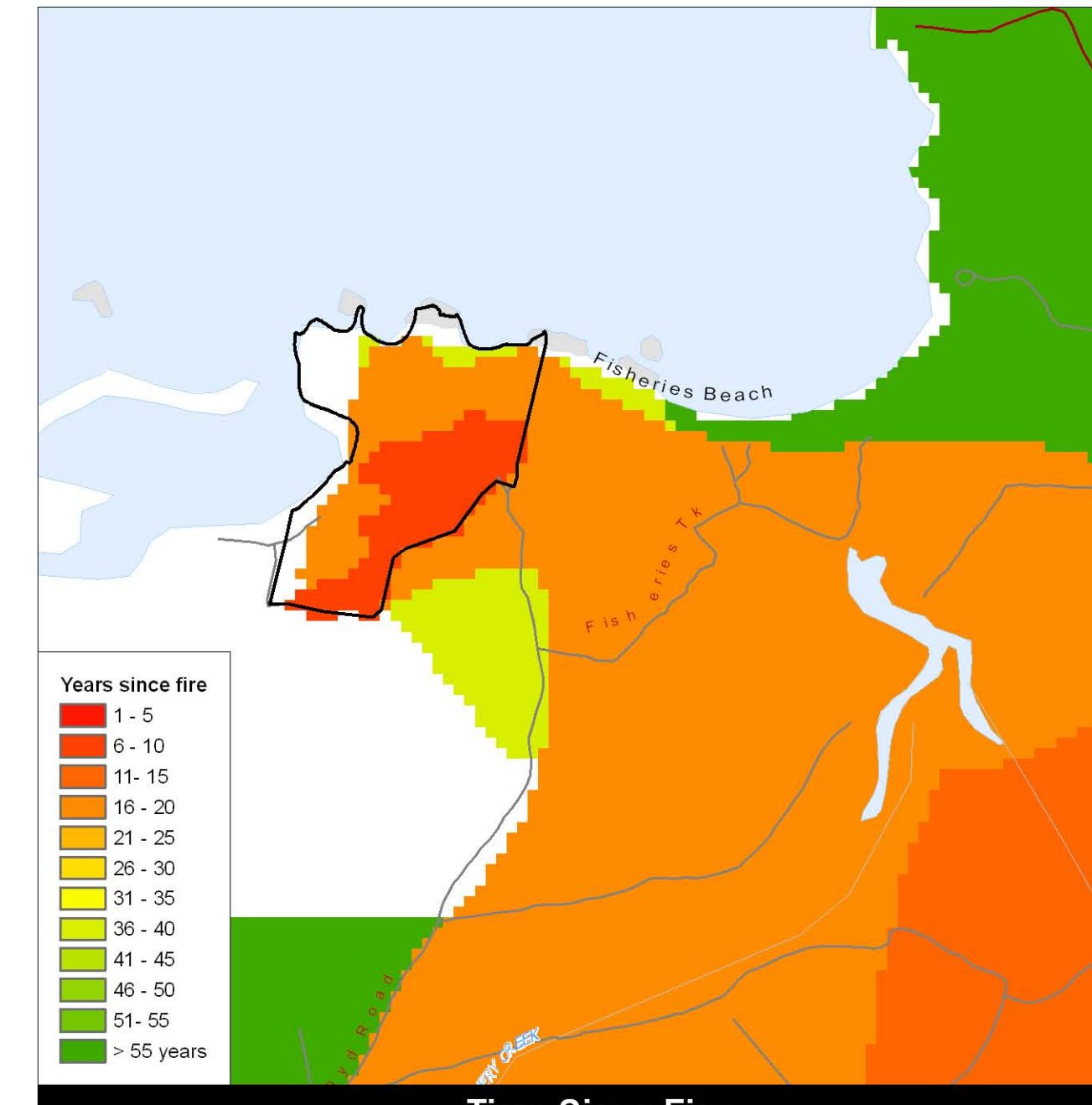
- Strong coastal maritime wind influences in August/September are a common feature on the South Coast and can rapidly enhance the intensity of a fuel reduction burn.
- Fuel moisture often too high to allow burning.



### Biodiversity Threshold

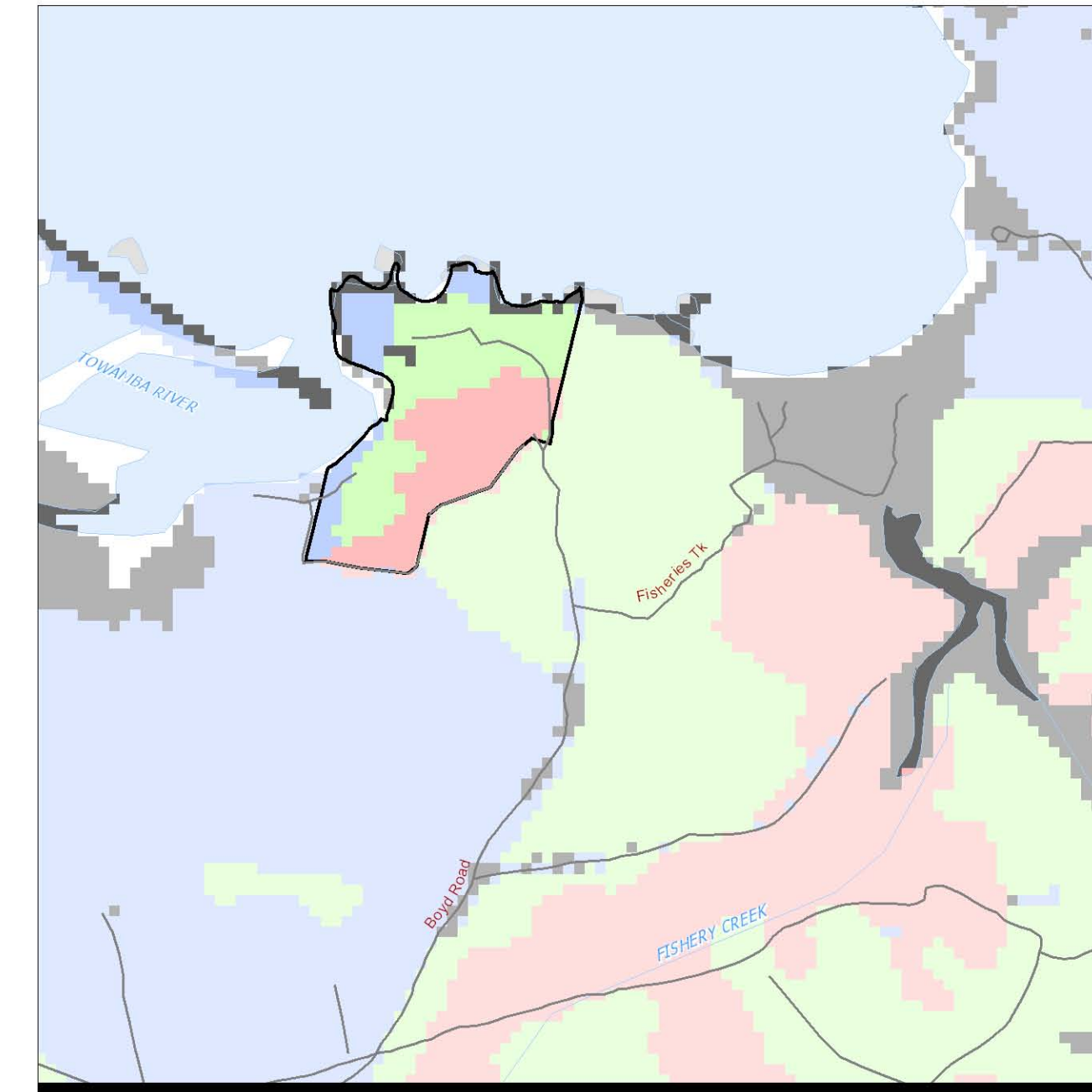
Class	Vegetation ID	Communities	Minimum Fire Interval	Maximum Fire Interval	Notes
A	Rainforest	n/a	n/a	n/a	Fire should be avoided
B	Wet Sclerophyll Forest	25	60	100	Crown fires should be avoided in the lower end of the interval range
C	Saline Wetland	n/a	n/a	n/a	Fire should be avoided
D	Sem-misc Grassy Forest	10	50	100	Crown fires should be avoided in the lower end of the interval range
E	Swamp Sclerophyll Forest	7	35	50	
F	Grassy Woodland	5	40	50	
G	Grassy Dry Sclerophyll Forest	5	50	100	
H	Shrub Dry Sclerophyll Forest	7	30	50	
I	Sclerophyll Forest	7	30	50	
J	Sem-arid Woodland	6	40	100	There was insufficient data to give definite intervals. Available data indicates min. intervals should be at least 5-10 years, & maximum intervals approximately 40 years
K	Heathland	7	30	50	
L	Grassland	2	10	30	Some intervals greater than 7 years should be included in coastal areas. Available evidence indicates maximum intervals should be approximately 10 years
M	Freshwater Wetland	6	35	50	
N	Rock/Sand/Agricultural Areas	n/a	n/a	n/a	

NPWS will identify the fire fighting requirements of the site to other agencies likely to respond and assist such as Local RFS Brigades, Forests NSW, South East Fire Exports and the EDL LALC.



### Bushfire Behaviour Potential

Score	Slope	X	Aspect	X	Veg. class	Score	Area (Ha)	% of reserve
1	0-5°	90-170°	45-89°	180-224°	Rainforest, Wetland, Sclerophyll forest	Very Low (1-6)	7	20%
2	6-10°	0-44°	225-269°	180-224°	Grassland, Wetland, Sclerophyll forest	Low (7-12)	12	44%
3	11-15°	15-18°	270-359°	180-224°	Woodland, Heathland	Medium (13-18)	6	22%
4	16-20°	>18°	>18°	180-224°	Dry Sclerophyll Forest	High (19-24)	1	4%
5	>20°	>18°	>18°	180-224°	Dry Sclerophyll Forest	Very High (25-30)	1	4%



### Vegetation Threshold Analysis

**Below threshold:** The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. Protect from fire as far as possible.

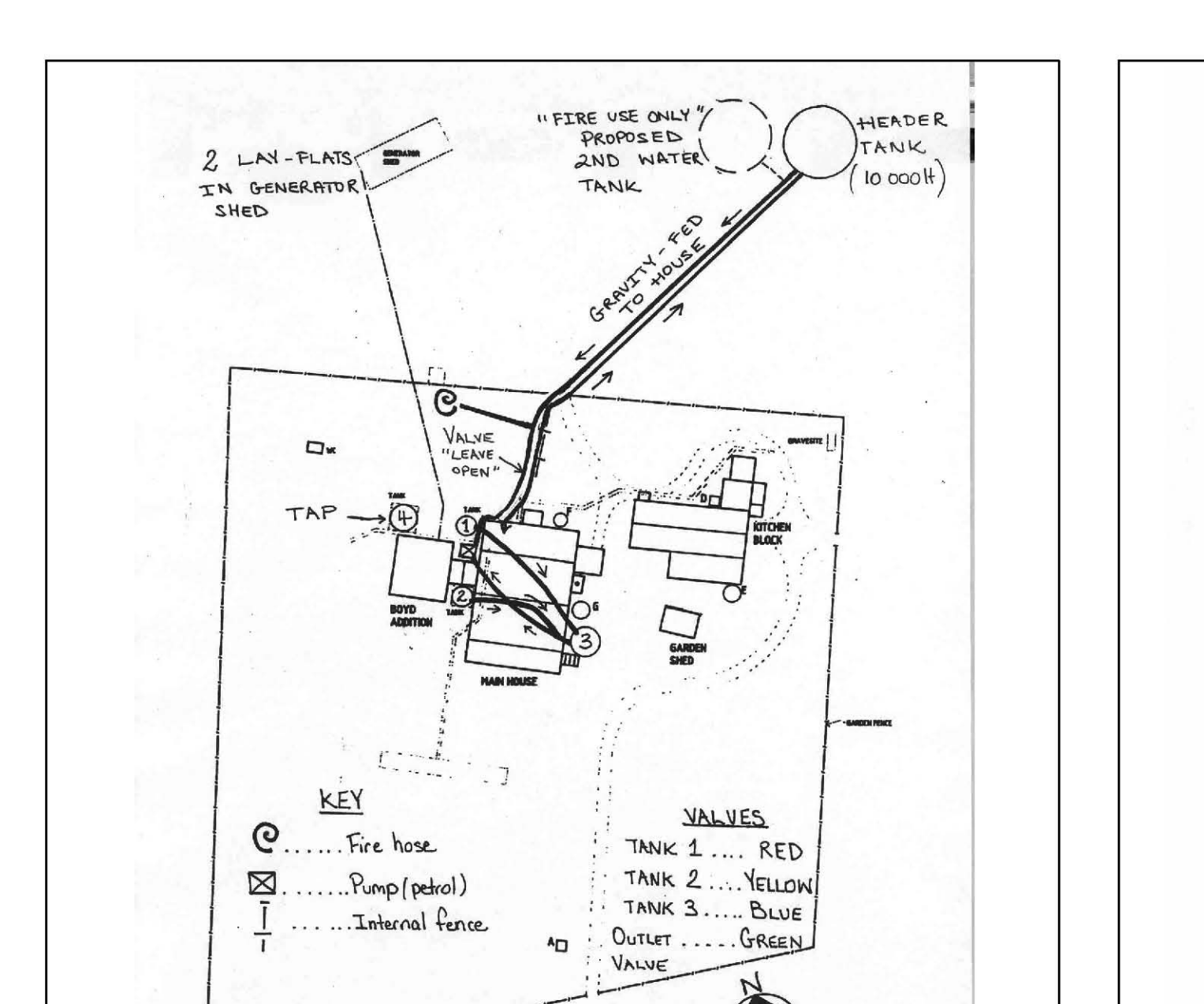
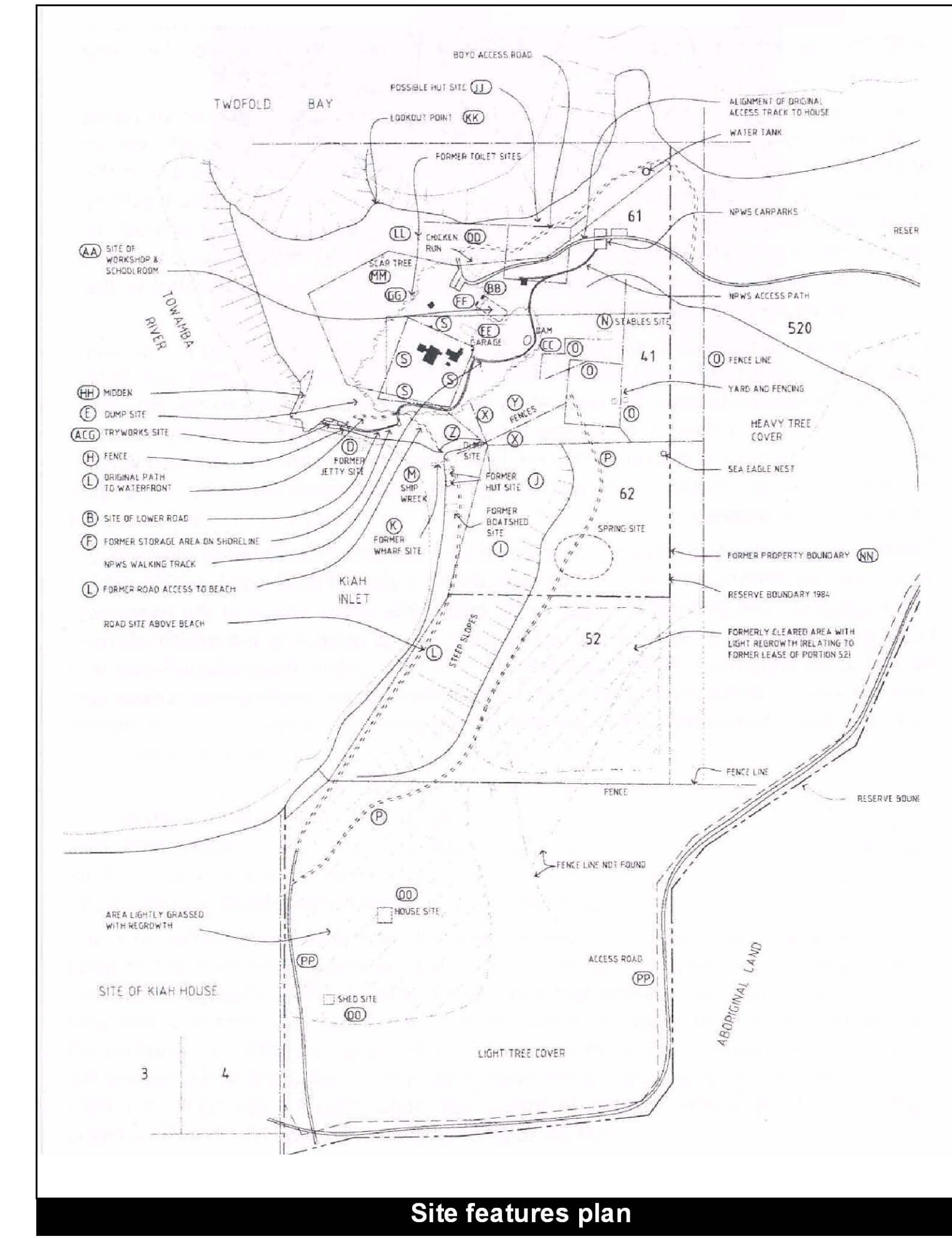
**Within threshold:** Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.

**Above threshold:** Fire frequency is above maximum inter-fire interval in the area. A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider unplanned fires to burn.

**Fire intolerant:** The vegetation in this area is fire intolerant. Protect from fire as far as possible.

**Unknown:** Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

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



### CURRENT OPERATION

Rainwater is collected at house and pumped via petrol pump to header tank (10 000 l) approximately 150 meters up the hill. From there it is gravity fed back to the house supplying all garden and internal taps and a fire hose reel. Tank 4 is an independent emergency supply.

Regular and opportunistic pumping is required to ensure header tank retains adequate water level for house and fire emergency purposes.

### PUMPING WATER TO HEADER TANK

**Description**

Petrol pump located under box cover near gas tanks draws water from tank number 3. Tank 1 and 2 drain into tank 3 via colour coded valves at the base of tank 3.

**Procedure**

- When tanks are full after rain ensure pump is ok for petrol and oil and pump outlet valve (green) is open. (Jerry can in Gen shed)
- Start pump.
- Monitor water level in tank 3 as you pump up to header tank.
- When almost empty, stop pump.
- Drain water into tank 3 from tank 1 via colour coded valve.
- Monitor level in tank 3 and when full, turn off colour coded valve from tank 1.
- Repeat pumping process up to header tank.
- Monitor water level and stop pump when tank 3 is almost empty.
- Repeat draining process for tank 2.
- Repeat pumping process.

### IN CASE OF FIRE

Fire hose located in house yard is currently dependent on the water level in the header tank. Two lay flat extension hoses with couplings are in the generator shed providing wide coverage of fire protection around the house.

**Proposed modifications**

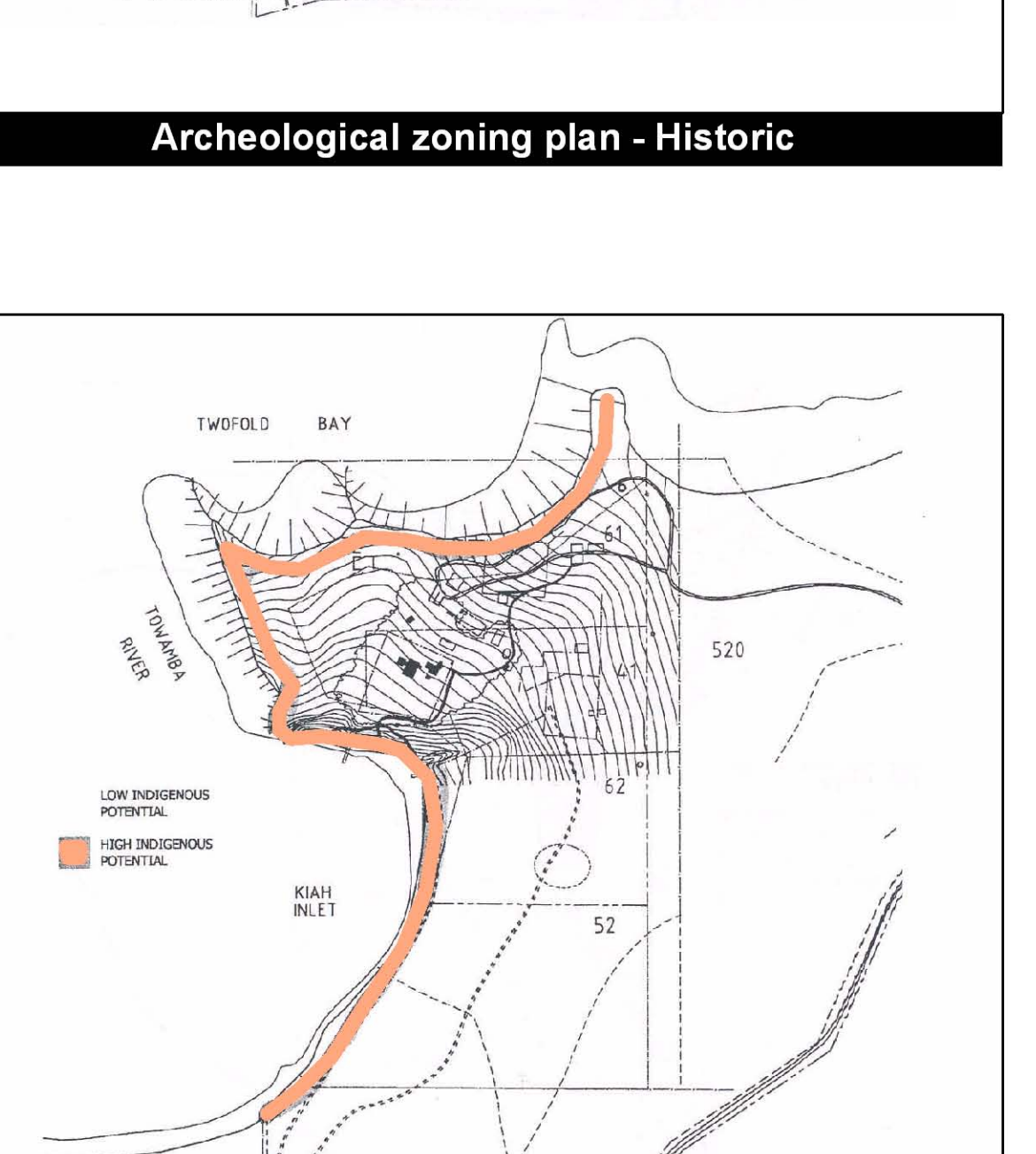
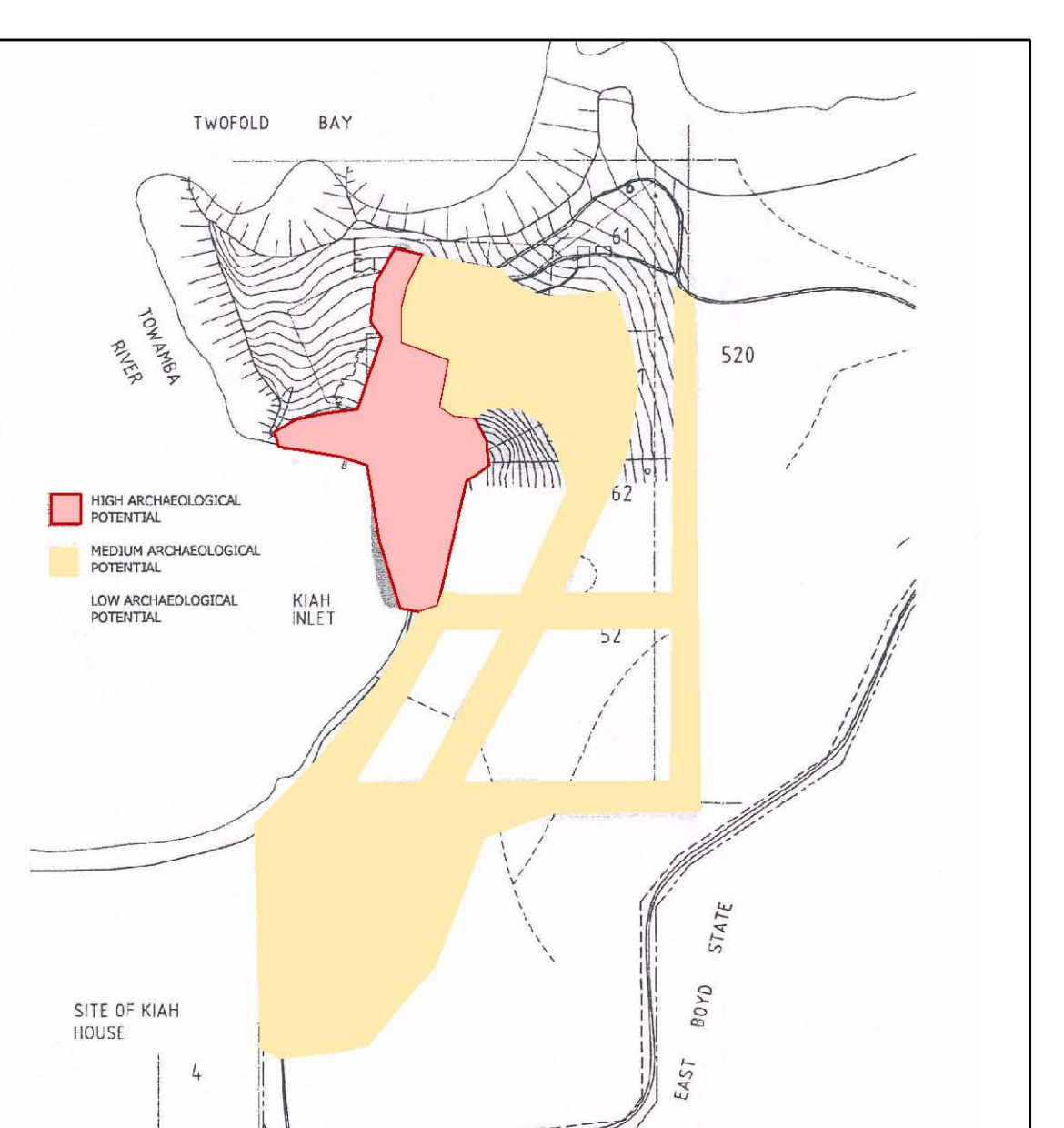
- A water tank is to be installed for independent supply to fire hose reel at the house.
- This is to be dedicated to building protection, for fire purposes ONLY.
- Develop structural fire fighting capacity that included fire fighting inductance surfactants.
- Fire blankets to be added to the house.
- Sign post water access point eg standpipe

### Communications Information

Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	23, 25, 26, 28, 29 Most locations have access to 2 repeaters
Govt Group - VHF	17 Reception is usually good for all channels
NPWS - VHF (Regional Control)	18
Freq 1	19
Freq 2	20
Freq 3	21
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	22
NPWS/RFS (X-band Repeater)	23
RFS-PMR-UHF	24
RFS-GRN	25
CB-UHF	26
Arbcraft - VHF	27
132.45	28
132.33	29
123.45	30
Forests NSW	31
Mobile Phone	32

### Contact Information

Agency	Position/Location	Phone
All Emergency Calls 24hrs		000
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Merimbula Office (bus. hours) NPWS Incident Response Answering Service (after hours)	(02) 6405 5000 1800 825 104
State Forests NSW	General contact Eden	(02) 9985 4100 (02) 6496 1500
NSW Rural Fire Service	Fire Control Office (Bega Valley) FCO - Eden	(02) 6494 7400 (02) 6496 1500
State Emergency Service	Emergency (24 hours) SES Eden	132 500 (02) 6496 676
Police	Emergency Bega	000 (02) 6492 9999
Ambulance	Emergency Bega	000 131 233 (02) 6492 9999 (02) 6154 6202 (02) 6496 4444 (02) 6495 135
DSE (Victoria)	Opportunity Regional Office (Traralgon) Cape River Office	(03) 5172 2111 (03) 5108 2100
Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council	Bega Valley Shire Council	(02) 6492 2222 (02) 6496 1922
SE Fire Exports		(02) 6496 0222
Department of Defence - Navy Ammunition Facility	Explosive Ordnance Depot	(02) 6499 7000



### Archeological zoning plan - Indigenous

Department of Environment & Climate Change NSW