

### OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

ACTIVITY	OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES
<b>Command, control and firefighting arrangements</b> (FMM 4.1 & 4.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First fire personnel of any agency on site assume control of the fire, but must ensure the relevant land management agency is promptly notified.</li> <li>On arrival of other fire agencies, the initial incident controller will consult with the other agencies on the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant DFMC Plan of Operations.</li> <li>The use of earth-moving equipment and aerial suppression must be approved by a senior NPWS officer.</li> </ul>
<b>Aircraft Operations</b> (NPWS FMM 4.4 & 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilots must be briefed on the location and type of powerlines within incident operation area.</li> <li>Aerial water bombing and aerial ignitions are permissible in this reserve, however can only be used and commenced on the instruction of the incident controller or senior NPWS officer.</li> <li>Water bombing operations should support containment operations by aggressively attacking flanks, hotspots, spot-overs and head fires where required.</li> <li>Where possible, foams should be used to increase the effectiveness of water, however limit use within 50m of watercourses and dams.</li> <li>The use of water bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to specific circumstances as determined by the senior NPWS officer.</li> <li>Ground crews must be briefed and alerted to aerial ignition and water bombing operations.</li> </ul>
<b>Back burning</b> (NPWS FMM 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All backburning operations must be planned and approved by a senior NPWS officer.</li> <li>Backburning operations are to be used to minimise the potential run of uncontrolled fire.</li> <li>All crews must be briefed on the sequence and safety precautions of the operation.</li> <li>Generally, burning should commence when the humidity rises in late afternoon or early evening and spotting is minimal. With a low FDI, burning may be safely undertaken during the day.</li> <li>Where practicable, clear 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to burning, or wet down these trees as part of the backburn ignition preparation.</li> </ul>
<b>Control lines</b> (NPWS FMM 3.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing constructed or natural fire control advantages should be used, wherever possible, to contain bushfires.</li> <li>Trails that comply with the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee Policy 103 "Fire Trails" are identified on this operations map.</li> <li>As a minimum, management trails identified on the operations map are maintained to a standard to provide access to Category 9, unless otherwise indicated.</li> <li>Strategies involving earth-moving equipment must be approved by the senior NPWS officer before implementation.</li> <li>Earth-moving equipment must be supervised and guided by an experienced NPWS officer or a person recognised to be appropriately experienced.</li> <li>All earthmoving equipment employed in fire operations must be accompanied by a support vehicle that has equipment available to contact support personnel in an emergency. Plant involved in direct or parallel attack must be accompanied by either a slip-on or a tie-backer for safety purposes.</li> <li>At the commencement of shifts, all operators and guides must be briefed on safety considerations and actions to prevent damage to sensitive natural and cultural heritage.</li> <li>Where possible, control lines running along valley areas should be constructed 50m from gullies to avoid severe erosion.</li> </ul>
<b>Earth moving machinery</b> (NPWS FMM 4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible, control lines running along valley areas should be constructed 50m from gullies to avoid severe erosion.</li> </ul>
<b>Fire suppression chemicals</b> (NPWS FMM 4.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hetting and foaming agents (surfactants) are permitted for use in wildfire suppression.</li> <li>Use of chemicals must be authorised by the senior NPWS officer.</li> <li>As far as possible, exclude the use of surfactants within 50m of watercourses and dams.</li> <li>Use surfactants where natural advantages provide the most effective applications of the chemicals.</li> </ul>
<b>Post fire rehabilitation</b> (NPWS FMM 5.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The rehabilitation process should be addressed during the incident, in the Incident Action Plan.</li> </ul>
<b>Smoke management</b> (NPWS FMM 3.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations.</li> <li>Where smoke has the potential to be a hazard on local roads or highways the police, RTA, local shire council and relevant media must be notified.</li> <li>Monitor local roads and access for smoke hazards and install road safety/warning signs where necessary. Traffic control must comply with RTA Traffic Control at Workplaces Manual requirements.</li> </ul>
<b>Transmission lines (Powerlines)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May cause danger to ground personnel through smoke conduction of electricity through the air.</li> <li>Contact the relevant authority to turn the power off prior to back burning operations under lines.</li> </ul>
<b>Water supplies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to water supplies on private property will be negotiated prior to use, except according to S44 provisions.</li> <li>Arrangements may be made to replace water used after the fire, as required.</li> </ul>

### FIRE SEASON INFORMATION

The critical fire season occurs between January and March, when the potential for fire events is at its highest. Particular care and monitoring is required during periods of prolonged drought when strong negative Southern Oscillation Indices precede the fire season, and when low pressure systems dominate central and southern Australia during and leading up to the fire season. During these times fires may exhibit high intensity behaviour in windy conditions and exceed current rate of spread indices. Periods of extended drought, may give rise to higher potential bushfire behaviour during winter.

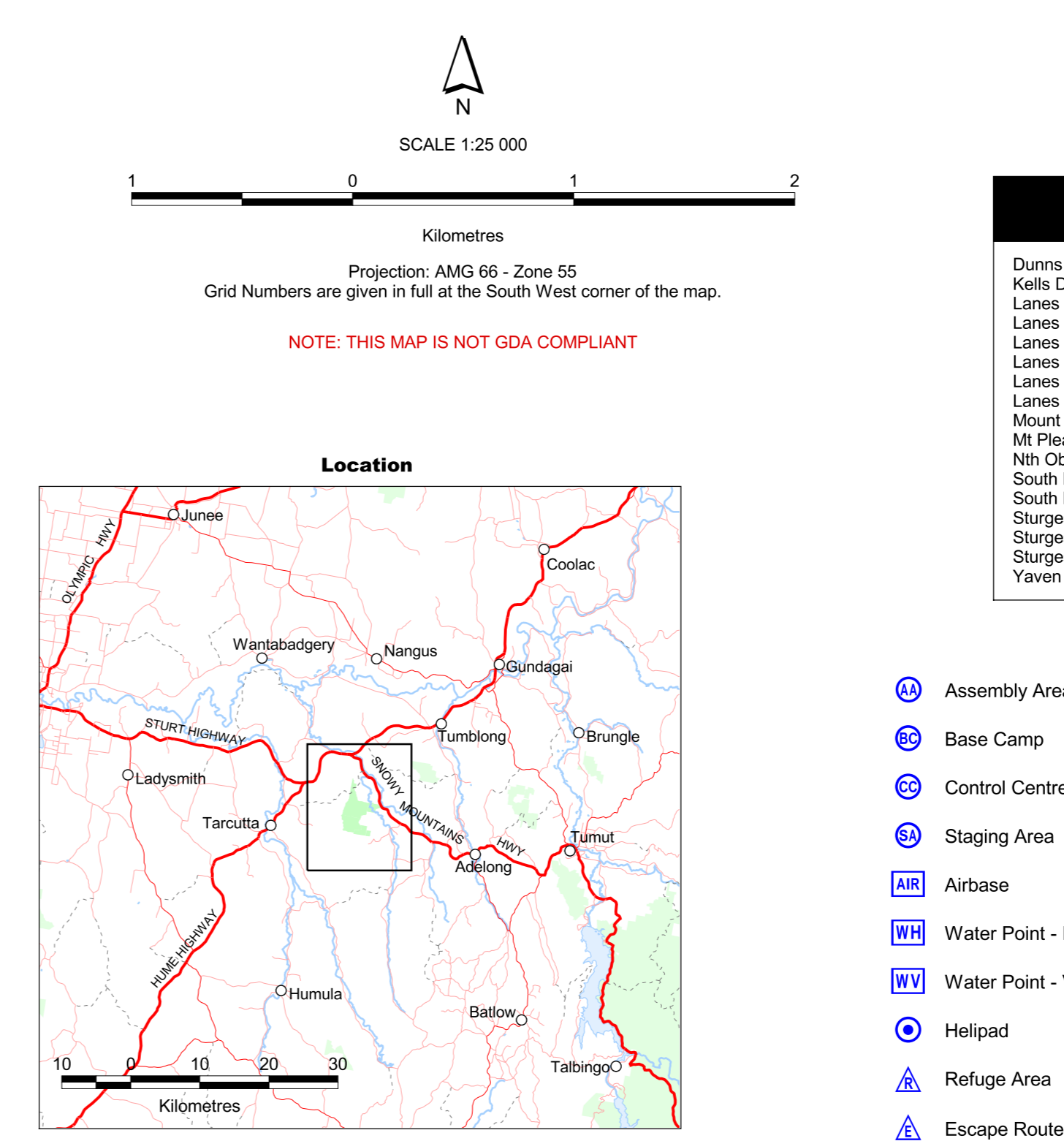
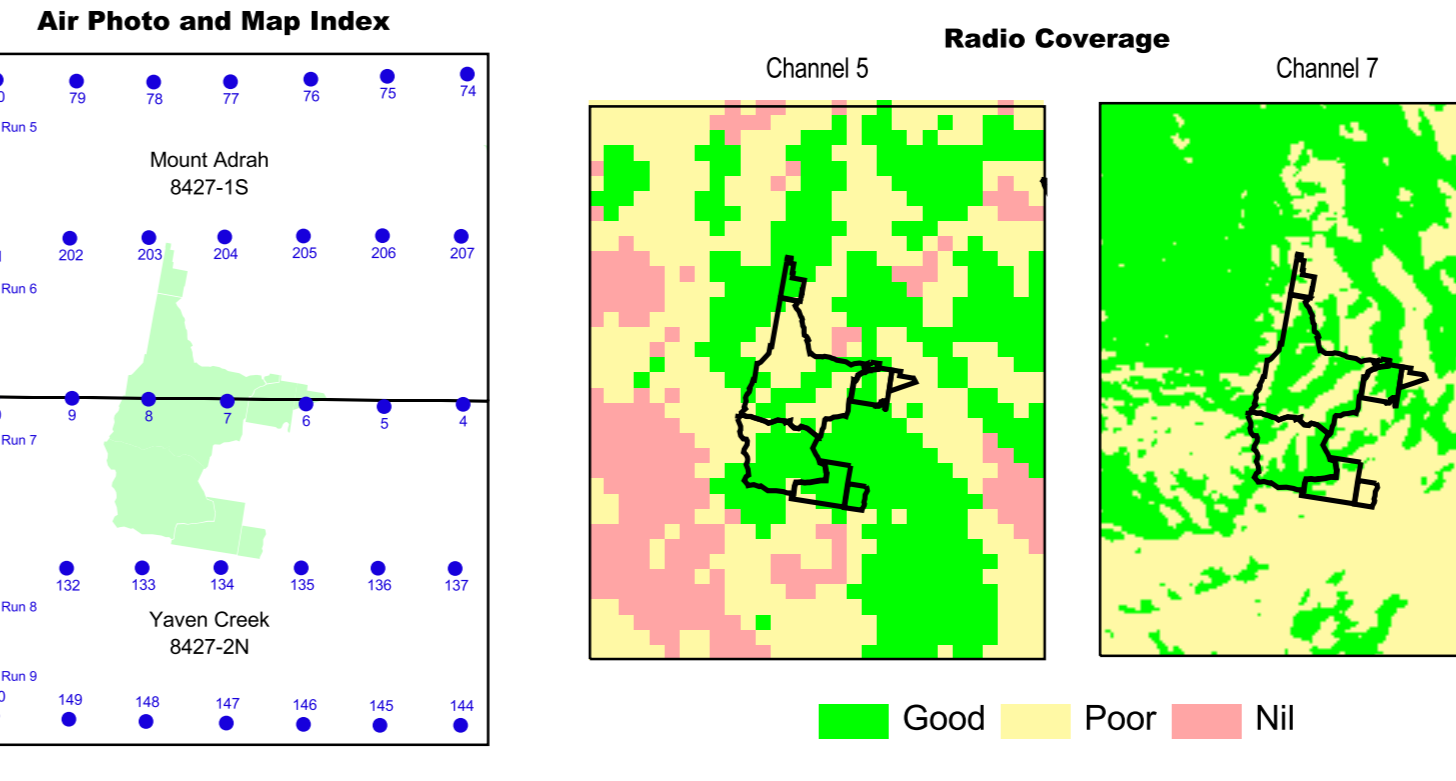
Any proposed prescribed burning should be undertaken before late autumn precipitation occurs. Last likely period to disrupt fauna during prescribed burning is at the end of March and April, depending on weather conditions (past, present and forecast). Any fire in spring should be avoided.

During the fire season prevailing winds during the day are from the west and northwest. All ignitions under a SW influence should be managed with the potential for flanks to become heads when W to NW wind trends return after fronts pass through.

### SUPPRESSION STRATEGIES

FFDI	OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES
<b>Current Low - Mod &amp; Forecast Low - Mod</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along existing containment lines.</li> <li>Where practicable, consider maximising the fire area in accordance with the requirements of any proposed prescribed burns in the fire planning strategy and Bushfire Management Committee agreements.</li> </ul>
<b>Current Low - Mod &amp; Forecast High or &gt;</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In order to minimise the fire area and secure the flanks as soon as possible, undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along the closest containment lines.</li> <li>Pay particular attention to the flank on the next predicted down wind side.</li> <li>Consider fall back containment strategies.</li> </ul>
<b>Current High or &gt; &amp; Forecast High or &gt;</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines.</li> <li>Secure and deepen containment lines along the next predicted downwind side of the fire.</li> <li>Allow sufficient time to secure containment lines to avoid wasted effort and potential failure.</li> <li>Prepare and implement fall back containment strategies.</li> </ul>
<b>Fire Advantages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Streams in the reserve are intermittent and should not be regarded as passive control lines under normal conditions.</li> <li>Reserve trails will function as fire advantages.</li> </ul>

Note: Always ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them.



## South West Slopes Region

# Ellerslie Nature Reserve

## Fire Operations Map

### 2006

Version: June 2006 ISBN: 1 74137 278 X DEC. 2005/104

This Map should be used in conjunction with air photos and ground reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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### LIFE & PROPERTY GUIDELINES

<b>Visitor safety</b> (NPWS FMM 3.6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible:</li> <li>Visitors in or adjacent to the fire ground will not be permitted unless authorised by the Incident Controller. The presence of visitors should be reported to the incident controller immediately, who will arrange for an evacuation if necessary.</li> <li>"Park closed" or "smoke hazard" signs must be placed in areas used by visitors prior to undertaking prescribed burning.</li> <li>Notify media that wildlife or prescribed fire exists within the reserves.</li> </ul>
<b>Asset Protection</b> (FMM 4.10)	There are no recorded assets within the reserve.

### HERITAGE MANAGEMENT ZONE GUIDELINES

ZONE	GUIDELINES (WITHIN THE ZONE)
<b>HMZ 1 (High Priority)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible:</li> <li>Contain fires to small areas and lower potential intensity and manage to produce mosaic burn patterns.</li> <li>Avoid the use of earth moving machines.</li> <li>Avoid the use of surfactants/retardants.</li> <li>Protect mature trees and avoid felling large and hollow bearing trees during 'top up' activities.</li> <li>Prescribed fire should be avoided, unless deemed necessary for ecological purposes.</li> </ul>
<b>HMZ 2</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where possible:</li> <li>Minimise the potential for fire to spread and/or contain to existing control lines.</li> <li>Where wildfires occur in unrelieved areas programmed for prescribed burning (ie. SFMZ).</li> <li>Prescribed fire or other fuel manipulation program may be applied to the area, to reduce potential risks.</li> <li>Manage fire to produce mosaic (patchy) burn patterns (where weather conditions permit).</li> <li>Earthmoving equipment may be used to contain fire within DEC policy guidelines.</li> <li>Retardants and foams may be used to suppress fire, however minimise use within 50m of water courses and dams.</li> </ul>

### CULTURAL HERITAGE GUIDELINES

THEME	GUIDELINES
<b>Aboriginal &amp; Historic Heritage</b> (FMM 4.11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief personnel involved in control line construction and vehicle based fire suppression operations on site locations and the required management strategies for site protection. Include Incident Action Plans.</li> <li>Liasse with the relevant heritage officer and/or representative where considered necessary.</li> </ul>
<b>Scarred trees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear fuels, with hand tools, from tree base and/or form base to 3m up tree trunk.</li> <li>Do not clear or fell trees.</li> <li>Where possible, avoid new trail construction within 20m of trees and construct trails on the advancing fire side of the tree.</li> <li>Hazard reduction or back burning operations should minimise the potential threat of radiant heat on the tree.</li> </ul>
<b>Rock arrangements, rock engravings, bore rings, etc</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid new trail construction or ground disturbance within close proximity of site. Where possible, ensure site is protected by constructing trails or hand tool lines on the advancing fire side.</li> <li>Clear, by hand, excess fuels from the site.</li> <li>Avoid direct attack methods (including aerial water bombing) at known sites. Surfactants and retardants in aerial line drops may be used adjacent to, but not directly on sites.</li> <li>Prescribed burn or back burning operations should protect sites from the potential threat of radiant heat and smoke on sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Art sites and overhangs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid new trail construction or ground disturbance within close proximity of site. Where practicable, ensure site is protected by constructing trails or hand tool lines on the advancing fire side.</li> <li>Clear, by hand (whipper snippers, brush cutters, mowers), excess fuels from the site.</li> <li>Avoid direct attack methods on sites.</li> <li>Avoid aerial water bombing, use of foams and/or retardants at known sites. Use of foam or aerial line drops may be used adjacent to, but not directly on sites.</li> <li>Prescribed burn or back burning operations should protect sites from the potential threat of radiant heat and smoke (carbon deposition) on sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Open camp sites</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoid ground disturbance at or within close proximity of the site (30m). Earthmoving blades should be raised in these locations to avoid damage to sites on trails, unless a "Consent to Destroy" has been attained.</li> <li>Avoid direct attack methods (including aerial water bombing) at known sites.</li> <li>Use of foam or aerial line drops may be used adjacent to, but not directly on sites.</li> </ul>
<b>Memorial Dedication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear fuels, with hand tools, from trunk base and/or cover stump with foam.</li> <li>Where possible, avoid new trail construction within 20m of the memorial and construct control lines on the advancing fire side of the site.</li> <li>Hazard reduction or back burning operations should minimise the potential threat of radiant heat on the tree by following the above procedure.</li> </ul>

FMM - contains extracts from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual (December 2004). For the purposes of public exhibition, some information will not be displayed under the Freedom of Information Act 1989. Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1988, regulations and amendments, and Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environment and Conservation and Aboriginal Communities.

### RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

AGENCY/RESOURCE	CHANNEL	MRX FREQ.	MTX FREQ.	NOTES
NPWS (VHF)	5	MRX 77.7000	MTX 80.3000	Big Tabbings Mountain - Southern section has the best coverage.
	7	MRX 78.7625	MTX 81.2625	Mount Yaven - Northern section has the best coverage.
	17	82.3875	82.3875	
NPWS (VHF) FIRE GROUND	18	79.8375	79.8375	Channel to be determined by ground crews, crew leaders, Division commanders etc. Any changes will be noted in IAP.
	19	79.9625	79.9625	
	65	MRX 415.0625	MTX 405.6125	Werrebolders - primary channel.
RFS (PMR)	78	MRX 418.9625	MTX 409.5125	Mount Adrah - secondary channel.
	10	27.075 MHz		
RFS (UHF) CB	6	27.025 MHz		
		119.10 MHz		State wide
AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATIONS (Fire Communication Traffic Advisory Frequencies F-CTAF)		120.80 MHz		State wide
		123.45 MHz		Pilots (chit chat) "The Numbers" channel
		128.70 MHz		State wide
		132.75 MHz		State wide

**Unauthorised and inappropriate use of Aviation Channels is a criminal offence**

Mobile Phone Coverage - generally, good coverage across the reserve, however signal may be weaker in gullies and areas with a dense canopy.

### CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE	RURAL FIRE SERVICE	EMERGENCY SERVICES	000
SWS Turnut Office (B/H)	6947 7000	Turnut Fire Control Centre (Ph)	6931 5855
SWS Turnut Office Fax	6947 4170	(Fax)	6931 5626
Incident Answering Service (AH)	1800 629 104	Duty Officer	6931 5000
		State Emergency Service Turnut	13 1233
		Turnut Rescue Squad	6947 1679
		Fire Brigade - Turnut	6947 1622
		OTHER ORGANISATIONS	
	State Operations (24 hrs)	8741 5400	6949 5999

### Ellerslie Nature Reserves - Waypoints

Name	Ref No	Description	Easting	Northing	Longitude	Latitude
Dunns Road	H1	Staging Area, Remote Helipad	583600	6094600	147°55' 10"	35°17' 17"
Kellis Dam	H2	Waterpoint - Vehicle	581280	6094980	147°53' 38"	35°17' 06"
Lanes 1		Waterpoint - Helicopter, Waterpoint - Vehicle	578110	6096450	147°51' 32"	35°16' 18"
Lanes 2		Waterpoint - Vehicle	578120	6096240	147°51' 32"	35°16' 28"
Lanes 3		Waterpoint - Vehicle	578100	6096060	147°51' 31"	35°16' 31"
Lanes 4		Waterpoint - Vehicle	578050	6095810	147°51' 30"	35°16' 40"
Lanes 5		Waterpoint - Vehicle	577860	6095760	147°51' 22"	35°16' 41"
Lanes 6		Waterpoint - Helicopter	578200	6095740	147°51' 38"	35°16' 42"
Mount Yaven	H3	Waterpoint - Vehicle	578360	6095900	147°51' 41"	35°16' 27"
Nth Pleasant Clk	H4	Waterpoint - Helicopter	582490	6095740	147°54' 29"	35°16' 41"
North Cooem-Ellerslie Tr	H5	Staging Area, Remote Helipad	579970	6103080	147°52' 43"	35°12' 43"
South Dam		Waterpoint - Vehicle	579970	6095230	147°52' 46"	35°16' 58"
South Ridge Trail		Waterpoint - Vehicle	582340	6095080	147°54' 20"	35°17' 02"
Sturgess 1		Waterpoint - Vehicle	582770	6096210	147°54' 35"	35°14' 48"
Sturgess 2		Waterpoint - Vehicle	582820	6096850	147°54' 37"	35°14' 57"
Sturgess 3		Waterpoint - Vehicle	582880	6098840	147°54' 44"	35°14' 57"
Yaven Yaven Ck		Waterpoint - Vehicle	581640	6095930	147°53' 51"	35°14' 45"