

**Gilwarry Nature Reserve and Wingadee Nature Reserve Fire Management Strategy 2011 - 2016**

**Office of Environment & Heritage**

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 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

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**Additional notes**

- The reserve's fire trail system will be finalised after negotiations with landholders on various land management issues. When these have been finalised, this fire management strategy will be updated.

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS VHF		• Unavailable
RFS	P025 P031	• Come-by-Chance • Walgett
UHF - CB		• Small fires - Channel 10 • Large fires - determined by IMT
Aviation	126.7	• CTAF
Cellphone		• Telstra 3G available to the immediate west of both reserves, in open country • Satphone use should be considered

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour) Coonabarabran Area Office (bus. hours)	6842 3041 6842 1311
NSW RFS North West	Bill Britt (Zone Manager) Duty Officer	0427 253 299 6822 4422
RFS Rural Fire Brigades	Carinda Rural - Vic Weber Carinda Village - Michael Barton	6823 2346 6823 2215
NSW Fire Brigade	Katamba	4762 0777
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police	Carinda	6823 2244
	Walgett Shire	6828 1389
Council	Coonamble Shire	6822 1333
	Walgett Shire (permission required)	6828 1399
Carinda Landing Ground	Local contact - Roy White	0413 956 062

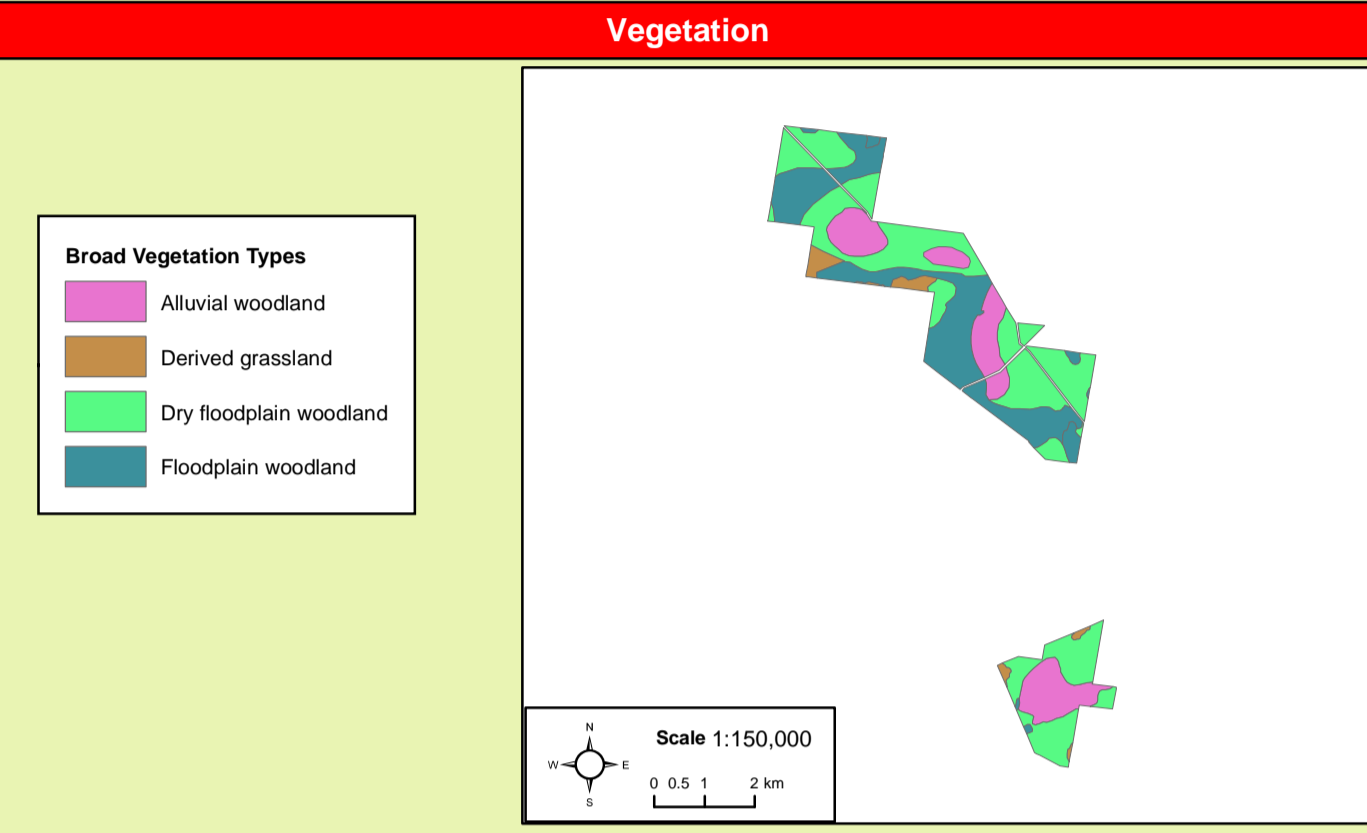
**Locality**

**Related documents**

- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (2010) Fire Management Manual

**Map Details**

Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 GDA 94  
 Projection: Map Grid of Australia Zone 55  
 Data: ADS40 Imagery 2009, 1:50k Topographic Map  
 CAIRNS 8437  
 Scale: Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper



**Fire Season Information**

**Wildfires**

The critical wildfire season is likely to occur:

- after a prolonged period of above average rainfall, leading to prolific grass growth;
- during the period November to February when there is a higher incidence of lightning.

**Prescribed Burning**

Prescribed burning is unlikely to be effective for most areas of the reserve. This is due to the NIL - LOW surface fuel hazard for most vegetation types. Areas of derived grassland will produce continuous grass cover during ephemeral seasons. Their availability for burning is limited by requirements to encourage regeneration.

**Operational Guidelines**

General	Guidelines
<b>Aerial operations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. This includes directing aerial bombing and aerial ignition operations.</li> <li>The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances.</li> <li>All aerial ignition operations require the consent of the NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee.</li> <li>All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin.</li> <li>Backburning in areas of Low - Moderate OFH will require the use of wind, or low humidity to maximise effectiveness.</li> </ul>
<b>Backburning</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The first combantant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>
<b>Command &amp; Control</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS Officer.</li> <li>Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact.</li> <li>Containment line construction will be excluded in areas with a high potential of Aboriginal sites.</li> <li>All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.</li> <li>All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed immediately at the cessation of the incident.</li> </ul>
<b>Containment Lines</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Graders may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS Officer.</li> <li>Graders must always be guided and supervised by an experienced officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack, this vehicle must be a fire fighting vehicle.</li> <li>Graders must not work in machinery exclusion areas.</li> <li>Graders must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate.</li> </ul>
<b>Earthmoving Equipment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The use of foam, gels and retardants will be permitted on the reserve.</li> <li>Fire suppression chemicals are not to be applied within 50m of water courses and dams.</li> <li>The use of retardants requires the approval of the Regional Manager or delegate.</li> </ul>
<b>Fire Suppression Chemicals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.</li> <li>Consider deployment of a bulk water carrier to support fire operations.</li> </ul>
<b>Rehabilitation</b>	
<b>Watering points</b>	
<b>Smoke Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitor Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The area is generally closed to the public. No guided activities will be permitted during periods of Severe+ Fire Danger, or during fire operations.</li> </ul>

