

HARTLEY HISTORIC SITE Wild Fire Management Strategy 2006

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 36 (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 Conservation. Published by the Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW), July 2006
Contact: info@dec.nsw.gov.au or [1300 959 583](tel:1300 959 583)
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Fire Season Information

- The statutory wildfire season occurs between 1st October and 31st March. This may be extended if weather conditions lead to increased fire danger outside of this period.
- Prescribed burning is not proposed for the village precinct. However burning in adjacent forest land is normally undertaken in Spring through to Autumn.

Related Documents

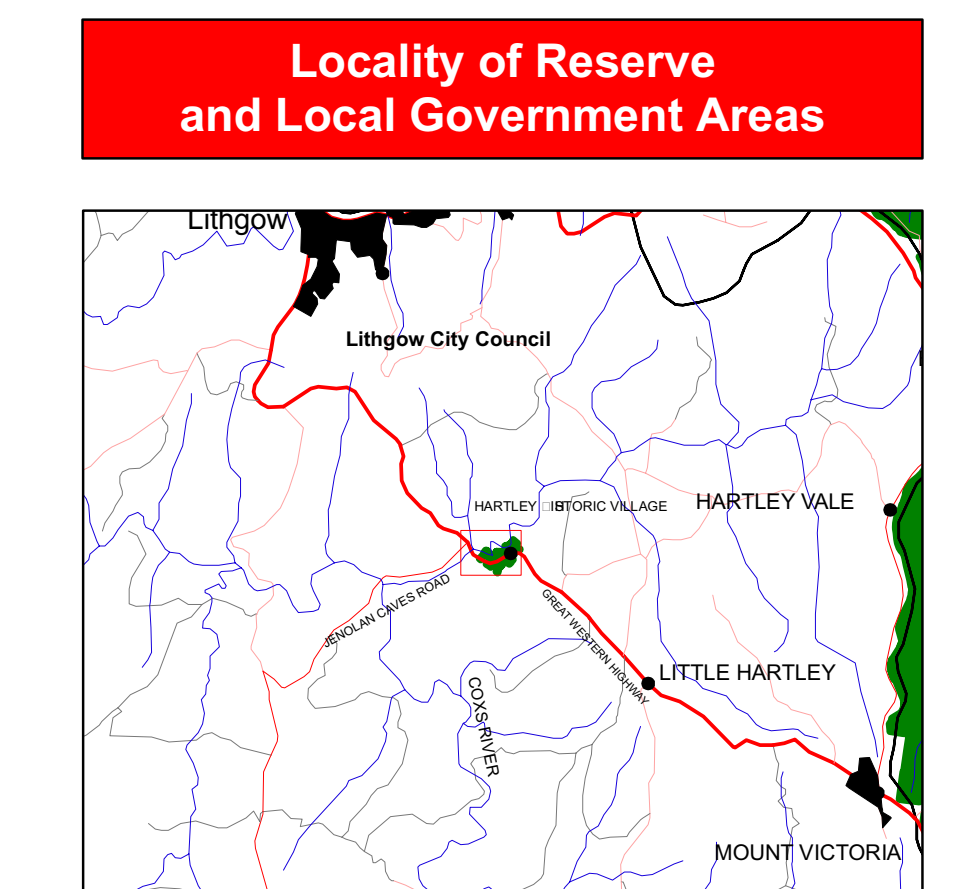
- National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual, September 2005.

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	23.30	• Acknowledging in time. Last coverage North of Highway.
RFES - DMC	1-99	• Available in most NPWS and RFR service areas.
UHF - CB	1-99	• Please check on frequency with NPWS and RFR.
Mobile Phone - GSM		• Poor coverage (see coverage).
National Parks & Wildlife Service Administration	1300 959 583	• 83622117 (NB: No live firing personnel present)

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
ANY FIRE EMERGENCY	Blue Mountains Regional Office	015 201 193
	Kanangra Area Manager	0627 288 009
	Fire Management Officer	0428 869 111
	Regional Operations Coordinator	0428 478 280
	Hartley Historic Site Administration	47847 500
	Blue Mountains Regional Office	015 201 193
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service	24 Hours	015 201 193
	Business Hours	015 201 193
	Emergencies	000
	Landline	015 201 193
Police	Landline	015 201 193
	Emergency	000
Police	Landline	015 201 193
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Fire Management Zones

The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity.

Map ID	Protection Priority	Zone Name	Asset/Action	Responsibility
1	1	Court House	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing 30m radius • Trim overhanging branches	HHS Manager
2	1	St Bernard's Church & Presbytery	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing within fences and orchards • Trim overhanging branches on west side of Church	HHS Manager
3	2	Royal Hotel	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing within fences and orchards • Trim overhanging branches	HHS Manager
4	2	Post Office	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing within fences and orchards	HHS Manager
5	3	Ivy Cottage	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing at rear for 20m east side	HHS Manager
6	3	Farmers Inn	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing/Brush-cutting 20m east side • Trim overhanging branches	HHS Manager
7	3	Old Tralee	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing within fences and orchards	HHS Manager
8	4	Corney's Garage	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing/Brush-cutting for 30m radius • Trim overhanging branches • Erect hazardous chemical/fuel signs	HHS Manager
9	4	Corney's Cottage	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing for 30m radius • Trim overhanging branches	HHS Manager
10	4	Shamrock Inn	• Building Maintenance* • Shearing/Mowing/Brush-cutting 20m east side (rear) • Link road highlight on SW corner	HHS Manager
11	4	Woodshed	• Shearing/Mowing for 30m around where there is a access	HHS Manager
12	4	Rowson's Cottage Ruins	• Review after Conservation Management Plan is complete	HHS Manager

Asset Protection Zone (HST)

The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity.

Map ID	Zone Name	Asset/Action	Responsibility
S13	North of Highway	• Fence and organise grazing as a hazard reduction method. Manually reduce hazard around pumping shed	HHS manager
S14	Rivulet Creek	• Nil	
S15	Southern Hill Block	• Coordinate with hazard reduction burning as appropriate with surrounding Crown land • Manually hazard reduce around plastic tanks • Remove overhanging branches	HHS Manager
S16	Water Tank	• Manually hazard reduce around plastic tanks • Remove overhanging branches	HHS Manager
S17	Post Office Paddock	• Repair fence & organise grazing as a hazard reduction method	HHS Manager
S18	Hotel west	• Fence & organise grazing as a hazard reduction method	HHS manager

Strategic Fire Advantage Zones

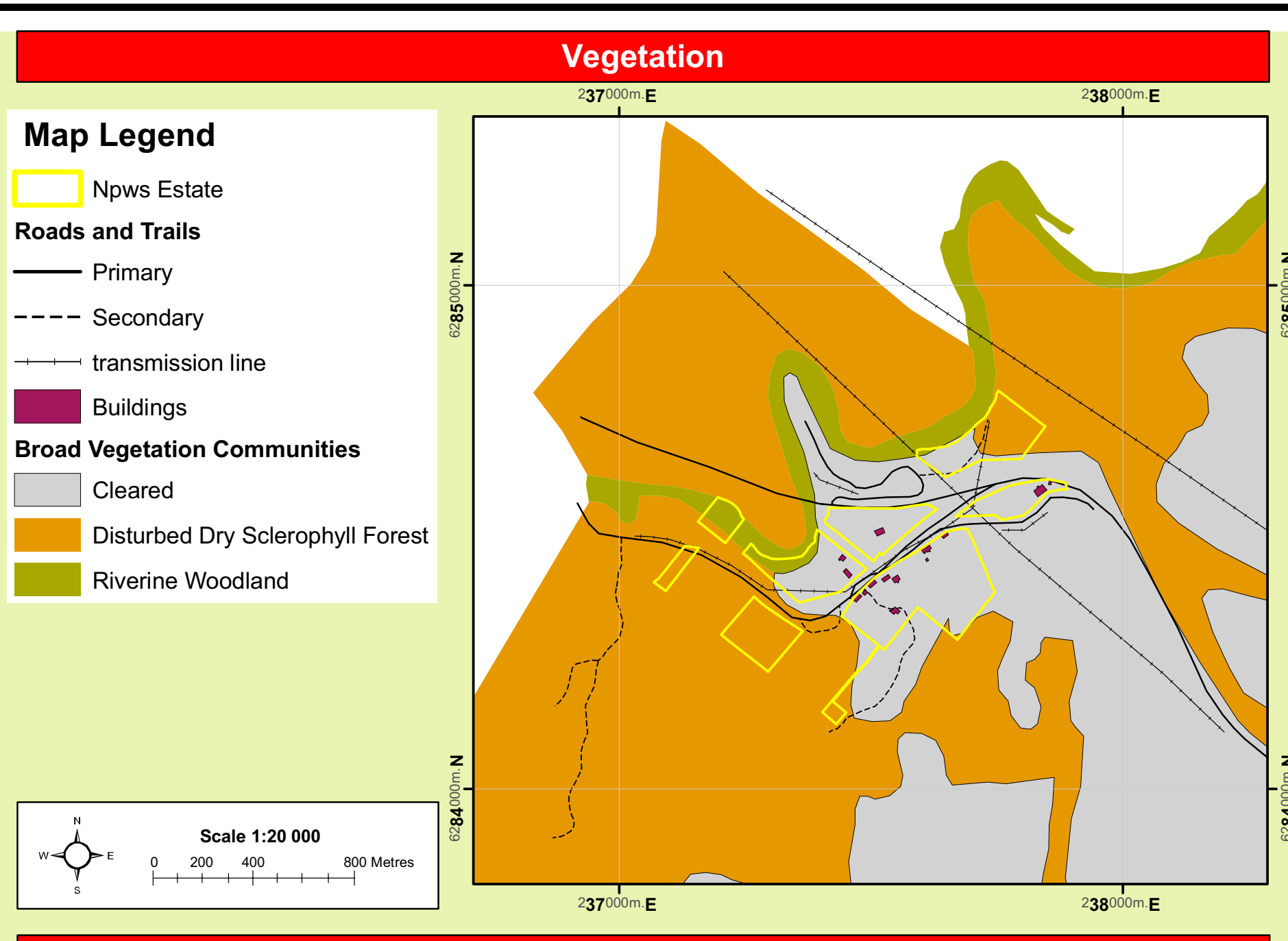
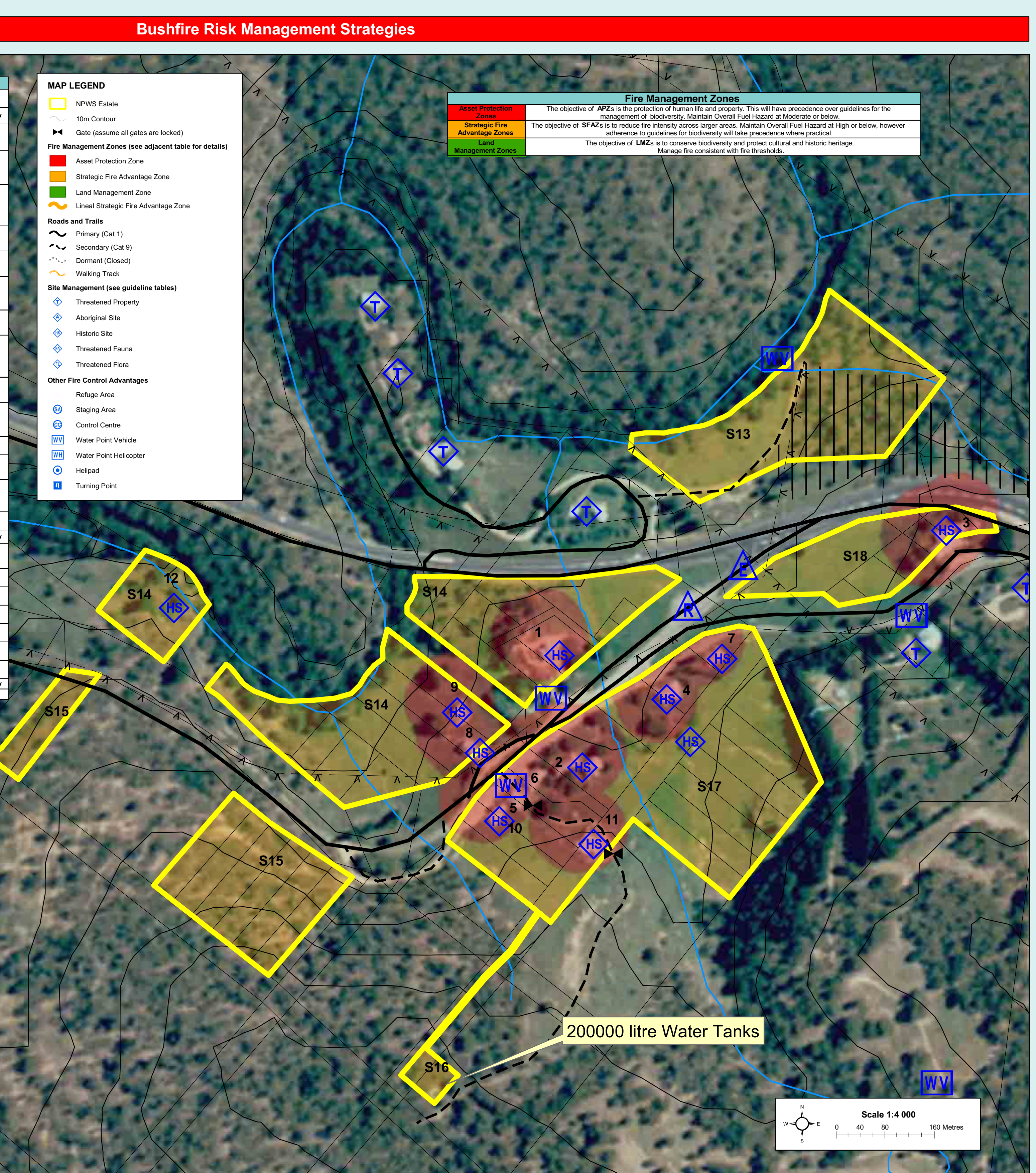
The objective of SFZAs is to reduce fire intensity across larger areas. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity.

Map ID	Zone Name	Asset/Action	Responsibility
S13	North of Highway	• Fence and organise grazing as a hazard reduction method. Manually reduce hazard around pumping shed	HHS manager
S14	Rivulet Creek	• Nil	
S15	Southern Hill Block	• Coordinate with hazard reduction burning as appropriate with surrounding Crown land • Manually hazard reduce around plastic tanks • Remove overhanging branches	HHS Manager
S16	Water Tank	• Manually hazard reduce around plastic tanks • Remove overhanging branches	HHS Manager
S17	Post Office Paddock	• Repair fence & organise grazing as a hazard reduction method	HHS Manager
S18	Hotel west	• Fence & organise grazing as a hazard reduction method	HHS manager

Land Management Zones

The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural and historic heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.

Map ID	Zone Name	Asset/Action	Responsibility
NI	NI	• Nil	
NI	NI	• Nil	



Generic Operational Guidelines

Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

General

- The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-covers.
- 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.
- Blue Mountains Regional Office must be contacted immediately to determine the safest times to implement back-burns. Generally, when the FDI is very high or greater, backburning should commence when the bushfire begins to die in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day.
- Where practicable, clear a fire corridor ahead and follow backburned trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or 'wet' down these areas as part of the backburning operation.
- Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long and steep fire path exists.
- The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly.
- On the arrival of other combatant agencies, the initial incident commander will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BEMC Plan of Operations.
- Construction of new containment lines should be avoided where practicable, except where they may be constructed with minimal environmental impact. New containment lines must be the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.
- Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.

Containment Lines (NPWS Para 2.2 & 2.3)

- All containment lines for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident.
- All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.
- 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 a vehicle officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack the vehicle must be a fire fighting 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 heritage sites.
- Earthmoving equipment should be washed down, where practicable, after all entering NPWS estate.
- All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.

Fire Suppression

Wildfire suppression 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 mapped endangered flora and fauna.
- Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and fire used products recorded.
- The Threatened Species Operational Guidelines are to be observed.

Rehabilitation (NPWS Para 2.3)

- 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 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 RFA traffic management guidelines.

Visitor Management (NPWS Para 2.4 & 3.1)

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

Resource

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS Para 2.1.1)

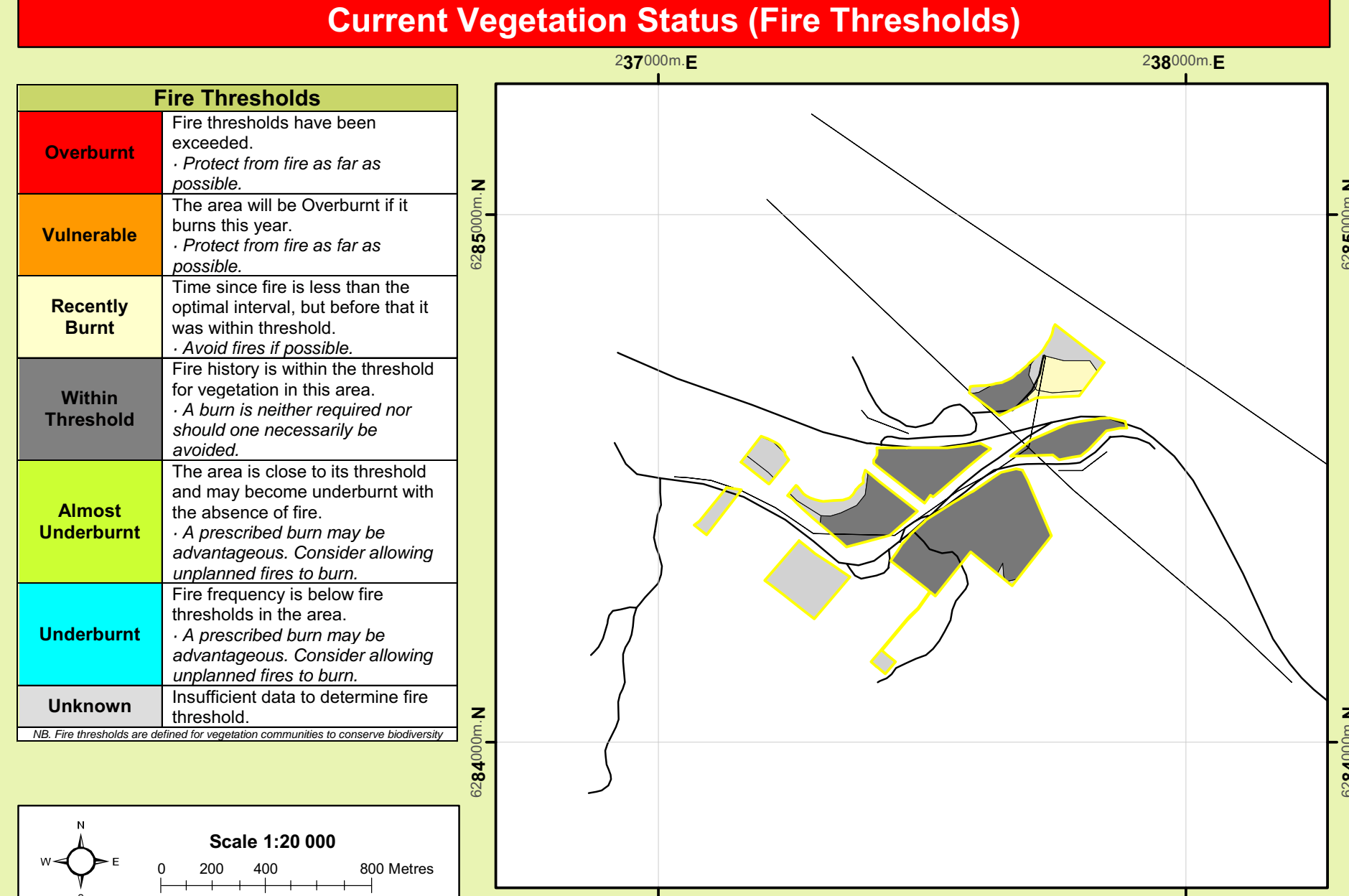
Asset	Guidelines
A1	• As far as possible protect site from fire. • Do not cut down trees. • Use of boats, wading agents & retardant is acceptable.
A2	• As far as possible protect site from fire. • Avoid ground disturbance including handpicks, shovels, etc. • Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. • Avoid ground disturbance by wildfire, bushfire, prescribed burn, etc. • Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance.
A3	• Avoid ground disturbance by wildfire, bushfire, prescribed burn, etc. • Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. • Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance.

Historic Heritage Management (NPWS Para 4.1)

Asset	Guidelines
H1	• High RCHMIS priority. • Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. • High RCHMIS priority.
H2	• Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. • High or low RCHMIS priority. • Heritage site unlikely to be affected by fire.
H3	• Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. • Low RCHMIS priority.
H4	• Avoid fire, including wildfire, backburning & HR. • Low RCHMIS priority.
H5	• Low RCHMIS priority.
H6	• High or low RCHMIS priority.
H7	• High or low RCHMIS priority.

Preparedness Strategies

General	Specific to Hartley Historic Site
• This plan will be made available to relevant fire fighting authorities. Authorities will also be given the opportunity to become familiar with the site at pre-season briefings.	• Check on fire fighting equipment on site. • Check on fire fighting equipment on site.
• Pre-season briefings should be held to brief fire fighting authorities on site. Briefings should include a site check, a review of the site's fire fighting equipment, and a review of the site's fire fighting equipment.	• Check on fire fighting equipment on site. • Check on fire fighting equipment on site.



Generic Suppression Strategies

Current FDR / Forecast FDR	Strategy
Low - Mod / Low - Mod	• As far as possible, undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack along existing control lines. • As far as possible, maximise area burnt without threatening assets, including biodiversity.
Low - Mod / > High	• Undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack to minimise the time taken to contain the fire. • Consider new control lines if necessary to minimise the time to contain the fire.
High / All	• Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed control lines. • Secure and deepen control lines along the next predicted downwind link of the fire.
All / All	• Identify and survey backup control lines. • Ensure there is sufficient time to secure control lines before the fire gets to them. • If there is insufficient time to secure control lines, fall back to the next potential control line. • As far as possible, implement threatened species and cultural heritage management guidelines.

Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds

Region	Vegetation Community	Biodiversity Thresholds	Fire Behavior	Year Burned	Area (Ha)
A	Disturbed Dry Scrubland	• Avoid successive fires at intervals of < 7 years.	Moderate	2005	2
B	Hoathland	• Avoid successive fires at intervals of < 8 years. • Avoid fire exclusion for a period of > 30 years.	Low to moderate		
C	Mit Sclerophyll Forest	• Avoid successive fires at intervals of < 20 years. • Avoid fire exclusion for a period of > 200 years.	High		
D	Rainforest	• Avoid any fire occurrence (a limited fire history ability exists).	High		
I	Freestone	• Avoid successive fires at intervals of < 6 years.	Low		
NI	Sand/Rock/Barren/Ground Water	• Not applicable.			

