

Northern Tablelands Region
Imbota NR
Fire Management Strategy
 (Type 2)
 2005
 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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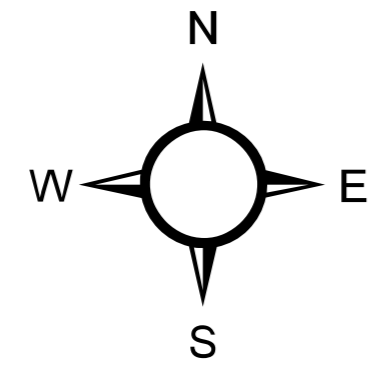
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 PO Box 402 Armidale NSW 2350.

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This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

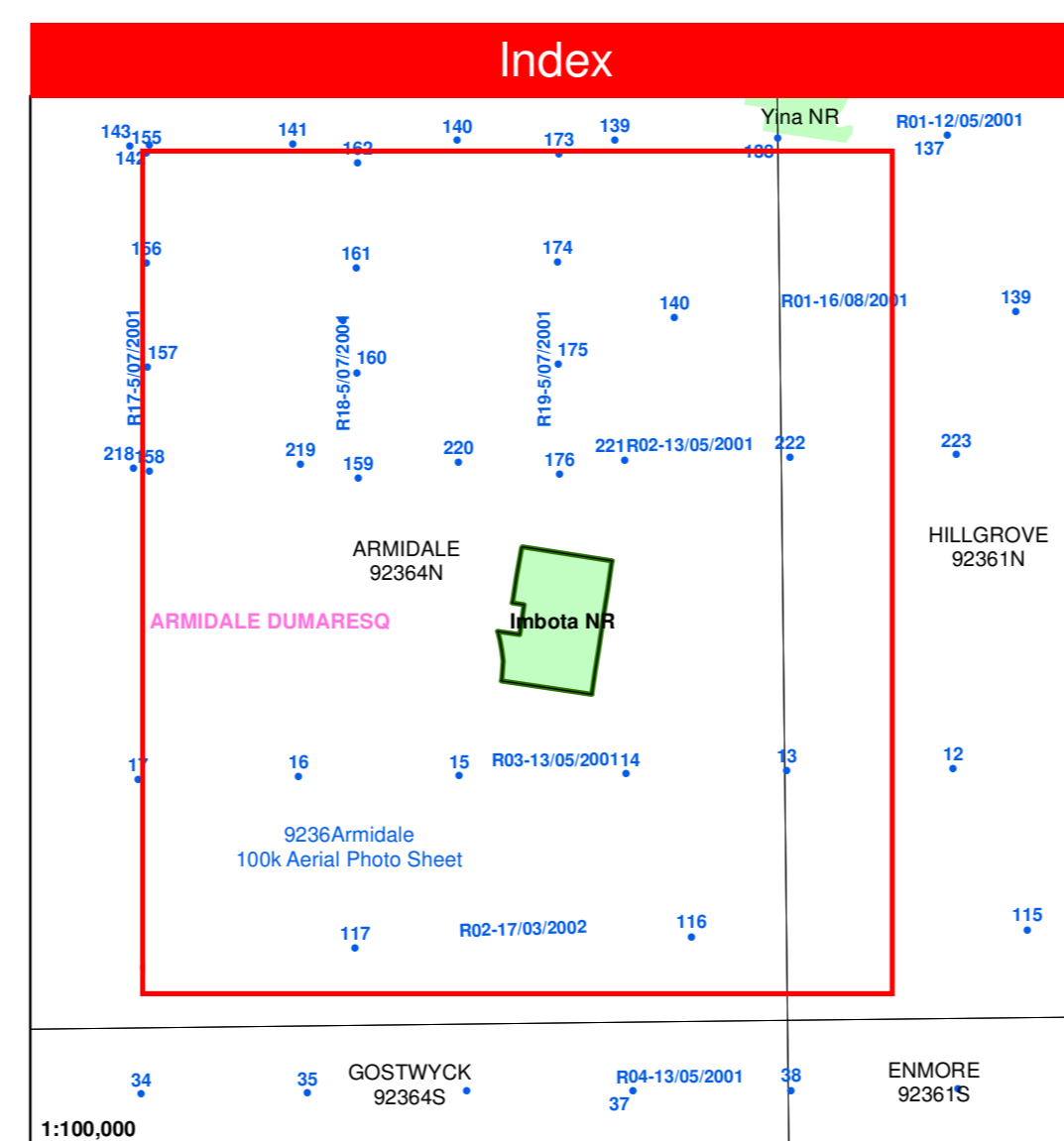
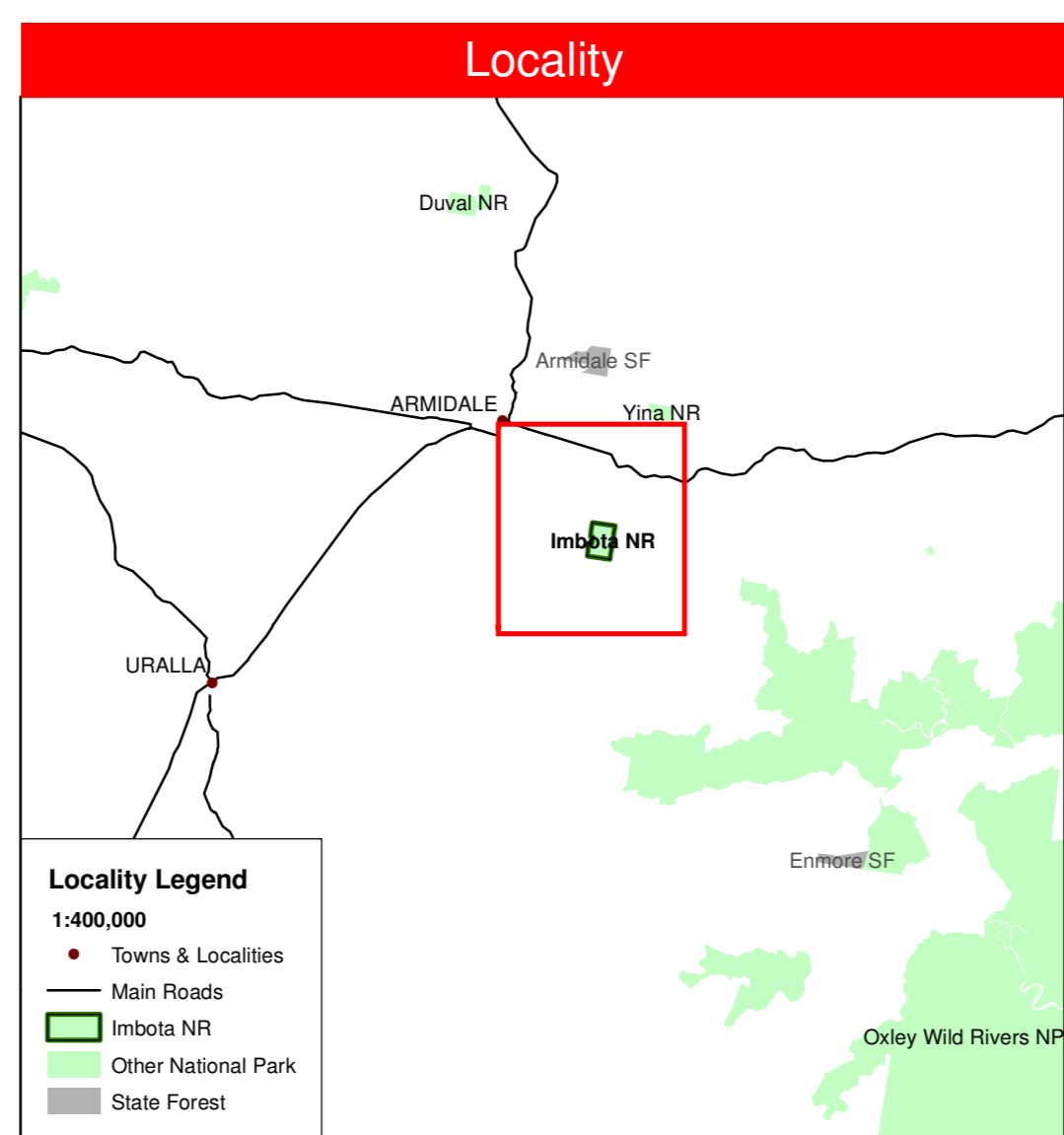
Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW)

Approved Date: 27 Oct 2005



Datum: AGD86
 Projection: UTM
 Grid: AMG Zone 96

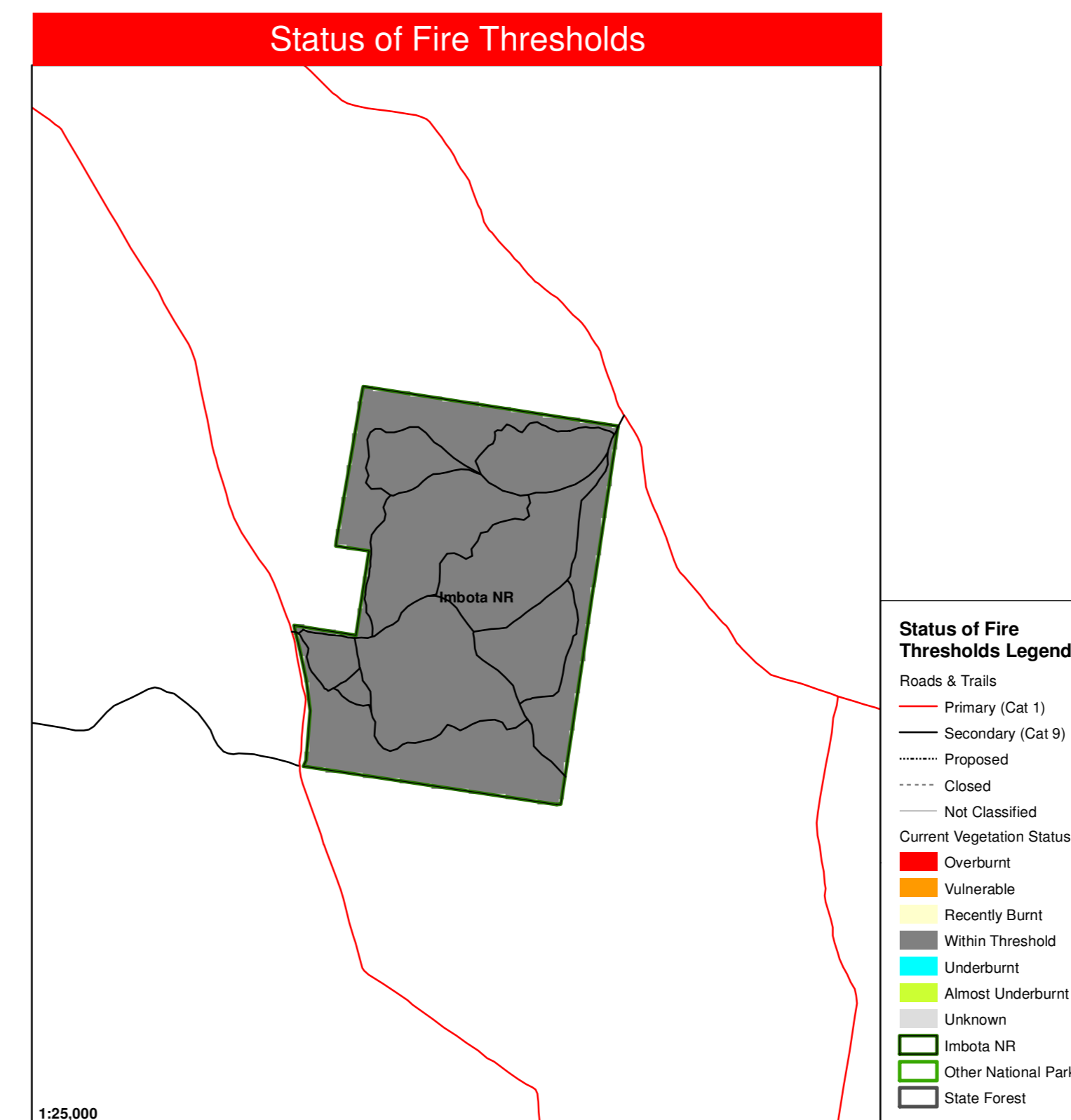
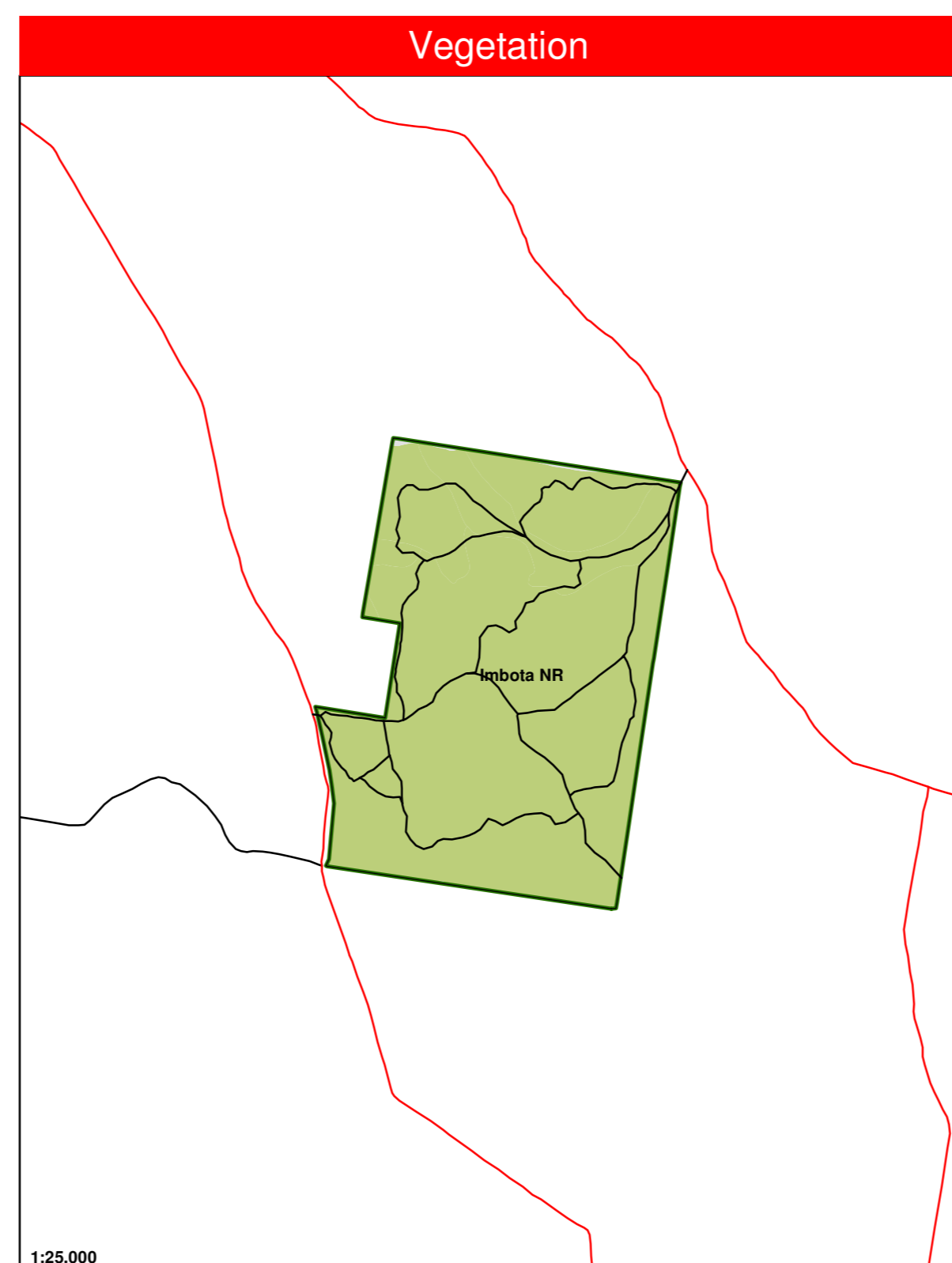
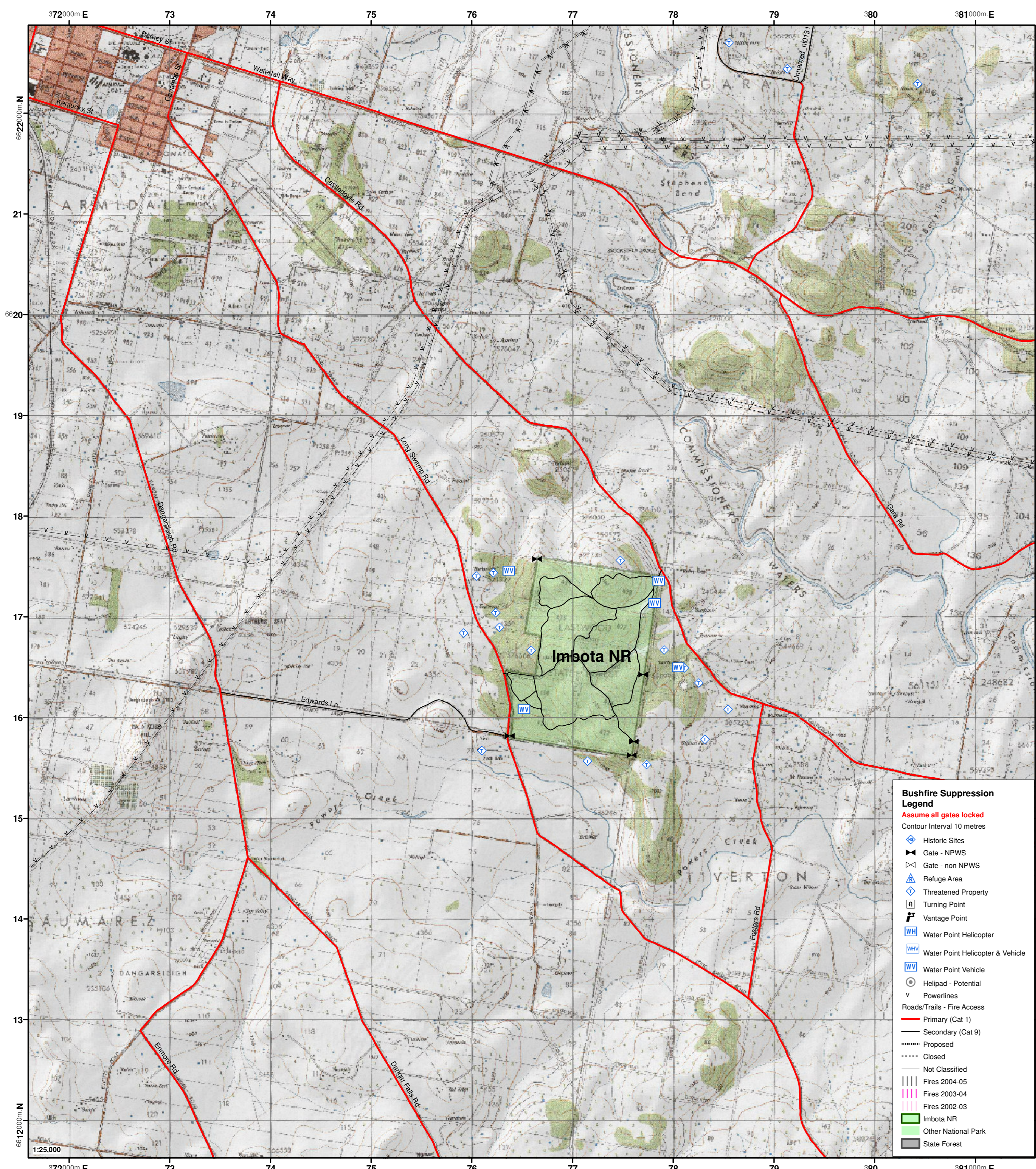
Note: Scales are true when this map is printed on A3 size paper.



Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	6	Little Duval
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	18	Simplex vehicle to vehicle
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	15	Stored at Armidale/transportable
RFS - PMR - UHF	71	Little Duval Mountain
RFS - GRN	-	No service available in NTR
CB - UHF	-	Channel is appropriate
SE - VHF	-	Not applicable
Aircraft - VHF	119.10	-
Mobile Phone - CDMA	Yes	-
Mobile Phone - GSM	No service	-
Satellite Phone	0147 154 353	stored at Armidale NPWS

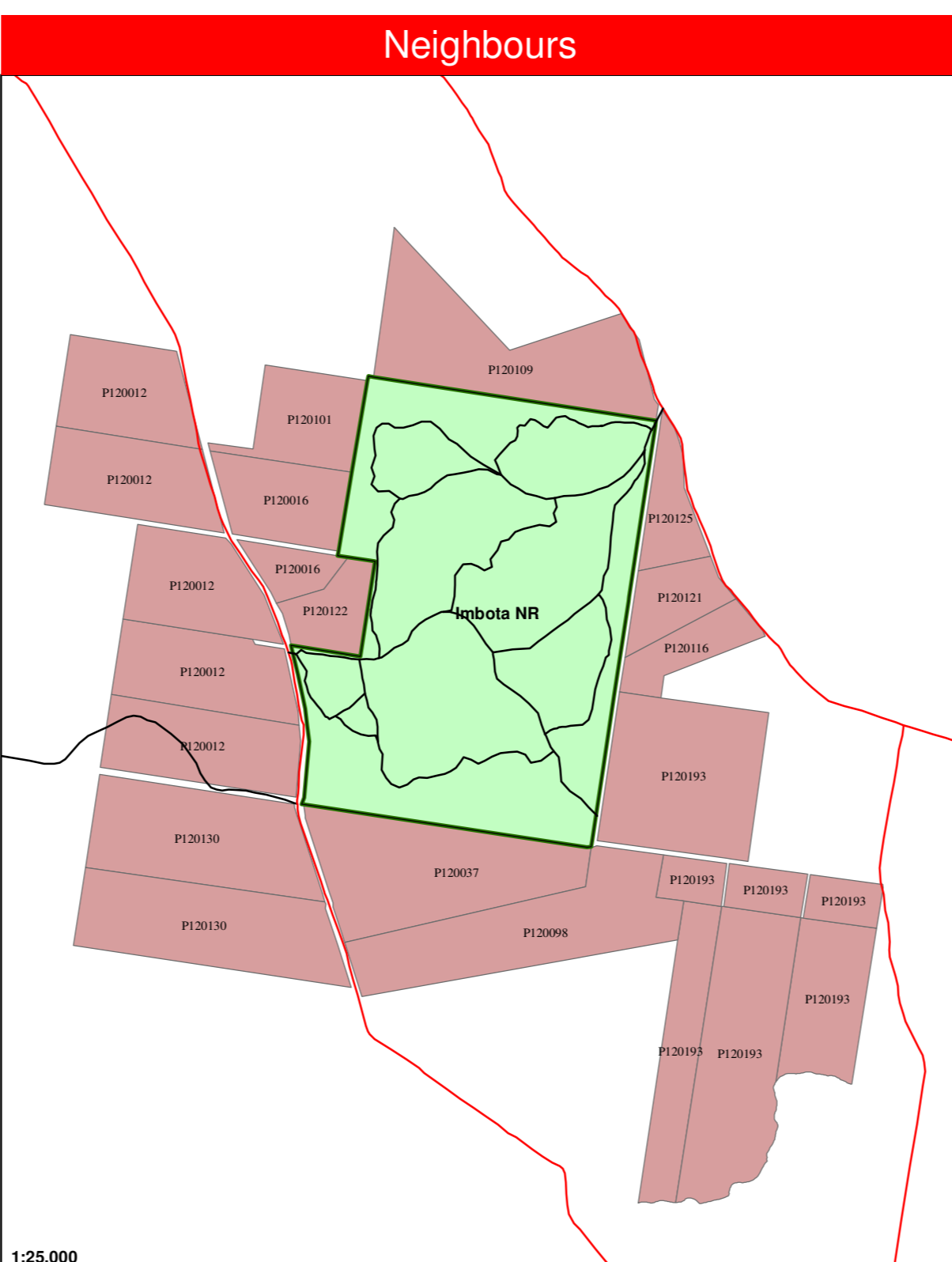
Strategy Information	
Fire Season Information	
Wildfires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Have been known to start as early as late August, but usually the potential for a large fire event is greatest between October and December. This period may extend into January in more severe years. During this period in dry seasons fires may exhibit high intensity behaviour under windy conditions.
Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General season is Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or tourism point of view.
Suppression Strategies	
Current FDR	Forecast FDR
Low - Mod	Low - Mod
Low - Mod	= > High
High	All
All	All

Bushfire Suppression

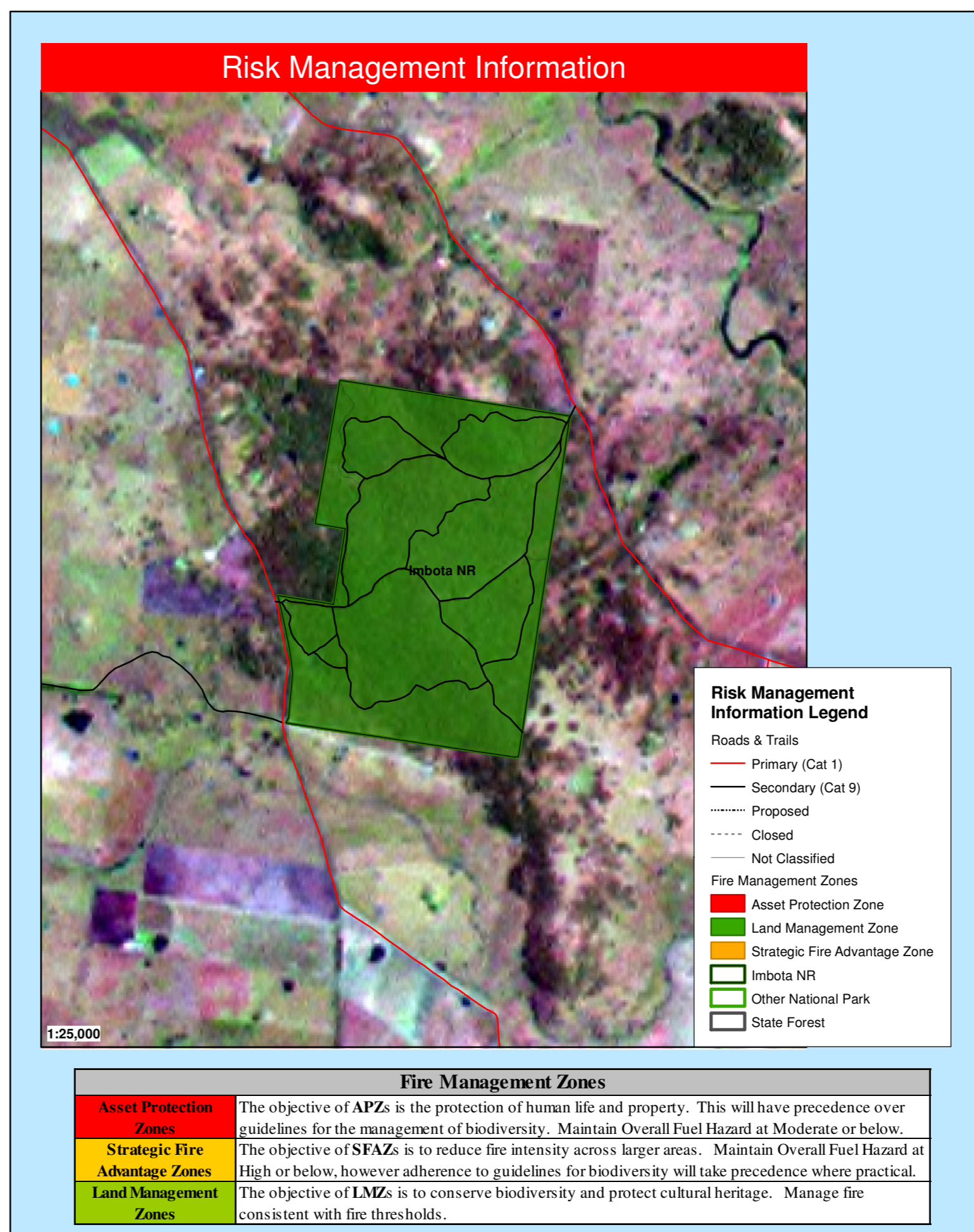


Fire Thresholds	
Overburn	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. Protect from fire as far as possible.
Vulnerable	The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. Protect from fire as far as possible.
Recently Burnt	Time since fire is less than the optimum interval, but before that it was within threshold. Avoid fires if 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.
Almost Underburnt	The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire. A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.
Underburnt	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.
Unknown	Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

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



Neighbour Information				
Map ID	Property Name	Surname	Firstname	Phone
P120012	Barrows			
P120016	Berry Park			
P120037	Unknown			
P120098	Unknown			
P12101	Unknown			
P12109	Unknown			
P12116	Unknown			
P12121	Unknown			
P12122	Unknown			
P12125	Unknown			
P12130	Unknown			
P12193	The Knobs			



Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
DEC - NPWS	Regional Duty Officer	0428 345 789
	Area Manager	02 6738 9117 0428 613 073
	Fire Management Officer	02 6738 9140 (fax) 0499 220 613 02 6771 1894 (fax)
	Regional Operations Coordinator	02 6776 0007 0428 977 519
	Armidale Area Office	02 6771 1894 (fax) 02 6738 9100 02 6738 9140 (fax)
Regional Office		02 6776 0000 02 6771 1894 (fax)
	Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer - Armidale	02 6776 0038
Rural Fire Service	Emergency	000
	NE Duty Officer Armidale Fire Control Officer	02 6771 4619 02 6771 2400 02 6771 3380 (fax)
NSW Fire Brigade	Emergency	000
	Armidale Station	02 6771 5076
SES	Emergency	000
	Armidale Unit	02 6771 1100
Police	Emergency	000
	Armidale Station	02 6771 0699 02 6771 0611 (fax)
Ambulance	Emergency	000
	Armidale Station	13 1233
Hospital	Armidale	02 6776 4777
DNR	Burwon Region	02 6764 5900
DPI - Forests NSW	Walcha	02 6777 2511 02 6777 1130 (ah) 02 6777 2179 (fax)
Council	Armidale Dumaresq Council	02 6770 3600 02 6772 9275 (fax)
	Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC)	Armidale

Operational Guidelines	
Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2004.	
Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:	
Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal sites are not indicated on this strategy. For information on Aboriginal sites contact the Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer or Local Aboriginal Land Council.
Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located contact a senior NPWS Officer. Brief all personnel involved in containment line construction &/or vehicle based fire suppression operations, on site locations and the required management strategies appropriate to the site type.
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief all personnel involved in containment line construction &/or vehicle based fire suppression operations, on site locations and the required management strategies appropriate to the site type. FA1 - As far as possible, protect large & hollow-bearing trees where these species are known to occur. FA2 - As far as possible, protect large & hollow-bearing trees in locations where these species are known to occur, avoid inter-fire intervals of <10 years in locations where these species are known to occur, avoid high intensity fire that consume canopy and fall in locations where these species are known to occur.
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief all personnel involved in fire suppression operations, on site location and the required management strategies appropriate to the site type. Where practicable protect populations or individuals from fire if the fire frequency threshold has been exceeded, or the species is an obligate seeder, or if the fire frequency threshold and/or the fire response category is unknown. FL1 - Avoid inter-fire intervals of <10 years in locations where these species are known to occur, avoid the use of earthmoving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur. FL2 - As far as possible, exclude all fire from locations where these species are known to occur, avoid the use of earthmoving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur, avoid the use of retardant in locations where these species are known to occur.
Threatened Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible property owners with assets at risk from a wildfire event should be kept informed regarding the progress of the fire, and asked for an assessment of their current level of asset protection preparedness.
General	Guidelines
Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spotters. 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.
Aerial Ignition (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. The small size of the reserve and moderate topography may preclude the use of aerial ignition within the Reserve.
Backburning (NPWS FMM 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 fire-barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or we 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.
Command & Control (NPWS FMM 4.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly. 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 BEMC Plan of Operations.
High Voltage Overhead Power Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Before conducting wildfire suppression or hazard reduction burning operations, in or near high voltage overhead power line (138 kilovolt (KV) or greater) easements, all personnel must be briefed as per NPWS Fire Management Circular 2001/8 dated 14 November 2001.
Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 4.2 & 4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. All containment lines not required 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 (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting 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, prior to it entering NPWS estate.
Fire Advantage Recording (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database. Waiting 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, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used products name recorded. The Threatened Species Operational Guidelines are to be observed.
Rehabilitation (NPWS FMM 5.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Smoke Management (NPWS FMM 3.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 RTA traffic management guidelines.
Visitor Management (NPWS FMM 3.6 & 4.13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.