

LEACOCK REGIONAL PARK 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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ISBN: 978-1-4122-3569-9 DEC 2006/06/09 Date Last Modified: 20/02/2007

Department of Environment and Conservation

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 in this area is normally undertaken in Spring through to Autumn.

Related Documents

- National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual, September 2005.
- Draft Leacock Regional Park FOM, 2006

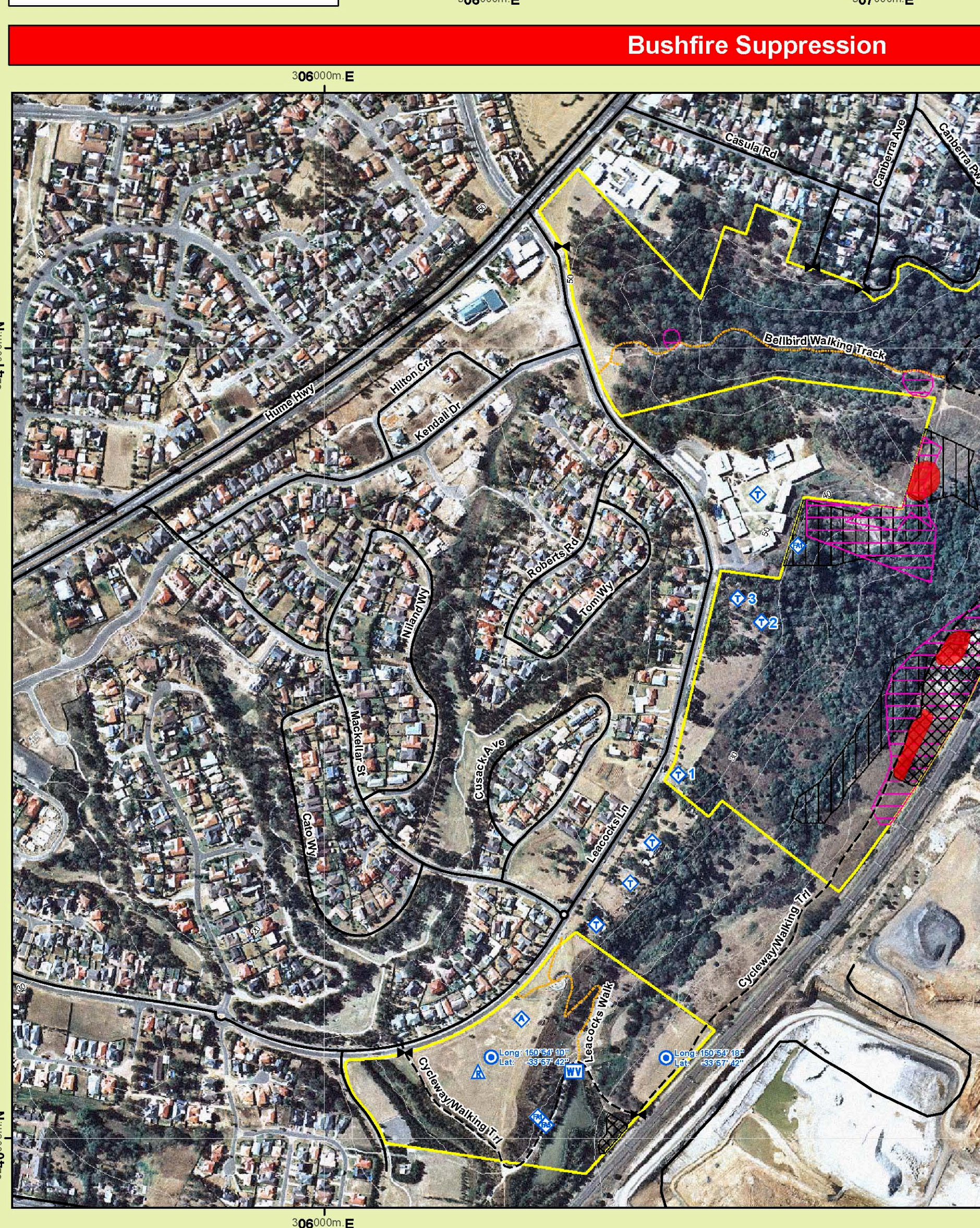
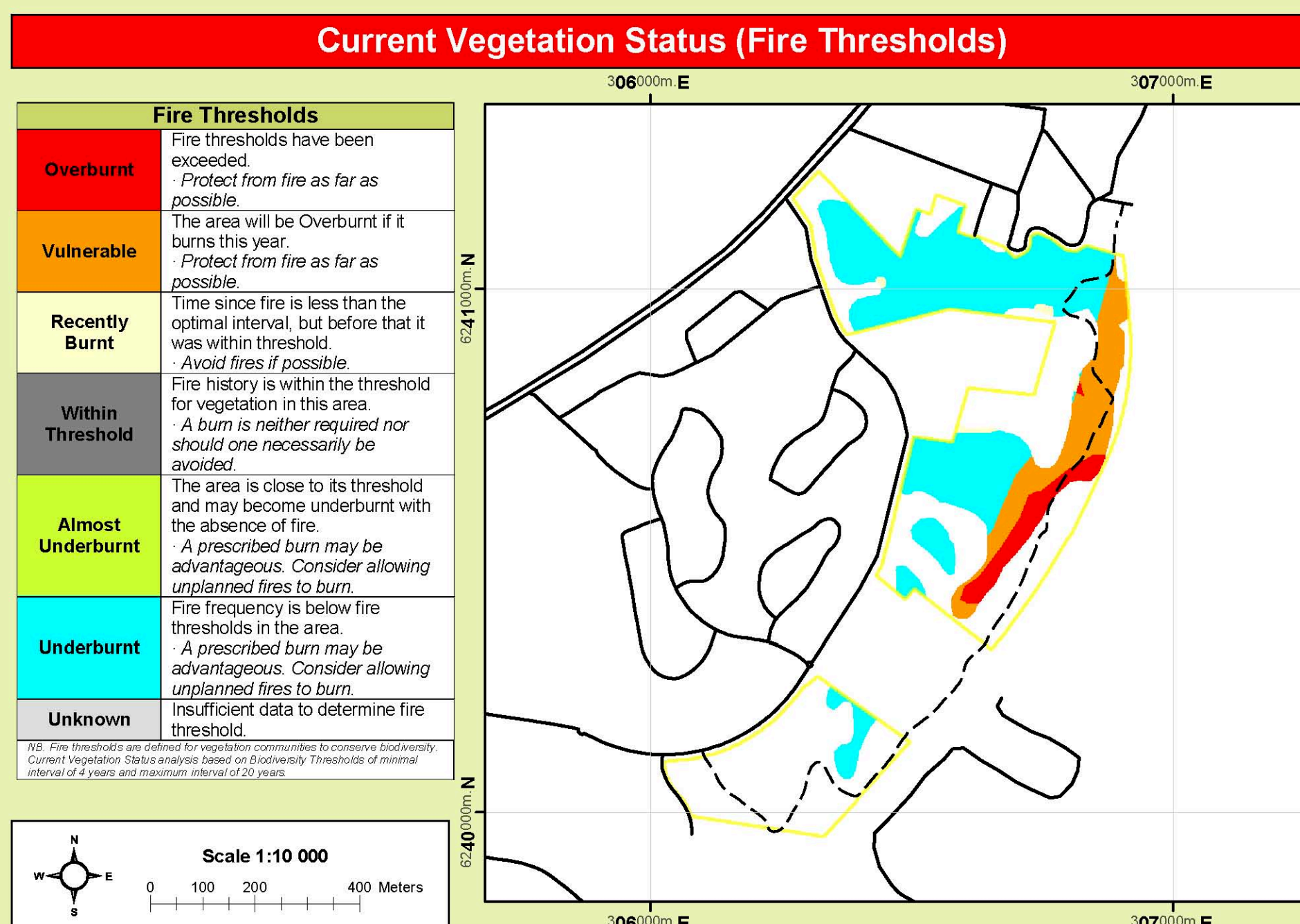
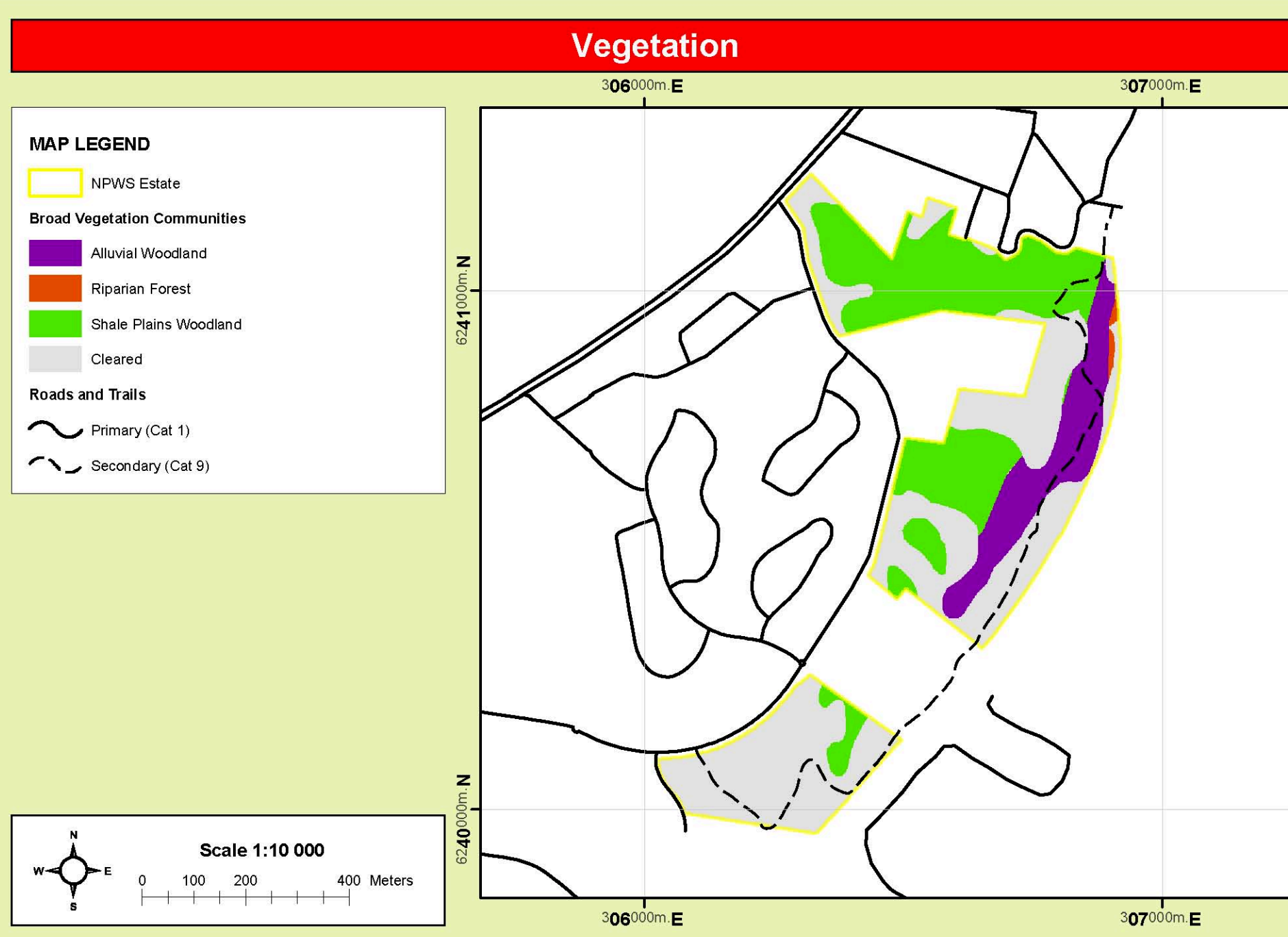
Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	91	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good coverage Available in most NSWFB and RFS vehicles Choose channel on fire ground with NSWFB and RFS
UHF - CB	1-99	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good coverage
Mobile Phone - GSM	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good coverage

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Regional Office (124-hour)	9552 7140
	Cumberland South Area Manager	9695 7546
	Fire Management Officer	9695 6161
	Regional Operations Coordinator	9695 6165
	Cumberland South Area Office	9695 7522 (fax) 9695 7197
Macarthur Zone NSW Rural Fire Service	Business Hours	4774 8602 (fax) 4774 8634
	24 Hours	9600 7145
SES	Emergency	000
	Business Hours	9525 7022
Police	Liverpool	9621 8444
	Liverpool	9624 0521
NSW Fire Brigades	Liverpool	131 223
	Liverpool	1300 363 170
Ambulance	Liverpool	9621 9272
	Liverpool City Council	9202 2000 (fax) 9202 2111
Council	Liverpool City Council	9202 2000 (fax) 9202 2111
	Rail Corp	131 909
Utilities	AUL - Gas pipe line	1345 7500
	LECO - Fire cables	1100/132 203
All Saints Catholic Senior College	Leacock Lane, Casula	9621 1822 (fax) 9601 3773
	Griffith Farm	9695 6211 (fax) 9695 7281

Locality of Reserve and Local Government Areas



Operational Guidelines

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2005. Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues.

General

- The use of burning aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and backburns.
- The use of burning 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 may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of NPWS Regional Manager or Section 44 delegate.
- Utilities measures to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.
- 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 should commence when the humidity is high.
- Where practicable, clear a 1m radius around dead and flammable trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or set down these trees as part of the backburn ignition.
- Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a strong and intense up slope burn is likely.
- The fire containment agency on site must assume control of the fire, but must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified immediately.
- On the arrival of other containment agencies, the incident commander will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant EFMC Plan of Operations.
- 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.
- Containment lines constructed by earthmoving should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
- All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.
- Earthmoving equipment should be washed down, where practicable, prior to entering NPWS Estate.
- All the advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
- Writing and forming agency contact lists 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 product name recorded.
- Where practicable, containment lines should be established 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 RTA traffic management guidelines.
- Notify All Saints Catholic Senior School of all fires on site.
- The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Rehabilitation

- Where practicable, containment lines should be established 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 RTA traffic management guidelines.
- Notify All Saints Catholic Senior School of all fires on site.
- The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Smoke Management

- Where practicable, containment lines should be established 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 RTA traffic management guidelines.
- Notify All Saints Catholic Senior School of all fires on site.
- The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Visitor Management

- Where practicable, containment lines should be established 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 RTA traffic management guidelines.
- Notify All Saints Catholic Senior School of all fires on site.
- The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Suppression Strategies

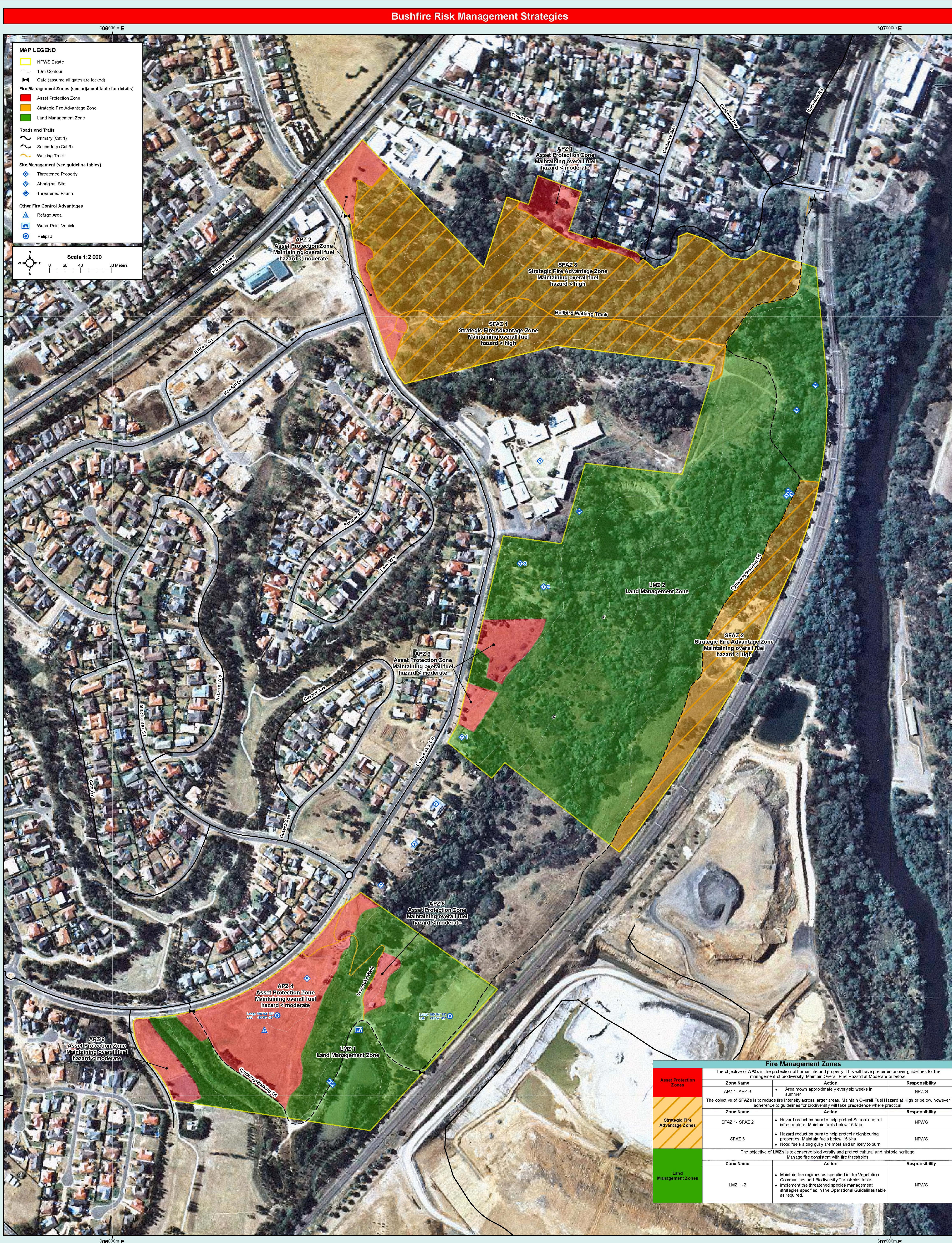
Current FDR	Forecast FDR	Guidelines
Low - Mod	Low - Mod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As far as possible, undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack along existing control lines. As far as possible, maximise area burnt without threatening assets, including biodiversity. Identify and survey backup control lines. Undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack to minimise the time taken to contain the fire. Identify and survey backup control lines. Identify and survey backup control lines. Secure and deepen control lines along the next predicted direction of the fire. 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 treated species and cultural heritage management guidelines.
Low - Mod	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Identify and survey backup control lines. Undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack to minimise the time taken to contain the fire. Identify and survey backup control lines. Identify and survey backup control lines. Secure and deepen control lines along the next predicted direction of the fire. 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 treated species and cultural heritage management guidelines.
High	AI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Identify and survey backup control lines. Undertake indirect, parallel or direct attack to minimise the time taken to contain the fire. Identify and survey backup control lines. Identify and survey backup control lines. Secure and deepen control lines along the next predicted direction of the fire. 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 treated species and cultural heritage management guidelines.
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Resource

Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid ground disturbance including handovers, vehicles and heavy machinery. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. Low intensity fires likely to have minimal impact on site. No slashing, lifting or tree removal.
Threatened Fauna Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid fire within known locations. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees (esp. March to October). Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees, especially during breeding season (autumn-winter). No slashing, lifting or tree removal. 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 their current level of asset protection preparedness. NPWS to establish mown areas immediately adjacent to properties (1-2m). NPWS to manually reduce fuel hazard adjacent to properties (up to 1m).
Threatened Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees, especially during breeding season (autumn-winter). No slashing, lifting or tree removal. 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 their current level of asset protection preparedness. NPWS to establish mown areas immediately adjacent to properties (1-2m). NPWS to manually reduce fuel hazard adjacent to properties (up to 1m).
Threatened Species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. No slashing, lifting or tree removal. Avoid large scale, high intensity frequent fires. Avoid fire, smoke and heat around roost trees, especially during breeding season (autumn-winter). No slashing, lifting or tree removal. 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 their current level of asset protection preparedness. NPWS to establish mown areas immediately adjacent to properties (1-2m). NPWS to manually reduce fuel hazard adjacent to properties (up to 1m).

Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds

Regime	Vegetation Community	Biodiversity Thresholds	Fire Behaviour	Year Burnt	Area (Ha)
A	10 - Shale Plains Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Max. Interval 4-6 yrs Re-assess biodiversity after approx. 15 years as <i>Bursaria</i> tends to become competitive dominant & <i>Themeda</i> dies after approx. 10-12 years Significant research & monitoring is required 	Moderate to High	2003 2004 2005	0.08 0.01 0.06
NA	11 - Abundant Woodland	Exclude Fire	Low to Moderate (depending on time since last burn)	2003 2004 2005	0.9 0.6 0.4
NA	12 - Riparian Forest	Exclude Fire	Low to Moderate (depending on time since last burn)	Unknown	N/A



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. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence where practicable.

The objective of SFAZs is to reduce the intensity across larger areas. Maintain Overall Fuel Hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence where practicable.

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

Zone Name	Action	Responsibility
APZ 1 - APZ 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area mown approximately every six weeks in summer. 	NPWS
SFAZ 1 - SFAZ 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazard reduction burn to help protect School and rail infrastructure. Maintain fuels below 15 t/ha. Hazard reduction burn to help protect neighbouring properties. Maintain fuels below 15 t/ha. Note: fuels along gully are most and unlikely to burn. 	NPWS
SFAZ 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area mown approximately every six weeks in summer. 	NPWS
LMZ 1 - 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain fire regimes as specified in the Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds table. Implement the threatened species management strategies specified in the Operational Guidelines table as required. 	NPWS