

Northern Rivers Region Limpinwood Nature Reserve Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2011

Sheet 1 of 1

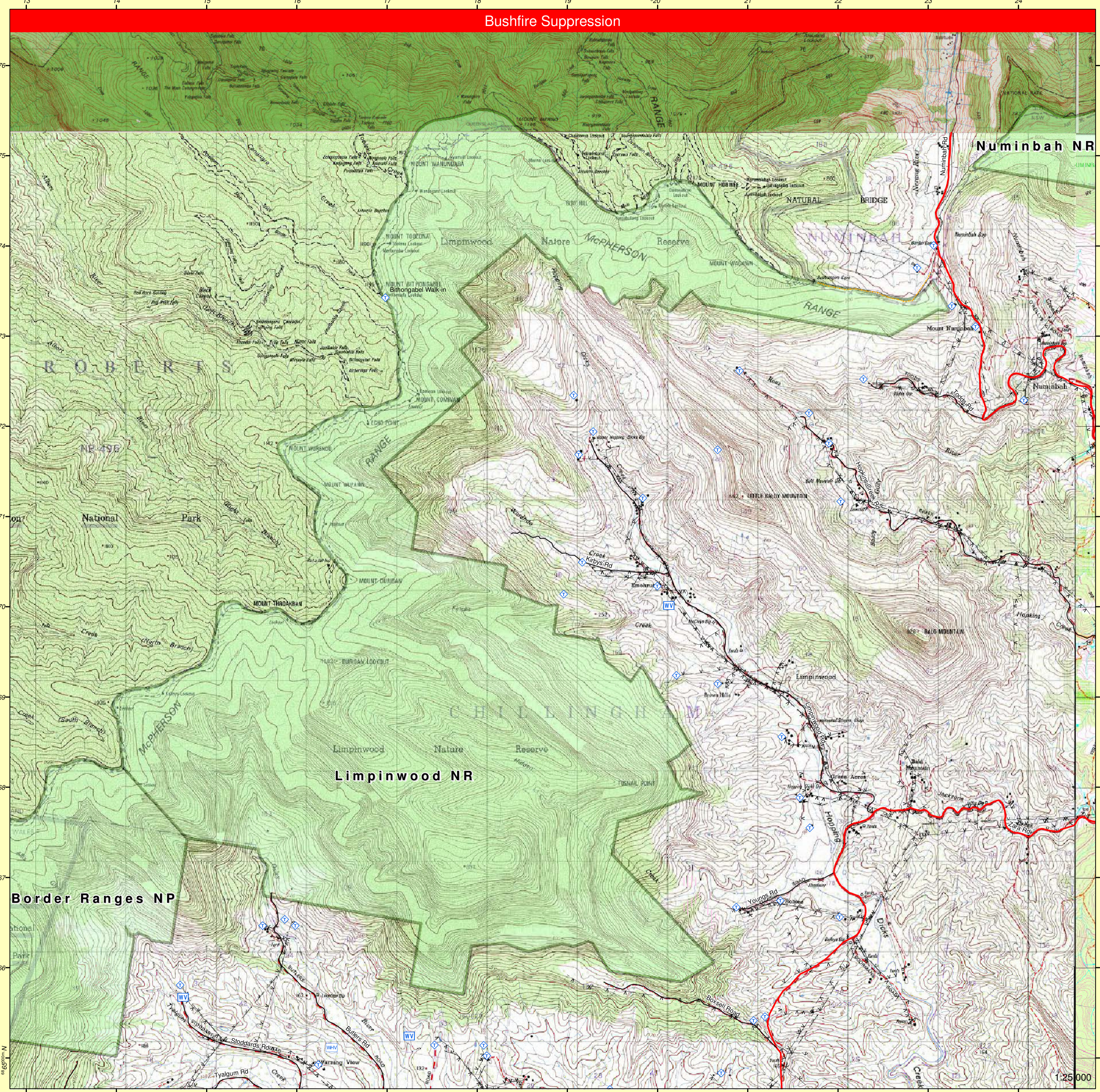
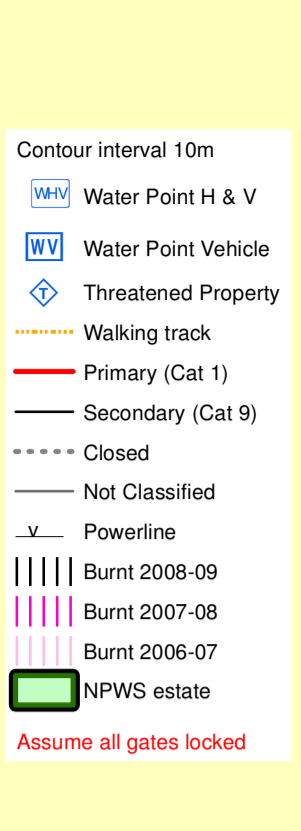
This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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Environment, Climate Change & Water
This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.



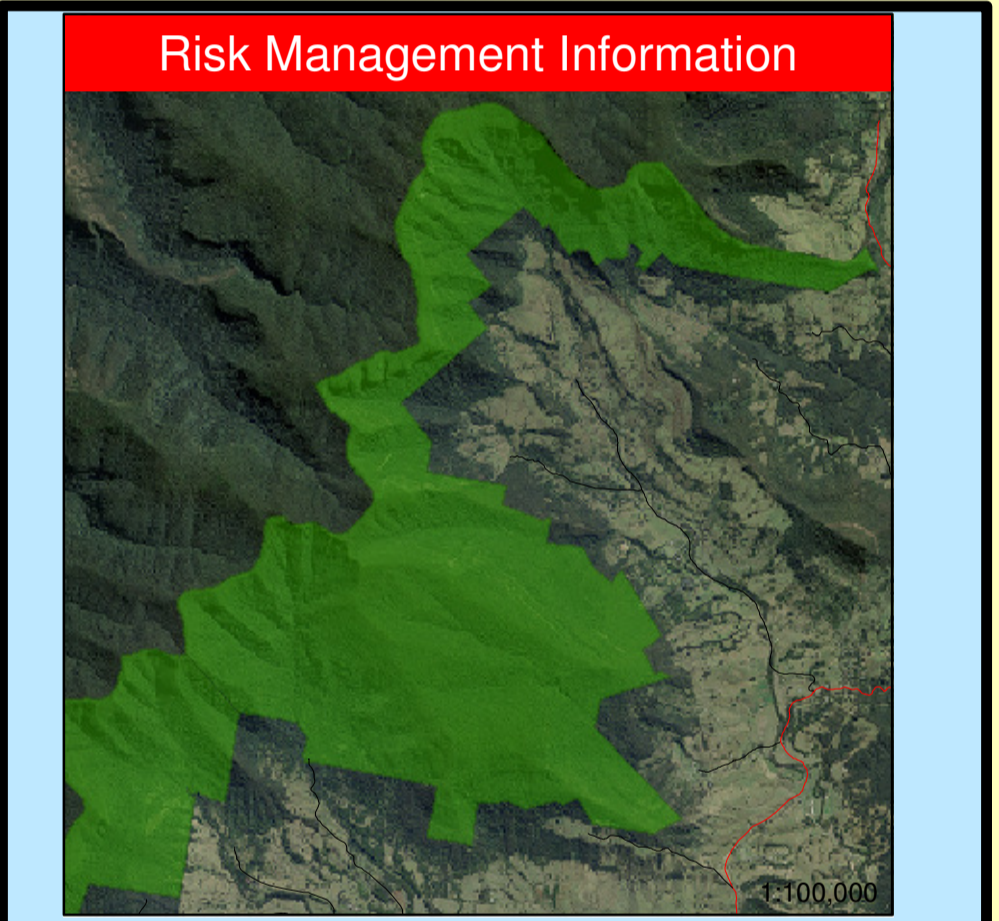
Operational Guidelines

Refer to DECC Fire Management Manual.
Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

| Resource | Guidelines |
|---|--|
| Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management | Aboriginal sites are not shown on this version. Vulnerable sites will be shown on the operational version of this strategy following consultation with the Aboriginal Community... |
| Historic Heritage Management | Several known European historic sites occur within the planning area however none of these are at risk from fire operations. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS officer. |
| Threatened Fauna Management | Avoid impact on rainforest. Avoid impact on streams. Protect large and hollow-bearing trees wherever practicable. |
| Threatened Flora Management | Avoid impact on rainforest. |
| Threatened Property | 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. Adjacent properties are identified in the plan and will be considered during bushfire suppression operations. |
| General | Guidelines |
| Aerial Water Bombing (NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management) | Foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of water bombing. |
| Aerial Ignition (NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management) | Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations. Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required. |
| Backburning | Clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet 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 | The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the NPWS 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 BFMC Plan of Operations. |
| Containment Lines | No new containment lines in rainforest. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. |
| Earthmoving Equipment | Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. 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. Earthmoving equipment should be washed down prior to it entering NPWS estate. |
| Fire Advantage Recording | All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database. |
| Fire Suppression Chemicals | 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. |
| Rehabilitation | Containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. All re opened and new containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident. |
| Smoke Management | 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 | The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations. |

Contact Information

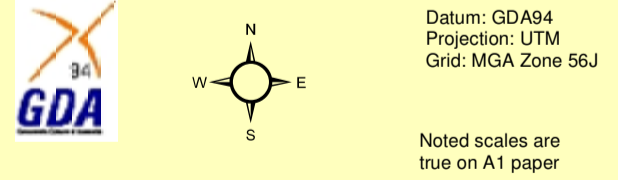
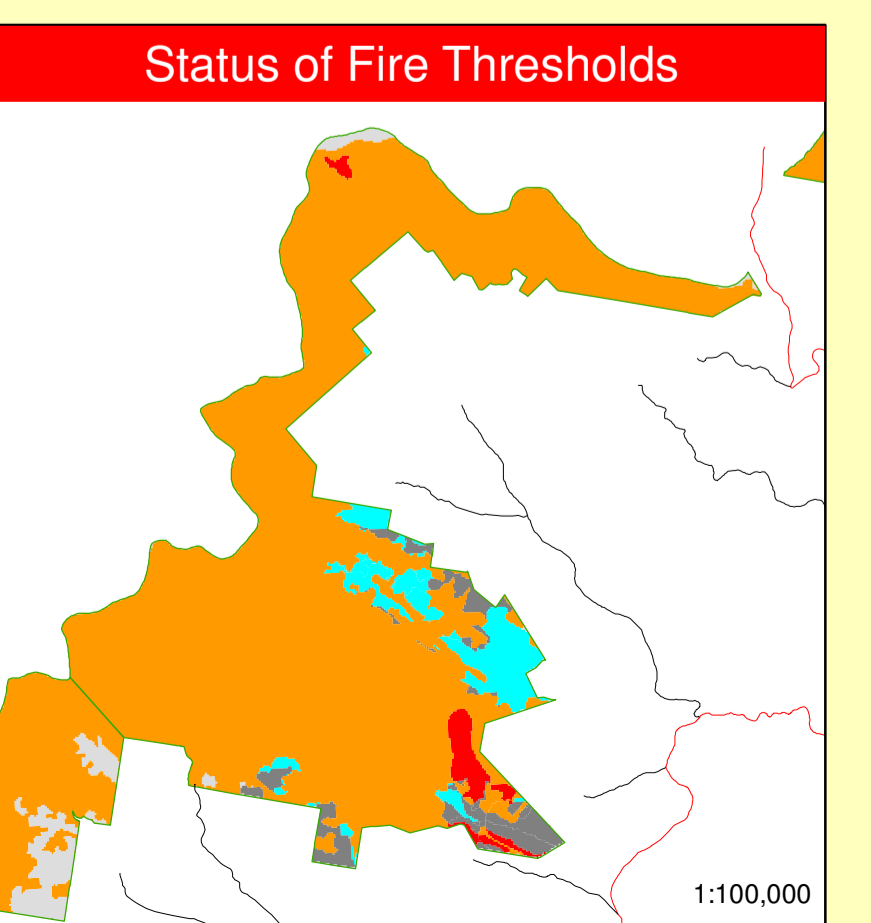
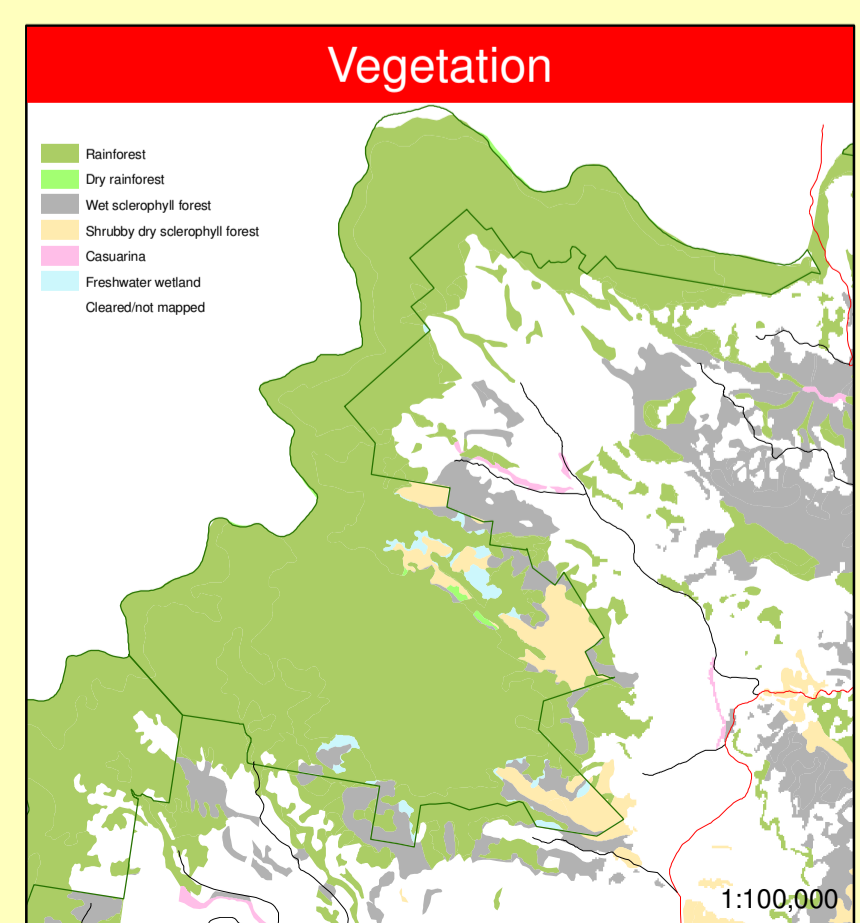
| Agency | Position / Location | Phone |
|---------------------|--|-------------------|
| NPWS | NRR Regional Office - Alstonville | 6627 0200 |
| | Tweed Area Office | 6670 8600 |
| | Tweed Area Depot | 6672 8153 |
| Rural Fire Service | Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer | 6627 0205 |
| | Duty Officer | 0500 500 521 |
| Emergency | Tweed Fire Control Centre | 6672 7888 |
| NSW Fire Brigade | All emergency services | 000 |
| | Murwillumbah - General business | 6672 8305 |
| Police | Police Assistance Line | 131444 |
| Ambulance | Murwillumbah | 6672 9499 |
| | All other bookings | 131 233 |
| Hospital | Lismore Base Hospital | 6621 8000 |
| SES | Murwillumbah | 6670 2460 |
| Council | Emergencies | 132 500 |
| | Tweed Shire Council | 6670 2400 |
| Country Energy | Country Energy | (AH) 1800 818 326 |
| Aboriginal contacts | Tweed Byron LALC | 132 080 / 132 356 |



Fire Management Zones

| Zone | Description |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Asset Protection 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 moderate or below. |
| Strategic Fire Advantage Zones | The objective of SFAZs is to reduce fire intensity across larger areas. Maintain overall fuel hazard at high or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence. |
| Land Management Zones | The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds. |

| Zone | Action | Responsibility |
|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Limpinwood NR 2862 ha | Refer to fire thresholds map and table as part of decision making process regarding suppressing or applying fire. | NPWS / Incident Controllers |



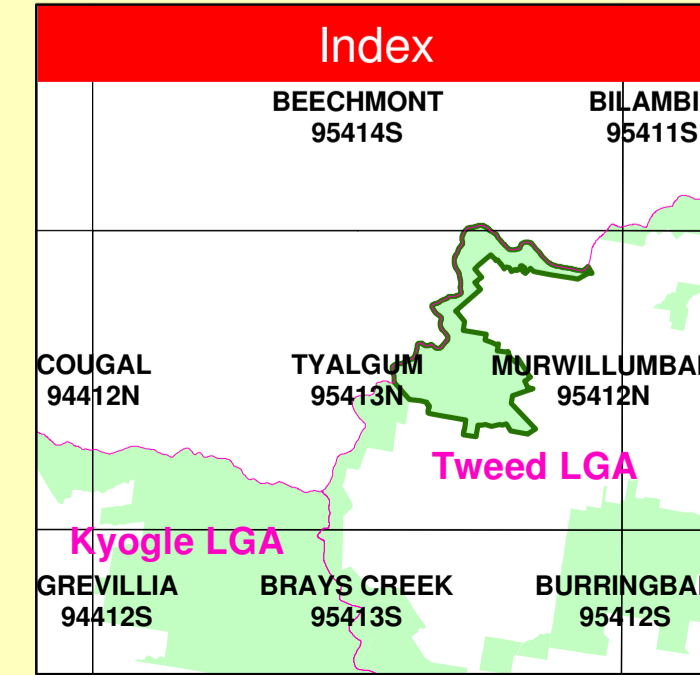
Biodiversity thresholds for Land Management Zones

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Too frequently burnt | Fire thresholds have been exceeded. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i> |
| Vulnerable to frequent fire | The area will be too frequently burnt if it burns this year. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i> |
| Within threshold | Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. <i>A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.</i> |
| Long unburnt | Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i> |
| Unknown | Insufficient data to determine fire threshold. |

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

Communications Information

| Service | Channel | Location and Comments |
|--------------------------------|------------|---|
| NPWS - VHF | 8 | Mount Nardi |
| NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms) | 40 | Fireground chat channel (single frequency) monitors channel 8 |
| NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater) | 15 | Green Code. Stored at Tweed Depot / transportable. |
| RFS - PMR - UHF | 50 | Mount Nardi |
| RFS - GRN | - | No service available. |
| CB - UHF | - | To be confirmed with RFS brigade captain on the day. |
| Aircraft - VHF | 125.45 MHz | Or as directed by Incident Controller or Air Operations. |
| Mobile Phone - NextG | Partial | Coverage varies but generally poor. |



Strategy Information

| Fire Season Information | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Wildfires | 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. |
| Prescribed Burning | 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 |

- Undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along existing containment lines.
- Where practicable consider maximising the fire area in accordance with the requirements of any proposed prescribed burns.
- 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.
- Pay particular attention to the flank on the next predicted down wind side.
- Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines.
- Secure and deepen containment lines along the next predicted downwind side of the fire.
- If applicable consider broader than normal containment strategies to avoid wasted effort and high risk of failure.
- Ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them; otherwise fall back to the next potential line.