

Mogriguy National Park Fire Management Strategy 2015 - 2020

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Related and reference documents

- National Parks and Wildlife Service (2013) Fire Management Manual

Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	320	• Southern Vote (Bodangora – 322, Goonoo – 323)
RFS	PD17	• Bodangora (Orana)
UHF - CB		• Small fires - Channel 10
Parks Radio	11-17	• Large fires - determined by IMT
Aviation - CTAf	134.0	• NPWS Fireground channels 1-7
Mobile phone	126.7	• Dubbo
		• Wellington
		• Telstra 3G coverage

Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour) Coastal/Barbarian Area Office (bus hours)	6842 3041 6842 1311
NSW RFS Orana Team	Zone Manager Zone Office	0418 636 966 6884 3533
RFS Rural Fire Brigades	Mogriguy – Bruce Davies	6888 5614
NSW Fire & Rescue	Newcastle	4929 7177
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police	Dubbo	6883 1599
Council	Dubbo	6841 4800

Locality map

Map details
 Datum: GDA 1984
 Map Base: ADS 40 Dubbo 2009
 Topographic Map: 1:50,000 Mogriguy 8633-N
 Model scale: True when printed on A1 size paper
 Local Government Area: Dubbo

Vegetation

Broad vegetation types

- Creekside / box flat
- Ironbark Forest
- Hilltop woodland & heath

1:40,000

Status of Biodiversity Thresholds

Too frequently burnt	Consecutive fire intervals are shorter than the recommended minimum interval.
Vulnerable to frequent fire	The current fire interval is shorter than the recommended minimum interval.
Within threshold	The time-since-fire is greater than the recommended minimum, and less than the recommended maximum.
Long unburnt	The current fire interval is longer than the suggested interval.

Bushfire Risk Management Strategies

Strategic Fire Advantage Zones	The objective of this zone is to reduce fire intensity in locations to assist containment of wildfires, by maintaining the Overall Fuel Hazard less than HIGH.
Land Management Zones	The objective of this zone is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage by applying biodiversity thresholds.

Prescribed burn availability

Available for prescribed burning	This area is available for prescribed burning, subject to fuel levels and ecological thresholds.
Available only during VERY HIGH FDI	This area is generally has LOW or MODERATE OFH, prescribed burning effective only under VERY HIGH FDI.
Available only ephemeral conditions	This area is generally has NIL or LOW OFH, except during seasons producing continuous ground cover.
Available – regeneration management	This area is available for prescribed burning, subject to requirements specified within a revegetation plan.
Unavailable for prescribed burning	This area is unavailable for prescribed burning, due to NIL or LOW OFH, or ecological requirements.

Availability for burning must be referenced with the Status of Biodiversity Thresholds.

Fire Season Information

Wildfires	• The critical wildfire season generally occurs during November and December. • During periods of strong negative Southern Oscillation Indices (El Niño events), this period may commence late September and extend to the end of January. • The end of the critical fire season may be marked by wet storm activity.
Prescribed Burning	• Effective prescribed burning may need to be conducted once the 'critical fire season' and thunderstorm season is over. This is due to the LOW - MODERATE Overall Fuel Hazard for most vegetation types. Prescribed burning attempted after autumn rain is unlikely to be effective.

Operational Guidelines

General	Guidelines
Aerial operations	• Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. • Aerial bombing should be supported by ground based suppression crews wherever practical. • All aerial ignition operations require the consent of the NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee.
Backburning	• All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin. • Effective backburning in LOW - MOD OFH areas will require the use of wind, slope or low humidity.
Command & Control	• 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 liaise with the RFS to ensure that the agency in command and control is determined and an Incident Controller is appointed. • New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. • Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact.
Containment Lines	• All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location. • All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed immediately at the cessation of the incident. • Plant may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. • Plant 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. • Containment lines running along valley areas should be constructed at 20 - 50 metres from the gullyline to avoid severe erosion. • Plant must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate.
Earthmoving Equipment	• The use of foam, gels and retardants will NOT be permitted within 50 metres of dams and watercourses holding water. • The aerial use of foam, gels and retardants should be approved by Regional Manager or delegate.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	• Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Rehabilitation	• Consider deployment of a bulk water carrier to support fire operations.
Watering points	• Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations.
Smoke Management	• This reserve will be closed to visitors during periods of Severe fire danger or higher and during fire operations.
Visitor Management	

Operational Guidelines - Heritage

General	Guidelines
Cultural Heritage Site Management	No sites requiring specific conservation management have been identified
Threatened Flora and Fauna Management	

Vegetation management guidelines

Community	Management guidelines	Fire Behaviour (under less than Extreme FDI)
Grassy Box woodlands	• An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided • A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 30 - 50 years	• Potential rates of spread is low due to Low OFH • Fire runs are likely to slow down when entering this vegetation
Ironbark / White Pine / Bullock woodlands	• An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided • A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 30 - 50 years	• Potential rates of spread is low due to Low - Moderate OFH • Localised areas of High OFH may produce restricted areas of higher fire intensity
Sandstone shrubby woodlands	• An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater 40 years should be avoided • A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 25 years	• Areas of LOW elevated fuel hazard has low rate of spread • Areas of VERY HIGH elevated fuel hazard will burn with EXTREME INTENSITY

OFH - Overall fuel hazard - A rating system that includes surface (leaf litter), near surface (low shrubs & grasses), elevated (shrubs), and bark fuels.
 Strategic Zones - Prescribed burn should be considered where the OFH has been assessed at HIGH, after an interval of 7 years.
 Ephemeral Conditions - Ephemeral fuel conditions occur after consecutive years of effective rainfall. This in turn leads to the growth and build up of fine surface fuels such as grasses and herbs, which can create a continuous fuel load across all of the above vegetation communities.
 Long unburnt - It is desirable in woodland plant communities to retain some parts of the landscape in a long unburnt state to promote the presence of species that are sensitive to fire and to maintain old-growth trees capable of forming hollows.

Suppression Strategies

Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
All vegetation types	• Consider a broad containment strategy using existing tracks, low fuel areas, open areas and recently burnt areas.
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	• Consider a strategy containing the fire to the smallest area practicable, using a combination of ground crews, fire units, machinery and aircraft.
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME	• Any proposed backburning must be assessed on the resources, their capacity and the time required to secure and mop-up proposed burn edges prior to the onset of Severe + conditions. • Revert to property protection.
Catastrophic	• Fire behaviour calculations should consider both Surface and 1500 metres wind forecasts

Incident Map

Map Legend

- NPWS Estate, FCNSW
- Assume all gates are locked
- Gate private
- Gate OEH
- Dam
- Building
- Drainage
- Contour 10 m
- Fire Trails (SPCC Policy No. 2007)
 - Essential, Cat 1
 - Essential, Cat 7
 - Essential, Cat 9
 - Important, Cat 1
 - Important, Cat 7
 - Important, Cat 9
 - Dormant
- Other Roads & Trails
 - Major Road
 - Minor Road
 - Other Trails
- Site Management (see guideline tables)
 - Threatened Property
 - Threatened Fauna
 - Threatened Flora
 - Indigenous Site IS1
 - Indigenous Site IS2
 - Indigenous Site IS3
 - Historic Site
 - Machinery Exclusion Area
 - Fire Area
- Other Fire Control Advantages
 - Water Point Vehicle
 - Water Point Helicopter
 - Water Point Helicopter & Vehicle

Scale 1:25,000
 0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers