

## Northern Rivers Region Mt Jerusalem National Park & Inner Pocket Nature Reserve Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2005

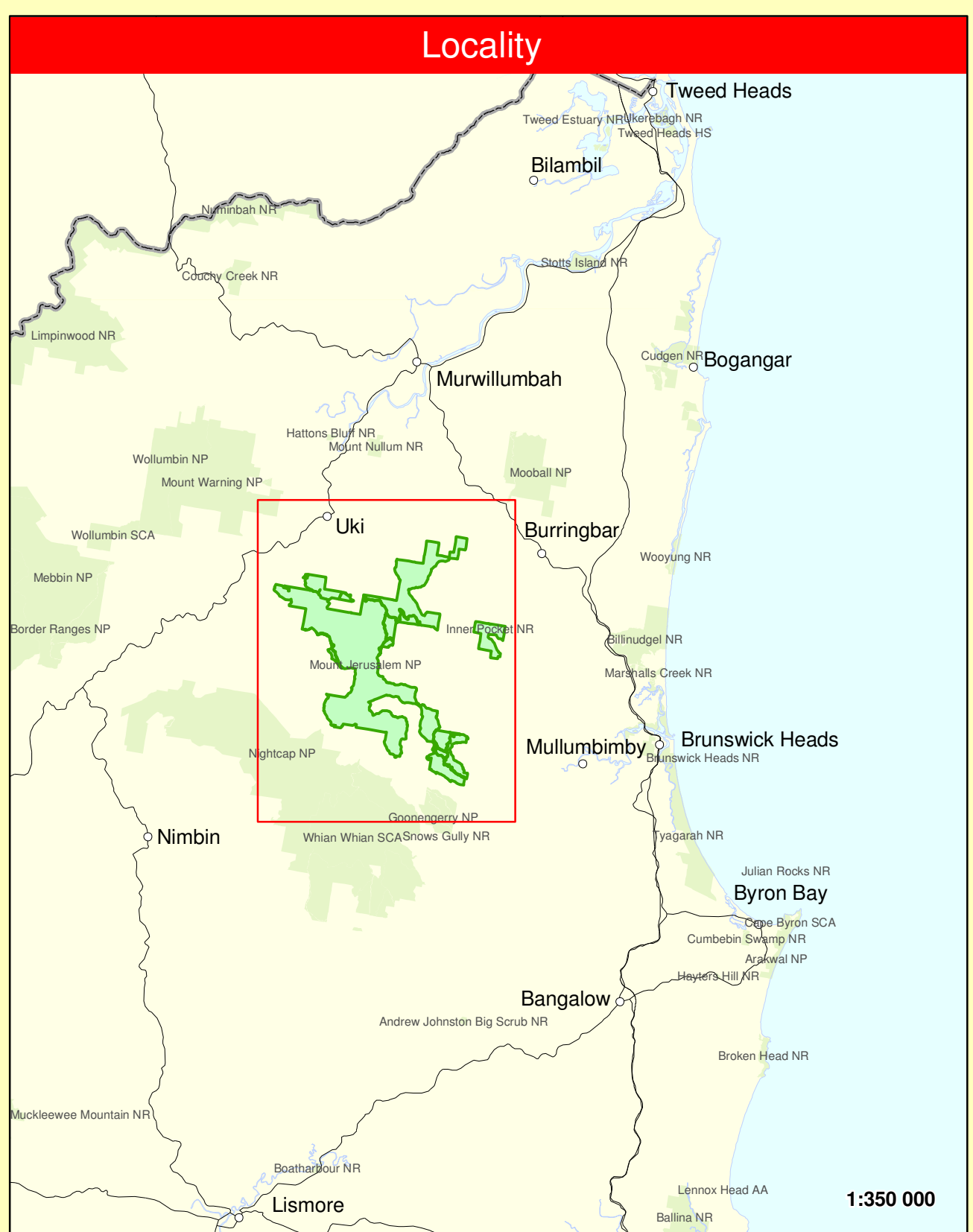
Sheet 1 of 1

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

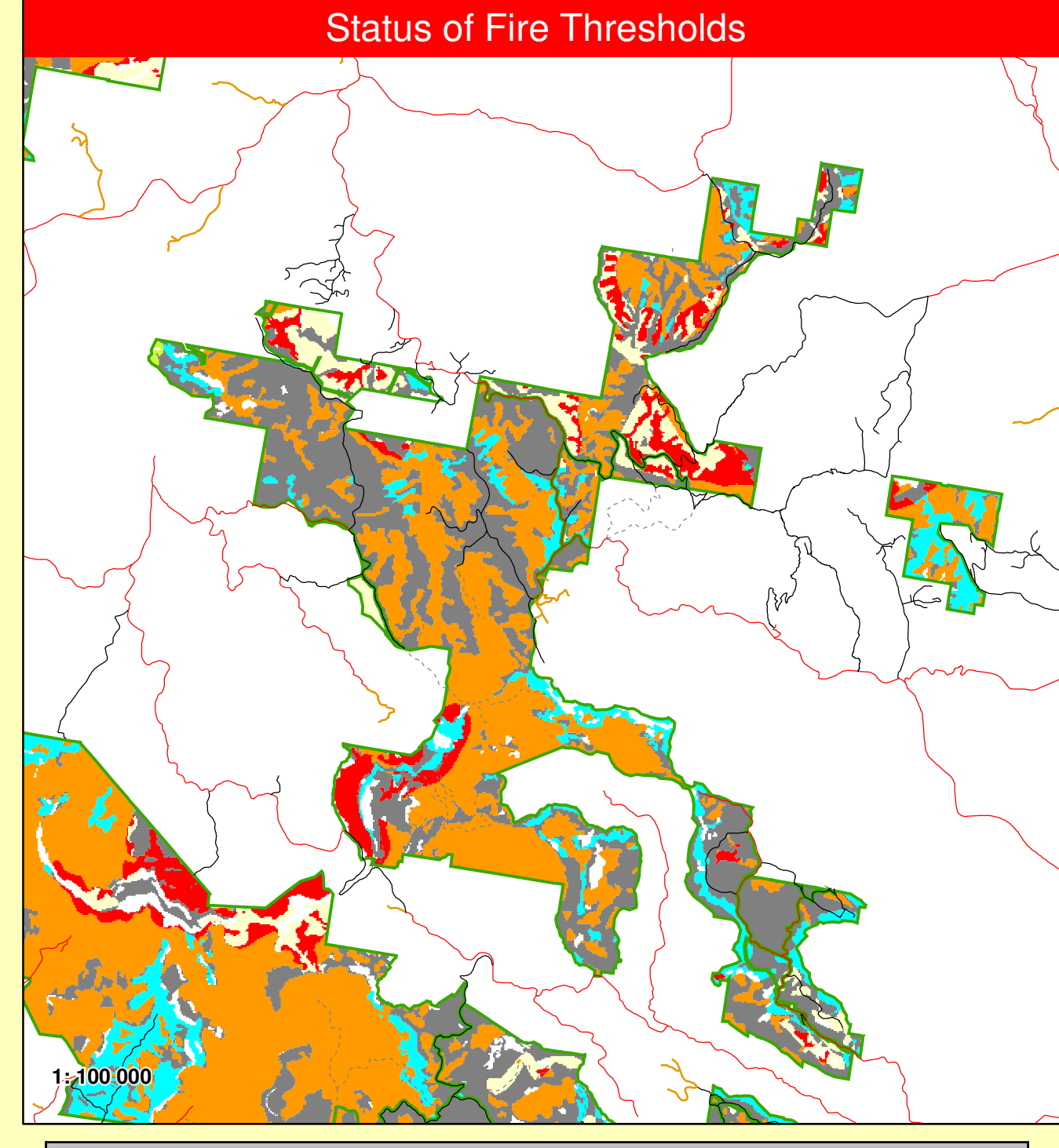


### Strategy Information

Fire Season Information	
<b>Wildfires</b>	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.
<b>Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7)</b>	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	
<b>Current FDR</b> Low - Mod	<b>Forecast FDM</b> Low - Mod
Low - Mod	=> High
High	All
All	All

### Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	8	Mount Nadi
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comm)	40	Fireground chat channel (single frequency) monitors channel 8
NPWS - VHF (Portable Reporter)	13	Blue Code. Stored at Kyalpa Depot / transportable.
RFS - PRR - UHF	50	Mount Nadi
RFS - GWS	-	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 - CDMA	Partial	Coverage varies but generally poor.



### Fire Thresholds

<b>Overburnt</b>	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
<b>Vulnerable</b>	The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
<b>Recently Burnt</b>	Time since fire is less than the optimum interval, but before that it was within threshold. <i>Avoid fires if possible.</i>
<b>Within Threshold</b>	Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. <i>A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.</i>
<b>Almost Underburnt</b>	The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
<b>Underburnt</b>	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
<b>Unknown</b>	Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

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

### 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
<b>Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)</b>	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.
<b>Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)</b>	Several known European historic sites occur within the planning area however none of these are at risk from fire operations. If any sites located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
<b>Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 &amp; 5.2)</b>	Avoid impact on rainforest. Avoid impact on streams. Protect large and hollow-bearing trees wherever practicable.
<b>Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)</b>	Avoid impact on rainforest.
<b>Threatened Property</b>	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	
<b>Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)</b>	Foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of water bombing.
<b>Aerial Ignition (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 &amp; 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs 02 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)</b>	Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations. Uplift incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.

### Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9)

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.

### Fire Advantage Recording (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.3)

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 entering NPWS estate.

### Fire Suppression Chemicals (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.9)

All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
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 (NPWS FMM 5.1)

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 (NPWS FMM 3.4)

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)

The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.
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### Contact Numbers

<b>Parks and Wildlife Division</b>	
Regional Office - Alstonville 2478	6627 0200
Tweed Area Office	6670 9000
Tweed Area Depot	6672 8153
Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer	6627 0200
<b>NSW Rural Fire Service</b>	
<b>Fire Reports</b>	
Far North Coast Day Office 24 hrs	6626 6923
0500 900 521	
<b>NSW Fire Brigade - Fire Reports</b>	<b>000</b>
Murrumbidgee - General business	6672 4305
Murrumbidgee - General business	6684 3786
Tweed Shire Council	6670 2400
(JAH) 1800 818 326	
Byron Shire Council	6628 7000
<b>Emergency After Hours</b>	6622 7022
<b>Police</b>	
Murrumbidgee	6672 9499
Murrumbidgee	6684 3444
<b>State Emergency Services (SES)</b>	
Murrumbidgee	6670 2400
Murrumbidgee	6684 3444
<b>132 500</b>	
<b>Ambulance - Emergency</b>	<b>000</b>
<b>Boatings</b>	131 333
<b>Country Energy</b>	132 080 / 132 336

### Fire Management Zones

Zone	Action	Responsibility
(A1) C. Morgan APZ 30m downslope (30m x 40m) (about 0.3ha NPWS 0.08ha Private)	Mechanical treatment when overall hazard reaches Moderate.	Joint responsibility - private landholders and NPWS according to tenure.
(A2) N. Weber APZ 10m downslope (30m x 40m) (about 0.2ha NPWS 0.15ha Private)	1. Reduce surface, near surface and suspended fuels by slashing, mowing, pruning, raking and removal of pile burn on site if required. 2. Remove sclerophyll trees and shrubs less than 3m in height. 3. Remove or prune trees within 5m of buildings. 4. Retain most trees and shrubs where possible. 5. Retain smooth barked trees where possible.	1. Reduce surface, near surface and suspended fuels by slashing, mowing, pruning, raking and removal of pile burn on site if required. 2. Remove sclerophyll trees and shrubs less than 3m in height. 3. Remove or prune trees within 5m of buildings. 4. Retain most trees and shrubs where possible. 5. Retain smooth barked trees where possible.
(A3) Middle Ridge 2 APZ 30m downslope 20m upslope (25m x 30m) (about 0.65ha NPWS 0.38ha Private)		
(A4) E. Weber APZ 30m downslope 20m upslope (25m x 30m) (about 0.77ha NPWS 0.3ha Private)		

### Risk Management Information

Zone	Action	Responsibility
(S1) Middle Ridge North (about 3.6ha NPWS 0.27ha Private)	Prescribed burn when overall fire hazard reaches high.	Joint responsibility - private landholders and NPWS according to tenure.
(S2) Middle Ridge South (about 0.27ha NPWS 0.65ha Private)		

