

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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The NSN National Plans and Wilded Services part of the Close of Environment 4 Heritage.
Published by the Cliffic of Environment 4 Heritage (1984), December 2015.

Corticat. PRVS Nothern Plans Plans (1986).

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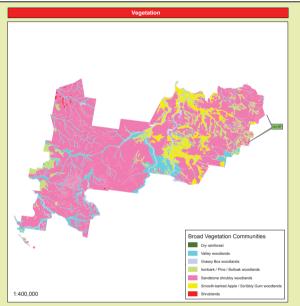
The east Pilliga is a very fire prone landscape with many plant communities being burnt too frequently. This strategy aims to maximise burning effectiveness in strategic areas to help contain the spread of wildfires while allowing theremaining plant communities to return to fire frequencies that are within their desired minimum and maximum thresholds

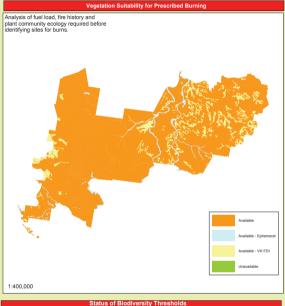


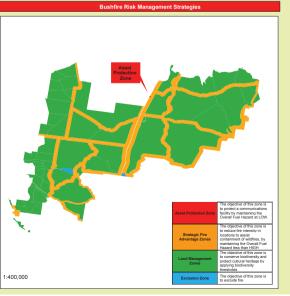
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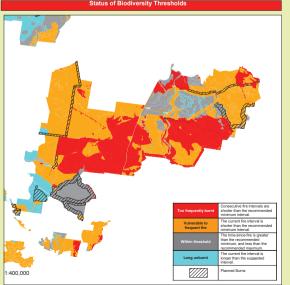
Areas or the initigat east state. Conservation Area are subject to exploration incentes for coal seam gas (CSG).

This fire management strategy will be reviewed as extraction activity increases and gas wells are located in close r proximity to the NPWS estate. The review will ascertain if amendment to existing operational guidelines and fire management zones will be required.









		Conta	ct Information			
Agency			Position / Location	Phone		
National Parks		Duty Officer	(24 hour)	6843 1370		
& Wildlife Service		Baradine A	Baradine Area Office (bus. hours) 68			
NSW RFS Namoi Zone			Zone Manager 0427 101 124			
NOW RED NAME ZONE		Duty Officer		6799 6707		
NSW RFS Castlereagh Zone			Zone Manager 0429 305 713			
		Duty Officer Zone Mana		0417 419 367		
NSW RFS Liverpool Plains		Duty Officer		1800 081 166		
			k Brigade – David Toynton	6842 9115		
			igade – Ian Watson	6843 4438		
		Dandry Brig	ade – Alan Taylor	6842 1406		
DES Dur	l Fire Brigades	Goolhi Brigi	ade – Tim O'Gorman	6743 5323		
Aro Kur	e Drigedes	Willala Brig	ade – Peter Donaldson	6743 6514		
			gade – Ron Boxsell	6743 4487 6842 9162		
			Brigade – Richard Stringer	6842 9162 0417 654 431		
New E	ire & Rescue		rigade – Tony Waldron Comms Centre	4929 7177		
	ncy Services		Ambulance	4929 /1//		
Emerge	SES	rolloe, Fire	Allibriance	132 500		
		Connaharal	oran	6842 7299		
	Police	Narrahri		6792 7199		
	ouncil	Namabri		6799 6866		
	ouncil	Warrumbun	gle	6847 6600		
Servi	:e	Channel 24	Gwabegar	nd Comments		
Servi	:e			nd Comments		
		26				
NPWS Rep	eaters	28	Southern Pilliga (Wanda)			
		31	Needle Mountain			
		267	Needle Mountain			
NSW For	ests	266	Mount Dowe			
		98 & 99 P032	Fireground channels     Gwabegar			
RFS (Namoi / G	wydir Zone)	P032 P069	Gwabegar     The Governor			
		P138	Siding Spring			
RFS (Castlereach Zone)		P153	Southern Pilliga (Wanda)			
Hr-5 (Castlere	ign zone)	P154	Baradine			
		P160	Tambar Mountain			
UHF - I			<ul> <li>Small fires channel 10, large fires</li> </ul>	determined by IMT		
Parkes R		12	<ul> <li>NPWS Fireground channel 2</li> </ul>			
Aviation -	CTAF	126.7		<u> </u>		
			<ul> <li>Good reception along the Newell Highway corridor, except for low points</li> </ul>			
Mobile phone -	Telstra 3G		<ul> <li>Coverage on elevated areas east of the Newell Highway</li> </ul>			
			No coverage west of the Newell Highway			
	Check *	Line of sight" maps	for a prediction of coverage for service	es		
		Fire Sea	ason Information			
		The critical wildfire season generally occurs during November and December.				
	The critical wildfire	season generally	occurs during November and December			
Vildfires	During periods of s September and ex	strong negative So tend into the first h	uthern Oscillation Indices (El Nino ever alf of January.			
Wildfires	During periods of s September and ex	strong negative So tend into the first h	uthern Oscillation Indices (El Nino ever			

- NPWS (2001) Pilliga Nature Reserve Fire Management Plan, 2001 2006
- Rural Fire Service (2001) Pilliga Operations Sub-plan, 2001. (Annexe to Plans of Operations prepared by the following Bush Fire Management Committees: Castlereagh, Namol, Liverpool Ranges & North-west.
   Hunter, J. (2010) Vegetation and floristics of Timmsfalls (In V.), Amigan NP and Dandry Gorge AA. Report to DECCW
- Hunter, JT (2011) Vegetation and floristics of the Pilliga East SCA, Willala AA, Pilliga NR and Ukerbarley addition. Report to DECCN

## Benchmarks for extreme fire behaviour

The Pilliga Scrub is characterised by large fire events which rapidly escalate to a landscape scale. Fire s have exceeded 100,000 hectares on a number of occasions. An aim of the reserve fire management strategy is to prevent large fire events exceeding 20,000 The potential fire behaviour in the eastern Pillion is indicated by the following incidents:

day-time runs of 20+ kilometres
 (30 kms = 1982 Pilitiga east fire, 25 kms = 1997 Timmalfallee Creek fire & 2 separate ignitions from the 2006 Pilitiga No. 4 fire)

- increases of the fire area greater than 50,000 hectares in one day (63,000 ha 1982 Pilliga east fire, 75,000 ha 2006 Pilliga No. 4 fire)
- significant fire runs if different directions over successive days (1965 Southern Pilliga fire & 1997 Timmallallee Creek fire)
- significant night-time runs with easterly winds after very dry south-westerly conditions (20 kms 2006 Pilliga No. 4 fire , 15 kms 2006 Kerningle fire, 10 kms 2002 Jerrys fire)

	Operational Guidelines
	<ul> <li>Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. This includes directing aerial bombing and aerial ignition operations</li> </ul>
Aerial operations	<ul> <li>The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>All aerial ignition operations require the consent of the NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee.</li> </ul>
	All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin.
	<ul> <li>Backburning in areas of Low – Moderate OFH will require the use of wind, or low humidity to maximise effectiveness.</li> <li>Backburning should be timed for late afternoon and early evening.</li> </ul>
Backburning	Backburning in Broombush & shrublands must be carefully planned and timed to avoid fire runs.
Duckbulling	Preparation for backburning may require "wind-rowing" on the edge of containment lines to assist light-
	up during low wind conditions.
	Where practicable to assist mop-up efforts, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to
	containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down these trees during the ignition.  The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management
	agency is notified promotiv.
Command & Control	
	. Recommend activation of the Pilliga Sub-plan of Operations when running fire is rapidly escalating,
	or when extreme conditions are forecast to impact a fireground.
	New containment lines require the prior consent of a serior NPWS officer.     Containment lines running along valley areas should be constructed at 20 – 50 metres from the gullyline.
Containment Lines	<ul> <li>Containment lines running along valley areas should be constructed at 20 – 50 metres from the guilyling to avoid severe emsion.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>All personal involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural</li> </ul>
	heritage sites in the location.
	<ul> <li>Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.</li> </ul>
Earthmoving	<ul> <li>Earthmoving equipment 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.</li> </ul>
Equipment	Machinery exclusions areas apply, and are mapped on the Incident Map.
Equipment	<ul> <li>Earthmoving equipment must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting</li> </ul>
	NPWS estate.
Fire Suppression	The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants will be permitted on the reserve
Chemicals	Fire suppression chemicals are not to be applied within 50m of water courses and dams.     The use of retardants requires the approval of the Regional Manager or delegate.
	The use of retardants requires the approval of the Regional Manager of delegate.
Rehabilitation	<ul> <li>Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation</li> </ul>
Watering points	Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations.
Smoke Management	<ul> <li>Potential smoke impacts on the Newell Highway will be assessed, and mitigation tactics considered during the planning of fire operations.</li> </ul>
Traffic Management	<ul> <li>Immediately request closure of the Newell Highway when fire is running towards the Newell Highway.</li> </ul>
	Urgent closure is required when the run is within 5 kilometres.
Visitor & Apiarist	<ul> <li>The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations</li> </ul>
Management	Advise apjarists of fire threats, and the restrictions in place for entry.     The potential rate of spread in Broombush and shrubland areas is very rapid, and the risk of
	The potential rate of spread in Broombush and shrubland areas is very rapid, and the risk of entrapment very high.
	Backburning should not be attempted during periods of running fire, particularly in front of the head.
	New containment lines may only be constructed in adjoining vegetation with LOW - MODERATE elevater
	fuel hazard, except to secure "dead" edges.
	Smooth-barked Apple and Scribbly Gum Areas can have OFH VERY HIGH. These areas are
Warnings	<ul> <li>Smooth-barked Apple and Scribbly Gum Areas can have OFH VERY HIGH. These areas are marked on the vegetation map</li> </ul>
···uiiigs	marked on the regelation map
	Sub-soils in low gradient areas can turn to spew when saturated. Vehicles, graders and dozers can
	readily bog to the axles, or worse.

Westerly fire runs may occur from unsecured western flanks with night-time easterly changes. This is a particular concern after fires running with dry south westerly conditions. Bureau of

Black text - general guidelines Blue text - reserve specific guidelines Red text - important warning

Fire danger ra CATASTROPI Dry scierophyll shru	ting				
Dry sclerophyli shru		Revert to property protection.			
	bby woodla	l nds			
Dry sclerophyll shru Smooth-barked Appl	le / Scribby				
		<ul> <li>Consider a broad containment strategy using ex- requirements for biodiversity</li> </ul>	isting roads, allowing long-term management		
Fire danger ra LOW - HIGH	ting	Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units.			
LOW - HIGH	н	In dissected country - control line construction may	only be possible along ridge tops and spurs.		
		In undulating sandstone country, control line constr	uction may be more rapid along or parallel to ridge tops		
		<ul> <li>Fallback to existing trails and roads and recently construction rates</li> </ul>	burnt areas when fire runs exceed control line		
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME					
		Secure and deepen control lines on the next predicted downwind side of the fire     Target backburning operations when the humidity rises in late afternoon and early evening. Backburning			
		effectiveness will drop significantly with rising humidity.			
		Fire runs under extreme conditions may travel at 4 – 6 kms/hr Burn areas with LOW OFH may hold fire head, if deep enough Burn areas with MODERATE OFH will reduce intensity			
		Burn areas with MODERATE OFH will reduce inter	isity		
Valley and Creekside	e vegetation				
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH		<ul> <li>Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity</li> </ul>			
		Direct and parallel attack may be applied with ea	orthmoving machinery and fire units.		
		Construct a control line across vegetation to avoid rapid spread			
		Fallback to existing trails and roads and recently burnt areas when fire runs exceed control line			
Fire danger ra VERY HIGH - EXT	TREME	construction rates			
Broombush and shri	ublande	Areas with grassy understorey may carry fire 1+ ye	as are me.		
Di Combusii and siii	00101103	Consider a broad containment strategy using ex	isting roads, allowing long-term management		
Fire danger ra	ting	requirements for biodiversity			
LOW - HIGH	н	Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units only on dead edges, or in vegetation with LOW OFH.			
		Fallback to existing trails and roads, recently burnt areas or vegetation with LOW OFH.			
		Do not attempt backburning in the predicted path of running fire in this vegetation.			
		<ul> <li>Backburning must be carefully timed and planned to avoid adding to fire runs.</li> </ul>			
Fire danger ra VERY HIGH - EX	ting TREME	Backburning effectiveness will drop significantly in the after humidity starts to rise, and wind drops, in the			
		early evening.			
		<ul> <li>Parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units only on dead edges, or in vegetation with LOW OFH.</li> </ul>			
		Warning: Fire runs should be anticipated with winds from any direction. Entrapment risk is very high.			
Ironbark / White Pine Grassy Box woodlan	e / Bulloak w	roodlands			
		Consider a broad containment strategy using ex-			
		<ul> <li>Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity</li> </ul>			
Fire danger ra LOW - HIGH	ting H				
Fire danger ra LOW - HIGH	ting H	Direct and parallel attack may be applied with early a second control of the	orthmoving machinery and fire units.		
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Fire danger ra VERY HIGH - EXT Vegetation Community Dry rainforest TEC	Vegeta  Where p	Direct and parallel attack may be applied with ear     Crose parallel attack, moving around the head of anothery and to Distance between the flank and machinery and it if fire is running, it will show considerably when it it it is running, it will show considerably when it it it is running, it will show considerably when it it it is running, it will show considerably when it it is running and and it is running and and it is running and	Inthroving machinery and fire units.  by when the fire stops running the units should be kept to a minimum reaches Pilliga Box. Poptar Box or White Box country  Fire Behaviour  *Low OFH		
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Operational Guidelines - Heritage

ditted trees
As far as possible, protect the site from fire, and do not cut trees.
I see of foams & retardant is acceptable.

HIMS databases must be checked as part of planning for fire operations
Dog proof fence - Scratch Rd

- As far as possible, protect identified key sections of fence from fire.

- Use of foam and retardants is acceptable.

HIMS databases must be checked as part of planning for fire operations
Threatment fauma – general guidelines

- Consider firing of prescribed burns with respect to potential habitat tree loss.

- Avoid burning during extended drought to reduce the loss of large habitat trees.

Carex Sedgelands TEC - Salaks Road

• Apply a machinery exclusion area

Threatened flora and vegetation communities –
Dyr rainforest TEC - Wilklas Knobs and Wilklas Mountain

Exclude areas from prescribed burning.

Exclude prescribed burns from regenerating Red Ash located along the eastern boundary

Box = Gum Woodland TEC =

Avoid construction of containment lines through these communities where possible

(This is necessary due to the high risk of vehicles and machines bogging)

Guidelines

Salt Caves, Airlands, Yamborah, Salisbury, Creaghs Crossing and Highway work camp historic precincts As far as possible, protect the precinct from fee. Use of foram and retardants is acceptable. Protect the sites from control line construction. Maintain a 50 m machinery exclusion buffer around the sites.

Collect subschild Teamhair in a size Penings Cornel
As far as possible, protect the sist form fire.
Use of foam and retardants is acceptable.
Protect the sites from control line construction. Maintain a 50 m machinery exclusion buffer around the sites.

Threatened flora – Commersonia procumbens (formerly Rulingia procumbens) – Kerringle /Galloway Roads

• Minimise extent of machinery disturbance Large-eared Pied Bat maternity site – Badham Trail and Sandstone Caves

Prescribed burning excluded from July to November over a 500 metre radius from site Suppression Strategies

Consider a broad containment strategy using existing trails and roads, recently burnt areas, creeklines vegetation with LOW OFH.

Resource

Historic Site Site Management

All vegetation types

