

Trinkey State Conservation Area Fire Management Strategy 2013 - 2018
Mapsheet 1 of 3

Office of Environment & Heritage
NSW

This strategy should be used with air photography and field reconnaissance. This is a relevant Plan under S.38 (4) and S.44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

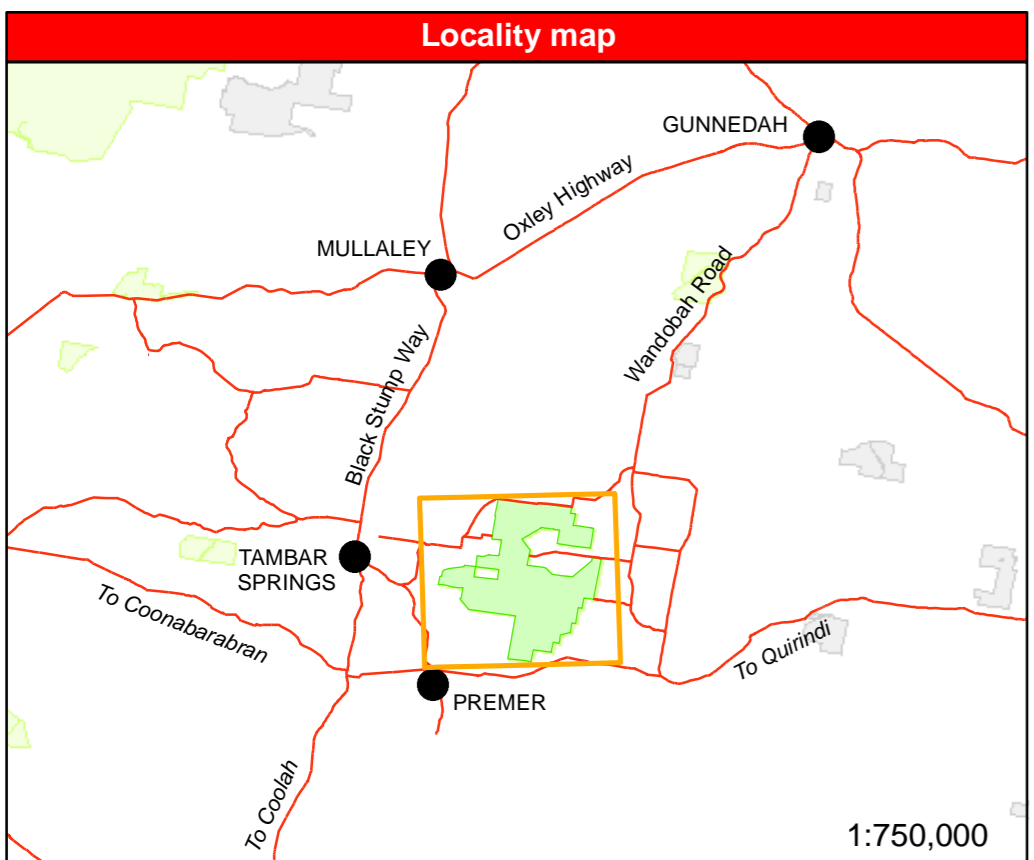
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Contact: NPWS Northern Plains Region, PO Box 72 Narrabri NSW 2390. Ph 6792 7350

ISBN 978 1 74359 228 1 OEH 2013/0547 Date Approved: 11 September 2013

Related and reference documents

- Department of Environment and Heritage (2012) *Fire Management Manual*
- Department of Environment and Heritage (2011) *Trinkey State Conservation Area Plan of Management*
- Hunter, JT (2009) *Vegetation and floristics of Trinkey State Conservation Area*. Report to NSW NPWS



Map details

Datum: GDA 1994 Projection: MGA 1994 Map Zone: 55 Map Base: Spot 5, 2005
Topographic Map: 1:50,000 Tanker Springs 8305-S
Noted scales: True when printed on A1 size paper
Local Government Area:

Communications Information

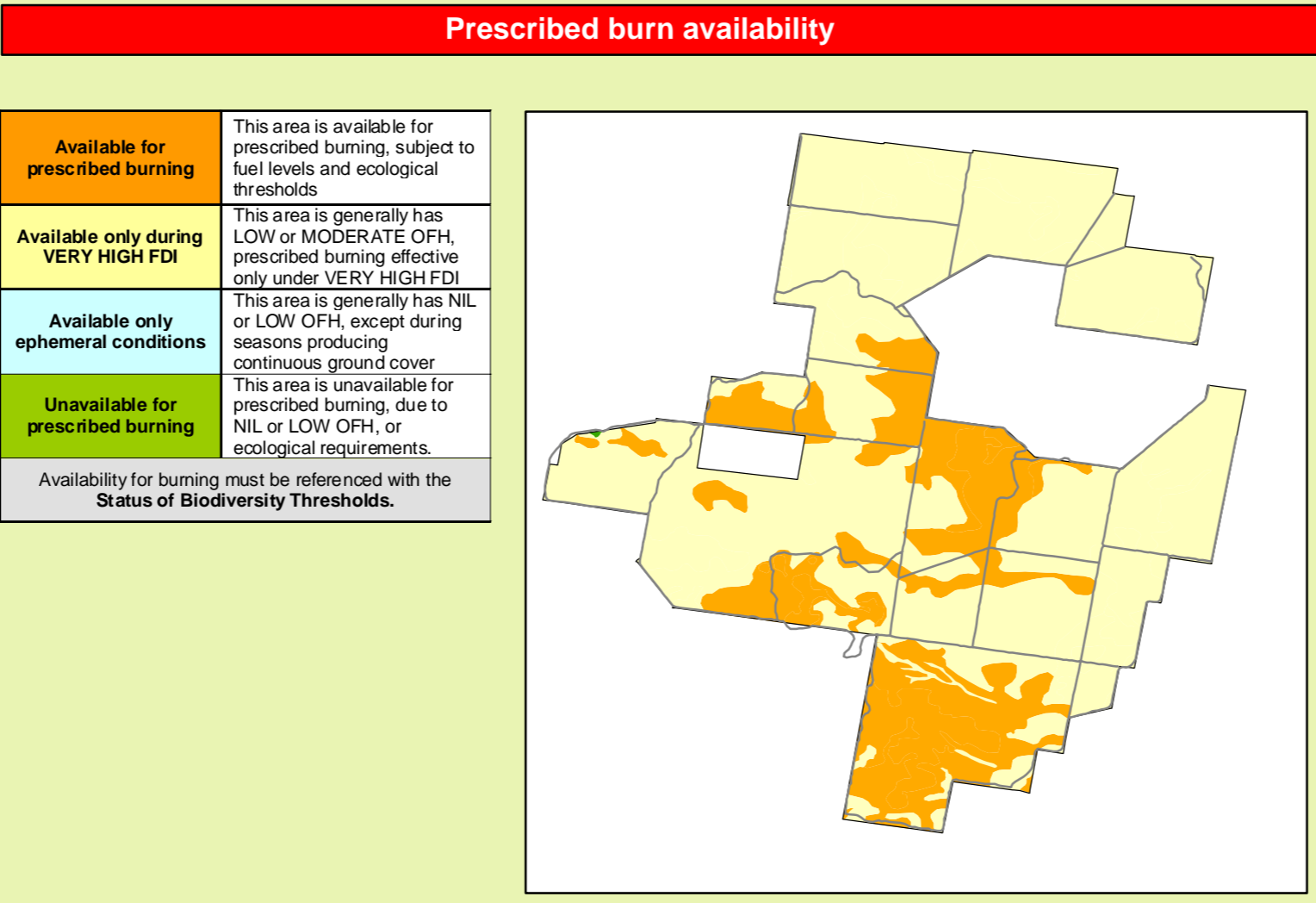
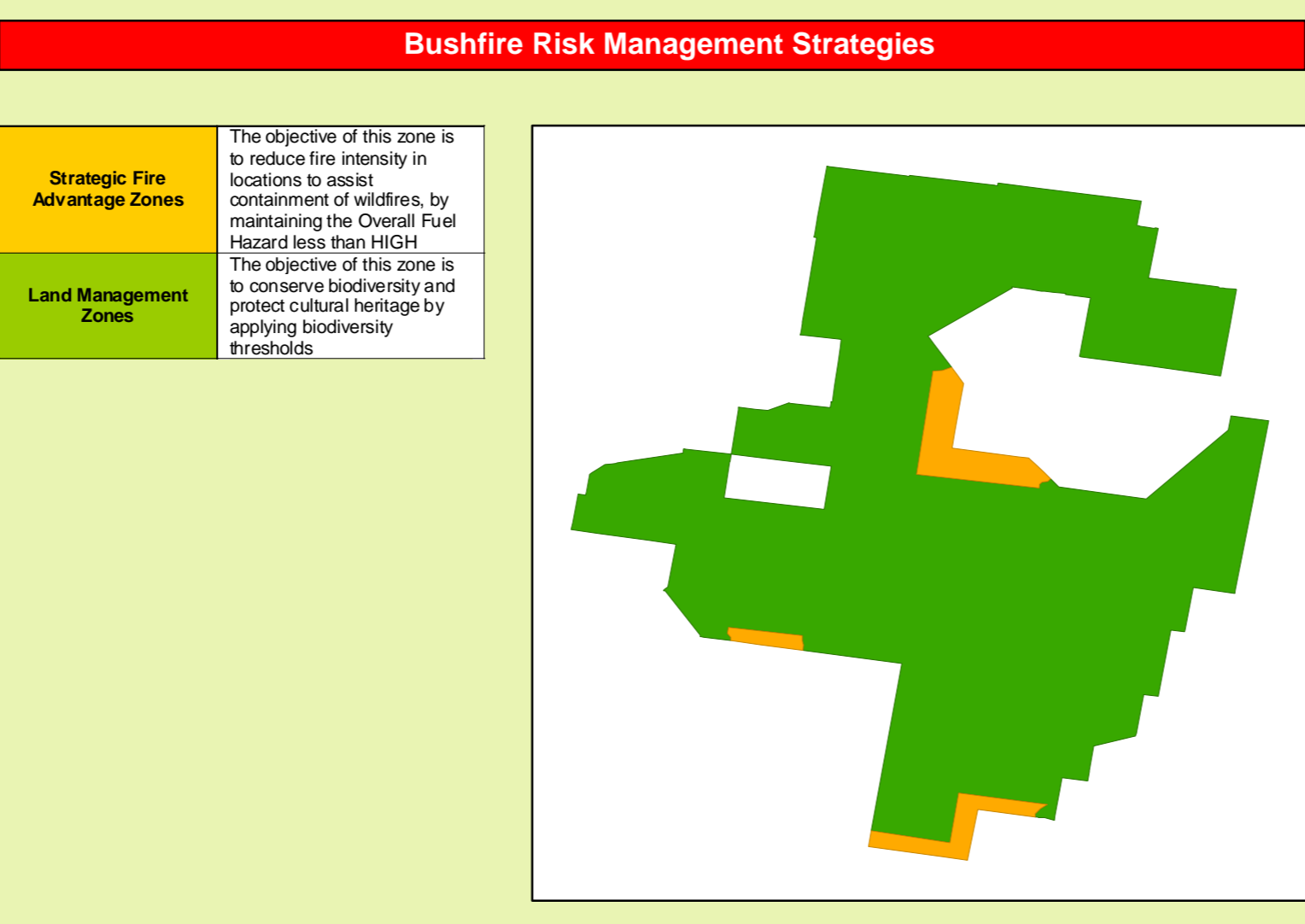
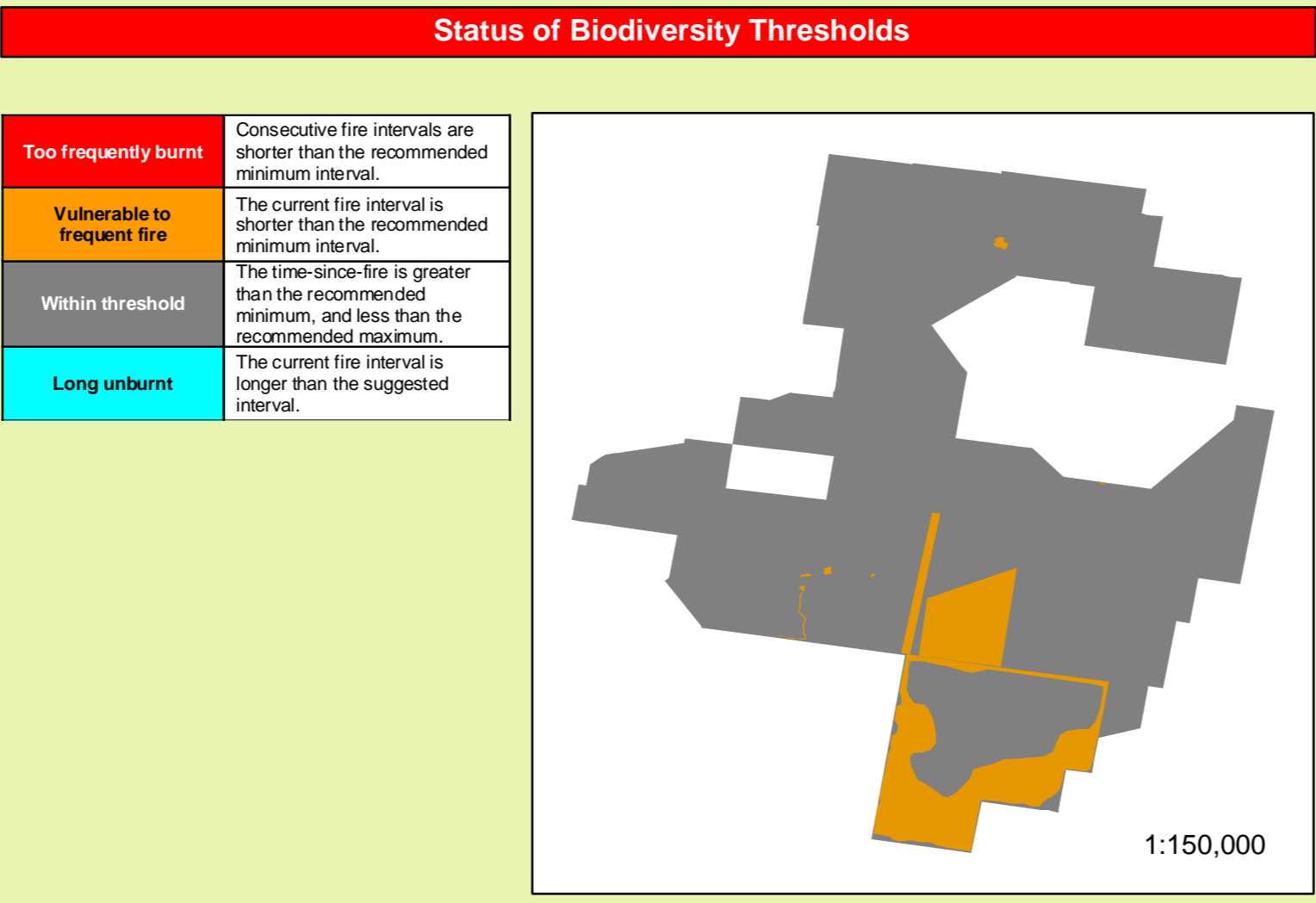
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	28	• Wanda (high points only) • Needle Mountain (high points only)
RFS	P028 P160	• Mt Tamarang (Liverpool Ranges) • Tambar Mountain (Castlereagh)
UHF - CB		• Small fires - Channel 10 • Large fires - determined by IMT
Aviation - CTAF	127.4	• Gunnedah
Cellphone		• Telstra 3G coverage from Mt. Tamarang

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour) Coonabarabran Area Office (bus. hours)	6842 3041 6842 1311
NSW RFS	Zone Manager	0427 306 845
Liverpool Range Zone	Duty Officer	6747 1493
RFS Rural Fire Brigades	Tambar Springs - John Ceisman	6744 2370
NSW Fire & Rescue	Newcastle	4929 7177
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police	Gunnedah	6742 9099
Council	Gunnedah	6740 2100

Fire Season Information

Wildfires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 into the first half of January. The end of the critical fire season is often marked by wet storm activity.
Prescribed Burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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

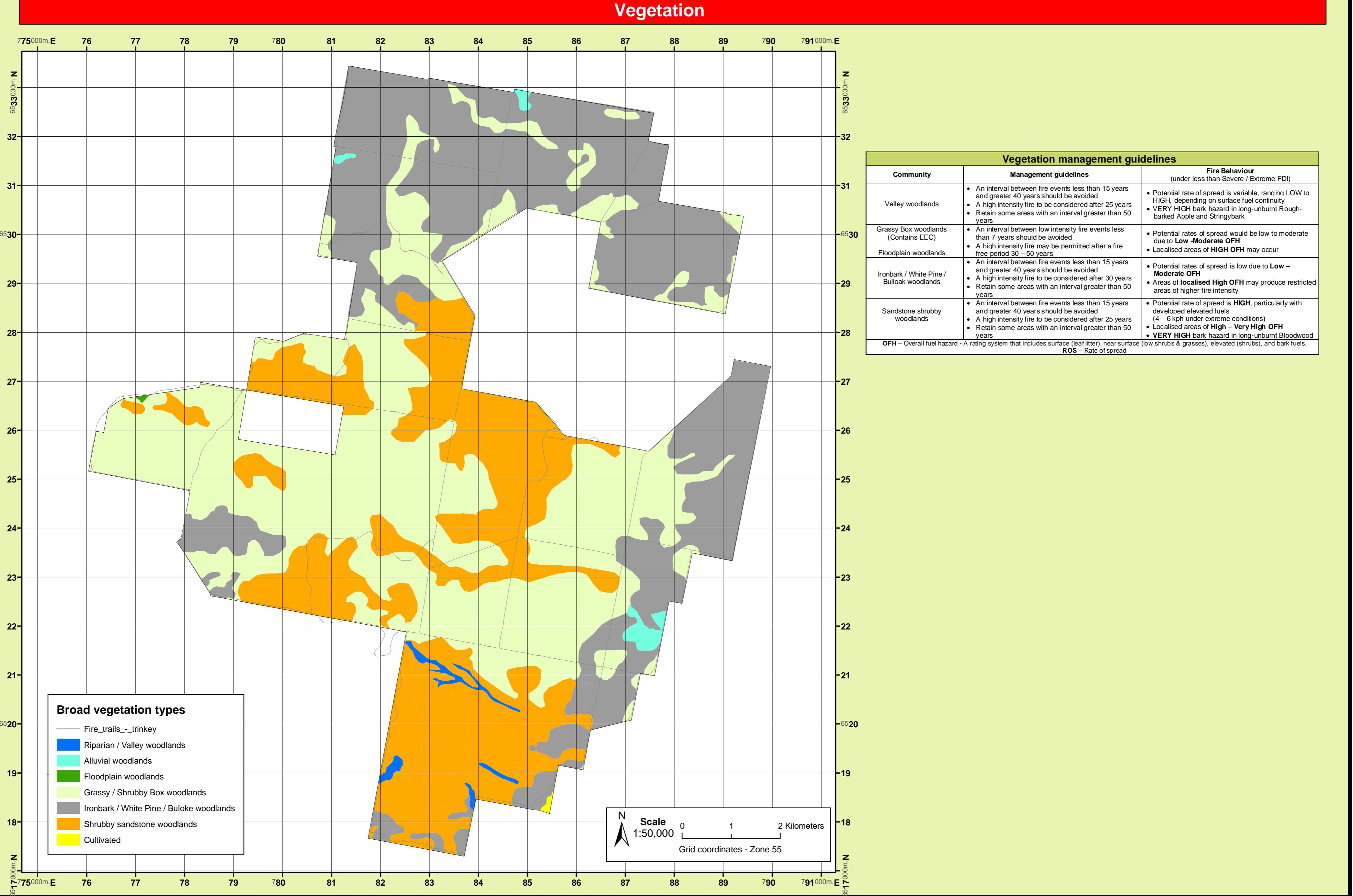
General	Guidelines
Aerial operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. This includes directing aerial bombing and aerial ignition operations. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. All aerial ignition operations require the consent of the NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee.
Backburning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin. Backburning in areas of Low - Moderate OFH will require the use of wind, slope or low humidity to maximise effectiveness.
Command & Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but must ensure the relevant land management agency 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 BPMC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 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.
Earthmoving Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. Earth-moving machinery must not be used in areas designated as "machinery exclusion". Plant must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Watering points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider deployment of a bulk water carrier to support fire operations.
Smoke Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations.
Visitor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This reserve will be closed to visitors during fire danger periods rated Severe or higher.
WARNINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bloodwood and Scribbly Gum Areas can have OFF VERY HIGH. 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 Meteorology must be consulted specifically on potential night-time easterly winds.

Operational Guidelines - Heritage

General	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified trees (AS1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the site from fire, clear base of litter and shrubs, exclude site tree from fire where possible Foam may be used to protect the tree, or to extinguish fire Do not cut trees Ground based sites (AS2), including: middens, artefact scatters, quarry sites, grinding grooves, hearths <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect sites from any ground disturbance, including the use of earth-moving equipment and vehicles
Historic Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coupe / Blaze trees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect the site from fire, clear base of litter and shrubs, exclude site tree from fire where possible Foam may be used to protect the tree, or to extinguish fire Do not cut trees
Threatened Flora and Fauna Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines for threatened species have been incorporated into Operational and Vegetation Management guidelines

Suppression Strategies

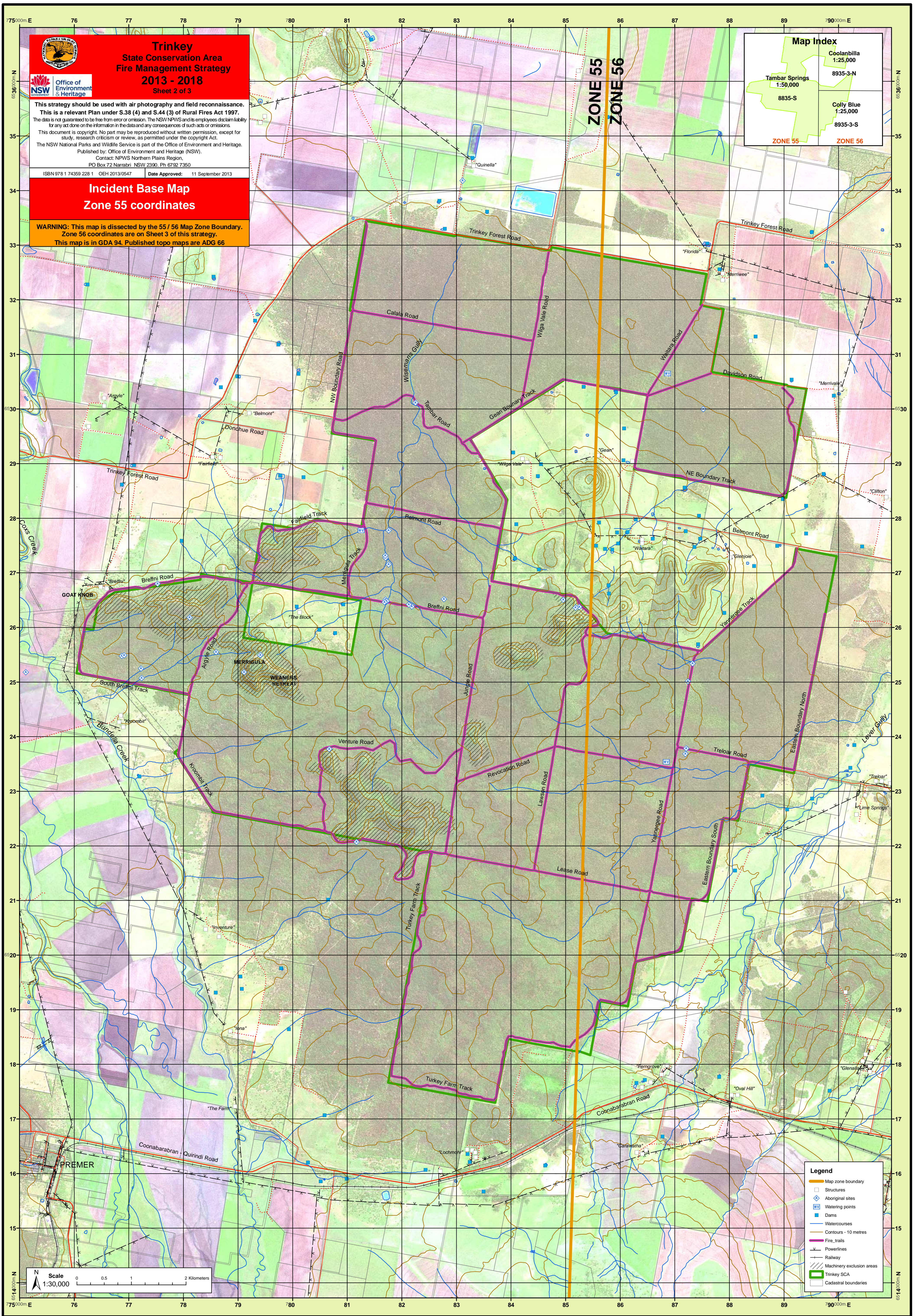
Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
All vegetation types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a broad containment strategy using existing trails and roads, recently burnt areas, creeklines or vegetation with LOW OFH. (This is necessary due to the high risk of vehicles and machines bogging)
Years with saturated soils and sub-soils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a strategy containing the fire to the smallest area practicable, using a combination of ground crews, fire units, machinery and aircraft. Any proposed backburning must be assessed on the required resources, their capacity and the time required to mop-up and secure proposed burn edges prior to the onset of Severe+ conditions, and then hold.
Severe+ FDI forecast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire runs under extreme conditions may travel at 4 - 6 km/hr. Burn areas with LOW OFH may hold fire head, if deep enough Burn areas with MODERATE OFH will reduce intensity.
Sandstone shrubby woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units. Machinery is excluded from constructing control lines in elevated sandstone country
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 danger rating VERY HIGH +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fire runs under extreme conditions may travel at 4 - 6 km/hr. Burn areas with LOW OFH may hold fire head, if deep enough Burn areas with MODERATE OFH will reduce intensity.
Valley woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units. Construct a control line across vegetation to avoid rapid spread
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 danger rating VERY HIGH +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Ironbark / White Pine / Bullock woodlands Grassy Box woodlands, Floodplain woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider a broad containment strategy using existing roads, allowing long-term management requirements for biodiversity Direct and parallel attack may be applied with earthmoving machinery and fire units. Close parallel attack, moving around the head only when the fire stops running Distance between the flank and machinery and fire units should be kept to a minimum If fire is running, it will slow considerably when it reaches Yellow or White Box country
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 danger rating VERY HIGH +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
<p>Fire behaviour calculations should consider both Surface and 1500 metres wind forecasts</p>	



Vegetation management guidelines

Community	Management guidelines	Fire Behaviour (under less than Severe / Extreme FDI)
Valley woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater 40 years should be avoided A high intensity fire to be considered after 25 years Retain some areas with an interval greater than 50 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rate of spread is variable, ranging LOW to HIGH, depending on surface fuel continuity VERY HIGH bark hazard in long-unburnt Rough-barked Apple and Stringybark
Grassy Box woodlands (Contains EEC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between low intensity fire events less than 7 years should be avoided A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 30 - 50 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread would be low to moderate due to Low - Moderate OFH Localised areas of HIGH OFH may occur
Floodplain woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater 40 years should be avoided A high intensity fire to be considered after 30 years Retain some areas with an interval greater than 50 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread is low due to Low - Moderate OFH Areas of localised High OFH may produce restricted areas of higher fire intensity
Ironbark / White Pine / Bullock woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater 40 years should be avoided A high intensity fire to be considered after 25 years Retain some areas with an interval greater than 50 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rate of spread is HIGH, particularly with developed elevated fuels (4 - 6 kph under extreme conditions) Localised areas of High - Very High OFH VERY HIGH bark hazard in long-unburnt Bloodwood

OFH - Overall fuel hazard - A rating system that includes surface (leaf litter), near surface (low shrubs & grasses), elevated shrubs, and bark fuels.
ROS - Rate of spread



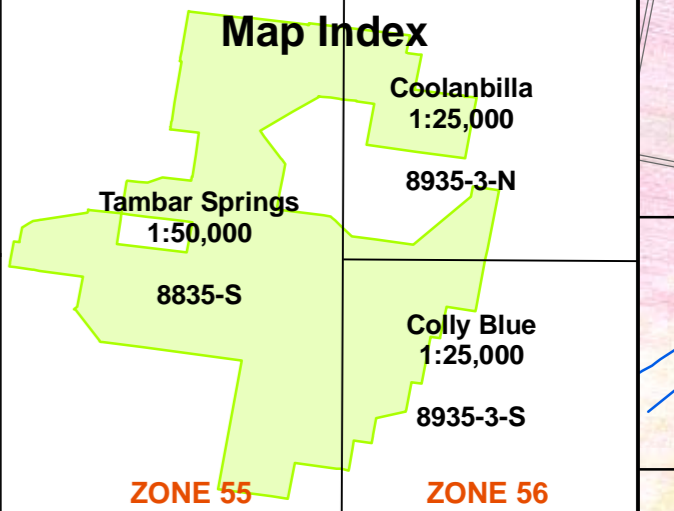
Trinkey State Conservation Area Fire Management Strategy 2013 - 2018
 Sheet 2 of 3

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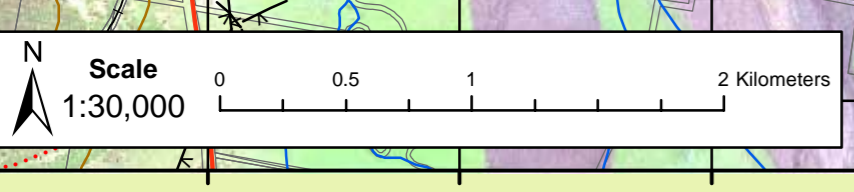
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Incident Base Map
 Zone 55 coordinates

WARNING: This map is dissected by the 55 / 56 Map Zone Boundary. Zone 56 coordinates are on Sheet 3 of this strategy. This map is in GDA 94. Published topo maps are ADG 66



- Legend**
- Map zone boundary
 - Structures
 - Aboriginal sites
 - Watering points
 - Dams
 - Watercourses
 - Contours - 10 metres
 - Fire trails
 - Powerlines
 - Railway
 - Machinery exclusion areas
 - Trinkey SCA
 - Cadastral boundaries





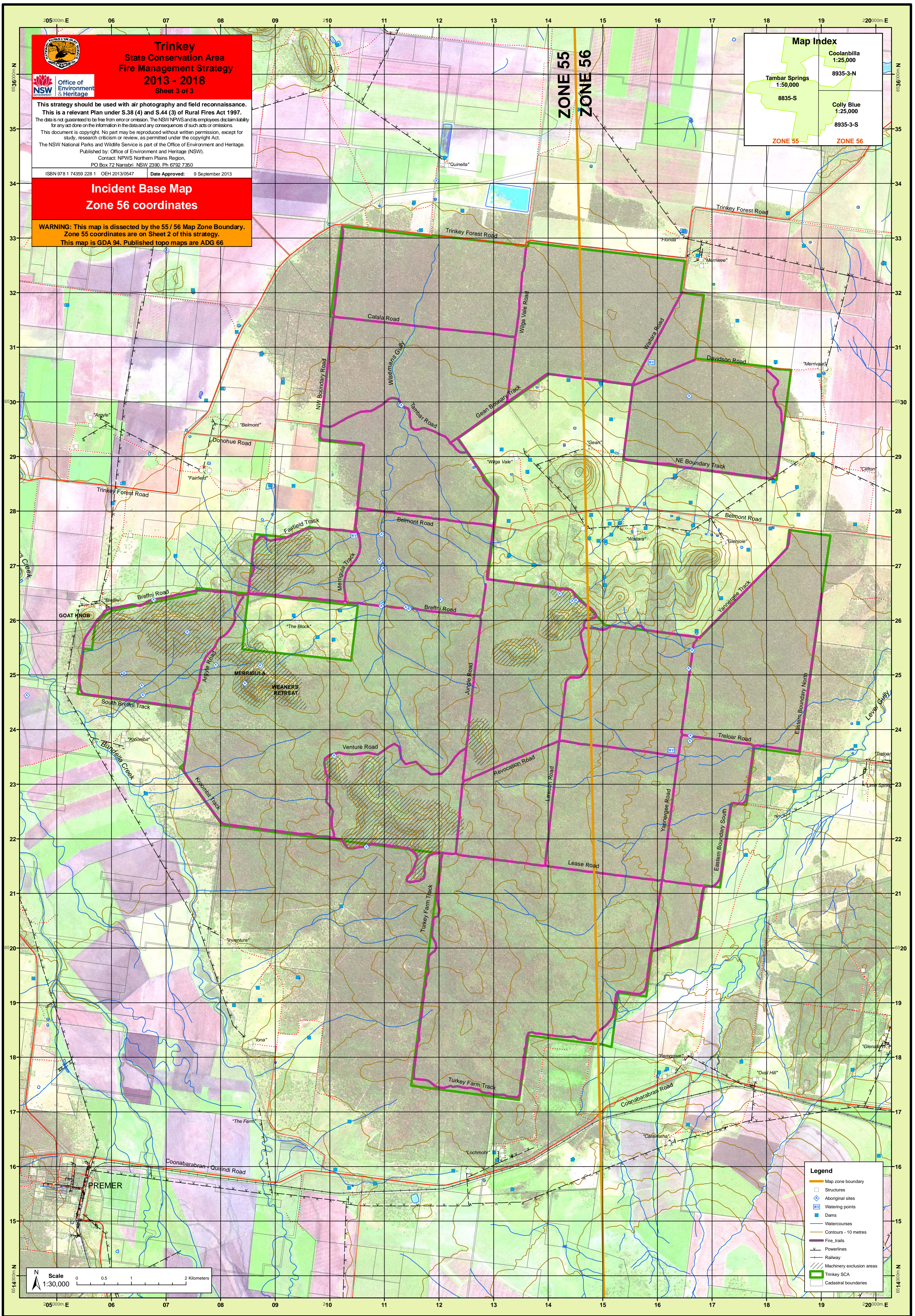
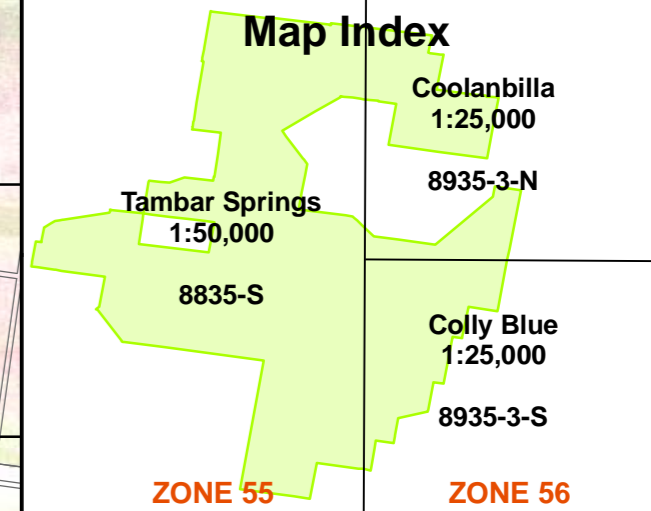
Trinke
State Conservation Area
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Sheet 3 of 3



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Incident Base Map
Zone 56 coordinates

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