

**Wongarbone Nature Reserve
Fire Management Strategy
2012 - 17**

Office of Environment & Heritage

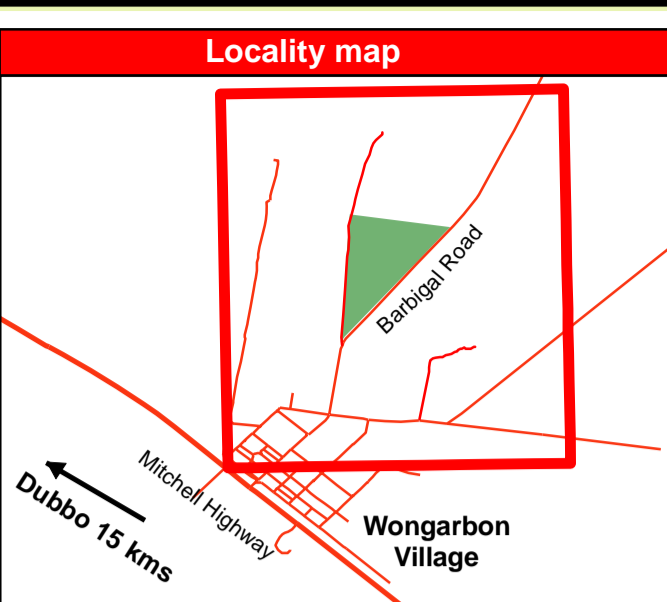
This strategy should be used with aerial photography and field reconnaissance. This is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997. These data are not guaranteed to be free from error or omission. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife and its employees disclaim liability for any act done on the information in the data and any consequences of such acts or omissions. This document is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of study, research criticism or review, as permitted under the copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Office of Environment and Heritage. Published by: Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW). Contact: NPWS Northern Plains Region, PO Box 72 Narrabri NSW 2390, Ph 67927350. ISBN: 978 1 74293 832 5 OEH: 2012 / 0779 Date Approved: 29 August 2012

Related and reference documents

- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (2010) Fire Management Manual
- Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water (2012) Wongarbone Nature Reserve Plan of Management

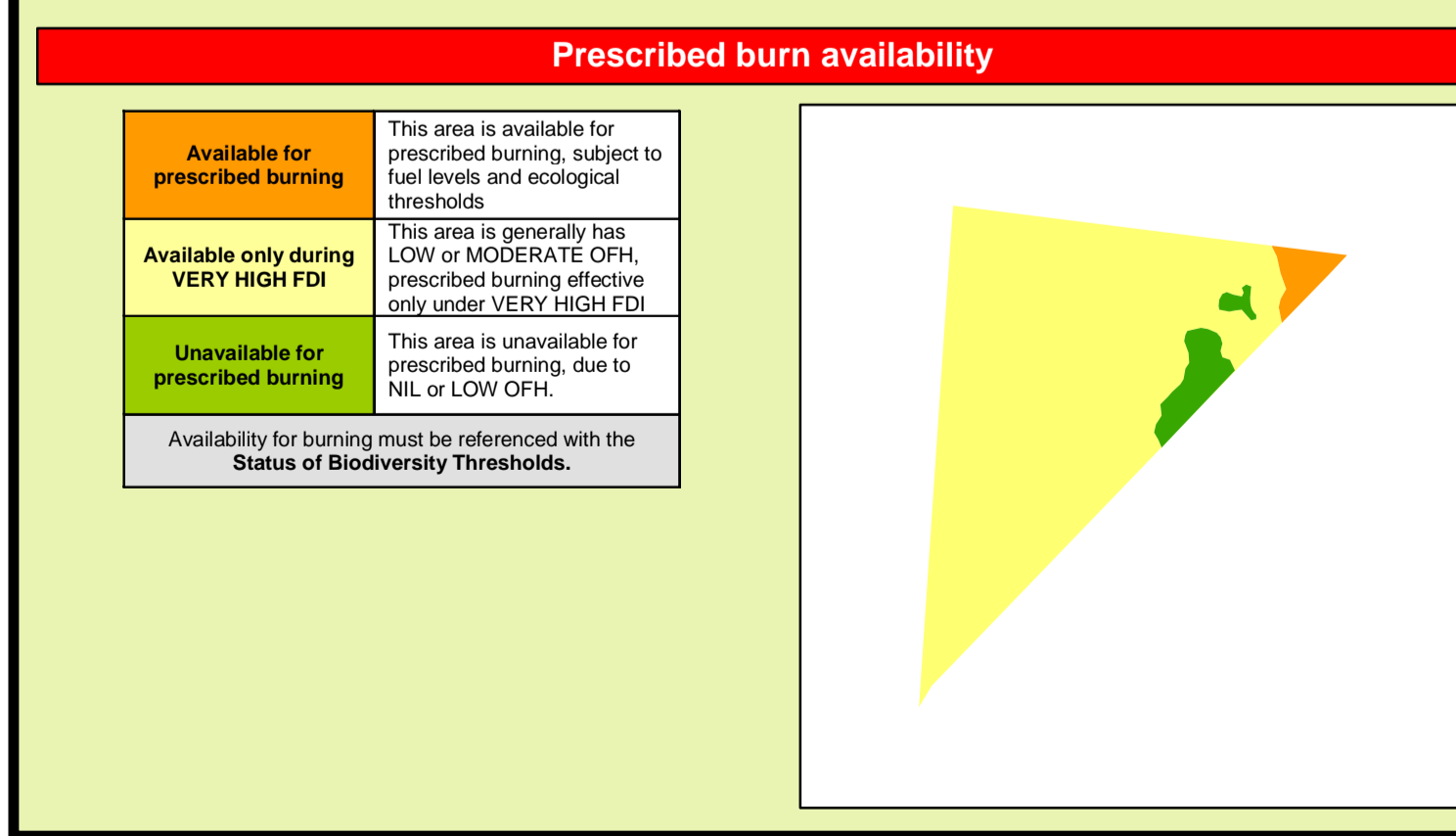
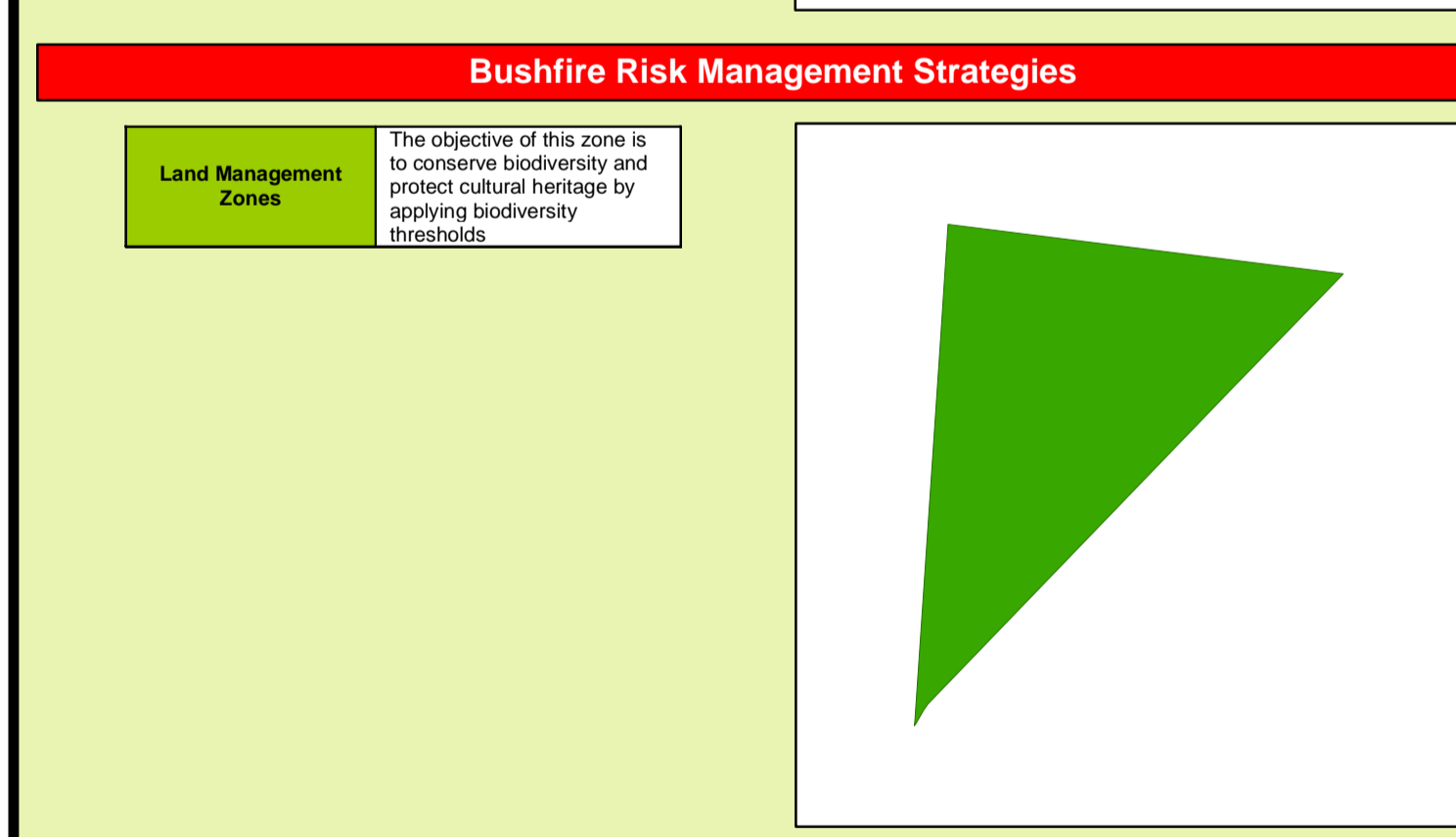
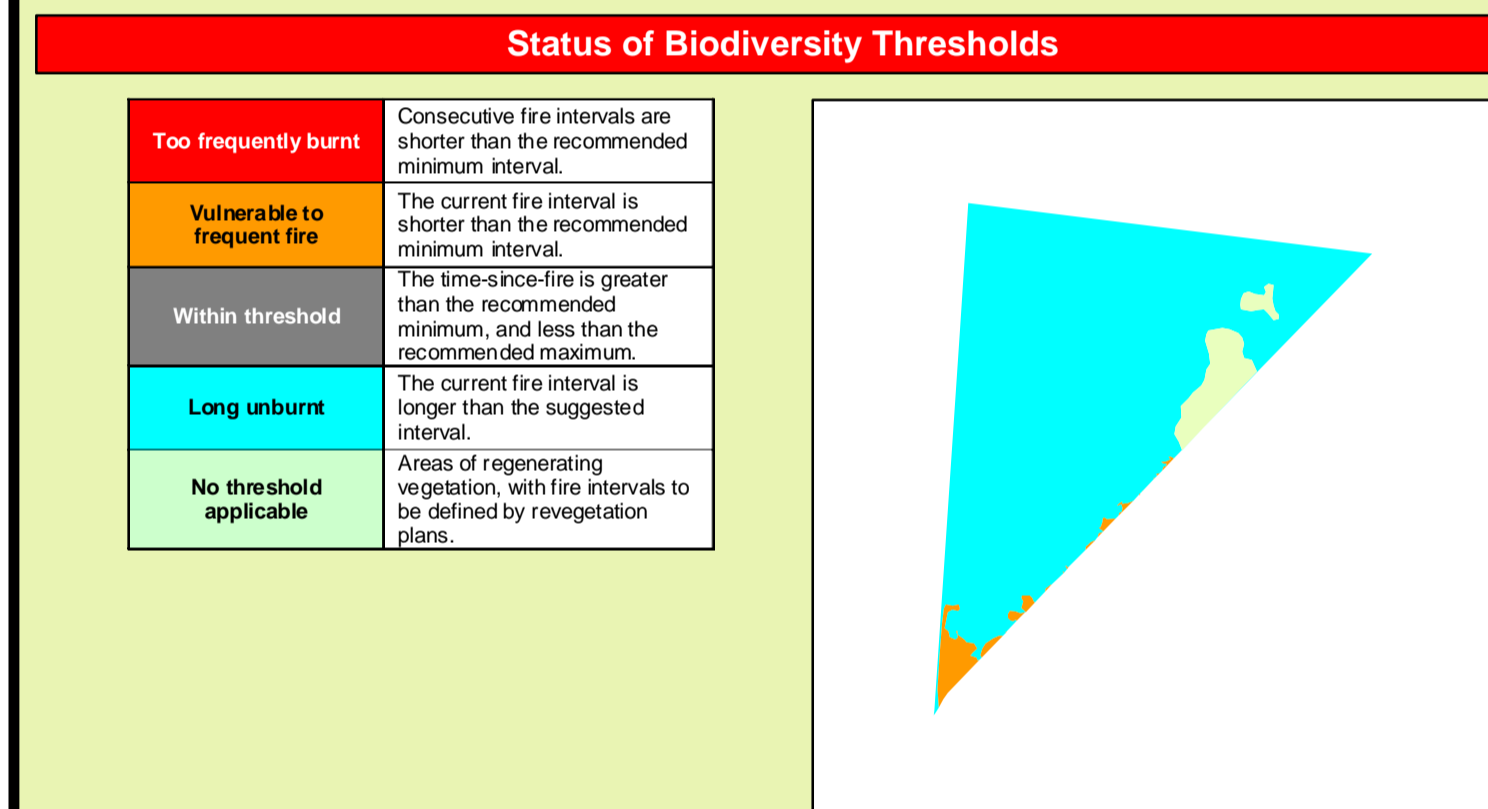
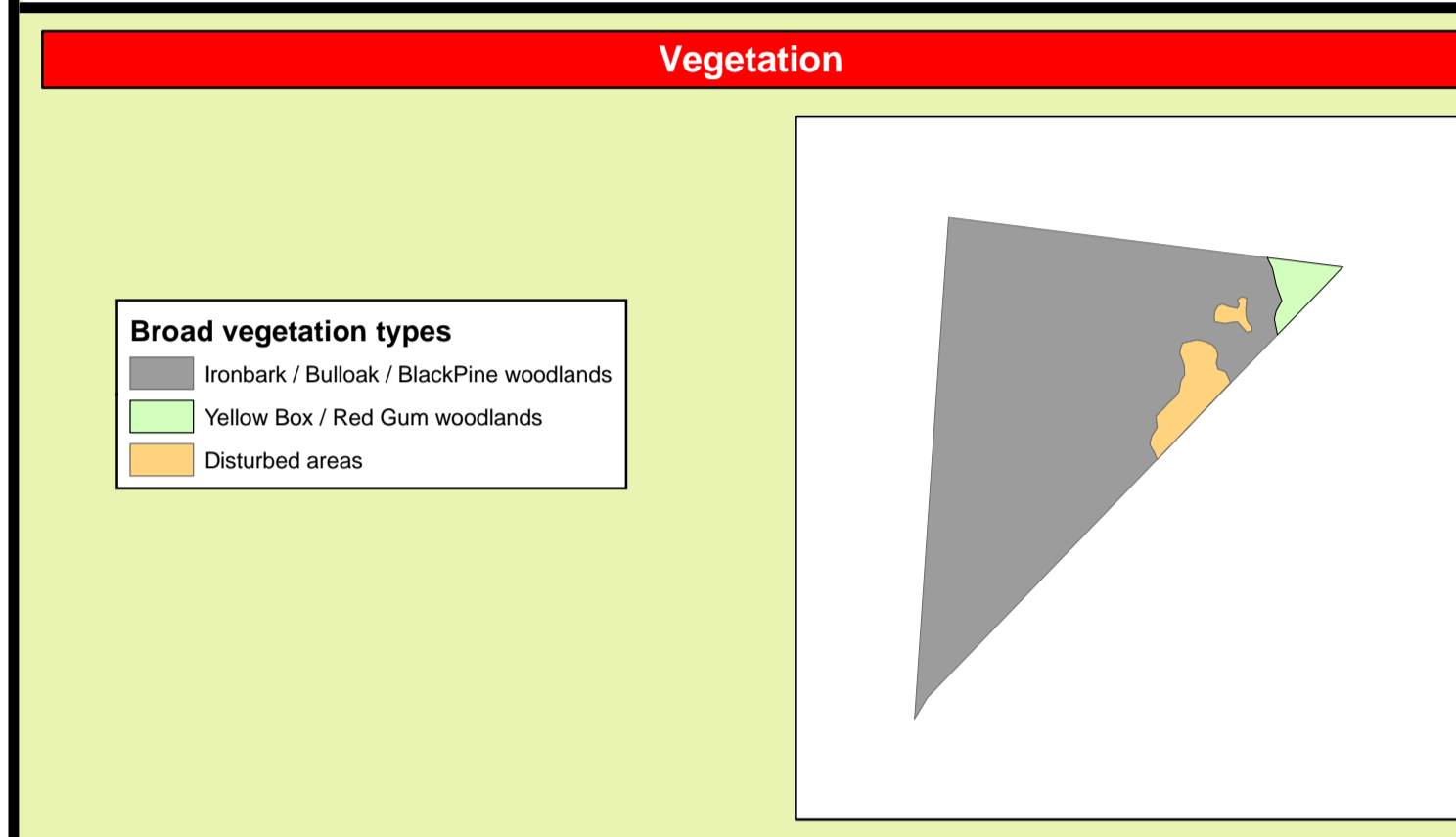
Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	26	• Bodangora
RFS	P017	• Bodangora (Orana)
UHF - CB		• Small fires - Channel 10
		• Large fires - determined by IMT
Aviation - CTAF	134.0	• Dubbo
	126.7	• Wellington
Cellphone		• Telstra 3G coverage

Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour)	6841 7110
	Dubbo Area Office (Bus. hours)	6841 7100
NSW RFS Orana Zone	Zone Manager	0418 636 966
	Duty Officer	6884 3533
RFS Rural Fire Brigades	Wongarbone Brigade - Carol Bailey	6887 8468 0428 526 870
NSW Fire & Rescue	Newcastle	4929 7177
	Sydney	9318 4355
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police		6883 1599
Council	Dubbo	6801 4800



Map details

Datum: GDA 1984 Projection: MGA 1984 Map Zone: 55
 Map Base: ADS40 Digital Photography - Wellington 2009
 Topographic Map: 1:50,000 Geore 9833 - N
 Note: Scales: True when printed on A1 size paper
 Local Government Area: Dubbo



Fire Season Information	
Wildfires	• The critical wildfire season generally occurs during December and January.
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. 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	• 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	• 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 consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BFMC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines	• New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. • No heavy earthmoving machinery will be permitted in the reserve.
Earthmoving Equipment	• Only light earthmoving machinery (eg BobCat or Pozittrak) will be permitted on the reserve. • Plant must be washed down, where practicable, prior to entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	• The aerial application use foam, gels and retardants requires the approval of the Regional Manager or delegate
Rehabilitation	• Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Watering points	• Hydrants in the village may be used during suppression, accessed with standpipes. (Hydrant located corner Beni Street & Braithwaites Road) • Dams on private property should be assessed for suitability, prior to use.
Smoke Management	• Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics must be assessed during the planning of fire operations. (A number of residences within 100 metres of the eastern boundary)
Visitor Management	• Traffic management will be required during fire operations. • Traffic and access controls may need to be established on Barbigual Road, both north and south of the reserve.
WARNINGS	• Electrical transmission line located on southern corner of the reserve. • Logging risk along the western boundary (Woodleys Road) during wetter seasons.
AVIATION HAZARD	• Transmission line located at southern point of reserve, running east-west.

Operational Guidelines - Heritage	
Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	• No Aboriginal sites have been identified
Historic Heritage Site Management	• No historic structures and sites have been identified
Threatened Species Management	• Protective actions are incorporated in the Operational Guidelines

Vegetation management		
Community	Management guidelines	Fire Behaviour
Grassy Box woodlands (EEC)	• An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater than 50 years should be avoided • Selected areas to be maintained with interval greater than 100 years	• Potential rates of spread would be low to moderate due to Low - Moderate OFH
Ironbark / Bullock / Black Pine woodlands	• An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater than 50 years should be avoided	• Potential rates of spread is usually low due to Nil - Low OFH
Disturbed / quarry areas	• Prescribed burning in regeneration areas should be scheduled according to a revegetation / rehabilitation plan	• Nil fire risk due to NIL OFH

OFH - Overall fuel hazard - A rating system that measures leaf litter, grasses, shrubs, bark type and bark condition. Consists of ratings for surface fuel, near-surface fuel, elevated fuel and bark.

Suppression Strategies	
Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
BKDI < 100, or BKDI > 100+ and outside critical fire season Stable conditions forecast	• A broad containment strategy using roads, low fuel areas, open areas and recently burnt areas.
BKDI > 100 & within critical fire season, or Severe+ FDI forecast	• Direct attack or indirect attack based on wet lines, handtool lines or light machinery (NIL - LOW OFH will permit a high probability of success in most conditions) • A strategy involving the whole reserve area is acceptable.

