Adelyne State Conservation Area Fire Management Strategy 2016 – 2021

Office of Environment & Heritage

This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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

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Map Details

Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 GDA 94
Projection: Map Grid Australia Zone 55

Data: ADS40 Imagery 2009. 1:50k Topographic Map: MENDOORAN 8734

Scale: Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper

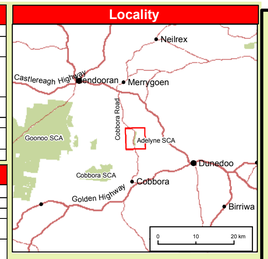
Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	322 323	• Bodangora • Goonoo
RFS	N032 N026 W124 W119	• Wongalee (Castlereagh) • Wamboin Plains (Castlereagh) • Wamboin Plains (Orana) • Bodangora (Orana)
UHF - CB		• Small fires - Channel 10, • Large fires - determined by IMT
Parkes Radio		• NPWS Fire ground channels 1-7
Aviation - CTAF	134.0 126.7	• Dubbo • Wellington
Mobile phone		• Telstra 3G coverage available high point only

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour) Dubbo Area Office (bus. hours)	6842 3041 6841 7100
NSW RFS Castlereagh Zone	Garry Wilson Duty Officer:	0429 305 713 0417 419 367
RFS Rural Fire Brigades	Boomley Brigade – Damien O'Leary Cobbora Brigade – Garry Cox	6886 6141 0439 172 893 6375 1972 0427 456 125
NSW Fire Brigade	Katoomba	4782 6077
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police	Dubbo Dunedoo	6883 1599 6375 1208
Council	Warrumbungle	6849 2000

Locality



Vegetation

Broad Vegetation Communities

- Derived grasslands
- Grassy Box woodlands
- Ridge woodlands & shrublands

Scale 1:40,000

Status of Biodiversity Thresholds

Long unburnt	The current fire interval is longer than the suggested interval.

Scale 1:40,000

Vegetation Suitability for Prescribed Burning

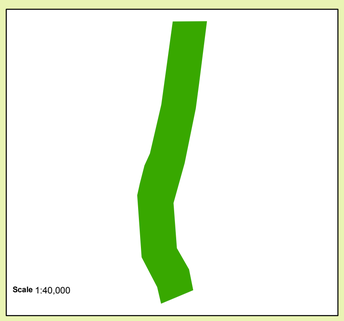
Available	Available for prescribed burning
Available only during VERY HIGH FDI	This area generally has LOW or MODERATE OFH, prescribed burning effective only under VERY HIGH FDI
Available – regeneration management	This area is available for prescribed burning, subject to requirements specified within a revegetation plan
Availability for burning must be referenced with the **Status of Biodiversity Thresholds**.	

Analysis of fuel load, fire history and plant community ecology required before identifying sites for burns.

Scale 1:40,000

Bushfire Risk Management Strategies

Land Management Zones	The objective of this zone is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage by applying biodiversity thresholds



Scale 1:40,000

Fire Season Information

Wildfires	• The critical wildfire season generally occurs during December and January. • During periods of strong negative Southern Oscillation Indices (El Nino events), this period may commence late October. • The end of the critical fire season is often 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

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 Incident Controller.
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, or low humidity to maximise effectiveness. Backburning should be timed for late afternoon and early evening. • 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.
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. • A senior NPWS officer is to liaise with the RFS to ensure that the agency in command and control is determined and an Incident Controller is appointed
Containment Lines	• Existing or previous roads, tracks and control lines should be used wherever possible • 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 personal 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	• Plant may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. • Plant must always be supervised by an experienced officer, and accompanied by a fire-fighting vehicle when engaged in direct or parallel attack. • Plant must be washed down, where practicable, prior to entering and exiting NPWS estate.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	• The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants will be permitted on the reserve • Fire suppression chemicals are not to be applied within 50m of water courses and dams. • The use of retardants requires the approval of a senior NPWS officer.
Rehabilitation	• Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Watering points	• Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations.
Smoke Management	• Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations.
Visitor Management	• The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations.
WARNINGS	
	Black text – general guidelines Blue text – reserve specific guidelines Red text – Major warnings

Operational Guidelines - Heritage

Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	• No Aboriginal sites have been identified on the reserve *Modified trees (IS1), including scarred trees* • *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 (IS2), including: camp sites, artefacts, grinding grooves, waterholes and quarries* • *Protect site from any ground disturbance, including the use of earth-moving equipment and vehicles* *Resource sites (IS3), including fig-tree groves* • *Protect site from physical disturbance* • *Avoid any burning into Dry Vine Rainforests* AIIMS database must be checked as part of planning for fire operations
Historic Heritage Site Management	• No historic structures and sites have been identified
Threatened Species Management	• Protective actions are incorporated in the Operational Guidelines

Suppression Strategies

Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	• Consider a broad containment strategy using existing tracks, low fuel areas, open areas and recently burnt areas
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME	• Consider a strategy containing the fire to the smallest area practicable, using a combination of ground crews, fire units, machinery and aircraft. • Secure flank as soon as possible on the next predicted downwind side. • Any proposed back burning 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.
Catastrophic	• Revert to property protection.

Vegetation Community	Vegetation management guidelines	Fire Behaviour
Ridge Woodlands and Shrublands Ironbark / Black Cypress Pine	• An interval between fire events less than 15 years should be avoided	• Potential rates of spread is low during most conditions due to **LOW – MODERATE OFH** • Localised areas of VERY HIGH OFH which will result in intense fire behaviour
Grassy Box Woodlands Western Grey Box / Red Gum woodlands	• A minimum interval of 5 – 8 years between low – moderate intensity burns. These burns are to target grassy understorey. Burning to be conducted late winter, prior to spring "green-up". • Proposed burning to be referenced to conservation guidelines for the community type.	• Potential rates of spread is generally low to moderate due to **LOW - MODERATE OFH** • Seasonal conditions with continuous grass cover will increase potential fire behaviour
Derived grasslands and herbfields	• Minimum interval between fire events should be greater than 4 - 8 years • Prescribed burning in regeneration areas should be scheduled according to a revegetation / rehabilitation plan	• Potential rates of spread dependant on seasonal conditions • A **Low OFH** occurs during dry seasons • A **Moderate – High OFH** may develop after successive wet seasons producing continuous cover

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

Incident Map