



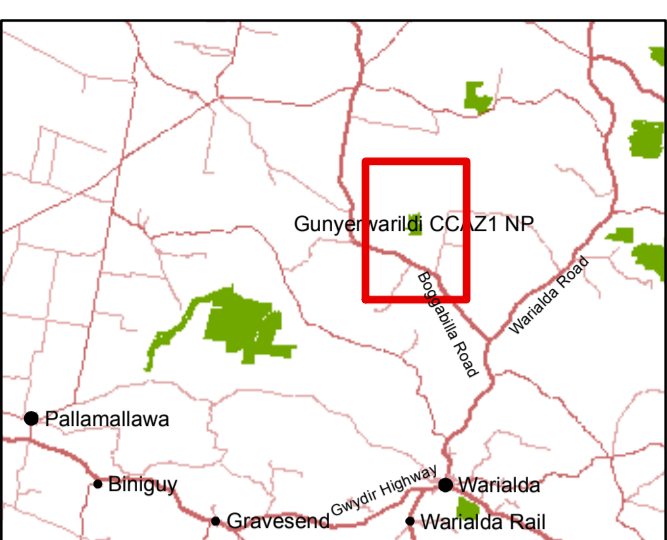
Gunyerwaraldi National Park Fire Management Strategy 2017 - 2022

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 848 Narrabri NSW 2390. Ph 6792 7350

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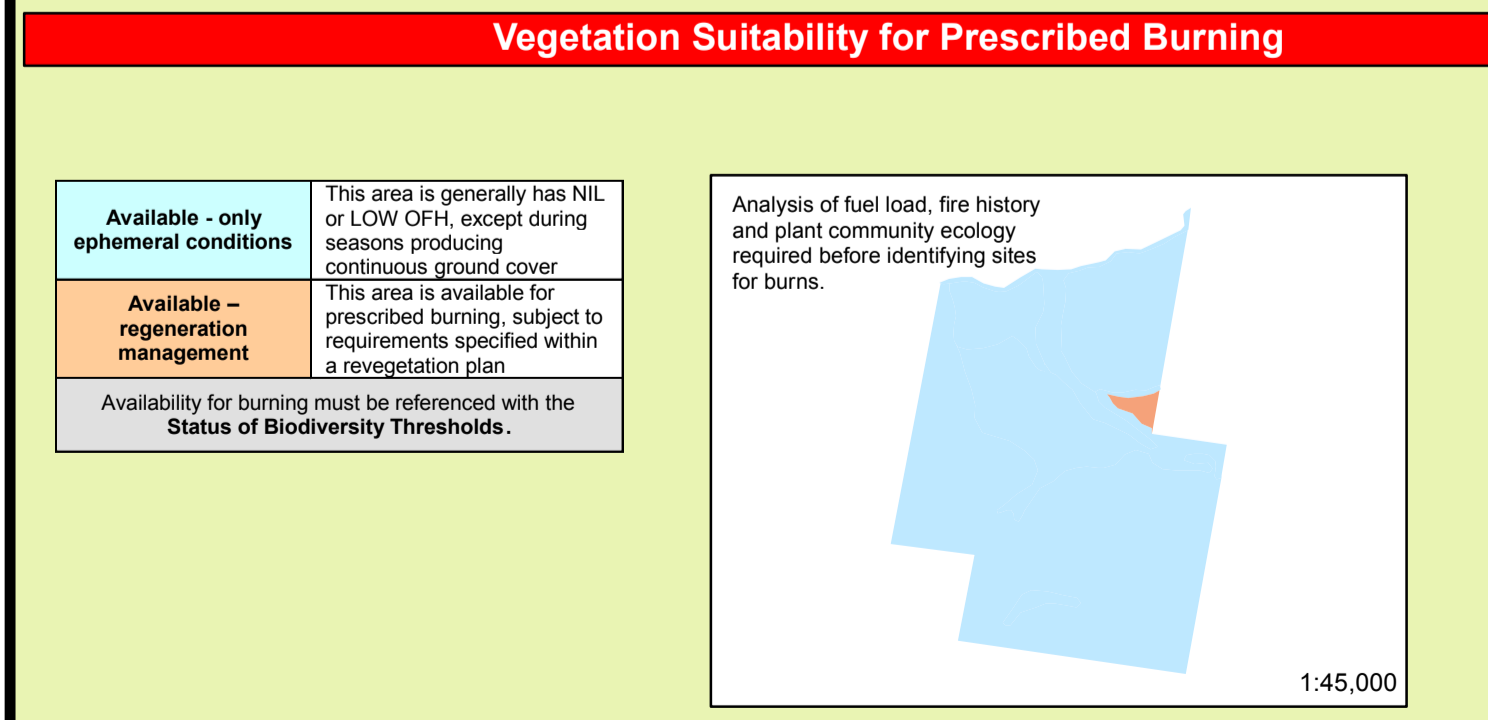
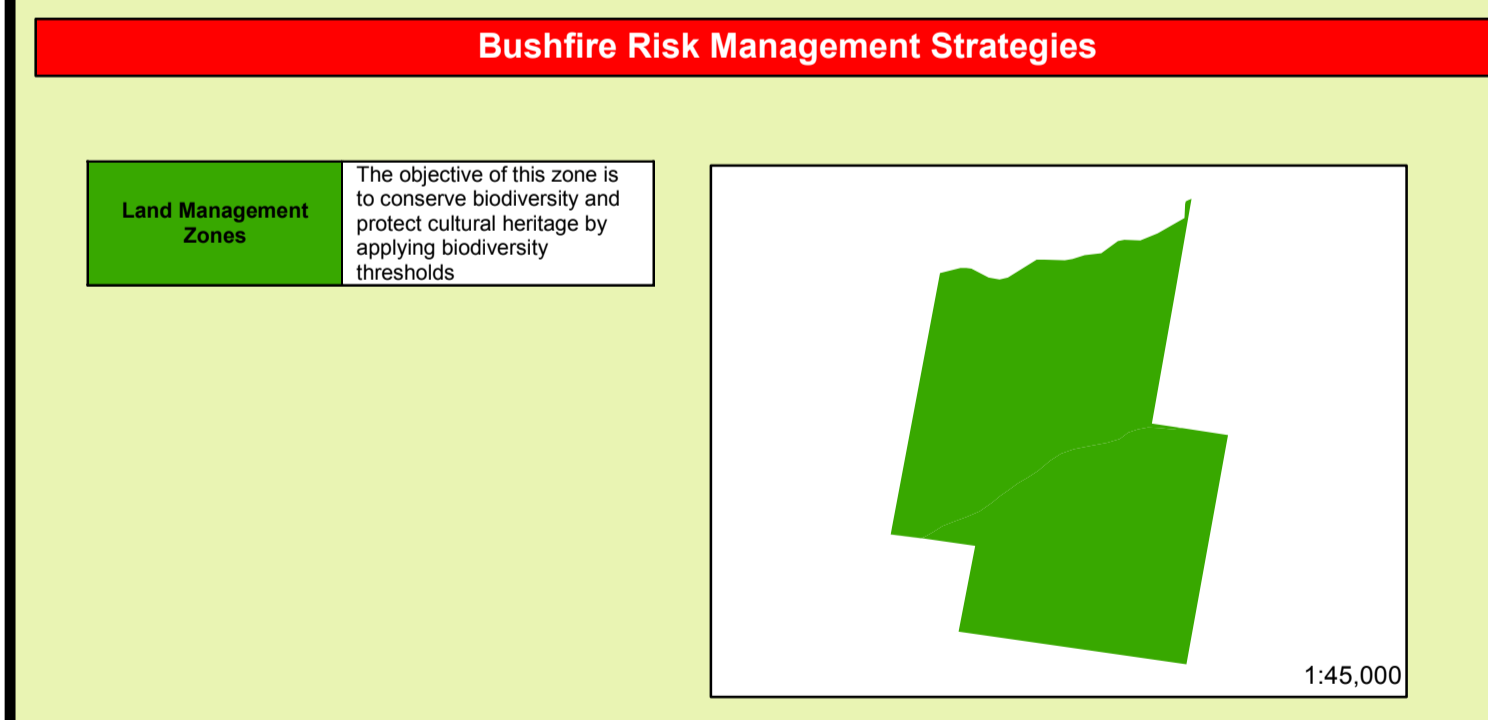
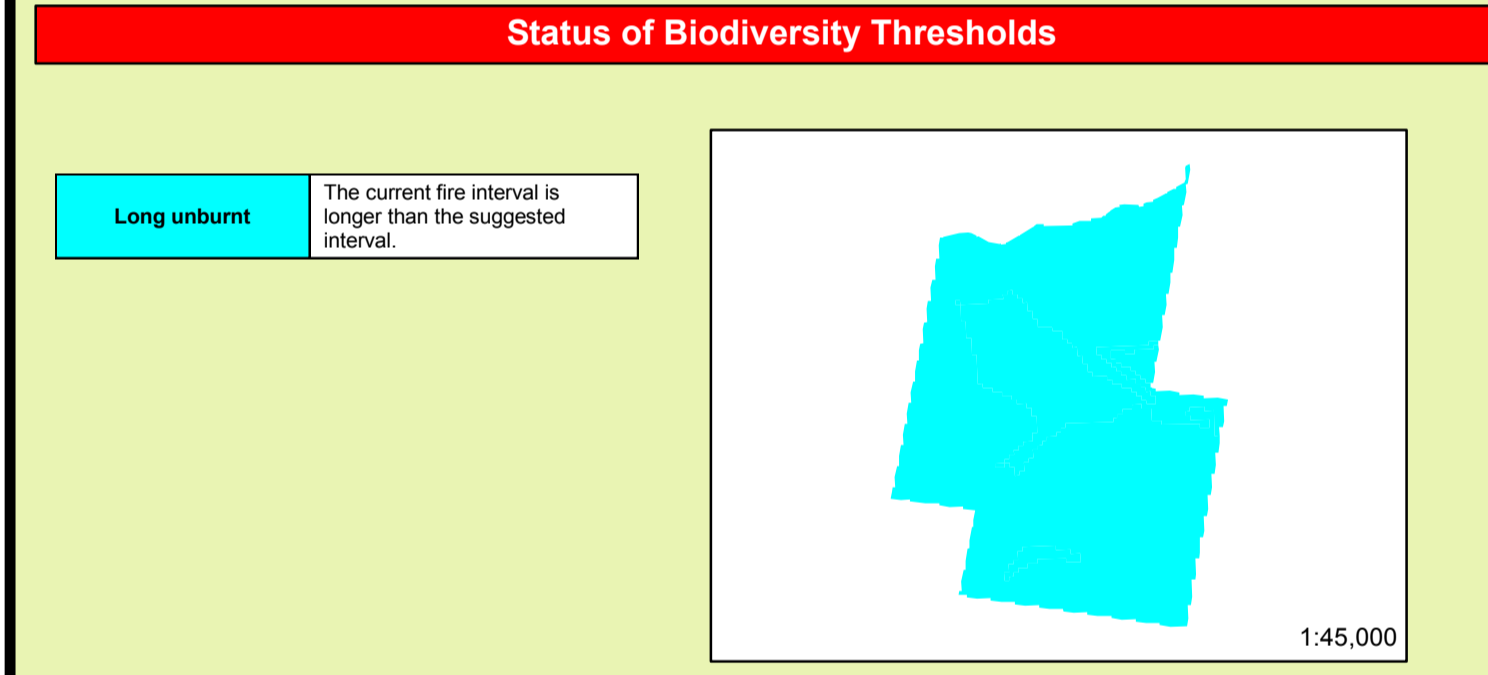
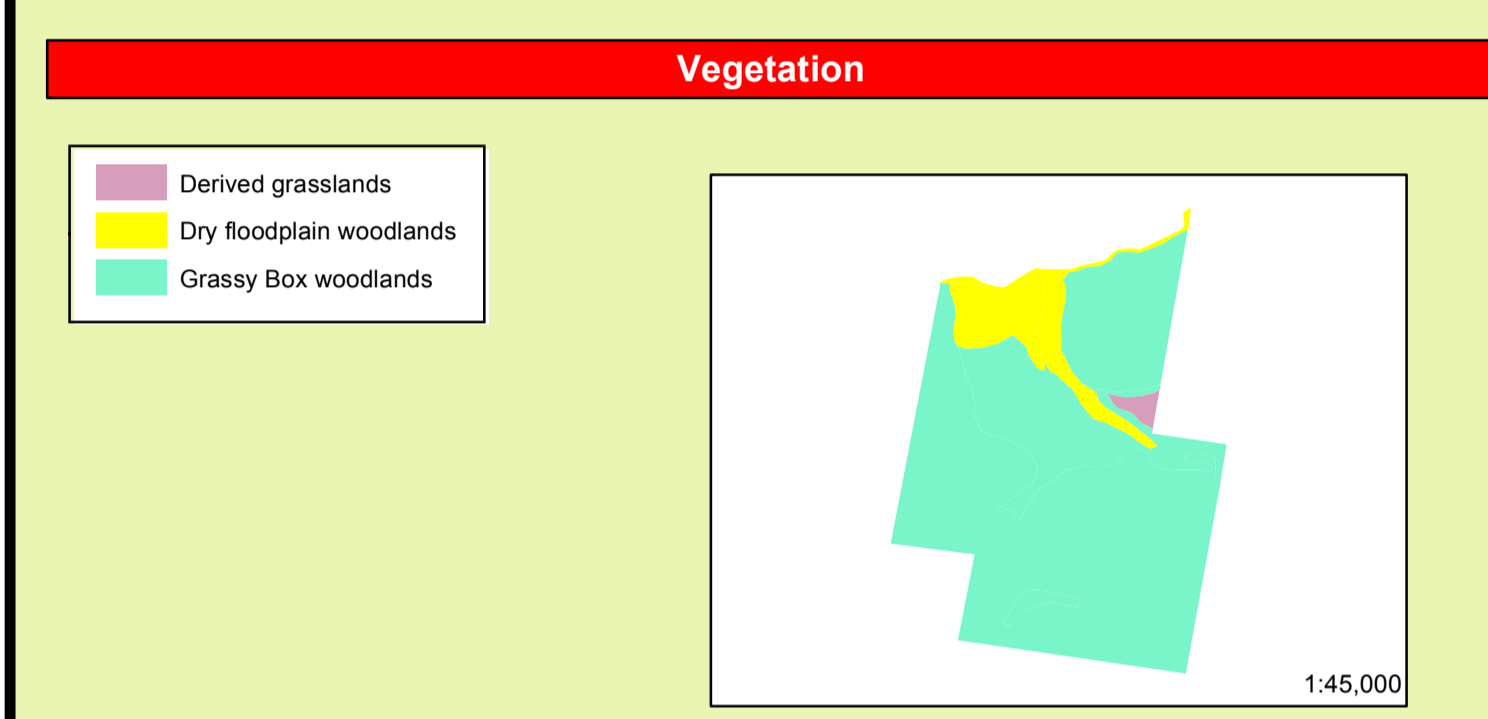
Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters		• No NPWS VHF service
NSW Forests	287	• Manildra
RFS	N081	• Warialda
UHF - CB		• Small fire channel 10, large fires determined by IMT
Paras Radio	11-17	• NPWS Fireground channels 1-7
Aviation - CTAF	128.7	• NPWS Fireground channels 1-7
Mobile phone		• Telstra 3G coverage is generally unavailable for most of the reserve • Satphone is essential for fire ops management



Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour) Narrabri Area Office (bus. hours)	6792 4880 6792 7300
NSW Rural Fire Service	Michael Brooks Duty Officer Zone Office	0427 101 124 6799 6707 6799 6707
NSW Fire Brigade	Newcastle Comms Centre	4829 7177
Emergency Services	Police, Fire, Ambulance	000
SES		13 2500
Police	Warialda	6729 1144
Council	Gwydir - Warialda	6729 3000 an 0428 291 951
Pegela's Office	Access to reserve	6729 5284

Map details		
Datum: GDA 1994	Projection: MGA 1994	Map Zone: 56
Map Base: AD540 Yalari 2016	Topographic Map: 1:50,000 91986 ADP-ORP	Noted scales: Use what is most of 1:50,000
Local Government Area: Gwydir		

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 Nino 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 over the "critical fire season" and thunderstorm season is over. This is due to the LOW - MODERATE Overall Fuel Hazard for some vegetation types. Prescribed burning attempted after autumn rain is unlikely to be effective.



Operational 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 Incident Controller.
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, 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. 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.
Command & Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 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.
Containment Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. The use of beam, 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.
Earthmoving Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations.
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations.
Watering points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations.
Smoke Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger, and will be closed during fire operations.
Visitor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. Consider deployment of bulk water carriers to support fire operations. Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations. 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	
General	<p>Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modified trees (IS1), including scarred 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
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	<p>Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ground based sites (IS2), including: camp sites, artefacts, grinding grooves, waterholes and quarries <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect site from any ground disturbance, including the use of earth-moving equipment and vehicles Resource sites (IS3), including fig-tree groves <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect site from physical disturbance Avoid any burning into Dry Vine Rainforests <p>AIIMS database must be checked as part of planning for fire operations</p>
Historic Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sites have been identified
Threatened Flora and Fauna Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protective actions are incorporated in the Operational Guidelines

Vegetation management guidelines		
Community	Management guidelines	Fire Behaviour
Grassy Box woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 7 years should be avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread is low due to Low OFH Fire runs are likely to slow down when entering this vegetation
Dry floodplain woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread would be low due to Low-Moderate OFH
Derived grasslands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 with continuous cover

OFH - Overall fuel hazard - A rating system that includes 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
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A broad containment strategy using existing roads, tracks, low fuel areas and moist vegetation. Where practicable, and with an analysis of short and medium forecasts, consider maximising the fire area, for ecological purposes.
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Direct or parallel attack with plant and fire units. Fallback to existing fire trails or open country when fire runs extend capacity to construct containment lines Secure flank as soon as possible on the next predicted downwind side.
Fire danger rating CATASTROPHIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revert to property protection

