

Killarney State Conservation Area
Community Conservation Area Zone 3
Fire Management Strategy 2016-2021

Office of Environment & Heritage
NSW Government

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.

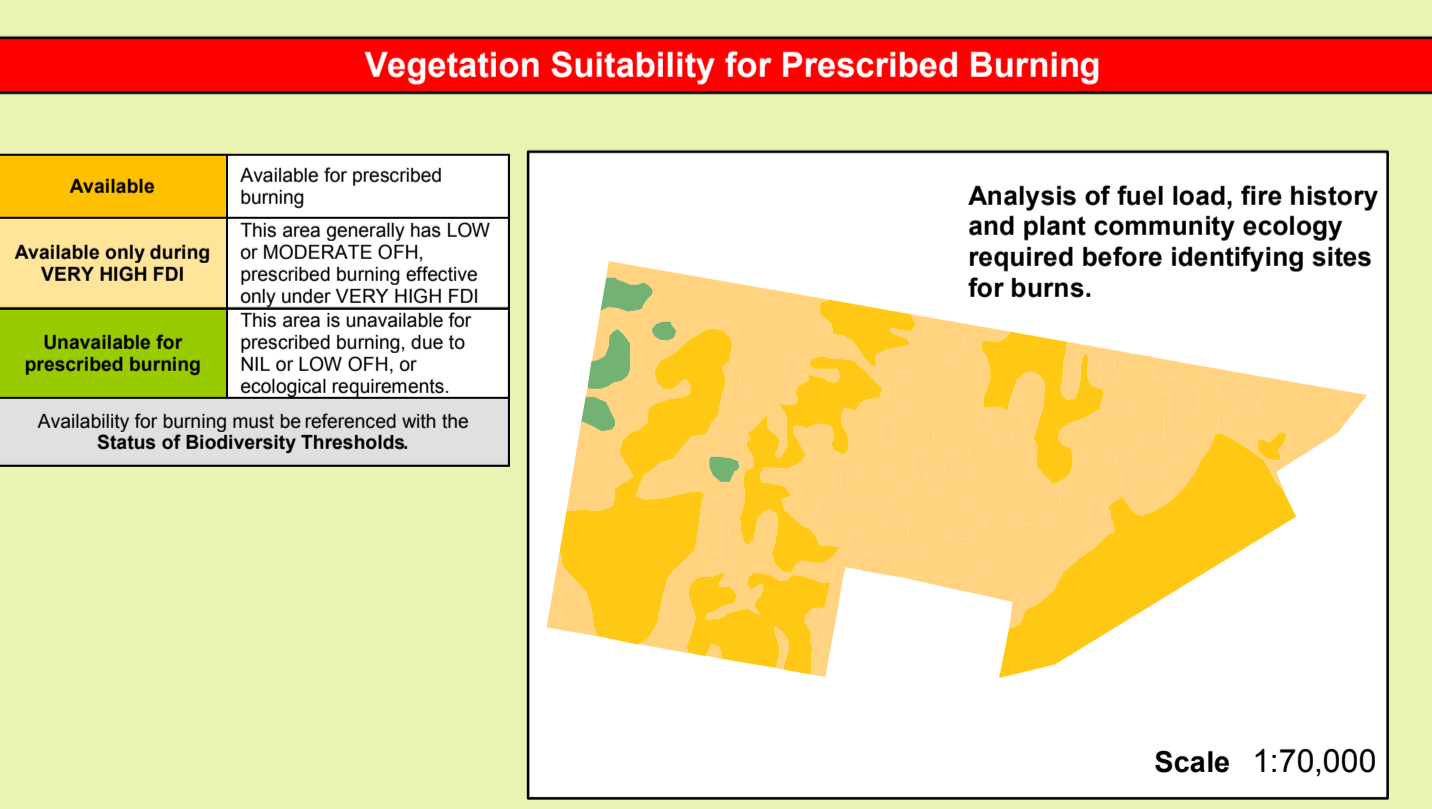
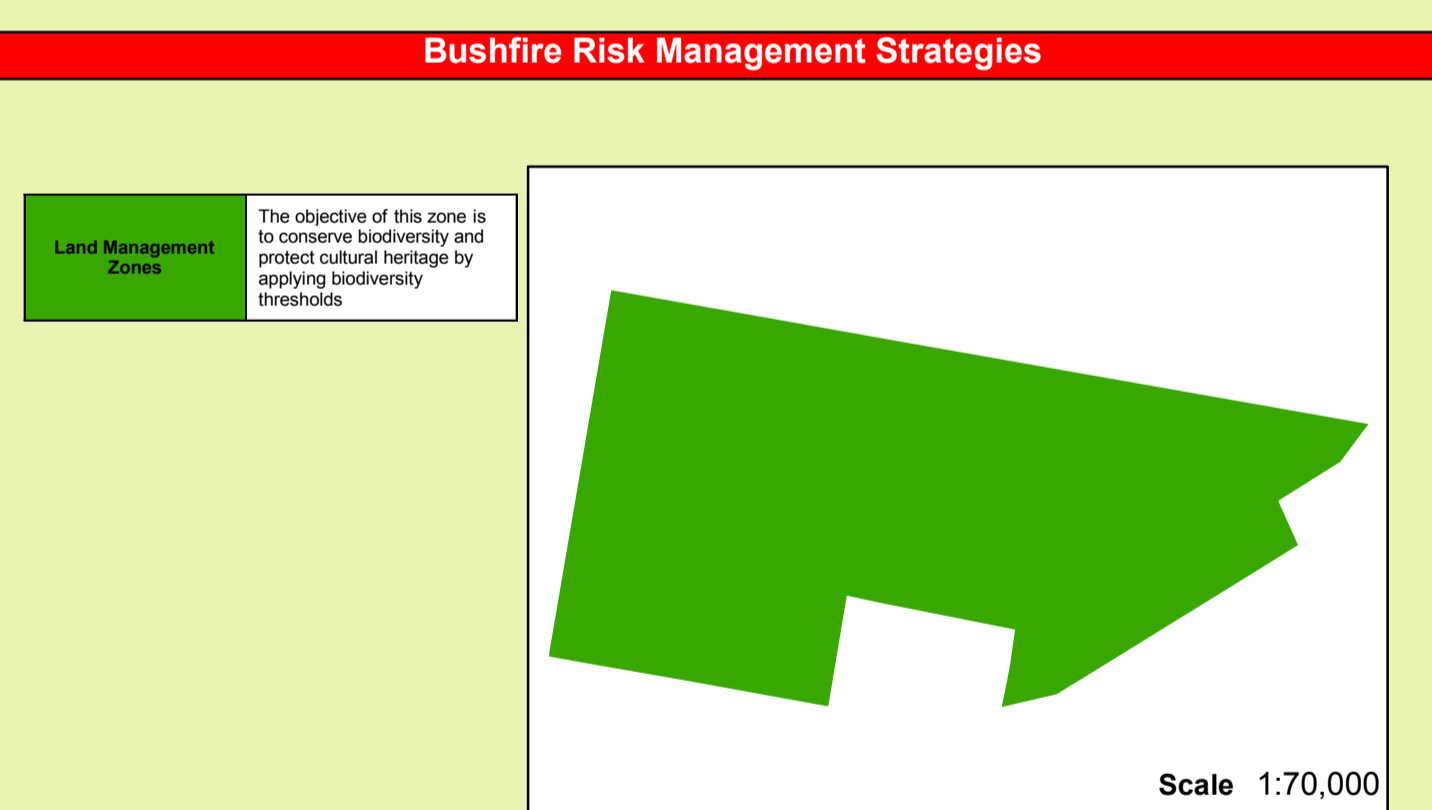
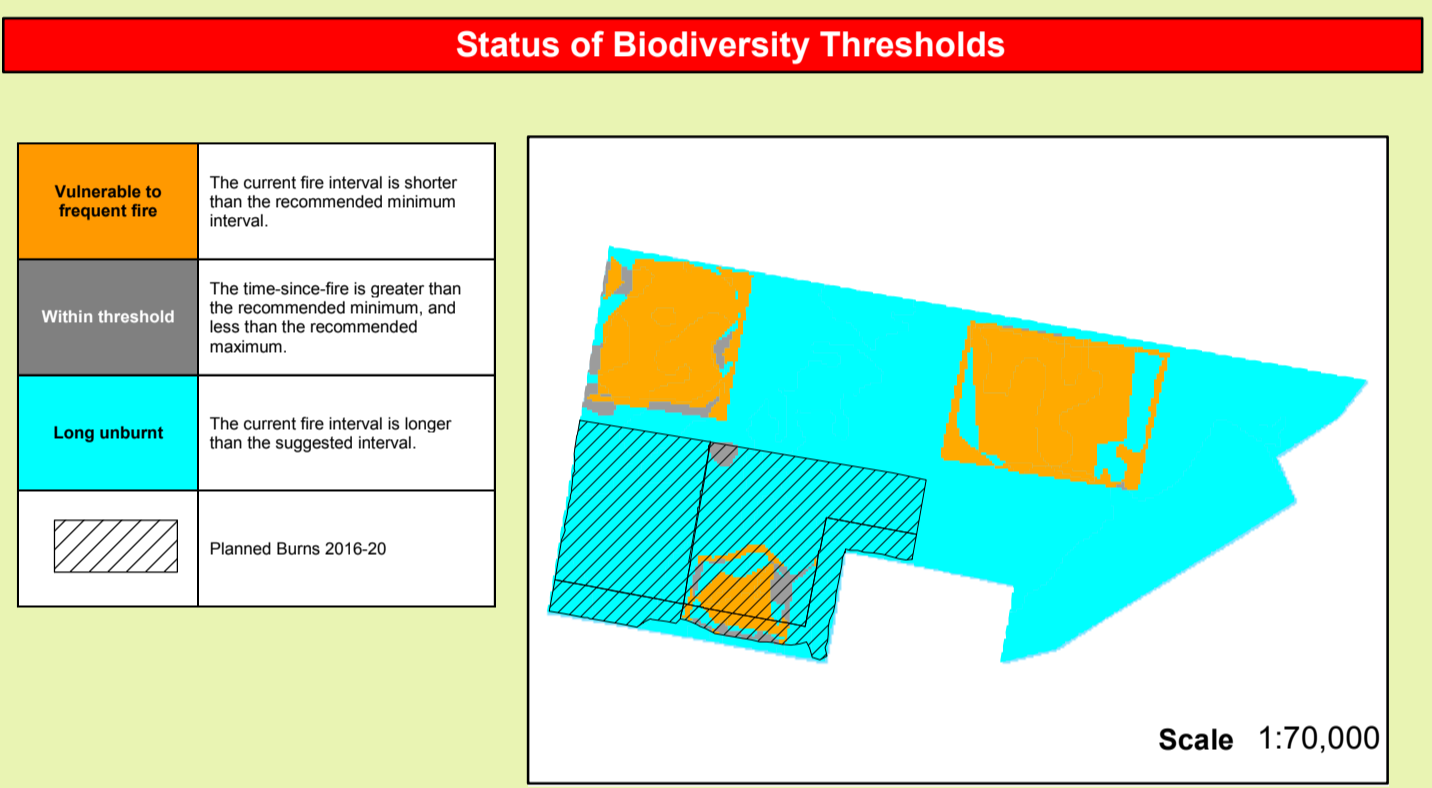
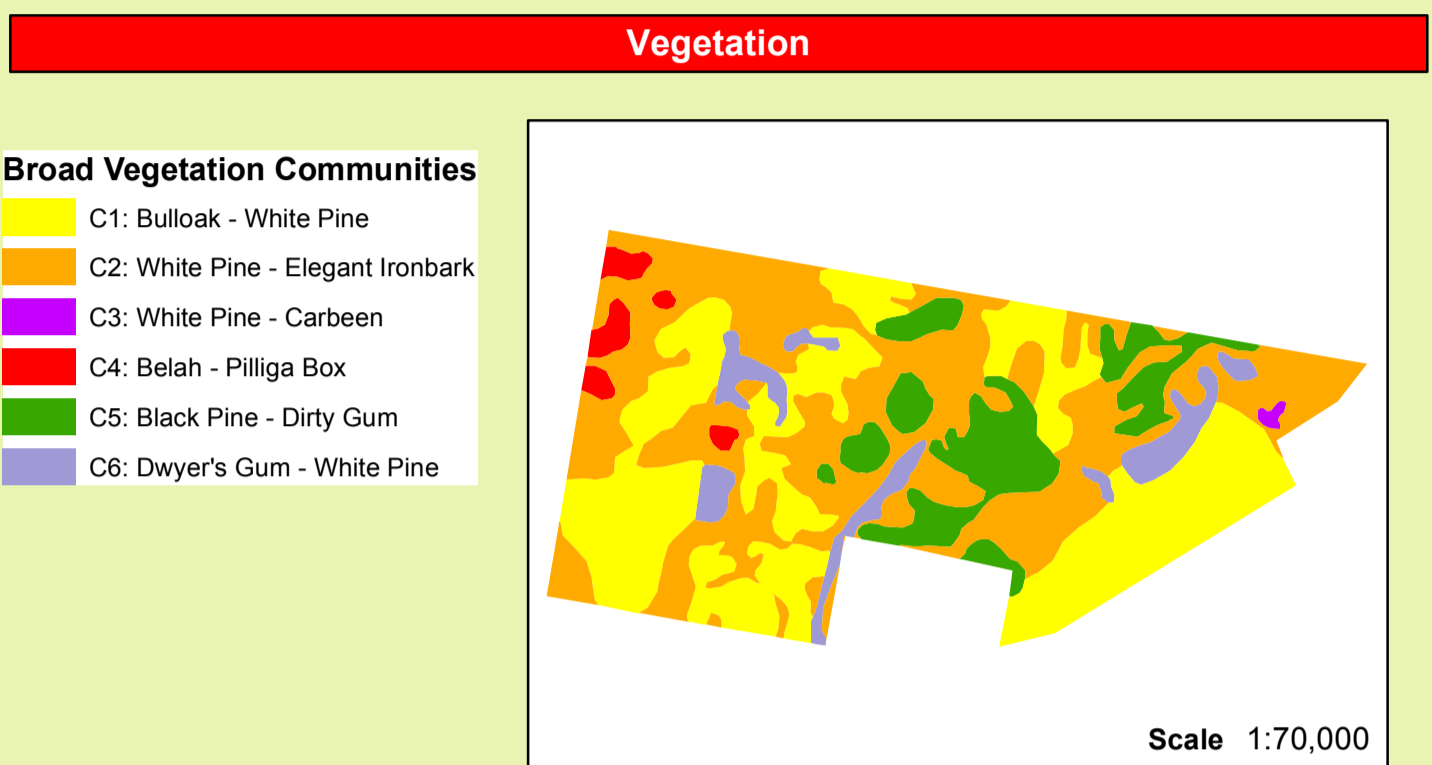
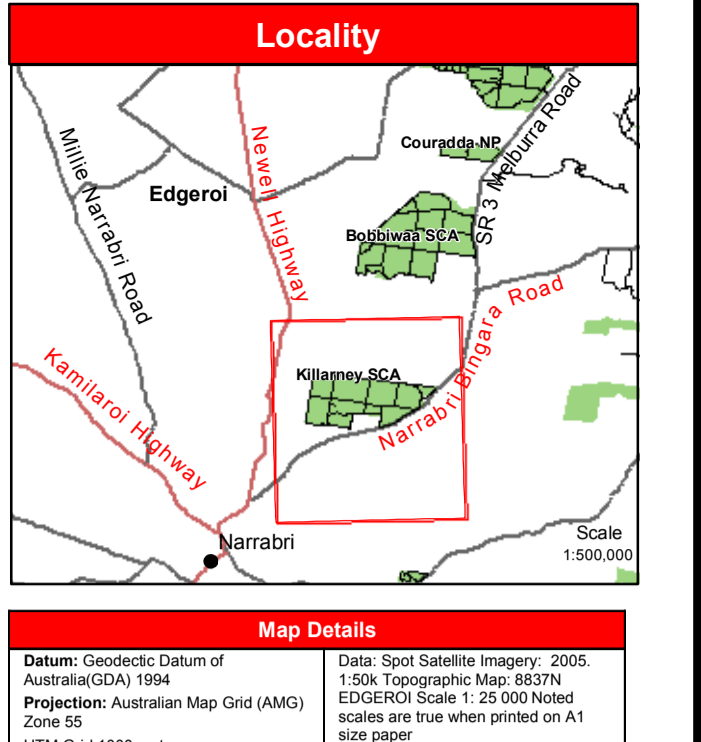
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NSW Rural Fire Service Namoi Zone	Michael Brooks	0427 101 124
	Duty Officer	6799 6707
SES	Zone Office	6799 6707
	Bobbiwaa Brigade – Steve Falkner	6793 3110 / 0428422242
NSW Fire Brigade Emergency Services	Mulgate Brigade – Ron Campsey	6793 3123 / 0428933129
	Newcastle Comms Centre	4929 7177
Police	Fire, Ambulance	000
Council	Narrabri	13 2500
	Narrabri	6792 7199 / 6847 2218
Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	302	• The Governor
RFS	N077	• The Governor
UHF – CCB		• Small fires channel 10, large fires determined by IMT
Police Radio	11.17	• NPWS Fireground channels 1,2
Aviation – CTAIF	126.7	
Mobile phone		• Telstra – available in most areas, especially ridges



Fire Season Information

Wildfires: The critical wildfire season occurs during November and December. This period may extend into the first half of January. Particular care is required during periods of negative Southern Oscillation Indices. The end of the critical fire season is often marked by wet storm activity.

Prescribed Burning: Prescribed burning should be undertaken before autumn rain occurs to maximise effectiveness. Burning may also be considered during late winter and early spring dependent on seasonal factors. Prescribed burning undertaken near the commencement of the statutory bushfire season should be fully contained.

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.
Command & Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<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, 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 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<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 bulk water carriers 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"> 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 Continued

Resource	Guidelines
Modified Trees (IS1) , including scarred trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As far as possible, protect site from fire. Do not cut trees. Use of foam, wetting agent & retardant is acceptable.
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect site from physical disturbance
Threatened Fauna and Flora Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AIIMS database must be checked as part of planning for fire operations. Machinery should be excluded from areas with C6 Myall – Whitewood woodland. Machinery should be excluded from areas with C2 Belah – Poplar Box due to the presence of Spiny Pepperpress. (<i>Lepidium aschersonii</i>) The protective actions for threatened fauna have been incorporated into the Operational Guidelines

Suppression Strategies

Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A broad containment strategy using existing roads, tracks, rocky areas and recently burnt areas.
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider direct or parallel attack with plant and fire units. Secure flank as soon as possible on the next predicted downwind side.
Catastrophic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revert to property protection.

Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds

Vegetation Community	Vegetation management guidelines	Fire Behaviour
Floodplain forest and woodland Community C4	<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 is low due to Low – Moderate OFH
White Pine / Ironbark Woodland Communities C1, C2 & C3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20years 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 is low due to Low – Moderate OFH Localised areas of High OFH may produce restricted areas of higher fire intensity
Black Pine / Angophora / Red Gum Woodland Communities C5 & C6	<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 may be permitted after a fire free period 25 years 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rate of spread is highest in areas of Angophora. Fire in Angophora Community will spread rapidly during high – extreme fire danger
Strategic Zones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescribed burn should be considered where the OFH has been assessed at HIGH, after an interval of 7years 	

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

