

Koonadan Historic Site Fire Management Strategy 2014 Mapsheet 1 of 1

Office of Environment & Heritage
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service

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Map Details	Related Documents
Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 1994 Projection: Map Grid of Australia (MGA) Zone 55 Data: Spot Satellite Imagery: 2005.	1:50k Topographic Map: Yoogali 8129-S Scale: Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper OEH Fire Management Manual 2013 - 2014.

Operational Guidelines

Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues using the SMEACS format:

General	Guidelines
Aerial Water Bombing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-overs. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. Where practicable foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations.
Back-burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperature and humidity trends must be monitored carefully to determine the safest times to implement back-burns. Generally, when the FDI is Very High or greater, back-burning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening, with a lower FDI back-burning may be safely undertaken during the day. Where practicable, clear a 1m radius around dead and hollow bearing trees adjacent to containment lines prior to back-burning, or wet down these trees as part of the back-burn ignition. Use parallel containment lines when applicable. All personnel must be fully briefed before back-burning operations begin.
Command & Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Standard Incident Management Systems are to be applied. 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. Where OEH is not the first responding fire authority to arrive at a fire on OEH-managed lands, a competent officer of the first arriving fire authority will direct fire management activities until a competent OEH officer assumes control (unless prior agreements have been made).
Containment Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of new containment lines is not allowed on this site. Existing features such as Roads/railway/Drainage Channels are available on all sides of Koonadan.
Earthmoving Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment is not to be used on this site.
Fire Advantage Recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use of wetting and foaming agents (surfactants) is permitted on the reserve. The use of fire retardants are only permitted with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer and should be avoided where reasonable alternatives are available. Exclude the use of surfactants and retardants within 50m of watercourses, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used product's name recorded. The Threatened Species Operational Guidelines are to be observed.
Rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
Smoke Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations. If smoke becomes a hazard on local roads or highways, the police and relevant media must be notified. Smoke management must be in accordance with relevant RTA traffic management guidelines.
Visitor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve will be closed to the public during prescribed burn and wildfire suppression operations.

Threatened Sites Guidelines

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management

Koonadan Historic Site is of high cultural value to the Aboriginal community. There are numerous scattered sites throughout the reserve including burial Sites, stone tools and ground ovens. The area surrounding the reserve is also quite important as old hunting and fishing grounds and the area between the reserve and Tuckerbil Swamp were previously used by the Aboriginal people as "Bora" Ceremonial grounds. **Earthmoving equipment is not to be used within the reserve**

Status of Biodiversity Thresholds

Evaluation of Biodiversity Thresholds

No Fire Regime	Areas which do not have thresholds assigned to them, e.g. cleared land, rock, water bodies.
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NB. Fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity.

Scale 1:5,000

Vegetation

Scale 1:5,000

Fire Season Information

Wildfires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The critical wildfire season generally occurs from October/November to March/April. Dry lightning storms frequently occur and typical fire weather conditions are winds from the west to the north, high day time temperatures and low humidity Particular care is required following periods of Winter rain and after periods of negative Southern Oscillation Indices.
Prescribed Burning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prescribed burning would only be allowed after consultation with an aboriginal sites officer.

Bushfire Risk Management Strategies

Fire Management Zones

Land Management Zones	The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural and historic heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.
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Scale 1:5,000

Suppression Strategies

Typical Conditions	Indicative Suppression Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Fire Danger Rating (FDR) of Very High or Greater. Short and medium range forecasts suggest conditions typical to a FDR of Very High or Greater. A risk to life and/or property exists in the short - medium term. A broad area risk to biodiversity exists. 	<p>Direct</p> <p>Initial attacks should be to try to extinguish or to contain to the smallest possible area.</p> <p>Indirect</p> <p>Develop a suppression plan using existing and/or potential containment lines. If possible take into account biodiversity requirements but never to the detriment of life and property.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FDR of High or below. Short - medium term forecast indicate a continuing FDR of High or below. No risk to life or property exists in the short-medium term. Only small area risk to biodiversity exists. 	<p>Direct</p> <p>Evaluate the biodiversity thresholds and use direct attack methods to extinguish if required.</p> <p>Indirect</p> <p>Develop a fire suppression plan to the maximum allowable perimeter based on Biodiversity thresholds.</p>

Vegetation Map Legend

Broad Vegetation Class	Vegetation Type	Biodiversity Thresholds	Fire Behaviour
Grassland	Native Grass Complex	An interval between fire events less than 3 years and greater than 10 years should be avoided.	High intensity fast moving fire once grasses have cured. In drought years minimal growth will result in moderate fire behaviour but potentially still fast moving depending on weather conditions at the time.
Other	Planted Woody Vegetation amongst non native low lying vegetation	There is no distinct Fire Regime for this reserve but as a guide it may be managed similarly to Semi Arid Woodlands (Shrubby Subformation) and will be dependant on whether fire will inhibit weed growth and favour remnant species that may still be present	
Fire History	No fire history exists for this reserve.		
Ephemeral Conditions	Ephemeral fuel conditions occur after consecutive years of effective rainfall and significant flooding events. This in turn leads to the growth and build up of fine surface fuels such as grasses and herbs, which can create a continuous fuel load across all of the above vegetation communities.		
Drought Conditions	During drought conditions and when vegetation communities are visibly stressed or experiencing dieback no prescribed burning will be permitted and wildfire areas will be minimised.		

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer Mid West Area & Regional Office - 200 Yambil St Griffith	02 6332 6350 02 6966 8100
NSW Rural Fire Service MIA District	Fire Control Centre	02 6964 1144
Fire & Rescue NSW	Duty Officer	02 6966 7887
Emergency Services	Leeton Fire Station	02 6953 6786
SES		13 2500
Police Station (not open 24 hrs)	Leeton Darlington Point	02 6953 1399 02 6968 4144
Police - Local Area Command	Griffith	02 6969 4310
Hospital	Griffith Base	02 6969 5555
Council	Leeton Shire Council	02 6953 1111 02 6953 0911
Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC)	Leeton & District	02 6953 4344

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS	11 10	•VHF Fireground 1 •UHF
RFS Brigade UHF	09 29	•Tubbo •Whitton
RFS MIA Zone	S005 S060 S059 S061 S058	•MIA Vote Group •Scenic Hill •RTA Site Gundaline •D. Ross Drive •Square Knob

