

North Coast Region Sherwood Nature Reserve Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2017

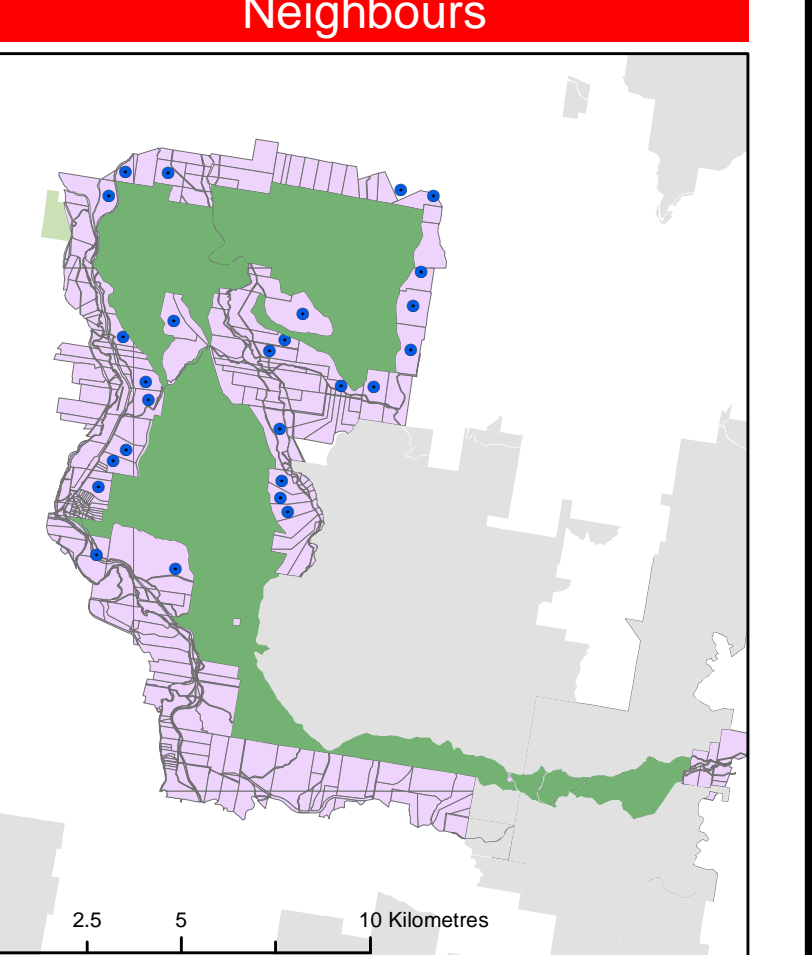
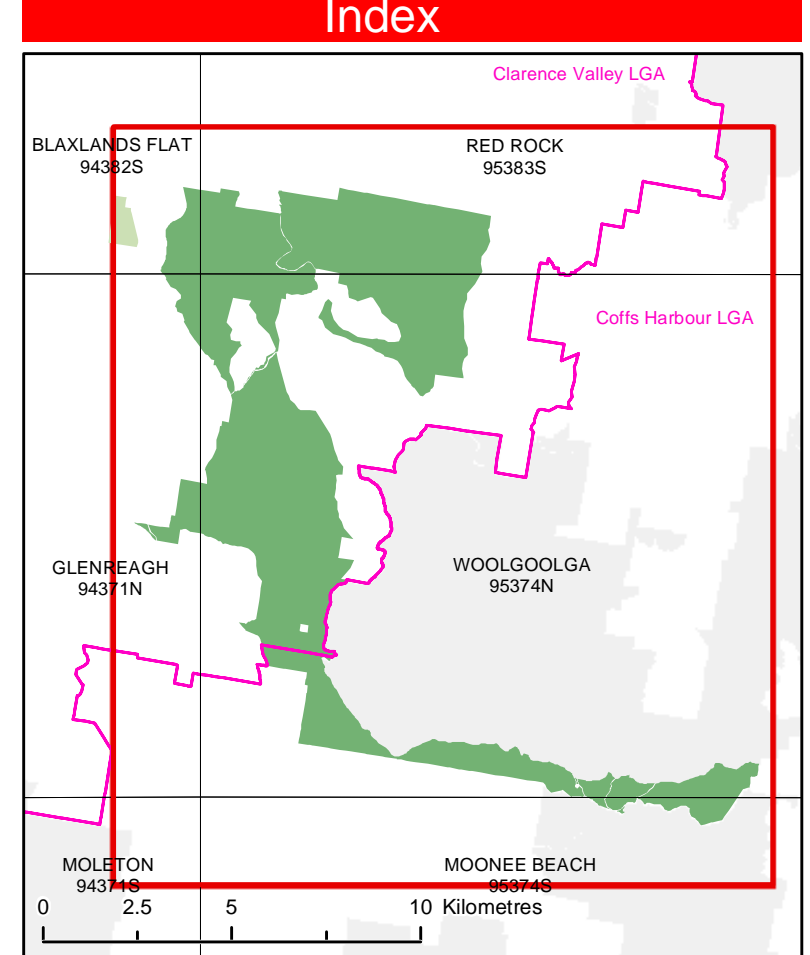
Sheet 1 of 1

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

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



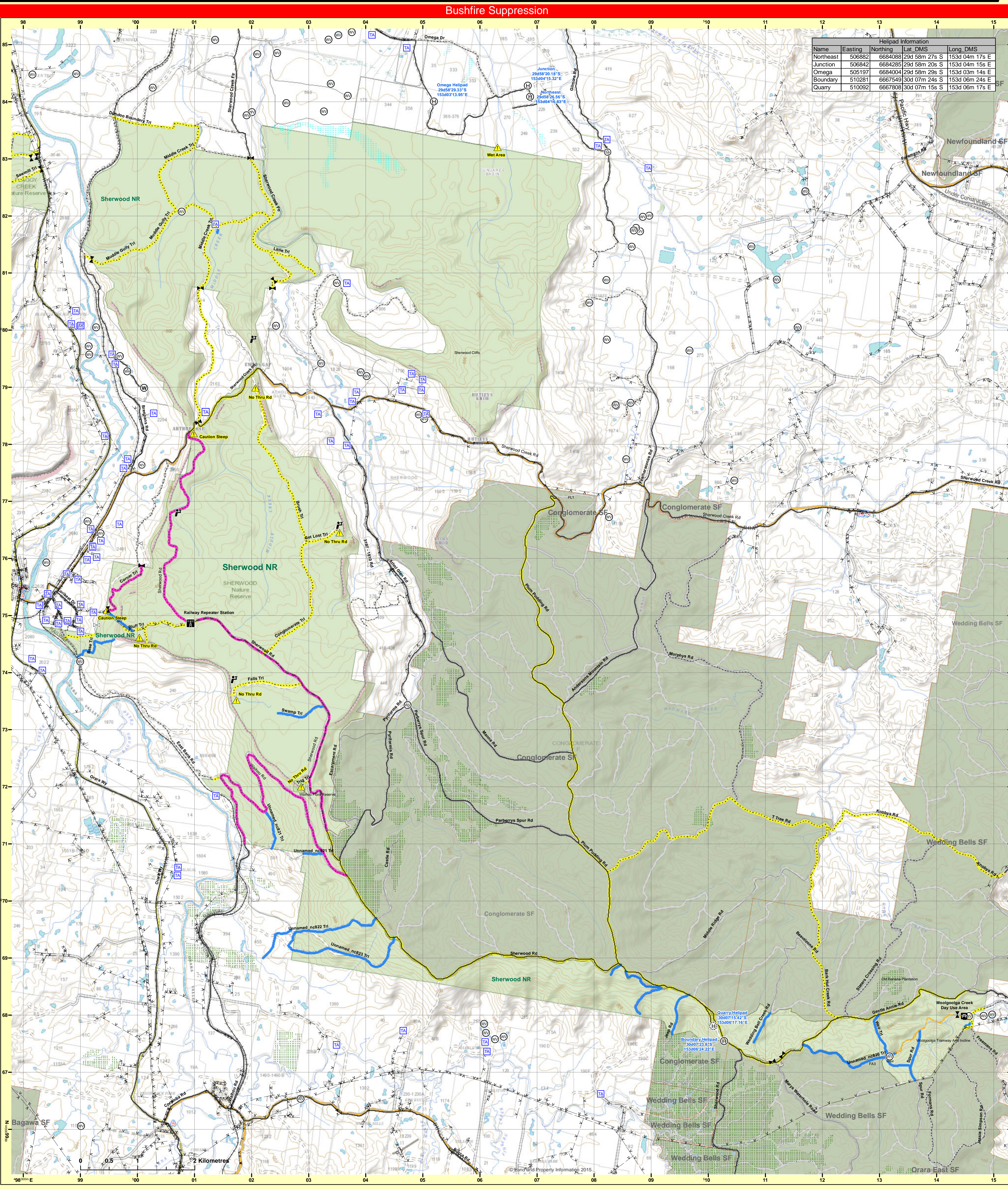
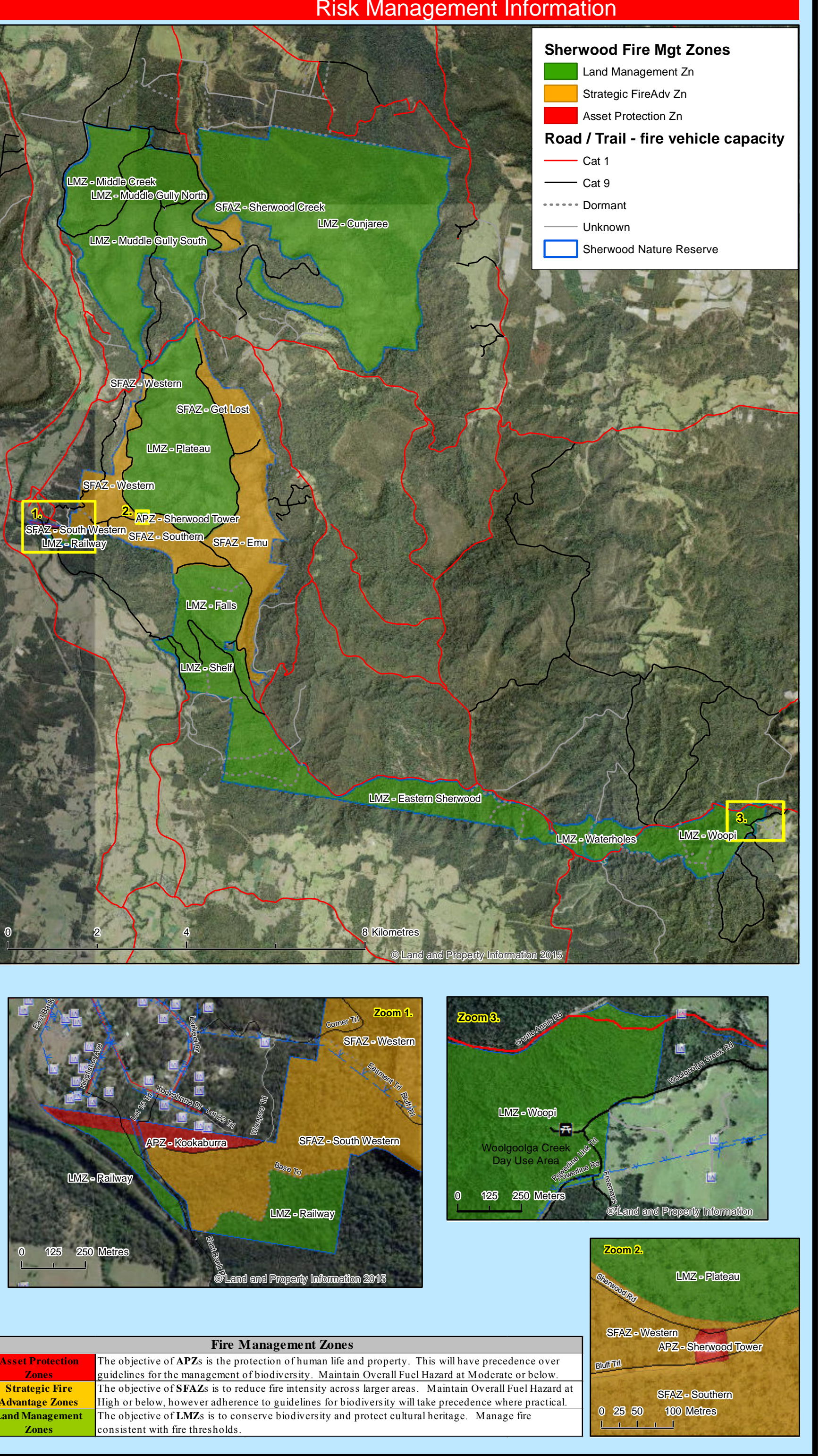
Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
NPWS	Regional Duty Officer (24 hrs)	02 6642 3620
	Area Manager (Clarence South)	02 6641 1500
	Ranger Sherwood Nature Reserve	02 6641 1500
	Fire Management Officer	02 6641 1500
	Clarence South Area Office	02 6641 1500
Works depot - Grafton	Regional Office	02 6642 250 122
	Clarence Valley Fire Control Centre	02 6643 5569 (fax)
Rural Fire Service	Duty Officer	0500 881 866
	Coffs Harbour Fire Control Centre	02 6651 6133
NSW Fire Brigade	Emergency	000
	South Grafton Station	02 6642 7655
SES	Grafton Station	02 6643 3491
	Emergency	000
Police	Police Assistance Line	131444
	Glenelg	02 6649 2169
Ambulance	Emergency	000
	All other bookings	131233
Hospital	Grafton Base Hospital	02 6640 2232
	Coffs Harbour Health Campus	02 6656 7000
State Forests	24 hour fire calls	02 6655 9900
	NE Region - Coffs Hbr	02 6652 0111
Council	Grafton	02 6643 0400
	Clarence Valley	02 6643 3886
Aboriginal Land Council	Grafton-Ngurrwe	02 6642 4029
	Coffs Harbour	02 6652 7800
Aboriginal Corporation	Yarrawarra Aboriginal Corporation	02 6646 2669
	Chantry	02 6646 2669
Neighbours	Contact details stored at Regional Office	

Operational Guidelines

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2004. Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)	Information on sites of Aboriginal cultural heritage significance is stored separately for confidentiality. Refer to the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System database (AHIMS) and North Coast Region Cultural Heritage Conservation Officers.
Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HIH1 - As far as possible protect site from fire. Avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over sites. Avoid water bombing, which may damage site. HIH2 - As far as possible protect site from fire. Avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over sites. F.A.3 - As far as possible protect site from fire. Avoid the use of earth moving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur. Avoid the use of retardant in locations where these species are known to occur. FL1 - Avoid the use of earth moving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur. Avoid the use of retardant in locations where these species are known to occur. FL2 - As far as possible, exclude all fire from locations where these species are known to occur. Avoid the use of earth moving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur. Avoid the use of retardant in locations where these species are known to occur.
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)	
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	
Threatened Property (NPWS FMM 4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where possible property owners with assets at risk from a wildfire event should be kept informed regarding the progress of the fire and asked for an assessment of their current level of asset protection preparedness.
General Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-covers. 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. Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Unlit incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down where required. 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, backburning should commence when the humidity begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day. Where practicable, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down these trees as part of the backburn ignition. Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long and intense up slope burn is likely.
Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	
Aerial Ignition (NPWS FMM 4.2.20.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	
Backburning (NPWS FMM 4.3)	
Command & Control (NPWS FMM 4.2)	<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. 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 BDM Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2.1.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact. New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer. Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the creation of the incident. All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.
Earthmoving Equipment (NPWS FMM 4.2.20.4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer, and then only if the probability of its success is high. Earthmoving equipment must be always guided and supervised by an experienced officer, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a firefighting vehicle. Containment lines constructed by earthmoving equipment should consider the protection of drainage features, observe the Threatened Species and Cultural Heritage Operational Guidelines, and be surveyed, where possible, to identify unknown cultural heritage sites. Earthmoving equipment should be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate.
Fire Advantage Recording (NPWS FMM 4.2.20.4.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fire advantages used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database. Wetting and foaming agents (surfactants) are permitted for use in wildfire suppression. The use of fire retardant is 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 rainforests, watercourses, dams and swamps. Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the used products name recorded. The Threatened Species Operational Guidelines are to be observed.
Fire Suppression Chemicals (NPWS FMM 4.2.20.4.9)	
Rehabilitation (NPWS FMM 5.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation. 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 (NPWS FMM 2.6.4.13)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.



Communications Information

NPWS radio coverage is generally good but there are 'black spots' in deep gullies. Options to use Simplex & Reverse Ch's, portable repeaters or adjacent towers are available as required.

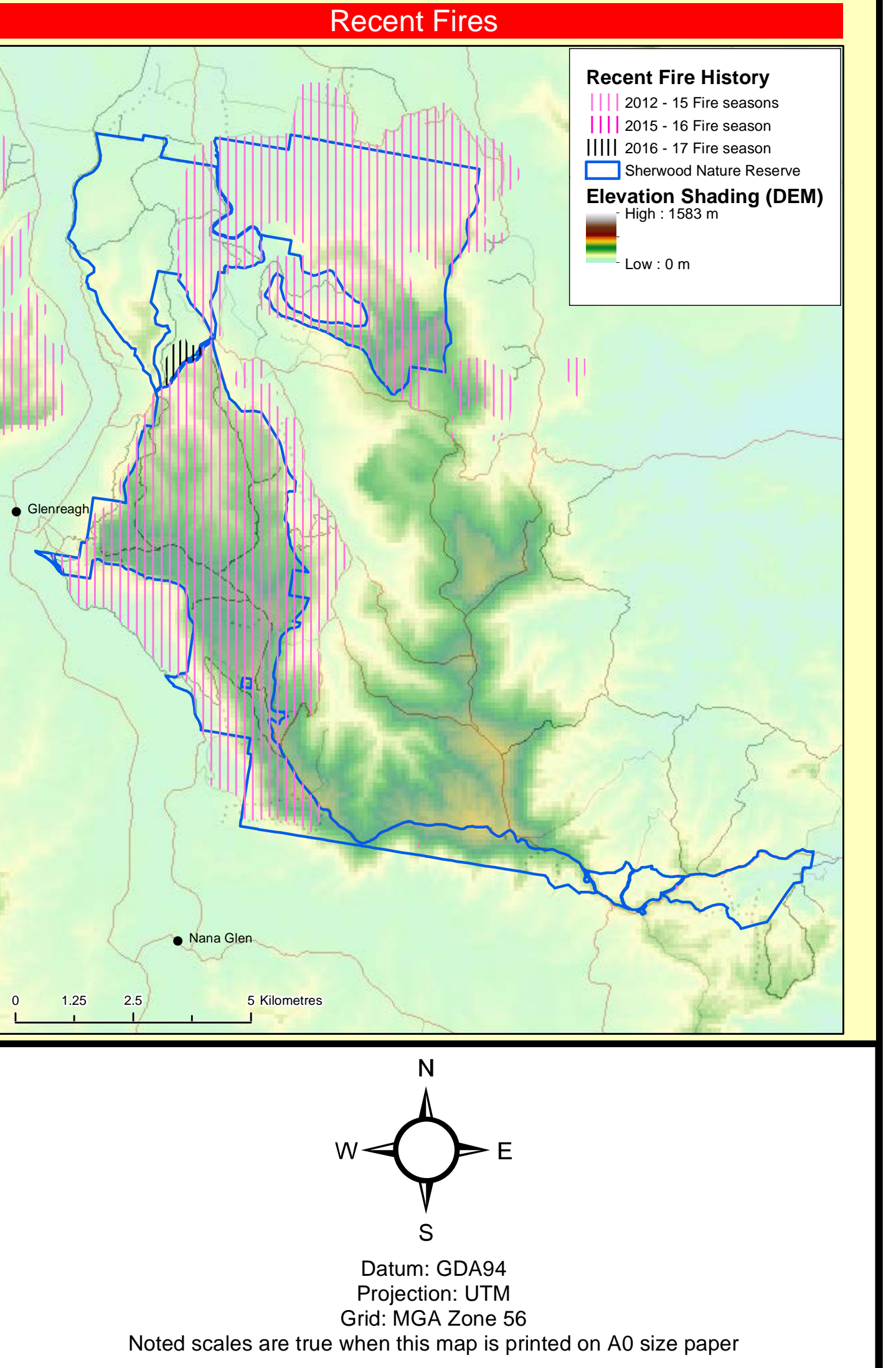
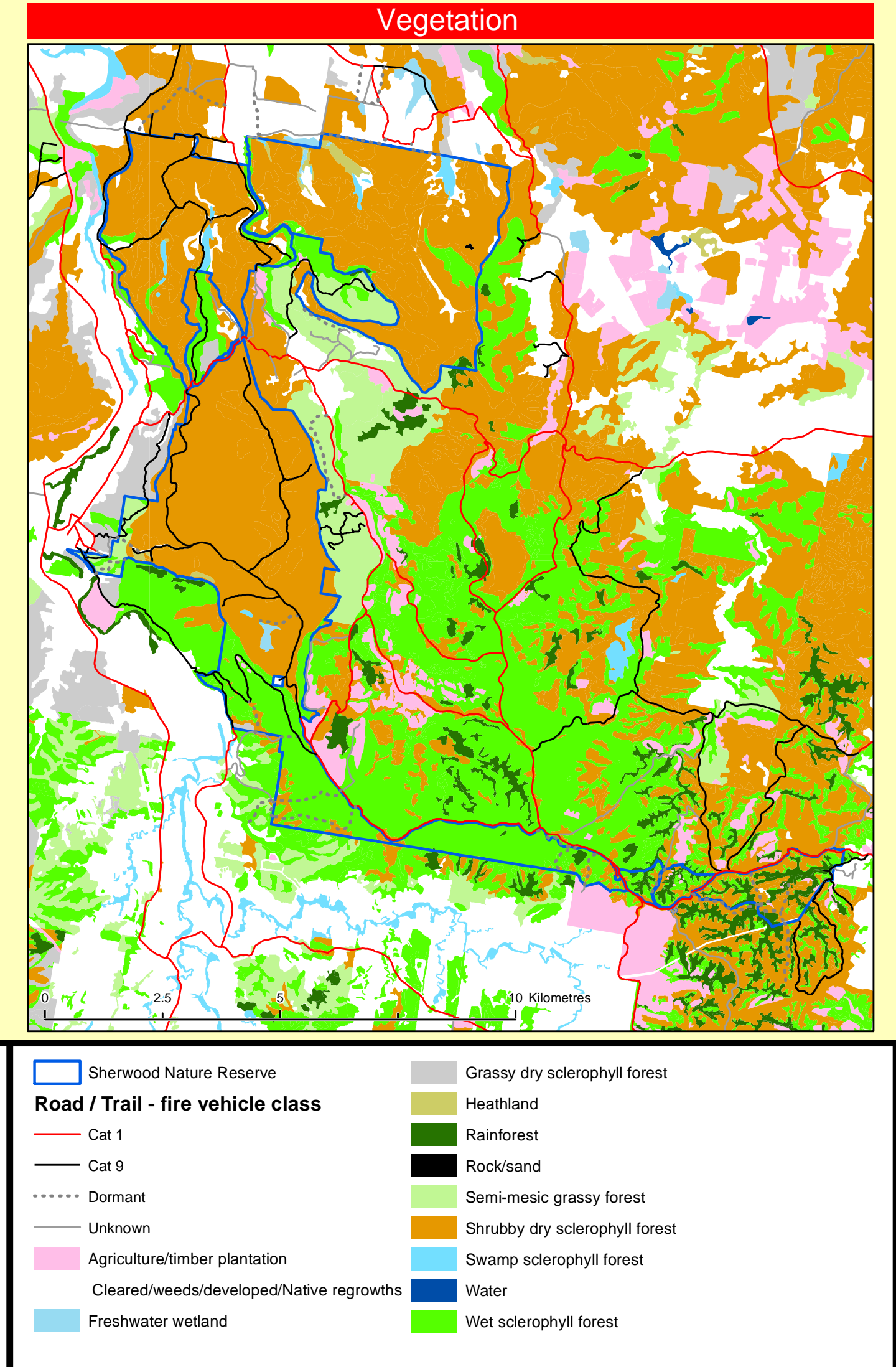
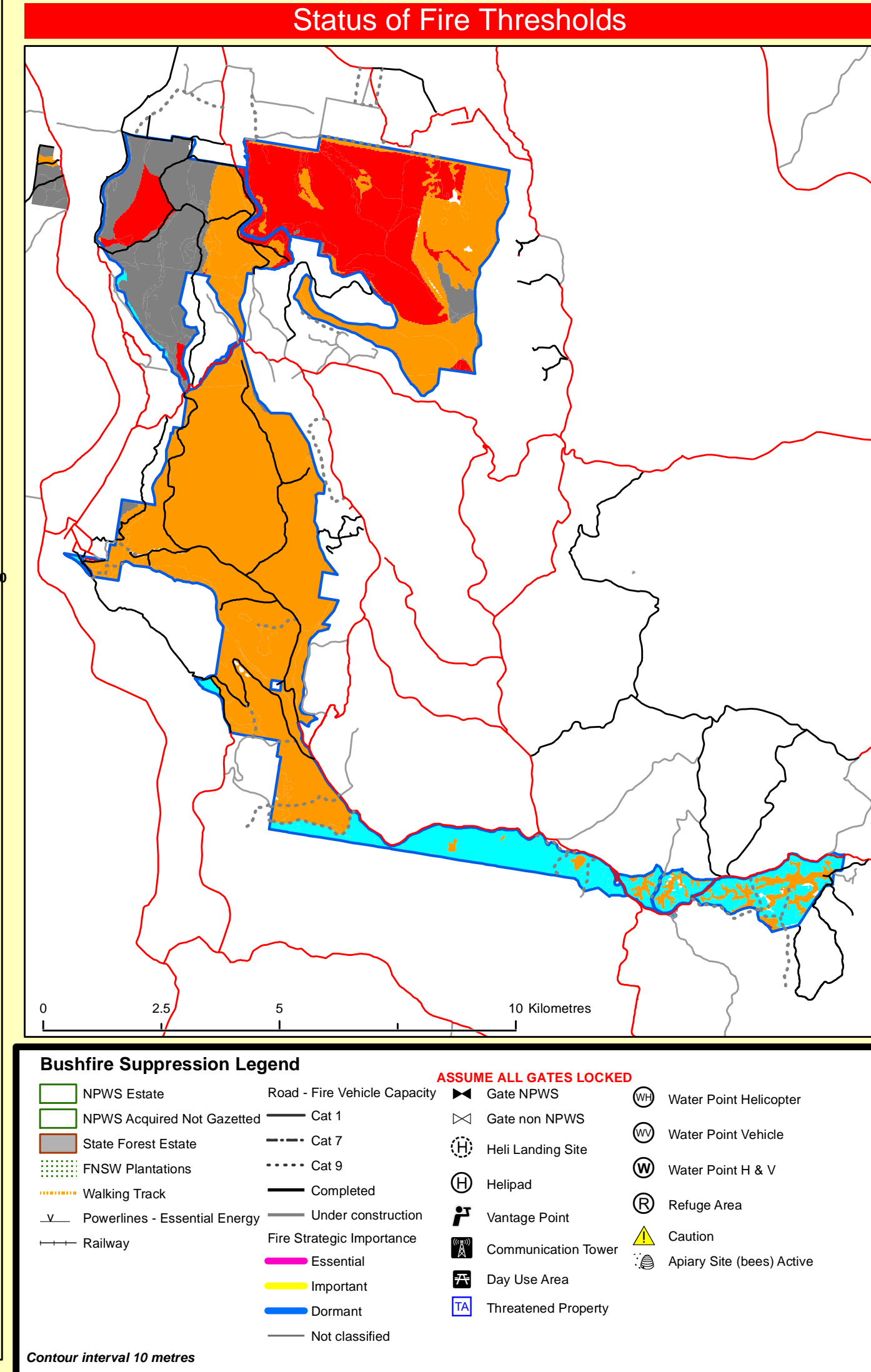
Service	NPWS Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - Vote group	Vote Ch 190	NCR Northern, Chs. 191, 192
NPWS - hi-band VHF - Tower Channels	192	Clarence Peak (Simp. 492, isolate 792)
NPWS Fireground Ch	11 - 17	Represent NPWS Fireground Ch's 1 - 7
NPWS - hi-band VHF - Portable Repeaters	21 - 26	Chs 21 & 31 correspond to FG1, etc. Contact Regional Office to deploy
RFS - Fireground Ch	41 - 60	Equivalent to RFS Fireground 1 - 20
RFS PMR	all	
Telephone Interconnect to NPWS Radio	TBA	
UHF - public	Use as backup & alt. comm's to Forestry. IAP will set Ch.	
Mobile Phone - 3G	Good reception on ridges & escarpment only.	

An Incident Action Plan will cover specific communications during IIR and Wildfire events.

Biodiversity thresholds for Land Management Zones

Too frequently burnt	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
Vulnerable to frequent fire	The area will be too frequently burnt if it burns this year. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
Within threshold	Fire history is within the threshold for vegetation in this area. <i>A burn is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided.</i>
Long unburnt	Fire frequency is below fire thresholds in the area. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
Unknown	Insufficient data to determine fire threshold.

NR. Fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity.



Bushfire Suppression Legend

NPWS Estate	Road - Fire Vehicle Capacity	Gate NPWS	Water Point Helicopter
NPWS Acquired Not Gazetted	Gate 1	Gate non NPWS	Water Point Vehicle
State Forest Estate	Gate 9	Hel Landing Site	Water Point H & V
PSW Operations	Completed	Helipad	Refuge Area
Walking Track	Under construction	Ventage Point	Caution
Powerslines - Essential Energy	Event	Communication Tower	Apary Site (bees) Active
Powerlines - Essential Energy	Important	Day Use Area	
Powerlines - Essential Energy	Dominant	Threatened Property	
Railway	Not classified		

Road / Trail - fire vehicle class

Sherwood Nature Reserve	Grassy dry sclerophyll forest
Cat 1	Heathland
Cat 9	Rainforest
Dominant	Rock/land
Unknown	Semi-misc grassy forest
Agriculture/limber plantation	Shrubby dry sclerophyll forest
Cleared/weeds/developed/Native regrowth	Swamp sclerophyll forest
Freshwater wetland	Water
	Wet sclerophyll forest

Datum: GDA94
Projection: UTM
Grid: MGA Zone 56

Noted scales are true when this map is printed on A0 size paper