

This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans. 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. This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Office of Environment and Heritage, Published by the Office of Environment and Heritage (NSW).

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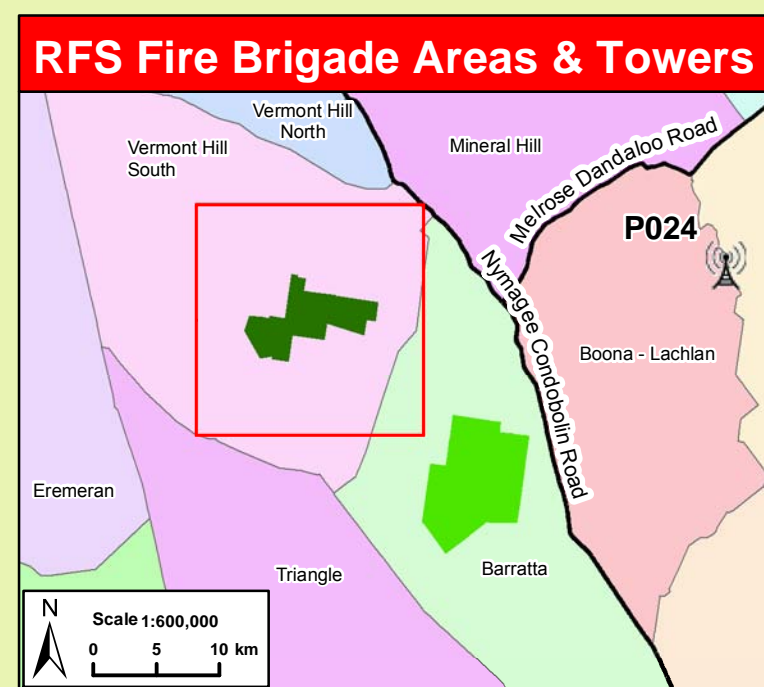
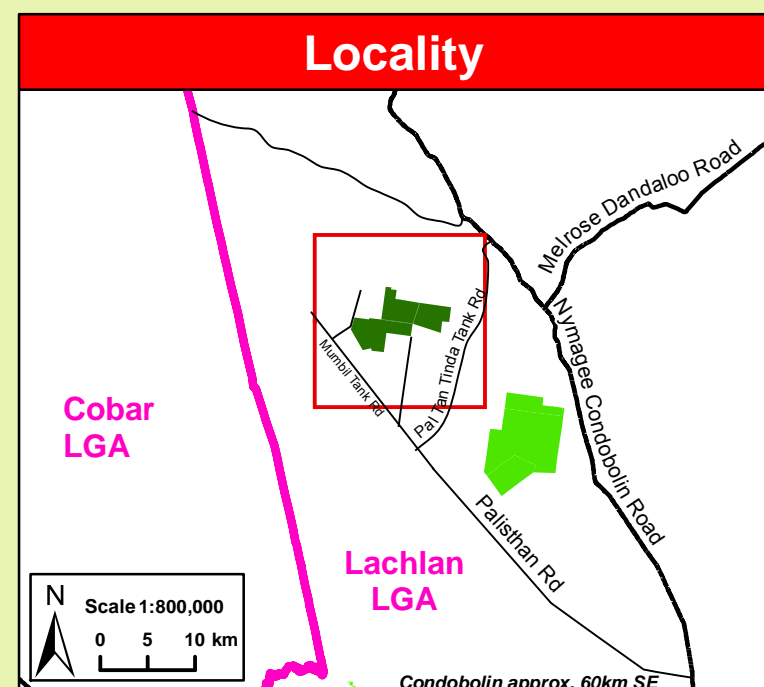
ISBN 978 1 74359 235 9 OEH 2013/0567	Date: June 2014	Version: 2
Map Details		Related Documents
Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 1994	1:100 Topographic Map: Gindoono 8232	OEH Fire Management Manual 2013 - 2014.
Projection: Map Grid of Australia (MGA) Zone 55	Scale: Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper	
Data: ADS40: 2007-2008 satellite imagery.		

Operational Guidelines

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

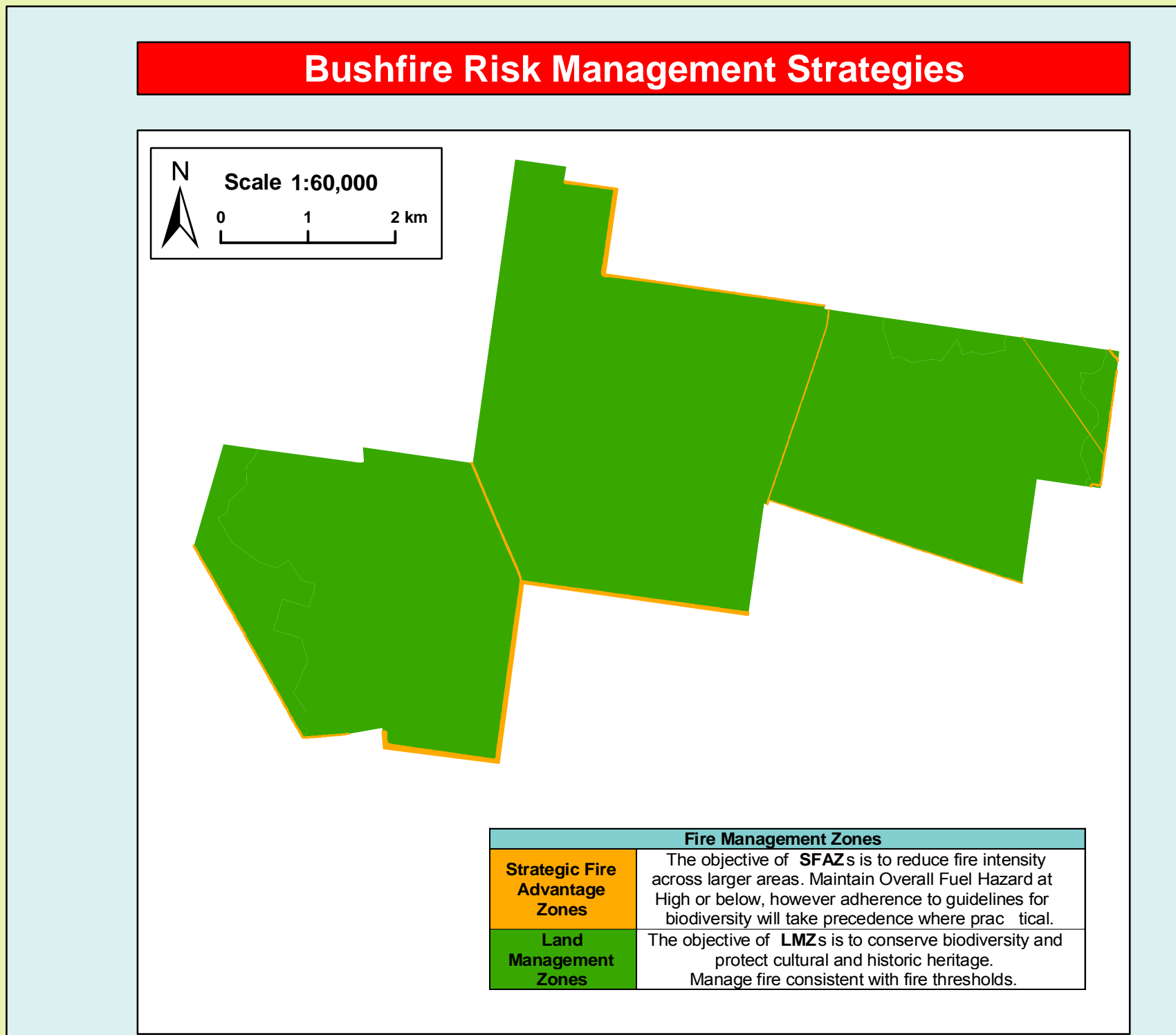
General	Guidelines
Aerial Water Bombing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The use of bombing aircraft should support containment operations by aggressively attacking hotspots and spot-overs. The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances. Where practicable foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of the water. Ground crews must be alerted to water bombing operations.
Aerial Ignition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aerial ignition may be used during back-burning or fuel reduction operations where practicable, but only with the prior consent of NPWS Senior Officer, Section 44 delegate or as prescribed in an operational burn plan. The use of aerial ignition as a fire suppression tool should be specified in the IAP or within the prescribed burn plan. Aerial ignition will only be undertaken by qualified and competent navigators and bombardiers. Utilise aerial ignition to rapidly burn out large areas and/or reduce spotting potential by preventing longer uphill fire runs. Aerial ignition can be utilised to rapidly progress back-burns down-slope where required.
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. 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 Incident Controller will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BFMC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines	<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. For new containment lines IMT to liaise with and receive consent from a Senior NPWS officer prior to construction. Use parallel containment lines when applicable. All containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident. All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location. Containment line construction using earthmoving equipment must be in accordance with the earthmoving guidelines contained within the RFMS.
Earthmoving Equipment	<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 always be guided and supervised by an appropriately experienced person, and accompanied by a support vehicle. When engaged in direct or parallel attack this vehicle must be a fire fighting 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 must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate. Where multiple items of earthmoving equipment are being used, the IMT should consider the establishment of a Plant Operations Manager.
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 may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations. Areas of the reserve may be closed for prescribed burning operations.
WARNINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beware of overhead powerlines
Watering points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No reliable water points in reserve. Consider bringing water cart from Condobolin if available (50km SSE).

Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer Forbes Office – 1 Camp St Forbes	02 6332 6350
	Regional Office – 200 Yambill St Griffith	02 6966 8100
	Fire Control Centre	02 6851 1541
NSW Rural Fire Service Mid Lachlan Valley Team	Team Manager	0427 253 983
Fire and Rescue NSW	Condobolin Fire Station	02 6851 1843
Forestry Corporation	Steve Campbell - District Mgr	0428 696 678
Emergency Services	SES	000 13 2500
Police - Local Area Command	Condobolin	02 6895 2577
Hospital	Condobolin	02 6890 1500
Council	Lachlan Shire Council	02 6895 1900
Local Aboriginal Land Council	Condobolin	02 6895 3639



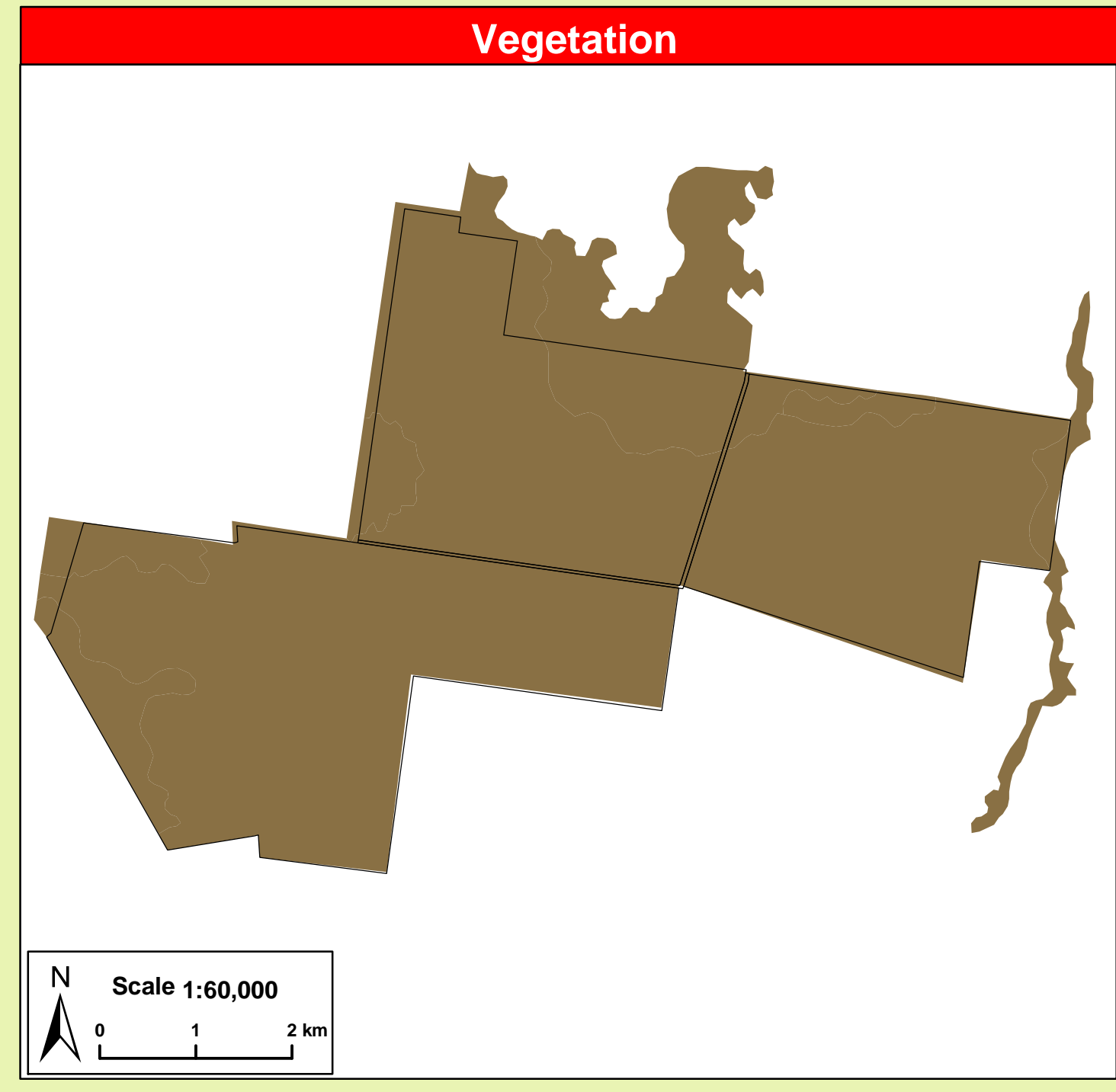
Fire Season Information	
Wildfires	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The critical wildfire season generally occurs from October/November to March/April. Dry lightning storms frequently occur and typical fire weather conditions are winds from the west to the north, high day time temperatures and low 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 should generally be undertaken during Autumn, Winter or early Spring. Care should be taken to ensure a low intensity burn over most of the area treated.

Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS VHF	11	Fire Ground 1
RFS PMR	P024	Boona Mountain
	P032	Mt Gobondery (near Trundle)
RFS Brigades UHF	5	Tallaburg Mountain
	10	Vermont Hill South
	18	Barratta
	34	Triangle

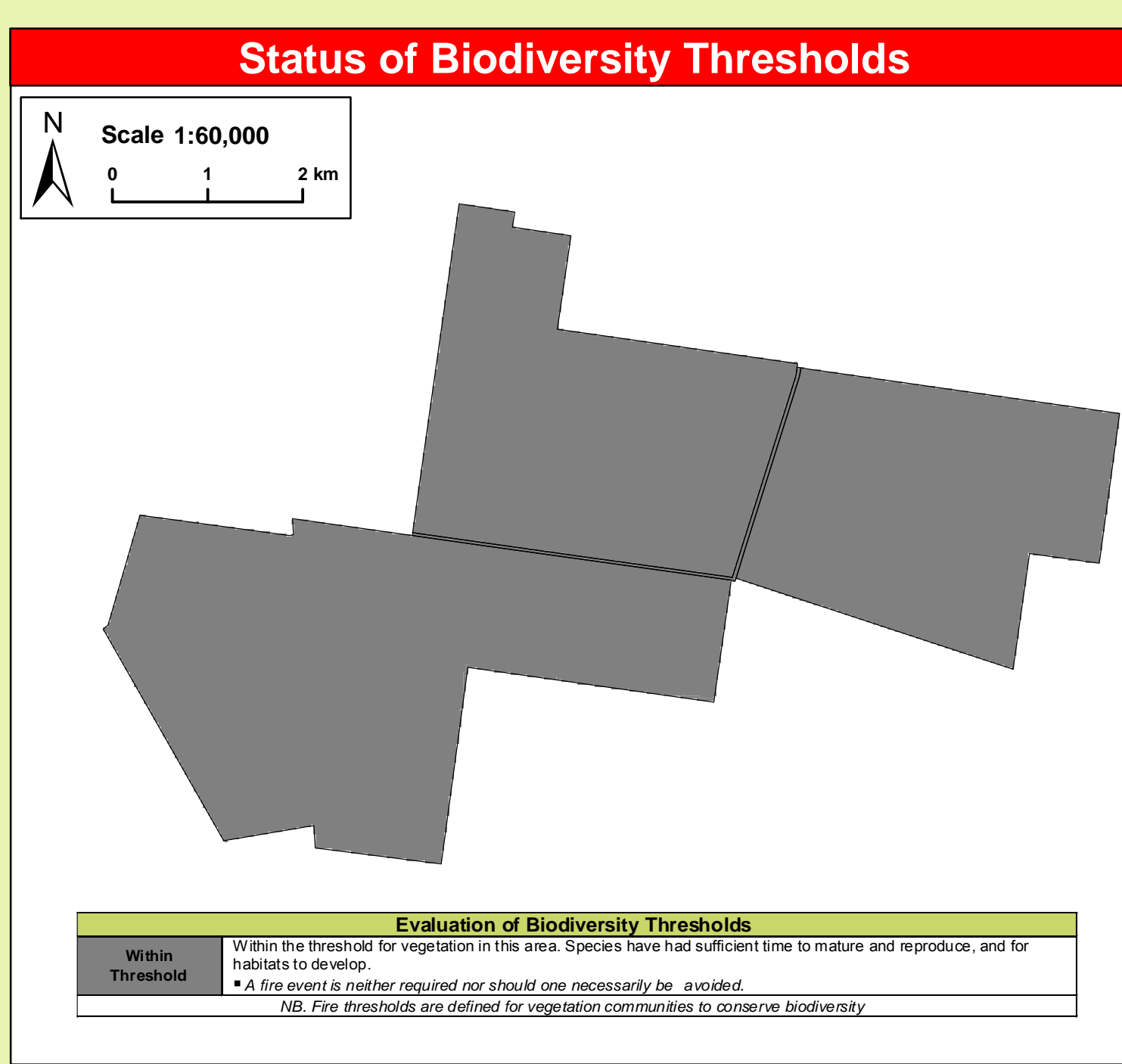
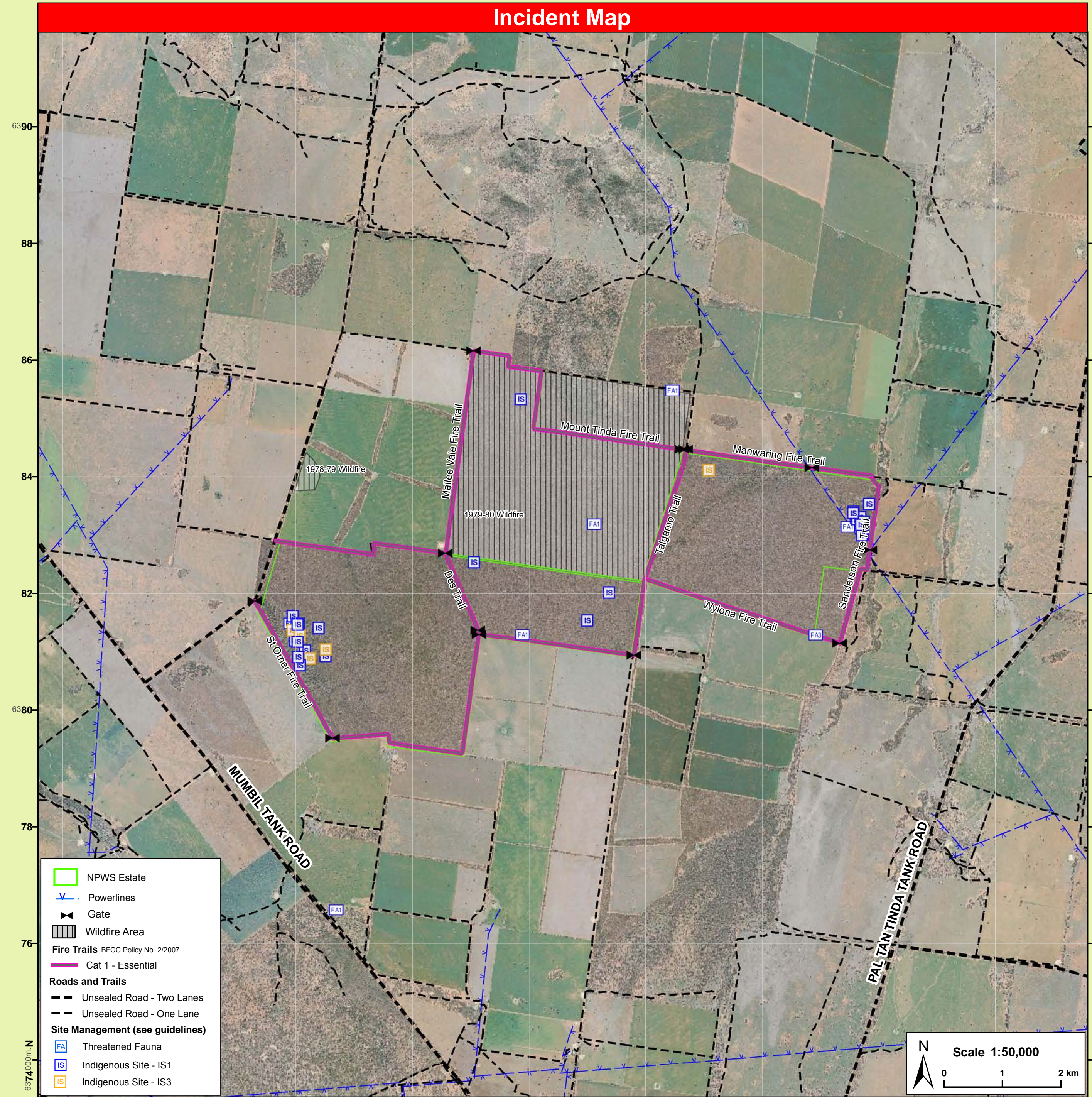


Suppression Strategies	
Typical Conditions	Indicative Suppression Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Current Fire Danger Rating (FDR) of Very High or Greater. Short and medium range forecasts suggest conditions typical to a FDR of Very High or Greater. A risk to life and/or property exists in the short - medium term. A broad area risk to biodiversity exists. 	<p>Direct Initial attacks should be to try to extinguish or to contain to the smallest possible area.</p> <p>Indirect 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> <p>Direct Evaluate the biodiversity thresholds and use direct attack methods to extinguish if required.</p> <p>Indirect Develop a fire suppression plan to the maximum allowable perimeter based on Biodiversity thresholds.</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. 	

Vegetation Map Legend			
Broad Vegetation Class	Vegetation Type	Biodiversity Thresholds	Fire Behaviour
Semi and Woodlands (Shrubby sub-formation)	Mallee Shrubland Red Box - Mallee Woodland Poplar Box Woodland	An interval between fire events less than 15 years should be avoided. There is no maximum interval between fire events specified for this vegetation type as there was insufficient data to give definite intervals.	Mallee woodlands fire intensity ranges from moderate to high and is largely influenced by ephemeral growth. Backburning may be difficult in areas with low ephemeral fuels. Crown fires are likely in high to very high and above fire danger periods in the Mallee areas.
Fire History	In the season of 1979- 1980 a wildfire burnt approximately 945 hectares of the reserve. As of July 2013 there have been no prescribed burns within the 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 fire surface fuels such as grasses and herbs, which can create a continuous fuel load across all of the above vegetation communities. As a result expect higher fire intensity.		
Drought Conditions	During drought conditions and when vegetation communities are visibly stressed it will be very difficult to undertake prescribed burning across many communities as the surface fuels will be very low. Wildfires are likely to be difficult to control due to extreme conditions during the day and areas of low fuel that are difficult to back-burn in under night-conditions.		
Mosaic Burning	This reserve has not experienced fire over an extended period of time, a mosaic approach to fire management with post fire recovery and response assessments should be undertaken. Apply fire in a pattern across the reserve that allows gaps in both time and space, small verses large areas, scattered and variable times between fires in any location. If possible leave some areas of each vegetation community unburnt, as an end stage and reference site.		



Threatened Sites Guidelines	
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	
Note	Aboriginal sites may be present other than those shown on the Incident Map of this document, therefore consideration in engaging a Senior NPWS Officer or Aboriginal Sites Officer prior to hazard reduction and wildfire suppression activities is required.
IS1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not cut down trees As far as possible protect the site from fire Use of foams, wetting agents & retardant is acceptable.
IS3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid all ground disturbance including the use of earthmoving machinery, handline construction and driving over sites. Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance. Permission required from Aboriginal Heritage Environment Officer and Aboriginal community.
Threatened Fauna Management	
FA1	Utilise mosaic burning and avoid disturbance at known sightings, roostings or refuges and avoid frequent fire (<6 years).
FA3	Utilise mosaic burning and protect hollow bearing trees.



Evaluation of Biodiversity Thresholds	
Within Threshold	Within the threshold for vegetation in this area. Species have had sufficient time to mature and reproduce, and for habitats to develop.
Outside Threshold	A fire event is neither required nor should one necessarily be avoided. NB. Fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity.