

Moema National Park Community Conservation Area Zone 1 Fire Management Strategy 2016-2021

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.

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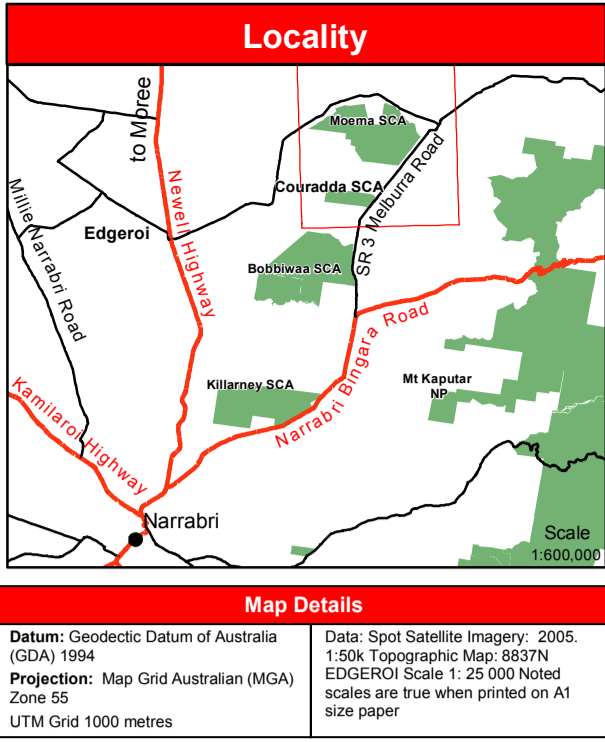
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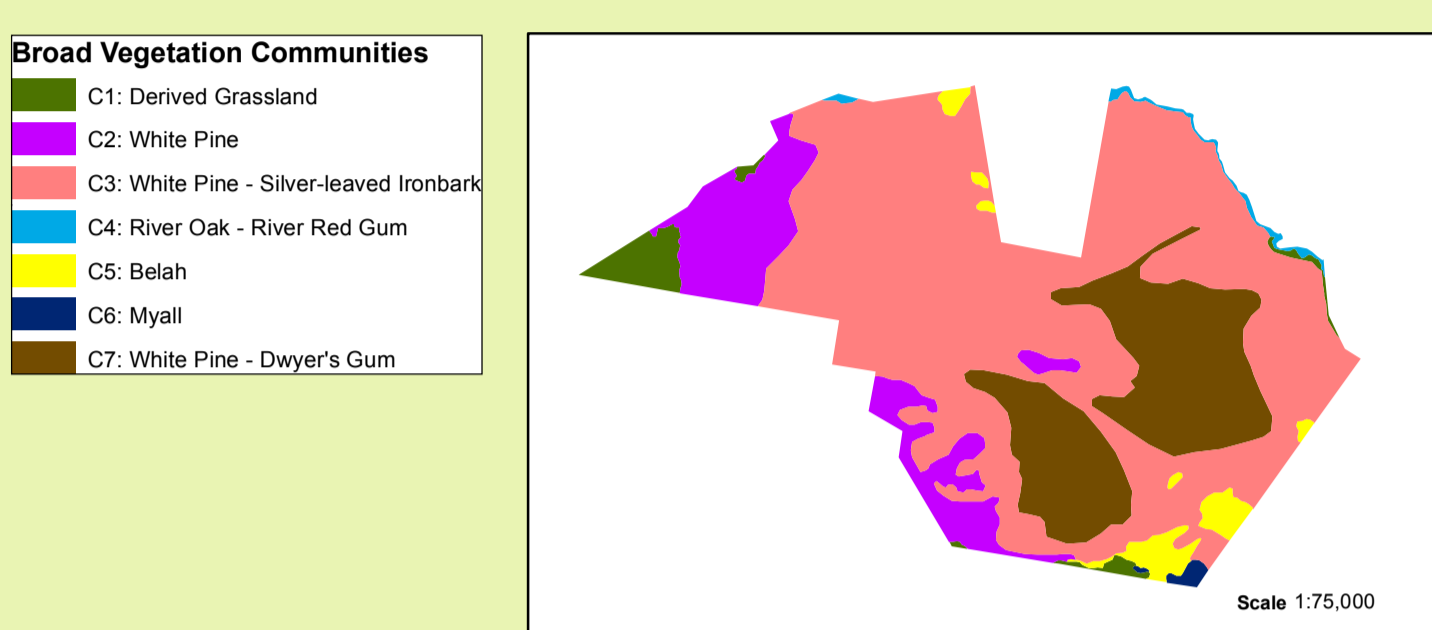
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NSW Fire Brigade Emergency Services	Newcastle Comm Centre	4922 1777
SES		13 2500
Police	Narrabri	6792 7199
Council	Narrabri	6799 6886

Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	301	• The Tops
	302	• The Governor
RFS	N077	• The Governor
UHF - CB		• Small fires channel 10, large fires determined by IMT
Parks Radio	11-17	• NPWS Fireground channels 1-7
Aviation - CTAIF	126.7	
Mobile phone		• Telstra - available in most areas



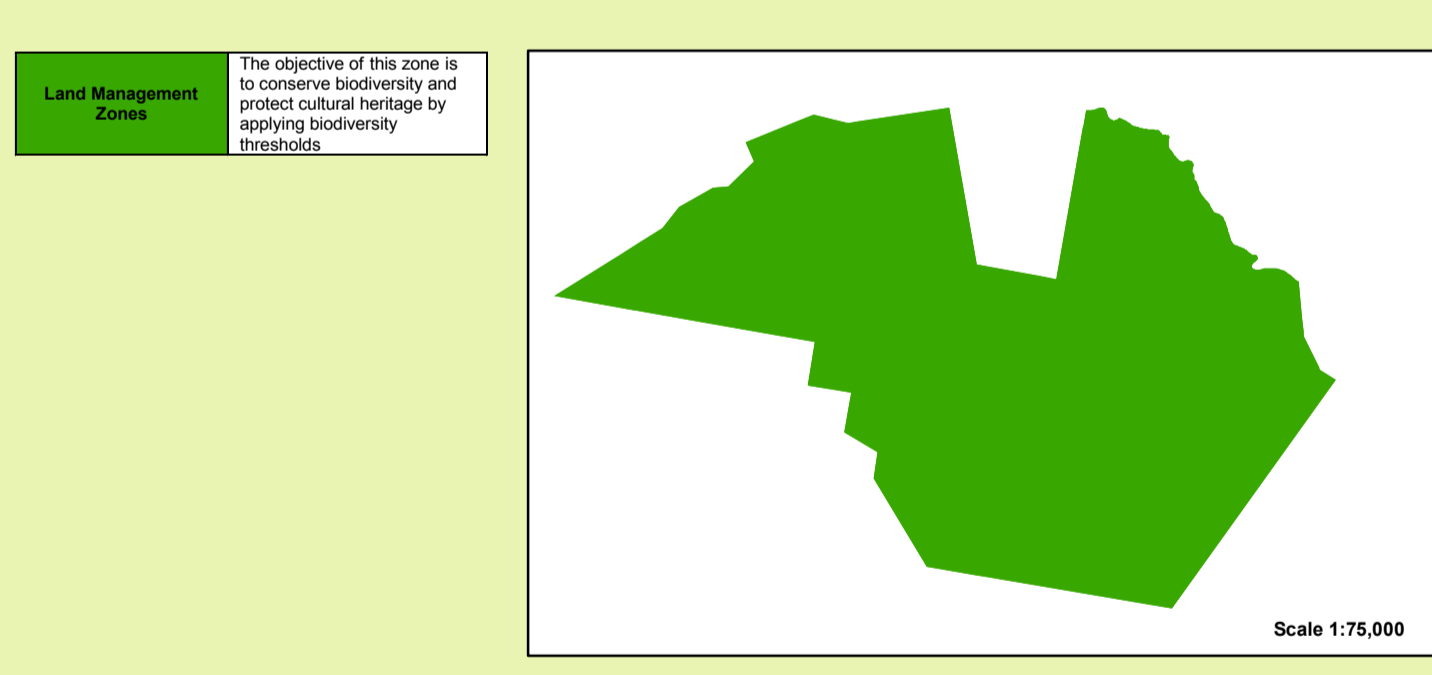
Vegetation



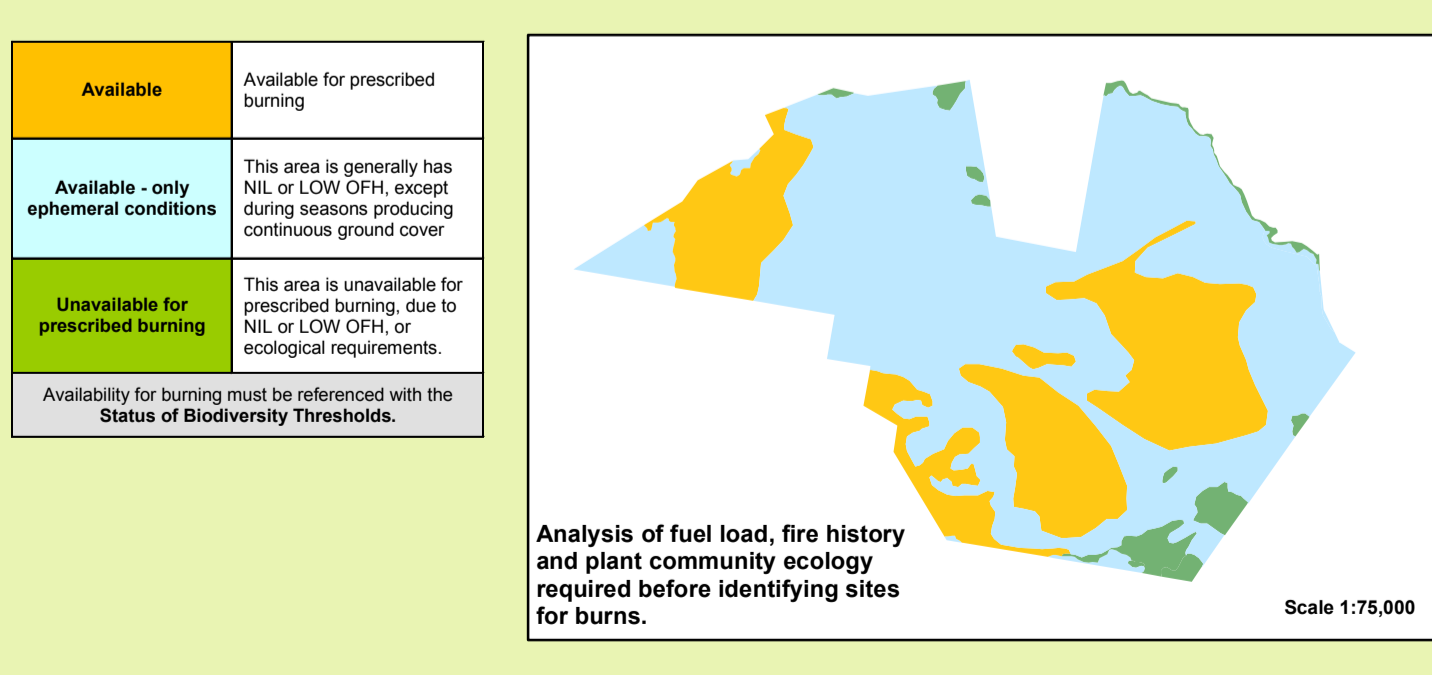
Status of Biodiversity Thresholds



Bushfire Risk Management Strategies



Vegetation Suitability for Prescribed Burning



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 wind efforts, clear a 1m radius around dead and fire-prone 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. 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. No containment lines to be constructed in the Myall vegetation community or in that area marked as machinery exclusion due to the probability of cultural sites occurring.
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 firefighting vehicle when engaged in direct or parallel attack. Plant must be washed down, where practicable, prior to entering and exiting NPWS estate. Maximum floor - C6 or equivalent. 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.
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.
Fire Suppression Chemicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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	
Watering points	
Smoke Management	
Visitor Management	
WARNINGS	Black text - general guidelines Blue text - reserve specific guidelines Red text - Major warnings

Operational Guidelines Continued	
Resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sites have been identified in the reserve to date. <p><i>Modified trees (IS1), including scarred trees</i></p> <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><i>Ground based sites (IS2), including: camp sites, artefacts, grinding grooves, waterholes and quarries</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect site from any ground disturbance, including the use of earth-moving equipment and vehicles. <p><i>Resource sites (IS3), including fig-tree groves</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protect site from physical disturbance. Avoid any burning into Dry Vine Rainforests.
Threatened Fauna and Flora Management	<p>AIMS database must be checked as part of planning for fire operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Machinery should be excluded from areas with C6 Myall woodland. The protective actions for threatened fauna have been incorporated into the Operational Guidelines.

Suppression Strategies	
Conditions & forecast	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided. Exclude use of machinery from C6 Myall woodland. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rates of spread is low due to Low - Moderate OFH
Communities C4, C5 & C6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events less than 20 years 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
White Pine / Silver-leaved Ironbark Woodland	<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 stands of Angophora and Bloodwood due to High OFH
White Pine - Dwyer's Red Gum Woodland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An interval between fire events of less than two years should be avoided. Fire intensity is dependent on seasonal conditions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential rate of spread will be determined by density and height of grass swards
Grassland C1		
Strategic Zones	Prescribed burn should be considered where the OFH has been assessed at HIGH , after an interval of 7 years	

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

