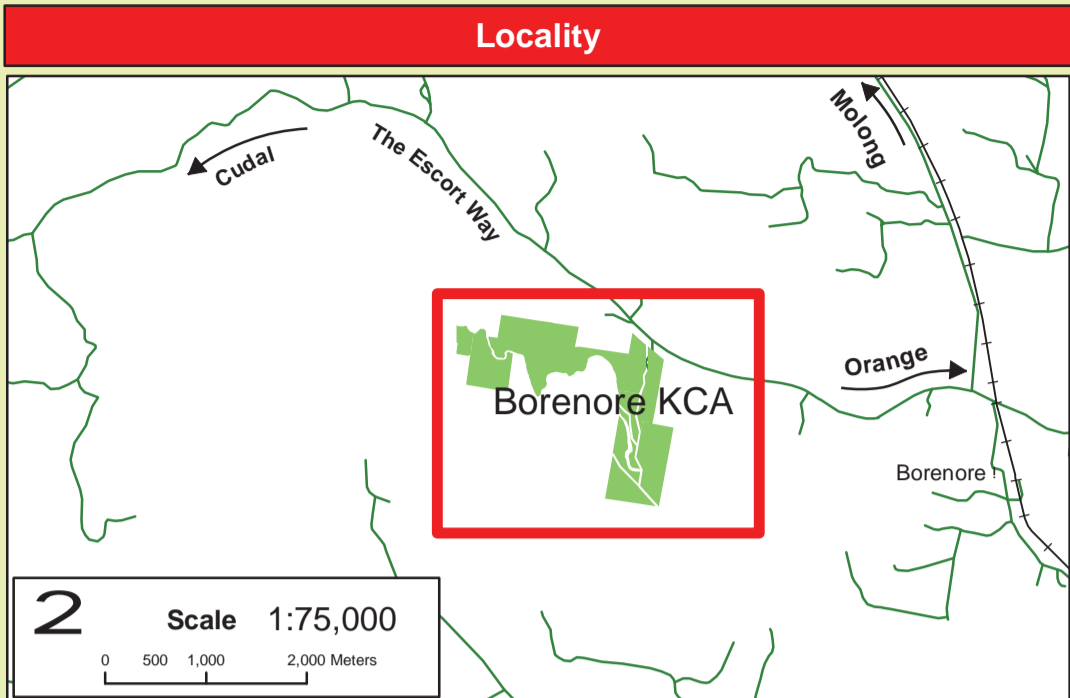


Borenore KCA Fire Management Strategy 2009

This strategy is to 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 Service and its employees disclaim liability for any action taken 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, 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 Department of Environment and Climate Change. Published by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (NSW), May 2009. Contact: Western Ranges Region, P.O. Box 1649 Griffith NSW 2680. Ph 02 6966 8100

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Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (24 hour)	6332 6350
	Bushfire Office (Bus. hours)	6332 7640
	Zone Manager	0429 633 870
Canobolas Zone NSW Rural Fire Service	Duty Officer	6361 8288
	RFS Office	6363 6666
NSW Fire Brigade		4782 6077
Emergency Services		000
SES		13 2500
Police	Orange	6361 5499
Council	Cabonne	6392 3200

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	24	• Mt Canobolas
RFS Canobolas	85	• Mt Canobolas
FNWS	3 or 144	• Mt Canobolas
UHF - CB	10	• Canobolas • Small fires channel 10, large fires determined by IMT
Mobile Phone	Next G	• Generally good coverage across reserve

Fire Season Information

Wildfires	The critical wildfire season occurs during December and January. This period may extend into February and March. 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. Burning may also be undertaken during late winter and early spring. Only low intensity fire to be used in identified Karst zones.

Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds

Vegetation Community	Biodiversity Thresholds	Fire Behaviour
Dry Sclerophyll Shrub/Grass Forest	• 10-35 years • Located on rocky outcrops • Extensive areas of blackberry	• Moderate to high fire behaviour when combined with slope • High to Very High in blackberry areas
Swamp Sclerophyll Forest	• 10-40 years • Very open E. viminalis grassy woodland • Riparian areas highly disturbed, caution required to modify grass effects on fire behaviour	• Rapid spread when grass cured • Rapid fire behaviour when combined with slope effects • Spotting potential • Very High to Extreme fire behaviour in riparian areas
Sclerophyll Grassy Woodland	• 7-45 years • Grassy understorey open woodland • EEC - WBYYBRGW	• Requires wind, low humidity or high temperatures to carry fire • Spotting potential
Grassland - Native	• 5-10 years • Moderately disturbed	• Moderate to High fire behaviour • Rapid spread when cured
Grassland - Weed Infested	• 2-10 years • Highly disturbed, weedy	• Very High to Extreme in areas of phalaris • Rapid spread when cured
Karst Thresholds	• 35-50 years • Literature suggests only low intensity fires and a regime of 35-50 years or greater • Exclude moderate intensity and higher fire where possible from Karst areas • In areas of exposed limestone, moderate or above fire intensity should be avoided as it will result in spalling and geochemistry changes	
Fire History	• Poorly documented, local knowledge indicates low fire frequency.	

Map Data

Date: Australian Geodetic Datum of Australia (AGD) 1966
 Projection: Australian Map Grid (AMG) Zone 55
 Imagery: Moolong 8631 Orthophoto 1:100,000
 Mapsheets: Moolong 8631-N & Cudal 8631-S 1:50,000
 Scale: Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper

Related Documents

- National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual, September 2008.
- DRAFT Karst Monitoring and Evaluation Guidelines, 2009
- Park Management - Operating Procedures Manual V 1.1
- http://www.threatenedspecies.environment.nsw.gov.au/profile/home_PAS_new.aspx

Operational Guidelines

General	Guidelines
Fire Suppression Chemicals	The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants is not permitted on the reserve
Earthmoving Equipment	• No tracked machinery to be used within the reserve, other machinery use restricted to existing tracks • Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a Senior NPWS Officer • Earthmoving equipment must always be 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 fire fighting vehicle • Earthmoving equipment must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate
Containment Lines	• To protect Karst features, vehicle containment lines should be restricted to existing tracks, removal of vegetation is acceptable • Hand tool lines may be used to contain wildfires to smaller areas, especially on Karst, refer to listed suppression strategies and Karst Area map • All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location
Smoke Management	• Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations • If smoke becomes a hazard on roads / highways, management must be in accordance with relevant RTA traffic management guidelines
Aerial operations	• No fire suppression chemicals, water only • 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 NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee
Back Burning	• All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin. • Back burning in areas of Low - Moderate Overall Fuel Hazard will require the use of slope, wind, or low humidity to maximise effectiveness • Where practicable, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to back burning, or wet down these trees as part of the back burn ignition. This will reduce mop-up efforts
Command & Control	• The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but 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 BFMC Plan of Operations. • Standard Incident Management Systems are to be applied
Rehabilitation	• Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation
Visitor Management	• The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during fire operations

Operational Guidelines Continued

Resource	Guidelines / Site Management	Preferred HR Method
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management		
AH1	• As far as possible protect site from fire • Do not cut down trees • Use of foams, wetting agents & retardant is acceptable	• Manual Clearing • HR immediate follow-up for embers
Threatened Fauna, Flora and Community Management		
FA1	• Exclusion zone 100m around all entrances to roost caves when <i>Miniopterus australis</i> are present • Ensure smoke does not settle into caves overnight	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning when bats not present • Manual clearing • Spraying • Monitor presence
FA2	• No specific guidelines	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning • Manual clearing
FA3	• Protect hollow bearing trees, stands of Casuarina, avoid frequent fire	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning • Manual clearing
FA4	• No burning during Spring	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning • Manual clearing
FL1 <i>Dichanthium setosum</i> (Queenland Bluegrass)	• Unknown response to fire • Priority Action Statement suggests minimum fire interval set to 5 years • Monitor recruitment / survivorship response to fire	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning • Slashing early in annual growth cycle
EEC White Box Yellow Box Blakely's Red Gum	• Ensure fires occur at more than 7 year intervals • Monitor response to fire	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning
FL3 <i>Descaria pubescens</i>	• Unknown response to fire • Do not burn entire population in one event • Monitor recruitment / survivorship response to fire	• Low intensity Prescribed Burning
Karst Site Management		
Fossil Beds	• Exclude unplanned fire • Exclude tracked vehicles	• Prescribed Burning (low intensity) >35 yrs between fires • Monitor spalling and calcination
Surface Solution Features	• Exclude unplanned fire • Exclude tracked vehicles	• Manual clearing • Spraying weeds, avoid spraying exposed rocks • Prescribed Burning (low intensity) >35 yrs between fires • Exclude moderate or higher intensity fire where possible • Monitor spalling and calcination
Below Ground Features	• Exclude fire/smoke from around entrance 5m	• Manual clearing • Prescribed Burning (low intensity) if no smoke impacts • Monitor spalling and calcination

