

Northern Tablelands Region

Aberaldie NR

Fire Management Strategy

(Type 2)

2006

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.

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. The NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service is part of the Department of Environment and Conservation. Published by the Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW), June 2006. Contact: NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Northern Tablelands Region PO Box 402 Armidale NSW 2350.

ISBN: 1 74137 551 7

DEC Number: 2005/430

Last Updated: 27 June 2006

Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW)

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

Approved Date: 16 Aug 2006

Vegetation



Vegetation Legend
1:25,000

Roads & Trails

Primary (Cat 1)

Secondary (Cat 9)

Not Classified

Proposed

Closed

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

Vegetation

Cleared, Agricultural or Developed

Grassy dry sclerophyll forest

Shrubby dry sclerophyll forest

Locality



Locality Legend

Towns & Localities

Roads

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

Datum: AGD66
Projection: UTM
Grid: AMG Zone 56

Noted scales are true when this map is printed on A1 size paper.

Index



Index Legend

Aerial Photo Index

Aerial Photo Sheet

25k Mapsheet Index

Local Government Area

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

Strategy Information		
Fire Season Information		
Wildfires		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Have been known to start as early as late August, but usually the potential for a large fire event is greatest between October and December. This period may extend into January in more severe years.
Prescribed Burning (NPWS Fire Management Manual 4.7)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">General season is Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological or tourism point of view.
Suppression Strategies		
Current FDR	Forecast FDR	
Low - Mod	Low - Mod	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along existing containment lines.Where practicable consider maximising the fire area in accordance with the requirements of any proposed prescribed burns.
Low - Mod	= > High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">In order to minimise the fire area and secure the flanks as soon as possible, undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along the closest containment lines.Pay particular attention to the flank on the next predicted down wind side.
High	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines.Secure and deepen containment lines along the next predicted downwind side of the fire.If applicable consider broader than normal containment strategies to avoid wasted effort and high risk of failure.
All	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them; otherwise fall back to the next potential line.

Risk Management Information



Risk Management Information Legend
1:25,000

Roads & Trails

Primary (Cat 1)

Secondary (Cat 9)

Not Classified

Proposed

Closed

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

Fire Management Zones

Asset Protection

Land Management

Strategic Fire Advantage

Status of Fire Thresholds



Status of Fire Thresholds Legend
1:25,000

Roads & Trails

Primary (Cat 1)

Secondary (Cat 9)

Not Classified

Proposed

Closed

Current Vegetation Status

Overburnt

Vulnerable

Recently Burnt

Within Threshold

Almost Underburnt

Underburnt

Unknown

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

Fire Thresholds	
Overburnt	Fire thresholds have been exceeded. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
Vulnerable	The area will be Overburnt if it burns this year. <i>Protect from fire as far as possible.</i>
Recently Burnt	Time since fire is less than the optimum interval, but before that it was within threshold. <i>Avoid fires if 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>
Almost Underburnt	The area is close to its threshold and may become underburnt with the absence of fire. <i>A prescribed burn may be advantageous. Consider allowing unplanned fires to burn.</i>
Underburnt	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.

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

Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	5 or 6	Porters Trig or Duval (in North)
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	37	
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	15	Stored at Armidale/transportable
RFS - PMR - UHF	-	Poor in Walcha
RFS - GRN	-	-
FNSW - VHF	80	Porters Trig
CB - UHF	8	Grundy
Aircraft - VHF	119.10	-
Mobile Phone - CDMA	Poor service - possible from high points surrounding reserve	
Mobile Phone - GSM	No service	
Satellite Phone	01471 42605 - held at Walcha office	

Bushfire Suppression



Bushfire Suppression Legend
1:25,000

*Assume all gates locked

Contour Interval 10 metres

Historic Sites

Caution

Gate - NPWS

Gate - non NPWS

Helipad - Potential

Refuge Area

Threatened Property

Turning Point

Vantage Point

Water Point H & V

Water Point Helicopter

Water Point Vehicle

Powerlines

Roads & Trails

Primary (Cat 1)

Secondary (Cat 9)

Not Classified

Proposed

Closed

Fires 2005-06

Fires 2004-05

Fires 2003-04

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
DEC - NPWS	Regional Duty Officer	0428 345 789
	Area Manager	02 6777 4721
		0428 364522
	Fire Management Officer	02 6776 0014
		0409 220 613
		02 6771 1894 (fax)
	Regional Operations Coordinator	02 6776 0007
		0428 977 519
	Walcha Area Office	02 6777 4700
		02 6777 1198 (fax)
Rural Fire Service	Regional Office	01471 42605 (satellite phone)
		02 6776 0000
		02 6771 1894 (fax)
NSW Fire Brigade	Emergency	000
	NE Duty Officer	02 6771 4619
	Armidale Fire Control Officer	02 6771 2400
SES	Emergency	000
	Walcha Unit	02 6777 2285
Police	Emergency	000
	Walcha Station	02 6777 1240 (fax)
Ambulance	Emergency	000
	Walcha Station	02 6778 0075 (fax)
Hospital	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 2244
DNR	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6778 0075 (fax)
DPI - Forests NSW	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 2366
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 1458 (fax)
Aboriginal Land Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6640 2000
Aboriginal Heritage Conservation Officer	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6640 2185 (fax)
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 2511
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 2179 (fax)
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6774 2500
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 1181
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6777 1100
Council	Emergency	000
	Walcha	02 6776 0038

Neighbour Information				
For further information, please refer to the Regional Contacts database.				
Map ID	Property Name	Surname	Firstname	Phone
P110023	Unknown			
P110024	Cauabaune			
P110035	Alandale			
P110064	Glenelg			
P110093	Kilburnie			
P110152	The Tops			

Neighbours



Neighbours Legend
1:25,000

Roads & Trails

Primary (Cat 1)

Secondary (Cat 9)

Not Classified

Proposed

Closed

Neighbours

Aberaldie NR

Other National Park

State Forest

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 Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)	Aboriginal sites are not indicated on this strategy. For information on Aboriginal sites contact the Aboriginal Conservation Heritage Officer or Local Aboriginal Land Council.
Historic Heritage Management (NPWS FMM 4.10)	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Brief all personnel involved in fire suppression operations on site location and the required management strategies appropriate to the site type.Where practicable protect populations or individuals from fire if the fire threshold has been exceeded or if the species is an obligate seeder or if the fire threshold and/or the fire response category is unknown.
Threatened Property	<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-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 (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<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 a senior NPWS officer.Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.
Backburning (NPWS FMM 4.8)	<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, 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.
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 BFMC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9)	<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 cessation 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	<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 (NPWS FMM 4.2.20 & 4.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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 rainforest, 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.
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.
Smoke Management (NPWS FMM 3.4)	<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 (NPWS FMM 3.6 & 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.