

Combaning State Conservation Area Fire Management Strategy 2012

Mapsheet 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 to in any far 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), March 2011.

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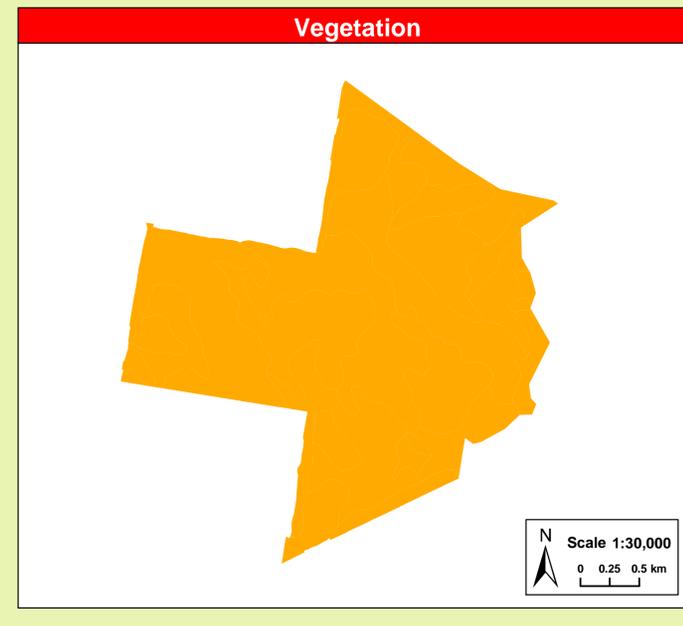
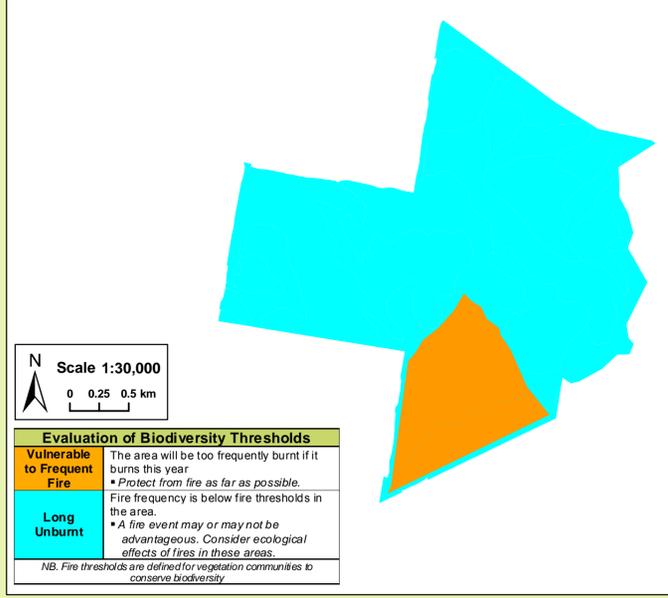
Map Details		Related Documents
Datum: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA) 1994	1:50k Topographic Map: Sebastopol 8428-N (AGD-1966)	OEH Fire Management Manual 2011 - 2012.
Projection: Map Grid of Australia (MGA) Zone 55	Scale: Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper	
Data: Spot Satellite Imagery, 2005.		

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 Regional Manager, OEH Section 44 delegate or as prescribed in an operational burn plan. Aerial ignition will only be undertaken by accredited navigators & bombardiers. The pattern for aerial ignition will be specified in the IAP during fire suppression. Utilise incendiaries to rapidly burn out large areas 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. 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 BFMG Plan of Operations. Where OEH is not the first responding fire authority to arrive at a fire on OEH-managed lands, a competent officer of the first arriving fire authority will direct fire management activities until a competent OEH officer assumes control (unless prior agreements have been made).
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 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 not leave tracks or create new tracks in Machinery Exclusion areas as marked on the Incident Map of a RFMS. 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.
Structural Fire Fighting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OEH personnel are not trained in structural fire fighting and must not enter a structure in order to undertake structural fire fighting. Fire suppression activities may be undertaken from outside a structure in accordance with the policies in the NPWS FIM, in order to protect a built asset.
Visitor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during prescribed burning or wildfire suppression operations.
WARNINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beware of overhead powerlines.

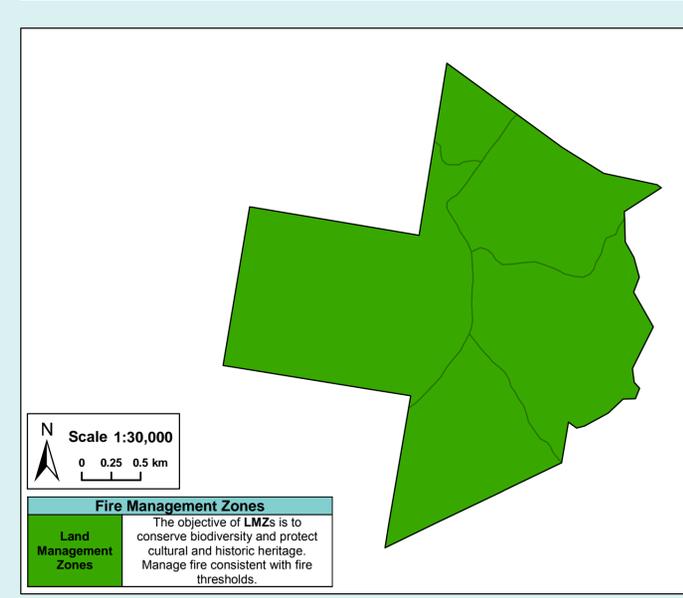
Status of Biodiversity Thresholds



Vegetation Map Legend

Broad Vegetation Class	Vegetation Type	Biodiversity Thresholds	Fire Behaviour
Dry Sclerophyll Forest (Shrub sub-formation)	Mugga Ironbark Mixed & Western Grey Box Cypress Pine Tall Woodland	An interval between fire events less than 10 years and above 30 years should be avoided.	In long unburnt areas, very high to extreme potential for spotting due to bark fuels. Isolated areas with heavy ground fuel may have the potential for very high fire behaviour.
Fire History	The fire history data for this area shows no wildfires have occurred on the reserve but a prescribed burn was conducted in 2009 which covered 118 Ha in the southern portion of the reserve.		
Ephemeral Conditions	Ephemeral fuel conditions occur after consecutive years of effective rainfall. This in turn leads to the growth and build up of fine surface fuels such as grasses and herbs, which can create a continuous fuel load across all of the above vegetation communities. As such expect a 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	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 versus 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.		

Bushfire Risk Management Strategies



Suppression Strategies

Season	Typical Conditions	Indicative Suppression Strategies
Just prior to or during the critical fire season	<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</p> <p>Initial attacks should be to try to extinguish or to contain to the smallest possible area.</p> <p>Indirect</p> <p>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>
Outside of the critical fire season	<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. 	<p>Direct</p> <p>Evaluate the biodiversity thresholds and use direct attack methods to extinguish if required.</p> <p>Indirect</p> <p>Develop a fire suppression plan to the maximum allowable perimeter based on Biodiversity thresholds.</p>

Contact Information

Agency	Position / Location	Phone
National Parks & Wildlife Service	Duty Officer (8am-10pm)	02 6332 6350
	Regional Office - 200 Yambil St Griffith	02 6966 8100
NSW Rural Fire Service Bland/Temora Zone	Fire Control Centre	02 6980 2060
	Duty Officer Steve Holden (Zone Manager)	02 6972 0038
NSW Fire Brigades	Temora Fire Station	0409 919 007
State Forests	Forbes - Duty Mobile	02 6978 0544
Emergency Services SES		0428 696 678
		000
Police Station (not open 24 hrs)	Temora	13 2500
Police - Local Area Command	Wagga	02 6977 2044
Hospital	Temora	02 6922 2599
		02 6977 1066
Council	Temora Shire Council	02 6980 1100
	Junee Shire Council	02 6924 8100

Threatened Sites Guidelines

Site	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	
Note	An aboriginal sites survey is yet to be conducted for this reserve (as of August 2012). Therefore aboriginal sites may be present and consideration in engaging a Senior NPWS Officer or Aboriginal Sites Officer prior to hazard reduction and wildfire suppression activities is required.
Threatened Fauna Management	
FA1	Utilise mosaic burning and avoid disturbance at known sightings, roostings or refuges and avoid frequent fire (<6 years).
FA2	Utilise mosaic burning, avoid disturbance at known sightings, roostings or refuges, avoid frequent fire (<6 years) and exclude chemical use.
FA3	Utilise mosaic burning and protect hollow bearing trees.
FA4	Utilise mosaic burning, protect hollow bearing trees and avoid frequent fire (<6-10 years).
FA5	Utilise mosaic burning.

