


Northern Rivers Region

Cudgen Nature Reserve

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.

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 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.

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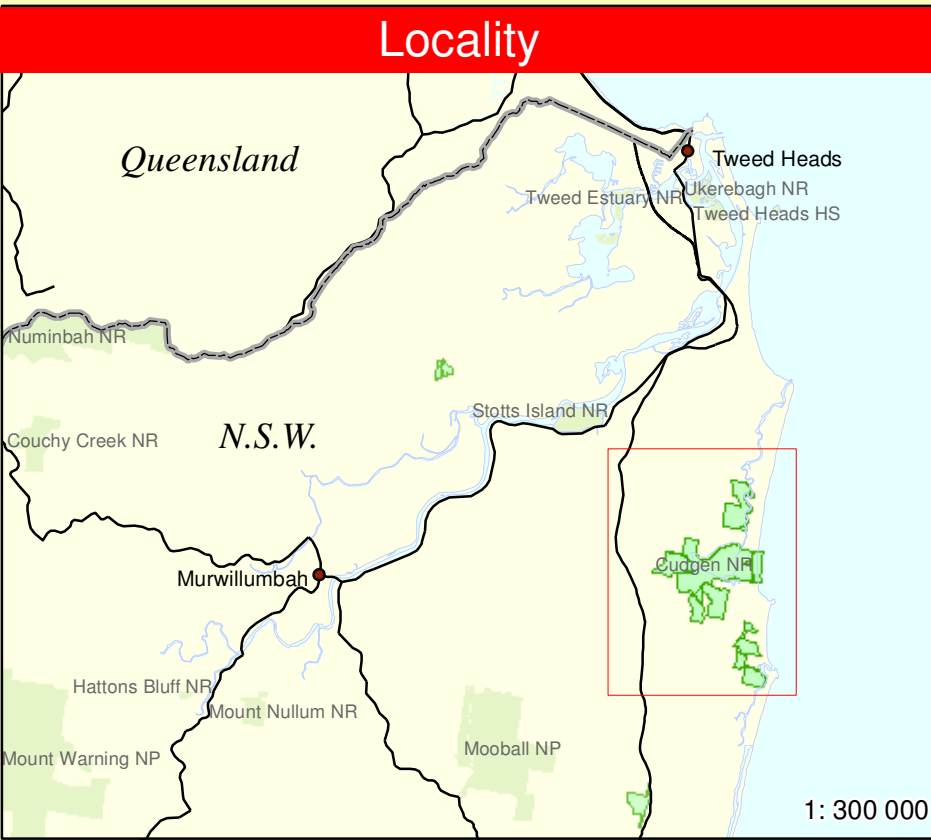
W

E

S

Projection: UTM
Datum: AGD 1966
Grid: AMG66 Zone 56J

Noted scale values are true on A1 paper



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.

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)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The "Sensitive Area Management System" identifies locations of sites on Park roads. Green guide posts indicate areas of sensitivity where no disturbance by earthworks is to occur.
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)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Avoid impact on wetlands, littoral rainforest and streamsProtect large and hollow-bearing treesAim to minimise crown scorch to protect koalasEngage Tweed Valley Wildlife Carers to assist with post wildfire search for injured koalas.
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Avoid impact on wetlands and littoral rainforest.Avoid impact on Palm Forest on and around Round Mountain.
Threatened Property	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
Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of water bombing.
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.Utilise incendiaries to rapidly progress back-burns down slope where required.
Backburning (NPWS FMM 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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.
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 NPWS 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 BFMIC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">No new containment lines in wetlands.New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer.Containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
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.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.Earthmoving equipment should be washed down 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">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.
Rehabilitation (NPWS FMM 5.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.All re opened and new containment lines not required for other purposes should be closed at the cessation of the incident.
Smoke Management (NPWS FMM 3.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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.

Contour interval 10m

NPWS estate

Asset Protection Zone

Wildfire 2002-03

Wildfire 2003-04

Wildfire 2004-05

Threatened Property

Threatened Flora

Water Point Helicopter

Water Point Vehicle

Gate - NPWS

Gate - non NPWS

Access

Primary (Cat 1)

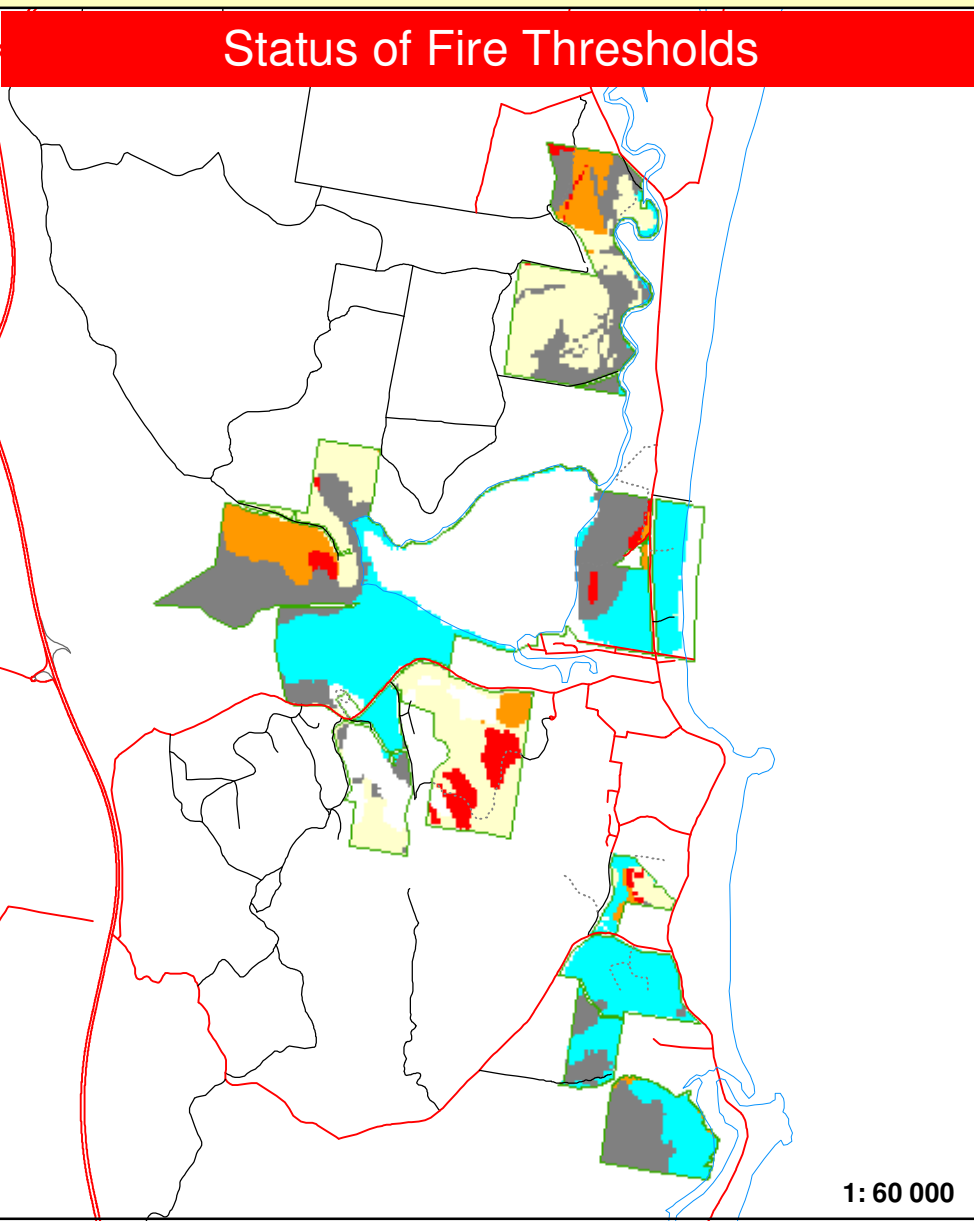
Secondary (Cat 9)

Closed

Proposed temporary trail

Powerline

Assume all gates locked



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	

Contact Numbers		
NSW Dept. of Environment and Conservation		
NRR Regional Office – Alstonville (24 hrs)	6627 0200	
Tweed Area Office	6670 8600	
Tweed Area Depot	6672 8154	
NSW Rural Fire Service - Tweed	6672 7888	
RFS Duty Officer	0500 500 521	
NSW Fire Brigade – emergency / Kingscliff	000 / 6674 1271	
Tweed Shire Council	6670 2400	
Police – Tweed Heads	(07) 5536 0999	
- Kingscliff	6674 9399	
State Emergency Services (SES) – emergencies/ Murwillumbah	13 2500 / 6670 2460	
Ambulance / Bookings	000 / 13 1233	
Country Energy	13 2356	
Department of Lands (Grafton) – managers Camp Wollumbin	6640 2020	

Fire Management Zones			
Asset Protection Zones	The objective of APZs is the protection of human life and property. This will have precedence over guidelines for the management of biodiversity. Maintain overall fuel hazard at moderate or below.		
	Zone	Action	Responsibility
	Tamarind Avenue (A1) 600m x 15m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches moderate.	NPWS
	Caravan Park (A2) 200m x 30m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches moderate.	
	North Star (A3) 670m x 15m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches moderate.	
	Grass Tree (A4) 175m x 15m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches moderate.	
Strategic Fire Advantage Zones	The objective of SFAZs is to reduce fire intensity across larger areas. Maintain overall fuel hazard at High or below, however adherence to guidelines for biodiversity will take precedence where practical.		
	North Star (S1) 5.4 ha	Prescribed burn when overall NPWS fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS / Incident Controllers
Land Management Zones	The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.		
	Cudgen LMZ 889 ha	Refer to fire thresholds map and table as part of decision making process regarding suppressing or applying fire.	

Communications Information		
Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS-VHF	8	Mt Nardi
NPWS-VHF (Fireground Comms)	40	Fireground chat channel (single frequency) monitors channel 8
NPWS-VHF (Portable Repeater)	13	Blue Code. Stored at Kyogle Depot / transportable.
RFS-PMR – UHF	87	Springbrook
RFS-GRN	-	No service available.
CB-UHF	-	To be confirmed with RFS brigade captain on the day.
Aircraft-VHF	125.45	Or as directed by Incident Controller or Air Operations
Mobile Phone-CDMA	Partial	Coverage varies but generally fair to good.

