


Northern Rivers Region

Cudgera Creek NR

Fire Management Strategy (Type 2)

2009

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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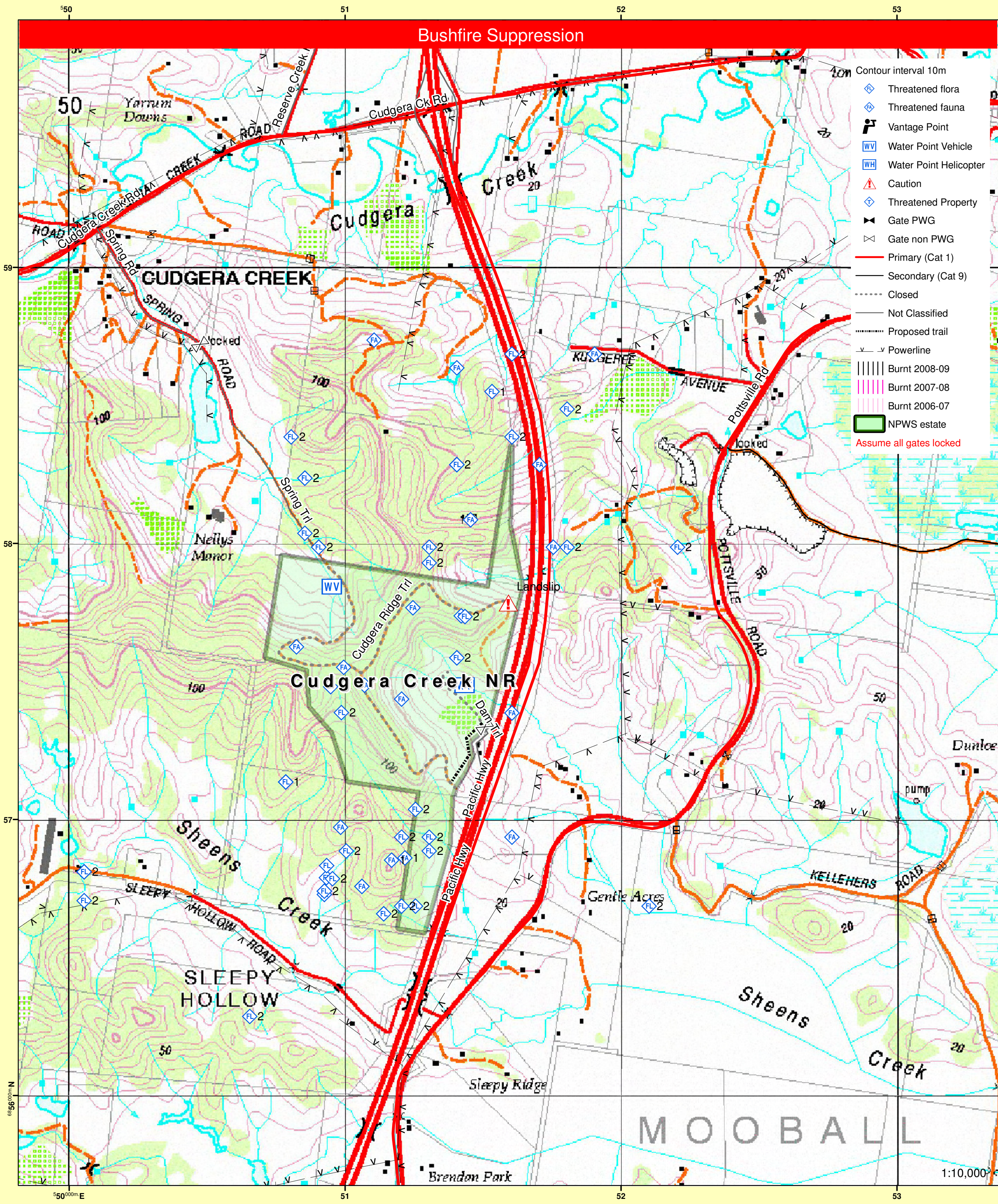
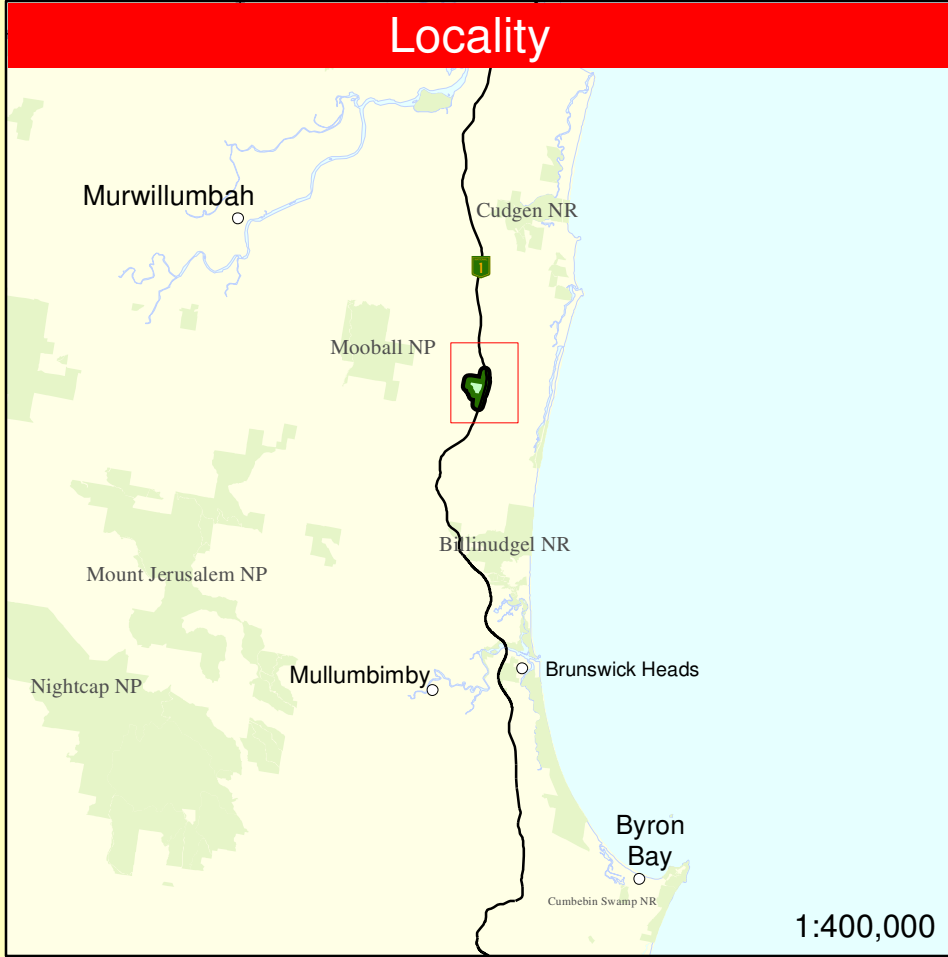
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Contact: NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Northern Rivers Region, PO Box 856 Alstonville 2477.

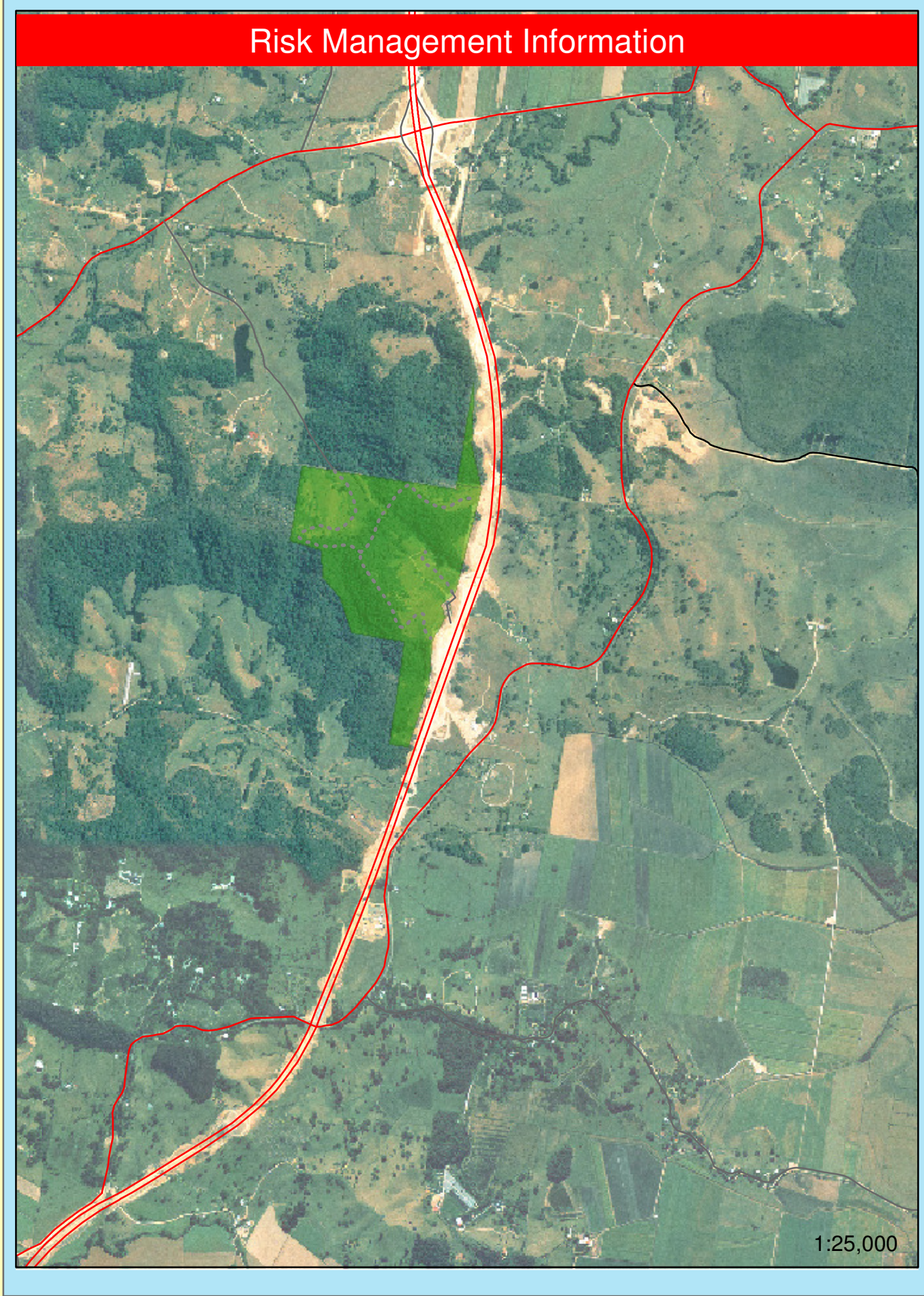
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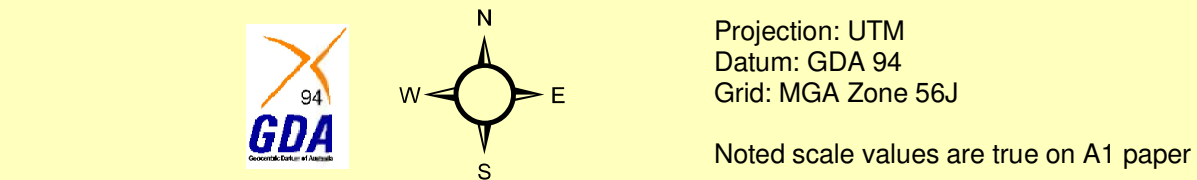
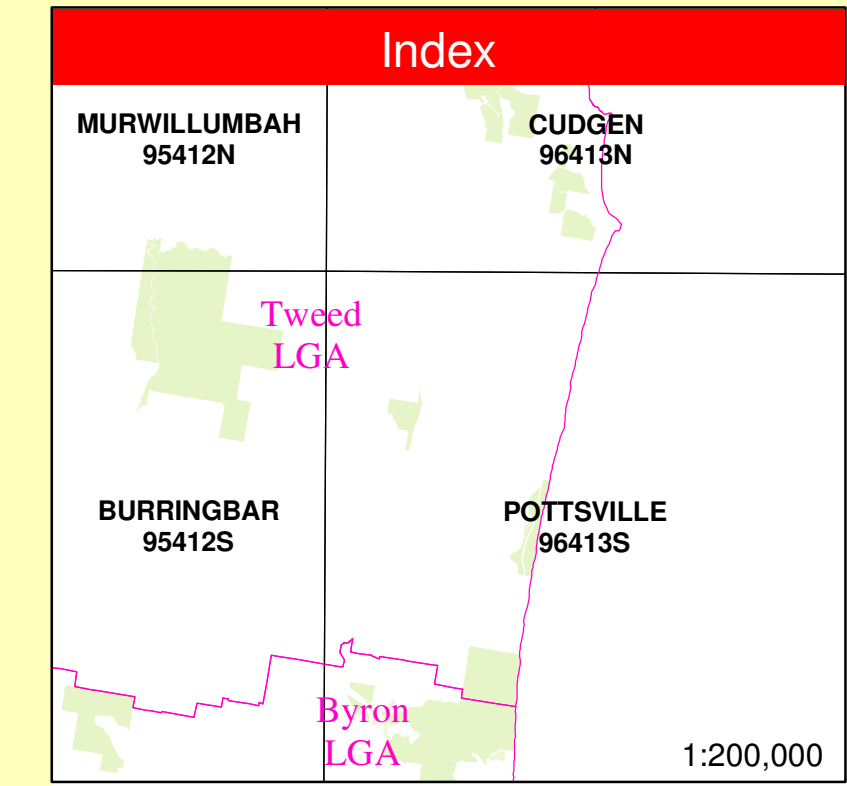
This strategy is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.



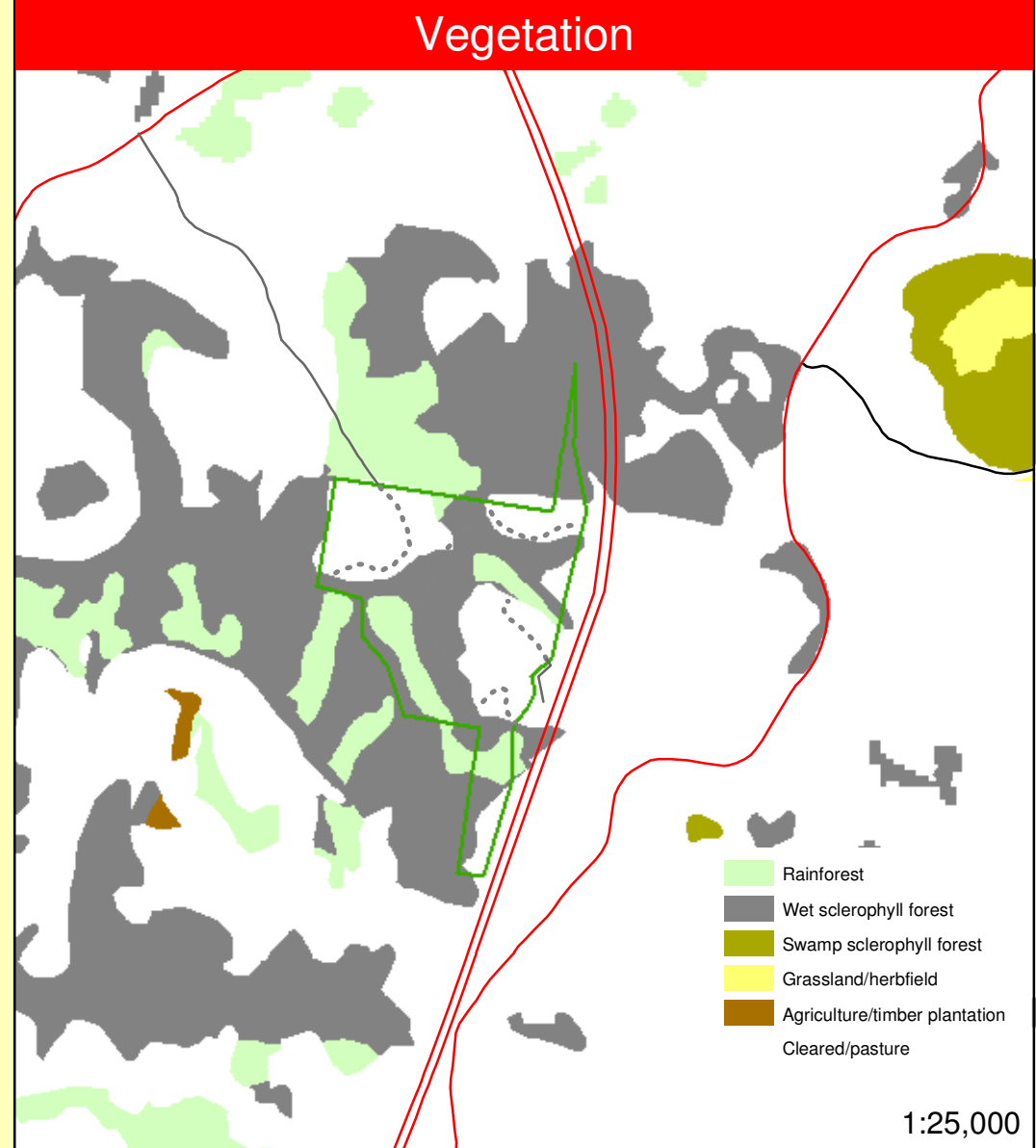
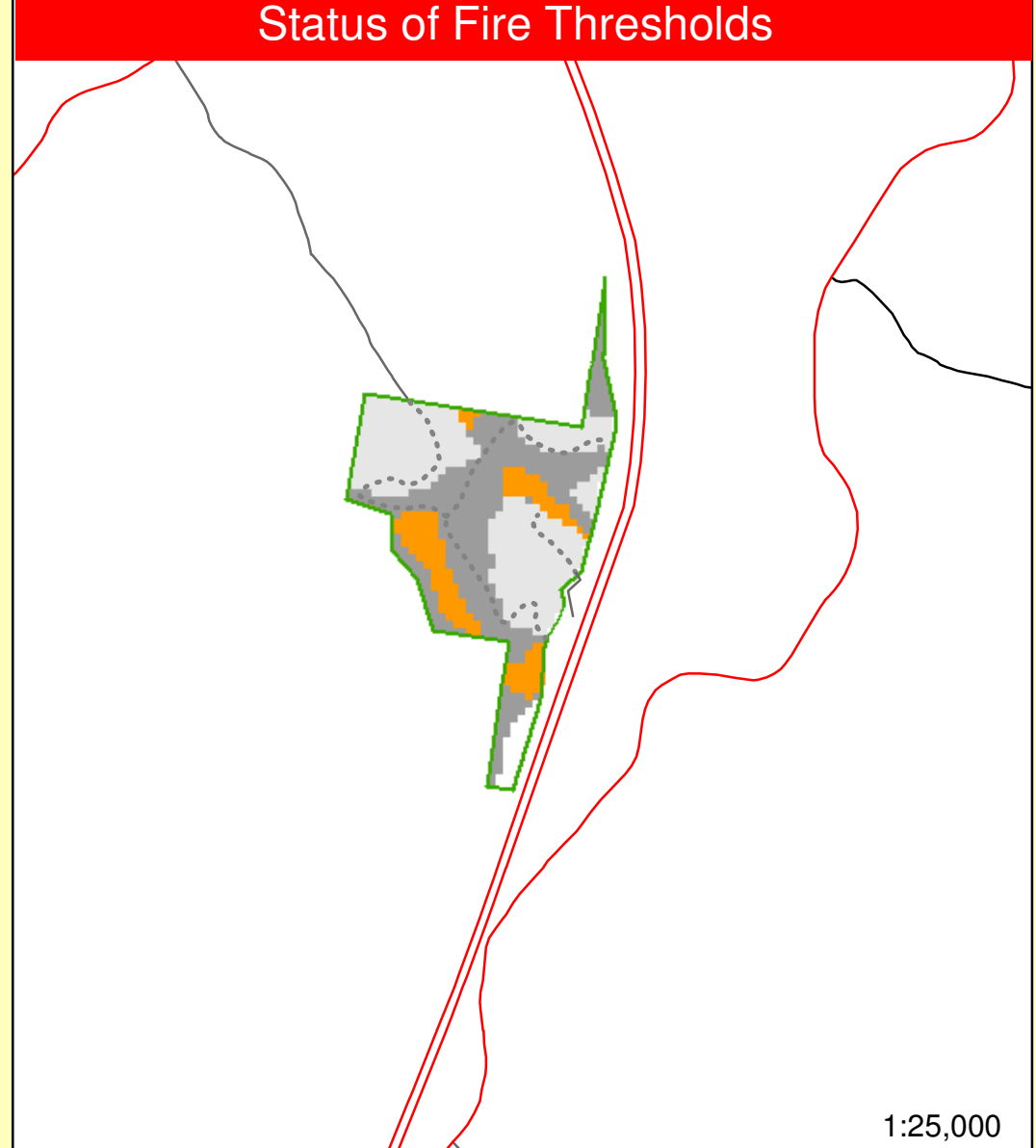
Operational Guidelines	
Refer DECC Fire Management Manual.	
Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:	
Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites are located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Historic Heritage Management	No known sites in Reserve. If new sites located consult with a senior NPWS officer.
Threatened Fauna Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Avoid impact on wetlands, rainforest and streamsProtect large and hollow-bearing trees and logs and timber bridgesFA1 – Clear a one metre radius around large and hollow bearing trees and logs and timber bridges adjacent to control lines prior to back burning. NO helipad construction. NO earthmoving machinery.Avoid impact on wetlands, rainforest and streams.
Threatened Flora Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none">FL1 – No use of earthmoving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur. No helipad construction. Avoid use of retardant in locations where these species are known to occur.FL2 – As far as possible, exclude fire from locations where these species are known to occur. No use of earthmoving machinery in locations where these species are known to occur. No helipad construction. Avoid use of retardant in locations where these species are known to occur.
Threatened Property	<ul style="list-style-type: none">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	
Aerial Water Bombing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of water bombing.
NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	
Aerial Ignition	<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.
NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2-4 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aircraft Management)	
Backburning	<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.Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long and intense up slope burn is likely.
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 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 BFMC Plan of Operations.
Containment Lines	<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	<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	<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	<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	<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	<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.



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	8	Access to Mt Nardi repeater is good for mobile comms. Handheld comms restricted to ridge tops.
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comms)	40	Handheld Simplex reception restricted to 500m line of sight. Monitors channel 8
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeater)	15	Green Code. Stored at Tweed Depot; transportable
RFS - PMR - UHF	70	Springbrook repeater.
RFS - GRN	-	No service available
CB - UHF		To be confirmed with RFS captain on the day
Aircraft - VHF	125.45Mhz	Or as directed by Incident Controller or Air Operations
Mobile Phone – Next G	Good coverage throughout reserve	
Mobile Phone - GSM	Good coverage throughout reserve	
Satellite Phone	May be restricted to open grass areas	
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	<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.



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.
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.
Land Management Zones	The objective of LMZs is to conserve biodiversity and protect cultural heritage. Manage fire consistent with fire thresholds.



Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
NPWS	Regional Duty Officer / After Hours	6672 0200 24hrs
	Tweed Area Manager	0427 669 712
	Regional Operations Coordinator	6627 0208
	Tweed Area Office	6670 8600
	Tweed Depot	6672 8154
RFS	Regional Office	6627 0200
	Far North Coast Duty Officer	6684 2896
NSW Fire Brigade	Murwillumbah Fire Control Centre	6672 7888
	Mullumbimby Fire Control Centre	6684 3662
SES	Emergency	000
	Kingscliff Station	6674 1271
Police	Emergency	132 500
	Kingscliff Station	6676 7355 24hrs
Ambulance	Emergency	000
	Bookings	131 233
Hospital	Murwillumbah	6672 1822
	Incident centre	131 700
Council	Tweed Shire Council	6670 2400
	Local Aboriginal Land Council	6674 3600