

Operational Guidelines

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2005.
Brief all personnel involved in suppression operations on the following issues:

General
• 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.

Aerial Water Bombing
(NPWS FMM 4.1 & NPWS FMM 2005)
NPWS Guideline for Effectiveness of Aerial Water Bombing

Aerial Ignition
(NPWS FMM 4.2 & 4.4 & FMM 2005)
NPWS Guideline for Effectiveness of Aerial Ignition

Backburning
(NPWS FMM 4.3)

- Temperature and humidity levels must be monitored carefully to determine the safest times to implement back-burns.
- Backburning operations should commence when the temperature begins to rise in the late afternoon or early evening. With a lower FDI backburning may be safely undertaken during the day.
- Backburning should be used to remove dangerous, dead trees adjacent to containment lines prior to back-burning, or wet down these trees as part of the backburn ignition.
- Avoid ignition of backburns at the bottom of slopes where a long, steep slope has been created, but then turn up slope before the fire is noticed promptly.
- The initial incident controller will consult with regard to the command and control management agency if notified promptly.
- Communication with other command agencies, the initial incident controller will consult with regard to the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant FPCM Plan of Operations.
- Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal impact on the environment and safety of personnel.
- Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
- Containment lines should be reviewed after each fire to determine if they require further modification.
- All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location.
- Containment operations may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer, and then only if the probability of its success is high.
- Each containment operation 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 terrain and avoid areas where landslides could occur.
- Containment lines should be mapped as soon as possible, to identify unknown cultural heritage sites.
- Earthmoving equipment should be used sparingly, where practicable, prior to entering a NPWS estate.
- All fire advances used during wildfire suppression operations must be mapped and where relevant added to the database.
- Victims and former agents (survivors) are permitted to use a wildfire suppression.
- The use of retardant is only permitted with the prior consent of the senior NPWS officer, and should be avoided where possible.
- Establish the locations and retarded within 50m of railroads, watercourses, dams and swamps.
- Areas where fire suppression chemicals are used must be mapped and the product's name recorded.
- When practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation.
- The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation factors 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.
- The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during wildfire suppression operations.

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage

Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management
(NPWS FMM 4.1)

- As far as possible protect site from fire.
- Do not down trees.
- Use hand held tools if retardant is acceptable.
- As far as possible protect site from fire.
- Avoid ground disturbance including hand tools, dozers, excavators, etc. unless required for ground maintenance.
- Avoid ground disturbance including hand tools, dozers.
- Avoid water bombing which may cause ground disturbance.
- Site to be avoided, unless required, by prescribed burn.

RCMHS: Regional Cultural Heritage Management Strategy

In areas where the asset may be in close to a water body, wetland or swamp, no harm or retardant to be used.

Historic Heritage Management

Historic Heritage Management
(NPWS FMM 4.10)

- High RCHMS priority.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR.
- Avoid all water bombing.
- High RCHMS priority.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR.
- High or low RCHMS priority.
- Heritage site unlikely to be effected by fire.
- Do not use retardant activity. Avoid site at all costs.
- Low RCHMS priority.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR.
- Avoid all water bombing.
- Low RCHMS priority.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR.
- High or low RCHMS priority.
- Heritage site unlikely to be effected by fire.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR.
- High or low RCHMS priority.
- Heritage site unlikely to be effected by fire.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR.
- Avoid all water bombing activities.

Threatened Fauna Management

Threatened Fauna Management
(NPWS FMM 4.12 S.2)

- Protect large and low lying bearing trees.
- Protect large and low lying bearing trees.
- Avoid fire intervals of > 10 yrs.
- Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.
- Avoid intense intervals of > 10 yrs.
- Habitat unlikely to be effected by fire.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR as far as possible in wetland habitats.
- Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.
- Habitat unlikely to be effected by fire.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR as far as possible in dune habitats.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR as far as possible in wetland habitats.
- Avoid use of retardant and foam in wetland habitats.
- Avoid high intensity fires that consume tree canopies and fallen logs.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning & HR as far as possible.
- Avoid use of earth moving machinery.

Threatened Flora Management

Threatened Flora Management
(NPWS FMM 4.12)

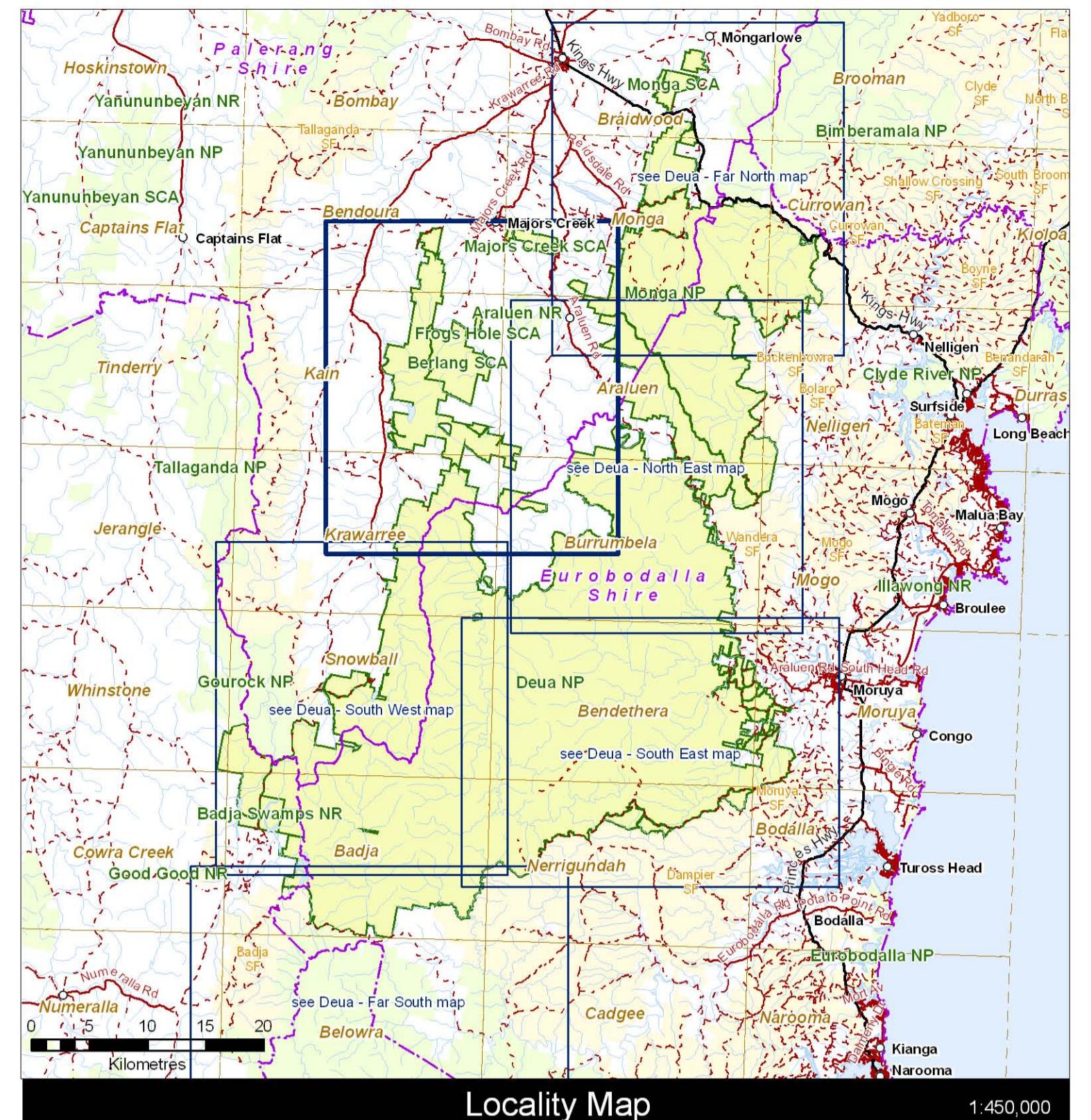
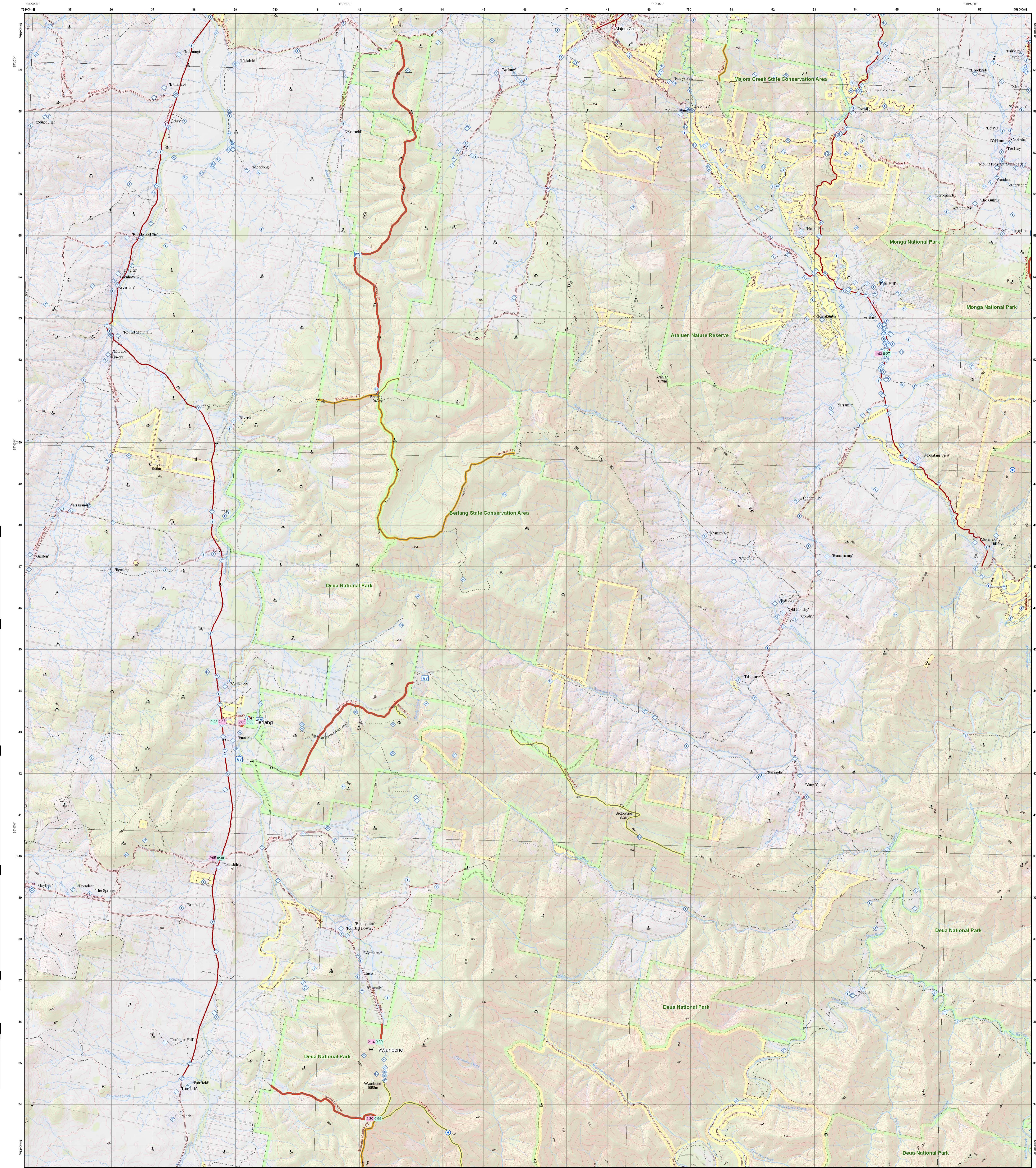
- Avoid intense intervals of > 10 yrs.
- Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery.
- Avoid fire including wildfire, backburning, HR, as far as possible.
- Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery.
- Avoid high intensity fire.
- Avoid intense intervals >10 years, effect unknown.
- Avoid the use of earthmoving machinery.
- Avoid summer fire.
- Avoid low intensity fire.
- Avoid earth-moving machinery.
- Avoid low intensity fire.
- Avoid intense intervals of < 5 yrs.
- Avoid earth-moving machinery.
- Avoid the use of retardant.

Threatened Property

- 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.

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
VHF Communications (NPWS Two Way Radios)	21, 30 32 (South coast)	Reception is usually good for all channels. Some areas of poor reception may be experienced in lower parts of the reserve.
UHF/PMR (RFS Two Way Radios)	70, 78	Reception is usually good for both channels
Mobile Phone	3G	Next G coverage was unknown at the time of printing



Contact Information		
Agency	Position / Location	Phone
NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service (Dept. of Environment & Climate Change)	Narooma Office (0830-1630 Mon-Fri) Braidwood Office (0830-1630 Mon-Fri) NPWS Incident Response Answering Service (after hours)	(02) 4842 8888 (02) 4842 4262 (02) 1800 629 104
NSW Rural Fire Service	Braidwood Fire Control	(02) 4842 2516
NSW Fire Brigade	Monuya Fire Control	(02) 6499 2229
Forests NSW	Emergency	000
SES	Batemans Bay	(02) 4472 6211
Police	Palerang Duty Officer	132 500 (02) 4842 2533
Ambulance	Batemans Bay	000
Hospital	Braidwood	(02) 4842 2566
Council	Palerang Shire Council Eurobodalla Shire council	1300 735 025 (02) 4474 1000

