

Northern Rivers Region Koreelah National Park Fire Management Strategy (Type 2) 2005



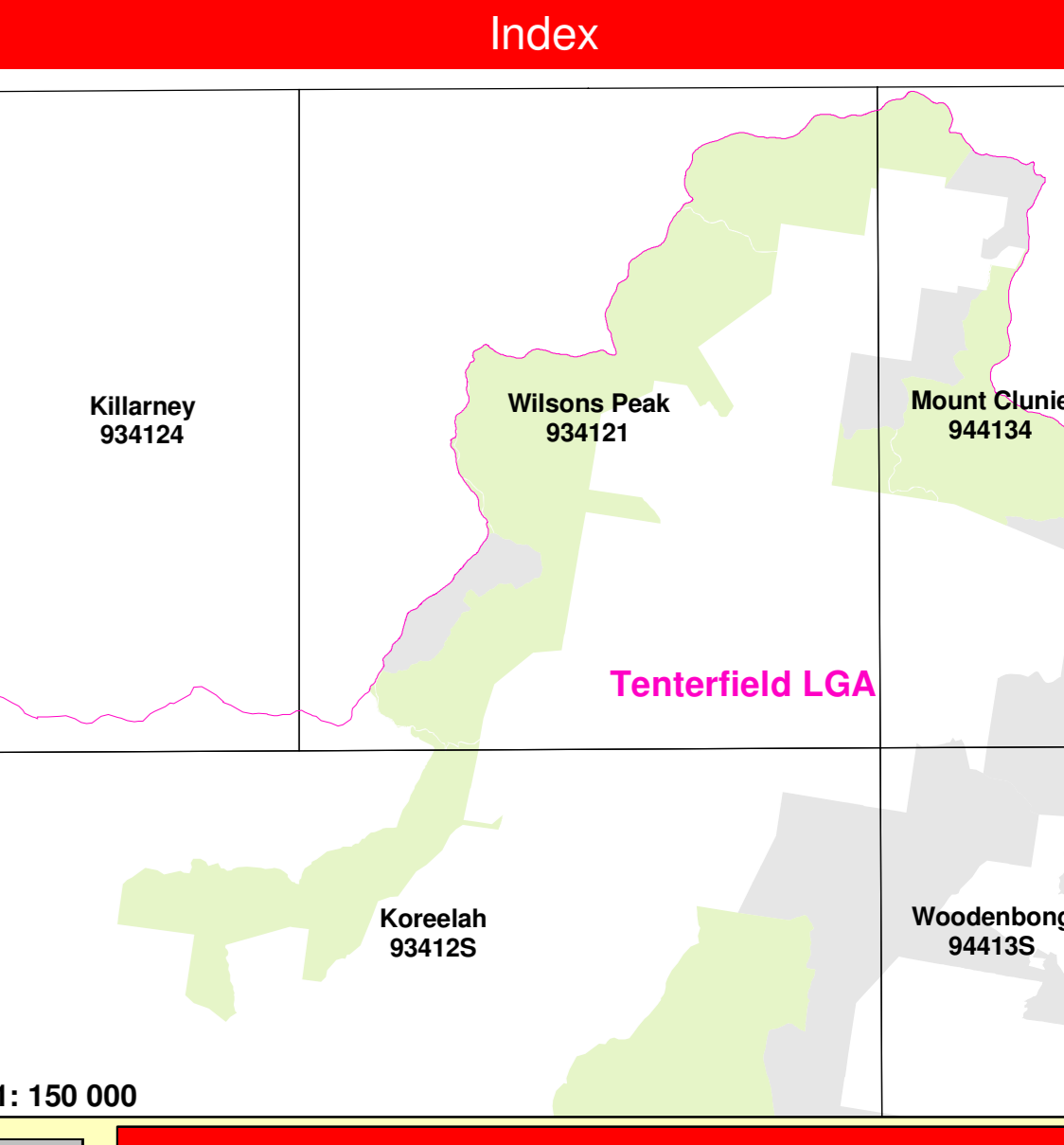
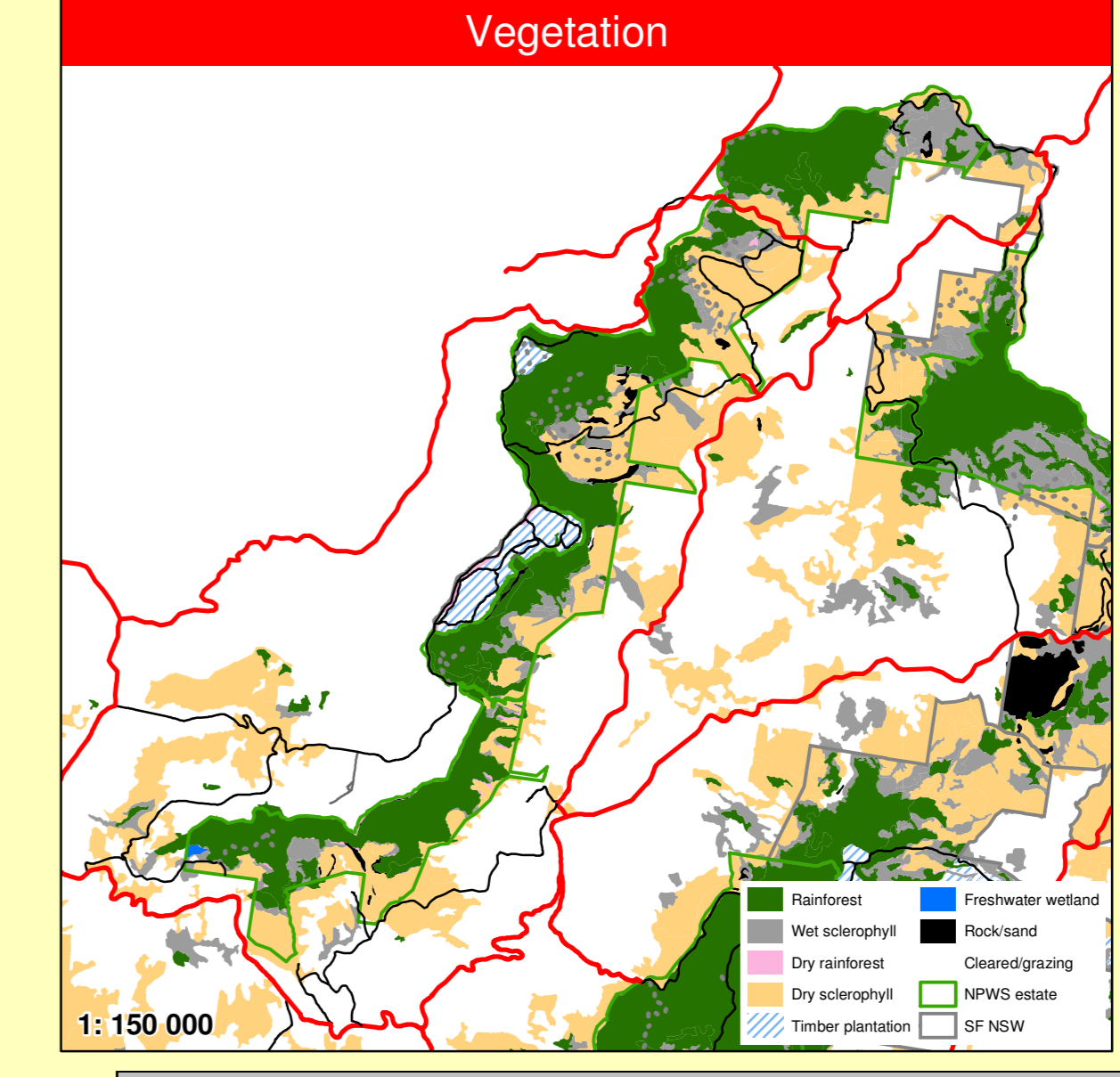
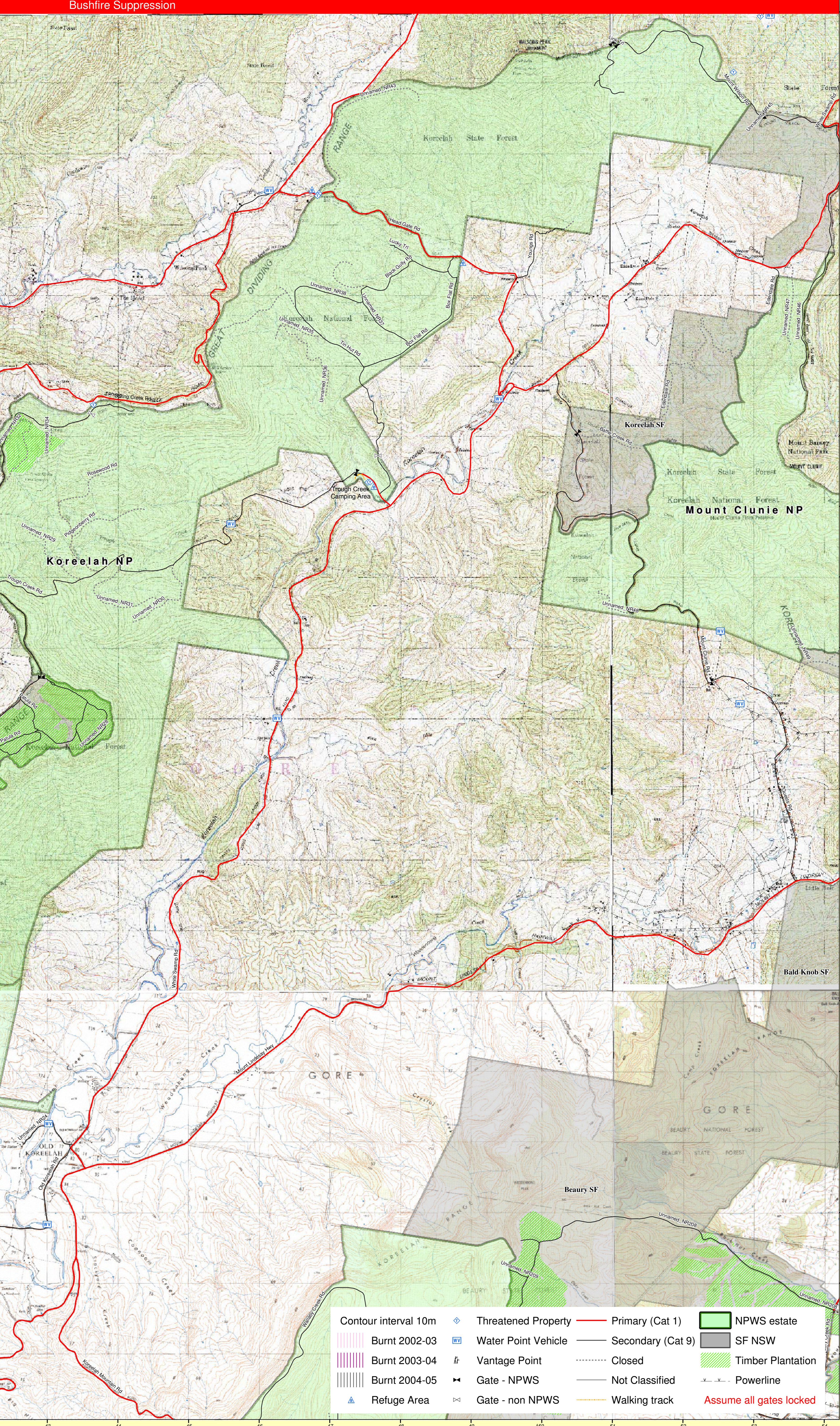
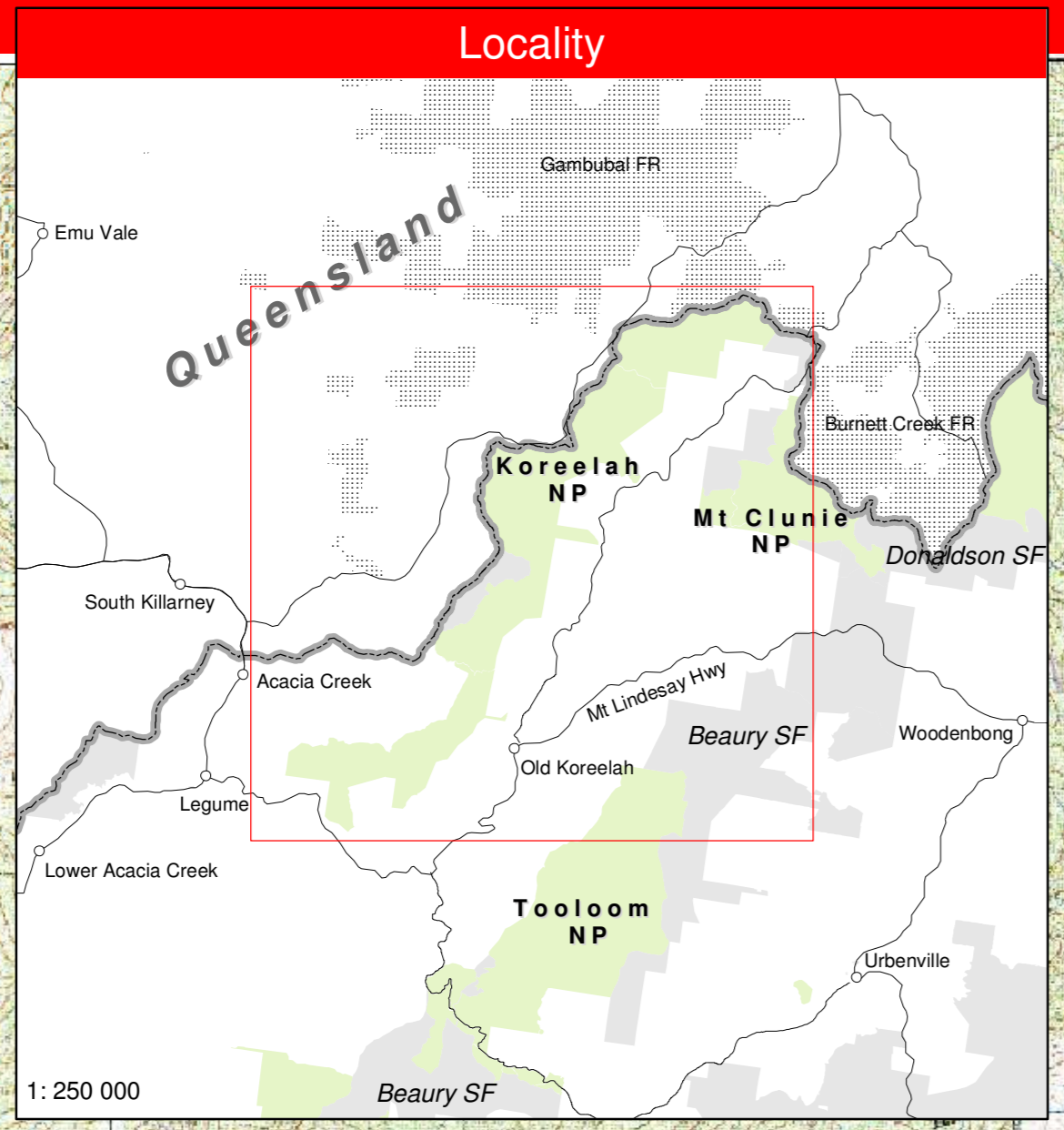
This strategy should be used in conjunction with aerial photography and field reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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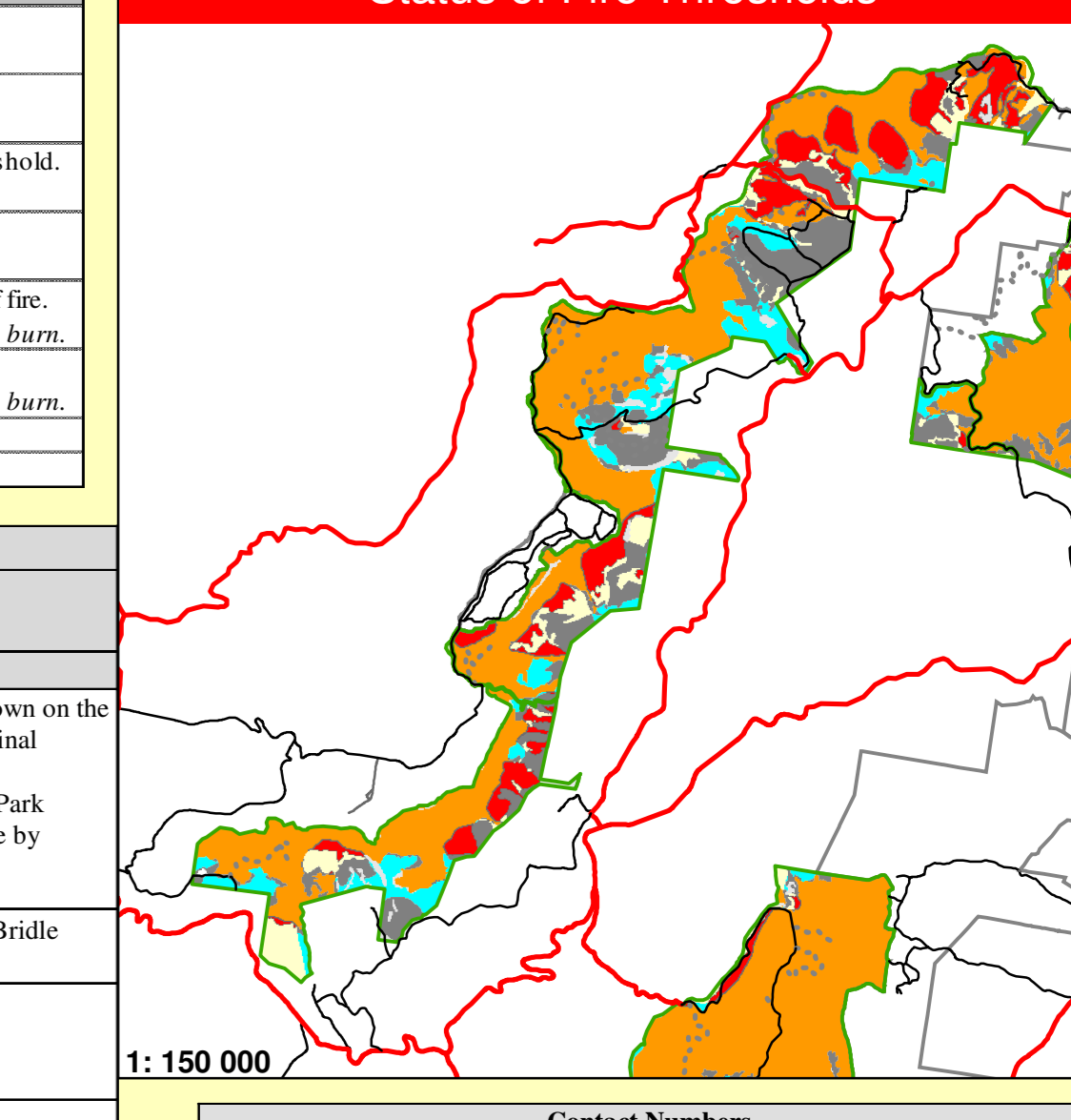
Department of Environment and Conservation (NSW)

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



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. <i>NB. Fire thresholds are defined for vegetation communities to conserve biodiversity.</i>



Operational Guidelines

Refer to Strategy for Fire Management 2003 and Fire Management Manual 2004.

Resource	Guidelines
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management (NPWS FMM 4.11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aboriginal sites are not shown on this version. Vulnerable sites will be shown on the operational version of this strategy following consultation with the Aboriginal Community. 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)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A single known European historic site occurs within the Park, the Acacia Bridge Track, and this is not affected by fire or identified as a containment line.
Threatened Fauna Management (NPWS FMM 4.12 & 5.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid impact on rainforest. Avoid impact on streams. Protect large and hollow-bearing trees.
Threatened Flora Management (NPWS FMM 4.12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Avoid impact on rainforest. 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. Operators to be briefed on this.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Foam should be used to increase the effectiveness of water bombing.
Aerial Water Bombing (NPWS FMM 4.4 / NSW Fire Agencies Aviation SOPs O2 / NPWS Guidelines for Effective Aerial 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 Aerial 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. <i>Avoid fires if possible.</i>
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 set 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 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 DPMIC Plan of Operations. No new containment lines in rainforest. 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.
Containment Lines (NPWS FMM 2.2 & 3.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No new containment lines in rainforest. 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 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.

Contact Numbers

NSW National Parks & Wildlife Service	6627 0200
NSW Regional Office - Altonville 24 hrs	6632 8000
Kyogle Area Office	6632 1133
Kyogle Area Depot	6634 1455
Urbinville Area Depot	6637 0200
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer	6627 0200
QLD National Parks & Wildlife Service	07 4666 1133
Laurie Shelley - Main Range	07 4636 4150
NSW Rural Fire Service - Temerfield 24 hrs	67363635
NSW Fire Brigade - Temerfield	67363635
NSW State Forests - Casino	6662 0900
Fire Protection - Bob Williams	6662 0900
Temerfield Shire Council	6736 1144
Police - Temerfield	6736 1144
Police - Woodnburg	6635 1244
State Emergency Services (SES) - Temerfield	6736 2923
Emergencies	13 2500
Ambulance / Bookings	000 / 113 1233
Ergon Energy	13 2296
QLD Rabbit Board - Warwick - Mike Harper	07 4661 4076

Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS - VHF	4	Hwyback Mountain
NPWS - VHF (Fireground Comm)	36	Fireground chat channel (single frequency) monitor channel 4
NPWS - VHF (Portable Repeaters)	13	Blue Code. Stored at Kyogle Depot / transportable.
RFS - PMR - IHF (Koreelah)	37/74	37/74 for 100 Channel or 13 for 24 Channel
SE VHF	78	Forces NSW Channel 2 Hwyback Mountain
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 - CTMA	Partial	Coverage varies but generally poor.

Strategy Information

Wildfire Suppression	<p>RFR - Low to Moderate</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use natural control advantages such as sub tropical rainforest, wet gullies, rocky areas and escarpments as containment opportunities. Direct or parallel attack. Consider allowing the fire to burn adjoining areas identified as underburnt in the current vegetation status map. <p>RFR - Moderate to High</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Use natural control advantages such as sub tropical rainforest, wet gullies, rocky areas and escarpments as containment opportunities. Direct attack where possible. Indirect attack using the closest containment line. <p>RFR - High to Extreme</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fallback to safe areas - primary roads and trails, recently burnt areas and refuges. Undertake property protection as required. Use water bombing and surfactants to slow the fire rate of spread and protect rainforest margins. Consider restricting rainforest margins by use of aerial ignition on upper slopes.
Weather	<p>A typical wildfire season begins in early September through to December, with the arrival of summer weather patterns. These are characterised by north to south westerly winds, high temperatures and low humidity. During drought years the fire season may start as early as June and finish as late as March.</p> <p>The general season for hazard reduction burning is Autumn to late Winter. Burning is possible in early Spring but not desirable on a regular basis from an ecological control, or tourism point of view.</p>

Contour interval 10m	Threatened Property	Primary (Cat 1)	NPWS estate
Burnt 2002-03	Water Point Vehicle	Secondary (Cat 9)	SF NSW
Burnt 2003-04	Vantage Point	Closed	Timber Plantation
Burnt 2004-05	Gate - NPWS	Not Classified	Powerline
Refuge Area	Gate - non NPWS	Walking track	Assume all gates locked

Fire Management Zones

Asset Protection Zones	Zone	Action	Responsibility
Asset Protection Zones	Trough Ck (A1) 180m x 25m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches moderate.	NPWS
	Tick Board house (A2) 30m x 20m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
	Tick Board Shed/Rabbit Board House (A3) 30m x 20m	Mechanical treatment when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
	Rabbit Fence north (S2)	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS/Rabbit board
	Rabbit Fence south (S3)	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS/Rabbit board
Strategic Fire Advantage Zones	Head Gate Road north (S4) 91ha	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
	Head Gate Road south (S5) 57ha	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
	Head Gate Road north (S4) 52ha	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
	Head Gate Road south (S5) 52ha	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
	Head Gate Road north (S4) 52ha	Prescribed burn when overall fuel hazard reaches high.	NPWS
Heritage Management Zones	Koreelah HMZ 5126ha	Refer to fire thresholds map and table as part of decision making process regarding	NPWS

