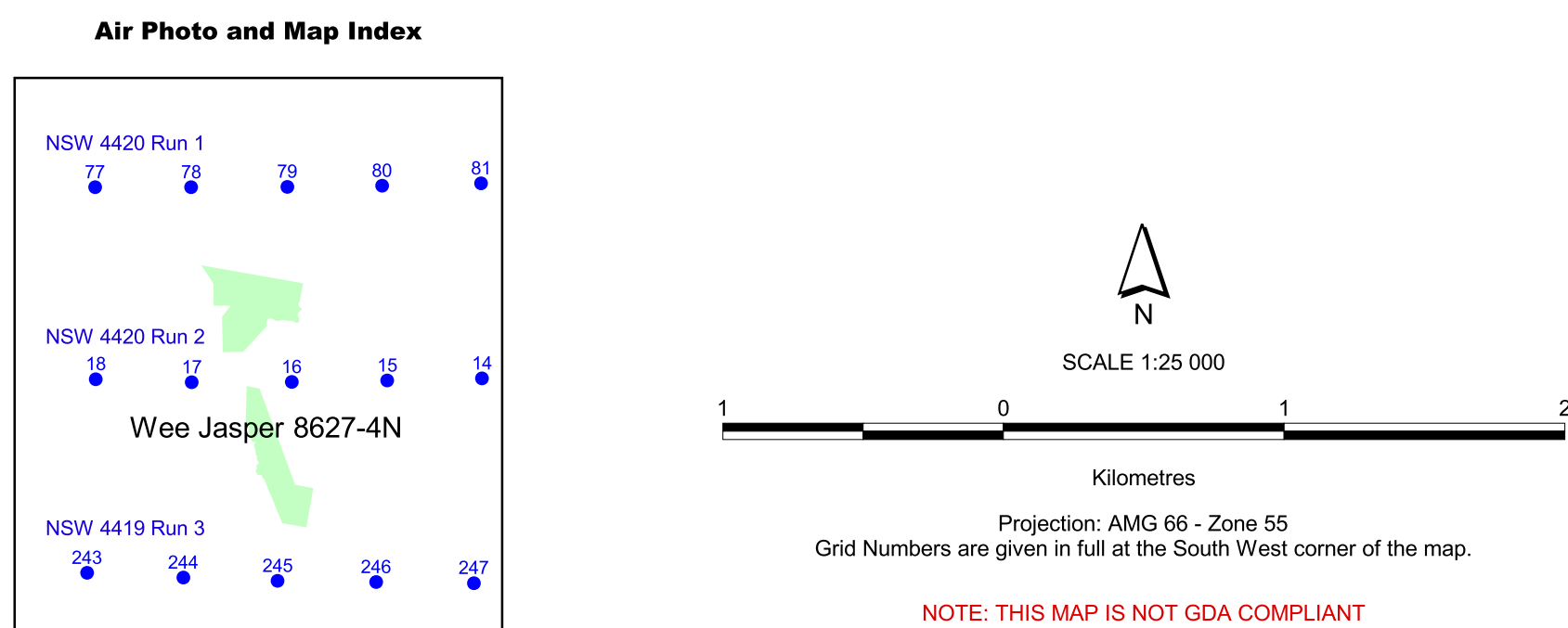
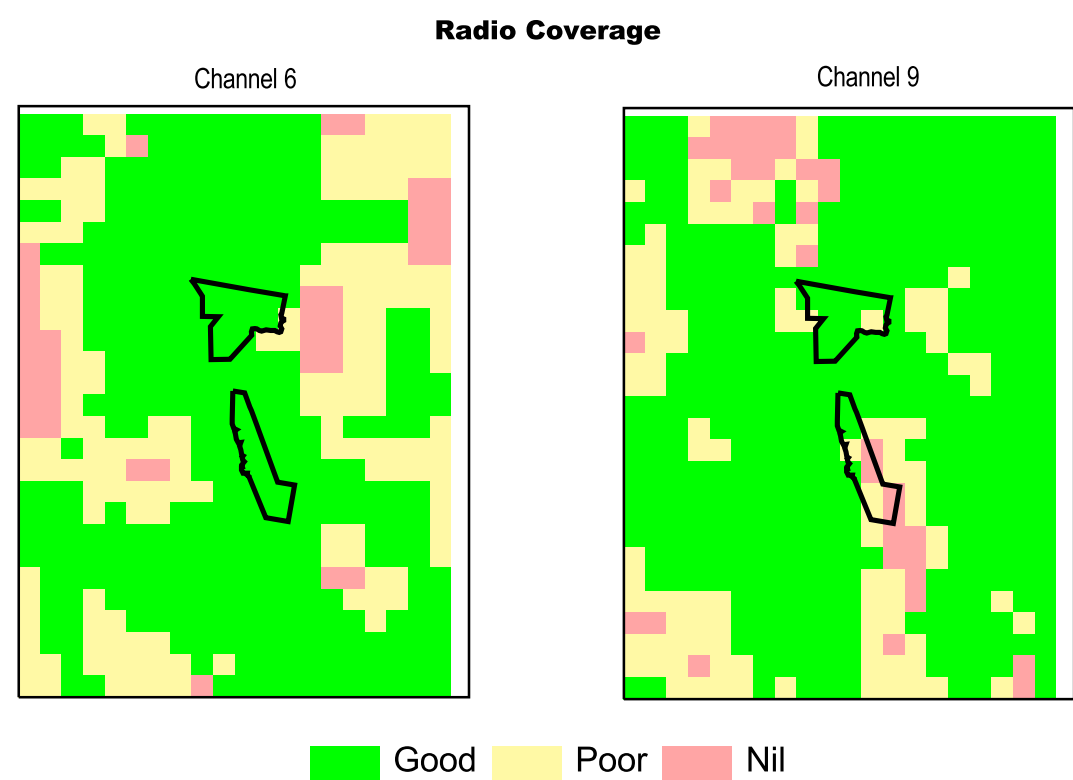


OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES	
ACTIVITY	OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES
Command, control and firefighting arrangements Fire Response (FMM 4.1 & 4.2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- First fire personnel of any agency on site may assume control of the fire, but must ensure the relevant land management agency is promptly notified.</li><li>- On arrival of other fire agencies, the initial incident controller will consult with the other agencies on the ongoing command, control and incident management team requirements as per the relevant BFMC Plan of Operations.</li><li>- The use of earth-moving equipment and aerial suppression must be approved by a senior NPWS officer.</li></ul>
Aircraft Operations (NPWS FMM 4.4 & 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Pilots must be briefed on the location and type of powerlines within incident operation area.</li><li>- Aerial water bombing and aerial ignitions are permissible in this reserve, however can only be used and commenced on the instruction of the incident controller or senior NPWS officer.</li><li>- Water bombing operations should support containment operations by aggressively attacking flanks, hotspots, spot-overs and head fires where required.</li><li>- Where possible, foams should be used to increase the effectiveness of water, however limit use within 50m of watercourses and dams.</li><li>- The use of water bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to specific circumstances as determined by the senior NPWS officer.</li><li>- Ground crews must be briefed and alerted to aerial ignition and water bombing operations</li></ul>
Back burning (NPWS FMM 4.8)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- All backburning operations must be planned and approved by a senior NPWS officer.</li><li>- Backburning operations are to minimise the potential run of introduced fire.</li><li>- All crews must be briefed on the sequence and safety precautions of the operation.</li><li>- Generally, burning should commence when the humidity rises in late afternoon or early evening and spotting is minimal. With a low FDI, burning may be safely undertaken during the day.</li><li>- Where practicable, clear 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to burning, or wet down these trees as part of the backburn ignition preparation.</li></ul>
Control lines (NPWS FMM 3.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Existing constructed or natural fire control advantages should be used, wherever possible, to contain bushfires.</li><li>- Trails that comply with the Bush Fire Coordinating Committee Policy 1/03 "Fire Trails" are identified on this operations map.</li><li>- As a minimum, management trails identified on the operations map are maintained to a standard to provide access to Category 3, unless otherwise indicated.</li><li>- Dormant trails may be used as a strategic control line during an incident, however may need some mechanical work to clear regenerating vegetation and fallen timbers.</li></ul>
Earth moving machinery (NPWS FMM 4.3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Strategies involving earth-moving equipment must be approved by the senior NPWS officer before implementation.</li><li>- Earth-moving equipment must be supervised and guided by an experienced NPWS officer or a person recognised to be appropriately experienced.</li><li>- All earth-moving equipment employed in fire operations must be accompanied by a support vehicle that has equipment available to contact support personnel in an emergency. Plant involved in direct or parallel attack must be accompanied by either a slip-on or a fire tanker for safety purposes.</li><li>- At the commencement of shifts, all operators and guides must be briefed on safety consideration and actions to prevent damage to sensitive natural and cultural heritage.</li><li>- Where possible, control lines running along valley areas should be constructed 50m from gullies to avoid severe erosion.</li></ul>
Fire suppression chemicals (NPWS FMM 4.9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Retardants are prohibited in the catchment area of Burrinjuck Dam.</li><li>- Wetting and foaming agents (surfactants) are permitted for use in wildfire suppression.</li><li>- Use of chemicals must be authorised by the senior NPWS officer.</li><li>- As far as possible, exclude the use of surfactants within 50m of watercourses and dams.</li><li>- Use surfactants where natural advantages provide the most effective applications of the chemicals.</li></ul>
Post fire rehabilitation (NPWS FMM 5.1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The rehabilitation process should be addressed during the incident, in the Incident Action Plan.</li></ul>
Smoke management (NPWS FMM 3.4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The potential impacts of smoke and possible mitigation tactics must be considered when planning for wildfire suppression and prescribed burning operations.</li><li>- Where smoke has the potential to be a hazard on local roads or highways the police, RTA, local shire council and relevant media must be notified.</li><li>- Monitor local roads and access for smoke hazards and install road safety/warning signs where necessary. Traffic control must comply with RTA Traffic Control at Worksites Manual requirements.</li></ul>
Transmission lines (Powerlines)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- May cause danger to ground personnel through smoke conduction of electricity through the air</li><li>- Contact the relevant authority to turn the power off prior to back burning operations under lines</li></ul>
Water supplies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Access to water supplies on private property will be negotiated prior to use, except according to S44 provisions</li><li>- Arrangements may be made to replace water used after the fire, as required.</li></ul>

FIRE SEASON INFORMATION
<p>The critical fire season occurs between November and March, when the potential for fire events is at its highest. Particular care and monitoring is required during periods of prolonged drought when strong negative Southern Oscillation Indices preceded the fire season, and when low pressure systems dominate central and southern Australia during and leading up to the fire season. During these times fires may exhibit high intensity behaviour in windy conditions and exceed current rate of spread indices. Periods of extended drought, may give rise to higher potential bushfire behaviour during winter.</p> <p>Any proposed prescribed burning should be undertaken before late autumn precipitation occurs. Least likely period to disrupt fauna during prescribed burning is at the end of March and April, depending on weather conditions (past, present and forecast). Any fire in spring should be avoided.</p> <p>During the fire season prevailing winds during the day are from the west and northwest. In strong southerly winds associated with summer cold fronts, fires flanks will become heads as the front passes through.</p>

SUPPRESSION STRATEGIES	
FFDI	OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES
Current Low - Mod & Forecast Low - Mod	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Undertake direct, parallel or indirect attack along existing containment lines.</li><li>- Where practicable, consider maximising the fire area in accordance with the requirements of any proposed prescribed burns in the fire planning strategy and Bushfire Management Committee agreements.</li></ul>
Current Low - Mod & Forecast High or >	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 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.</li><li>- Pay particular attention to the flank on the next predicted down wind side.</li><li>- Consider fall back containment strategies</li></ul>
Current High or > & Forecast High or >	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Undertake indirect attack along existing or newly constructed containment lines.</li><li>- Secure and deepen containment lines along the next predicted downwind side of the fire.</li><li>- Allow sufficient time to secure containment lines to avoid wasted effort and potential failure.</li><li>- Prepare and implement fall back containment strategies.</li></ul>
Fire Advantages	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Streams in the reserve are intermittent and should not be regarded as passive control lines under normal conditions</li><li>- Reserve trails will function as fire advantages</li></ul>

Note: Always ensure there is sufficient time to secure containment lines prior to the fire impacting upon them.




## South West Slopes Region

# Oak Creek Nature Reserve

## Fire Operations Map

### 2006



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This Map should be used in conjunction with air photos and ground reconnaissance during incidents and the development of incident action plans.

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LIFE & PROPERTY GUIDELINES	
Visitor safety (NPWS FMM 3.6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Where possible;</li><li>- Visitors in or adjacent to the fire ground will not be permitted unless authorised by the Incident Controller. The presence of visitors should be reported to the incident controller immediately, who will arrange for an evacuation if necessary.</li><li>- "Park closed" or "smoke hazard" signs must be placed in areas used by visitors prior to undertaking prescribed burning.</li><li>- Notify media that wildfire or prescribed fire exists within the reserve/area.</li></ul>
Asset Protection (FMM 4.10)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Powerlines run through the southern part of the reserve.</li><li>- Where possible;</li><li>- Follow operational guidelines</li><li>- Liaise with Transgrid, ensure crew safety and establish asset protection methods appropriate to weather and fire conditions.</li></ul>

HERITAGE MANAGEMENT ZONE GUIDELINES	
ZONE	GUIDELINES (WITHIN THE ZONE)
HMZ 1 (High Priority)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Where possible;</li><li>- Contain fires to small areas and lower potential intensity and manage to produce mosaic burn patterns.</li><li>- Avoid the use of earth moving machines.</li><li>- Avoid the use of surfactants/retardants.</li><li>- Protect mature trees and avoid felling large and hollow bearing trees during 'mop up' activities.</li><li>- Prescribed fire should be avoided, unless deemed necessary for ecological purposes.</li></ul>
HMZ 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Where possible;</li><li>- Minimise the potential for fire to spread and or contain to existing control lines.</li><li>- Where wildfires occur in untreated areas program for prescribed burning (ie. SFMZ).</li><li>- Prescribed fire or other fuel manipulation program may be applied to the area to reduce potential risks.</li><li>- Manage fire to produce mosaic (patchy) burn patterns (where weather conditions permit).</li><li>- Earthmoving equipment may be used to contain fire within DEC policy guidelines.</li><li>- Retardants and foams may be used to suppress fire, however minimise use within 50m of water courses and dams.</li></ul>

CULTURAL HERITAGE GUIDELINES	
THEME	GUIDELINES
Aboriginal & Historic Heritage (FMM 4.11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Brief personnel involved in control line construction and vehicle based fire suppression operations on site locations and the required management strategies for site protection. Include in Incident Action Plans.</li><li>- Liaise with the relevant heritage officer and or representative where considered necessary.</li></ul>
Scarred trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Clear fuels, with hand tools, from tree base and/or foam base to 3m up tree trunk.</li><li>- Do not clear or fell trees.</li><li>- Where possible, avoid new trail construction within 20m of trees and construct trails on the advancing fire side of the tree.</li><li>- Prescribed burning or back burning operations should minimise the potential threat of radiant heat on the tree.</li></ul>
Rock arrangements, rock engravings, bora rings, etc	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Avoid new trail construction or ground disturbance within close proximity of site. Where possible, ensure site is protected by constructing trails or hand tool lines on the advancing fire side.</li><li>- Clear, by hand, excess fuels from the site.</li><li>- Avoid direct attack methods (including aerial water bombing) at known sites. Surfactants and retardants in aerial line drops may be used adjacent to, but not directly on sites.</li><li>- Prescribed burning or back burning operations should minimise the potential threat of radiant heat and smoke (carbon deposition) on sites.</li></ul>
Art sites and overhangs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Avoid new trail construction or ground disturbance within close proximity of site. Where practicable, ensure site is protected by constructing trails or hand tool lines on the advancing fire side.</li><li>- Clear, by hand (whipper snippers, brush cutters, mowers), excess fuels from the site.</li><li>- Avoid direct attack methods on sites.</li><li>- Avoid aerial water bombing, use of foams and or retardants at known sites. Use of foam or aerial line drops may be used adjacent to, but not directly on sites.</li><li>- Prescribed burning or back burning operations should minimise the potential threat of radiant heat and smoke (carbon deposition) on the site.</li></ul>
Open camp sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Avoid ground disturbance at or within close proximity of the site (30m). Earthmoving blades should be raised in these locations to avoid damage to sites on trails, unless a "Consent to Destroy" has been attained.</li><li>- Avoid direct attack methods (including aerial water bombing) at known sites.</li><li>- Use of foam or aerial line drops may be used adjacent to, but not directly on sites.</li></ul>
Historic Heritage	None Recorded.

FMM - contains extracts from NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual (December 2004). For the purposes of public exhibition, some information will not be displayed due to obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 1989, Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998, regulations and amendments, and Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Environment and Conservation and Aboriginal Communities.

RADIO COMMUNICATIONS				
AGENCY/RESOURCE	CHANNEL	MRX FREQ.	MTX FREQ.	NOTES
NPWS (VHF)	6	MRX 78.7750	MTX 81.2750	Mt Ginini - may be marginal in some areas of this reserve.
	8	MRX 78.7500	MTX 81.2500	Mount Cronin - may be marginal in some areas of this reserve.
	9	MRX 79.3500	MTX 81.8500	Black Trig - may be marginal in some areas of this reserve.
NPWS (VHF) FIRE GROUND	17	82.3875	82.3875	Channel to be determined by ground crews, crew leaders, division commanders etc. Any changes will be noted in IAP.
	18	79.8375	79.8375	
	19	79.9825	79.9825	
	19	412.5000	403.0500	Mount Spring
RFS (UHF)	74	418.8625	409.2125	Black Trig
AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATIONS (Fire Communication Traffic Advisory Frequencies F-CTAF)		119.10 Mhz 120.80 Mhz 122.80 Mhz 123.45 Mhz 128.70 Mhz 132.75 Mhz	State wide State wide State wide Pilots (chit chat) "The Numbers" channel State wide State wide	Unauthorised and inappropriate use of aviation channels is a criminal offence.
Mobile Phone Coverage- coverage is marginal in valleys and hill shadow areas.				

CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS					
NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE SERVICE		RURAL FIRE SERVICE		EMERGENCY SERVICES	
SWS Queanbeyan Area Office	6299 2529	Yass Fire Control Centre	6226 3100	POLICE - Yass	6226 9399
SWS Queanbeyan Area Office Fax	6297 8408	State Operations (24 hrs)	8741 5400	AMBULANCE	13 12 33
Incident Answering Service (AH)	1800 629 104			SES Yass	6226 3444
SWS Regional Office (Tumut)	6947 7000	OTHER ORGANISATIONS		Fire Brigade - Yass	6226 1058
		State Forests	6947 3911		
		Roads and Traffic Authority	131 700	NEIGHBOUR INFORMATION	
Yass Valley Local Government	6226 1477	Wildlife Rescue - Goulburn	4822 3868	Consult SWS Region databases	
Bungle Tumut ALC	6947 4518	Transgrid - Operations Control (24 hr)	6226 9688		

Oak Creek Nature Reserves - Waypoints					
Name	Description	Easting	Northing	Longitude	Latitude
Athelington Gate	Staging Area	655110	6115940	148°42' 05"	35°05' 14"
H1	Remote Helipad	653520	6119350	148°41' 00"	35°03' 24"
H2	Remote Helipad	652970	6121350	148°40' 37"	35°02' 20"