

Office of Environment & Heritage

# Terry Hie Hie Aboriginal Area

## Terry Hie Hie Section

### Community Conservation Zone 2

### Fire Management Strategy

### 2015-2020

This strategy should be used with aerial photography and field reconnaissance. This is a relevant Plan under Section 38 (4) and Section 44 (3) of Rural Fires Act 1997.

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Duty Officer	6799 6707	
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Newcastle Comms Centre	4929 1177	
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SES	13 2500	
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Council	6757 3222	

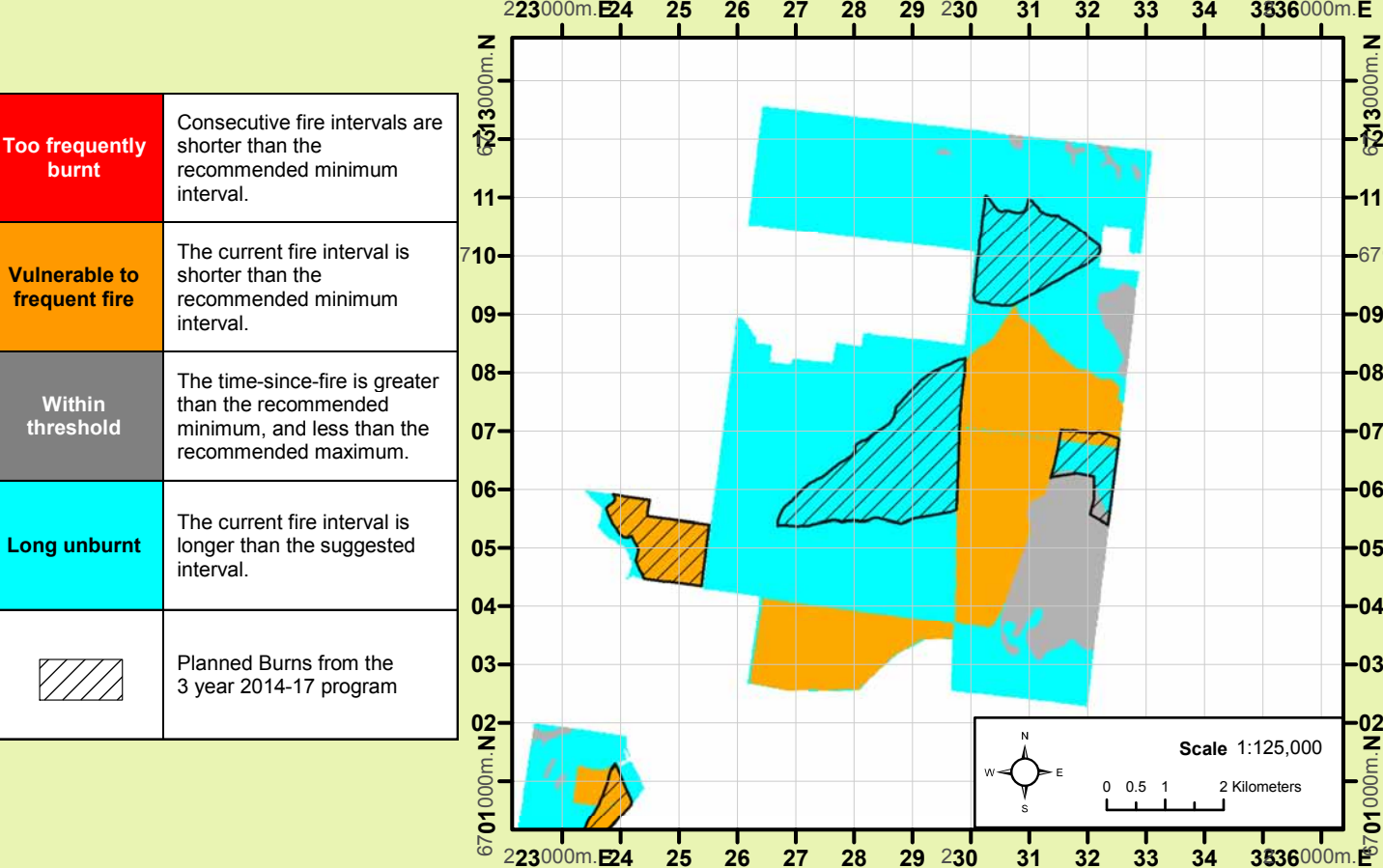
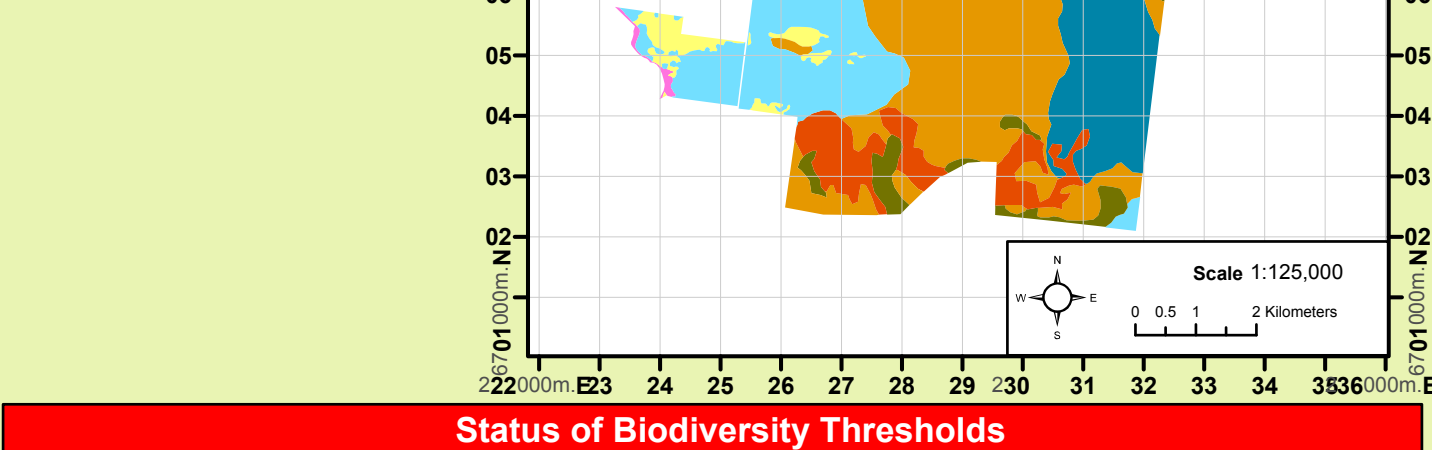
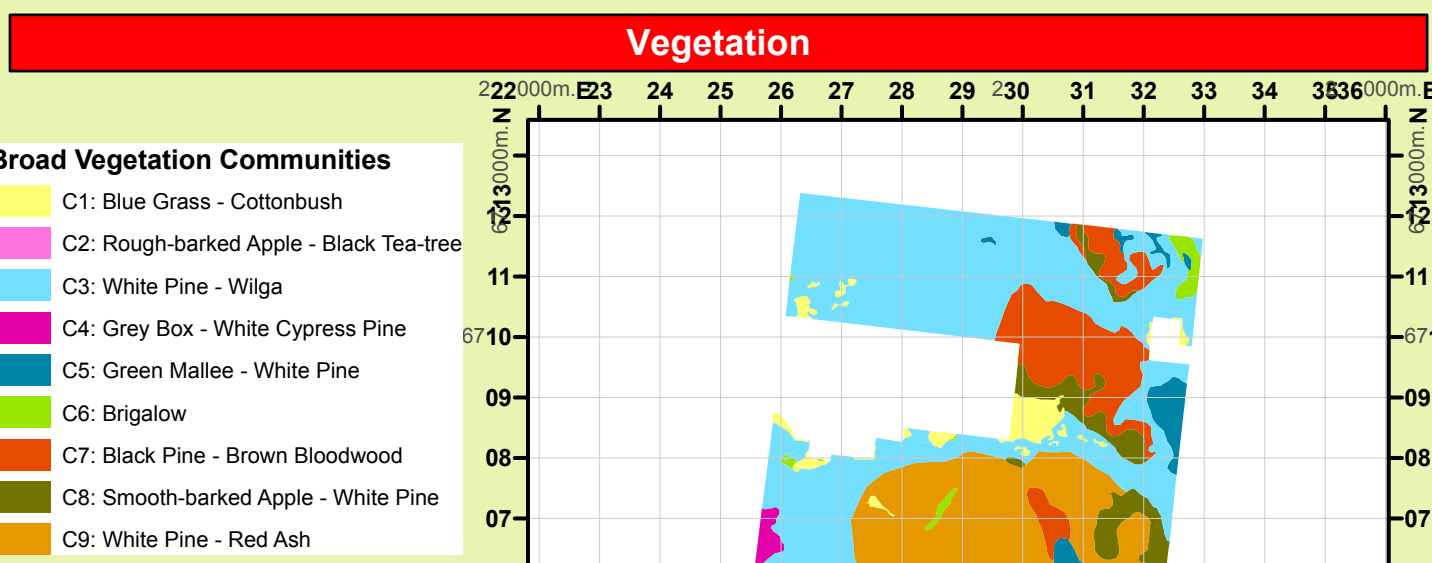
#### Communications Information

Service	Channel	Location and Comments
NPWS Repeaters	29	• The Tops
RFS	86 / P069 87 / P070	• Variable reception, check by location
RFS Stratnet	128 / S125TN	• The Governor
UHF – CB		• Small fires channel 10 large fires determined by IMT
Parks Radio	11-17	• NPWS Fireground channels 1-7
Aviation – CTA4	128.7	
Mobile phone		• Telstra – limited reception along eastern boundary

#### Map Details

Datum: Australian Geodetic Datum of Australia (GDA 94) 1994  
Projection: Australian Map Grid (AMG) Zone 56  
UTM Grid 1000 metres

Data: Spot Satellite Imagery 2005  
1:50k Topographic Map: 89385 Terry Hie Hie and 89386 Graveland  
Scale 1: 25 000  
Noted scales are true when printed on A1 size paper



#### Related Documents

National Parks and Wildlife Service Fire Management Manual, 2015.  
Hunter, J. T. (2008), Vegetation and Floristics of Terrie Hie Hie Aboriginal Area

#### Fire Season Information

**Wildfires**  
The critical wildfire season occurs during November and December. This period may extend into the first half of January. Particular care is required during periods of negative Southern Oscillation Indices. The end of the critical fire season is often marked by wet storm activity.

**Prescribed Burning**  
Prescribed burning should be undertaken before autumn rain occurs to maximise effectiveness. Burning may also be considered during late winter and early spring dependent on seasonal factors. Prescribed burning undertaken near the commencement of the statutory bushfire season should be fully contained.

Operational Guidelines	
General	Guidelines
Aerial operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Aerial operations will be managed by trained and competent personnel. This includes directing aerial bombing and aerial ignition operations</li><li>The use of bombing aircraft without the support of ground based suppression crews should be limited to very specific circumstances</li><li>All aerial ignition operations require the consent of the NPWS Regional Manager or the Section 44 Appointee</li></ul>
Backburning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All personnel must be fully briefed before back burning operations begin</li><li>Backburning in areas of Low – Moderate OFH will require the use of wind, or low humidity to maximise effectiveness</li><li>Where practicable to mop-up efforts, clear a 1m radius around dead and fibrous barked trees adjacent to containment lines prior to backburning, or wet down these trees during the ignition</li></ul>
Command & Control	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The first combatant agency on site may assume control of the fire, but then must ensure the relevant land management agency is notified promptly</li><li>On the arrival of other combatant agencies, the initial Incident Controller will liaise with the RFS to ensure that the agency in command and control is determined and an Incident Controller is appointed</li><li>New containment lines require the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer</li><li>Construction of new containment lines should be avoided, where practicable, except where they can be constructed with minimal environmental impact</li><li>No new containment lines may be constructed areas designated as "machinery exclusion zones"</li><li>Containment lines running along valley areas should be constructed at 20 – 50 metres from the gullyline to avoid severe erosion</li><li>All personnel involved in containment line construction should be briefed on, and must consider both natural and cultural heritage sites in the location</li></ul>
Containment Lines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Earthmoving equipment may only be used with the prior consent of a senior NPWS officer</li><li>Light blading techniques should be used to minimise soil disturbance and soil erosion potential</li><li>Where possible, stick rakes should be fitted</li><li>Earthmoving equipment must not be used in areas designated as "machinery exclusion zones" due to the protection of an endangered ecological community</li><li>Earthmoving equipment must always be 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 fire fighting vehicle</li><li>Earthmoving equipment must be washed down, where practicable, prior to it entering NPWS estate and again on exiting NPWS estate</li></ul>
Earthmoving Equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The use of foam, wetting agents and retardants will be permitted on the reserve</li><li>Fire suppression chemicals are not to be applied within 50m of water courses and dams</li><li>The use of retardants requires the approval of the Regional Manager or delegate</li><li>Where practicable, containment lines should be stabilised and rehabilitated as part of the wildfire suppression operation</li></ul>
Fire Suppression Chemicals	
Rehabilitation	
Smoke Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Potential smoke impacts and mitigation tactics will be assessed during the planning of fire operations</li></ul>
Visitor Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The reserve may be closed to the public during periods of extreme fire danger or during fire operations</li></ul>

Operational Guidelines Continued	
Resource	Guidelines
Modified Trees (IS1), including scarred trees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>As far as possible, protect site from fire</li><li>Do not cut trees</li><li>Use of foam, wetting agent &amp; retardant is acceptable</li></ul>
Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Site Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ground based sites (IS2), including: camp sites, artefacts, grinding grooves, waterholes and quarries</li><li>Protect site from any ground disturbance, including the use of earth-moving equipment and vehicles</li></ul>
Resource sites (IS3), including fig-tree groves	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Protect site from physical disturbance</li></ul>
Threatened Fauna and Flora Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>AIMS database must be checked as part of planning for fire operations</li><li>The protective actions for threatened fauna have been incorporated into the Operational Guidelines</li><li>Machinery will be excluded from the C6 Brigalow vegetation community</li></ul>

Suppression Strategies	
Conditions & forecast	Guidelines
Fire danger rating LOW - HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>A broad containment strategy using existing roads, tracks, rocky areas and recently burnt areas</li></ul>
Fire danger rating VERY HIGH - EXTREME	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consider direct or parallel attack with plant and fire units</li><li>Secure flank as soon as possible on the next predicted downward side</li></ul>
Catastrophic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Revert to property protection</li></ul>

Vegetation Communities and Biodiversity Thresholds		
Vegetation Community	Vegetation management guidelines	Fire Behaviour
Wilga / Box / Red Ash / White Pine woodlands  Communities C3, C4 & C9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided</li><li>• A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 30 – 50 years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential rates of spread is low due to <b>Low – Moderate</b> OFH</li></ul>
Floodplain forest and Brigalow  Communities C2 & C6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An interval between fire events less than 20 years should be avoided</li><li>• No prescribed burning to be conducted</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential rates of spread is low due to <b>Low – Moderate</b> OFH</li></ul>
Bloodwood / Green Mallee / Smooth-barked apple woodlands  Communities C5, C7 & C8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An interval between fire events less than 15 years and greater 40 years should be avoided</li><li>• A high intensity fire may be permitted after a fire free period 25 years</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential rate of spread is highest in areas of Angophora with <b>High</b> OFH</li></ul>
Grassland  Community C1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• An interval between fire events of less than two years should be avoided</li><li>• Fire intensity is dependent on seasonal conditions</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Potential rate of spread will be determined by density and height of grass swards</li></ul>
Strategic Zones	Prescribed burn should be considered where the <b>OFH</b> has been assessed at <b>HIGH</b> , after an interval of 7years	
<b>OFH</b> – Overall fuel hazard – A rating system that includes leaf litter, grasses, shrubs, bark type and bark condition		

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